



## SESSION DESCRIPTION FORM 2.

### 10<sup>TH</sup> WORLD WATER FORUM

#### **Session Code and Title:**

**1A4: Can utilities be incentivized to supply less and reduce demand while remaining viable?**

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

Neil Dhot, Executive Director, AquaFed. [Neil.dhot@aquafed.org](mailto:Neil.dhot@aquafed.org) +447780979499

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

As freshwater becomes an even more scarce resource, it is essential to explore new models for utilities beyond the traditional approach where revenue increases alongside the amount of water supplied.

Is it right that we continue to incentivize consumption? Is there a way of reversing this model, so utilities and water providers are paid more to supply less and take steps to make their customers and users more water efficient?

This session intends to bring together public and private utility managers, water financiers and regulators to think with open minds about the issue and analyze possible solutions that could be trialed and implemented.

What models can be used to ensure utilities remain economically viable by being able to recover costs and re-invest? Is there scope to combine/bundle utility revenues and investment?

Pricing strategy and tariffs, innovation, governance, environmental targets and social/cultural behaviors and values are all essential components of this discussion.

#### **Objectives:**

- To understand whether current utility revenue models are appropriate in the context of climate change impacts and the need to increase resilience.
- To consider users' needs and how they could be incentivized to pay for a service where they use less water.
- To look at the scope for bundling of utility services at the point of sale/tariff paying, as a way of incentivizing the decreased use of water.

#### **Outcomes:**

- Contribution of ideas to various international working groups on urban resilience and to the next COP.
- A set of ideas to be discussed during the Forums at the Dushanbe event in June.
- Possible regional cooperation agreed by stakeholders to continue work on this issue – potentially with existing utility forums like GWOPA.

### **Detailed Session plan:**

The session is designed to be a ‘think-tank’ style event, based on expert discussion and participation and questions from the audience. There will be up to two short framing presentations from country representatives, followed by roundtable discussion with an expert panel.

<b>ESTIMATED TIMING</b>	<b>ITEM DESCRIPTION / ROLE</b>	<b>SPEAKERS</b>	<b>SPEAKERS STATUS (OK OR TBC)</b>
5	Moderator	Neil Dhot – Executive Director, AquaFed	Confirmed
10	Frame Setting	Prof.Dr.Lütfi AKCA, SUEN President, World Water Council Governor, Member of the Board of Local Government Policies under the Presidency, Government of Turkey.	Confirmed
10	Frame Setting:	Arantxa Mencia – Global Business Development Director, Almar Water (Global)	Confirmed
Panel discussion- 60	Panelist: Operator Perspective	Armelle Perrin-Guinot FP2E (France and Global)	Confirmed
	Panelist: Water finance perspective	Dr Alex Money  Smith School of Enterprise and the Environment, University of Oxford	Confirmed

	Panelist: International Donor perspective	Nancy Eslick, USAID Global Water Coordinator	Confirmed
	Panelist: Public procurement perspective	Sulaiman Turki, Chief Strategy & Development Officer, Saudi Water Partnership Company.	Confirmed
	Panelist: Academic Perspective	Ripin Kalra- Senior Fellow - Participatory Urban Resilience & Environmental Assessment and Climate Policy, University of Westminster. (Global)	Confirmed
	Panelist: Utility consultant perspective	Ayako Tischler – Utility Analyst, Moonshot Missions and North American Youth Parliament for Water (USA)	Confirmed