



Pollution, Sanitation, Water Quality and Climate Resilience

A Call to Action

Worldwide, most of the discussions about climate adaptation in the water sector focuses on securing the required quantities of water for different uses and eco-systems. Public health and well-being of more than 3.5 billion people are affected by less attention on issue of pollution especially sanitation. Moreover, sanitation systems cause significant GHG emissions: 2-6% of global methane, 1-3% of nitrous oxide. This is particularly acute where water tables are high, infrastructure is faulty and onsite containment systems are not timely emptied.

There is no climate resilient future without a concerted broad-scale effort to improve the entire sanitation chain, in urban and rural areas, and across all settings. Therefore, a **Call to Action** was launched at COP 27 for Climate Resilient Sanitation action at all levels. Systems and services must be made resilient to protect investments, promote public health, withstand climate hazards especially flooding, and safeguard the environment. Furthermore, safely managed sanitation contributes to water saving, nutrient and energy recovery.

This side event will help member states and other water sector stakeholders better understand the rationale for a holistic, integrated approach to environment pollution, sanitation, sludge, and wastewater management, as well as the need for climate-resilient and low-carbon sanitation. The event aims to mobilise commitments of more stakeholders around the **Call to Action** on Climate Resilient Sanitation and promote the recommended actions in the guidelines. It will contribute to the roadmap for implementation of the call to action and getting everybody aligned for 2030 goals.

Date: Friday, 24 March 2023

Time: 09.30 - 10:45

Location: Room Trusteeship, HQ 152

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