

REGIONAL FORUM

ON SUSTAINABLE DEVELOPMENT FOR THE UNECE REGION

29 – 30 MARCH 2023 | HYBRID EVENT | GENEVA & ONLINE



SIDE EVENT CONCEPT NOTE

Event title

Successful Stakeholder engagement to advance SDG6 in the Western Balkans and EECCA region

Background and Rationale

Sharing best practices from stakeholder cooperation to advance menstrual health, school sanitation and safe drinking water (SDG 6.1-6.3) as well as integrated river basin water management (SDG 6.5, 6.b). This **round table discussion** with decision-makers, representatives from youth and women's organisations, and UN agencies from the Western Balkan and EECCA region will present the proposed commitments from actors in the UNECE region to the Water Action Decade. Based on existing good practices, highlights from commitments on integrated water management and sanitation will be discussed, such as the call for national menstrual health action plans for the implementation of SDG6.2 which requires to address the specific needs of women and girls in all their diversity, throughout their lifecycle.

Session objectives and expected outcomes

This side event will:

- share good practices from the UNECE region on how multisectoral stakeholder engagement supports the achievement of SDG6. It will highlight mechanisms for stakeholder engagement and cooperation and sustainable development based on shared water resources, with a focus on achieving.
- share results from the global UN Water conference from the perspective of civil society, governments and other stakeholders from the UNECE region

Organizers

Lead organizers: Women Engage for a Common Future (WECF)

Contributors: Journalists for Human Rights, North Macedonia; ARGO International, Kazakhstan and Sweden ; Black Sea Women's Club, Ukraine

Agenda and Structure

SDG6.5.and6.b: on integrated water management, good practices from different sectors of society to find solutions to common challenges in shared river basins in Balkan, Eastern Europe and Central Asia, will be shared, and the mechanisms that are allowing multistakeholder cooperation.

SDG 6.1-6.3: on safe water and sanitation, the discussants will focus on women and youth, will highlight stakeholder engagement in ending menstrual poverty while producing sustainable

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menstrual products, it also looks at measures that governments are taking to advance towards achieving SDG 6.1-3.

List of Panellists

Part 1. stakeholder cooperation for safe school sanitation and menstrual health

Sofija Georgievska, Institute for social affair, North Macedonia

Helen Lynn, Women Environmental Network, UK

Andrea Nakova, Hidden Hero in Each Kid (reporting back from global Water Conference)

Part 2. stakeholder cooperation for integrated water management

Mr. Ilya Trombitsky and Ms. Svetlana Slesarenok, Stakeholder engagement from Moldova and Ukraine in promotion of the transboundary water cooperation framework

Ms. Kaisha Atakhanova, ARGO Kazakhstan, cooperation in the Central Asian region

Dniester district Committee, Moldova (tbc)

International Fund for the Aral Sea in the Republic of Kazakhstan (tbc)

Moderator: Sascha Gabizon, WECF International

Sign-up / Registration Link

Registration link:

<https://us06web.zoom.us/meeting/register/tZ0odumuqjlqG9ZwrsUMCKEw3tVyoQrdSmij>