

## Tropentag, September 10-12, 2025, hybrid conference

"Reconcile land system changes with planetary health"

## Water use in agri-food systems: growing needs confronting waning supplies

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## Abstract

Irrigation and improved water management in rainfed systems are increasingly being called upon to improve food and water security in the face of polycrises. At the same time, water resources are becoming less reliable, putting upward pressure on food prices, negatively affecting diets. To address these challenges will require a much stronger water-food ecosystem with linkages to other water uses. This keynote presentation will cover key elements of this stronger ecosystem, which includes better knowledge systems, stronger motivations and strengthened agency of key water-food system actors.