



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:

T4E2 - Legal, institutional and policy pathways for strengthening water governance in the face of contemporary challenges

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

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Benjamin Kiersch, Senior Water Resources Specialist, Food and Agriculture Organization of the UN, benjamin.kiersch@fao.org, Cel +49-157-5809-8176

Susanne Schmeier, Head of the Water Governance Department, IHE Delft Institute for Water Education, , s.schmeier@un-ihe.org, Tel: +31 15 2151 141

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

The water sector is facing many other cascading challenges that call for the evolution of legal and governance frameworks at different yet integrated scales, such as:

1. enhancing the adaptability of regulatory water allocation instruments, also in response to climate variability;
2. balancing efficiency and equity in the allocation of water in the face of increasing competition;
3. reconciling the environment-support and the development-support function of water (in which the "rights of rivers" is one innovative and forward-looking response); and
4. bridging the land/water divide in law and in its administration
5. dealing with the ongoing challenges of corruption and integrity failures.

Objectives: Session participants will (i) address the range and complexity of contemporary legal/institutional issues of water governance, (ii) learn about innovative legal, institutional and policy pathways from around the world to address four key challenges at local, regional and global levels and (iii) discuss elements for a responsible governance of water resources to guide and enhance the implementation of legal, institutional and policy responses to these challenges.

Active engagement of the audience is ensured through an interactive format through working groups.

Outcomes: The session will identify elements for a responsible governance of water resources particularly regarding climate resilient water allocation, realization of the human right to water and

sanitation, Safeguarding water quality for human and ecosystem health, as well as governance of water tenure.

The results will be brought to the attention of policymakers, lawmakers and other stakeholders gathered in Bali through the reporting lines of the thematic process. Furthermore, the results of the deliberations of the session will feed into the Global Dialogue on Water Tenure facilitated by FAO and partners.

Detailed Session plan :

ESTIMATED TIMING	ITEM DESCRIPTION / ROLE	SPEAKERS	SPEAKERS STATUS (OK OR TBC)
3 min	Introduction to the session	Moderator	
5 min	Welcoming remarks	1 Opening remark Possible invitees: - Rector IHE - Minister / Sr Official Ministry of Water and Sanitation, South Africa - CEO WRC - Lifeng Li, FAO Director of Land and Water - confirmed	TBC
7 min	Keynote Cooperation in Water Law and Institutions: Overview of Status and Challenges	Susanne Schmeier, AIDA / IHE Delft	confirmed
8 min	A) Introduction to the key issues: Lightning talks	4 speakers of the working groups - 2 minutes each	
30 min	B) Working groups: Challenges and Legal / Policy responses 1. Climate Resilience - Introduction: <i>Towards climate change resilient water agreements (Tadesse Kebebew, Geneva Water Hub - to be confirmed)</i> 2. Safeguarding Water Quality - Introduction: <i>Legal Frameworks for Safeguarding Central Java's Rivers: Strategic Governance and Sustainable Water Management Initiatives in Indonesia (Yovita Indrayati, Soegijapranata Catholic University) confirmed</i> 3. Realizing the Human Right to Water and Sanitation - Introduction: <i>Recognition of human rights in Water Law and regulatory commission: The Case of Enugu, Nigeria (Temple Oraeki, Water Youth Network) to be confirmed</i> 4. Global principles for a responsible water governance - Introduction: <i>Water Tenure - A perspective to address water governance challenges Global Dialogue on Water Tenure (Benjamin Kiersch, FAO). confirmed</i>	Moderator / Presenters / Rapporteurs / Session Participants Divide in Audience in 4 Groups, Presentations (7 min) - Slides with pictures rather than words Moderated discussion (20 min) (2 questions TBD)	WG Moderators / Rapporteurs Qingqing Lyu, confirmed Virginie Gillet, confirmed Patricia Mejias Moreno - to be confirmed
30 min	C) Summary and Discussion of working groups	2 minute presentation and 6 min moderated discussion per topic	
	Alternative for Segments A-C: If there are less		



	than 40 people in the room and working groups are not feasible, speakers will present in the plenary, followed by a general discussion on 2 key questions (4 segments, 7 min presentation + 10 min discussion)		
8 min	Closing and outlook: Invitation to contribute to the Global Dialogue on Water Tenure	Moderator (maybe give the floor to 3 persons on the floor for brief takeaways)	

Total time: 90 minutes