

Interactive comment on “A global water scarcity assessment under shared socio-economic pathways – Part 2: Water availability and scarcity” by N. Hanasaki et al.

Anonymous Referee #1

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This is a detailed, well written manuscript outlining a significant improvement to water scarcity assessment using newly developed, consistent socio-economic pathways. It is shown that, under the modelling assumptions, up to c. 55% of the global population will suffer from some form of water scarcity by 2100. Common with previous studies, social change is argued to be the main driver. The analysis is back up with good data. The introduction to the methods is good and relevant. The reader is referred to Part I for more technical information on scenario development. This is fine because this paper concentrates on the results and implications.

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My only real criticism is that the literature review on global water scarcity assessment is very short, and more is needed on statistical-based analyses. However, given the current length of the paper, this is not critical.

Interactive comment on Hydrol. Earth Syst. Sci. Discuss., 9, 13933, 2012.

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