



## UN 2023 Water Conference Side Event

### *Community Empowerment for Implementing Water Solutions: Connecting Experiences to Leverage Traditional Knowledge and Local Initiatives*

March 23rd from 4pm to 6pm (NYC local time) at Scalabrini  
International Migration Network - 307 East 60th Street

**Lead organization:** Fundación Avina and Voices For Just Climate  
Action

**Organizing partners:** CLOCSAS - Latin American Confederation of Community  
Organizations of Water and Sanitation Services, South South North, Hivos,  
Scalabrini International Migration Network (SIMN), Cántaro Azul, Projeto Saúde  
e Alegria/CEAPS, Articulacion del Semiárido Brasileiro (ASA), Associação  
Indígena Pariri, Muungano wa Wanavijiji

The current water and sanitation crisis is a threat to all and is aggravated by the climate crisis, which multiplies risks in all aspects of life, especially for those living in vulnerable situations.

Without a resilient water cycle that works for all people everywhere, human health and environmental integrity will always be threatened and a sustainable and equitable future will be impossible to achieve.

However, water not only presents us with challenges. It also presents us with a great opportunity. If we understand the complex relationships and interconnections and put communities at the center of the conversation in planning, coordinating and implementing solutions, we will be able to make a difference.

This event discussed about the importance of:

- collaborative, inclusive and multisectoral water governance that integrates and respects the diversity of the territories, favors community participation, and promotes a systemic vision.



- The importance of strengthening local capacities and mobilizing multisectoral actors at different levels.
- The need to build innovative solutions that incorporate the views of indigenous people, women and youth.

During the event we had the opportunity to listen to representatives of grassroots organizations from Asia, Africa and Latin America, who shared their experience and discussed about the barriers to implementing solutions at the local level and the opportunities that arise from multi-stakeholder collaboration, the effectiveness of implementing water solutions designed and implemented collaboratively with local communities and the value of traditional and ancestral knowledge, through stories of success and, finally we identified opportunities for scalable partnerships in the global south.

You can learn more about the work of the organizations that participated in the event by clicking on the following links:

- Fundación Avina: <https://avina.net/>
- Voices for Just Climate Action: <https://voicesforjustclimateaction.org/>
- CLOCSAS - Latin American Confederation of Community Organizations of Water and Sanitation Services: <https://cloccas.org/>
- South South North: <https://southsouthnorth.org/>
- Hivos: <https://hivos.org/>
- Scalabrini International Migration Network (SIMN): <https://simn-global.org/>
- Cántaro Azul: <https://www.cantaroazul.org/>
- Projeto Saúde e Alegria: <https://saudeealegria.org.br/>
- Articulacion del Semiárido Brasileiro (ASA): <https://www.asabrasil.org.br/>
- Associação Indígena Pariri: <https://es.aipariri.com.br/>
- Muungano wa Wanavijiji: <https://www.muungano.net/>

