

Stockholm+50 Side event planning

Water Alignment: To enable innovation and finance for a climate-resilient future

June 2nd, 9:30-10:45

Room 5

General information:

- In-person, up to 80 attendees; Organisers to arrive 30 minutes prior to event, others 15 minutes prior; presentations to be brought on a USB stick
- Livestream equipment can be hired at extra cost (1800€ + VAT)
- Organisers will submit a short final report with a summary of outcomes
- Organizers are in charge of their communications strategy (#Stockholm50 and #OnlyOneEarth)

Everyone needs to be registered: [Registration | Stockholm+50](#)

Information submitted on May 4th:

Primary contact person: Title, name, organization, email, mobile phone	Mr. Darko Manakovski GWP darko.manakovski@gwp.org +46 70 539 5684
Alternate contact person: Title, name, organization, email, mobile phone	Ms. Dani Gaillard-Picher GWP Dani.gaillard@gwp.org +46 76 677 8636
Official event title	Water Alignment: To enable innovation and finance for a climate-resilient future
Lead Host Organizations	Global Water Partnership, Netherlands MFA, Sweden (Sida/MFA), Tajikistan, UNEP-DHI
Short Summary – 50 words	Water Alignment harmonizes those seeking to achieve global targets and those responsible for deciding on actions and investments to reach those targets. In this panel, we will explore how water alignment and ecosystem thinking can be applied to make transformational change possible by deliberately choosing to work differently and collaboratively.
Long Summary – 200 words	A holistic approach to water management is key to achieving Agenda 2030 successfully, to ensure a healthy and resilient world for future generations. For this to happen, there is a need to dramatically shift the way we think and act on water, to go farther, faster, with emphasis on healthy nature and ecosystems. Currently, countries shoulder the responsibility to advance on transition targets and develop action plans in silos, without alignment with market-driven investment decisions and citizen actions in the real economy. Water alignment can de-risk leadership choices and enable innovation and financing to maintain a

	sustainable human environment and provide a common guide for critical actors to drive change. This session will focus on highlighting how water alignment and ecosystem thinking can be applied to make transformational change possible through deliberately choosing to work differently and collaboratively, with governments, civil society, private sector and investors, youth and marginalised groups. Improving Water Alignment can allow for better harmony between those who aim to achieve and connect global targets, and those who make decisions on the actions and investments needed to reach those targets – to support water aligned resource management and ecosystems for a healthy planet and prosperous future for all.
Planned Outputs and Outcomes	- Build understanding how the concept on water alignment can be applied to accelerate the Decade of Action, with water as a central connector and driver of solutions delivery to ensure healthy ecosystem maintenance and a resilient future, in particular for youth and for coming generations - Highlight how the UN 2023 process can support the Decade of Action and gather insights on what should happen beyond 2023, at the intersection between water and nature, in the context of growing need for investment and collaboration for action and change - Explore how a critical mass of leading stakeholders from different sectors and governance levels work together to identify focused and proactive pathways toward increased water security and deepen their commitments to progress. - Understand how trust is built among entities, evidence is shared, and action is accelerated, leading to better informed strategic solutions that pull the rope in the same direction, to de-risk political choices on innovation, financial planning as well as increase financial flows into water as the driver of the environmental sustainability transition - Understand how water and nature interplay, and the critical importance of maintaining this interlinkage through smart and innovative investment frameworks, typologies and beguiles, and political leadership and strategic policy support.
Speaker information (up to 10 speakers, taking into account gender and regional balance): Role (Moderator, Panelist, other) Title, name, organization	Moderator: Darko Manakovski, Head of Global Development, Global Water Partnership Panelist 1 - Kitty van der Heijden, Director General for International Affairs, Ministry of Foreign Affairs DG Netherlands

	Panelist 2 - Sulton Rahimzoda, Co-Chair of the Dushanbe Water Process; Government of Tajikistan (Remote or video message TBD) Panelist 3 - Shreya Ramachandran, Stockholm+50 Youth Task Force Panelist 4 - Dr. Joakim Harlin, Head of Freshwater Ecosystems Unit, UNEP and Head of UNEP-DHI Centre, TBC Panelist 5 - Tom Grasso, VP Climate Resilient Food Systems, Environmental Defense Fund Panelist 6 - Sophie Tremolet, Europe Freshwater Director, The Nature Conservancy Panelist 7 - Dr. Cecilia Scharp, Assistant Director General, Sida
Request livestream equipment	Yes
Room set-up preference: Board room set up or Theater seating with 5 panelists	Theater seating
Catering	No
Consecutive Interpretation	No
Preferred Time Slot	June 2 AM Other 10:30-12:00
Comments	We kindly request additional time to be able to confirm speakers and update the organisers subsequently

Information submitted on May 13th:

Role (moderator / panelist)	Full Name (full organization name in brackets)
Moderator	Darko Manakovski (Global Water Partnership)
Panelist	Kitty van der Heijden (Ministry of Foreign Affairs DG The Netherlands)
Panelist	Jochen Flasbarth (Federal Ministry for Economic Cooperation and Development of Germany-BMZ)
Panelist	Shreya Ramachandran (Stockholm+50 Youth Task Force)
Panelist	Tom Grasso (Environmental Defense Fund)
Panelist (Removed)	Sophie Tremolet (The Nature Conservancy) (Removed)
Panelist	Dr. Cecilia Scharp (SIDA)
Video message	Dr. Joakim Harlin (UNEP and UNEP-DHI Centre)
Video message	Sulton Rahimzoda (Government of Tajikistan)

Needed Follow-up:

- Next prep call to be scheduled: Monday 30 May at 16:30
- Breakfast, lunch or dinner option to be clarified and potentially arranged
- Key questions and script to be developed
- A basic joint comms strategy to be developed; standardized social media cards will be made available from UNEP
- Develop Menti-meter/PollEv
- Determine streaming platform(s) and acquire technical login credentials
- After event:
 - obtain recording and make a video montage
 - Fill in 2 post-event reporting forms
- Invoicing

Basic session Outline:

1. Intro video from Joakim (1min)
2. Setting the scene – Darko (3 min)
3. Panel starting with 2 pre-prepared questions for each panelist followed by a moderated discussion (55 mins)
 1. There are 5 panelists
4. Audience Q&A based on pollev (10 mins)
5. Concluding video from Sulton (1min)
6. Concluding remark from Darko (2 mins)

Questions:

Speaker	Questions
Kitty van der Heijden (Ministry of Foreign Affairs DG The Netherlands)	1. Question/statement about UN2023: <i>How can the UN 2023 Water Conference contribute to the acceleration of the implementation of all SDGs (especially those with a cross-sectoral link with water: climate, food, energy, etc.)?</i> 2. Question about water-alignment: <i>How can financial planning and thematic alignment enable actors across all sectors to accelerate the transformation towards a sustainable future? And does KNL have any examples of best practices in this regard?</i>

Jochen Flasbarth (Federal Ministry for Economic Cooperation and Development of Germany-BMZ)	How can nature-based solutions drive alignment between water, biodiversity and climate? How can governments work innovatively to bring water alignment with the climate resilience agenda?
Shreya Ramachandran (Stockholm+50 Youth Task Force)	
Tom Grasso (Environmental Defense Fund)	• Are current agricultural practices aligned with the need for a positive global water future in the face of climate change? • What can the agriculture sector do to help meet the needs of all communities for production of sustainable nutritious foods while addressing water scarcity in the face of climate change?
Dr. Cecilia Scharp (SIDA)	• From Sida's perspective, what are the main challenges and opportunities to achieve water security and how do you see water alignment as an enabler? • From a Sida view, What are some of the key perspectives that are crucial to achieve water alignment?
Karin Kronhöffer (Swedfund)	