

Petersberg Dialogue 2021 satellite event on water

**Title: Adaptation Action Coalition Water Launch: What can we achieve together through the AAC?
Water resilience for effective climate adaptation**

May 4th, 16:00-18:30PM CET

Unstreamed virtual event on Zoom to be recorded (with announcement at the beginning)

Registration Link: <https://www.bmu-events.de/en/event/satellite-events-pcd-12>

Zoom link: <https://gwp-org.zoom.us/j/91064066551?pwd=bzVVZnRaVUNoY1ZOYjIjDU3I4aUlwdz09>

Meeting ID: 910 6406 6551

Passcode: 405201

Skype for Business: <https://gwp-org.zoom.us/skype/91064066551>

Timing	Programme Element	Speakers
-30:00 -20:00 0:00	Open Zoom room Speakers connect and verify sound and image Make all presenters and tech hosts co-hosts (don't touch any buttons except unmute) Mute all other participants Start recording Welcome and introduction Announcements Chairs Statements Introduce Mark Smith	 MC - Dario Soto Abril, Executive Secretary and CEO of Global Water Partnership UK, Alok Sharma, COP26 President Designate (3.5 minutes pre-recorded)
0:10	Part I: Launch of the Adaptation Action Coalition Water Workstream Panel Discussion on what the AAC work on water should encompass: Hearing directly from governments on their issues and experiences <u>Q: What are the successful challenges or examples of water management in your country and how can this experience be replicated in the regional or global context?</u> Other possible steering questions: <ul style="list-style-type: none">• Can you briefly share an example of best practice on water adaptation from your country?• How does water adaptation feature in your climate policies?• What has been the main challenge to converting the policies into action?• How can we position water as an important solution for climate change globally?	Facilitator: Mark Smith, Director General, IWMI Panelists: Indonesia -Dr. Alue Dohong, Vice Minister of Environment and Forestry Malawi - Honourable Nancy Tembo MP, Minister of Forestry and Natural Resources Egypt - Mohamed Abdel-Aty, Minister of Irrigation and Water Resources Costa Rica - Ms. Haydée Rodríguez, Vice-Minister of Water and Seas from the Ministry of Environment and Energy Panel Respondents:

	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • What are the main barriers to getting the finance needed to do this vital work and how do we break them down? • What challenges are you facing that we can better overcome together through the AAC and its related programmes? 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - The Netherlands: Mr. Roald Lapperre, Vice Minister for the Environment; - Rt. Hon Lord Goldsmith, Minister at Foreign, Commonwealth & Development Office (FCDO) and the Department for Environment, Food and Rural Affairs <p>Rapporteur: Andy Roby and Georgina Barker, FCDO</p>
1:05	<p>Part II: 3 levers for change: Better information for decision-making; Stronger political will; Improved financial flows.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Presentation 1: Introducing the Water Tracker for National Climate Plans (10 minutes) - Respondent 1 (5 minutes) - Presentation 2: A Group of Friends of water for climate (10 minutes) - Respondent 2 (5 minutes) - Presentation 3: Financing on-the-ground action and a resilient recovery (WaterAid's Resilient Water Accelerator) (10 mins) - Respondent 3 (5 minutes) 	<p>Facilitator: James Dalton, Director IUCN Global Water Programme and Water Co-focal point for the Marrakech Partnership</p> <p>John Matthews, Executive Director, AGWA</p> <p>Madeleine Nyiratuza, Regional Technical Specialist for Water, Ecosystems and Biodiversity, UNDP Regional Service Center for Africa</p> <p>Dani Gaillard-Picher, Global Coordinator for Water and Climate Processes, Global Water Partnership</p> <p>Lisa Hartog, Project Lead Water Action Track at Ministry of Infrastructure and Water Management - The Netherlands</p> <p>Jonathan Farr, Water Aid</p> <p>Tom Panella, Chair of the Water Sector Committee of the Water Sector Group, Asian Development Bank</p> <p>Rapporteur: Ingrid Timboe, AGWA</p>
1:50	<p>Part III: Facilitated Roundtable Discussion:</p> <p>Interactive survey exercise (PollEv)</p> <p>How can the AAC water workstream achieve its goals of accelerating action? can you tell a story of what success looks like</p> <p>Followed by 5 minute interventions</p>	<p>Facilitator: Lucinda O'Hanlon, Sanitation and Water for All</p> <p>Respondents:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Mr. Ahmadou Seborny Toure, from Guinea's Ministry of Environment serving as the local President of G77 and COP26 Negotiator in Chief - Silvia Gaya, UNICEF - Rosalind West, Lead weather and

		<p>climate science advisor at the UK's Foreign Commonwealth and Development Office, and Co-chair of the Adaptation Research Alliance</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Nicki Becker SWA Youth Champion - Catherine Moncrieff, Associate Director, Water Security, CDP <p>Rapporteur: Alex Mauroner, AGWA</p>
2:25	Chair Closing Statement: Conclusions and next steps on the road to COP26	UK Climate and Environment Director Vel Gnanendran
2:30	End of event	

Detail of Part II: Levers for Change

Lever #1: Information for decision making and planning:

Early assessments of national climate plans to date suggests that most do not consider water resources in a systematic way, even though intensified water usage is a critical component for climate action - both on mitigation and adaptation. Competing commitments within existing plans risk issues related to sequencing, prioritization, and competition for critical water resources. Understanding where water plays a role as a resource for achieving national climate commitments, and making those linkages explicit, is needed to avoid adverse outcomes, maladaptation, or outright project failure. Building on the work of the [Watering the NDCs](#) initiative, the Water Tracker is currently being developed as a diagnostic checklist and guidance tool that aims to help national adaptation focal points and other decision makers self-identify gaps in their existing plans and improve climate adaptation planning related to water resources.

Lever #2: Enhancing political will

How can we position water as an important solution for climate change globally? Discuss the value of founding an informal group of like-minded countries that, together, may build momentum and become a more formally recognized entity, for example, in the context of a Group of Friends of Water for Climate¹, to:

¹ In 2009, an informal water and climate coalition funded by DFID succeeded in including a mention of the importance of water in the final version of the adaptation text presented to Heads of State at COP15. After a short period of activity, this group became more or less dormant, although WMO has recently reinvigorated the nomenclature to describe a new initiative focused on data.

- Be vocal about the value of water action within formal climate spaces, committees and subsidiary bodies, progressively growing and making the voice for water resonate more clearly within climate fora;
- Introduce a conceptual shift within the climate negotiation space, whereby investment in water infrastructure and services becomes a recognized solution for climate change adaptation and mitigation action to help countries reach their climate commitments and NDCs;
- Build political and financial demand for water in the global climate discourse and official texts, which will help move financial commitments into water long term;
- Enable shared learning around including how to incorporate water in the NDC enhancement and NAP processes.

Lever #3: Financing on-the-ground action and a resilient recovery (WaterAid's Resilient Water Accelerator)

As climate conditions for millions of people become more severe it is vital that we accelerate financial flows to the communities who need it most to ensure they have access to safe water fit for the future. Climate action is not meeting the urgent needs of the most vulnerable. What needs to change?

The twin challenges that need to be addressed now are:

~ How do we align programmes to tackle systemic water issues?

~ How do we break down barriers to the finance needed to do this vital work?

In March 2020 at WaterAid's Water and Climate Summit, a high-level group led by HRH The Prince of Wales, pledged to work towards boosting available finance for climate-resilient water programmes through the Water and Climate Finance Initiative. The Accelerator was established as the practical outcome of the Initiative and has since brought together multilateral institutions, national governments, donors, private sector, and NGOs from water, climate and finance sectors. It will build an optimal approach to secure climate funding for a pipeline of comprehensive water security programmes that incorporate sustainable water management, disaster risk reduction, water infrastructure and services, and protect nature while adapting and mitigating climate change for the most vulnerable. The principle aim of the Accelerator is to generate high-quality, resilient, and low carbon programming for protecting water resources and improving access to water services in a way that boosts resilience for at least 50 million vulnerable, water stressed people in low- and middle-income countries.