



UN
2023 WATER
CONFERENCE

NEW YORK
22-24
MARCH
2023

UN Water Conference: Rethinking collective action and investment planning for a water secure world

Subject: Water Governance and Water Finance Roundtables – 24th October / multisectoral game changer and alliance

Proposed by: Danone (Jehanne Faber) and WaterEquity (Monica A. Altamirano)

Supported by: WBCSD (Tom Williams), The Nature Conservancy (Sophie Tremolet), Global Water Partnerships (Collin Herron), Veolia (Dominique Gattel), Water.org (Pieter Tobing), ADB (Alessio Giardino), Diageo, Saguapac, Bolivia (Haydee Villalta Rojas)

Discussed already with the Netherlands UN2023 Water Conference team, Global Infrastructure Hub Advisory Board members, UK DFCD (Andrew Roby)

Game Changer: the Coalition is having a call for Government Representatives to join forces on translating roles and responsibilities in concrete watersheds to address bottlenecks and develop together de-risking mechanisms and the continuum of investment leading to scale of impacts.

Outcomes: game changer and global-local multisectoral alliance commitment

- A written commitment by an alliance of actors – multi-sector stakeholders signing on to an agreed upon set of principles and actions (see attached template they are working on) to take place to further advance collective action and investment into SDG6.
- Tangible list of pilot projects with partners indicated – accelerating collective action by matching projects, regions, financing, etc.

Objective: start inclusive and collaborative process between public, private and societal actors prior the UN Water Conference held in New York on March 22-24, 2023 and acknowledge the multiple values different actors have (beyond economic and transactional values) to achieve water security. This dialogue and collaboration to rethink collective action and investment planning is needed because the status quo in: a) the way public and private actors collaborate at watershed scale, b) the way infrastructure investments are planned and c) the way scarce public resources are deployed, do not seem to suffice to close the massive gaps in finance and action to achieve SDG6 and a water secure world by 2030. Stakeholders operate in inefficient silos, unable to unlock the full potential of collaborative action, intelligence and multiple types of finance. At the same time, water is not appropriately valued for the true benefits it provides to society which leads to an ongoing challenge of underfinancing and slow adaptation to water risks magnified by climate change.

We would like to develop a new path ahead, leading to a Collective Action Resolution, that would address the ongoing challenges and will be based on principles, roles and responsibilities of collaboration enabling transformational multi-sector and multipurpose investments; and on the road to UN2023 Water Conference we aim to forge the commitment of multiple stakeholders (e.g. Ministries of Finance, Infrastructure and Water from the public sector, along with corporates, financiers and insurance companies from the private sector, and civil society representatives) **to pilot test this new approach for collective action and infrastructure^{II} investment planning that enable the leapfrogging of our economies towards more regenerative models of development.** Key pillars of this approach are:

- Drive a shift from budget dictated to mission driven planning of (public) infrastructure investments, leveraging the potential of blended finance and making catalytic use of public funds



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- Clear and transparent allocation of public and private sector roles, and early private sector engagement in the development of pipelines of investments, to enable synergetic collaboration while leveraging a greater magnitude of private sector investments in water security
- Clear and agreed definition of collective action, from the private sector side as well as from the public sector
- Leveraging the catalytic potential of public procurement strategies to enable greater private sector participation in modalities that fit the institutional and development context, and the creation of a new generation of green jobs and supply chains with a regenerative value creation logic

What is innovative about this initiative and what should be the outcomes?

Different than previous unilateral commitments, our objective is to trigger and achieve a clear commitment of a group of pioneering actors per country, willing to invest time and resources in piloting this new approach and process for collective action and investment planning in 2 to 4 regions within the next 1 to 3 years.

- We have a unique opportunity to voice and re-define the roles of each sector and find a new model for test-piloting financing water Infrastructure projects (grey or green)
- Coming together at a neutral grounds of UN Water conference will be a unique opportunity to engage In public-private-communities partnerships and foster new ways of working together
- The aim is to develop a new public-private-communities partnership financing model, especially collective seed-funding project, what will get a wider-stakeholder support
- **The outcome of this work is to be Identified as a Water Action Agenda Game Changer and to have the discussions leading possibly to a Resolution.**

To start the consultation process, we would like to ask you **to answer the four main questions in this template below**. Your answers will form the basis of the discussion during the first stakeholder meeting on October 24, 2022 and will be further implemented during the proposal development stage and discussed at the UN Water 2023 Conference.



Timeline of working cooperation on designing collective action framework