



**What is the
New Urban
Agenda's vision
for waters?**

**What will it
take to realize
this vision?**

**What is already
happening that
we can build on?**

Beyond Basic Services

Rethinking the values, functions, and management of waters in our cities

Water provides essential basic services in cities, supporting the health and dignity of urban populations, and enabling social integration and economic activity. Yet as urbanization intensifies and the changing climate modifies the water cycle, sustainability imperatives oblige us to seriously shift the way water is valued and managed in cities. Beyond basic services, cities need to value water as a feature of the urban landscape, a provider of ecological services, public space, or as a wildlife habitat. Water's potential uses at different grades of quality, offering sources of energy, nutrients and services like cleaning and cooling must also be seized. The way water shapes and itself is influenced by urban planning and design must be taken into greater consideration, in light of both over-abundance and scarcity. Depending on how it is managed in cities, water can be a threat or a salvation, an eyesore or an asset, unwanted waste or a valuable resource, a transmitter of sickness or a source of good health. Seizing the better outcomes depends on a richer appreciation of water in cities and a more proactive approach to the linkages between urban and water management.

The New Urban Agenda, in presenting an aspirational vision for cities, embraces many of the values and roles that water must play in a sustainable urban environment, upholding – but also going beyond – the need to ensure universal access to water and sanitation as essential basic services. The networking event will explore the New Urban Agenda’s water-related commitments and discuss how to make them a reality in our cities.



PROGRAMME OVERVIEW

Introduction and Framing

Session Chair

- Andre Dzikus, Coordinator, Urban Basic Services Branch, UN-Habitat

Presenters

- Faraj El-Awar, Head, Global Water Operators’ Partnerships Alliance
- Kensuke Fukushi, Visiting Professor, UNU-IAS

Panel Discussion

Moderator

- Francois Brikke, Senior Networking Officer, Global Water Partnership

Panelists

- Luis Tejada, Director, Spanish Agency for International Development Cooperation (AECID)
- Hakan Tropp, Director, Water Governance, Stockholm International Water Institute
- Rosa Pavanelli, General-Secretary, Public Services International
- Kensuke Fukushi, Visiting Professor, UNU-IAS
- Merce Conesa, President, Diputació de Barcelona
- Marco Antonio Cevallos Varea, General Manager, EMPAPS, Aguas de Quito

Tuesday 18 October, 2016

2:30 – 4:00 pm

Room A, One UN Pavilion

Convenors

GWOPA at UN-Habitat & the Institute for the Advanced Study of Sustainability (IAS) at United Nations University (UNU)

Co-convenors

The Global Water Partnership

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