



In his 1974 masterpiece *Dawn*, Polish-American children's book author and illustrator Uri Shulevitz celebrates the natural optimism of daybreak. On the darkest of days, the knowledge that the sun will rise is the sole certainty we can hold on to. There is a singular and deeply assuring beauty to the prayerful optimism that daybreak brings.

Cut to 2020, in our fight with COVID-19, life lessons steered us towards hope and the need for coming together, rethreading the forgotten thread that stitch us into communities.

And at work with our communities, we also realized that

- Water is PPE
- Water-centric responses must be inclusive
- We need to bring in all stakeholders for decision-making around access and management of water resources with a long-term perspective
- This requires cooperation & coordination between sectors and stakeholders at all levels – in other words there is an increased need for an IWRM approach.

In these uncertain and challenging times, we at ACIWRM continue to be cautiously optimistic. In our work with capacity building of our WRD staff in IWRM, we engage with our efforts in the grim realities of the unprecedented times, to maintain the momentum for a sustainable future for all.

In other words, we look forward to the daybreak: the sun will rise, the rivers will flow .

