



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:

CC12. Mainstreaming Nature-Based Solutions in the Water Sector: practical solutions for common challenges

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

Brooke Atwell / Associate Director, Resilient Watersheds / The Nature Conservancy / brooke.atwell@tnc.org / +1 301 641 2904

Rahmah Elfithri / Chief of Section on Capacity Development and Water Family Coordination / UNESCO / r.elfithri@unesco.org / +33 1 45 68 15 17

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

Nature is the fundamental asset that underlies the water cycle and therefore all water security. Nature-based solutions, including the protection of ecosystems, restoration of habitat and improved management practices, offer proven pathways to improve water security while also helping combat climate change, reduce biodiversity loss, and improve livelihoods. The question is now not if nature-based solutions work, but how to mainstream them in the water sector.

Common challenges include:

- Policy barriers
- Lack of adequate knowledge - both traditional and scientific - to design an investment portfolio
- Lack of institutional alignment and governance,
- Poorly defined funding models
- Inadequate stakeholder engagement
- Poor implementation capacity, and
- Lack of evaluation measures.

All of these challenges have solutions that are already being used successfully!

The session will:

- Explore successful watershed investment programs using nature-based solutions
- Provide clear evidence and guidance on how investments in nature can be structured to address the critical interlinked crisis of water security, biodiversity loss and climate change.
- Share methods for developing a scientifically based and socially inclusive plan, far-reaching policy reform that catalyze investments in nature, and evidence of results.
- Explore successful examples of governance, funding, and collective action.

The audience will learn directly from utilities, regulators, investors, NGOs, research institution and the private sector on their experiences.

They will return with **tangible resources** to help them incorporate nature-based solutions in their work.

Detailed Session plan :

ESTIMATED TIMING	ITEM DESCRIPTION / ROLE	SPEAKERS	SPEAKERS STATUS (OK OR TBC)
0:00 [3 mins]	Introduction to Session: Welcome, review session agenda, attendee poll, introduce keynote.	Brooke Atwell, Associate Director, Resilient Watersheds, The Nature Conservancy	OK
0:03 [5 mins]	Setting the Stage: Mainstreaming NbS	Rahmah Elfithri, Chief of Section, Capacity Development and Water Family Coordination, UNESCO	OK
0:08 [2 mins]	Transition to Speakers: Welcome Moderator & Speakers, time for them to get situated on the stage	Brooke Atwell, Associate Director, Resilient Watersheds, The Nature Conservancy	OK
0:10 [12 mins]	Regulatory & policy reform to enable NbS implementation at scale	Moderator : Sophie Tremolet, OECD Speaker TBC, ANA (Brazil) Max Carbajal, Min. of Housing, Construction and Sanitation (Peru)	OK
0:22 [12 mins]	Increasing public & private investment in NbS	Moderator : Sophie Tremolet, OECD Pierre-Yves Pouliquen, Veolia Multifaceted Performance and Sustainable Development VP, Veolia Speaker TBC, ADB	Moderator & Veolia: OK ADB: TBC
0:36 [12 mins]	Practical implementation of NbS and building capacity to sustain outcomes	Moderator : Sophie Tremolet, OECD Vincent Castagnet, Up2Green Brooke Atwell, Associate Director, Resilient Watersheds, The Nature Conservancy	Moderator & Up2Green: OK TNC: TBC
0:48 [12 mins]	Research & Application: how academic institutions are enabling NbS	Moderator : Sophie Tremolet, OECD Speaker TBC, Oxford Nature-based Solutions Initiative Academic Institution : UNESCO suggestion upcoming (pending time)	Moderator : OK Oxford NbS Initiative & Other Institution : TBC
1:00 [25 mins]	Moderated Q&A	Moderator : Sophie Tremolet, OECD	OK
1:25 [3 mins]	Summary including inputs to Ministerial Process	Moderator: Sophie Tremolet, OECD	OK
1:28 [2 mins]	Closing Remarks: share expected follow-up from session, thank panelists, plug resources	Brooke Atwell, Associate Director, Resilient Watersheds, The Nature Conservancy	OK