

REGIONAL FORUM FOR AFRICA

WATER DIALOGUES FOR RESULTS - TOWARDS BONN 2021

ACCELERATING CROSS-SECTORAL SDG 6 IMPLEMENTATION

26 MAY 2021
10 - 12 A.M. GMT

LOCATION: ZOOM
REGISTRATION: <https://cutt.ly/ebPaIGK>

BACKGROUND

The African continent has made great progress in achieving sustainable access to water for all people. However, 73% of the population in Sub-sahara Africa still lack safe water supply, and even more adequate sanitation. Sound water management and access to reliable service delivery remain vital to inclusive economic growth and social well-being, especially in the COVID-19 pandemic. In order to accelerate efforts towards meeting water-related challenges, the United Nations General Assembly declared 2018-2028 as the International Decade for Action "Water for Sustainable Development". As we approach the mid-point, there is great concern that SDG 6 progress is insufficient. To address this, the Africa Water Week this year and the 9th World Water Forum Dakar in 2022 are dedicated to accelerate SDG 6 implementation on the African continent. The Regional Forum for Africa as part of the Water Dialogues for Results constitutes a platform to understand water challenges in the region and shape joint policy recommendations.

DESCRIPTION

Water flows across borders and sectors and thus plays a central role for the fulfillment of our global agendas from Paris to Sendai. Achieving SDG 6 on Water and Sanitation is fundamental to sustainable development: Water is essential to eradicate poverty and hunger, combat inequalities within and among countries, build resilient and peaceful societies. However, the world is alarmingly off-track to reaching SDG 6 by 2030 and the consequences are disproportionately felt by the poorest and most vulnerable. With business as usual it might lead to food and energy shortages, biodiversity loss, degradation of ecosystems, economic slowdown or political disputes. The lack of safe water, sanitation and hygiene services undermine global health. Joint action is urgently needed to reverse this situation, we need an immediate, integrated and holistic response. Focusing on water alone will not bring us back on track. The highly cross-sectoral character of water makes the scarce resource key for bringing sectors together and translate synergies into action.

Under the slogan “Water Dialogues for Results Bonn 2021: Accelerating cross-sectoral SDG 6 implementation”, the German Federal Ministry for the Environment, Nature Conservation and Nuclear Safety (BMU), on behalf of the German Government, initiated a dialogue series with participants from UN Member States, Major Groups and international organisations to ensure accelerated implementation of water-related Goals and targets of the 2030 Agenda. The Water Dialogues and related High-Level Meeting on July 1, 2021 are part of the official preparatory process for the 2023 UN Conference on the Mid-Term Review of the International Decade for Action “Water for Sustainable Development” 2018-2028.

OVERVIEW OF THE WATER DIALOGUES FOR RESULTS 2021



AGENDA

Time	Activity	Who
10:00	Welcome and opening words	<p>Welcoming by Moderator Mr. Alex Simalabwi, Executive Secretary of the Global Water Partnership (GWP) Southern Africa</p> <p>Opening words Ms Nchedi Moripe, Chief Director, Global Cooperation, Department of Water and Sanitation, South Africa</p> <p>Mr. Thomas Banda, Acting Executive Secretary, African Ministers’ Council on Water (AMCOW)</p> <p>His Excellency Mr. Stephan Röken, Ambassador of the Federal Republic of Germany in Senegal, Gambia and Guinea-Bissau</p> <p>Hon. Serigne Mbaye Thiam, Minister of Water and Sanitation, Senegal (tbc)</p>
10:25	<p>Setting the Scene Prospects and Challenges of meeting SDG-6 in the Africa region</p>	<p>Prof. George Krhoda, Associate Professor of Geography and Environmental Studies at the University of Nairobi, Kenya</p> <p>Prof. Cheikh Becaye Gaye, Professor of Hydrogeology at Université Cheikh Anta Diop de Dakar, Senegal</p>
10:35	The ‘Water Dialogues for Results’	Mr. Thomas Stratenwerth , Head of Division WR 1, German Federal Ministry for the Environment, Nature Conservation and Nuclear Safety (BMU), Germany
10:45	<p>Best practices Governance of sustainable water and groundwater management in Uganda</p> <p>Transboundary water cooperation in the Senegal River Basin</p> <p>Towards climate resilience in water management in South Africa</p>	<p>Dr. Callist Tindimugaya, Commissioner for Water Resources Planning and Regulation, Uganda</p> <p>Mr. Hamed Diane Semega, Head of the Organization for the Development of the Senegal River (OMVS) (tbc)</p> <p>Ms Lusenga Lindiwe, Deputy Director General, Department of Water Affairs, South Africa; Member AMCOW Technical Advisor Committee (TAC)</p>
11:10	<p>Panel-Discussion How to integrate ambitious and accelerated cross-sectoral action on water into national and subnational planning?</p>	<p><u>Panelists</u> Dr. Akissa Bahri, Professor at the National Agricultural Institute of Tunisia (INAT)</p> <p>Mrs Abdul-Malik Sareen, Executive Secretary at African Civil Society Network for Water and Sanitation (ANEWS) and Vice Chair of the Sanitation and Water for All (SWA) Steering Committee</p> <p>Prof. Chris Gordon, Institute for Environmental and Sanitation Studies, University of Ghana</p> <p>Mr. Paul Orengoh, PhD, Director of Programmes, African Ministers’ Council on Water (AMCOW)</p>
11:50	Call to Action for Africa	Dr. Azzika Tanko Yussif , Senior Policy Advisor, African Ministers’ Council on Water (AMCOW) and Mr. Abdoulaye Sène , Executive Secretary 9 th World Water Forum