



SESSION DESCRIPTION FORM 2.

10TH WORLD WATER FORUM

Session Code and Title:

HLP 4: Reimagining the Role of Finance in Collective Action

Wednesday 22nd May, 1300-1430

Session Coordinators

Thematic Process:

ADB: Satoshi Ishii / Alex Money (consultant)
Republic of Indonesia: Ministry of Public Works and Housing

Regional Process:

WWC: Ben Braga
IDB: Sergio Campos

Session Description

The finance sector urgently needs a better understanding of water-related risk. A fundamental reimagining is required of the role and capabilities of collective action, with a focus on universal access to safe water, sanitation and climate resilience. We also discuss how private finance can improve national and sub-national entity creditworthiness.

The session will be structured around 5 themes:

- i) **Scope:** effective collective action operates at multiple scales, from the local catchment to global initiatives. Engagements need to be optimized to the appropriate level of scope. There are also bi-directional learning objectives from collective action at different scales. Examples of these objectives being achieved will be highlighted.
- ii) **Resilience:** effective adaptation to economic, societal and environmental change requires collective action. The current status quo on how water is valued is not fit for purpose. New approaches to address this will be presented, including natural capital accounting, resilience indicators and nature-based solutions.
- iii) **Targets:** collective action requires specific milestones and targets if progress against SDG 6 is to be accelerated. In a joint statement by MDB heads' at COP28, an ambitious target to double the number of people benefiting annually technical and financial support by the end of 2026 was set out. This ambition will be discussed.
- iv) **Localism:** discussion on the role of collective action to support subnational financing, including enhancing cities' creditworthiness such that it helps build investment appetite for water projects. To include an overview of the Coalition for High Ambition Multilevel Partnerships (CHAMP)
- v) **Stakeholders:** the private sector is a key actor for enabling water security. Case examples to be presented on the role stakeholders collectively play in catalysing investment, including via green bonds, PPPs and through non-sovereign financing. Discussion on other stakeholder roles and responsibilities for collective action to be effective.

Calls to Action:

- Highlight the critical and transformational role of development finance in mobilising collective action
- Reinforce this message through participatory stakeholder initiatives, including statements at COP29
- Embed development finance perspectives within the Coalition for High Ambition Multilevel Partnerships
- Identify tangible opportunities for engagement in specific future events, including the One Water Summit 2024 and UN Water 2026

Speaker profiles:

Session Introduction:

Mr. Satoshi Ishii, Director, Strategy and Partnerships Team, Water and Urban Development Sector Office, Sectors Group, Asian Development Bank

Session Framing:

Hon Luhut Binsar Pandjaitanas.
Coordinating Minister for Maritime and Investment Affairs, Government of Indonesia

Current challenges in water management and the potential of collaboration to address them. The importance of involving local communities, and the value of private sector engagement. Developing and implementation of policy frameworks that have effective regulatory governance.

Understanding collective action at multiple scales:

Ms. Neeta Pokhrel, Director, Southeast Asia and the Pacific Region, Water and Urban Development Sector Office, Sectors Group, Asian Development Bank

Emerging opportunities in natural capital accounting, green finance and nature-based solutions. Initiatives to support subnational financing, including ‘investable cities’, and the evolution of collaborative coalitions such as CHAMP. Operationalizing partnerships between governments, MDBs, the private sector and local communities.

The importance of collective commitment:

Mr. Franz Rojas-Ortuste, Head, Division of Water and Sanitation Analysis, Department of Urban Development, Water and Creative Economies, Development Bank of Latin America and the Caribbean (CAF)

The imperative of adaptive resilience. The joint statement by MDB heads’ at COP28. What is required to achieve the target to double the number of people benefiting annually technical and financial support by the end of 2026. Key stakeholder roles and responsibilities to deliver effective collective action.

Panel Discussion:

Ms. Neeta Pokhrel, ADB

Mr. Franz Rojas-Ortuste, CAF

Mr Adrian Sym, CEO, Alliance for Water Stewardship (AWS)

Dr Rachael McDonnell. Deputy Director General - Research for Development, International Water Management Institute (IWMI)

Ms. Meike van Ginneken, Water Envoy, Kingdom of the Netherlands

Moderator: Dr Alex Money, University of Oxford

Call to Action:

Dr Rachael McDonnell. IWMI

Water solutions are needed at all levels. This will take the combined effort of governments, civil society, the private sector, the intergovernmental system and the research community. A call to action for engagement at the intersection of these stakeholders.

Session Closing:

Mr. Satoshi Ishii, ADB

Detailed Session plan:

ESTIMATED TIMING	ITEM DESCRIPTION / ROLE	SPEAKERS	STATUS
5 minutes	Session Introduction	Mr. Satoshi Ishii, ADB	OK
15 minutes	Session Framing	Hon Luhut Binsar Pandjaitanas, Gol	OK
10 minutes	Remarks: ADB	Ms. Neeta Pokhrel, ADB	OK
10 minutes	Remarks: CAF	Mr. Franz Rojas-Ortuste, CAF	OK
40 minutes	Moderated panel discussion	Ms. Neeta Pokhrel, ADB Mr. Franz Rojas-Ortuste, CAF Mr Adrian Sym, AWS Dr Rachael McDonnell, IWMI Ms. Meike van Ginneken, Water Envoy Moderator: Dr Alex Money	OK OK OK OK OK OK
7 minutes	Call to Action	Dr Rachael McDonnell, IWMI	OK
3 minutes	Session Closing	Mr. Satoshi Ishii, ADB	OK