



Virtual Event

Water and energy solutions boosting social actions in support of SDG 3 (Health) and SDG 4 (Education)

18 August 2021

10:00 – 11:30 AM, New York time

Draft Concept Note

Background

Energy and water services are of paramount importance to guaranteeing the well-being of the population, since they both are vital for health (SDG 3), as well as for supporting other social priorities, including education (SDG 4). The role of water and energy in supporting sustainable development and economic development has become more evident, especially after the impacts of the COVID-19 pandemic.

Energy and water are also strongly interconnected. Water is one of the main sources for the generation of clean and renewable energy. On the other hand, electricity is an important factor in the processes of water services and sanitation. Both are keys to handling the COVID-19 challenges and ensuring a strong recovery.

When well developed, both energy and water sectors are a source of income and economic growth. And when companies are truly committed to sustainable development, they can increase their positive impact by generating social and environmental benefits, bringing concrete results also to the companies themselves, increasing their added value.

The world is at the beginning of a very important decade for the implementation of the 2030 Agenda, in which it is necessary to turn ambition into action to ensure healthy lives and inclusive and equitable education, and to promote lifelong learning opportunities for all.

The benefits of increasing efficiency and productivity should be extended beyond enterprises to ensure a fair society in which not only economic factors but also social problems and challenges are addressed.

Ensuring universal access to modern and sustainable energy, water and sanitation services while boosting social actions lies at the heart of sustainable development.

The Division for Sustainable Development Goals of UN DESA is conducting several initiatives and events designed to support the integrated implementation of SDG 6 (water) and SDG 7 (energy). One of these initiatives is the Global Sustainable Water and Energy Solutions Network created in 2018 (<https://www.un.org/en/waterenergynetwork>).

This capacity development event, organized by this Network in cooperation with its founding member ITAIPU, will bring together multi-stakeholders to discuss and showcase existing initiatives and disseminate information on how sustainable water and energy solutions can promote good health and quality education.

Public and private institutions, businesses, agencies, civil society, and academia that are related to both water and energy sectors have an important role in building inclusive societies, by integrating social actions as part of their activities. Therefore, they are invited to take action by participating in this event.

Objective

The objective of this capacity building event is to provide a virtual space for the exchange and dissemination of knowledge and experience related to water and energy solutions as important promoters of healthy lives and quality education.

The event will allow information exchange, and participants will have the opportunity to learn and discuss the synergies that can be realized when integrated approaches are implemented.

Participants

Participants will include representatives from Member States and from public, private, and non-profit organizations, as well as international organizations, civil society and practitioners involved and interested in the research, development, management and implementation of integrated water and energy systems that impact SDGs 3 and 4.

Time

This event will be held on 18 August 2021 as a virtual meeting from 10:00 to 11:30, New York Time.