

*International Secretariat for Water (ISW)*

<https://www.sie-see.org/en/>

***Water for Sustainable Development: Valuing Water, Water-Energy-Food Nexus and Sustainable Economic and Urban Development***

***Begim Zhanuzakova***

*Member of Central Asian Youth 4 Water Network*

*I would like to hereby deliver my statement as a young activist and Kyrgyz leader of the Central Asia Youth 4 Water, a network that is supported by the International Secretariat for Water. My remarks are on behalf the over 300 youth-led organisations and allies that have come together to create the global youth movement for water.*

*The scarcity of useable water impacts the progress of the sustainable development goals which are critical to economic prosperity and development, and this is especially around poverty, hunger, trade and industrialization, economic growth, and the environment. The pressure on the availability of useable water that could drive sustainability and economic prosperity is understandably due to the rising global population, exacerbating climate effect, urbanization, increasing dimension of Pollution and contaminants, an evolution of mega cities. The has continued to put unending pressure on water demands while reducing availability. Many sectors are directly affected by this reality, and principal of this is agriculture which is the bedrock for food production and economic development across cadres of the community.*

- 1. We hereby call for increase investments in renewable energy system to curb the exacerbating effects of climate change and environmental pollution.*
- 2. We call for young leaders and entrepreneurs, especially youth and women, to receive adequate education for the expansion of knowledge on water resource and the environmental and economic implications of its management, especially in highly industrialized demographics.*
- 3. we call for critical reviews and recommendations on water use for sustainable agricultural practises. This would ensure that agricultural practises are of the best global standards in crop production and animal management.*
- 4. we call for the recognition and empowerment of youth led social enterprises and innovations that are proffering solutions at the water-energy-food-climate nexus, including access to dedicated funding that must be made public to promote transparency and accountability.*
- 5. we call for the implementation of existing youth recommendations on environmental, energy, climate, and urban management, many of which were made available to stakeholders.*