



HIGH-LEVEL POLITICAL FORUM
ON SUSTAINABLE DEVELOPMENT



DEPARTMENT OF
ECONOMIC AND
SOCIAL AFFAIRS



SUSTAINABLE
**WATER &
ENERGY**
SOLUTIONS
NETWORK

**Side Event
2023 HLPF**

Draft 7 June 2023

**Integrated Water and Energy Solutions supporting
Sustainable Cities and Human Settlements**

**United Nations Headquarters
New York
14 July 2023
13:15 – 14:45, New York time
Room # 1522, 15th floor,
UN Secretariat Building**

Concept Note

Background

Access to sustainable, affordable, reliable and modern energy, water and sanitation services are necessary conditions for the sustainability of cities and human settlements everywhere. Today, a large number of people in cities and human settlements still live without access to these basic services which are indispensable to advance social development, power economic growth, reduce environmental impacts and alleviate poverty. Following an integrated approach in the development and use of interconnected energy and water innovative systems, supported with corresponding policies, will allow the realization of important synergies securing a more efficient use of these natural resources and avoiding negative tradeoffs. Over the coming decades, the global demand for water and energy will continue to increase significantly, especially in cities and human settlements, posing profound challenges that will need to be addressed in an integrated manner and taking into consideration climate change impacts.

The Division for Sustainable Development Goals of UN DESA is conducting a number of initiatives and events designed to support the integrated implementation of water and energy. One of these initiatives is the Global Sustainable Water and Energy Solutions Network created in 2018 (<https://www.un.org/en/waterenergynetwork>). The Network aims towards a world where there is an equitable and sustainable use and management of water and energy resources for all, in support of human prosperity, ecosystem integrity and climate change objectives, under the umbrella of the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development.

The 2023 High-level Political Forum offers a unique platform to assess the potential for this transformative pathway on water (SDG6) and energy (SDG7) and for scaled-up actions supporting cities and human settlements (SDG11). This capacity development side event of the 2023 HLPF, organized by UN DESA in cooperation with members of this Network, will bring

together multi-stakeholders to discuss and showcase existing initiatives and disseminate information on integrated water and energy solutions supporting sustainable cities and human settlements.

Objective

The objective of this event is to provide an opportunity for the exchange and dissemination of knowledge and experiences on integrated water and energy solutions supporting cities and human settlements. The event supports the objectives of the Global Network on Sustainable Water and Energy Solutions and will bring together multi-stakeholders to discuss and showcase existing initiatives on effective solutions addressing the water-energy nexus in cities and human settlements.

Participants

The event will include expert panelists from countries covering major world regions. Participants will include representatives from Member States and from public, private, and non-profit organizations, as well as international organizations and practitioners involved and interested in the development, management and implementation of integrated water and energy solutions supporting sustainable cities and human settlements.

Time and Location

This event will be held **in person** at the UN Headquarters in the UN Secretariat Building, 15th floor, Conference Room #1522 in New York on 14 July 2023 from 13:15 – 14:45 (New York Time).