

7th INTERNATIONAL WATER REGULATORS FORUM

14-15 SEPTEMBER 2022

COPENHAGEN

DENMARK

11 - 15 SEPTEMBER

2022

The Forum

The International Water Regulators Forum (IWRF) is the international meeting of the global network of regulators of IWA. It gathers high level representatives of regulatory authorities and officials of agencies with regulatory and supervisory functions over the provision of water, sanitation, and water management services. Discussions are structured around highly interactive sessions that combine short inspirational presentations and roundtable discussions led by the speakers. The roundtable discussions provide an opportunity for participants and speakers to analyse and discuss in detail each topic, share comparative experiences, address proposed questions, and suggest recommendations for consideration in the plenary.



Structure

The IWRF will run over two days on 14-15 September 2022 during the IWA World Water Congress & Exhibition (WWCE). The Forum consists of 3 closed sessions and 2 open sessions. The closed sessions are by invitation, where regulators have an opportunity to discuss the burning issues related to the Forum's main topic. Closed sessions' discussions will focus on how regulatory functions are being supplied in times of *increasing natural, social, and economic uncertainty*. The open sessions consist of a closing plenary and a congress session. In the closing plenary, the discussions held in the closed sessions will be summarised and presented to the general WWCE audience, providing an opportunity to engage with other relevant stakeholders and explore the interlinkages between regulation, science, policy and practice. In addition, the IWRF congress session aims to benefit from the academic richness and expert IWA 2022 Congress audience.



Rationale

Governments increasingly rely on regulation to deliver positive externalities to society by constantly enhancing service quality levels, safeguarding public health and preserving environmental integrity in water management.

Today's water sector regulators all over the globe are facing *increasing levels of uncertainty stemming from natural, social, and economic dimensions*, hampering their ability to support service provision and water management. This situation hinders regulators' capacities to fulfil their mandates. For instance, Covid-19 deeply affected societies worldwide, but the challenges associated with climate change may be much harder to deal with. Moreover, international conflicts and global supply chain issues affecting producers of materials and inputs intensively used in the water sector will diminish the ability of regulators to set balanced tariffs and targets. Lastly, regulators have to face these severe challenges while dealing with political systems greatly weakened by polarisation and populism amidst growing social inequalities.

In this challenging context, it is vital to explore not only how different regulatory authorities are coping with current volatile contexts, but also what new tools and strategies they might use in the future. Therefore, the Forum's primary purpose is to discuss good regulatory (re)design practices in dealing with unpredictable circumstances and conditions. It also aims to discuss how to increase the capacity and willingness to generate learning processes from experiences amid increasing unpredictability, in order to build the foundations of an effective strategy for resilient regulatory services provision.

7th IWRF - Sessions

REGULATING WATER SERVICES IN TIMES OF INCREASING NATURAL, SOCIAL, AND ECONOMIC UNCERTAINTY

WEDNESDAY 14 SEPT 2022

10:30-10:40 - Forum Opening

Tone Madsen (Forum Chair), Head of the Danish Water Regulation Authority - Opening remarks and welcome to Denmark

Tom Mollenkopf, IWA President - Regulators as the steering force for change: *Water Policy, Institutions and Regulation* central role of IWA in inspiring change

10:40-12:00 - Session 1, "Except in cases of force majeure": The impact of environmental and social disruptions on economic regulation. Who should bear the costs of incremental risk?

Setting the scene by Chair: Funke Adepoju (Nigeria), Executive Secretary at Lagos State Water Regulatory Commission - **LASWARCO**

Case Presentations:

- Drought as a *Force Majeure* event in concession agreements. The role of the regulator. Vera Eiró (Portugal), CEO - President of the Board at Water and Waste Services Regulation Authority - **ERSAR**
- How to be certain in an uncertain environment? - The Hungarian regulatory experience. Gábor Kisvárdai (Hungary), Head of Secretariat at Hungarian Energy and Public Utility Regulatory Authority - **MEKH**

Roundtable discussions

Plenary and wrap-up

13:30-15:00 - Session 2, Demonstrating the added value of regulation in times of political instability: How can regulators defend themselves against political instability and its perverse impacts on governance and regulatory regime?

Setting the scene by Chair: Tone Madsen (Denmark), Head of the Danish Water Regulation Authority - **DCCA-KFST**

Case Presentations:

- Protecting regulators' powers amid increased political instability. Vitor Saback (Brazil), Director at National Water Authority-**ANA**
- Regulation in times of political uncertainty. Balthazar Nganikiye (Burundi), Chair of Eastern and Southern Africa Water and Sanitation Regulators Association - **ESAWAS**
- Changing regulatory climate amidst political instability. The case of Metro Manila. Patrick Lester N. Ty (Philippines), Chief Regulator at Metropolitan Waterworks and Sewerage System Regulatory Office - **MWSS-RO**

Roundtable discussions

Plenary and wrap-up

15:45-17:15 - Session 3, Coping with climate change: Climate smart regulation to boost utilities uptake of climate action and circularity

Setting the scene by Chair: Itai Sagi (Israel), Director of Urban Water and Sewage Infrastructure Department at Governmental Authority for Water and Sewage - **IWA (Israeli Water Authority)**

Case Presentations:

- Allowing for long-term investments in adaptation and mitigation: the associated challenge of replacing assets in a carbon neutral way. Alan Sutherland (UK), Chief Executive at Water Industry Commission for Scotland - **WICS**
- Colombian regulation on environmental investments: innovative approaches to incentivise water sources preservation. Diego Polania (Colombia), Expert Commissioner at Water Regulatory Commission - **CRA**
- Utilities spending in nature and climate: ways to balance price and environmental return. Jacob Victor Hansen (Denmark), Special Advisor at Danish Competition and Consumer Authority - **DCCA-KFST**

Roundtable discussions

Plenary and wrap-up

7th IWRF - Open Congress Sessions

REGULATING WATER SERVICES IN TIMES OF INCREASING NATURAL, SOCIAL, AND ECONOMIC UNCERTAINTY

THURSDAY 15 SEPT 2022

10:30-12:00 - Session 4, Regulating water services in times of increasing natural, social & economic uncertainty

Setting the scene by Chair: Carlos Diaz (Peru), Water Policy and Regulation Lead at IWA

Summary of Discussions:

- Recap of Session 1. Sandro Huamani (Peru), Director of Tariff Regulation Directorate at National Superintendence of Sanitation Services - **SUNASS**
- Recap of Session 2. Yvonne Magawa (Zambia), Executive Secretary at **ESAWAS**
- Recap of Session 3. Vera Eiró (Portugal), CEO - President of the Board at **ERSAR**

Expert Panel:

Jaime Baptista (Portugal). President of the Board, Lisbon International Centre for Water - **LIS Water**

Sophie Tremolet (France). Europe Water Security Director at The Nature Conservancy - **TNC**

Oscar Pintos (Argentina). President of Association of Drinking Water & Sanitation Regulators of the Americas - **ADERASA**

Kate Medlicott (Switzerland). Team Lead Sanitation and Wastewater at WHO Regulators Network - **RegNet**

Carolina Latorre (Chile). Consultant on Water Supply and Sanitation Policy, Institutions, and Regulations (PIR) - **World Bank**

Q&A

Wrap-up and closing



13:30-15:00 - Session 5, Coping with uncertainty: Forward-looking approaches to cope with uncertainty and help deliver regulatory mandates

Setting the scene by Chair: Jaime Baptista (Portugal). President of the Board, **LIS Water**

Presentations:

- Groundwater regulation under deep uncertainty. Kevin Parks (Canada), Expert Group on Resource Management at **UNECE**
- Design thinking methodologies in water regulation. Dr. Julián D. López-Murcia (Colombia), Author and Founding Partner of **Nalanda Analytica**
- Economic regulators' role in supporting the ecological transition of water and sanitation service operators. Maria Salvetti (France), Head of Water and Waste Area at Florence School of Regulation - **FSR**
- Status of the WSS regulation landscape in Africa. Yvonne Magawa (Zambia), Executive Secretary at **ESAWAS**
- Integrity as a tool to deal with major uncertainties: lessons learnt from working with regulators in LAC and Africa. Daniela Patiño (Germany), Programme Coordinator Latin America and Strategic Partners at **WIN**

Q&A

Wrap-up and closing



Contact: Carlos Diaz, IWA Water Policy & Regulation Lead - carlos.diaz@iwahq.org



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7th IWRF - Programme Committee

REGULATING WATER SERVICES IN TIMES OF INCREASING NATURAL, SOCIAL, AND ECONOMIC UNCERTAINTY

The Forum is shaped and steered by a diverse and motivated Programme Committee, a committed group of professionals consisting of high-profile members of the IWA regulators community.



Tone Madsen, Committee Chair

Head, Water Regulation Authority, DCCA - KFST, Denmark

Madsen has been working with the utilities sector in Denmark for more than 10 years. She is currently head of the Danish Water Regulatory Authority developing the regulatory setup for a more sustainable and efficient water and wastewater sector. Her areas of expertise include regulatory policy, incentives design and change management. Tone has been advisor to several ministers on utilities sector policy matters.



Vera Eiró

CEO and President, ERSAR, Portugal

A Public Law and Regulatory Expert, Vera is also Public Law Professor since 2012. Her research and teaching areas cover Regulation, Administrative Law, Public Procurement and Planning Law. Her legal practice focused on public procurement and administrative, environmental, energy and planning laws. As a legal practitioner, she has over 15 years of experience providing legal advice on regulatory and public law issues.



Loga Sunthri Veeraiah

Representative, SPAN, Malaysia

The National Water Services Commission (SPAN) holds regulatory functions for water services in Malaysia. Ms Loga has more than 16 years of environmental consulting experience, including six years as a regulator. She also has experience in climate change, risk assessment and management for the water industry.



Paul Hickey

Managing Director, RAPID (Ofwat), UK

Mr Hickey has also served as Deputy Director of the Environment Agency and was responsible for oversight of Water Resources for England. Prior to the Environment Agency, he has also worked in the water industry in a variety of regulation and asset management roles. Mr Hickey is a Fellow of the Institute of Water and sits on its Board as well as the South West Area Committee.



Seamus Parker

Executive Director, Queensland Treasury Corporation (QTC), Australia

QTC is the central financing authority and corporate treasury service provider. Mr Parker has been working in water law and policy in the Queensland Government for over 20 years. This has included key roles in the development of the Water Act 2000 (Queensland), the establishment of water trading, and inter-governmental agreements on water sector reforms.



Dan Palombi

Senior Advisor, Resource Geoscience, AER, Canada

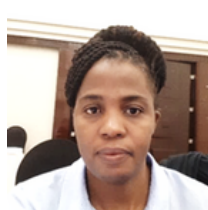
Mr Palombi leads and advises strategic geoscience programs in the areas of groundwater science, geothermal energy, and geological storage. He works with technical experts on designing and implementing applied research projects focused on achieving goals that are of high importance to regulators and policy-makers by providing relevant, impactful geoscience to support regulatory and environmental issues.



Mari Asami

Chief Senior Researcher, NIPH, Japan

Dr Asami currently works for the Department of Environmental Health of the National Institute of Public Health (NIHP) and she was an affiliate Professor at the Research Center for Water Environment and Technology, University of Tokyo. She is a member of IWA's Strategic Council, representing Japan's IWA national committee, and a member of the Japan Society on Water Environment.



Yvonne Magawa

Executive Secretary, ESAWAS, Zambia

Ms Magawa recently served as ESAWAS Project Manager, overseeing the support to African WSS regulators to improve urban sanitation services through integration of non-sewered sanitation in regulation. She has over 18 years of experience in water supply and sanitation regulation, which includes previous work at the Zambian national WSS regulator, NWASCO.



Patrick Lester N. Ty

Chief Regulator, MWSS-Regulatory Office, Philippines

Mr Ty regulates the two private concessionaires that provide water, sewerage, and sanitation services in Metro Manila and nearby provinces. He is a lawyer who graduated from the University of the Philippines College of Law.



Oscar Hugo Pintos

President, ADERASA, Argentina

Mr Pintos also serves as President of the Federal Association of Drinking Water & Sanitation Regulators (AFERAS). He is a Chemical Engineer who graduated from Universidad Nacional del Litoral - Santa Fe, Argentina.