...about water technology?

- In this world, there is no lack of water (resources); there is a lack of water management.
- Green technologies are not just good for the environment, they’re also good for our cash income.
- We need high tech, but we also need low cost, so maybe in the end we need something like ‘lean-tech’.
- Developing countries can do their own innovation and development. We mustn’t be looking outside all the time, we must be looking at the resources we have in our own countries to solve our problems.
- The issue is not technology transfer; the issue is technology development.

...about investments for biodiversity?

- The proper recognition and valuing of ecosystem services is an essential requirement for greening economic growth.
- PES is not a solution to all problems, but we think it can contribute to supporting the transition to a green economy.
- We need a clear connection between the payment and the service being provided.
- We need to take ecosystems into account in our planning and strategic decision making.
- Approximately 60% of ecosystem services evaluated in the Millennium Ecosystem Assessment are being degraded or being used unsustainably.
- In the process of preparing for Rio, we need to demonstrate how adequate these tools are in addressing the challenges related to the green economy.

...about the ESCWA region?

- Access to water and sanitation is a critical driver for a green economy as it cuts across the other Millennium Development Goals.
- We should think of how to find optimum solutions so people can believe that green economy is the concept that we should follow.
- We need to develop training modules to build capacity and help utility managers perform better. ACWUA acts as a platform for knowledge sharing.
- The transition to the green economy is not going to be such a smooth transition given the difficulties we are facing today on sustainable development. We are trying to fundamentally change the economy, in which a lot of people have a stake.
- All the challenges you can think of are being faced in Yemen. Solutions to water scarcity will come from countries such as Yemen.

“We should rethink the future we want, and one without water cannot be envisaged.” - Caridad Canales (ECLAC)
In the Market Place session… 26 people from five continents presented their cases. They brought water and the green economy to life by providing examples of successful implementation of the tools and approaches discussed in the conference.

**Dimitry Díaz**, journalist, *El Diario* newspaper, Panama: “The presenters have given us very interesting insights about how to manage projects, how to create jobs. Things that we thought could never happen, are now being realized. Everything is possible.”

**Olivier Bommelaer**, French Ministry of Ecology, Sustainable Development, Transport and Housing on the Toolbox: “There should be a tool on evaluation and economic assessment of water resources and water ecosystems. Their economic values and the socio-economic benefits that they generate for society are either ignored or underestimated.”

What is your opinion on the approaches and lessons learnt in the toolbox? Fill out the toolbox feedback form and let us know!

**Video interviews** have been recorded with case presenters. They introduce their cases and highlight their experiences on the conference. You can find them on our conference website. [www.un.org/waterforlifedecade/green_economy_2011/](http://www.un.org/waterforlifedecade/green_economy_2011/)

Interviewing **Guillermo Rudas**, Economist. Guillermo is presenting a case from Colombia on ‘Public management of water in Colombia’.

Interviewing **Rajiv Kumar Gupta**, Climate Change Department, Government of Gujarat, India. Rajiv is presenting a case from India on the role of water technology in development: a case study in Gujarat.

Also on our conference website: follow the conference online via webcast and read interviews with the session conveners.
Today’s key questions

- How can we build governance and institutional capabilities to agree on, design and effectively implement long-term integrated water management plans to support the transition towards a green economy?
- How can water planning cope with the challenge of adapting to climate change impacts?
- How can we make sure that the transition to the green economy is inclusive, instead of aggravating inequalities?
- How to provide quality water and sanitation services to the urban poor in Latin America and the Caribbean?

Key approaches for water planning:

- Making a social agreement on the desired balance between water use and water resource conservation
- Tackling development opportunities and coping with water and development challenges
- Building Governance and Institutional capabilities
- Coordinating public policies
- Stakeholder engagement and public participation
- Aligning private decisions with collectively agreed goals.
- Establishing collective Responses to Scarcity and Risk

What do you think? Fill out the toolbox feedback form and let us know!
“Rio+20 will be one of the most important global meetings on sustainable development in our time. At Rio, our vision must be clear: a sustainable green economy that protects the health of the environment while supporting achievement of the Millennium Development Goals through growth in income, decent work and poverty eradication.”

United Nations Secretary-General
Ban Ki-moon

Upcoming Events on the Road to Rio

Towards the UN Conference on Sustainable Development (Rio+20): Water Cooperation Issues
19-20 October 2011, Dunshabe, Tajikistan

OECD Global Forum on Environment: Making Water Reform Happen
25-26 October 2011, Paris, France

16-18 November 2011, Bonn, Germany

6th World Water Forum
12-17 March 2012, Marseille, France

World Water Day
22 March, 2012

4-6 June 2012, Rio de Janeiro, Brazil

INPUT FOR RIO+20 CONFERENCE

The Second Preparatory Committee invites member states and other stakeholders to provide their inputs and contributions in writing by 1 November 2011 for a working document which will form the basis for the outcome document of the conference. Everyone with an interest in the Rio+20 agenda therefore has an opportunity to influence the outcome.

Deadline: All submissions are due by 5 pm Eastern Standard Time (close of business in New York) on 1 November 2011. Submissions can be sent electronically by e-mail to the UNCSD secretariat (dsd@un.org), with copies to Ms. Tonya Vaturi (e-mail: vaturi@un.org) and Mr. Arthur de la Cruz (e-mail: delacruza@un.org) or by fax + 1 212 963 12572.

For more information, please consult: www.uncsd2012.org/rio20/?page=view&nr=149&type=230&menu=38