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Current position

- Professor of Geography, Université Paris Nanterre.
- Senior Research Fellow, IRL Iglobes, CNRS/University of Arizona, Tucson, Arizona.

David Blanchon is a professor of geography at the University of Paris Nanterre and senior research fellow at the International Research Lab IGlobes in Tucson, Arizona. His work has focused on water management in arid and semi-arid areas, especially in South Africa, where he did his PhD on interbasin transfers. David Blanchon has led two international research projects in Khartoum, Sudan, about the transformation of an urban waterscape (2008-2012), and in Kenya about water-land nexus (2013-2016). Recently he has worked on geopolitics of water, combining case studies about transboundary water management of the Komati River Southern Africa, and more general reflection in his latest book “*Géopolitique de l’eau : entre conflits et coopération*” (2019).

As a senior research fellow at the IRL Iglobes in Tucson, Arizona (CNRS and University of Arizona”, he is leading now a project in Southern Arizona on “sentinel territories and Tipping point”

1. Titles, Distinctions

- **Ministry-allocated bonus for scientific achievements** (PEDR, PES continuously since 2010).
- **Accreditation to supervise Doctoral Research** (Habilitation à Diriger des Recherches), 2011, Université de Paris Nanterre.
- **Institut Universitaire de France** (2010-2015), Junior Member.
- **Comité National Français de Géographie**, medalist in 2004 for the best PhD thesis.
- **Phd** in Geography, 2003, Université Paris Nanterre.
- **Teacher-training degree** (Agrégation, a national competitive exam) in Geography and History (1997)
- Alumnus of the **Ecole Normale Supérieure**.

2. Scientific Commitment and Affiliation

- CNRS, Laboratoire LAVUE, UMR 7218
- IRL Iglobes, CNRS, University of Arizona.

3. Services to the promotion of Research and Education

- **Tenure teaching, full or part time** : 1999-2019.
- **Dean of the Department of Geography, Nanterre** : 2019.
- **Head of Mosaïques research group** (CNRS, UMR LAVUE) 2013-2017.
- **Journal editor**. *L'espace géographique* (CNRS, Belin Editions, founded in 1972, editorial board 2012-)
- **Phd Examiner** (2 to 3 per year since 2011).
- **Phd Supervision** : **5 Phd in Progress, 2 defended.**
- **Mphil and MSc supervision** : **52 dissertations defended since 2004.**
- **Invited conference speaker** : 8 since 2010, in China, Germany, France, Iran.
- **International conference organizer or co-organizer** : 16.

4. Main research projects

2008-2012 : French-German ANR project **WAMAKHAIR (*Water Management in KHartoum International Research project*)**, co-direction with Detlef Mueller-Mahn (university of Bayreuth, Germany).

Grant : 100 000 euros (for the French part).

This project brought together the universities of Paris-Nanterre (France), Bayreuth (Germany), Fribourg (Switzerland) and Ahfad (Khartoum, Sudan). It focuses on water management in the city of Khartoum, which it was a little-known land on which few scientific reports have been released. It was a multi-disciplinary program (Geography, Anthropology, Sociology), which has given rise to numerous publications in English, French and German, and permitted the financing and the defense of five PhDs.

2010-2017 : IUF Project : « **Hydropolitique et hydrosystèmes : Echelles et frontières dans la gestion de l'eau en Afrique.** » Main researcher.

Grant : 65 000 euros.

The aim of this research project is to examine, using the geographical notions of scale and boundary, how it is possible to build a truly integrated management of water resources in Africa, including hydrosystems and hydropolitics. This project was carried out around three thematic axes "hydropolitical territories", "naturalization of politics, politicization of nature", "Reconsidering the political nature of water in Africa" and three fields: Africa Southern Africa, Kenya, and Sudan. The final results of this project were presented in the book : « *L'Accès à l'eau en Afrique : vulnérabilités, exclusions, résiliences et nouvelles solidarités* »

2013-2016 : **ANR TERR-EAU** (2013-2016), Head for the Kenyan research team.

Grant : 26 000 euros (for Kenya)

This project aims to identify the adaptation capacities of the actors involved in food

production deploying strategies at an intermediate level but facing global changes. This project studies seven regions with very different economic developments in Spain, Uganda, the West Bank, Lebanon, Kenya, Nepal and France.

2019-2021 : **Tipping point and sentinels territories** ». Principal Researcher.
Grant 20 000 euros

This research project aims to link two notions “tipping points” and “sentinel” which are highly debated in the scientific literature. Its originality is to combined approaches from ecology and biology, on the one hand, and from social and human sciences, on the other hand.

The research project will focus on three case studies in Pima County: buffel grass in Tumamoc Hill, urban extension and mining project effect on water resources in Eastern Tucson watershed and emerging wine-growing industry confronted to climate change. And based on empirical findings, it will aim to give some new insights on the role of tipping points and sentinel in assessing and managing environmental changes.

5. Selected Publications since 2015

Books

- 3_ **BLANCHON D.** (2019): *Géopolitique de l'eau*, Editions le Cavalier bleu, Paris, 168p.
- 2_ **BLANCHON D.**, CASCIARRI B. (dir.) (2019) : *L'Accès à l'eau en Afrique : vulnérabilités, exclusions, résiliences et nouvelles solidarités*, collection Espace et Justice, Nanterre, Presses de l'Université de Nanterre, 263 p.
- 1_ **BLANCHON D.** (2017) : *Atlas mondial de l'eau : défendre et partager notre bien commun*, Paris: Editions Autrement, 97 p.

Journal articles

- 6_ **BLANCHON D.**, BOURBLANC M. (2019) : « Political ecology and water in Southern Africa : a literature review », *Wires Water*. DOI: 10.1002/wat2.1371
- 5_ BARONE S., **BLANCHON D.**, DESTANDAU F. (2019) : « Un panorama de la jeune recherche en sciences humaines et sociales sur l'eau. Retour sur trois éditions des Doctoriales en sciences sociales de l'eau », *Nature, Sciences Sociétés* (accepté).
- 4_ BOURBLANC M., **BLANCHON D.** (2017). Gérer ou gouverner la ressource en eau ? Modélisation en temps réel et gestion de la pénurie au sein de la rivière Crocodile (Afrique du Sud). *Natures Sciences Sociétés*, vol. 25,(2), 134-147.
- 3_ ROUILLE G., **BLANCHON D.**, CALAS B ., TEMPLE-BOYER E. (2015) : « Environnement, écologisation du politique et territorialisation: nouvelles politiques de l'eau (GIRE, PSE) et processus de territorialisations », *l'Espace Géographique*, 2015, vol. 2, p. 131-146.
- 2_ **BLANCHON D.** (2015) : « Le Lesotho Highland Water Project ou le retour de la grande hydraulique en Afrique australe. » *Bulletin de l'Association des Géographes Français*, 2015-2, numéro spécial Grands barrages et frontières dans les pays du Sud.
- 1_ BOURBLANC M., **BLANCHON D.** (2015) : « The challenges of rescaling South African water resource management: Catchment Management Agencies and Interbasin Transfers », *Journal of Hydrology, Volume 519, Part C, 27 November 2014, Pages 2381-2391*.

Book chapters

- 5_ **BLANCHON D.** (2018) : « Les eaux continentales », in *Géographie des Environnements*, P. ARNOULD et L. SIMON (dir.), Belin Sup., p. 98-109.
- 4_ **BLANCHON D.** (2017) : « Who runs the Orange River Oasis ? A case study of the midstreams Orange River, Northern Cape Province, South Africa », in LAVIE E. et MARSHALL, (eds), *Oases and Globalisation, Ruptures and continuities*, Springer, 2017.
- 3_ **BLANCHON D.** (2016) « *Radical political ecology et water studies : quels apports pour la géographie de l'environnement en France ?* » in *Manifeste pour une géographie environnementale : Géographie, écologie, politique*, Chartier D. et Rodary E. (dirs.), Presses de Sciences Po, Paris, 2016.
- 2_ **BLANCHON D.** (2015) : « Les grands enjeux de l'eau au XXI^e siècle », in Euzen A., Jeandel C. et Mosseri R. (dir.), *L'eau à découvert*, CNRS Editions, Paris 2015, p. 42-43.
- 1_ LAVIE E., MAUPIN A., **BLANCHON D.** « La pénurie de l'eau : un discours à quelles fins ? » in Redon M., Magrin G., Chauvin E., Perrier-Bruslé L. et Lavie E. (dir.), 2015, *Ressources mondialisées : Essais de géographie politique*. Paris, Publications de la Sorbonne, collection « Territoires en mouvement ».