



## SESSION DESCRIPTION FORM 2.

### 10<sup>TH</sup> 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:**

T1B1 - The governance and building blocks for circular water and resource management for food security and resilient cities (Thursday, 24 May 2024, 2:50-4:20 pm)

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

Sasha Koo-Oshima  
Director, Sustainability Frameworks, LLP, [Sashakool@gmail.com](mailto:Sashakool@gmail.com), +1 443 653 7740

Patricia Mejias-Moreno  
Land and Water Officer, AQUASTAT Coordinator, FAO, [Patrica.MejiasMoreno@fao.org](mailto:Patrica.MejiasMoreno@fao.org), +39 3404927102

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

<https://drive.google.com/drive/folders/1UxgV3PMhiv2dEZSGDfHzorWqsOd31ELp>

By 2050, 52% of the world's projected 9.7 billion people will live in water stressed regions. Currently 50 to 80% of effluent water from cities is discharged directly into surface and groundwaters. Wastewater is a pivotal alternative water resource especially in peri-urban areas for mitigating water shortages in agriculture.

The session will focus on the enabling environment and policy frameworks to incentivize circular water resources management for food security and resilient cities. The outcome will provide understanding from a policy perspective, how to achieve multiple goals from water quality and environmental sustainability objectives to urban and periurban food security.

The critical role of policy and financing frameworks in driving circular economy from national to local levels, inclusive of public-private partnerships will be featured. Participants will discuss transitions to circular economies and how to enable cross-sectoral collaborations to ensure effective and coherent policy implementation.

There will be a focus on addressing regulatory and financing gaps, strengthening compliance and health and safety through digital technology applications, and the alignment of policies across different sectors to incentivize and scale up the practice.

KEY MESSAGES for T1B1 and T1B2 COMBINED ARE THE FOLLOWING :

1. A circular water management model can help ensure water security, food security and environmental sustainability considering the increasing water demand and the changing climate.
2. Besides technologies, supportive governmental policies and regulations, economic financing and capacity building are needed to create a conducive and enabling environment for stakeholders (i.e., farmers, utilities, municipalities, investors, etc.) to adopt circularity, water/waste reuse and also to ensure the safe use of recycled water and biosolids.
3. A circular water management model needs the establishment of a robust water quality and environmental/resource monitoring and adherence to water quality and other related regulations.
4. Public-private partnerships can be instrumental for advancing the reuse of treated wastewater in agrifood systems.

**Detailed Session plan :**

ESTIMATED TIMING	ITEM DESCRIPTION / ROLE	SPEAKERS	SPEAKERS STATUS (OK OR TBC)
90' total for session			
UNEP Moderator Opening 5'	UNEP Global Wastewater Initiative to open the role of governance and introduce session idea on building blocks for circular water and resource management for food security and resilient cities.  Introduces the first 3 panel speakers then opens for	Alex Pires	OK

	<p>Q&amp;A (provides questions to panelists and ask the floor to pose questions). Moderator to prepare questions in advance and keep time check so each speaker is limited to 8-10 min. to allow for floor interactions.</p>		
<p>Panel Speaker - 8-10'  European Commission, DG Environment</p>	<p>Presents the EU approach to circular water and resource management for food security and resilient cities. Concretely, to present the EU Circular Economy Action Plan with particular focus on water reuse for agricultural irrigation (EU Regulation on Water Reuse and associated Guidelines) and water reuse in urban context (EU Urban Wastewater Directive).</p>	<p>Dagmar Behrendt Kalajarikova</p>	<p>OK</p>
<p>Panel Speaker - 8-10'  Spain's Guadalquivir Basin Authority</p>	<p>Provides government views on the use of reclaimed water as an important element of integrated water resources management and offers a number of opportunities and benefits such as: enabling a better management of water resources by releasing committed volumes of higher quality water for other uses; increasing available resources in coastal areas or ensuring greater reliability and regularity of supply. Dealing with water scarcity and drought issues and integrating reclaimed water resources into the equation is a growing trend. In Spain, the water law has just been amended in order to introduce, among other aspects, a new legal framework for water reuse which allows adapting the Spanish legal regime for the production, supply and use of reclaimed water to the European regulation. During the session, the new developments by this regulatory modification, the consultation process carried out and the inter-sectorial collaboration promoted through it and</p>	<p>Joaquin Paez Landa, President of the Guadalquivir Basin Authority in Spain</p>	<p>OK</p>

	the new investments planned will be introduced.		
Panel Speaker - 8-10'  CAF - Development Bank of Latin America and the Caribbean	Introduces financing and policy frameworks by providing a normative analysis about wastewater and circular economy in the LAC region. Provides examples of best practices as well as regulatory gaps to enable harmonization and modernization of laws, regulations and technical standards to promote and support wastewater treatment and water reuse. Cases, lessons learnt and best practices to respond to regional context.	Franz Rojas-Ortuste	OK
Discussion/Q&A by moderator to panelists and the audience - 15'			
Panel Speaker - 8-10'  Coordinating Ministry for Economic Affairs	Shares Indonesian experience and framework on sustainable agriculture and integrated water resources management and innovative solutions for addressing climate change risks and poor water governance.  There is urgency to support farmers to efficiently produce food and increase production of high-value and nutritious food with optimal water use in integrating solutions and policies at all levels to improve food security and resilience. Deputy Minister for Food and Agribusiness from the Coordinating Ministry for Economic Affairs has been actively working with relevant stakeholders to develop water utilization policies to ensure water availability for food crops so that crop productivity increases.	Dida Gardera	OK
Panel Speaker - 8-10'  FP2E - la Fédération professionnelle des entreprises de l'eau et de l'assainissement - The National French Organisation of Private	Provides views from the private sector - water and wastewater utility operators - who are at the forefront of bringing technology and innovation to cities and provides city-wide approaches to circularity. Examples on	Aurélie Colas	OK

<p>water and wastewater operators</p>	<p>connecting waste management capabilities with wastewater treatment to provide solutions for cities and how to overcome barriers for successful implementation. Innovations in the latest digital and AI solutions and how they can be applied in the circular context will be provided; crucial connections with agriculture and industry sectors and also urban planners will be emphasized.</p> <p>Public information and more importantly, acceptance, of circular policies, need to be achieved before ambitious plans are put in place. Provides an overview with specific examples of connected implementation at city level which has led to a range of benefits such as water reuse for agricultural use, stormwater management and energy efficiency.</p>		
<p>Panel Speaker - 8-10'</p> <p>Urban Water Efficiency Working Group Coordinator General Directorate of Water Management Ministry of Agriculture and Forestry</p>	<p>Presents the Turkish experience in coordinating urban water use efficiency and integrated water resources management for supporting sustainable agriculture and forestry.</p>	<p>Fatih Turkmendag</p>	<p>OK</p>
<p>Discussion/Q&amp;A by moderator to panelists and the audience - 15'</p> <p>Moderator will follow discussion with a 5' wrap up conclusion.</p>			