



Kingdom of the Netherlands



UN
2023 WATER
CONFERENCE

NEW YORK
22-24
MARCH
2023

Preparations towards UN 2023 Water Conference

March 22-24 2023, New York

A cooperation between the Governments of Tajikistan and the Netherlands, as co-hosts,
and UN DESA with the support of UN-Water as Secretariat of the Conference

UN 2023 Water Conference

“Our watershed moment: uniting the world for water”

- 2016: the UNGA proclaimed the period from 2018 to 2028 as the International Decade for Action, “Water for Sustainable Development”
- 2018: the UNGA decided to convene, in New York, from 22 to 24 March 2023, the United Nations Conference on the Midterm Comprehensive Review of the Implementation of the Objectives of the International Decade for Action
- 2020: the UNGA adopted Resolution 75/212 regarding the modalities for this Conference

UN 2023 Water Conference

- **Date and venue:** 22-24 March 2023, New York, UN Headquarters
- **Theme:** “Midterm Comprehensive Review of the Implementation of the Objectives of the International Decade for Action, “Water for Sustainable Development”, 2018–2028”
- **Key objective:** Support to achieve the internationally agreed water-related goals and targets, including those contained in the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development
- **Presidents of the Conference:** Governments of Tajikistan and the Netherlands
- **Secretary-General of the Conference:** Mr. Liu Zhenmin, Under-Secretary-General for Economic and Social Affairs of the United Nations
- **Preparatory meeting:** a one-day preparatory meeting, by November 2022, New York, UN Headquarters, stakeholders are welcome as observers
- **Website:** [United Nations 2023 Water Conference | Department of Economic and Social Affairs](#)

UN 2023 Water Conference

Core Group:

Tajikistan, the Netherlands – Co-chairs,
UN DESA and UN Water – Secretariat

Developed document:

- Concept Note;
- Vision Statement (document and visual);
- Road Map (graphic and table);
- Stakeholder Engagement Plan and Strategy.

Progress to date:

- Bonn Conference (July 2021)
- Group of Friends on Water Meeting (Oct 2021)
- COP26 Water Pavilion (Nov 2021)
- Dushanbe Workshop (Feb 2022)
- World Water Forum Senegal (March 2022)
- UN Water Briefing (April 2022)
- Member State Briefing (April 2022)
- IAC meetings for the Dushanbe Conference (2020, 2021, 2022)
- Meetings, events, more to come (APWS, Oceans, HLPF, UNGA, Cairo Water Week, COP27, PGA event, ...)
- Dushanbe Conference June 2022

Vision statement UN 2023 Water Conference

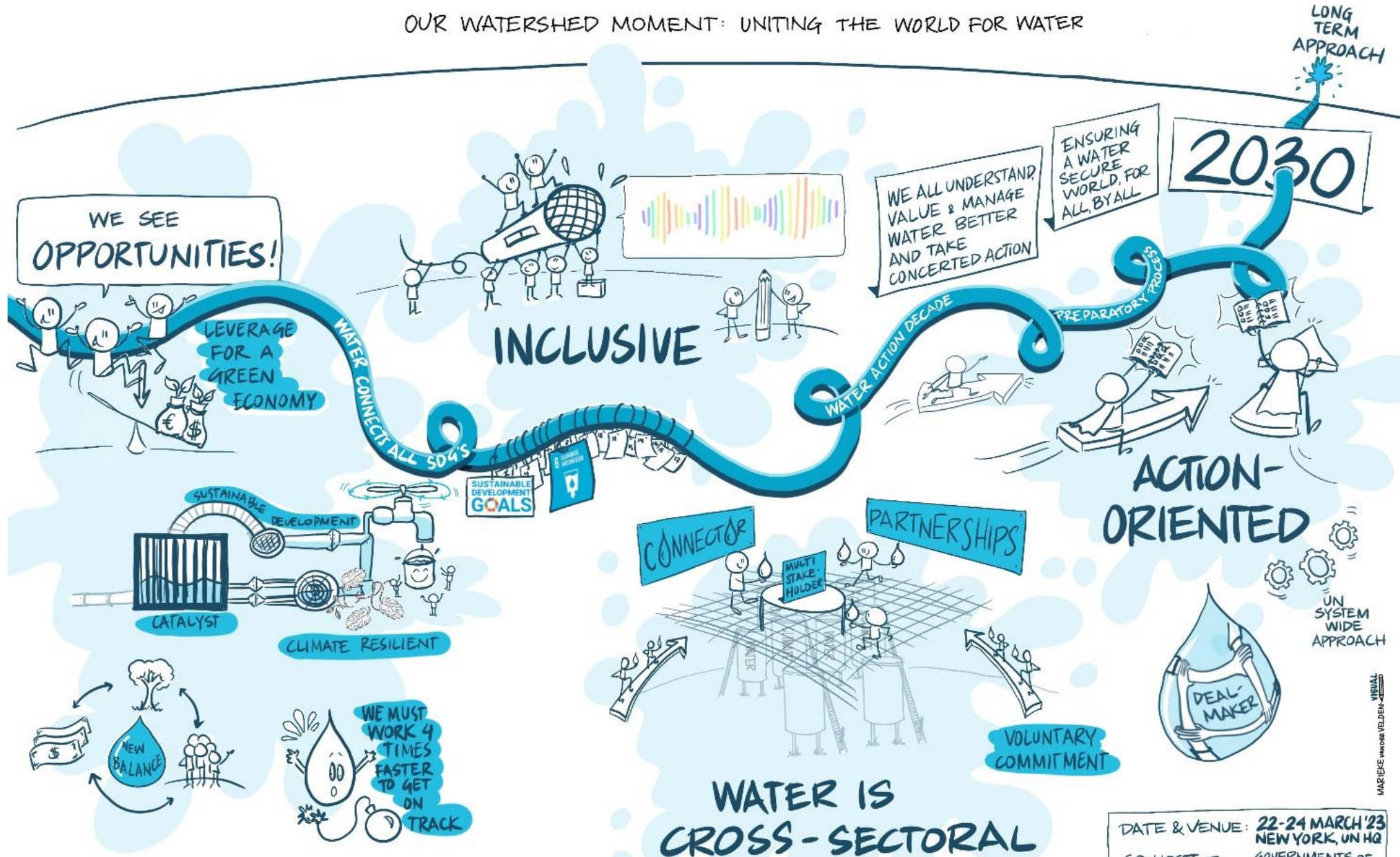
“Our watershed moment: uniting the world for water”

The Netherlands and Tajikistan, as co-hosts, and UNDESA with the support of UN-Water as Secretariat of the Conference will strive to make the Conference **a watershed moment for the world.**

- Three Principles:
 - **Inclusive:** both in terms of (a) the Conference process (ensure vertical and horizontal inclusiveness) and in terms of (b) the results (leaving no-one behind).
 - **Cross-sectoral:** the Conference should mobilise all other sectors to improve the way they manage and utilize water resources. These sectors need to bring their plans and actions to the Conference.
 - **Action-oriented:** the Conference aims to lead to concrete results through concrete actions and plans on the ground.

VISION STATEMENT UN 2023 WATER CONFERENCE

OUR WATERSHED MOMENT: UNITING THE WORLD FOR WATER



WITH THE SUPPORT OF



UN WATER

DATE & VENUE: 22-24 MARCH '23
NEW YORK, UN HQ
CO-HOSTS OF
CONFERENCE: GOVERNMENTS OF
TAJIKISTAN & THE NETHERLANDS

VISUAL
MADE BY WIM VELDEN

Involving all relevant stakeholders

The Conference

➤ Plenaries

- 6 Plenaries
- Member States have a space to make their statements
- Relevant stakeholders can be accredited to be observers (through special accreditation process to be started soon)

➤ Interactive Dialogues

- 5 Dialogues
- Member States and stakeholders are consulted on the Themes for the Interactive Dialogues
- [United Nations 2023 Water Conference | Department of Economic and Social Affairs](#)

➤ Special Events

- Co-hosts decided to strive to organize 3-5 Special Events, scope: 50-200 people

➤ Side Events

- Member States and other stakeholders will organize many side events that are cross-cutting and aim for action

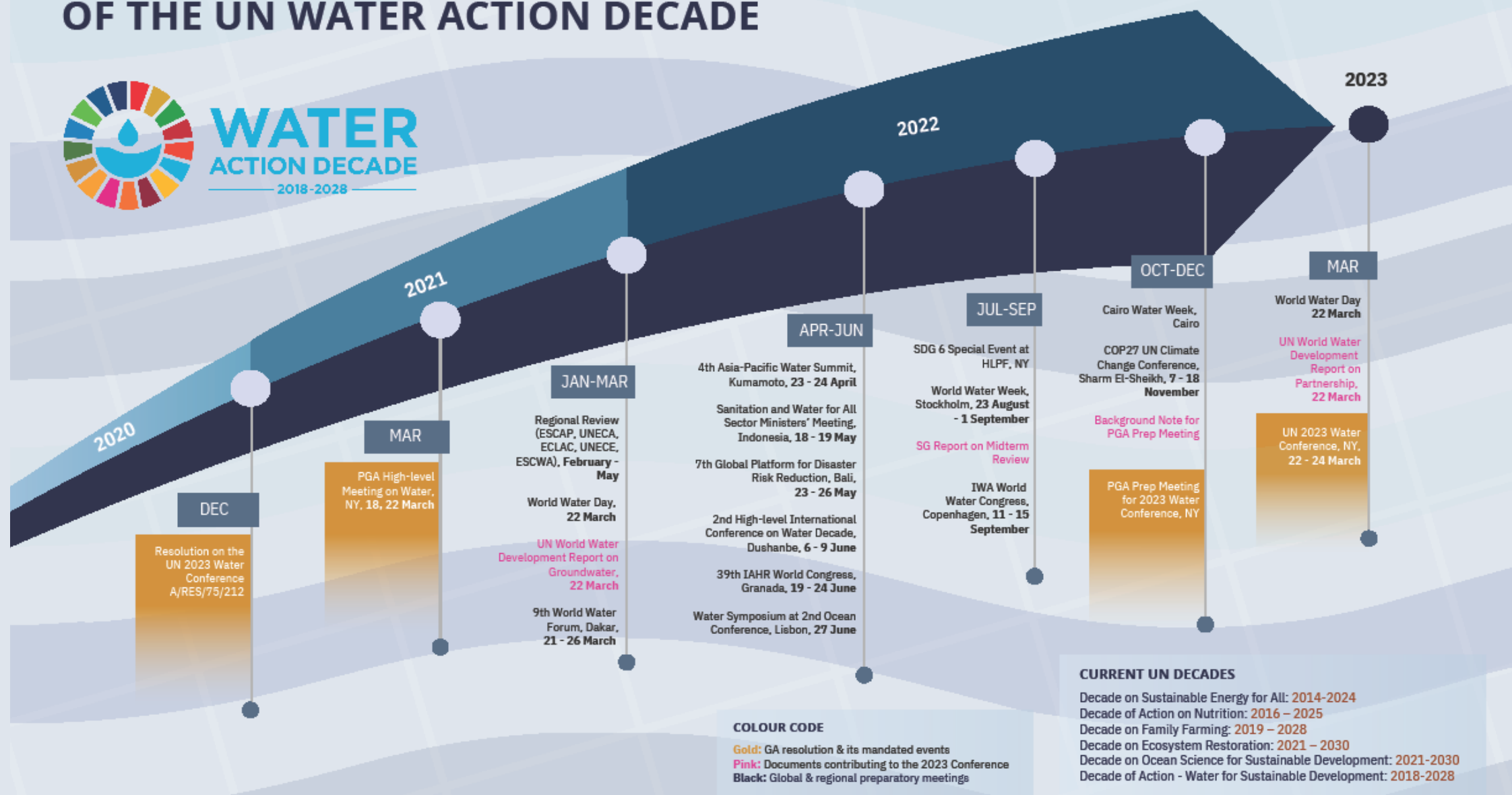
➤ Cultural elements and more

- Marathons, exhibitions, action zones; *the sky is the limit*

ROADMAP TO THE UN 2023 WATER CONFERENCE ON THE MID-TERM REVIEW OF THE UN WATER ACTION DECADE



WATER
ACTION DECADE
2018-2028



2nd Dushanbe Water Conference



Date and venue:

6-9 June 2022, Dushanbe, Tajikistan

Key objectives:

Sharing progress and constraints in the implementation of the goals and objectives of the Water Action Decade, to catalase, galvanize and accelerate new pledges, actions and partnerships

Co-Chairs:

Prime-minister of Tajikistan and Mr. Liu Zhenmin, Under-Secretary-General for Economic and Social Affairs of the United Nations

IAC members:

30 eminent experts from different regions representing different stakeholders

Program:

Opening and Closing, Plenary, Thematic Panels, Forums, Exhibition, Festival, etc.

Participants:

2500 offline and 500 online participants, official delegations from 75 countries and around 100 international and regional organizations including UN entities and financial institutions

Outcome document:

Dushanbe Declaration (including Key messages to New York), Co-Chairs Summary, Call for Action and Partnership

Website:

<https://dushanbewaterprocess.org/>



Global Marathon **RUNBLUE**



I AM RUNNING 200 MARATHONS IN SOME OF THE MOST EXTREME, WATER AFFECTED PLACES ON THE PLANET TO SHOW THE URGENCY OF WHAT WE ARE ALL FACING AND WHY WE HAVE TO ACT NOW.

“

I have seen the global water crisis first-hand and I want the world to see it, and take action.

— Mina Guli



Mina Guli – a leading water advocate, Eco activist, Australian runner – with the support of Tajikistan and the Netherlands plan to organize a one-year Global Water Marathon to attract more attention and promote stakeholder’s engagement in the preparatory process and the Conference itself.

The marathon was start on World Water Day, March 22, 2022, and will end 1 year later at the opening of the UN Water Conference in 2023.

Main objectives:

- to run 200 marathons in the most extreme places on the planet in 12 months;
- to involve more than 200 million people;
- to get 200 companies to commit to taking individual action on water in the framework of the UN Water Conference.



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Tajikistan and the Netherlands' Cooperation, Partnership and Friendship 'From Source to Sea'



Cooperation and Partnership

- Strong cooperation between the Governments of Tajikistan and the Netherlands, as co-hosts, and UN DESA with the support of UN-Water, as Secretariat of the Conference

- Considering our challenges, we identified the need for, and strive to realize:
 - Scaled up **finance** and funding by governments, MDBs and private sector;
 - Scaled up and replicated **actions** and best practices;
 - **Innovations** to get the world on track;
 - Follow up UN **conference** on water to mark the results of the decade and the 2023 outcomes;
 - An agenda going **beyond 2030**;
 - **Concluding** in the roadmap and timeline to inspire, unite and guide the world

What will the Conference deliver?

The Conference will help set the agenda until 2030, and thereafter, in two ways:

- 1. Deliver a summary of the Conference proceedings**
- 2. Present a set of voluntary commitments - in a Water Action Agenda - to get the world back on track:**
 - **Scale up and replicate** what works
 - **Discontinue or change** what does not work
 - **Innovate** what needs to be improved
 - **Fund** what merits funding
- 3. Roadmap towards 2028 (Decade) and 2030 (SDGs)**
 - Commitments can come through coalitions and partnerships across all of society

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Supported by:

Department of
Economic and
Social Affairs

Co-hosted by:



Kingdom of the Netherlands



Republic of Tajikistan



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Thank you for your attention!