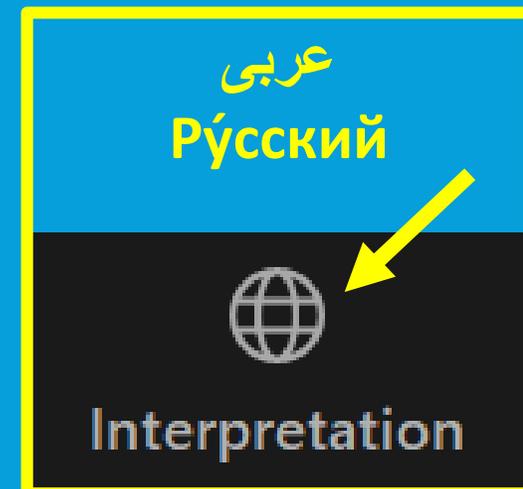


UN 2023 Water Conference and use of national data

Webinar for national focal points for SDG 6 monitoring and reporting, 14 September 2022



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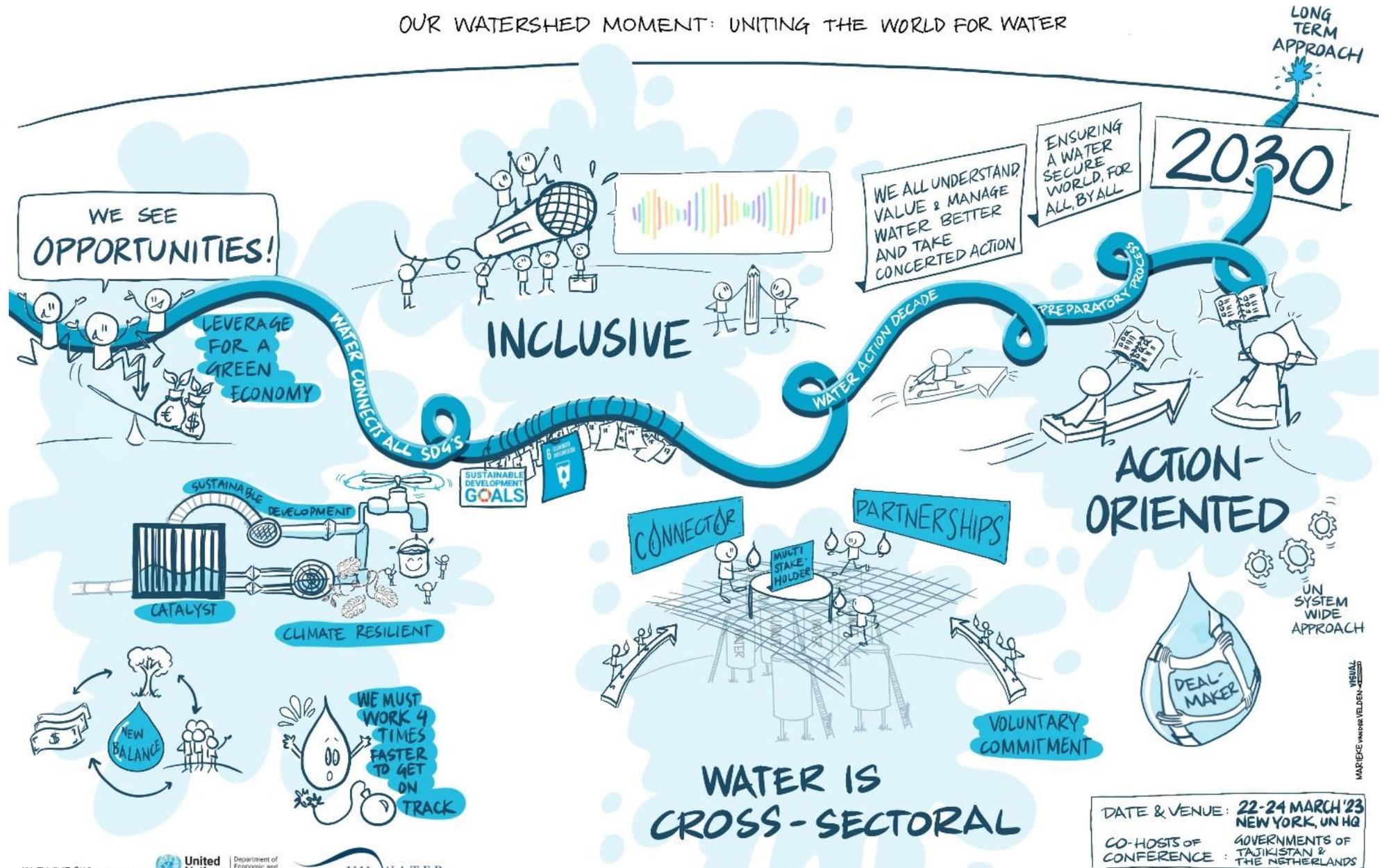
Français
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Interpretation

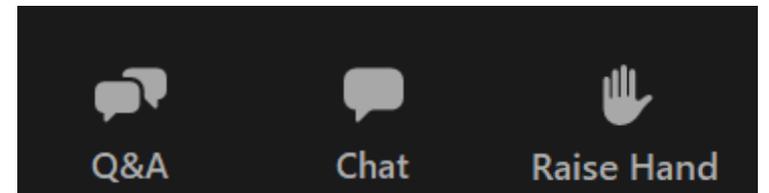
VISION STATEMENT UN 2023 WATER CONFERENCE

OUR WATERSHED MOMENT: UNITING THE WORLD FOR WATER



Agenda and practicalities

1. Information about the 2023 Water Conference and the Water Action Agenda (20 min)
2. How to ensure that national preparations and commitments are based on data and evidence (15 min)
3. Questions and answers (20 min)



Call to action and objective of this webinar

The objective of this webinar is to start a process where **national focal points for SDG 6 monitoring and reporting (you!)** are able to:

- 1. Raise awareness and build interest** amongst key stakeholders about the UN 2023 Water Conference
- 2. Encourage** politicians and Conference delegates to make **voluntary commitments** to accelerate progress
- 3. Create demand** for the use of national **water and sanitation data**, in both international and national policy processes

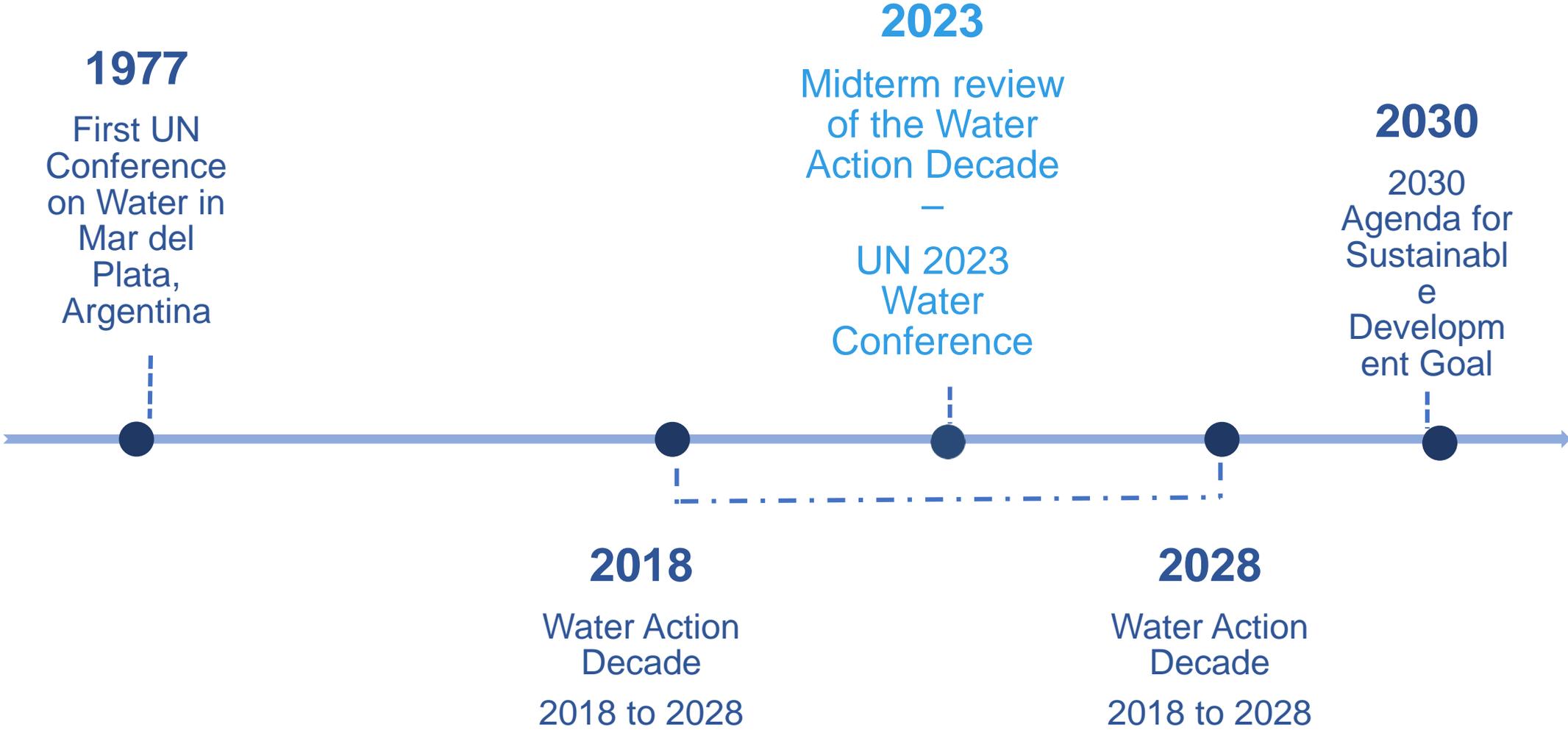


1. UN 2023 Water Conference and use of national data

Webinar for national focal points for SDG 6 monitoring and reporting

14 September 2022

“Once in a generation” Conference



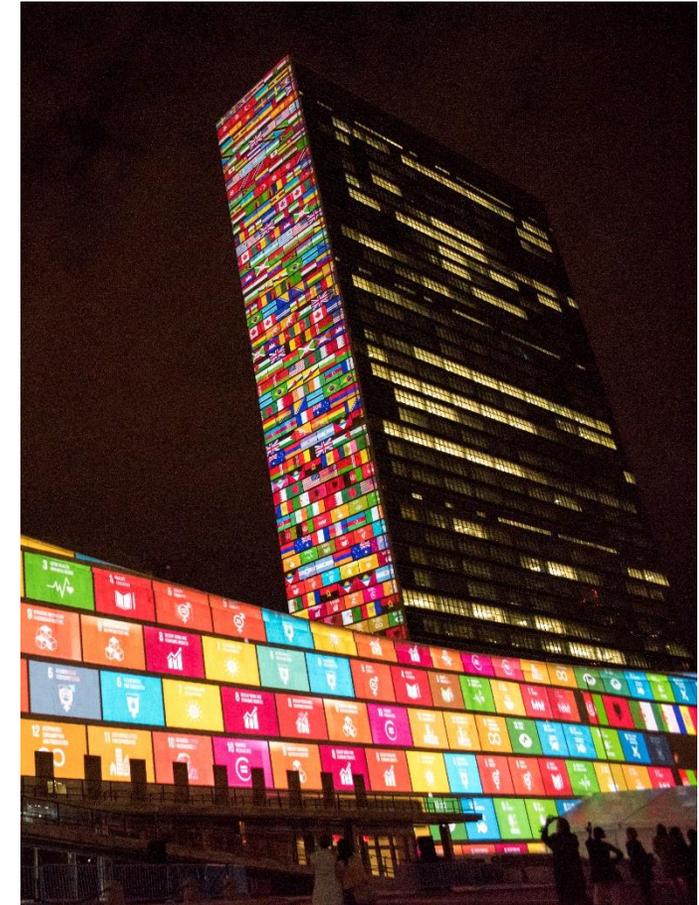
Background

UN 2023 Water Conference: UNHQ, New York, from 22 to 24 March 2023

Theme: “Midterm Comprehensive Review of the Implementation of the Objectives of the International Decade for Action, “Water for Sustainable Development”, 2018–2028”

Key objective: Support to achieve the internationally agreed water-related goals and targets, including those contained in the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development

Preparatory meeting: One-day preparatory meeting convened by the President of the General Assembly on 25 October. Stakeholder Consultation on 24 October.



Background

Co-hosts of the Conference: the Republic of Tajikistan and the Kingdom of the Netherlands

Conference Secretary-General of the Conference: Under-Secretary-General for Economic and Social Affairs, Mr. Li Junhua

Secretariat: UN Department of Economic and Social Affairs, with support of UN-Water

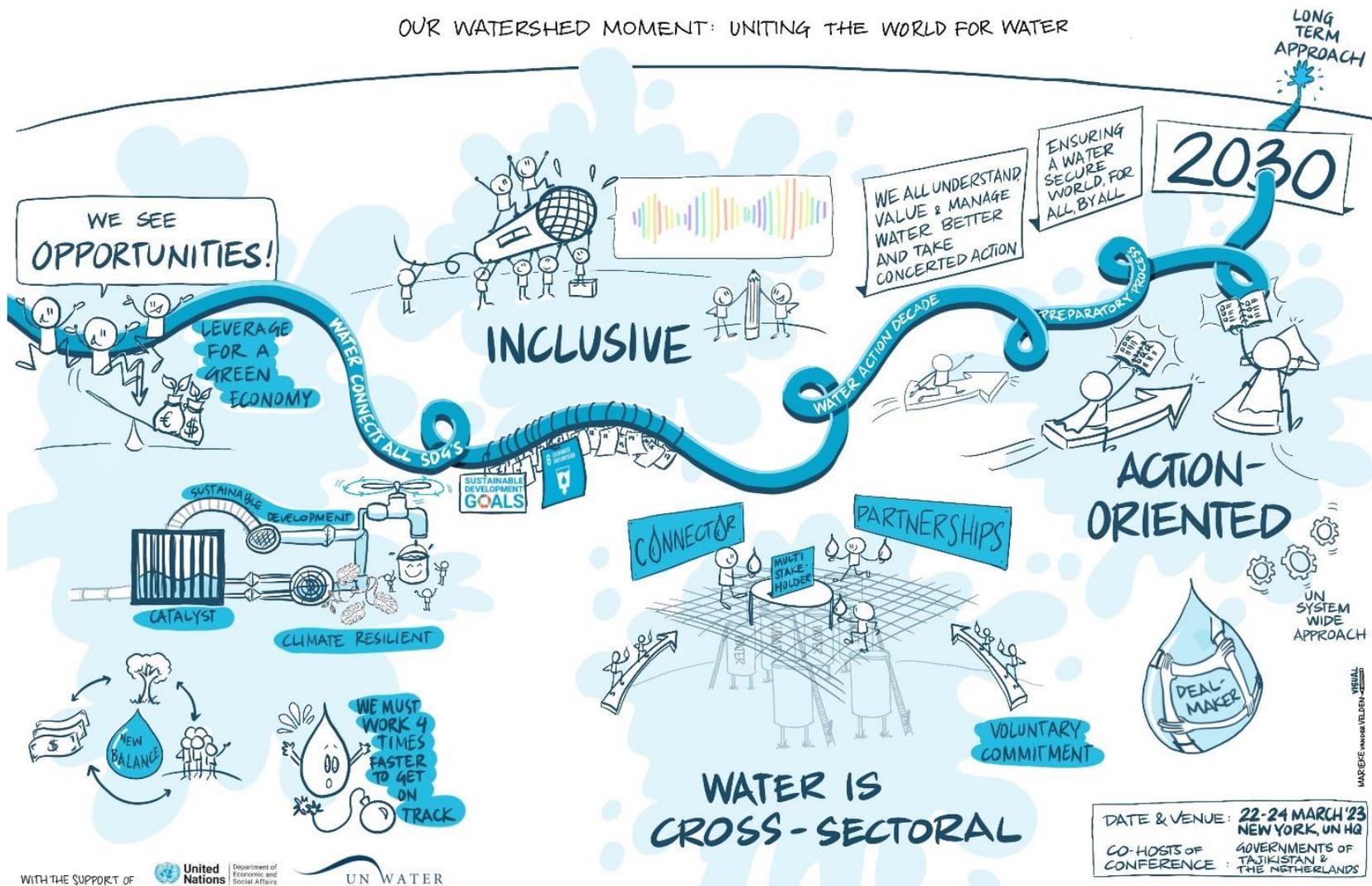
Keep informed:

- **Conference website:** <https://sdgs.un.org/conferences/water2023>
- **Please sign up for the mailing list:**
<https://forms.office.com/Pages/ResponsePage.aspx?id=2zWeD09UYE-9zF6kFubccNXMM9HsKN5GgENLVV-AInRUQ1RCSU1NQjFFVFpRSUQ4WTJDT05MWU1JMMy4u>



VISION STATEMENT UN 2023 WATER CONFERENCE

OUR WATERSHED MOMENT: UNITING THE WORLD FOR WATER



Three Principles:

- Inclusive
- Cross-sectoral
- Action-oriented

UN 2023 Water Conference, 22-24 March, UNHQ

Six Plenaries

Member States to announce commitments, plans, actions, and best practices

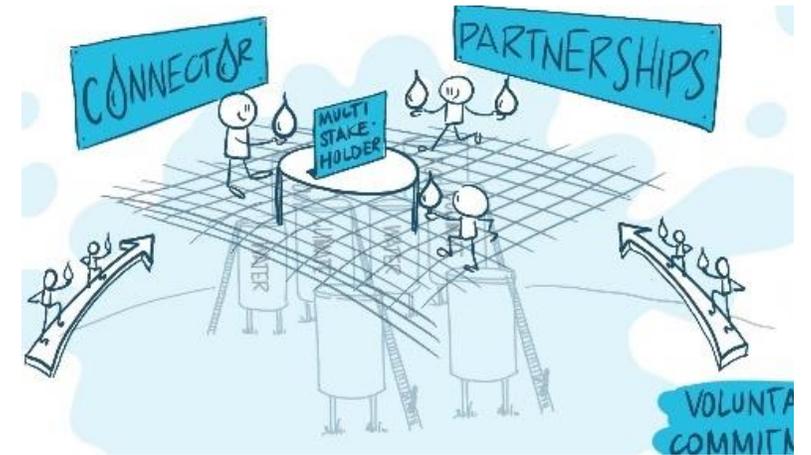
Five interactive dialogues to be held in parallel with the plenary meetings

Special Events

The co-hosts decided to strive to organize 3-5 Special Events, scope: 50-200 people

Side Events

Member States and other stakeholders will organize many side events that are cross-cutting and aim for action



Proposed themes for the Interactive Dialogues

1. Water for Health: Access to safe drinking water, hygiene and sanitation (SDG 6.1, 6.2, 6.3 and SDGs 1, 3, 4, 5, 17)

2. Water for Development: Valuing Water, Water-Energy-Food Nexus and Sustainable Economic and Urban Development (SDG 6.3, 6.4, 6.5 and SDGs 2, 8, 9, 11, 12)

3. Water for Climate, Resilience and Environment: Source to Sea, Biodiversity, Climate, Resilience and DRR (SDGs 6.5, 6.6, 7, 11.5, 13, 14, 15)

4. Water for Cooperation: Transboundary and International Water Cooperation, Cross Sectoral Cooperation and Water Across the 2030 Agenda (SDG 6.5, 6.b and SDGs 16, 17)

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

Supported by 5 Accelerators of the **SDG 6 Global Acceleration Framework:**

- Finance
- Governance
- Capacity
- Data and information
- Innovation



What will the Conference deliver?

The Conference will help set the agenda until 2030, and thereafter:

1. Deliver a summary of the Conference proceedings
2. Present a set of voluntary commitments (**Water Action Agenda**)
 - Scale up and replicate what works
 - Discontinue or change what does not work
 - Innovate what needs to be improved
 - Fund what merits funding
3. Roadmap towards 2028 (Decade) and 2030 (SDGs)

Commitments can come through coalitions and partnerships across all of society



Water Action Agenda

Launched by the Conference co-hosts in Dushanbe in June 2022 as a **main outcome of the 2023 Conference.**

Builds on on-going efforts and on the political momentum created by the Conference

“Water” means “Big Water”, including sanitation, Disaster Risk Reductions etc.

To mobilize action across countries, sectors and stakeholders

SDG 6 Global Acceleration Framework launched by the UN system and its partners in 2020

Learns from other processes and sectors

Water Action Agenda

Three building blocks:

- 1. Commit to action:** Mobilizing voluntary commitments to action across countries, sectors and stakeholders.
- 2. Sustain and scale up implementation:** All stakeholders have a role to play to drive the implementation and scale-up of the Water Action Agenda.
- 3. Follow-up and review processes:** Take stock on progress, showcase successes and learn from what works and what does not.

Commit to Action

Voluntary commitments are “invited” in the modalities Resolution for the UN 2023 Water Conference.

Leading up to the Conference all stakeholders will be able to make commitments, and collectively they will make up the core of the Water Action Agenda.

The platform to collect commitments is custom built as part of the SDG Acceleration Action platform and is managed by UN DESA.

All commitments, from local to global, from small to big, are important!





All stakeholders have a role

- **Governments:** Foster necessary policy environment, including ensuring incentives and inclusive governance for implementation to happen.
- **UN system:** Build on the UN reform and the SDG 6 Global Acceleration Framework and be a neutral platform to commit, follow-up and review.
- **International financial institutions:** Provide financing and leverage additional financing to implement the Water Action Agenda.
- **Civil society, including the youth:** Implement, support, advocate, and participate in follow-up and review.
- **Private sector:** Invest, implement and commit to action.
- **Multi-stakeholder partnerships:** Advocate and support implementation by bringing stakeholders together.

Why is the Conference a watershed moment?

- All players are involved, from across nations and sectors
- Lots of time and space to discuss the issues
- Stakeholders to bring voluntary commitments to the table



→ Unique moment to accelerate progress, and for line ministries to...

- Provide evidence to shape the discussions
- Gain attention from political leadership



Thank you!

Conference website: <https://sdgs.un.org/conferences/water2023>

Please sign up for the mailing list:

<https://forms.office.com/Pages/ResponsePage.aspx?id=2zWeD09UYE-9zF6kFubccNXMM9HsKN5GgENLVV-AInRUQ1RCSU1NQjFFVFpRSUQ4WTJDT05MWU1JMy4u>

2. How to ensure that national preparations and commitments are based on data and evidence

UN 2023 Water Conference and use of national data
Webinar, 14 September 2022

1. Why are data and evidence important?

General summary

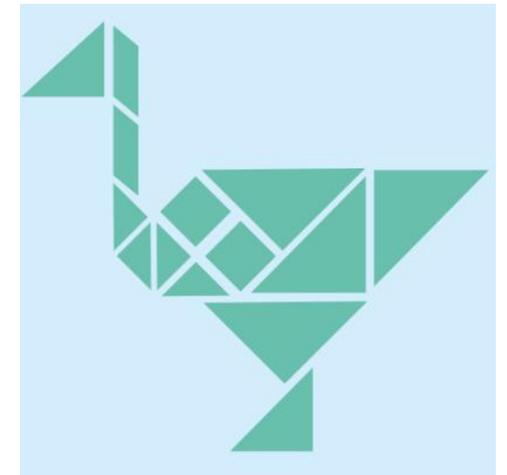
To identify and quantify needs...

- Prioritize efforts
- Attract commitment and investments
- Ensure accountability and transparency



...and to implement effective and efficient solutions

- Learn about best practices
- Holistic policies and integrated management
- Maximizing synergies and mitigating trade-offs



1. Why are data and evidence important?

In the UN 2023 Water Conference

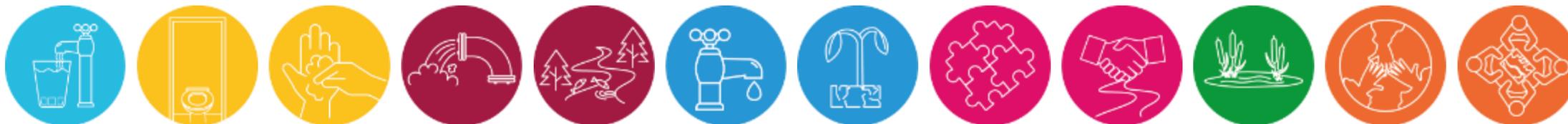
- Identifying and prioritizing main national needs
- Identifying best practices and solutions that could be scaled up
- Formulating impactful voluntary commitments, as per national priorities and best practices
- Facilitating followup and review of commitments
- Global SDG indicators already have political commitment



2. Which data and evidence are available?

At the global level

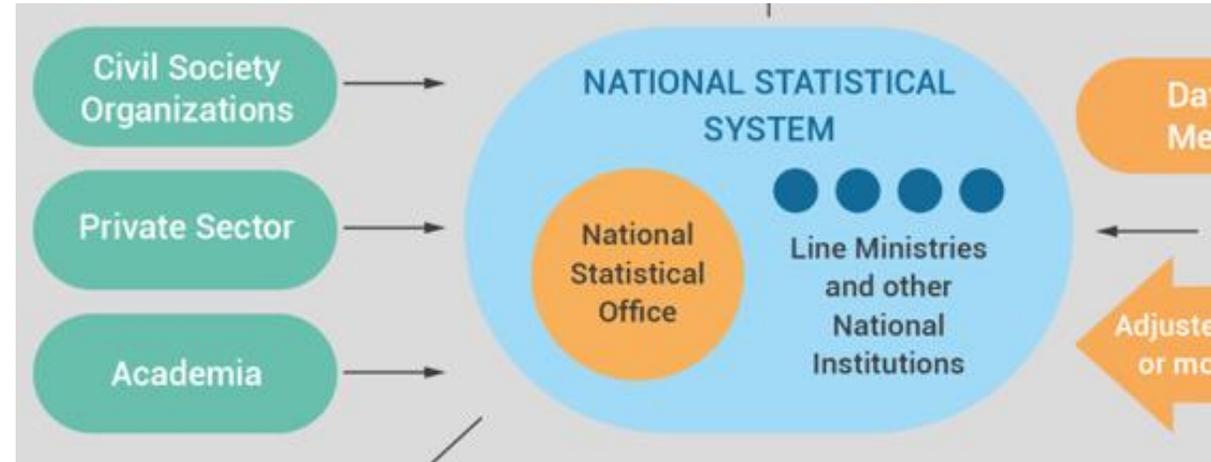
- National reporting on
 - all SDG global indicators: <https://unstats.un.org/sdgs/dataportal>
 - all SDG 6 global indicators: <https://sdg6data.org/snapshots?country=#demo-wrapper>
 - other water and sanitation indicators: <https://sdg6data.org/about/data-sources>
- Data and estimates from global data sources
 - e.g. satellite-based data on ecosystem extent, ODA data from donors, socio-economic data from global databases: <https://sdg6data.org/about/data-sources>
- Collection of project-level data:
 - e.g. <https://wbwaterdata.org/>



2. Which data and evidence are available?

At the national level

- Water and sanitation data collected by different stakeholders
 - National ministries and institutions
 - Sub-national governments
 - Utilities and service providers
 - Academia
 - Private sector
 - Civil society
- Other environmental, economic and social data collected by different stakeholders
- **National statistical office**



3. Example of voluntary commitments

- By 2025, District X will rebuild five wastewater treatment plants to achieve tertiary treatment, to improve the water quality in the Grey River.
- By 2030, Country Y will invest \$20 billion for new wastewater treatment plants to decrease the country's proportion of untreated wastewater released into the environment from 70% to 35%.



4. Building on existing policy processes: Voluntary National Review (VNR)



HIGH-LEVEL POLITICAL FORUM
ON SUSTAINABLE DEVELOPMENT

- Part of the official follow-up and review mechanism for the 2030 Agenda, to facilitate sharing of experiences, strengthen policies and governmental institutions and mobilize multi-stakeholder support
- To be meaningful, VNRs should be inclusive, participatory, transparent and evidence-based, taking place at both national and sub-national levels
- Each country conduct a VNR at least once every four years
- VNR process typically coordinated by one ministry and involving all sectors and levels of government, civil society, private sector, trade unions, members of parliament and national human rights institutions; UN country offices offering support
- Data is a central component of VNR, typically implemented through national statistical office (are sector data centrally available?)
- Resources available online: [Handbook for VNR presentations](#)



4. Building on existing policy processes:

National and sub-national level

- Joint sector review
- National policies and strategies
- Annual workplanning and budget process
- National target setting



5. Proposed process to feed evidence into 2023 Conference and Water Action Agenda

1. **Identify who is the main national Conference representative** (often Ministry of Foreign Affairs) and all the stakeholders from across ministries that will participate in the 2023 Conference and its preparatory process
2. **Inform colleagues** at your ministry/insitution about the Conference and the Water Action Agenda, and if possible other entities that you are working with such as local governments, private sector and civil society
3. **Meet internally** and discuss (based on data)
 - main needs and gaps → summarize the issues
 - scalable solutions → propose voluntary actions
4. Meet with main national Conference representative and other stakeholders to **brief about the main needs and gaps and the proposed voluntary commitments**
5. Encourage your ministry as well as other entities that you are working with to **submit own voluntary commitments**



6. General communication tips

- Ask yourself “**What do I need my audience to learn?**” ...
- ... and remember to tell them **WHY they should care!**
- **Storytelling, concrete examples and visualizations** (photos, maps, charts) help people understand the issues and their urgency
- Prepare **key messages** and **speaking points** to make it easy for others to help you spread the word
- Reach a lot of people (and engage them!) through **social media**
- **Focus on solutions**, to make it easier for your audience to take action



Call to action and objective of this webinar

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- 3. Create demand** for the use of national **water and sanitation data**, in both international and national policy processes



Thank you!

- All resources related to SDG 6 monitoring: <https://www.unwater.org/our-work/integrated-monitoring-initiative-sdg-6>
- All SDG 6 data: <https://sdg6data.org/>
- UN 2023 Water Conference website: <https://sdgs.un.org/conferences/water2023>
- Mailing list for the UN 2023 Water Conference: <https://forms.office.com/Pages/ResponsePage.aspx?id=2zWeD09UYE-9zF6kFubccNXMM9HsKN5GgENLVV-AInRUQ1RCSU1NQjFFVFpRSUQ4WTJDT05MWU1JMy4u>

3. Questions and answers

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