

Emerging trends that shape our water future: A series of online dialogues hosted by the GWP TEC

Dialogue # 3 Signpost to Bali: Gender and youth mainstreaming

30 / 31 January 2024, 1300-1430 CET

Meeting link: ZOOM

<https://gwp-org.zoom.us/j/89540776123?pwd=WifKd6oKoxIP1ptJeabRgR4l0eeyje.1>

Meeting ID: 895 4077 6123

Passcode: 024011

Introducing the online dialogues

As we emerge from the 2023 UN Water Conference, with some renewed focus and momentum, it is timely to take stock of the emerging trends and look ahead to the next decade of water management and explore the opportunities for GWP leadership.

With this in mind, the GWP TEC intends to organize a series of online dialogues with the GWP network to surface and explore some of the emerging trends where GWP could take a leadership position in developing and disseminating knowledge, developing partnerships and building capacity. The intended outcome of the dialogues is to identify and elaborate on areas of strategic importance for GWP to position itself as a leader within the global water community.

Dialogue #3 Signpost to Bali: Gender and youth mainstreaming

The case for giving greater agency to females and youth in water-related decision making has been clearly made for a number of years. Going back 30 plus years to the Dublin principles, which articulated the central role of females in: “...*the provision, management and safeguarding of water*” through to today with the numerous initiatives that aim to mobilize the voice and agency of females and youth to solve our water challenges.

Gender impacts multiple dimensions of water. Women are often subsistence producers and play roles as both users and managers of the local environment. At the same time, many socio-cultural factors create barriers for women's access to water and land. At the community level, men are often involved in the technical aspects of water supply (pumps, water treatment, etc.). Involving women in decision-making requires active effort as the people working on the WASH systems in the field are often men.

Globally, early 2.4 billion women of working age still do not have the same rights as men. A woman earns 77 cents for every dollar a man earns. Addressing critical gender gaps is an opportunity to boost incomes and stimulate growth. Studies estimate economic gains of \$5-6 trillion if women started and scaled new businesses at the same rate as men do. At the current pace, women entering the workforce today will retire before they're ever able to gain the same rights as their male counterparts. Progress on gender requires us to begin earlier, with a focus on youth. Rapidly evolving technologies in water management means that new employment opportunities are increasing that do not require physical strength to move water network pipes.

The “ripple” effect of increasing access to water for women is well-known. When women do better, countries do better, communities do better, and families do better. As we look forward to the 10th World Water Forum in Bali, there is an opportunity to advance this movement and ensure that female

and youth engagement and leadership are central to integrated water resources management policies, planning, and implementation. Through the initiative of GWP South Asia (GWP SAS), with the support of numerous partners, there is momentum to mobilize females and youths into the Forum in Bali.

This online dialogue will reflect on the activities to date of this initiative, understand the learnings and identify ways and means to ensure this initiative should be 'signposted' in Bali for maximum impact.

Draft Agenda

Timing	Agenda Item	Notes
0-5	Welcome on behalf of GWP Technical Committee (GWP-TEC) <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Jaehyang So, TEC Chair, Global Water Partnership 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Restate the role of the TEC Introduce TEC members General housekeeping
5-10	Remarks from GWP Chair <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Pablo Bereciartua, Chair, Global Water Partnership 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Highlight importance of topic and relevance to GWP
10-15	Greetings from Incoming GWP ES <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Alan Atkisson 	
15-20	Framing dialogue on gender & youth mainstreaming <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Tom Williams, TEC Member, Global Water Partnership 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Purpose of these dialogues Introduction of gender & youth
20-40	Reflections on the Gender Mainstreaming in GWP and Signpost to Bali <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Kusum Athukorala, GWP SAS Chairperson 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Intro to signpost to Bali
40-55	Discussion with TEC members <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Åse Johannessen, Senior Researcher, Deltares Lance Gore, Principal Water Resource Specialist, Asian Development Bank Anju Sharma, Locally-led Adaptation Lead, Global Center on Adaptation 	Tom to moderate, questions to be developed in advanced and shaped with TEC members
55-65	Open floor questions and remarks	Tom to bring any questions or comments from the chat and also invite others to contribute
65-70	Summary of discussion and preview of next global dialogue <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Jaehyang So, TEC Chair, Global Water Partnership 	Tom to summarize and also invite any reflections from Jae
70-75	Closing remarks <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Abdoulaye Sene, Chair of Regional Chairs & Chair, GWP-West Africa 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Regional dimensions of these discussions are important Engagement with regional GWP critical Next dialogue to take place (March)