

[Navigating Uncertain Waters - shifting powers, sharing values](#)

Thursday 26 August 07:00-08:00

Both ENDS | Government of South Africa | Stockholm International Water Institute | World Meteorological Organization | World Resources Institute

“Water is life.” Despite this importance, increasing demands, pollution, and mismanagement are threatening the world’s water resources and impeding our capacity to respond to emerging challenges like climate change, extreme events and the recent pandemic.

“Water is life.” Despite this importance, increasing demands, pollution, and mismanagement are threatening the world’s water resources and impeding our capacity to respond to emerging challenges like climate change, extreme events, and the recent pandemic. Addressing these challenges will require additional financial resources and a new way of thinking and acting that includes enhanced research, data, and actions that can better manage the complex technical, social, economic, and political trade-offs needed to ensure we can meet the needs of all – especially the most vulnerable. To get there, we must build a culture of political accountability and participatory decision-making that builds trust, spurs innovation, mobilizes resources, improves water resources management, and – above all – values water. We protect what we value. A valuing water movement can be the catalyst for political leadership and reform on water, and position water as the true “no-regrets” solution to climate change and pandemic preparedness. For this noble act to be achieved, the Water Sector will need all hands on the deck, demystification of the myths created on the concept of valuing Water and further, ensure buy-in, community mobilization and inclusion.

[Private Public Potential: incremental project innovations for resilience and impact](#)

Thursday 26 August 07:00-08:25

Government of the Netherlands | **Solidaridad** | Vergnet Hydro | **Vitens Evides International** | **Wetlands International**

With 40+ projects and a €150 million portfolio on WASH, IWRM and water efficiency across the globe, impact-oriented experiences are made available for a new generation of public private alliances. A catalysing perspective on the potential of coalitions and their contributions to inclusive, sustainable and scalable interventions. Faster, better, together!

For decades partnerships and broader coalitions between public and private actors have been essential in ODA-related policy development worldwide, as an answer to the realization that global and local water challenges cannot be overcome by public involvement alone. Progressive programmes initiated by the Government of the Netherlands around 2012 have generated a wealth of experience on practical implementation on public-private alliances.

To boost the next generation of collaborations in water that facilitate climate and social resilience and biodiversity values, such knowledge is invaluable. As the world needs action, faster, better and together, it is this practical knowledge of managing partnerships that complements the political dialogue.

The 40+ projects, 150 million Euro Netherlands Sustainable Water Fund (SWF) contributes to today’s challenges by disseminating its key lessons learned. The good and the bad. With a special focus to WASH, IWRM and Water Efficiency in agriculture, SWF provides a wealth of practical insights in private and public sector involvement in water, Covid-19 mitigating, public health and climate change adaptation that are essential for boosting resilience in nature and societies.

An interactive session on partnership potential, from practical experience in WASH, IWRM and water efficiency in agriculture.

[Real time water data from satellites to achieve faster resilience](#)

Thursday 26 August 08:00-09:00

Asian Development Bank | **eLeaf** | Food and Agriculture Organization of the United Nations | **IHE Delft Institute for Water Education** | International Water Management Institute | **MetaMeta** | **Wageningen University & Research**

Timely access to water data is key for effective adaptive measures. Three practical examples of how open access remote sensing (RS) data can support resilient agricultural systems will be showcased, ranging from water accounting in Karnataka, to sugarcane water productivity, and policy implications of monitoring groundwater use in arid areas.

- ADB supports in depth water accounting (WA) in its areas of intervention, where IHE Delft and IWMI deliver spatially disaggregated data and trends in water availability and consumption. The latter are integrated in AQUAMAPS, the FAO global spatial database complementing AQUASTAT. Benefits of the methodology and results of the water accounting in Karnataka, India, are presented.
- Sugarcane water productivity in Ethiopia and Mozambique was scrutinized by the “Water Productivity Improvement in Practice” (WaterPIP) project through WaPOR, the FAO portal providing publicly accessible near real time database using satellite data that allows monitoring of agricultural water productivity. Recommendations for improved efficiency at plantation levels were derived from the analysis of water consumption against cropping patterns.
- After a first phase of development, the WaPOR portal enters a second phase to promote and support the usage of the RS data at country level. Development of national capacity will further entail creation of applications bringing solutions to country-specific issues. Impact of such applications in Jordan’s policies are documented.
- A panel, following the above 3 short presentations, will interactively discuss how open access RS data can build resilience faster.

[Developing accountable AI methods for decision support in water systems](#)

Thursday 26 August 08:30-08:55

Delft University of Technology | **IHE Delft Institute for Water Education**

Highly consequential decision contexts such as climate change mitigation involve conflicts across multiple sectors, regions, and generations. Artificial Intelligence (AI) offers exciting opportunities for meaningful decision support in such contexts. However, to attain real-world impact, AI techniques must address the well-being of all stakeholders, minimize conflict, and protect vulnerable communities.

The importance of considering distributive justice in climate policy, and other large societal challenges, motivates research in AI-based decision support to search for alternatives that are balanced across multiple sectors, regions, and generations, and counteract existing asymmetries in policy design. Human-centered AI tools offer promising opportunities to aid planning and management. However, to achieve broad societal benefits and garner support, fair design needs to be at the front and center of advances in AI-based decision support by incorporating principles of distributive justice to guide the exploration of policy alternatives as opposed to searching solely for efficient ones. Second, progress in accountable design can be achieved by improving interpretability of black-box methods that enable great flexibility and efficiency at the expense of explainability. Finally, human-centered design is key to engage stakeholders in systematic, AI-supported, deliberation and negotiation throughout the policy development cycle to achieve effective policy design and implementation.

Sessions at SWWW with Dutch contributions

August 23rd – 27th 2021



[Managing Floods and Droughts Together: The Technical Challenges](#)

Thursday 26 August 10:00-11:00

Associated Programme on Flood Management | **Deltares** | Integrated Drought Management Programme | World Bank Group

Integrating the management of flood and drought risk is more effective and efficient than a silo approach. In this session we learn and discuss new approaches to seize these synergies from a practical perspective. A complimentary session will focus on the governance aspects.

Flood and drought are at the opposite ends of the same hydro-climatic spectrum, but despite the large potential of synergies, their risks are usually managed in isolation. In this session we will learn and discuss new approaches to overcome the siloes, covering the full bandwidth of integrated disaster risk management, including risk mitigation, preparedness, monitoring & warning and response.

The session is complementary to a session organized by the World Bank that focuses on the policy aspects of integrating flood and drought management. Participants are encouraged to attend both sessions.

[Stakeholder training materials to assess freshwater health](#)

Thursday 26 August 10:00-11:00

Conservation International | **IHE Delft Institute for Water Education**

This session highlights the value of considering freshwater health at the ecosystem level and the importance of a multi-sectoral approach. Participants will learn about the Freshwater Health Index (FHI), a platform that assesses ecosystem vitality, ecosystem services, and water governance. We will introduce to a new online course on the FHI.

This session focuses on processes to assess the health of freshwater at the ecosystem level and the importance of a multi-sectoral approach. The session is designed to provide guidance for decision-makers on how to critically assess the status of their freshwater ecosystems and resources in terms of their ecological health; their capacity to provide the full possible spectrum of ecosystem services that can benefit the landscape and the people dependent on it; and the way in which these water resources are governed. We will take a specific model of management, the Freshwater Health Index, and show how it has been applied in various geographies to address these challenges of sustainable management and conservation. A panel of colleagues who have applied the Freshwater Health Index in basins around the world will also discuss their experience, and the ecological and socio-economic value of such an approach. We will review the new online course, co-developed by Conservation International and IHE-Delft, that outlines what is needed to more effectively understand and manage freshwater ecosystems. The session will include a live demonstration of how to use the Freshwater Health Index and will invite discussion of the application of this Index.

[How accountability is accelerating progress on SDG6](#)

Thursday 26 August 10:30-11:55

African Civil Society Network on Water and Sanitation | Institute for Sustainable Futures, University of Technology Sydney | **IRC** | Kenya Water and Sanitation Civil Society Network | Partnership for African Social and Governance Research | Sanitation and Water for All | Water Witness International

A discussion involving WASH and water governance practitioners, policy makers and researchers. What works in improving accountability for results and how can we apply the lessons of the latest research and experience?

This session will take a detailed look into how accountability can strengthen systems to deliver accelerated WASH access and WRM. Successes and failures will be shared to inform the discussion.

Brief presentations will set the scene, and participants will then join breakout sessions for detailed discussion of priority accountability themes, each of which will include presentations and interactive, facilitated discussions. These

Sessions at SWWW with Dutch contributions

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will cover lessons from recent research into mutual accountability and national multi-stakeholder platforms, analysis of global research into accountability initiatives in the WASH and water resources sectors, and ongoing research into accountability interventions and approaches in Africa.

Leverage business structure and governance to create stakeholder value

Thursday 26 August 10:45-11:45

2030 Water Resources Group | Facebook | **Government of the Netherlands** | Nestlé | Stockholm International Water Institute

The Leadership in Business Accelerator will highlight the importance of effective private sector leadership on water issues and provide practical advice and best practice examples on global awareness of water in the international, regional and local agendas. This programme covers key aspects of storytelling, communicating impact and return on investment, and understanding and influencing behaviours across a variety of channels and geographies.

From forecast to prevention – acting on resource-related conflict risks

Thursday 26 August 11:00-12:00

Deltares | Deutsche Gesellschaft für Internationale Zusammenarbeit GmbH | **Government of the Netherlands** | IHE Delft Institute for Water Education | **The Hague Center for Strategic Studies** | World Resources Institute

This event asks how national and international policy makers can take effective actions to prevent conflicts relating to water, food and energy insecurity. It focuses on how to prioritize water conflict prevention on the basis of conflict forecasting approaches, especially in times where governments are strained by multiple challenges.

The event starts with an overview of current and potential future hotspots for water, food and energy related conflicts, which have been identified through the Water, Peace and Security (WPS) Partnership, further developed in the frame of the GIZ-FREXUS project. It then embarks on a discussion that aims to understand why, in spite of the available early warning capacity, preventive action on water, food and energy conflicts is still lagging behind. High-level panelists from the Sahel Region as well as the international 4D-community will discuss what role early warning systems can play at which stages of the decision-making process and how they can facilitate truly preventive action. This will include discussions on how to design such systems in a way that ensures policy-uptake. The audience will be asked to actively contribute with their experience and engage in the discussion, ensuring a broad regional coverage and gathering the insights from various affected locations around the world. A specific emphasis will be put on designing effective policy responses to water, food and energy insecurity related conflict risks, investigating what forecasting capacities and decision support policy makers need at different times in order to act.

Leading for Leaving No One Behind- it's time to reset!

Thursday 26 August 11:00-12:00

Australian Department of Foreign Affairs and Trade | Australian Water Partnership | iDE | Institute for Sustainable Futures, University of Technology Sydney | **Plan International** | **SNV Netherlands Development Organisation** | Water for Women Fund

COVID-19 highlighted gendered and social inequalities like never before. Now is the opportunity to reset. Transformative leadership is key to leaving no one behind. Convenors will share examples of how transformative leadership, at all levels, can challenge inequalities and contribute to more inclusive and equitable WASH systems, structures and services.

Now, more than ever, the world relies on transformative leaders to drive the COVID-19 response and recovery. But how can we better enable transformative leadership in the water governance and WASH sectors to ensure more inclusive and equitable systems, structures and services?

Join the convenors in an engaging, open discussion on all facets of transformative leadership and explore how you can better support leaders to be more transformative in programming, research or policy-making to tackle challenges, such as COVID-19 and climate change, head-on. Convenors will present program examples and research, sharing their pathways towards transformative leadership in many challenging contexts, including opportunities, barriers, lessons learnt and recommendations on how to better support transformative leadership in these sectors. These will be followed by an interactive panel whereby participants will have the opportunity to explore, in more detail, the emerging recommendations. Convenors will support participants to identify how they might transfer these learnings to their own areas of work. Through the session, participants will gain a deeper understanding of the pathways towards transformative leadership together with exposure to a range of strategies and an increased motivation to support transformative leadership in programming and research.

[Scaling bankable peatland projects for water security](#)

Thursday 26 August 14:00-15:00

Global Peatlands Initiative | Greifswald Mire Centre | International Union for Conservation of Nature | IUCN UK Peatlands Programme | South Pole | **Wetlands International**

Healthy peatlands are critical for water security as well as for mitigating and adapting to climate change. Moreover, peatlands generate important benefits for people, businesses and nature. Yet, these ecosystems are being lost at unprecedented rates. Collective action is needed to replicate and scale bankable projects in these important ecosystems.

Managing water sustainably in landscapes where businesses source and operate secures their social license as well as ensuring resilience and continued growth in the face of climate change. The goal of this interactive session is to harness support for solutions that reconcile peatland values with economic and social goals and to develop a path for replication and scale up.

Healthy peatlands provide multiple water benefits such as increasing water quantity and quality, as well as helping to store and regulate flows. These ecosystems are also vital for climate mitigation and adaptation, biodiversity and livelihoods. Competition for land is causing unprecedented loss of peatlands through drainage. Obstacles to scale finance include a lack of knowledge of the true value of peatlands and the perception that limited economic benefits can be derived from healthy peatlands. Existing efforts from business, civil society and governments of channelling innovative finance into peatland areas in South East Asia, South America and Northern Europe, will serve as practical examples to build pathways for replication and scale up.

[Self-supply's potential for increased resilience and water security](#)

Thursday 26 August 14:00-15:00

Ask for Water GmbH | International Water Management Institute | **MetaMeta** | Rural Water Supply Network | SKAT Foundation | SMART Centre Group | University of Technology Sydney | WaterAid

Self-supply means households taking charge of water provisioning as a rural and urban coping mechanism, often in response to inadequate supply. Self-financed access has potential to support improved health and nutrition, and generate income. This session shares experiences and recommendations on how this complementary solution strengthens resilience.

World-wide over 1 billion people have invested in water infrastructure at their premises for self-supply (Sutton, 2021) as a coping mechanism, often in response to inadequate supply and mainly through groundwater. This session will provide practical recommendations on how to support and further scale-up self-supply in a sustainable way. Based on different examples, it will show how self-supply complements other forms of water access for domestic and productive uses and discuss concerns including water quality and groundwater depletion.

Water at premises provides significant benefits to human development: in addition to improving health and hygiene, it contributes to reducing poverty and hunger, improving nutrition, and generating employment, among other benefits. Self-supply as a concept has cross-sectoral synergies with 'Multiple Use Systems' and 'Farmer-Led Irrigation', and this event seeks to foster a dialogue with people and actors from these sub-sectors.

Stimulating and supporting people to invest themselves is a powerful and complementary mechanism to reach SDG6 and to "leave no one behind" where other water-supply models are not applicable, considered too expensive or struggling to provide full coverage. Supporting selfsupply can have benefit-cost ratios in the range of 10-20 and where combined with rainwater harvesting, it can increase resilience to climate change.

[Can a business approach link sanitation & curative health care?](#)

Thursday 26 August 15:00-16:00

Amref Health Africa | Aqua for All | FINISH Society | WASTE

Scaling up health access by leveraging sanitation and hygiene marketing can address the 'double bind' of health versus economy. How can WASH marketing and a business approach contribute to healthier and socio-economically empowered communities? Interventions linking sanitation and curative health through telemedicine, universal health coverage and micro-health insurance are covered.

Linking sanitation and health can make economic sense for entrepreneurs and governments alike. Progress in universal health coverage can be made by cutting down infections. Savings from good health reduce out of pocket health expenditures for both households and the public sector. Marketing for scale at the sanitation-health nexus has potential to achieve this through public-private partnerships co-selling health insurance and improved sanitation.

Digital tools used to collect data are crucial, yet need multiple applications (i.e. geospatial intelligence, digital marketing, listenership, e-learning, entire package of m-health, communications, etc.). Conveners will share experiences with the sanitation-health nexus, focusing on:

- Digital solutions for demand and supply-side management of interventions.
- Economics of improved sanitation linked to health (i.e. co-selling with a business approach, utilizing digital tools and artificial influence).

Expected outcomes:

- Innovation: Rethinking sanitation programming to include health interventions and sustainable scaling
- Inspiration: Sharing best practices, novel ideas being piloted and facilitating workshop for cross-sharing of attendees' own successes and challenges
- Cooperation: Demonstrable possibilities for collaborative, multi-stakeholder, and public-private partnership approaches

This session is repeated live on Mon. 23/Aug @ 8.00-9.00 CEST.

[How Water Can Drive a Green, Resilient & Inclusive Recovery](#)

Thursday 26 August 15:00-16:00

Government of the Netherlands | Organisation for Economic Cooperation and Development | United States Department of State | United States Environmental Protection Agency | World Bank Group

The session will present key findings of new joint analytical work by the OECD and the World Bank distilling evidence on how water can contribute to a green, resilient and inclusive recovery and examples of transformational action on

the ground. We'll invite participants to share their perspective on and experience with the role of water in driving the recovery.

The session will present key findings of new joint analytical work by the OECD and the World Bank distilling evidence on how water can contribute to a green, resilient and inclusive recovery and examples of transformational action on the ground. We'll invite participants to share their experience with the role of water in green, resilient and inclusive recovery.

We will exploring several dimensions:

- Promoting water-related investments in recovery initiatives at regional and national levels and providing evidence on the value of such investment to contribute to a green, resilient and inclusive recovery.
- Exchanging practical examples of how water-related investments feature in recovery packages and the potential role for financiers and investors
- Sharing practical insights on how to drive transformational action on the ground, drawing on specific examples and related analytical work on intermediaries and blended finance

[NL: What If Businesses Understood Their Role in Systems Change?](#)

Thursday 26 August 15:00-16:30

Government of the Netherlands | Stockholm International Water Institute

The Leadership in Business Accelerator will highlight the importance of effective private sector leadership on water issues and provide practical advice and best practice examples on global awareness of water in the international, regional and local agendas. The Government of the Netherlands will hold an invitation-only roundtable that covers key aspects of storytelling, communicating impact and return on investment, and understanding and influencing behaviours across a variety of channels and geographies. To meet our growing water challenges, we need systemic transformation; incremental change is no longer sufficient. Drawing on showcases from a range of sectors and geographies, this roundtable will discuss the pivotal role that businesses can play to accelerate transformation.

[Investing for change through the World Water Quality Alliance](#)

Thursday 26 August 17:00-18:00

European Commission - Joint Research Centre | **IHE Delft Institute for Water Education** | UK Centre for Ecology and Hydrology | UN Environment Programme | **Wageningen University & Research** | World Bank Group

The World Water Quality Alliance Ecosystem workstream will mobilise policy, investment and public support for ecosystem based choices in the protection and restoration of inland waters. This interactive session will develop the concepts and practice for future protection and restoration of waters at local, regional and global scales.

There is no doubt about the magnitude of continuing global decline of water quality. The causes are known, but the solutions remain largely elusive. The newly formed World Water Quality Alliance (WWQA), under the auspices of UN Water provides a new approach to mobilise the global expertise, policy and business communities to identify and develop regional solutions. The 'know how' to deliver significant water quality improvements, for example, through nature based solutions, across sectors and scales is available, and many of the solutions provide multiple benefits that are underrepresented in existing policies. Too often the silo mentality persists, with development policies continuing to drive further pollution. The challenge now lies in mobilising policy makers, investment and public support for change leading to ecosystem based choices, and supporting communities in the protection and restoration of the ecosystems on which they rely. This can only be achieved through an international Coalition of the Willing, inclusive of multiple interests and disciplines to share experience through an informed community of change. This session

provides another building block for global collaboration in recognising the negative social and economic effects of ongoing water quality decline, and mapping out the solutions for better protection and restoration.

Laying the Groundwork for a Water Conscious Private Sector

Thursday 26 August 17:00-18:00

ACTIAM | **Ceres** | **Government of the Netherlands** | Manulife Investment Management | Skandinaviska Enskilda Banken

This session addresses the problem of valuing water in the private sector. Using interactive elements of polling and word clouds, participants will engage with key findings from research projects and how leading institutional investors and banks are approaching the development of a set of corporate expectations on valuing water.

What would the world look like with a water-conscious private sector? What is needed to encourage the corporate sector to truly value water as a systemic risk? How can investors help to advance research and tools to make today's vision for a water-secure future a reality for all? To engage with these questions, dive into this session where Ceres, partnering with the Valuing Water Initiative and financial sector leaders, will share their progress towards laying the groundwork for a future where financial sector leaders set out a clear set of corporate expectations for valuing water.

Participants will be treated to a preview of cutting-edge research on corporate water risk, to be released in late 2021, along with the opportunity to provide direct feedback to help shape the future direction of this work in advance of the launch of a global private sector initiative in 2022. Join this session and become part of the solution!

Result-Based Financing: Addressing bottlenecks and unlocking finance for WASH

Thursday 26 August 17:00-19:30

ACTIAM | **Amref Health Africa** | **Aqua for All** | **Government of the Netherlands** | **WASTE** | Water For People

Attracting novel financing mechanisms is needed for scalable uptake of sanitation. Reducing costs translates to lower funding requirements and ultimately greater reach. Join us to learn the HOW of a result-based financing journey to scale household sanitation financing and attract commercial parties. Who benefits and at what cost?

Would you like to be part of making history?

Through bottom-up result-based financing (RBF) initiatives, we will reveal the real costs of sanitation, from business to construction. Sanitation market development is more than just hardware, it is about systems change. Convenors will explore how costing insights could be linked to public sector RBF. Furthermore, knowing the costs and having a track record can attract commercial investors into this underfunded sector.

For sustainable scale of such initiatives, we will answer: *Who pays for this and how? What role can private fund managers play?*

Participants will have the chance to experience lessons learned in innovative financing, future ambitions and join us for a mini-hackathon to address some key challenges in novel RBF ventures: As we have begun to link the RBF approach to the conversion of human waste, we are uncovering how to make every kg of upcycled human waste into a payment for sanitation entrepreneurs. Participants will also witness the prelaunch of the first ever series of sanitation impact funds. Main players in this initiative will answer audience questions and workshop new ideas toward developing the series.

Strengthening systems without silos: Structuring partnerships for collective action

Thursday 26 August 18:00-19:00

Sessions at SWWW with Dutch contributions

August 23rd – 27th 2021



Environmental Incentives | IRC | Tetra Tech Inc. | United States Agency for International Development
University of Colorado

Collaborative approaches, including collective action, are increasingly applied in the WASH sector, despite thin evidence about the conditions and factors that influence success. Addressing this gap, this session will summarize findings from 11 independent efforts implemented in four countries through USAID's Sustainable WASH Systems (SWS) Learning Partnership.

This session will describe how SWS greatly expanded the evidence base on collaborative approaches in the WASH sector, especially on more intensive approaches such as Collective Action and Collective Impact over the course of four years of research and implementation. Participants will hear from researchers, WASH experts, and practitioners about how the findings might be applied to other organizations and contexts.

[Leverage business structure and governance to create stakeholder value](#)

Thursday 26 August 18:45-19:45

2030 Water Resources Group | Facebook | **Government of the Netherlands** | Nestlé | Stockholm International Water Institute

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[Putting People First: Citizen-Centric Climate Adaptation and Mitigation in Water](#)

Thursday 26 August 19:00-20:00

Government of the Netherlands | International Union for Conservation of Nature | Swedish International Development Cooperation Agency | WaterAid | World Bank Group

The scale of the climate crisis demands collaborative solutions and new tools to fully engage and empower the most affected citizens who are often excluded from decision making. The session will unpack how to accelerate different levels of citizen participation and voice in climate-affected watershed and river basin management.

This session will highlight how whole-of-society approaches in which tools are decentralized, coalitions are formed, and knowledge is both granular and democratized, are central to addressing climate challenges and its impacts on water. The session will span approaches in which citizens engage with each other, with the private sector and with governments and politicians to address issues of water insecurity in a participatory manner, ranging from bottom-up to top-down interactions, and will explore how these efforts can be accelerated and taken to scale. Specifically, the session will focus on examples of citizen-led initiatives in the management of watersheds, spanning topics such as community-level participatory groundwater accounting and allocation, civil society work to advocate and lobby decision-makers to address contaminated rivers, and farmers' reciprocal agreements to align incentives for sustainable management of watersheds under climate change. It is expected that the experiences and challenges faced by these initiatives will trigger a discussion during the session on how efforts to protect, sustain and better manage water resources can be opened up more broadly to citizens and how to address issues of more effective voice for less advantaged groups in this process.

This session is repeated live on 27 August at 08:00-09:00

[Mobilizing private sector investments for water security](#)

Thursday 26 August 21:00-22:00

Sessions at SWWW with Dutch contributions

August 23rd – 27th 2021



Anheuser-Busch InBev | Cargill Inc | Danone | FEMSA Foundation | **HEINEKEN International** | Inter-American Development Bank | PepsiCo | The Nature Conservancy

Projects supported by companies do not often move beyond the pilot phase nor reach the scale needed to ensure significant impact at the watershed level. The session will present innovative cases where companies have identified inadequate financial resources as a key barrier and are mobilizing investment in the water-food-climate nexus

Long-term financing is a key challenge for multisector projects aiming to contribute to water security. In addition, projects supported by corporations do not often move beyond the pilot phase nor reach the scale needed to ensure significant impact at the watershed level. This session will explore new pathways through six innovative case studies where companies have mobilized investments from public and private entities and committed resources to create science-based and financial solutions in the water-food-climate nexus in the search for scale and positive impact to ensure the health of an entire

Cases to be showcased will represent different geographies from Latin America, USA and South Africa. We will have a panel of experts who will have limited and equal amount of time to present their cases and at the end we will open a space for moderated questions that will identify lessons learnt and promote interaction with participants at the session.

[Preparing for an inclusive and action-oriented UN Water conference 2023](#)

Thursday 26 August 21:00-22:00

Government of the Netherlands | Government of the Republic of Tajikistan | Sanitation and Water for All

On the way to an inclusive and action-oriented UN Water Conference in 2023, the Co-hosts of this conference will provide a brief introduction on the Conference and its preparatory process and engage with the participants to gather their views on the desired process towards and outcome of this Conference.

In 2018, the UN adopted a resolution to convey a UN Water Conference in 2023, to comprehensively review implementation of the International Decade for Action “Water for Sustainable Development”, 2018-2028. The governments of the Netherlands and Tajikistan were welcomed to co-host this unique Conference.

This session will see a brief introduction on the Conference and its preparatory process. The Conference will be the second UN Water Conference after the 1977 Conference in Mar del Plata and provides a unique opportunity to bring together different stakeholders and strengthen the water agenda. An inclusive preparatory process and action-oriented outcome will be important for the success of this Conference. A panel consisting of representatives of different stakeholder groups will discuss the outcomes of previous events and take stock of expectations regarding the Conference. The audience is targeted from a cross-section of stakeholders (government, multilateral organisations, civil society, private sector, and others). They will be actively engaged to share their views on the desired process towards and outcome of this conference, and will also be challenged to share their ambitions and intentions to support the UN Water Conference in 2023. The outcomes of this session will provide important input for the road to 2023.

[Catalysing sustainable futures for sanitation? Innovative financing and planning tools](#)

Thursday 26 August 21:00-22:25

Aqua for All | Athena Infonomics | Bill and Melinda Gates Foundation | Container Based Sanitation Alliance | EY | Government of Haiti | Water Services Regulatory Board Kenya

Current investment in sanitation is inadequate, complex and fails to consider climate impacts. Better data, tools and new financing are needed. This participative session will look at the potential of three approaches for catalysing progress on climate-positive sanitation: cost-effectiveness analysis and the CWIS SAP tool, results-based financing and carbon offsetting.

The capital investment required to meet the Sustainable Development Goals for urban sanitation alone has been estimated as at least US\$46 billion every year. At the same time, the shift in urban sanitation to citywide inclusive sanitation (CWIS) and more contextual, sustainable and equitable solutions is a complex undertaking. Adding further complexity is the urgent need for the sanitation sector to consider its climate impact as a significant contributor to greenhouse gas emissions. What mechanisms are there to address these issues and navigate this complexity?

This session will explore the value of costing data and the Citywide Inclusive Sanitation Services Assessment and Planning (CWIS SAP) tool for supporting decision making on sanitation investment and driving the movement for more and better data. It will consider the potential of two forms of innovative financing that are currently breaking new ground in sanitation. Could payment metrics for results based financing incentivize increased access to safely managed sanitation? Can carbon credits drive improved climate impacts in sanitation? In the water sector, carbon credits have been around for more than a decade and at least USD4.5bn have already been invested. What can be learned for sanitation?