

Stakeholder Forum

FOR A SUSTAINABLE FUTURE

Vurehout 373 • 1507 EC Zaandam • NL & 2 The Links • Herne Bay • Kent • CT6 7GQ • UK
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Concept note for a webinar on SDG 5 on gender equality and SDG 6 on clean water and sanitation

This webinar - in the countdown to the 2023 SDG Summit - is the third in SF's series of webinars that will review 2 SDGs each month to see where we are in their implementation, examining interdependencies across goals, and what that means for accelerating implementation. The series, which is supported by UNDESA, UNEP, and the EU, is bringing together a wide range of experts, policymakers, and practitioners with knowledge of the SDGs' interlinkages and insights on integrated approaches that can help to develop recommendations on transformative actions for the SDGs.

This webinar will focus on SDG 5 on gender equality and SDG 6 on clean water and sanitation and synergies and tradeoffs with other goals. It will continue to explore different ways to enable integrated approaches to SDG implementation with a special focus on mechanisms that bring together a range of stakeholders to accelerate progress toward the goals.

A key aim of the series is to identify ways to exploit positive interactions and mitigate trade-offs, including by forging multistakeholder coalitions behind programmes of accelerated action. Good practices will be identified for empowering communities, sectoral actors, and cross-sectoral alliances at multiple levels. The intention is to promote the establishment of communities of practice that will continue to collaborate in the lead-up to the 2023 SDG Summit and beyond.

Research and data show that the COVID-19 pandemic has disproportionately affected women struggling with lost jobs, increased burdens of unpaid care work, and domestic and sexual and gender-based violence. Negative impacts are compounded for women and girls who are marginalized because of multiple forms of discrimination based on race, ethnicity, age, income, geography, disability, or other characteristics. Women migrants, refugees, and asylum seekers - as well as forcibly displaced women living in humanitarian crises - are also at heightened risk. Women's health services, as well as social services such as shelters and crisis centers, faced major disruptions that cut lifelines for survivors of violence and undermined sexual and reproductive health services.

This is why national and international efforts for a sustainable, inclusive, and resilient recovery from COVID-19 must be gender-responsive and promote and ensure women's full, equal, meaningful participation and leadership at all levels. It is essential that countries fully integrate gender equality strategies into national sustainable development



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frameworks, recognizing that achieving gender equality will require both targeted gender-responsive action and the systemic mainstreaming of a gender perspective into all policies and programmes as SDG5 also acts as an enabler for other goals.

Access to safe water, sanitation, and hygiene is a basic human need for health and well-being. Billions of people will lack access to these basic services in 2030 unless the level of progress quadruples. Demand for clean and affordable water is rising owing to rapid population growth, urbanization, and increasing water needs from the agriculture, industry, and energy sectors. Decades of misuse, poor management, over-extraction of groundwater, and contamination of freshwater supplies have exacerbated water stress. In addition, countries are facing growing challenges linked to degraded water-related ecosystems, water scarcity and precipitation variability caused by climate change, underinvestment in water and sanitation, and insufficient cooperation in the area of transboundary waters. The United Nations will hold its second meeting on water - the UN 2023 Water Conference - from 22 – 24 March 2023. It has the potential to be a watershed moment to identify and establish clear commitments, pledges, and actions, across all sectors. The private sector, public authorities at all levels, uniting nations, community-based stakeholders, and professionals must be involved too to help deliver on the water actions in the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development. These actions must also be scaled up and replicated in the years to come. This webinar will contribute to preparations for the Water Conference by focusing on multistakeholder engagement in water resources management and linkages between sustainable water management and the other SDGs.

This third webinar will take place on 26 January 2023 at 8 am EST/ 2 pm CET for 60 minutes. The recording of the webinar will be available soon after on the SF website. A summary will also be produced and will serve as a contribution to the 2023 SDG Summit.

The following agenda is being proposed:

8:00 - 8:05 - Welcome and introduction: **Charles Nouhan**, Chair of the Board of the Stakeholder Forum for a Sustainable Future

8:05 - 8:10 - The interlinked challenge of the SDGs: **Jan-Gustav Strandenaes**, Senior Adviser, Stakeholder Forum for a Sustainable Future



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8.10 - 8.20 - Setting the scene

- **Ms. Keziah Therese Gerosano**, Partnerships Lead of the United Nations International Federation of Youth for Water and Climate (UN1FY) (**confirmed**)
- Speaker from the EU (tbc)

8:20 - 8:55 Discussion on SDGs 5 and 6 with experts and Q&A

Moderator: **Dr. David Horan**, Assistant Professor at Trinity Business School, Trinity College Dublin, Advisor on SDG Partnerships and Governance for the SDGs at Stakeholder Forum.

Speakers:

- **Ms. Carmen Capriles**, Founding Member of Reacción Climática and Global Facilitator Women's Major Group UNEA/UNEP (Bolivia) (tbc)
- **Mr. Hironobu Shibuya**, Formerly, Special Adviser to the Nippon Foundation and Chief Executive Officer of Save the Children Japan (tbc)
- **Mr. Innocent Menyo**, Team Lead & Co-Founder | M-SCAN (**confirmed**)
- **Dr. Dubravka Simonovic**, former United Nations Special Rapporteur on Violence Against Women and Chair of CEDAW (2007-8) (tbc)
- **Dr. Grace Oluwasanya**, Senior Researcher: Water, Climate and Gender at the United Nations Institute for Water, Environment, and Health (**confirmed**)

8:55 - 9:00 Closing

Closing: **Irena Zubcevic**, Director, Stakeholder Forum for a Sustainable Future



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