

Friday, March 24, 2023

Re: Written statement to the United Nations 2023 Water Conference for “Water Action Decade: Accelerating the implementation of the objectives of the Decade, including through the UN Secretary-General’s Action Plan”

Access to clean water is vital for human health and well-being. Non-toxic fresh (viable and useable) water is necessary to maintain healthy ecosystems and for every commercial and industrial process including energy and food production.

However, access to safe clean water is decreasing rapidly, with half of the world’s population expected to live in regions with absolute water scarcity by 2040. For decades, societies have taken our water resources for granted, not taking the time to manage and protect our surface and groundwater resources.

The key to solving a problem is understanding it.

The fact remains that Data on the availability and condition of the World’s water resources is disparate, non-standardized, and not easily accessible or actionable for communities and end users.

Protocols to standardize the collection and reporting of water data, investment in water monitoring infrastructure, and empowerment of local communities in understanding their water resources are the first key steps to ensuring that world’s water resources are managed well.

Taking steps to understand our water resources now will allow us to ensure that humanity has access to clean usable water for generations to come.