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STATEMENT

for Preparatory Meeting on 25 October 2022 for the UN Water Conference on 22-24 March 2023

Bishkek, Kyrgyz Republic

27 October 2022

1. Open Innovations R&D Center (Open Innovations), a public foundation in the Kyrgyz Republic, carries out research and development projects and activities in the sector of agriculture and the environment. Based on research findings, Open Innovations considers Water to be one of the most vital components for Development of mankind over the world, specifically in rural areas of mountainous countries as Kyrgyz Republic is.
2. During the Preparatory Meeting on 25 October 2020, Open Innovations recognizes that the UN Water Conference on 22-24 March 2023 will address the significant challenge of our time posed by climate change and irrational utilization of water resources and will promote a creation of an innovative platform of best policies, practices and lessons learned in order to consolidate all comprehensive efforts to bring effective solutions to the challenges faced.
3. As a mountainous country, the Kyrgyz Republic has significant water resources with a total volume of approximately 760 billion cubic meters that are condensed in 6580 glaciers. However, due to climate change and irrational utilization of water resources, the country has already experienced the detrimental consequences such as extreme and intense weather conditions leading to deglaciation, ecosystem collapsing, biodiversity loss, land degradation, deforestation, etc. All these consequences have already been affecting all livelihoods and the health of people and living species at national and regional levels.
4. With this regard, Open Innovations provides its statement and/or inputs to address these challenges:
 - To take meaningful and effective actions toward sustainable development taking Water into account as the major constituent of life support, Open Innovations finds the best solutions and decisions by carrying out more and deeper versatile research activities on Water in the context of development;

- To facilitate and increase Research and Development on Water with involvement of international research community that will generate the effective mechanism to achieve a water-smart economy the main outcomes of which will be the low-water innovations and technologies for industry and agriculture;
- To increase awareness on Water for development among stakeholders and beneficiaries and bring water-conscious standards and values at regional, national and local levels by generating new sustainable knowledge, experience and skills and integrating them with traditional effective and time-proven ones;
- To develop accountable, transparent, open and comprehensible water governance with strong administration and leadership that will implement water development projects and achieve a water security environment at all levels of governance of the country and the Central Asian region as a whole.
- To build water valued capacity and potential among the young people by developing water oriented educational projects and activities at schools, colleges and universities with focus on creating water conscious and saving future perspectives.
- To recommend during the UN Water Conference on 22-24 March 2023 to conduct a number of panel sessions with engagement of researchers and experts on issues related to Water for Development and develop a sharing research and knowledge based platform for policy decision makers and executives.

5. In conclusion, Open Innovations calls for ensuring constructive collective actions on Water for Development and implementing actions based on scientifically well-grounded data on water resources, climate change and the environment. These actions will bring to the new generation new opportunities and chances to live and prosper in a better sustainable world.

Faithfully yours,



Maral Sagynalieva

Founder