



Outcomes, Recommendations and Ideas for implementation

From the pre-women conference “ **Gender Equity for a Water-Secure Future**”,
10-11 April 2015, Gyeongju, Gyeongbuk, Korea, preceding the 7th World Water Forum

Women, pivotal actors for water security and safety

- Acknowledge women as leaders, experts , partners on equal footing and agents of change in the Water – Sustainable Development nexus
- Make that happen by including women in the decision-making process by setting quota of at least 40% women in water governing bodies at all levels and ensure women voices are actually heard when assigning roles and reporting
- Empower women to be leaders in the water sector, especially in and for a sustainable (blue and green) economy
- "Not for them, without them": include the women at the table from “day one” in the search for appropriate water & Sanitation solutions for sustainability.

The future

- ▶ Support and make sure the Sustainable Development Goals on Equity (5) and Water & sanitation (6) and other water-related targets are accepted and confirmed and understood as mutually enforcing
 - ▶ Support and make sure the Sustainable Development Goals on Green Growth and Goals (12) to (15) and other Green Growth are accepted and confirmed
 - ▶ Support social dialogue in lobbying and advocacy for policy change to ensure women’s full economic participation in the growth of the green (and Blue) economy
 - ▶ Start thinking of implementation NOW with high input and involvement of women everywhere
 - ▶ Organize an (UN) “International Year of Water and Women” at the occasion of 25th Anniversary of the Dublin Principle 3, in 2017 (or coinciding with the 8th World Water Forum, 2018)
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▶ Means of Implementation

- ▶ Support the establishment of a dedicated women for water fund for women – as proposed during the Dushanbe conference in 2013 - for women to be able to fulfill their roles in water diplomacy, advocacy and information- and knowledge transfer
- ▶ Budget for capacity development, vocational training, empowerment of women and design of appropriate governance structures
- ▶ Enhance vocational (technical) training for women and girls and support careers for women in the water sector (also in non-traditional jobs) and thus Overcome the segregation of the labour market
- ▶ Promote and enable (also in legislation) integrated sanitation and types of sustainable toilets and reuse of human excreta
- ▶ Raise the profile of the specific needs of women and girls for safer and more hygienic public sanitation facilities, incl. sanitation in *inter alia* schools and the work place
- ▶ Start awareness raising programs for children and youth on the importance and status of our water and future constraints expected

- ▶ Train/ Educate youth (boys and girls) to work with local / rural communities to get better water solutions
- ▶ Local ecological knowledge matters in water management. Acknowledge women as (civil) experts in knowledge on sustainable water management. Make sure knowledge flows through the decision-making and implementation structures
- ▶ Prohibit excessive water use and increase water conservation and storage; Promote and increase MUS (multiple use) and Reuse of water, both in design and planning, both at household level and for productive / farming uses
- ▶ Avail water purification technologies and techniques including biotechnology, knowledge on chemicals AND traditional/ indigenous knowledge
- ▶ Create networking possibilities for sharing of technology between developed and developing countries especially for SMEs and women-lead companies
- ▶ Build advocacy partnership across sectors and levels and across generations
- ▶ Encourage more partnerships between the private sector and (local) CSOs and especially women on water-related issues both at household level and for productive uses; water stewardship could be a good tool for that
- ▶ Encourage more partnerships within the private sector itself for enhancement of good water management
- ▶ encourage and promote cross-sectoral cooperation and coordination
- ▶ Before programs and projects are developed, there should be an all-inclusive assessment of resources at national and local level
- ▶ Encourage and accept behavioral changes that are needed to allow for new roles for and new tasks especially of women (e.g. as a result of migration)
- ▶ Specific and gender-sensitive policies and interventions are necessary to ensure that women and men can equally benefit from a blue and green economy. All water programs should include a gender strategy.
- ▶ Require disaggregated data collection and taking into consideration as crucial in order to be able to develop effective policies for equity and involvement of major groups and evaluation of the effectiveness of those policies and programs
- ▶ Agree on indicators that are about quality, quantity and process and incorporate the advice from the WWAP taskforce; make sure there are gender specific indicators for the SDG Water. not being able to measure now, does not mean we should not aim for those targets.
- ▶ Build capacity at national levels for coordinated, mutually understood data collection
- ▶ Monitoring should be on process and progress (not just “end of the road” outcome) so actions can be evaluated and adjusted