Pitches & Panelists

June 9: Open Forum
Pitches

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Theme N°1
Water and Sanitation in the Circular Economy
Moderator
Challenge
We envisage a world in which the safe re-use of toilet resources is the norm, providing energy, agricultural products, clean water, and more, connecting sanitation to a system alongside many other sectors in the biocycle. To create that system, several barriers need to be overcome, starting with health and safety standards, as well as perception, which can affect decisions at every level.

Question to / Need from the audience
How do we make connections with other sectors to monetise the value of the biocycle, and make the system profitable?

Cheryl Hicks, Toilet Board Coalition, Executive Director, hicks@toiletboard.org, +41 79 901 55 94
Pitch & Panel
**Challenge**: No water to drink so where does one get to flush his shit....60% of Indian population feels defecating in the open is safe (ok to contaminate water), and less than 3% of the waste is treated. Technology adoption and onsite waste treatment with water recycling is key to address WASH - “SHIT is a **VERY** serious business

**Question to / Need from the audience:**
Where can I find those patient people who might be interested in this shitty business globally

Namita Banka, Banka BioLoo, Founder & Director, namita.banka@bankabio.com, +91-9246880060
Challenge: making freshwater go round and round and round...
Circular Water Management is a great way to increase efficiency, save costs, meet corporate water targets and address shared water availability and quality risks. There are however still many barriers to its adoption at scale, among which: regulation, resources, lack of awareness and dialogue.

Question to/need from the audience
What are the best strategies to increase awareness at all levels that ‘waste’ water is a valuable resource worth investing into?

Tatiana Fedotova, WBCSD, Director Water, fedotova@wbcsd.org, +4122 839 31 37
Challenge

In order to support sustainable agriculture businesses, we work with small and medium-sized enterprises in developing countries. Access to new water technologies and awareness of solutions and best practices is a key challenge to most local entrepreneurs trying to be more competitive, efficient and productive and expand to new markets.

Question to / Need from the audience

How can we assist SMEs having better access to water technologies and solutions to grow their business from developing countries?

Mathieu Lamolle, ITC, Senior Advisor, lamolle@intracen.org, +41 22 730 02 97
Challenge

We believe Access to Energy is a basic human right. For the poorest, it triggers improvement of health, economical development, security, education, and access to water. We provide sustainable solutions and trainings addressing homes, communities, micro-businesses, public services, agriculture, health care facilities... using renewable sources of energy.

Question to / Need from the audience

How to best transform local pilot initiatives into scalable business throughout the emerging world?

Olivier Jacquet, Schneider Electric, Sustainable Dvpt, Olivier.jacquet@Schneider-electric.com, +33670724366
**Challenge**

The sanitation sector is changing with technical innovations, community-led approaches, new business models. These need to be combined into inclusive, coherent, long-term strategies, action plans, financing schemes, i.e. public policies. The challenge is to integrate them into comprehensive and sustainable scenarios, to gather public support for sanitation services.

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**Question to / Need from the audience**

What donors and local decision-makers need to be convinced urban sanitation services and policies are feasible and transformative?

Laure CRIQUI, IDDRI, Urban development specialist, [laure.criqui@iddri.org](mailto:laure.criqui@iddri.org), +33 1 45 49 76 80
INNOVATE 4 WATER

Challenge
In Nigeria millions of emptied polythene sachets, used for drinking water, are freely disposed daily, impacting public health, the environment, and the economy. We want to tackle this issue and contribute to improve the way safe drinking water is provided.

Question to / Need from the Audience
Establish partnerships to promote polythene recycling and re-processing efforts, and to investigate alternative solutions.

Sergio Vallesi, Durham University, Research Associate sergio.vallesi@durham.ac.uk +44 (0)7449 640849
GSMA
Michael Nique
Pitches

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Theme N°2
Water Food Energy Health Nexus
Moderator
Pitch & Panel
Challenge
Managing the complexity! If we talk about the Food, Water, Energy, Health Sector we need to move away from “Silo Thinking” and start to collaborate across sectors. We need to meet the requirements of the local communities, the commercial partners, the NGO’s, the governments and also the financial sector. New business models can help to manage the complexity and even generate new USP’s.

Question to the Audience
Funding for inclusive projects is difficult anyway, if we add a holistic business model, it is almost impossible to sell to investors. How can we help each other to meet the needs of the financial sector?

Lars Willi, WECONNEX AG, CEO, lars.willi@weconnex.org, +41 71 923 88 88
Challenge: Agrifood/mining industry and sustainable water use

Dublin Principles: The management of water resources 1) demands a holistic approach, linking social and economic development with protection of natural ecosystems; and 2) should be based on a participatory approach, involving users, planners and policy-makers at all levels

Question to/need from the audience

Do you know some best practices of a Nexus Approach to water resource management that benefit to local communities in Africa?

Florian Thevenon, WaterLex, Scientific Officer, f.thevenon@waterlex.org +419001664
Challenge: How to implement WGA low energy intensity desalination technology, enabling access to water for all? Current industrial desalination is energy intensive while fresh water in nature comes from low-energy processes. Our patented desalination process mimics nature, reduces thermal resistances 15-30 times, lowers ΔT needs, so huge efficiencies are derived. Proof of concept done, pilot unit ready.

From the audience we need partners/players with strong and immediate synergies to implement GLOBAL ACCESS to WATER worldwide

Prof Eusebi Nomen PhD, co-founder WGA Water Global Access, enomen@andorra.ad +376 33 20 00
Challenge
Increasing levels of salinity in ground & surface water supplies are rendering them unfit for drinking. Most existing desalination systems utilize reverse osmosis, which requires high energy inputs and complex maintenance, making them expensive & unsustainable for low-income, off-grid residents.

Question to / Need from the audience: Can we develop a low-energy input, low-cost, and decentralized desalination system (ideally powered by photo-voltaics) for brackish water which can be taken to scale in areas of saline water intrusion?

Tom Wildman, Oxfam GB, WASH Advisor for Sustainable Market Development, towildman@oxfam.org.uk
Question to / Need from the audience
How can we apply renewable energy to help tackle this problem and engage the local industry and the community?

Mudhyan ALMudhyan
King Abdullah City for Atomic and Renewable Energy, Researcher
m.mudhyan@energy.gov.sa
+966553145314
**Issue**
We have a strong understanding of the operational and financial proposition of our Stations, and work has been done on similar topics for solar powered utilities, there has not been work on combining the two. We believe by modelling revenue streams and integrated operating costs we can develop a financially and operationally strong utility to be field tested.

**Question**
Who has expertise on solar power – financial analysis and operational experience – to help develop a compelling case for a dual utility?

Nat Paynter, Safe Water Network, VP – Strategic Partnerships, npaynter@safewaternetwork.org, +1-212-355-7233
Challenge
Giving sustainable access to water and energy is very difficult in rural areas, because of remote location aspects, poorness of people, size of the projects and their low profitability. Veolia and Odial propose to use a concession model to offer a global service covering both urban and rural areas and allowing tariff transfers and synergies among locations and among clients.

Question to / Need from the Audience
What are the levers to help promote the model?

Martine Vullierme Veolia Africa Middle East  SVP martine.vullierme@veolia.com +33 6 1408 7161
Thierry Barbotte Odial Solutions CEO t.barbotte@odial-solutions.fr +33 6 2655 4244
INNOVATE 4 WATER

Challenge
Water is essential for business to run smoothly. Companies are facing physical, regulation and reputational risks regarding water management. Companies must improve their water uses and work on effective solutions to reduce their water footprint, as water recycling and implementation of closed loop in their plant.

Need from the audience: There is no development in a degraded environment. How to mainstream environmental issues systematically in project on better access to clean water and sanitation?

Annabelle PRIN-COJAN, Head of Environment, EpE, aprincojan@epe-asso.org, +33 1 49 70 98 53
Pitches

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Theme N°3
Smart Water Technologies
Challenge:
smart water technology is a call for digital disruption all along the value chain of the water economy. From a perspective of a better governance to people education and how to bridge cultural gaps, going through spreading technology for usage optimization and productivity improvement or thinking new compensation mechanisms on negative impacts

Question to / Need from the audience:
in this panel we will address : Big data, education, market access & economical model, block chain and compensation...

Ludovic, Centonze, Orange, Orange4Development, ludovic.centonze@orange.com, +33 6 74 23 95 38
Pitch & Panel
Challenge: Digital technology and data management are becoming central to these water businesses; however developing, selecting, implementing such technology is neither their core competence nor business focus. Such technology experts would provide insights, implements fit for purpose solutions and saves costs by avoiding mistakes.

Question to / Need from the audience

How can we support more digital technology specialists/ventures to partner with water organisations?

Michael Nique, GSMA, Senior Manager mnique@gsma.com  07889320189
Challenge
We are working hard to reduce the quantities of fresh water we use. Our recycle targets are aggressive but achievable. Recycle water can contain salts, organics and other contaminants that can interfere with our mineral recovery. How can we monitor these in *real time* and develop low cost, robust treatment systems?

**Question to / Need from the audience**
Low cost, real-time sensors (on pipe and remote) for FOG, nitrates, COD, TDS, TSS, SO4 etc., focus on frequency over accuracy.

Phil Newman, Head of Innovation, Anglo American phil.newman@angloamerican.com +44 (0) 7775 035376
Challenge - Safe Water Network is integrating digital finance and mobile money into Small Water Enterprise operations to reduce reliance on cash transactions. We project that digital finance will substantially improve the financial viability of our water stations and livelihoods of our consumers. However, consumers need to be able to accept and adapt, or else these digital improvements will become setbacks.

Question/Need from the audience
How do we address consumer knowledge gaps to increase adoption and realize the full benefits of digital finance?

Sandy Hwang, Safe Water Network, VP – Business Analytics & Development, shwang@safewaternetwork.org, +1-212-355-7233
Challenge
A (Public) Data Revolution
Develop quality, reliable, sustainable and resilient infrastructure, including regional and trans-border infrastructure, to support economic development and human well-being, with a focus on affordable and equitable access for all.

Question to / Need from the audience
How do we to promote the idea that data is an asset and, that public data, is an essential element of national infrastructure?

Steve MacFeely, UNCTAD, Chief Statistician,  steve.macfeely@unctad.org , +41 22 917 57 43
Challenge:
Today a plethora of new technologies exist for expansion and incorporation in daily water management, planning and decision making. These include earth observation, smart phones and sensors, drones and innovative learning platforms. The challenge is how to bridge the digital divide, develop competent water knowledge societies in developing economies.

Question:
How can we promote the use and adoption of new technologies for improved water management and productivity?

Themba, Gumbo, Cap-Net UNDP, Director, themba.gumbo@cap-net.org, +55 21 3027 6911
Project description
TUPIX is a blockchain enabled IoT technology for environmental monitoring and management that rewards/compensates for positive/negative impacts caused by ecosystem stakeholders. It allows for the secure and transparent optimization of performance based environmental targets, optimizing results whilst reducing costs.

Challenge: Identifying proper use-cases to deploy the technology for evaluation and the subsequent business development, upscaling and rollout.

Daniel Lipschits, CONTRACTS11, Strategic Production, daniel.lipschits@contracts11.com, +31617039398
INNOVATE 4 WATER

Challenge: Producing More Sugar From Less Water - One litre of an average bottled beverage requires as much as 250 litres of ‘blue’ water to produce the sugar that is used as an ingredient. New technologies with sensors, high precision irrigation, optimising harvesting time, etc. create a cost-effective opportunity to increase productivity and resilient value chains.

Question to / Need from the audience
Given the selection of sugar in Pakistan / Asia, what do you recommend are the best technologies, specific locations and value chain partners to work with?

Chris Perceval, South Pole Group, Director Sustainability Solutions, +41 78 679 9153
INNOVATE 4 WATER

Pitches

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Theme N°4
Sustainable Entrepreneurs
Ecosystems
Moderator
A number of organisations support water entrepreneurs in different ways in the various phases of their growth (idea-seed-scale-up-growth-maturity). These specificities can be confusing and laborious for entrepreneurs looking for help.

**Question to Panel**

How to unlock silos to achieve a more transversal approach to support impactful entrepreneurs, fully respecting human rights?

Violette Ruppanner, Strategos/Swiss Bluetec Bridge, Partner/Manager, vruppanner@strategos.ch, +41 21623 9118
Pitches
Question to / Need from the audience

How to leverage funds/ unlock risk capital to support early stage and especially no/low-tech entrepreneurs in the incubation phase.

Tandiwe Erlmann, cewas, Manager Start-up Programme, tandiwe.erlmann@cewas.org, +41 76 528 68 70
Challenge:
The required investment in the sanitation sector is too substantial, to be raised by traditional ODA money. Required investment: US$ 1.7 trillion – current aid commitment p.a. US$ 10.9 billion. Private sector engagement is imperative. Entrepreneurs require support in an enabling environment, access to finance and managerial capabilities training.

Question to/need from the audience
What are appropriate partnerships to collaboratively ensure that entrepreneurs are enabled to develop the sanitation sector?

Sören Brosch, BORDA e.V., Advisor, Brosch@Borda.de, +49 157 74107362
Challenge
To achieve SDG’s and deliver sustainable WASH by 2030 we need systems, not just more holes in the ground. Technical solutions alone aren’t enough. We need joint action and harmonised approaches to support national systems change, learning and knowledge share along with CapManEx investment. We need an Agenda for Change...

Question to / Need from the audience
How to effectively engage with stakeholders – government, engineers and other NGO’s to promote the necessity of systems thinking and help donors see beyond binary ‘numbers reached’ as sole success indicators?

Bryony Stentiford, IRC (WASH), Head of Strategic Partnerships, stentiford@ircwash.org, 0031 642 824 358
Challenge: Less cost, more sustainability
SMART Centres are business incubators training in new, locally produced technologies as Mzuzu manual drilling, Rope pumps, Tube groundwater recharge, Household water filters. Effects: cost reduction, more sustainability, options for families

Questions to/need from audience
Low costs SMARTechs and (Supported) Self-supply are means to reach “the last mile”. How to convince NGOs, Governments to invest in this?

Jamsina van Driel. MetaMeta/ SMART Centre group. Coordinator. jvdriel@gmail.com, 0031614196587
Challenge – Social Entrepreneur Academy, SEA

The current version of SEA is based on a model where trainer trainings and material customization has been done by Accenture volunteers. Until today we have reached +900 entrepreneurs, but to reach wider audiences SEA needs to be developed into a fully digitized learning platform. To reach that target we have analysed the social enterprise ecosystem and identified a large pool of players with potential interest to join the SEA partnership.

Question to / Need from the audience

Who would be the right partners with complementing capabilities and a shared vision to bring SEA to the next level with us?

Tomi Nummi, Accenture Development Partnerships, Nordic Lead, tomi.nummi@accenture.com
Challenge: Talking business models, financing mechanisms, revenue models, is one thing, but what about the soft side of innovation; the competencies and capacities an innovator needs to be successful. VIA Waters’ challenge is to enforce those capacities to help realise the innovators’ dream.

Question to/need from the audience

What would be needed to enhance the capacities of innovators to help them go beyond piloting and into lasting solutions that are not (or less) donor driven?

Titia Wouters, VIA Water, programme manager, t.wouters@un-ihe.org, +31.6.10854922
Challenge: A social venture needs to manage numerous bottlenecks all along the stages of their journey to accessing adequate funding to scale up. How to setup the right governance, practices and impact measurement framework, that bring transparency on their capabilities and capacities. Does it will really increase the confidence of the strategy effectiveness in the eyes of interested funders.

Question to the audience: Does an independent certification would benefit the social ventures in their due diligence process and culture of transparency?

Jonathan Normand, Codethic / B LAB Switzerland, Director, jnormand@codethic.com, 0223196931
Panel
Challenge

Africa will add an 1 billion people in the next 20 years, and current models for basic services are unlikely to meet the need. Market-based distributed water models have significant potential to improve access for this growing population. However, a more robust ecosystem of funders and service providers is needed to catalyze the growth of this model.

Question to / Need from the audience

How do we engage water utilities and public policy makers to integrate this model into long-term planning in developing countries?

Jim Chu, UNTAPPED, CEO jim@untapped-inc.com, +1415-307-6730
**Challenge:** We have worked with entrepreneurs across sanitation and health to develop and operationalise scalable business models. However, to date we have been unable to share and apply our learnings to water entrepreneurs. It may be that there are no water entrepreneurs with scalable business models or, more likely, there is a lack of visibility and integration across the water ecosystem.

**Question to / Need from the audience:**
Do water entrepreneurs with scalable business models exist and, if so, how do we unlock silos to identify and support them?

Jessie Coates, EY, Head of Operations at Enterprise Growth Services, jcoates@uk.ey.com, +447785662131
Challenge: To meet the 2030 SDG goals it is imperative to develop novel financial instruments and investment strategies to scale up best-in-class impact solutions (technological, financial and/or business models), or alternatively shift investors’ and consumers’ investment / consumption behavior, to meet those goals by 2030.

Question to / Need from the audience:
Help identify best-in-class impact solutions to scale up: financial instruments or investment strategies, new technologies and public-private collaborations.
**Challenge:** Today, there is a huge gap between the desire of government to supply safe drinking water to all people, the budget for doing this, and the regulatory controls for utilising the private sector, which is currently neither well recognised nor not well regulated. The private sector could be a fast track option for providing this service, provided that it meets human rights criteria. In order to activate this opportunity, there needs to be a framework in place to safeguard people’s human rights, particularly for vulnerable people, and particularly with respect to what they can afford to pay, and the quality of the water.

**Question:** We would like to be introduced to organisations that are already working in Utter Pradesh, Odisha, and Telangana, and who would like to help us with field verification of our research results, in order to recommend a strategy to government for progressive realisation of these human rights.

Amanda Loeffen, WaterLex, Director General, a.Loeffen@waterlex.org, +419001664
Pitches

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Theme N°5
Hybrid Business Models
Our theme: market-based solutions to provide safe water
There are many innovative technologies and business models to provide safe water in remote areas on a paying basis. However, all these operations struggle with willingness to pay and overall profitability. This limits their ability to scale and replicate and scale.

Moderator

What the 7 pitches will be about
What are the most promising avenues to solve these barriers: diversify product lines, work on behavior change, increase the price, cross-subsidize and alternative payment scheme, or decrease the costs (to make it even cheaper)?

Jessica Graf, Founder and Managing Director of LeFil Consulting and Hystra Network Partner, jgraf@hystra.com
Pitches & Panel
Challenge: We have been incorporating elements of behavior change in our villages to increase adoption & consumption. We would like to accelerate our penetration to at least 80% of the population from the current 20% & increase the per household consumption from 5.5 Ltrs per day to 10 Ltrs per day.

Questions to/need from audience:
How do we bring about the behavior change that is necessary to achieve this at a low cost.

Kishan, Nanavati, Spring Health Water India Pvt Ltd, CEO, kishan.nanavati@springhealth.in, +91-7894423401
Challenge
Namibians need access to sustainable borehole systems. There are three main barriers that need to be overcome:
• **Financial** - adequate business models to recover costs and ensure systems continue to operate effectively;
• **Environmental** – sustainable water abstraction and access to clean, effective water pumping solutions (e.g. solar PV pumps);
• **Technical** - local capacity to maintain and rehabilitate boreholes (e.g. pump maintenance);

Question to / Need from the audience
• What business models have worked in other countries to solve these challenges?
• How can Namibia successfully implement a mobile water payment scheme for users not used to paying for access to water?

Oliver Richards, Carbon Trust, Analyst, Oliver.Richards@carbontrust.com
CHALLENGE
Our recent study shows that Water Kiosks are credible, modular, complementary providers of safe drinking water to communities in a financially sustainable way. **Water kiosks have the potential to serve up to 2 billion people** that are lacking access to safe drinking water.

To untap this potential, **ensure long term sustainability of Water Kiosks solution will pass through financial viability (Opex & Capex) to attract private entrepreneurs & investors.** And be no more dependent on subsidies. In the meantime creating hybrid models, mixing entities & finance solutions (public/private, grants/capital/loans, ...) is critical.

QUESTION TO / NEED FROM THE AUDIENCE
To scale, we need to optimise our solution to achieve both our social & economical objectives: How could you help us maximise consumers penetration & loyalty? How could you help us improve our operational efficiency to reduce costs?

NICOLAS SCHMITT, DANONE COMMUNITIES, BUSINESS DEVELOPMENT MANAGER WATER, NICOLAS.SCHMITT@DANONE.COM, 0033698317204
Challenge
Water toxicity in Vietnam is very high due to industrial and agro pollution. This, combined with high population density makes clean and affordable water an economic challenge for low income families. This requires market solutions with compacted clean water tech to sell pure water at a price below the line of minimum “affordability” in $/L and still profitable.

Question to/Need from the audience
How to develop market solutions to sell water affordably (<0.02/L) whilst serving competitive returns to private investors?

Cyrille Antignac, UBERIS Capital, Founder, cyrille.antignac@uberiscapital.com, +447984053389
Challenge
We are pricing people out of the market, but cannot reduce prices and maintain financial viability. Without financial viability, sustainable operations are not achievable. We continually optimize the model but are unable to reduce the unit costs. Subsidies are a promising option, but they are rarely sustainable and frequently mis-directed to serve the wealthier populations.

Question
How to develop a subsidy program that a) is sustainable and b) reaches the targeted group?

Nat Paynter, Safe Water Network, VP – Strategic Partnerships, npaynter@safewaternetwork.org, +1-212-355-7233
Challenge
We sell the water at an affordable price to the BoP and that is just enough to cover operational costs but we cannot recover the CAPEX and international technical assistance. Local government and companies are reluctant towards co-financing. We are looking for other products and services we could offer to make the business more sustainable.

Question to / Need from the audience
Which additional services could make the water shops business model more sustainable?

Gerdien, Seegers, SWS, business developer, gerdien.seegers@gmail.com, +31 6 16988340
Project description
Antenna Foundation designed several approaches with development organisations such as schools, communities or hospitals projects. To adapt WATA technology for armed conflict areas also, Antenna Foundation needs to involve an other type of partners.

Challenge
How to find partners willing to deploy and implement the WATA technology in water utilities in the middle east region?

Jérôme Voillat, Antenna Foundation (Switzerland), Project manager, jvoillat@antenna.ch, +41 22 737 12 62
Pitches

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Theme N°6

Innovative Blended Finance
Moderator
Challenge
The impact investing space has grown to multi-billion figures, USD 11 billion in the last microfinance investment survey alone. From private banks to pension funds, including private individual, governments and corporates, interest is there to put capital at work into SDGs 2030, including into water and sanitation, yet little money is flowing to projects today.

Question for Theme 6: Pitches & Panel
How can we build a life cycle investment infrastructure for “Water Enterprises”, from venture capital to mature growth financing?

Roland Dominicé, CEO, Symbiotics, Roland.Dominice@SymbioticsGroup.com
Pitches
Challenge: Providing early equity and expertise to develop small-scale private or PPP infrastructure in Africa - I&P Africa Infrastructure’s objective is to contribute to faster, more inclusive, and sustainable African growth. IPAI’s ambition is to address the missing link between grant-funded very small projects and the large, nation-wide infrastructure programmes on which DFIs and purely commercial investment funds focus through direct participation.

Need from the audience: Economic history shows that increasing a country’s infrastructure in a financially sustainable manner is a chicken-and-egg challenge: Financially sustainable infrastructure requires creditworthy users, enterprises and individuals, which only exist once operational and affordable infrastructure is in place.

Pierre Carpentier, Investisseurs et Partenaires, p.carpentier@ietp.com
Challenge
The rural water sector is traditionally 100% financed by public funds through competitive bidding, leading to low quality of the pumps, numerous breakdowns and donors fatigue towards the rural water sector. However, the Uduma concept, which is one answer to this problem, is facing a huge challenge as it requires a blending of donors’ and private funds.

Question to / Need from the audience
Any suggestions to attract public funding in this venture, taking into account that it should take place out of the usual competitive bidding?

Christophe Guillemé UDUMA Board Member c.guillemin@uduma.net +33 6 3267 2207
Challenge
Although water service providers understand the need to diversify sources of capital, they struggle to demonstrate creditworthiness and project financial viability. WASH-FIN seeks to bridge the gap between sources of capital (development and commercial banks, impact and institutional investors) and the seekers of capital in the water sector.

Question to / Need from the audience
With which water service providers, and with which sources of capital would WASH-FIN have the largest impact?

Jeremy Gorelick, USAID WASH-FIN, Senior Infrastructure Finance Advisor, Jeremy.Gorelick@WASHFIN.org
Challenge: The challenge has been to ensure that our target groups have access to suitable financial products and services that meet their source of livelihoods. Impact investment has the potential for making relevant and quality financial products and services available to some 2.7 billion adults, constituting almost 70 percent of the population in developing economies.

Question to/need from the audience
How can we attract Impact Investors to ensure financial products & services meet needs of poor / disadvantaged population?

Siham Boukhali, HELVETAS, Advisor, siham.boukhali@helvetas.org, +41 31 38 51 073
Challenge
Traditional valuation methodologies often provide a less convincing business case for sustainable assets than for conventional infrastructure, due to higher upfront capital costs and prominent technology risks. The problem lies in the inadequate identification and pricing of risks leading to inaccurate asset valuation and feasibility assessments.

Question to / Need from the audience
Would the understanding of the financial impact of climate and other ESG risks make sustainable infrastructure more attractive?

David Uzsoki, IISD, Infrastructure Finance Specialist, duzsoki@iisd.org, 022 917 82 82
Challenge
We identified the possible roles SWP and its members could play in the (impact) investing field: Labelling of projects, deal originator, capacity building, de-risking, and the setting up of an impact fund. As a fund catalyzes the other roles, SWP plans to conduct a feasibility study to test and further develop the idea of a SWP Impact Fund.

Question to / Need from the audience
What you would recommend to pay particular attention in the feasibility study?

Philippe, Spicher, Amos Advisory, consultant for SWP, pspicher@amos-advisory.ch, +41 79 243 59 55
**Challenge**

*Safe Water Enterprises* combine a sustainable *SAFE* water service, very cost-effective, boosting universal coverage 2030. SWE’s fit into government’s drinking water policy, expanding utility services as well as decentral stand alone solutions. SWE’s are ready to **SCALE**!! To mitigate RISKS and to strengthen the business’ ecosystem we need to blend our finance options.

**What we ask the audience: walk the talk**

Join us, creating innovative finance structures, blending your grants, loans & equity, as outcome payer, investor or enabler.

Sjef Ernes, Aqua for All, managing director, s.ernes@aquaforall.org, 0031-6-55154731
Challenge
The greatest challenge facing Impact and Sustainable entrepreneurs and funds is the inability to find a capital solution effectively. On average, it can take 18-36 months to find investments. This is far too long to keep a team together who are not receiving any income. Most entrepreneurs don’t have money to hire advisors to raise the capital needed to execute the business plan. Intermediaries are constantly asked to work on commission, which is impossible due to long period of time fund raising takes. With no income coming in, it is not possible for these advisors to carry out the task at hand. The same is true for fund raising for funds.

Question to / Need from the audience
How can you fund start up entrepreneurs who have not money to raise money and create large money flows?

Robert, Rubinstein, TBLI Group, Chairman and Founder, robert@tbligroup.com, +31653594705
Panel
**Challenge** – We are developing a Trust to raise $60M of capital to scale Small Water Enterprises and address the safe water access gap in Ghana. To achieve this target, we need to reduce sector reliance on donors and attract a more diverse group funders (e.g. governments, multilaterals) to ensure long term sustainability of funding. However, SWEs must balance affordability to consumers with the providing a financial return.

**Question/need from audience**

How to design investment products that will attract the right mix of funders and investors to ensure long term sustainability?

Sandy Hwang, Safe Water Network, VP – Business Analytics & Development, shwang@safewaternetwork.org, +1-212-355-7233
**Challenge:** All the States of the world are committed to achieving very ambitious objectives in 2030 with the 17 SDG’s. ODA of developed countries is an important source of funding for projects in developing countries. Climate change requires many investments over the next few years, with priority being given to adaptation. The developed countries committed through the Paris COP21 to bring them 100 billion US dollars each year from 2020.

**Question to the audience:** Given the very significant fundings that developing countries will have to incur as soon as possible to meet these two challenges, new innovative financing methods will have to be implemented combining public and private funding. How to succeed in this challenge?

*Ph Guettier General Director French Water Partnership philippe.guettier@partenariat-francais-eau.fr +33677940463*
**Challenge:** In the water and sanitation sectors, smart sensors and mobile money are important tools that help make water provision financially and operationally sustainable. From large utilities collecting e-payments through mobile wallets to smaller organisations moving from paper-based reporting to digital monitoring, we are seeing more evidence of the impact of mobile across urban and rural water models. However in order to fully digitize the sector and see the true impact of mobile, more capital is needed to support the emergence of new models.

**Question to / Need from the audience**

How can we further unlock early-stage capital to pilot more mobile-enabled water models and support such data-oriented organisations in their growth?

Michael Nique, GSMA, Senior Manager mnique@gsma.com  07889320189
Challenge
Innovative finance complements traditional approaches to funding international development by facilitating investments from the private sector. For example, the Humanitarian Impact Bond raises new sources of funds to finance rehabilitation centers in Africa, engaging social investors to tackle humanitarian issues.

Question to / Need from the audience
What are the most effective ways for different sources of capital (private, public, philanthropic) to work together?

Serena Guarnaschelli, KOIS Invest, Partner, serena@koisinvest.com, +44 7474 828 080
Fin du Programme
Pitches

June 9 – Open Forum

Work in progress
Work in progress
Challenge

NGOs are not always perceived as a crucial partner needed for developing successful business cases. This is a missed chance, as NGOs can play a vital role in ‘going beyond regular sales’ and play a crucial role in sustainable business ecosystems.

Question to / Need from the audience

How do we realise the potential of NGOs to create meaningful and successful partnerships with the corporate sector?

Selma Hilgersom, Simavi, Programme Officer WASH, selma.hilgersom@simavi.nl
**Project description:** seif supports teams seeking to apply innovative business ideas to respond to social and/or environmental challenges. seif offers non-financial & financial support services from the founding phase until the first financial round of the start-ups. seif acts as an intermediary between stakeholders by connecting actors from the financial sector, corporate world, universities and foundations.

**Challenge**

Promote Social Entrepreneurship in Switzerland

Viola Zoller, seif – driving social Innovation, project manager, viola.zoller@seif.org, 079 266 08 65
Challenge:
In order to develop sustainable projects, it is key to rely on local entrepreneurs. Since few years, we observe in Africa the emergence of business incubators. These incubators are organising themselves in cross boundary network to work together in order to share best practice but also to help entrepreneurs to expand their business in multiple markets.

Question to / Need from the audience
How to take into consideration this new entrepreneurship wave in your projects to foster the local business creation in Africa?

Ludovic, Centonze, Orange, Orange4Development, ludovic.centonze@orange.com, +33 6 74 23 95 38
Challenge:
Telco operators have now capacity to release anonymised mobility data based on the cell phone usage. These data can nourish algorithm models to monitor, view/discover or evaluate projects or public policies. Data 4 Development challenges launched by Orange in Ivory Coast and Senegal explored a large variety of subjects to help the socio economic development effort.

Question to / Need from the audience:
how accelerate telco to make the proper investments to be able to release on demand such data by creating a business demand?

Ludovic, Centonze, Orange, Orange4Development, ludovic.centonze@orange.com, +33 6 74 23 95 38
Challenge
The costs of works to transform plants in order to reduce the water footprint can be high in comparison with the cost of water. Some plant are facing difficulties for finding investments in such works. But if you look at the total cost of operation on water it can be 4 to 10 times higher than the price of water. The business case is unambiguous.

Need from the audience: How can we facilitate the financing of works to improve the water use in plants, even with a long ROI?

Annabelle PRIN-COJAN, Head of Environment, EpE, aprincojan@epe-asso.org, +33 1 49 70 98 53
Challenge:
Social water and sanitation entrepreneurs use to operate in the South under many external constraints and often without any framework of collaboration with host government, though they offer complementary solutions to centralized water systems.

Question to / Need from the audience
Through what kind of collective action and under which collaborative framework can we create a market for safe water with SE

Olivier Magnin, SDC, Program manager, olivier.magnin@eda.admin.ch, +41 58 4646961
Challenge

Despite a doubling of ODA to the water sector in the last 20 years, there is still a significant shortfall in the amount required to meet the Africa Water Vision targets and the SDGs. Estimates of the investment required to meet the AWV targets stand at approx. US$ 64 billion per year. The current financial flows of about US$ 10.5 billion per year. The message is clear – the investments to meet Africa’s water infrastructure needs are huge, hence the role of the AWF to catalyse investments through project preparation and investment promotion activities.

Question to / Need from the audience

Is your Water business in Africa struggling in attracting the required funding and looking for how to be investment ready? or looking for where to identify investment ready water business in Africa.

M. Ossete Jean Michel, Ag Coordinator, African Water Facility - Email: j.ossete@afdb.org; Tel: +225 20 26 27 71 ; Mob: +225 77 30 52 47 ; Website: www.africanwaterfacility.org
Challenge

Despite a doubling of ODA to the water sector in the last 20 years, there is still a significant shortfall in the amount required to meet the Africa Water Vision targets and the SDGs. Estimates of the investment required to meet the AWV targets stand at approx. US$ 64 billion per year. The current financial flows of about US$ 10.5 billion per year. The message is clear – the investments to meet Africa’s water infrastructure needs are huge, hence the role of the AWF to catalyse investments through project preparation and investment promotion activities.

Question to / Need from the audience

How to involve Water sector enterprises in the Investment Promotion Platform under establishment by AWF?

M. Ossete Jean Michel, Ag Coordinator, African Water Facility - Email: j.ossete@afdb.org; Tel: +225 20 26 27 71; Mob: +225 77 30 52 47; Website: www.africanwaterfacility.org
Challenge
We envisage a world in which the safe re-use of toilet resources (*human waste*) is the norm, providing different types of products. This raises certain questions, namely around standards and perception, particularly with anything going into the human food chain. Yet sanitation can solve problems for the food sector as it provides higher performing nutrients, creating high value for toilet resources.

**Question to / Need from the audience**
Beyond reaching the levels of safety standards, how can we make sanitation appeal to the food sector?

Claire Balbo, TBC, Accelerator & Pipeline Manager, [balbo@toiletboard.org](mailto:balbo@toiletboard.org), +41 78 893 24 04
Challenge
In a growing number of areas, improved sanitation has been achieved at the household level, but no services exist for transport and safe disposal of fecal wastes. In the absence of large municipal wastewater treatment systems to provide these services, there is a need for economically viable, decentralized models to provide these critical services.

Question to / Need from the audience: How do we develop viable business models for small & medium sized enterprises, which are profitable and offer sustainability for future growth without external subsidies?

Tom Wildman, Oxfam GB, WASH Advisor for Sustainable Market Development, towildman@oxfam.org.uk
Challenge:
Nobody wants to be in front of the Guarding for not respecting groundwater regulations on pollution. We observe that more companies are gathering background information on water aiming to decide of water stewardship project will do in the future. We need to convince more companies that they need to start to invest in the real water scarcity problems at watershed level aiming to reduce water risk.

Question / Need from the audience
How can business achieve growth in an era of water scarcity?

José Luis, Carrasco, Aquasis Solutions, Director, joseluis.carrasco@aquasis-solutions.ch, +4178 864 13 56
Challenge:
Developing and promoting affordable advanced technologies to enhance food security, improve livelihoods and reverse the current degradation of natural resources (water, biodiversity and land) and cope with the serious implications of climate change, particularly in developing world. To do that it is essential to consider the nexus perspective interlinking water, energy, food and health. Such consideration is essential to achieve the Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs).

Question to / Need from the audience
How to convince policy makers to invest more in science and technology and provide incentives to stakeholders including public and private sector, civil societies to work together to develop and promote advanced technologies.

Mahmoud El Solh, Former ICARDA Director General, M.Solh@cgiar.org
Project description: The Ground_Up Project is a deal-sourcing platform for sustainability. A financial technology company and a leading platform for environmental ventures under $10M. We scan, screen and filter sustainable ventures through strategic partnerships, user-generated content and digital channels. Proprietary tools match investor requirements and enable deal flow selection and analytics.

Challenge
Are you ready for investment? Join http://www.groundupproject.net and find out about your Value Compass

Brindusa Burrows (Fidanza), Founder & CEO, The Ground_Up Project, brindusa@groundupproject.net