

Securing Water: Approaches & Perspectives from Civil Society

Reaching the Objectives of the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development

📅 **Monday 23 November 2015** ⌚ **12:30-14:00** (*light refreshments*)

📍 **International Environment House II (7-9 ch. de Balexert)**

At the United Nations Sustainable Development Summit on 25 September 2015, world leaders adopted the new 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development, including the Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs). The Agenda includes a dedicated goal on water and sanitation (Goal 6 - Ensure availability and sustainable management of water and sanitation for all) and clear linkages to other Goals.

As it will be raised at the forthcoming UN High-Level Water and Sanitation Days in New York (18-20 November), reaching the ambitious objectives of the 2030 Agenda demands that we address universal access to drinking water and sanitation along with issues of quality and supply, in tandem with improved water management to protect ecosystems and build resiliency.

You are cordially invited to attend a roundtable discussion with water activists to discuss the meaningful contribution of civil society to implement and help achieving water-related SDGs.

PANELISTS

Maude BARLOW, Right Livelihood Award Laureate 2005 - Canada

Jumanda GAKELEBONE, Right Livelihood Award Laureate 2005- Botswana

Lifeng LI, Freshwater Director, WWF International

Mara TIGNINO, Senior Lecturer and Coordinator, Platform for International Water, Faculty of Law, University of Geneva/The Geneva Water Hub

Moderator: Moez ALLAOUI, Senior Legal Desk Officer, Waterlex

The panel will debate the following questions :

What is the role of civil society in establishing the recognition of the human right to water and sanitation?

What have been the challenges in realizing these rights five years after the UN General Assembly Resolution in 2010?

What is the role of non-State Actors in the management of water resources?

What could be their role implementing and helping achieving SDGs?

What are the experiences in the field on campaigning for the access to water in the field?

What are the gaps between legal rights and states' practice in Botswana?

What are the specific concerns of marginalised communities e.g. indigenous persons on the question of access to water?

How do they conceive SDG Target 6.b best implementation "Support and strengthen the participation of local communities in improving water and sanitation management"?

How can tools such as the water footprint and the work WWF does to protect freshwater ecosystems and improve water access, efficiency, etc., help monitoring SDGs 6.4, 6.5, and 6.6 targets implementation?

REGISTRATION gen.secretary@unep.org