



## SIDE EVENT DESCRIPTION FORM 2.

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

**Session Code and Title:**

SE 36: Climate resilient Water and Sanitation Services for Resilient Communities

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

**Session coordinator and moderator:**

Silvia Gaya, Regional WASH, Climate & Environment Adviser, UNICEF East Asia & Pacific  
Brooke Yamakoshi, Regional WASH Specialist, UNICEF East Asia & Pacific

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

The session will focus on the need for climate resilient water and sanitation services to ensure that services continue to function as needed under increased uncertainty and pressures, changing hydrological conditions, and more frequent extreme weather events. Without resilient WASH services, children's health, nutrition, education and overall wellbeing will suffer.

The session will highlight the impacts on children and vulnerable groups as well as the need to improve community resilience and social cohesion through resilient WASH. The event will focus on the East Asia and Pacific region, with a focus on countries that are member states of ASEAN and the Pacific Islands Forum.

The session will start by sharing best practices in assessing and enhancing the resilience of water and sanitation services, by governments that have carried out comprehensive climate risk assessments and developed a climate rationale for the WASH sector. Governments will further highlight their policy and strategy commitments to ensure climate resilience of the sector. Academic partners and external support agencies will discuss how well these systems are working in practice, and share considerations for the global learning agenda.

Key messages for action will be:

1. WASH services – as key social services – must be designed to withstand climate-related events, strengthen the resilience and adaptive capacities of vulnerable communities, and operate using low-carbon energy sources, such as solar power. They must be affordable water service that is sustainable, close to home and managed professionally.
2. Avert water scarcity crises through water resources assessments, sustainable water withdrawal, efficient use, and early warning and early action to prevent situations where water supplies are fully depleted.
3. Work with communities and key stakeholders so that equitable management of water resources and WASH services contribute to increased social cohesion, political stability and peace; and in conflict zones to prevent attacks on water and sanitation infrastructure and personnel.

The expected participants are WASH practitioners from governments and external support agencies, as well as CSOs and academia, who will be attending World Water Forum.



**Detailed Session plan** : \*F/M indicates Female or Male

ESTIMATED TIMING	ITEM DESCRIPTION / ROLE	SPEAKERS	SPEAKERS STATUS (OK OR TBC)
5 min	Introduction	Silvia Gaya, UNICEF (F)	OK
7 mins	Opening remarks	ASEAN Health Sector Chair (Lao PDR)	TBC
10 mins	Water security for all	Silvia Gaya, UNICEF (F)	OK
10 min	Responding to climate risks in the water sector	Government representative	TBC
10 mins	Strengthening cooperation between water users	UN Agency Representative	TBC
5 min	Introduction to the panel discussion	Youth Advocate YIN Chuming (F)	OK
30 mins	Panel discussion	ASEAN Health Sector Chair - Lao PDR  Pacific Islands Forum Secretariat Representative  University of Technology Sydney  Government representatives	TBC
15 min	Interactive discussion with panel	All participants	
5 min	Closing	Silvia Gaya, UNICEF (F)	OK

**Additional information:**