



## HIGH-LEVEL POLITICAL FORUM ON SUSTAINABLE DEVELOPMENT



### **Side Event on “The Energy-Water Nexus: Managing the linkages between SDG6 and SDG7 for sustainable development”**

at the High-Level Political Forum

16 July 2018, 16:00-17:30

UN Headquarters, Room S-2726 (Secretariat building)

#### **CONCEPT NOTE**

#### **BACKGROUND**

The 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development includes fully dedicated Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs) on water (SDG6) and on energy (SDG7) recognizing the importance of these two critical factors in advancing sustainable development and poverty eradication. As experts all over the world continue to advance global goals and targets on energy and water, it is becoming more evident that there is a need to address many relevant issues related to these factors in an integrated and holistic manner, taking into consideration the strong links that exist between water and energy. Energy is essential for most processes related to extraction, treatment and distribution of water. Water is indispensable for most systems related to the production, distribution and use of energy. Without integrated sustainable water and energy programmes and systems, many synergies supporting poverty eradication cannot be realized.

This year’s High-Level Political Forum (HLPF) convened under the theme of “Transformation towards sustainable and resilient societies,” undertakes the first global review of SDG6 and SDG7, along with SDGs 11, 12 and 15. This will serve as a first critical milestone to take stock of progress to-date including on energy and water interlinkages and reflect on the way forward to accelerate implementation of SDGs.

Taking advantage of the review of SDG6 and SDG7 at the High-Level Political Forum, where a large number of governmental and non-governmental representatives will gather to learn best practices and share thoughts on the way forward, this side event is designed for panelists with diverse backgrounds to share their experiences and knowledge on water and energy interlinkages with the wide audience attending the High-Level Political Forum.

## **OBJECTIVES**

The main objective of the side event is to share knowledge and experience on integrated approaches for water and energy in support of the achievement of the 2030 Agenda and the Sustainable Development Goals. Panelists will discuss the need for holistic implementation of water and energy solutions. Participants will share new ideas, innovations, programmes, partnerships and business models promoting an integrated approach to water and energy for sustainable development.

## **GUIDING QUESTIONS**

- How can the analysis and identification of the interlinkages and trade-offs between water and energy be considered within the context of the 2030 Agenda, and help ensure the water and energy goals are met?
- How can governments promote integrated water and energy approaches across different levels of government and across borders?
- How can policy-makers incentivize investments in more innovative, resource-efficient water and energy infrastructure?
- What are the most important gaps that need to be addressed to generate plausible long-term assessments on the water and energy interlinkages?

## **PARTICIPANTS**

Participants will include representatives from the public, private and non-profit sector, as well as international organizations, civil society and practitioners involved in research, development, management and implementation of water and energy programmes for sustainable development.

## **TIME and LOCATION**

The side event will be held on 16 July 2018 at 16:00-17:30 in meeting room number S-2726 at UN Headquarters, New York.