

Wastewater Session Agenda, October 3rd 2013

Subject	Global Wastewater Initiative: global challenges, key issues and some responses; and developing the future agenda for joint actions	Run Dates	3 October 2013
Background	<p>Wastewater is a global concern and has a direct impact on our water resources, the biological diversity of aquatic ecosystems, disrupting the fundamental integrity of our life support systems, on which a wide range of sectors from urban development to food production and industry depend. But, despite the magnitude of wastewater challenges, most politicians and policy makers, both at global and local levels, give low priority to the provision of sustainable wastewater management. A major driving force to stimulate effective wastewater management is the realisation that wastewater is a resource, and not just a noxious material to be hidden out of sight and out of mind.</p> <p>Wastewater, when properly managed, is a huge source of water (even the strongest domestic sewage is over 99% water), of nutrients which could supply much of fertilizer normally required for crop production. Wastewater sludge can also be used on agricultural land as soil conditioner and fertilizer, to manufacture construction materials, and to generate biogas, biofuel, electricity, heat and in gas to grid systems. However, when poorly managed, wastewater can lead to eutrophication, dead zones, loss of ecosystem services and of economic opportunities. It affects climate change as wastewater-related emissions of methane (CH₄) and nitrous oxide (N₂O) are more harmful than CO₂.</p> <p>There are many potential benefits of wastewater (and its sludge), although these are not necessarily known everywhere nor are they universally realized. On the contrary, there is a common perception that managing wastewater is a waste of energy and money. This session will examine the nature of global wastewater challenge and more importantly, explore adequate responses and joint actions for a better wastewater management.</p>		
Chair/Facilitator	Dr. Graham Alabaster and Dr. Jacqueline Alder	Time: Start	08:30
Location		Time: End	18:00
Attendees:	Representatives of governments, River basin organization, Private sector, Research institute, Scientific community, NGOs and UN agencies.		
Objectives	<p>To raise awareness on the need to better manage wastewater</p> <p>To get voluntary commitments from stakeholders and build a strong GWI</p> <p>To provide guidance for the GWI partnership forum in terms of priority activities</p>		
Key questions	<p>What are the major wastewater challenges at global and regional levels?</p> <p>What can be done to reverse the trends?</p> <p>What are the opportunities for better management and cooperation?</p>		
Expected recommendations from the discussion	<p>Increased awareness on wastewater issues; established a strong wastewater partnership</p> <p>Wastewater and Agreed activities to feed into GWI workplan</p>		
Organization partners	<p>GWl Partners: ADB, AfDB, CBD,FAO, GEF, Ramsar Convention, UEMOA, UNDP, UN-DESA, US-EPA,WEFC,WSA, and others</p>		
Structure for discussion	Presentations and panel discussions		

Program Outline		
Duration	Topic	Lead/Chair/Facilitator/Speaker
08.30-13.00	Session A-Setting the scene: The Global challenge, key issues for the future and some responses- Chair: Graham Alabaster, UN-Habitat & Co-chair of UN- Water TF on Wastewater	
08:30- 08:45	Introduction to the session	Dr. Graham Alabaster, UN-Water
8:45 – 09:15	Wastewater, global issue, trends and impacts	Dr Manzoor Qadir, UN-INWEH
09:15 - 9:45	Shortcutting the trends, responses and opportunities	Mr Pireh Otieno, UN-Habitat
9:45 - 10:30	Integrating wastewater in the global development agenda- (Target setting and indicators setting), plus discussion	Dr Gerard Bonnis, OECD
<i>10:30 –11:00</i>	<i>Coffee</i>	
<i>11:00 –13:00</i>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> – Panel discussion: on Session A- The Global challenge, key issues for the future and some responses – Questions to be considered: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ What is the status from regions? ○ What can we do to reverse the trends? ○ What opportunities are there to upscale? ○ Is the proposed global response adequate & appropriate? <p>Wrap- up of the session- recommendations by the Chair</p>	<p>Panelists to include Representatives from Development Banks, UN-agencies, IGO</p> <p>Dr Sasha Koo-Oshima (US-EPA) Dr Abdou Guero (NBA) Dr Idrissa Doucoure (WSA) Mr Chris Corbin (GEF-CreW) Dr Manzoor Qadir (UN-INWEH) Ms Mary Beth Sutton (Caribbean SEA and TenneSEA)</p>
<i>13:00– 14:00</i>	<i>Lunch</i>	
14:00– 18:00	Session B: Developing the future agenda for joint actions to promote sustainable WW management. Chair Dr Jacqueline Alder	
14:00– 14:10	Introduction to the session: Key strategies for sustainable wastewater management	Dr Jacqueline Alder
14:10– 14:40	Wastewater re-use : opportunities, risks and challenges	Dr Gueladio Cisse , Swiss Tropical & Public Health Institute
14:40– 15:10	Reducing pressure on freshwater, pollution and wastewater discharge	Mr. Steve Ntifo, Jacobs-UK
15:10– 15:30	Wastewater and Sludge Regulation 2013: Example of Jamaica	Ms Paulette Kolbusch, NEPA
<i>15:30– 16:00</i>	<i>Coffee</i>	
16:00-16:30	<i>Economic valuation of wastewater as an incentive for sustainable wastewater management</i>	<i>Dr Francesc Hernández-Sancho, Consultant</i>
16:30-17:00	<i>The Global Wastewater Initiative (GWI) as a response-</i>	<i>Dr Birguy Lamizana, UNEP/GPA</i>

17:00– 18:00	<p>Panel discussion: Framing the next steps: Key strategies and actions for sustainable wastewater management</p> <p>Questions to be considered:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ What could be the GWI role and added value? ○ How to organize the partnership for effective delivery? ○ What actions on the ground can be undertaken? ○ What policy analysis and reforms are needed to shortcut trends? <p>Wrap- up of the session: recommendations by the Chair</p>	<p>Panelists include Representatives from River Basin organizations, Private sector, Research institutes,</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> – Dr Gueladio Cisse (Swiss Tropical & Public Health Institute), – Dr Paul Ouedraogo (Ramsar Convention), – Mr Steve Ntifo (Jacobs), – Dr Bistra Mihaylova (WECF), – Ms Olha Krushelnytska (GPO)
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