



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:

SS3

Socially Inclusive and just water management

Date: 23 May 2024; Time: 10:20 - 11:50 (GMT+8); Venue: Room 5

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

UNESCO:

- Nigel Crawhall, Chief of Section, Local and Indigenous Knowledge Systems (LINKS), UNESCO, n.crawhall@unesco.org +33770010392;
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AMCOW:

- Joanna Fatch, Senior Policy Officer, Water Resources Management, African Ministers' Council on Water, Phone: +27 79 0523828, jfatch@amcow-online.org

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

In June 2022, Member States of the United Nations participating in the 2nd High-Level International Conference on the International Decade for Action "Water for Sustainable Development" issued a declaration, as part of the preparations for the Mid-Term Review of the Water Action Decade, that calls for attention to universal human rights and social inclusion. Member States noted: *We uphold that the role of women, youth, indigenous peoples, local communities and other recognized major groups in water governance and management at all levels is critical especially in a changing climate for ensuring universal access to water and sanitation for all.*

Furthermore, the Dushanbe [outcome](#) document and the [proceedings](#) of the UN Water Conference of 2023 placed great emphasis on the need for inclusion, diversity, rights and diverse systems of knowledge in tackling water challenges and achieving sustainability. Yet, in practice, there is not yet a robust international architecture on water rights, and the role of diverse rights holders, knowledge holders and duty bearers.

Other UN processes, notably on climate change, ecosystems and biodiversity, have secured negotiated agreements to ensure a rights-based approach, which is specifically inclusive of gender equality, youth, Indigenous Peoples, disability issues, as well as addressing poverty reduction and inclusion. Water policy, therefore, remains a space to consolidate international norms and standards of social justice, inclusion, rights and human dignity.

The Special Session, hosted by the United Nations Educational, Scientific and Cultural Organization (UNESCO) and the African Ministers' Council on Water (AMCOW), provides a platform for social movements, including

Indigenous Peoples, youth, women, leaders from Africa and from Small Island Developing States and others to express the priorities of their constituencies and a vision of inclusive and just water policy, governance and management.

The Special Session will share key messages for the international community and the Water Action Decade process and outcomes, providing linkages between other global norms and standards and those that can address water policy issues.

Detailed Session plan :

ESTIMATED TIMING	ITEM DESCRIPTION / ROLE	SPEAKERS	SPEAKERS STATUS (OK OR TBC)
6 mins	Opening address:	Lidia Arthur Brito , Assistant Director General for the Natural Sciences, UNESCO	OK
7 mins		HE Dr Joyce Banda , Sanitation and Water for All (SWA) Global Leaders Council Member, Former President of Republic of Malawi Malawi	OK
6 mins each 24 mins	Panel of speakers from diverse social movements	Prem Tharu Singh (Tharu) Asia Indigenous Peoples' Pact (AIPP) Nepal	OK
		Mahua Mukherjee , SAADRI Secretary-General India	OK
		Kusum Athukorala , Women for Water Partnership (WfWP), Sri Lanka	OK
		Shweta Shiwangni , Scientific Officer Climatology at Fiji Meteorological Service Fiji	OK
		YOUTH: Putu Willy Suputra Aliansi Masyarakat Adat Nusantara (AMAN), Indonesia	TBC
6 mins each 24 mins	Governments	Hon. Waldez Góes , Minister of Integration and Regional Development, Brazil	TBC
		Hon. Catalina Velasco Campuzano , Minister of Housing, City & Territory, Republic of Colombia	OK
		Hon. Engr Prof Joseph Terlumun Utsev , Federal Minister for Water Resources and Sanitation, Nigeria	
		Deborah Mochotlhi Deputy Director General: Water Resource Management South Africa	TBC via Nairobi
5 mins each 15 mins	United Nations Agencies	Laura Imburgia World Water Assessment Programme, UNESCO	OK
		Lifeng Li , Director of Land and Water Division, FAO	TBC
		Sean Lees , Business and Human Rights Specialist,	TBC



		Bangkok Regional Hub UNDP	
14 mins	Q&A & closing remarks		