

EVENT SUMMARY

Capacity Development Workshop on Sustainable Water and Energy Solutions supporting Circular Economies Canal De Isabel II, Madrid, Spain 23 February, 2023

UN DESA convened a capacity development workshop on “Sustainable Water and Energy Solutions supporting Circular Economies” hosted by Canal de Isabel II in Madrid, Spain, on 23-24 February 2023. The workshop was organized in collaboration with the Global Sustainable Water and Energy Solutions Network and with support from the Ministry of Ecological Transition of Spain and the UNHCR office in Madrid. Participants had the opportunity to discuss social, economic and environmental benefits that can be derived from sustainable water and energy solutions designed to support circular economies. The workshop was followed by the 2023 annual meeting of the Global Sustainable Water and Energy Solutions Network where members discussed the 2022 accomplishments and annual report, the tentative workplan for the 2023-2026 time period, Energy Compact updates and other important Network activities.

The Workshop consisted of Introductory and Technical sessions attended by about 60 participants. The Introductory session included remarks from: Mr. Minoru Takada, Sustainable Energy Team Leader, UNDESA; Mr. Pascual Fernández, CEO, Canal de Isabel II; Mr. Manuel Menéndez Prieto, Special Advisor, Cabinet of the Secretary of State of Environment, Spain, and Vice Chair, Intergovernmental Hydrological Programme, UNESCO; and Ms. Sophie Muller, Head, UNHCR Madrid Office. The Technical session was moderated by Mr. Manuel Menéndez Prieto and included a panel of 12 experts from Spain, Tajikistan, Guatemala, Paraguay, Brazil and Ethiopia and from international organizations including SEI, UNALA and HPNET. The 2023 Meeting of the Members of the Global Network on Sustainable Water and Energy Solutions was attended by about 20 participants representing different member organizations and including the Network’s core partners Canal de Isabel II, Itaipu Binacional, ASAZGUA and UNALA. The event concluded with a call for continued cooperation and action towards achieving the Sustainable Development Goals and promoting sustainable water and energy solutions and circular economies.

