

## Stakeholder consultation on the preparation of the UN 2023 Water Conference

*Mon 24 Oct 2022, 10.00 am – Hybrid: UN HQ, New York (in person) and virtual*

### Roundtable 1: Governance

*two-minute statement (no more than 300 words)*

#### Science-policy-practice nexus: are governmental institutions the bottleneck?

*by Nilay Dogulu, independent researcher/consultant in hydrology/flood risk management,  
Young Hydrologic Society*

**Governance is about functional science-policy-practice (SPP) spaces** with diverse processes and mechanisms that involve national agencies providing water and climate services. I can't help but wonder if governmental institutions (e.g., hydromet agencies) are the bottleneck/dead-end for the SPP nexus. Evidently, it is them lacking the finances and technical staff. It is the governance dynamics and local politics that determine the progress at the national level despite global policy efforts by the UN. They are given so much responsibilities and duties for aligning with the heavy policy agenda. Moreover, their capacity and willingness are hampered by many factors. There seems to be a bottleneck/dead-end at the implementation level especially in the developing world context. The most powerful, yet maybe painful, game changer could be **unifying the governance of national service providers acting at the governmental level**. Another solution, but requiring long-sightedness and patience, can well be investment in capacity building through **interdisciplinary EDUCATION** - high school, undergraduate, graduate – on Earth system and sustainability – so that professionals of future can be raised.