



UN
2023 WATER
CONFERENCE

NEW YORK
22-24
MARCH
2023

Multi-stakeholder Thematic Webinars: Preparing for the Water Conference and the Water Action Agenda

18 January 2023

09:00 - 10:30 AM (EST, New York time)

Starting soon!

More information: <https://bit.ly/ThematicWebinars>

Conference website: bit.ly/2023WaterConference



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Welcome Remarks



Ms. Naiara Costa,
Senior Sustainable Development
Officer
Outreach and Partnerships Branch,
DSDG/UN DESA



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Participation Guide

- This webinar **will be recorded**. The recording will be shared on the event's website
- Links to presentation and relevant information will be shared afterwards with all registered participants
- Twitter **@SustDev**
- Questions/Comments? – Please, use the **Q&A** boxes
- Follow via Facebook Live!





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UN 2023 Water Conference

- 22 to 24 March 2023 at UN HQ in New York
- Website: <https://sdgs.un.org/conferences/water2023>
- Registration for **NGOs and other stakeholders** now open!
 - Deadline **10 February 2023**.
- For more information on the registration process:
<https://sdgs.un.org/conferences/water2023/participate>





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Side Events

- Open call for events – deadline is **20 January 2023**.
- Only accredited organizations can submit requests for side events.
- Side events can take place at UNHQ, off-site anywhere in New York or as virtual events.
- Applications for inside UNHQ should be limited to one per lead organizer.
- Side event organizers are encouraged to partner with others and contribute to the Water Action Agenda with transformative commitments.
- Only approved side events will be contacted by the Secretariat, before 13 February 2022.

Find more information on: <https://sdgs.un.org/conferences/water2023/events/side>



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Agenda

09:00-09:05 Opening Remarks

09:05-09:45 Theme 3: Water for Climate, Resilience
& Environment.

09:45-10:20 Theme 4: Water for Cooperation

10:20-10:55 Theme 5: Water Action Decade

10:55-11:00 Closing Remarks



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Opening Remarks with Co-Hosts



Mr. Henk WJ Ovink,
Special Envoy for International
Water Affairs, the Netherlands



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Theme 3 - Water for Climate, Resilience and Environment: Source to Sea, Biodiversity, Climate, Resilience and DRR





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Theme 3 - Water for Climate, Resilience & Environment

Moderator: Elisabeth Bernhardt, Deputy Head, Freshwater Unit of UNEP

Panelists

- ☐ **Ms. Judith Kaspersma**, Department Head Flood Risk Management at Deltares
- ☐ **Mr. John Matthews**, Executive Director, Alliance for Global Water Adaptation (AGWA)
- ☐ **Ms. Kathryn Pharr**, Senior Policy Advisor for International Climate Action at WaterAid
- ☐ **Mr. James Dalton**, Director, Global Water Programme, IUCN



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Theme 4 - Water for Cooperation: Transboundary and International Water Cooperation, Cross Sectoral Cooperation, including Scientific Cooperation, and Water Across the 2030 Agenda

6 CLEAN WATER
AND SANITATION



16 PEACE, JUSTICE
AND STRONG
INSTITUTIONS



17 PARTNERSHIPS
FOR THE GOALS





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Theme 4 - Water for Cooperation

Moderator: Ms. Sareen Malik, ANEW

Panelists

- ☐ **Ms. Shomy Hasan Chowdhury**, Awareness 360 Founder, WASH activist
- ☐ **Ms. Tania Martinez**, Representative of the Indigenous Informal Reference Group on Indigenous Peoples and Water Issues
- ☐ **Ms. CLLR. Nikiwe Num**, Executive Mayor of Dr. Kenneth Kaunda District Municipality, North West Province, South Africa
- ☐ **Mr. Nicolás Wertheimir**, Co-founder & CEO, WaterPlan
- ☐ **Mr. Christian Nyerup Nielsen**, Global Division Director, Climate Adaptation, Ramboll



WATER COOPERATION: TRANSBOUNDARY AND INTERNATIONAL WATER COOPERATION, CROSS SECTORAL COOPERATION, INCLUDING SCIENTIFIC COOPERATION, AND WATER ACROSS THE 2030 AGENDA

A SOUTH AFRICAN PERSPECTIVE

18 January 2023



www.salga.org.za



- Water Cooperation
- Transboundary & International Water Cooperation
- Cross Sectoral Cooperation
- Scientific Cooperation
- Water Across the 2030 Agenda



- Local authorities are at **the centre of service delivery**, so they are key for **meaningful action**.
- In RSA government is **Constitutionally and legally** enjoined to **provide** clean water and sanitation, through strong **institutions & partnerships**.

- RSA is faced with many challenges, and is a water **scarce country**. With a history of institutionalized separate development, manifest in our current **extreme levels of inequality**.
- The gist of RSA strategy is **Water through Cooperation** and not necessarily **Water for Cooperation**.



- Our water scarcity has necessitated **Transboundary and International Water Cooperations**, to achieve water security.
- We have also developed a **National Water Resource Strategy**. Which is our guiding framework.
- As a country we are signatories to various international and trans-national accords, conventions and declarations.



Cross Sectoral Cooperation

- The complexity of providing water, which is a human right in the context of a three-sphere government system has also forced South Africa to **meaningfully** grapple with **building functional and efficient Cross Sectoral Cooperation**.
- The design and funding of our particular system made us realise that water and sanitation are not a **one-department issue**, but require **all of government and society to collaborate**.

- With **time and increased** access to water and sanitation, we realized the need to develop **better systems to effectively manage the complexity we created**.
- This has resulted in an increased appreciation for the **need and role of Scientific Cooperation**; particularly for **evidence-based management** of the quality and quantity of water. So as to **guarantee human health and environmental protection and preservation**.

- RSA is **currently facing a water deficit by 2030**. We urgently need significant investment from the private sector and have struggled to obtain this (especially for the most vulnerable communities and people groups).
- We also need to **build increased consensus with our communities**, as effective water and sanitation services management is impossible if people only **see themselves as recipients** and not an important part of the system.

Concluding Remarks

- In our context it has been more of a case of “Water **through** Cooperation” than “Water **for** Cooperation”.
- We need to **builder greater and more meaningful cooperation** urgently, lest the taps run dry for us by 2030.
- **Finance of “social infrastructure” in developing countries** is a challenge we need to collectively solve to create a more equal world.
- Government **needs** to see communities as partners and not just recipients.
- We need **action and urgently!**



Thank You



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SUSTAINABLE
DEVELOPMENT
GOALS



Thank you!



waterplan

SaaS Platform

Nico Wertheimer

Nico@Waterplan.com



Ramboll

Christian Nyerup Nielsen
Global Division Director, Water Infrastructure and Climate Resilience

RAMBOLL

Bright Ideas.
Sustainable change.









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Theme 5 - Water Action Decade: Accelerating the implementation of the objectives of the Decade, including through the UN Secretary-General's Action Plan





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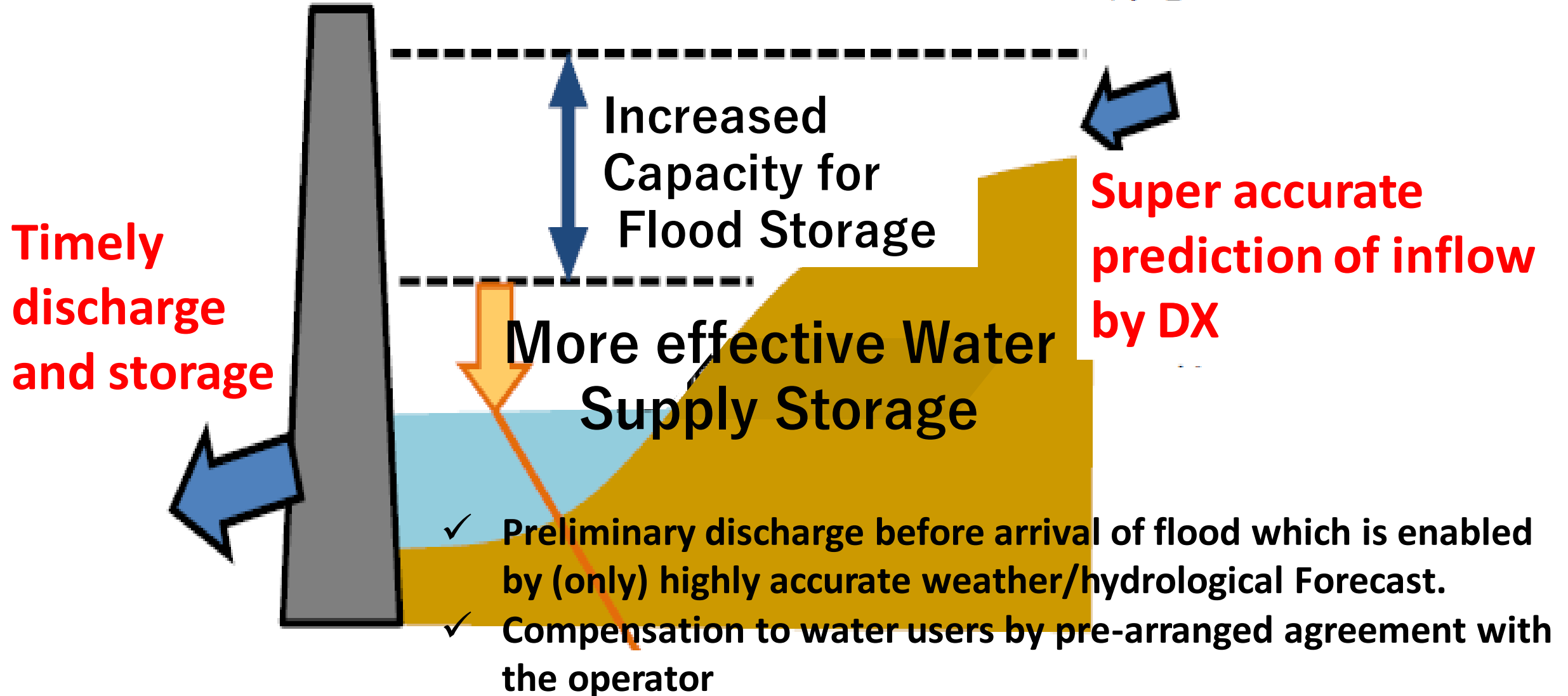
Theme 5 – Water Action Decade

Moderator: Ms. Josefina Maestu, Independent Expert, Water Advisor to the Secretary of State for Environment, Ministry for Ecological Transition, Government of Spain

Panelists

- ❑ **Ms. Carolina Tornesi MacKinnon**, President, World Youth Parliament for Water
- ❑ **Mr. Kenzo Hiroki**, Coordinator of the High Level Experts and Leaders Panel on Water and Disasters (HELP), Professor at the National Graduate Institute for Policy Studies (GRIPS) of Japan
- ❑ **Mr. Olcay Unver**, Professor of Practice, Arizona State University, Member of the Water Policy Group

Investing millions for Water DX to gain billions of cash by much better operation of existing water infrastructure





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THANK YOU!

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