



Embassy of the
Kingdom of the Netherlands



The UK-India-Netherlands Webinar

on

Water Security: Pathway to Climate Adaptation & Resilience

Organised by:

India Water Partnership

on

09th December, 2020, Wednesday

02:30 PM to 05:00 PM (IST), 09:00 AM to 11:30 AM (GMT)

10:00 AM to 12:30 AM (CET)

Background:

Climate Change is altering the global water cycle with cross-sectoral impact affecting global livelihoods and lives – rainfall, drought, floods, water quality, scarcity etc. Too much or too little or poor quality water will affect food security, sanitation, public health, manufacturing, drinking water, transport. The world needs to move past incremental change to transformational change including climate-resilient water sanitation responses. The global population will reach 10 billion by 2050, with 66% in urban areas, increasing pressure on water networks and infrastructure. Groundwater is the most extracted raw material in the world – and supplies are dwindling. Those without sufficient water (at least one month p.a.) will soar from

3.6 b today to over 5 b by 2050 (UN World Water Development Report, 2018). Without adaptation, climate change may cut global agriculture yields up to 30% by 2050. 500 m small farms globally will be most affected (GCA, 2019). Today, 1 in 3 people, around 2.2 billion, live without safe drinking water. Climate-resilient WASH could save the lives of more than 360,000 infants every year. Both the UK and the Netherlands have long-standing knowledge-sharing partnerships with India in the water sector. The Netherlands will host the Global Adaptation Summit in Jan 2021. The UK hosts the global climate conference COP26 in Nov 2021. The UN Water's Global Acceleration Framework launched in July 2020 called for urgent global partnerships to ensure transformative global success in SDG-6.

About the Webinar

Against the above mentioned backdrop, this webinar is jointly hosted by the British Deputy High Commission Chennai & the Embassy of the Kingdom of the Netherlands, India, and is organised by the India Water Partnership (GWP-India). The webinar is designed to share knowledge, good practice and lessons learned on water security that can maximise joint work and impact on food security, urban development, health security, gender security and safety from natural disasters such as flood or drought. This discussion takes on a particular urgency in the light of the global context on water and the need for urgent collaborative action. <https://theprint.in/india/30-indian-cities-feature-in-wwf-list-of-100-set-to-face-severe-water-risks-by-2050/535486/>

This event is designed to have three sessions:

- The Introductory Session will offer senior speakers from UK, India & Netherlands a chance to present their strategic & macro-level perspectives on water security. First, their views on the **global** context linking water to climate adaptation & resilience and how **domestic** thought-leadership & action is developing on water security. Second, their vision of how a **UK-India-Netherlands partnership** can have a transformative global impact ahead of the Netherlands-hosted Global Adaptation Summit in Jan 2021 & the UK-hosted COP26 in Nov 2021.
- The Knowledge-Sharing Session will offer a chance for six 'water sector' experts, two each from the UK, India & the Netherlands to offer more detailed/specialist perspectives on different aspects water security (decentralising water resource, ensuring universal & equitable access, water conservation/rejuvenation, groundwater protection, flood/drought management). This will include case studies, lessons learned, projects that have proven worth & can be scaled up at domestic, regional or global level. It will also include their

ideas on specific opportunities/projects where/ how the UK-India-Netherlands can build on good work already done to achieve transformative impact in water security.

- The third and final session is aimed at firming up a UK-India-Netherlands Working Group on Water Security. This will be a moderated discussion offering a chance to a wider range of water sector invitees/participants from the UK, India & the Netherlands to offer their perspectives, case studies, lessons learned and ideas on proven projects that can be scaled up at domestic, regional or global level. This session will welcome public & private stakeholders from the UK, India & the Netherlands to come together as part of a new UK-India-Netherlands Working Group on Water Security to maximise joint working and impact in water security and to discuss specific joint ideas/action on water security ahead of the Netherlands-hosted Global Adaptation Summit Jan 2021 & the UK-hosted COP26.

Objectives of the Webinar:

- To offer their strategic & macro-level perspectives on water security.
- To gain global, regional and domestic perspectives on water security. This will include case studies and insights including on water resources and WASH, flood and drought management, water rejuvenation, universal and equitable access etc.
- To offer ideas on how The UK-India-Netherlands can build on good work already done to achieve transformative impact in water security.
- To discuss how relevant water experts can come together to form a UK-India-Netherlands working group on water security that can offer specific thought-leadership and action ahead of the Netherlands-hosted Global Adaptation Summit in Jan 2021 and UK-hosted COP26 in Nov 2021.
- To invite views from the speakers and wider participants on how public and private stakeholders can help scale up proven water security work in coming years.

Programme Team:

Hosts:

- The Embassy of the Kingdom of the Netherlands, India
- The British Deputy High Commission, Chennai

Organiser:

- India Water Partnership (Global Water Partnership - India)

Knowledge Partner:

- Everything About Water (EAWater)

Session Plan:Date: 09th December, 2020

Time	Session/ Theme/Sub-Theme	Speakers
2:30 PM – 2:35 PM	<u>Welcome Address</u>	Dr Veena Khanduri, Executive Secretary-cum-Country Coordinator, India Water Partnership
2:35 PM – 3:10 PM	<u>Introductory Session -</u> Moderated by Mr Andy Roby, Senior Water Security Adviser, Climate & Environment Division, Foreign Commonwealth & Development Office, London.	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Mr U. P. Singh, Secretary – DoWR, RD & GR, Ministry of Jal Shakti, Government of India• Mr Oliver Ballhatchet, British Deputy High Commissioner, Chennai• Mr Joost Geijer, Head of Economic Dept., Embassy of the Kingdom of the Netherlands
3:10 PM – 4:20 PM	<u>Knowledge-Sharing Session -</u> Moderated by Prof Santosh Kumar (Head, Governance, Policy Planning & Inclusive DRR), National Institute of Disaster Management, Ministry of Home Affairs, Government of India	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Mr R. K. Jain, Chairman, Central Water Commission, Government of India• Ms Sandra Schoof, Program Manager Water as Leverage at the Netherlands Enterprise & Development Agency• Mr Rob Hope, Professor of Water Policy at the University of Oxford, UK• Prof Indra S. Sen, Assistant Professor, Dept. of Earth Sciences, Indian Institute of Technology- Kanpur• Mr Tjitte Nauta, Regional Manager, Asia - Deltares• Ms. Clare Shakya, Director of Climate Change, International Institute for Environment & Development (IIED) U.K.
4:20 PM – 4:55 PM	<u>Session on the UK-India-Netherlands joint work on water security -</u> Moderated by: <ul style="list-style-type: none">• Mr Andy Roby• Prof Santosh Kumar• Mr Tjitte Nauta	This interactive session will invite views from the speakers and wider participants on how public and private stakeholders can help scale up proven water security work in coming years.
4:55 PM – 5:00 PM	Closing Remarks & Vote of Thanks	Ms. Danielle Gaillard Picher, Global Coordinator, Water & Climate Processes, Global Water Partnership