

Stakeholder Consultation for the UN 2023 Water Conference 24 October 2022

Roundtble 4: Innovation

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Water Crisis and Hydro-Technology Innovation

Mr./Madam Chair,

Thank you for this excellent opportunity to make an intervention at the Stakeholder Consultation for the UN 2023 Water Conference. I would like to underscore the importance of the innovative effort of using hydro-technology in coping with water crises that redoubles the harvests and products of local farmers.

Water is not only essential for life, health, and sanitation but is also valuable for agriculture. Climate change has devastating impacts on water and land, resulting in droughts, water crises, and reduced land productivity.

In coping with the water crises, local farmers in Eastern Indonesia are challenged to be more creative and innovative. Assisted by a local NGO - JPIC SVD Ruteng, they use the limited water resources for watering dry land by taking advantage of the hydro-technology of Barsha Pump, which is cheap, affordable, and environmentalfriendly.

Using a small-scale hydro-Barsha pump, the local farmers can pump water from rivers in the lowlands for irrigating horticulture farms in the highlands. With that, farmers can plant crops during dry seasons and redouble harvests two or three times per year compared to previous years, which happened once only.

By using the innovative technology of Barsha Pumps, the local farmers are able to become more resilient in facing water shortages due to climate change and increase the production of horticulture crops that ensure food security.

In strengthening the resiliency of local farmers in coping with water scarcity and scaling up their efforts for enhancing farming productivity, we recommend the local and national governments take affirmative policies and actions to ensure financial support, offer capacity-building and provide cheap, affordable, and environmentallyfriendly technology.