



DEPARTMENT OF  
**ECONOMIC AND  
SOCIAL AFFAIRS**



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## **Concept Note**

# **Advancing Climate Change Mitigation and Adaptation through Integrated Innovative Sustainable Water and Energy Solutions**

## **Side Event COP28**

**4 December 2023**

**16:00 – 17:15 (Dubai Time)**

**7:00 am – 8:15 am (New York Time)**

## **BACKGROUND**

An integrated approach to water and energy is essential to the pursuit of climate change objectives given the fact that energy and water are key factors in mitigation and adaptation. With energy related GHG emissions estimated at over 75% of the total in many economies, transforming the energy sector is key for mitigating climate change. Water management also plays an important role in climate change mitigation through interventions such as wetland protection and conservation agriculture. Precipitation and temperature patterns are changing all over the world, implying a need to focus attention on water and energy and the potential needs for adaptation plans. As the impacts on climate change become more evident all over the world, policy makers are realizing the importance of following a coordinated and integrated approach to water and energy. Coordinated efforts on water and energy and integrated water-energy systems will be critical, especially for nations with large segments of the population without modern energy and water services, nations with limited water and energy resources, and nations that will be highly affected by climate change.

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), SDG 7 (energy) and SDG 13 (climate change). 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. The Network has become an effective global platform, recognized worldwide, for providing information about effective integrated approaches to water and energy and for promoting the development of innovative sustainable water and energy solutions.

The 2023 UN Conference on Climate Change (COP 28) offers a unique platform to discuss how integrated innovative sustainable water and energy solutions can help to advance climate change mitigation and adaptation.

## **OBJECTIVES**

The main objectives of this event are:

- To exchange and disseminate knowledge and experiences related to integrated innovative sustainable water and energy solutions designed to ensure efficient use of water and energy resources and supporting climate change mitigation and adaptation.
- To discuss the potential benefits and positive impacts of integrated innovative water-energy systems and programmes on terrestrial and water ecosystems.

## **PARTICIPANTS**

Participants will include representatives from public, private, and non-profit sectors, as well as international organizations, civil society and practitioners involved in the research, development, management and implementation of sustainable energy and water solutions that contribute to global climate change mitigation and adaptation.

## **TIME and LOCATION**

This event will be held on 4 December 2023 at the UNDESA SDG Pavilion in the Blue Zone from 16:00 – 17:15 Dubai Time / 7:00 am – 8:15 am New York Time.