

[Rainforestation: Cagayan de Oro River Basin, Philippines](#)

Tuesday 24 August 08:00-09:00

Vitens Evides International | Wetlands International

We share the approach of the Cagayan de Oro River Basin Management Council and its Partners in the landscape and delta in the Philippines in building resilient and fair societies with vulnerable groups by promoting water governance, watershed and riparian restoration, food security and livelihood development, and landscape financial infrastructure.

[Women Water Climate: Tackling the Challenges](#)

Tuesday 24 August 10:00-11:00

Network of Women Water Professionals | Soroptimist International | Stockholm Environment Institute | Women for Water Partnership

Action without Vision is a nightmare, Vision without Action is a day-dream. Our Way Forward will involve an interactive discussion among all relevant stakeholders on accelerating transformation: What does traditional, local knowledge teach us for the future and lead to more resilient, sustainable and equitable water policies and programmes.

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

Tuesday 24 August 10:00-11:00

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.

[Water Resource Management for WASH: strengthening communities for climate resilience](#)

Tuesday 24 August 10:00-11:25

Amref Health Africa | Government of the Netherlands | RAIN foundation | Simavi | WASH Alliance International | WASH SDG Consortium | Wetlands International

Climate vulnerability and resilience (CVR) is a cross-cutting theme within the Netherlands WASH SDG programme. This session provides interactive, virtual field visits to successful IWRM interventions where participants are invited to interact with community members and programme staff. In Ethiopia we will showcase catchment restoration and in Uganda, constructed wetlands.

This session provides the opportunity to visit programme sites – virtually!

Sessions at SWWW with Dutch contributions

August 23rd – 27th 2021



The audience is invited to join the WASH SDG team and visit two programme locations where WASH Alliance International implements water resource management activities with the aim to strengthen communities for climate resilience.

Our first stop will be Olyelowidye – Agago District, Uganda – where a constructed wetland is using green infrastructure to increase water security in the area. After, we will continue to Ethiopia and visit a catchment restoration project in the Ziway-Shalla

In addition to live video footage where project staff and other stakeholders will showcase key challenges and achievements, these visits will facilitate direct interaction between the audience – who can make comments and ask questions - and the team.

Other relevant stakeholders such as community members and local authorities will also be present to showcase the different perspectives and the importance of applying a multi-stakeholder approach.

After the field visits, participants will be divided into smaller groups and delve into some key challenges. Based on the experiences from the audience, the groups will explore alternative solutions to contribute to sector knowledge around the importance of water resource management for sustainable and climate resilient WASH programmes.

[Adaptive WASH planning to confront uncertainties during emergencies and beyond](#)

Tuesday 24 August 10:30-11:55

Deltares | IHE Delft Institute for Water Education | Simavi | WASH Alliance International | Water and Sanitation Entrepreneurs Association

In this super interactive session we investigate how and why the WASH sector should move beyond using Theory of Change and apply adaptive planning practices to identify and prioritise critical assumptions and uncertainties, develop associated adaptation actions and monitor triggering indicators.

Restrictions on movements and assembly, lockdowns, social distancing, increased care work due to closure of schools and sickness, loss of staff and many other consequences of the COVID-19 pandemic challenged our assumptions on how WASH interventions are implemented. The WASH sector adapted its way of operating quickly to continue its work in the new normal. While thrilled to see this adaptability, if we are to respond to a variety of uncertainties in today's complex world, the systematic use of adaptive planning and management approaches in the WASH sector, during emergencies and beyond, should increase.

The conveners invite you to join this session and experience, through engaging in an interactive game, how the use of adaptive planning can benefit WASH actors. This will demonstrate how informed decisions making that anticipates possible future circumstances can help to mitigate the impact of critical uncertainties. The game will be followed by short pitches on lessons learnt from Kenya, Uganda and Bangladesh. The session also offers ample opportunity for questions and answers. The game, pitches and discussions, will help to set the future agenda for adaptive planning approaches for the WASH sector, identifying benefits but also remaining challenges in applying adaptive planning in practice.

[Right2Grow: empowering communities to improve nutrition and WASH services](#)

Tuesday 24 August 10:30-11:55

Action Against Hunger | Centre for Economic Governance and Accountability in Africa | Civil Society Network for Nutrition | Community Integrated Development Initiative | Max Foundation | Ministry of Foreign Affairs, The Netherlands | Save the Children | The Hunger Project | World Vision

Making sure every child can reach its full potential! This is the Right2Grow partnership's goal: well-nourished children, resilient communities, despite COVID-19 and climate change. Right2Grow's multi-perspective panel will share

ambitions for a locally-driven global movement to eradicate undernutrition and improve access to WASH. Join us to discuss challenges and opportunities!

We see a world full of great intentions, expertise and wealth, which does not live up to its promises and potential. At the same time, we also see strong women, men and children in affected communities ready to voice their needs, and ready to contribute their own part of the solution. In this session Right2Grow will take you along on its journey to build a locally led global movement that puts these affected communities at its centre. Our multidisciplinary panel will showcase you how sustainable progress can be achieved by strengthening local communities and building cross-sectoral partnerships that connect the local to the global level. We present a people-centered approach that brings in and amplifies local voices in national and global dialogues. This session will challenge you to look at water and food security through another lens: what is the game changing potential of putting communities in the lead to instigate and achieve long lasting change at the global level? Right2Grow invites you to join us in exploring challenges and opportunities so that together we can Build Resilience Faster!

[Reimagine water systems management in a changing climate](#)

Tuesday 24 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.

[Inclusive practices in water climate adaptation](#)

Tuesday 24 August 11:00-12:00

Government of the Netherlands | World Bank Group

Social inclusion in water climate adaptation contributes to better, more equitable solutions for water challenges. In this session, different practical approaches for improving social inclusion will be discussed. Practical case studies and stakeholder experiences from water climate adaptation will be exchanged, to help partners improve social inclusion in practice.

Social inclusion is increasingly important in water climate adaptation. It stimulates creativity, enables sustainable solutions and mitigates social and environmental risks.

In practice social inclusion is a complex matter and often fails to meet expectations. Technical approaches are still very dominant in projects. Knowledge and in-depth understanding of local dynamics are often limited as are resources to create this understanding.

Technical knowledge and expertise are vital in tackling climate issues, but can only deliver true value when connected with local knowledge, governance and communities. This practical side of social inclusion receives little attention and is extremely challenging. Collaboration is needed between donors, experts, national and local authorities and communities. Cultural differences need to be bridged. Therefore, investment in understanding local cultural and social context is key as well as investment in processes to enhance inclusion and co-created solutions.

The year of valuing water puts the different values of water for different groups central and provides an excellent opportunity to discuss opportunities and dilemmas of social inclusion in practice. In this session we discuss and explore practical approaches in enabling and improving social inclusion and share experiences from different countries.

[Gender transformative leadership in WASH: voices from Asia](#)

Tuesday 24 August 11:30-11:55

Institute for Sustainable Futures, University of Technology Sydney | **SNV Netherlands Development Organisation** | Water for Women Fund

Curated series of personal interviews with WASH sector leaders in Asia featuring COVID-19 responses that are enabling gender-just and resilient futures. In these interviews, diverse leaders talk about how their responses are transforming personal perspectives, norms, and systemic patterns to achieve gender equality.

Leadership qualities are especially put to test by unforeseen crises, such as the COVID-19 pandemic. In these situations, safeguarding the right of people to water and sanitation is paramount. To support social cohesion, stability, and resilience during times of upheaval, WASH leaders in the sector must listen, address, and respond to the diverse needs of people, including women, girls, people with disabilities, and vulnerable groups. Actions of leaders have lasting effects on citizens. Now more than ever leadership needs to be inclusive and gender-transformative.

Drawing on an Australian Government Water for Women Fund supported research partnership between SNV in Bhutan, Nepal and Lao PDR and ISF at the University of Technology Sydney this session will feature a series of curated interviews with diverse inspirational WASH leaders in government and civil society who are transforming inequalities in their COVID-19 responses. In the process, leaders will share how traditionally excluded (and voiceless) groups are being involved in WASH decision-making processes in Asian contexts. Ideas shared through the interviews will have applicability across a wide range of WASH-COVID programming to support more transformative leadership strategies, and to assist implementers to find new entry points for strengthening gender equality and inclusion.

[Disrupting the status quo: Water in health and climate crises](#)

Tuesday 24 August 13:00-14:00

Deltares | International Centre for Integrated Mountain Development | **OneWorld** | Stockholm International Water Institute

Globally, we need to develop impact and cost benefit investment pathways for the most vulnerable to mitigate and manage the impacts of the climate and health crises. This interactive grounding session will host a panel focused on how different sectors will be affected and includes examples of good practice which demonstrate the rationale and materiality for urgent interventions.

[Certain Uncertainty: Next Generation Water Planning for Deep Uncertainty](#)

Tuesday 24 August 15:00-16:00

Alliance for Global Water Adaptation | **Deltares** | International Center For Integrated Water Resources Management | UNESCO Intergovernmental Hydrological Programme

As attention turns towards implementation of climate commitments such as Nationally Determined Contributions, countries need practical guidance on how to address climate risks and other uncertainties in water management. This event will showcase the upscaling of so-called “bottom-up” approaches to resilient water management.

Climate change is accelerating even as countries across the globe devise strategies to mitigate its impacts and adapt to the “new normal.” The effects of climate change are most acutely felt through impacts on the water cycle and water-related extreme events. To ensure water supply for humans and the environment while meeting the world’s ambitious climate and development goals, decision makers and regulators will need to adopt a new paradigm for resilient water management that embraces the uncertain future ahead.

Over the past decade, various organizations have developed a set of complementary resilient water management tools and approaches that work to address climate risks and other uncertainties in a manner that can be integrated within existing planning, design, and operational decision processes. These “bottom-up approaches” differ from the dominant paradigm guiding water management for the past half-century — namely the assumption that we can use the past to predict (and plan for) the future.

In this session, speakers will illustrate how bottom-up approaches have been utilized to date, presenting opportunities to achieve climate, sustainable development, and disaster risk reduction goals. The event will also feature an interactive session for audience engagement.

[Global Lessons from COVID-19 Impacts on Water and Sanitation Utilities](#)

Tuesday 24 August 15:00-16:00

Isle Utilities | World Bank Group

This resilience story is drawn from data from a worldwide survey of the impacts of COVID-19 on water and sanitation utilities and a financial impact assessment. We will deep dive into cases from Europe, Latin America, and Asia-Pacific to show how utilities and Governments responded and built resilience.

In this 60 minute session, we will be providing case examples of what happened to water service providers - municipalities and water suppliers - when the pandemic reached their cities, during the first wave, and then in the longer term. We will dive into the impacts on their service provision, their revenue, their customer engagement abilities, and their workforces. The utilities’ actions to mitigate the impacts will be described along with their effectiveness at the time, as well as which of the interventions have been retained in the long term for their value in future disaster scenarios of other kinds. The final part of the session will take the lessons learned from these interventions to discuss the essential building blocks for utilities to build long-term resilience.

[Making first line of defense accessible to the furthest behind](#)

Tuesday 24 August 15:30-15:55

Amref Health Africa | Plan International | Simavi | SNV Netherlands Development Organisation

Most countries have taken measures, such as lockdowns, social distancing and campaigns to prevent further spread of COVID-19. Those in vulnerable situations, however, either were not informed about these measures or lack the necessary means to follow them. This session illustrates how WASH First programme changed this narrative.

The lives behind the masks!

Funded by the Dutch Ministry of Foreign Affairs and implemented by the conveners of this session and their local partners, WASH First programme aims to promote health-related hygiene practices to prevent further spread of COVID-19 through awareness raising and improved access to WASH services. The programme is implemented in 6 countries: Ethiopia, Indonesia, Kenya, Mozambique, Rwanda and Uganda.

In this storytelling session, we will showcase the stories of WASH First programme's “Movers & Shakers”, who have assumed responsibility and acted despite their restricting circumstances at home, institutions and communities. Those who have made a difference. Because ‘doing nothing was not an option’. Veiled behind their facemasks, they have demonstrated that despite the strong forces widening the inequality gap, the trend can be reversed and a new narrative of hope can be written.

The conveners invite you to join us in this inspiring session, in which the stories behind the masks are brought into light and the faces that have been hidden away for more than a year are revealed.

[\(2/3\) Navigating Uncertain Waters - shifting powers, sharing values](#)

Tuesday 24 August 17:00-18:00

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

Session 2/3 - Step forward: making decisions that value water A simulation of a parliamentary or congressional debate that explores how collaborative approaches can help reach a better, more sustainable, and more accepted decisions on water while not driving participants apart: decision making by water deliberation.

“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.

[Resilient Communities in the Face of Pandemics and Climate Change](#)

Tuesday 24 August 17:00-18:00

CAF - Development Bank of Latin America | Inter-American Development Bank | **IRC** | One Drop | Water For People | Water.org

Rural and peri-urban areas and poor regions of LAC face a wider gap to achieve SDG6. Context-adapted short, medium, and long-term actions build resilient communities to withstand hazards such as COVID-19 and climate change. This session highlights experiences, tools, and lessons learned to overcome these challenges in LAC.

Pandemics and climate-change related disasters are here to stay and they both have huge implications for reaching SDG6 by 2030. This session brings together funders and implementers who will share case studies from across the Latin America region with various examples of resiliency in WASH in the face of pandemics and climate change. Covering responses including regulation, policies, governance, financial innovation, and sustainable approaches to behavior change – this session will tie together these case studies by looking at the macro, mezzo, and micro-level impacts.

[Water savings and water stewardship in industries: return on experience](#)

Tuesday 24 August 17:00-18:25

Antea Group

Join us to discuss water savings and water stewardship for your industry. Due to climate change, population growth and degradation of water quality, water is becoming a major issue even in temperate countries. We will share with you our insight and return on experience. A proven methodology including comprehensive diagnosis, water consumption mapping, technical and economic assessment, enables industrial sites to identify and prioritize pragmatic actions for reducing their water consumption. A water stewardship strategy considering the industrial sites as part of the local watershed, helps increasing water security for the whole local community including the water supply of the sites.

Join us to discuss water savings and water stewardship for your industry. Due to climate change, population growth and degradation of water quality, water is becoming a major issue even in temperate countries.

Water scarcity impacts human activities and industries will have to adapt in order to continue their activity during drought periods. Depending on the location, environmental policies or proactive approaches, like certification or commitment to sustainable development goals (e.g. SDG12 for responsible consumption and production), encourage industries to limit their water consumption

We will share with you our insight and return on experience. A proven methodology including comprehensive diagnosis, water consumption mapping, technical and economic assessment, enables industrial sites to identify and prioritize pragmatic actions for reducing their water consumption. A water stewardship strategy considering the industrial sites as part of the local watershed, helps increasing water security for the whole local community including the water supply of the sites.

After our session, the audience will have in hand a reliable methodology for saving water. The audience will also be able to value the strategy of water stewardship for industries, no longer limited only to the industrial site but expanded, considering it as part of the watershed.

[Advocacy in Africa: Tools for Integrating WASH-Conservation in local agendas](#)

Tuesday 24 August 17:00-19:30

Africa Biodiversity Collaborative Group | Conservation International | **IRC** | United States Agency for International Development

Linking WASH and environmental conservation in policy enables truly, sustainable WASH greatly needed in sub-Saharan Africa. A well-designed advocacy strategy is fundamental for turning concepts into action. This training will showcase a FREE tool for designing advocacy strategies, practice a core skill, and connect practitioners tackling similar challenges in Africa.

The target audience for this training are development practitioners and advocates who desire a supportive policy environment for integrated freshwater conservation and WASH programming. Through an introduction to the ABCG methodology, participants can expect to learn:

- Why advocacy is critical for the success of integrated approaches to water management in sub-Saharan Africa;
- The key steps to designing an effective advocacy strategy outlined in the ABCG Advocacy Strategy methodology, drawing from examples in South Africa and Uganda.
- How to increase their ability to apply a key advocacy skill highlighted in the manual, demonstrated through an interactive activity.
- Where to access the suite of ABCG resources for integration, learn about future trainings on the full methodology, and find resources/contacts useful when working on advocacy aimed at influencing local-level policy, funding, and/or planning.

[Reimagine water systems management in a changing climate](#)

Tuesday 24 August 18:45-19:45

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.

[Climate Change Adaptation Through Nature-based Solutions for Infrastructure](#)

Tuesday 24 August 19:00-20:00

Deltares | Multiconsult | World Wide Fund for Nature

Participants will discuss challenges and solutions for planning and implementing Nature-based Solutions (NbS) to adapt to climate change. The seminar will apply interactive digital tools to discuss with participants good practices for Nature-based solutions as well as how to apply such approaches for a climate resilient future.

Climate change in combination with land degradation is one of the greatest threat to the future of our societies, our economies and the state of the earths ecosystems. Climate change is also already affecting water resources and exacerbating water-related risks around the globe, and the need for action is dire. Traditional infrastructure based solutions are not sufficient to meet this challenge, and the need for Nature-based Solutions are key to meet the various water-related risks. Participants will discuss challenges and solutions for planning and implementing Nature-based Solutions (NbS) to adapt to climate change.

The event features a short key-note input, a panel debate with representatives from selected water and natural resource management specialists, as well as interactive elements where participants are given the opportunity to actively engage and discuss challenges and innovative ideas.