



## Launch of the 2023 Global Water Changemakers Awards:

**Event to be hosted by K-water in Collaboration with Convenors of the Changemakers, Global Water Partnership and World Bank Group during the official kickoff event of the 3<sup>rd</sup> Asia International Water Week (AIWW).**

| Date: 6 July 2023 (Thursday)

| Venue: K-water Global Water Education Center (Grand Auditorium), Songsan, South Korea

### 1.0 Background

On 6 July 2023, the Global Water Changemakers Awards 2023 will be launched in South Korea during the official kick-off event of the International Asian Water Week Global, the largest gathering on water in Asia. The Global Water Changemakers Award is a global initiative that aims to recognise high-level commitment and leadership for climate resilient water investments and showcase the most promising climate resilient innovations with the greatest potential for scale, replication, and further investment to support a water-secure world.

The Changemakers Awards includes (i) the Presidential Changemakers Award - for demonstrated leadership and commitment; (ii) Innovation Changemakers Award- for the most promising climate innovations; (iii) Youth Water Changemakers Award-for demonstrating commitment to social change.

The Global Water Changemakers Award was announced by HE Mokgweetsi Masisi, President of Botswana, Chair of the Global Changemakers Award on 22 March 2023 during the UN Water Conference in New York. HE Mokgweetsi Masisi, also presented the Presidential Global Water Changemakers Awards to six current and former Heads of State.

Four co-chairs of the International High-Level Panel on Water Investments for Africa; H.E Macky Sall, President of the Republic of Senegal and Chair of the African Union, H.E Hage Geingob, President of Namibia, H.E Mark Rutte, Prime Minister of the Netherlands and H.E Jakaya Kikwete, Former President of the Republic of Tanzania each received the Presidential Global Changemakers Award for demonstrating high level political commitment and leadership for climate resilient water security in Africa. HE Hakainde Hichilema, President of the Republic of Zambia and HE Dr. Hussein Ali Mwinyi, President of Zanzibar also received the award for local country leadership following the launch of their national Water Investment Programs.

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**Co-chairs of the International High-Level Panel on Water Investments for Africa received Awards on 22 March 2023 during the UN Water Conference, New York.**

			
<b>H.E. Macky Sall</b> Co-Chair President of the Republic of Senegal Chair: African Union	<b>H.E. Hage Geingob</b> Co-Chair President of the Republic of Namibia	<b>H.E. Mark Rutte</b> Co-Chair Prime Minister of the Netherlands	<b>H.E. Jakaya Kikwete</b> Alternate Co-Chair Former President of the United Republic of Tanzania

## 2.0 High Level Launch of the 2023 Global Water Changemakers

On 6 July 2023, K-water, the leading South Korean water resources corporation, will host the global high-level launch of the 2023 Global Water Changemakers Innovation Awards in Songsan, South Korea. A paradigm shift in water investments is required to access new sources of innovative finance. Investment in climate-resilient water security and sanitation has an economic return of USD \$7 for every USD \$ 1 invested. Investing in a water secure future now will realise human security, a healthy environment, amplify gender equality, health, energy, education, food security, and many other societal gains for this generation – and those to come.

### 2.1 Opportunity to enhance investment for scaling up

The launch of the Global Water Changemakers Awards 2023 will initiate a global competition for the most promising climate innovations that can be scaled up through further investment promotion. The changemakers will seek innovations that have already proven their business model by operating for at least 1 year. Selected Water Changemakers will receive technical assistance and seed funding to scale up their innovations and strengthen their business and investment case for investors.

The Water Changemaker Awards will bring together the supply and demand for innovative finance with a special focus on climate resilient, blended public-private finance, and gender transformative approaches. The initiative promotes the most promising climate resilient innovations to enable them to access new and innovative finance sources from institutional investors, debt, equity, and others from private and public sources, to enable them to scale up.

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## 2.2 Expected outcomes of the High-Level Launch of Changemakers

The expected outcomes of the High-Level Launch of the global water changemakers are:

- i. *Formally launch the competition for the global changemakers innovation Awards.*
- ii. *Vision Statement on the global water changemakers and roadmap for 2023 Changemakers unveiled towards the inaugural water changemakers summit COP 28 during , in Dubai, United Arab Emirates.*
- iii. *Transformative climate resilient water innovations showcased; advances in sensor technology, computing, artificial intelligence, big data nature-based systems for informing operational decisions by policy makers and water management companies.*
- iv. *Promote and showcase transformative initiatives from the UN Water Conference such as the Continental Africa Water Investment Programme (AIP), water investment scorecard and the pyramid of water investment transformation by the AIP international High-Level Panel.*

Innovations that involve all stakeholders, public, private, and communities must be identified and scaled up to drive a momentum change for a water secure and climate resilient world. Promising climate innovations must be identified and nurtured to have significant impact on today's water challenges and lead to tomorrow's water-secure world. Promising climate innovations exist, but many of them fail before reaching the scale at which they can make significant impact.

### Draft Agenda

Led by the convenors of the Global Changemakers, Global Water Partnership, World Bank Group and K-water, the launch of the changemakers will include high level invited personalities.

Recent laureates of the Presidential changemakers awards as well as winners of the 2020 Changemakers will be invited to participate virtually. The launch will take place on 6 July 2023 in Songdo following the meetings of the fourth Asian Water Council General Assembly, as part of the official kick-off of the 3<sup>rd</sup> Asia International Water Week (AIWW). A draft Agenda is shown below:

#### Overview of the events and draft Agenda for the launch

Date	Event
Wednesday: 5 July 2023	Asia Water Council Bureau. 17 <sup>th</sup> AWC Board of Council Meeting
Thursday: 6 July 2023	4 <sup>th</sup> AWC General Assembly <b>High Level Launch of the Global Water Changemakers Awards</b>
Friday: 7 July 2023	18 <sup>th</sup> AWC Board Meeting, 3 <sup>rd</sup> AIWW Kick-off
Saturday: 8 July 2023	Site Visit Hwaseong AI WTP and Sihwa Tidal Power Station

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Time (KST, GMT+9)	Proposed Draft Agenda 16:00 to 17:30 (6 July 2023)
09:00-15:05	<b>4<sup>th</sup> General Assembly of AWC</b>
15:05-16:00	<b>Break</b>
16:00-16:15	<b>Opening of the High-level Launch of the Global Water Changemakers</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• <b>Opening Remarks</b> Pablo Bereciartua, Chairman, Global Water Partnership</li> <li>• <b>Welcoming Remarks</b> K-water CEO</li> <li>• <b>Congratulatory Remarks (Video)</b> Saroj Kumar Jha, Global Director for Water Global Practice World Bank Group</li> <li>• <b>Video Screening:</b> Global Water Changemakers Promotion</li> </ul>
16:15-16:30	<b>Keynote Address</b>  <b>Ban Ki-moon, 8<sup>th</sup> Secretary-General of the United Nations (TBC)</b> <i>"Scaling up innovative climate resilience solutions and technologies for a water secure world"</i>
16:30-16:45	<b>Formal Launch of the Competition for the Global Changemakers Innovation Awards &amp; Roadmap towards the Inaugural Water Changemakers Summit at COP28 in Dubai, UAE</b>  <b>H.E Dr. Mokgweetsi Masisi, President of Botswana</b> <b>Honorary Co-Chair of Global Water Changemakers (Virtual)</b>
16:45-16:55	<b>Video Statements by Invited Laureates of the Changemakers Awards</b>  <b>High-level Country Representatives who received Presidential Awards during the UN 2023 Water Conference and 2020 Competition</b>
16:55-17:25	<b>High Level Panel Discussion</b> <i>"How to scale up Innovative Practices and Technologies to achieve SDG6 and Climate Resilient Water Solutions"</i>  <b>Moderator</b> <b>Jaehyang So</b> , Jury Chair of Global Water Changemakers, Chair of GWP TEC  <b>Panellists</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• <b>Henry Gonzalez</b>, Deputy Executive Director, Green Climate Fund "Financing Innovative Climate Resilient Water Investments"</li> <li>• <b>Wooseok Lee</b>, Vice President &amp; Chief Global Officer, K-water "Innovative Solutions for a Water Secure World"</li> <li>• <b>Alex Simalabwi</b>, Director, Africa Water Investment Programme "GWP Global Climate Resilient Water Investments"</li> <li>• <b>Henry Chung</b>, Managing Director, KAIST Venture "Private Venture Funds"</li> <li>• <b>Youth Representative</b> (TBC, Winner of Youth Water Changemakers Award)</li> </ul>
17:25-17:30	<b>Closing Remarks: Elena Trovesi, CEO, Global Water Partnership</b>

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## List of Participants (Tentative)

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### Participants (Tentative)

#### Opening Remarks



**Pablo Bereciartua**

Chairman, Global Water Partnership (GWP)

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#### Welcoming Remarks



**Dr. Seog Dae Yun**

Chief Executive Officer, Korea Water Resources Corporation  
Honorary Co-Chair, Global Water Changemakers

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#### Congratulatory Remarks (Video)



**Saroj Kumar Jha**

Global Director for Water Global Practice, World Bank

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#### Keynote Speaker & Formal Launch of the Competition



**Hon. Ban Ki-moon**

8<sup>th</sup> Secretary General, the United Nations



**H.E. Mokgweetsi Masisi**

President of Botswana  
Honorary Co-Chair, Global Water Changemakers

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#### Panel



**Jaehyang So [Moderator]**

Chair of Technical Committee, GWP  
Jury Chair of Global Water Changemakers



**Wooseok Lee**

Vice President & Chief Global Officer  
K-water



**Henry Chung**

Managing Director  
KAIST Venture



**Henry Gonzalez**

Deputy Executive Director, Green Climate Fund



**Alex Simalabwi**

Executive Secretary, GWPSA-Africa  
Director - Africa Water Investment Programme



**Billie Dumaliang**

Youth Representative  
Winner 2020 Water Changemakers Award

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#### Closing Remarks



**Elena Trovesi**

Chief Executive Officer, Global Water Partnership

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