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Preparatory Workshop in support of the Second Global Symposium on Sustainable Water and Energy Solutions

Synergistic Implementation of Sustainable Consumption and Production of Water and Energy Towards Achievement of Agenda 2030 and the Paris Agreement

**Antigua, Guatemala
Early 2024 (TBD)**

Concept Note

Background

The strong interlinkages among water, energy and climate change indicate that integrated and synergistic implementation of actions supporting SDG6 (water), SDG7 (energy) and SDG13 (climate change) would lead to many benefits at global, regional, national, and local levels. Furthermore, the sustainable consumption and production (SDG 12) of water and energy is crucial for the formulation of sustainable water and energy solutions that would allow the realization of valuable efficiencies, the effective management of these natural resources, and the prevention of negative tradeoffs when programs and actions are not implemented in an integrated manner. Multiple synergies could be realized where water and energy systems are developed and used in an integrated manner, supporting climate change mitigation and adaptation objectives and when policies are formulated to promote the sustainable consumption and production of these natural resources.

The Division for Sustainable Development Goals of UN DESA is conducting a number of initiatives and events designed to support the integrated implementation of SDG 6 (water) and SDG 7 (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 and the Paris Agreement. UN DESA in cooperation with members of this Network has initiated a capacity development program based on a series of symposiums designed to provide a global platform for all stakeholders to disseminate knowledge, exchange experiences and showcase best practices on integrated approaches that support sustainable water and energy solutions. The first Global Symposium took place in 2022 at the Itaipu Hydropower Plant in the border between Paraguay and Brazil. The second Global Symposium is being planned for 2024 in Spain.

This global capacity development workshop is organized by UN DESA in cooperation with the Network and the governments of Guatemala and Spain and will be hosted by ASAZGUA in Antigua, Guatemala. The event will bring together multi-stakeholders to discuss and showcase existing initiatives and disseminate information on integrated sustainable consumption and production of water and energy actions supporting climate change objectives and the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development.

Objective

The objective of this workshop is to provide an opportunity for the exchange and dissemination of knowledge and experiences on the synergistic implementation of sustainable consumption and production of water and energy and climate action towards achievement of the 2030 Agenda and the Paris Agreement. The workshop also offers an opportunity for dialogue on effective policy, technical and managerial approaches to water, energy and climate change supporting sustainable development. The event represents a Preparatory Workshop for the Second Global Symposium on Sustainable Water and Energy Solutions.

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 sustainable consumption and production of water and energy actions supporting climate change objectives and the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development.

Time and Location

This in-person event will be held in Antigua, Guatemala in early 2024 at a date to be determined.