

**EVENT SUMMARY
2023 HLPF**

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

**United Nations Headquarters
New York
14 July 2023**

On the margins of the 2023 High-level Political Forum on Sustainable Development, UN DESA in collaboration with the Global Sustainable Water and Energy Solutions Network convened a Side Event on “Integrated Water and Energy Solutions supporting Sustainable Cities and Human Settlements”. Held on 14 July 2023 at United Nations Headquarters in New York in Conference Room 1522. The event brought together multi-stakeholders to discuss and explore the interdependencies between water and energy systems and the challenges faced by urban environments and infrastructure. Speakers discussed the innovative approaches to ensuring access to sustainable, affordable, reliable, and modern energy, water, and sanitation services that are necessary conditions for the sustainability of cities and human settlements and for ensuring long-term habitable communities for the future.

The Side Event consisted of High-level and Technical sessions moderated by Mr. Minoru Takada, Sustainable Energy Team Leader, UNDESA, and attended by about 70 participants. The Introductory session included remarks from: H.E. Ambassador Carla María Rodríguez Mancia, Permanent Representative, Permanent Mission of Guatemala to the United Nations; H.E. Ambassador Antonio da Costa e Silva, Ministry of Cities, Brazil; and H.E. Mr. José E. Pereira Sosa, Minister, Deputy Permanent Representative and Chargé d'affaires, Permanent Mission of Paraguay to the United Nations.

The Technical session included a panel of 8 experts from Spain, Guatemala, Costa Rica, Ghana, and from international organizations including UN-HABITAT, SEI and IAEA. Panelists shared about their work spanning across industries, including addressing urbanization and how to act on increased pressure on water and energy distribution networks; improving energy efficiency and decreasing water losses; ambitious plans for scaling renewable energy infrastructure; building partnerships between science and technical think tanks that support countries with toolkits to assess the synergies and trade-offs of different water management options, and much more.

The event concluded with a vote of thanks and optimism for the second half of the implementation phase for the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development recognizing, at the same time, the enormous challenges that remain for the successful achievement of the SDGs.

Event Photos

