

## WMO Fellows graduate from IHE Delft

On 25 April 2017 four WMO fellows graduated from IHE Delft Institute for Water Education. The fellows joined over one hundred MSc students from 43 countries who received their diploma on this day. The graduates are now part of the IHE alumni community that comprises over 15,000 water professionals working and living in more than 160 countries.



IHE Delft Institute for Water Education is the largest international graduate water education facility in the world and is based in Delft, the Netherlands. IHE Delft equips graduates with the knowledge, skills and competencies they need in order to address current and future challenges for sustainable local, regional and global water management, with a particular focus on a development context. WMO is partnering with IHE Delft to jointly support students from developing countries to undertake an MSc in one of the agreed programmes.

### **Santiago Gómez Dueñas from Colombia, Water Science and Engineering**

"Studying at IHE Delft has been a wonderful experience. I met people from all over the world that are facing similar water issues. It was really satisfactory to build-in over the lessons learnt, contributing as well with my expertise and hence, improving the understanding of this resource. None of this would not be possible without WMO's support. By being its fellow, I felt fostered to not only following my dream, but to looking beyond in the name of all my countrymen that daily have to deal with water issues. As a specialised hydrologist, I plan to contribute to Colombia's water management by raise awareness to stakeholders about the importance in planning future climate uncertainties in order to make an efficient and better use of our water resources."

### **Gerald Mundondwa from Zimbabwe, Hydrology and Water Resources**

"My experience at IHE Delft can best be described as a jolly escapade. The Institute is a unique cultural and academic melting pot that is a gateway to encyclopaedic knowledge on water matters and how they relate to the environment, sustainable development and human needs. Studying at IHE Delft made it possible for me to interact and learn from individuals who come from diverse backgrounds. This helped broaden my worldview especially with regards to the water sector. My intention is to use the knowledge I attained to contribute towards trans-boundary water management in Southern Africa."

**Aliyu Falalu from Nigeria, Hydrology and Water Resources**

"I most appreciate WMO for the huge investment made and the great opportunity to study in one of the best international water education institutes in the world, that encourage innovation and thoughts from students. I believe that the knowledge acquired is immeasurable in addressing the major hydrological extremes in my country for effective water resources assessment and management.

My decision to study in Delft was made quite easy because I perceived IHE Delft as the right institution for my vision considering the valuable scholarly resources and well-known reputation in water resources discipline. I learned a lot of new things in my career which will definitely have great impact in improving my professional skills in the water sector. Overall, it was quite an experience through intensive academic learning with a well-balanced curriculum between theoretical and practical. I found Delft a beautiful city with many historical buildings as well as conducive environment for learning. I recommend IHE Delft to my friends and colleagues."

**Jose Valles Leon from El Salvador, Water Science and Engineering, Hydroinformatics**

"Studying at IHE Delft has been a wonderful experience. The Institute has provided me with knowledge and new techniques for solving water related problems. In a personal manner, I have gained new experiences as well as friends from different parts of the globe. I will use the knowledge that I have gained in flow forecasting in my country. This helps to increase the time for communities in flood prone areas to react efficiently as well as to reduce flood damage."