



SESSION DESCRIPTION FORM 2.

10TH WORLD WATER FORUM

This Session Description Form 2 is for the specified program of the session. Please complete this form no later than 28th of February 2024.

**The session description 1 (online form) is separately requested for the session coordinators to deliver a concise session outline with the contact info and the logistical requests.*

Session Code and Title:

T5A2

Reform of global financial water architecture

Session Coordinators (Name, Position, Organization, email, mobile number):

Xavier Leflaive, senior advisor - water, OECD Environment directorate

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Session Description including objectives and expected outcomes (500 words maximum):

The expected outcome of this session is an understanding of how the reform of the global financial architecture can direct financial flows in ways that align with the global water and water-related cross-policies agendas, and away from projects that work against these. It is also to identify pathways to weight in reforms: a wider range of financial tools, a more coordinated approach to tackle both poverty and global challenges in-country, and better accountability mechanisms whilst supporting the inclusion of broader policy objectives, such as equity.

The work of the Global Commission on the Economics of Water (<https://watercommission.org/>) provides a useful starting point. In its call for action at the UN 2023 Water Conference, the GCEW argues that we ought to restore the stability of the hydrological cycle, defined as a partitioning of blue water (rivers, lakes and aquifers) and green water (moisture in soils, vapour in the atmosphere) as we the world has known it for the last 12,000 years. This provides a new perspective on how water, climate and biodiversity agendas mutually reinforce one another: keeping moisture in soils is a condition to mitigate climate change, as drier soils have less capacity to capture and store carbon; nature and such ecosystems as wetlands and forests determine the capacity of soils to retain moisture.

The question then is: how to direct financing flows towards soil conservation, including minimum wetness levels through nature-based solutions, and away from activities that contribute to land use cover change, such as deforestation, or intensify pressure on the stability of the hydrological cycle? Agriculture provides a nice example: what are the conditions to ensure finance supports rainfed agriculture (minimising pressure on blue water and land) and align irrigated agriculture with the ambition sketched above?

The session will bring the perspective of a range of stakeholders that have an interest in this paradigm shift and can make change happen. Experience from the floor will trigger responses from panellists. Messages from the session can feed into the preparation of the One Water Summit, co-convened by France and Kazakhstan in September 2024 in New York in the context of the Summit of the Future.

Detailed Session plan :

ESTIMATED TIMING	ITEM DESCRIPTION / ROLE	SPEAKERS	SPEAKERS STATUS (OK OR TBC)
10 mins	The moderator will set the scene, providing background on the reform of the global financial architecture and inspiration from the GCEW.	Xavier Leflaive, OECD Environment Directorate; part of the team that facilitates the GCEW	OK
40 mins	<p>Panellists share their experience on how prevailing financing flows and mechanisms contribute to the water agenda sketched above.</p> <p>Particular attention will be paid to water in conjunction with delivering public value or public goods. Illustrations relate to - inter alia - mitigation of climate change, food security, justice and livelihood.</p>	<p>Frédéric Pasquier (Danone Ecosystem). Danone endeavours to promote rainfed agriculture, as part of its sustainability strategy ad to ensure resilient, long term sourcing of food stuff. That ambitions faces challenges when public or development finance supports irrigation schemes and when farmers are not exposed to the opportunity cost of using water.</p> <p>Guy Alaerts (IHE Delft). Pr. Alaerts is a partner for the Indonesian government and has devised inspiring water financing cases in developing economies. He promotes “smart financing” arrangements for effective public and private financing in water systems.</p> <p>Alex Simalabwi (GWP Africa). GWP Africa was instrumental in developing the Continental Africa Water Investment Programme (AIP), which was formally adopted by Heads of State and Government in 2021. The goal of the AIP is to transform and improve the investment outlook for water security and sustainable sanitation for a prosperous, peaceful, and equitable Africa. The regional perspective will illustrate under which conditions finance can benefit the water agenda and ensure investment in water contribute to delivering public value.</p> <p>Lionel Goujon (Agence Française de Développement - AFD). AFD promotes projects that contribute to a shared value of water at basin or national levels. In addition to its own work, AFD spearheads Finance in Common, a global network of public development banks, which can play a role in financing water so as to support national development.</p> <p>Bapon Fakhruddin (Green Climate Fund - GCF). As part of its mandate, GCF supports a nexus approach, combining ecosystem-based adaptation, nature-based solutions and food security. This pipeline of projects has not been prioritised by national governments yet.</p>	<p>The participation of all panellists in WWF10 is confirmed.</p> <p>Participation in the panel will be confirmed when the timing is set.</p>



30 mins	The moderator opens the floor for Q&A.	Xavier Leflaive, OECD	OK
10 mins	<p>Financial institutions and corporates in the panel are invited to reflect on a possible course of action.</p> <p>France concludes with a short presentation of the One Water Summit and opportunities to reflect some of the discussion from the session.</p>	<p>Danone</p> <p>AFD</p> <p>GCF</p> <p>France</p>	The participation of a French delegate still needs to be confirmed.