



World Water Day Celebrations

World Water Development Report on Water for Sustainable World High Level Policy Roundtable on Water for Sustainable Development in Kenya

When: 20th March 2015, 8.00-12.45

Where: Laico Hotel, Nairobi

About World Water Day

As part of the global campaign on raising awareness on the water challenges and its central role for socio-economic development and in line with the United Nations General Assembly resolution, the World Water Day is celebrated every year on 22nd March. Due to the fact that the day falls on Sunday, it will be celebrated on 23rd in Kenya. At global level, it will be celebrated on 20th March 2015 with the launching of the World Water Development Report 2015 (WWDR2015) on water for a sustainable world. In addition to the global launching of the WWDR2015, UNESCO Regional Office for Eastern Africa and the Government of Kenya is planning a High Level Policy Roundtable on Water for Sustainable Development as a pre-event and part of activities for the national World Water Day celebration.

WWDR2015: Urgent need to manage water more sustainably

The planet is facing a 40% shortfall in water supply by 2030, unless we dramatically improve the management of this precious resource. This is the unavoidable conclusion reached in the 2015 United Nations WWDR2015, Water for a Sustainable World. "Water resources are a key element in policies to combat poverty, but are sometimes themselves threatened by development. Water directly influences our future, so we need to change the way we assess, manage and use this resource in the face of ever-rising demand and the over exploitation of our groundwater reserves. This is the appeal made by the latest edition of the UN World Water Development Report.", says UNESCO Director-General, Irina Bokova.

"There is already international consensus that water and sanitation are essential to the achievement of many sustainable development goals. They are inextricably linked to climate change, agriculture, food security, health, energy, equality, gender and education. Now, we must look forward to measurability, monitoring and implementation", says Michel Jarraud, Chair of UN-Water and Secretary-General of the World Meteorological Organization.

The Report is a joint effort of the 31 agencies of the UN system and the 37 international partners who together form UN-Water; in cooperation with governments, international organizations, non-governmental organizations and other stakeholders. Each year, the thematic report focusses on different strategic water issues each year and presents an exhaustive account of the state of the world's water resources.

High Level Policy Roundtable

Besides that, this opportunity will be used to work out recommendations for Kenya towards vision 2030 and post-2015 on the Sustainable Development Goals. The main objective hereof is to raise awareness on the central role of water resources for sustainable development and to call for action to address the Kenya water challenges. Water management and decisions affecting water will namely play a key role in addressing the new development challenges of the middle of the 21st century.

Kenya Groundwater Mapping Programme and Call for Action

Globally groundwater is already overexploited, first and foremost by a demand for water that growing exponentially driven largely by population growth. The Report shows that this vital resource, so essential to the struggle against poverty, is still not being managed sustainably. This global shortage stands in sharp contrast with the unknown full potential of groundwater in Kenya. Groundwater survey results have led to the establishment of the Kenya Groundwater Mapping Programme (KGMP), a programme to improve access to water in both emergency situations and long-term needs as a response to the changing climate. Both World Water Day and the launching of the World Water Development Report 2015 are an opportunity to organize a high-level policy roundtable to discuss and contextualize the findings and recommendations of the World Water Development Report 2015.





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Time	Programme	Convener / Moderator
8.00-9.00	Arrival of Participants and registration and early coffee/tea breakfast	Secretariat: UNESCO / MEWNR
9.00-9.05	Introduction from the global Moderator	Chrispine Juma, MEWNR
9.05-9.15	Introduction and background on the world water development Report and the High level Policy Roundtable	Mohamed Djelid, Director of UNESCO
9.15-9.45	Presentation of key findings and recommendations of the World Water Development Report 2015	Abou Amani, UNESCO Hydrologist
9.45- 12.00	 Panel discussions Cabinet Secretary Environment Water and Natural Resources (Initiatives to address water challenges) Chair Council of Governors (challenges on water devolved function) Representative of IGAD Secretariat (region dimension) Chair Donor Water Sector Working Group (water financing priorities) Representative Civil Society on water (addressing communities needs) Representative UN (support towards post 2015) Q&A and Inter-actions with the Public 	Professor George Khroda, University of Nairobi
12.00-12.15	Wrap up	Professor George Khroda, University of Nairobi
12.15-12.20	Official launching of the WWDR2015 by the Permanent Secretary on behalf of the Cabinet Secretary Environment Water and Natural Resources	Secretariat: UNESCO / MEWNR
12.20 -12.40	A Call for Action for the implementation of the National Groundwater Mapping Progarmme (KGMP)	Chrispine Juma, MEWNR
12.40-12.45	Vote of Thanks followed by Launch	Chrispine Juma, MEWNR

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Water for Sustainable Development: Infographic

