

# Let's Talk About Water

Film and  
Water Event

MAY  
29<sup>th</sup>  
2015

Recife  
Brazil



UNESCO-IHE  
Institute for Water Education



UNIVERSIDADE  
FEDERAL  
DE PERNAMBUCO



# Let's Talk About Water

## Welcome!

**Let's Talk About Water** brings film and hydrologic science together to spark meaningful dialogue amongst scientists, students, policymakers and the general public. We are very happy to be invited to Recife by professor Maria do Carmo Sobral at the Federal University of Pernambuco (department of Civil Engineering). This tropical and estuarine city with several water related problems, had its origin in the navigation of the Atlantic and had on their rivers the first transport routes and town supply for various purposes. Today the impact of metropolization causes great pressure on the water bodies of the city, a subject always in focus with the population, and this event will be helpful in discussing these important issues with the community.

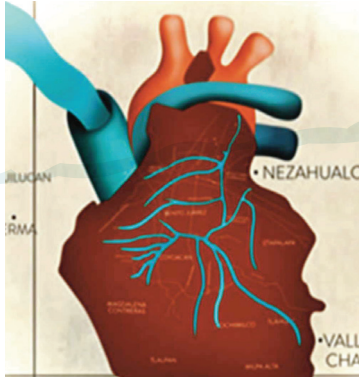
### **Linda Lilienfeld (Let's Talk About Water) and Jérôme van Dam (Delft Cinema Projects)**

A film and picture researcher for 40 years, specializing in science and history, Linda Lilienfeld believes in the power of an image to tell a story and move people. In the old days, film could be used for story telling or propaganda. Nowadays new visual tools, based on realtime scientific computation, can electrify our conversation and help us understand our world. We need to, because with climate change and human activity affecting weather patterns, sea level rise, drought and flood, the lives of many people are at risk. And water knits it all together. Director of independent arthouse cinema 'Lumen' in Delft (the Netherlands) for fifteen years, Jérôme van Dam acknowledged the aptitude and importance of technology and science to present itself in public venues like cinemas, thus bridging barriers and using film as a great communicator, a fresh concept to be brought to universities and cities around the world.

**We look forward to be meeting with you. – Let's Talk About Water!**

Jose Cohen/Lorenzo Hagerman  
Mexico, 2013, 82 min – English subtitled

## H<sub>2</sub>O mx



Built in a basin of a former lake and with inadequate drainage, Mexico City does not have its own water supply and is facing an escalating water crisis. With a growing population, a depleted aquifer and failing, inefficient infrastructure, the challenges are vast and the city is on the brink of disaster. This documentary meticulously examines the water shortage and sewage problems, and present the economic, political and geographical difficulties that stand between 22 million residents and a safe, reliable future. Beautiful images, combined with science, technology and personal stories, show how everything is connected.

## DamNation

Ben Knight/Travis Rummel  
USA, 2014, 87 min

This documentary with a strong focus on the US (with more than 75,000 dams!), captures with visual splendor the natural beauty of unencumbered rivers to provide a contrast with the hulking man-made obstacles that dams represent to nature's 'free will'. Until recently these dams were highly valued as the ultimate fix for many issues, and obsessively so: they supply hydro power, irrigation and drinking water and protect against flooding. It took a very long time before the downsides of this multipurpose wonder got any recognition, but they are many and influential: damage to the ecosystem and aquatic life, interference with the spawning of fish, changing evapotranspiration, the lack of a free streaming zone, sedimentation and nutrients, amongst others, like injury of local culture and economy.



# PROGRAM

08:00 - 09:00 presentation of student posters

09:00 - 10:30 film: **H2O mx**

10:30 - 11:00 lunch

11:00 - 12:30 Round Table 1

Coordination: Linda Lilienfeld (director of Let's Talk About Water)

Speaker: Maria do Carmo Sobral (UFPE)

Moderators: Prof. Vanice Selva (UFPE), Prof. Günter Gunkel (TU Berlin), Prof. Dr. Ana Lucia Candeias (UFPE)

12:30 - 14:00 Interval for lunch

14:00 - 14:30 presentation of student posters

14:30 - 16:00 film: **DamNation**

16:00 - 17:30 Round Table 2

Speaker: Prof. Jaime Cabral (UFPE)

Moderators: Prof. José Antônio Aleixo (UFRPE), Prof. Renata Carvalho (IFPE)

## THANKS TO:

Federal University of Pernambuco (UFPE), Postgraduate Program in Civil Engineering, Postgraduate Program in Development and the Environment (PRODEMA), Graduate Program in Geodesic Sciences and Geoinformation Technologies of UFPE • Professional Masters in Environmental Management, Federal Institute in Pernambuco (IFPE)

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