



Tangier Model United Nations

ECOSOC

**Implementing and Improving Available Water Sustainability and
Infrastructure**

Chairs : Maryam Jaebak and Zakya El Abbadi

Dear TMUN'22 Delegates,

We, Maryam Jaebak and Zakya El Abbadi, are pleased to welcome every single one of you to the 9th annual Tangier Model UN conference for the Economic Social Council Committee (ECOSOC). Throughout our time together, we will be working on “Implementing and Improving Available Water Sustainability and Infrastructure” in all parts of the world. Please do not hesitate to contact us if you have any concerns or questions. Good luck on your research !

You can contact us at: maryam.jaebak_ida@ast.ma or zakya.elabbadi@asm.ma

Requirements

- A. Position Paper
- B. Research on the Topic
- C. Potential solutions to the problem
- D. SMILE ;) and Positivity

Introduction

All efforts to promote development eventually revolve around water. However, this finite resource is under increasing strain on a global scale due to factors including urbanization, excessive consumption, a lack of investment and capacity, inadequate management, waste, and the needs of the agricultural, energy, and food industries. Although it is widely agreed that there is enough freshwater in the world to support 7 billion people, it is dispersed unevenly and a disproportionate amount of it is wasted, contaminated, and managed in an unsustainable manner.

To maintain the social, environmental, and economic sustainability of the communities that water utilities serve as well as to provide the general public with clean and safe water, sustainable water infrastructure is essential.

When considering implementing and improving available water sustainability and infrastructure, it is important to note the challenges and the tools to achieve this :

1. Investment and Financing

- Infrastructure development requires significant investment and more cooperation

- Water Tarrifs
- Payment as an economic instrument
- 2. Implementing Technologies
 - Benefits of water efficient technologies
 - “Technology divides”
 - Effective technology facilitation mechanisms
- 3. Improving Capacity
 - Lack of human capacity both in numbers and knowledge
- 4. Improving Water Governance
 - the variety of political, social, economic, and administrative institutions in place to create and manage water resources and provide water services at various societal levels
 - Plans for integrated water resources, transboundary agreements, national policies, and strategic planning are frequently absent or insufficient

Quick Facts:

- 500 million people are on the verge of living in places of physical scarcity, where 1.2 billion people now reside.
- Economic water shortages (when nations lack the infrastructure to get water from rivers and aquifers) affect an additional 1.6 billion people.
- As much as one-third of the world's population is thought to be impacted by drought, desertification, and other types of water scarcity.
- By 2025, two-thirds of the world's population would be living in water-stressed situations if present consumption trends are kept up.
- Areas where population growth is still significant, water shortage is predicted to get worse.

Key Topics to Consider

UN Involvement and Goals for the Future

Goal 6 of the United Nations’ Sustainable Development Goals is to ensure the availability and sustainability of water and sanitation for all by 2030. Targets of the goal include access to drinking water for all, sanitation and hygiene, treating and recycling of wastewater, improved water quality, water use efficiency, etc. While tracked progress reports for each target goal by the SDG Data Portal indicate

significant progress for water sustainability practices, this progress is dispersed unevenly across regions of the globe. Throughout the data, regions of South America, Africa, and Asia consistently fall behind on progress compared to the rest of the globe and occasionally display negative progress. Connecting between social, economic, and political trends among these regions is crucial to identifying the root causes of the disparity in sustainable water infrastructures and among nations and regions of the globe. Targeting these root causes is key to achieving SDG 6 and advancing sustainable development.

Investment and financing

Lack of sustainable water infrastructure proves to be significantly costly to economies, with estimates of up to \$470 billion lost globally between poor sanitation and water insecurity. Current financing in sustainable water infrastructure is far from meeting the investment needs required to reach SDG 6. In fact, losses in agriculture, health, income, and property related to poor water sanitation and water scarcity are projected to result in a 6% loss in GDP by 2050 in certain areas of the world. In order to achieve the water sanitation target of SDG 6 by 2030, current capital investment would have to triple to reach \$1.7 trillion. Several factors associated with sustainable water infrastructure financing such as the under-pricing of water, high sunk costs associated with investment, etc. often deters private investments in water sustainability projects. The key to the development of sustainable water is investment in infrastructure projects and technology, which requires that the sustainable water sector be made more attractive to investors.

Implementing Technologies

The sustainable water sector has the potential to drive socioeconomic growth by creating markets, jobs, and business opportunities. Through the development of efficient water management technologies, the sustainable water sector can expand as a market and improve economic conditions while also significantly reducing water stress and water costs. For instance, the UN estimates that potential savings from increased technological efficiency in irrigated agriculture could amount to up to \$115 billion by 2030, leading to net profits of up to \$100-200 billion for impoverished farmers around the world. An looming concern, however, is the monetization and privatization of these technologies, which reduces the accessibility of these technologies to developing countries through cost and intellectual property barriers. Balancing the accessibility of these technologies with consideration to adequate financial benefits to attract investors is a challenge that must be addressed.

Questions to consider

- ★ How is climate change impacting water availability and infrastructure ?
- ★ What are individual countries doing to improve water sustainability?
- ★ How does uncertainty surrounding water availability affect socioeconomic development ?
- ★ How do specific national policies regarding water resource management affect global water sustainability goals ?
- ★ Why is water scarcity especially affecting regions with growing populations ?
- ★ How can international platforms for dialogue and cooperation on sustainable water management policies and goals be established and encouraged ?
- ★ How can water resource and infrastructure management be regulated on a transboundary level ?
- ★ How is infrastructural debt affecting national investment in water sustainability infrastructure ?

- ★ How does investment in sustainable water infrastructure affect the economy of a nation- is it beneficial or detrimental ?
- ★ How can private investment in water sustainability infrastructure be encouraged and regulated ?
- ★ What is the significance of local/ cultural/ water resource management systems and how can they be conserved while simultaneously improved to be more sustainable ?
- ★ How can the sustainability of a water management policy be assessed ?
- ★ How do socio political agendas (if they exist) affect general perspectives on the threat of water sustainability ?
- ★ If at all- how does the general public view on the threat of water scarcity affect government responses to water sustainability issues ?
- ★ How must the United Nations and member nations go about efforts to aid nations suffering from water scarcity and poor sanitation ?

Key Terms

- **United Nations Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs)** : Collection of 17 interlinked global goals designed to be a "shared blueprint for peace and prosperity for people and the planet, now and into the future". The SDGs were set up in 2015 by the United Nations General Assembly and are intended to be achieved by 2030.
- **Blackwater** : Contaminated wastewater that must be drained from a building into separate blackwater pipes for extraction.
- **Desalination** : process by which the dissolved mineral salts in water are removed. Desalination is most often used to produce clean drinking water.
- **Motion(s)** : Motions are a way to request permission from your chairs for something that you may need or to guide the debate in a certain way.
- **Rules of Procedure** : Rulebook of conduct in MUN.
- **Clause** : an instruction that details the policies one plans to implement once a resolution is passed
- **Draft Resolution**: a resolution paper including clauses and proposed solutions proper formatting and content, so that it may be approved by the chair. Once it is approved it will be discussed and voting can start.
- **Sponsor**: Sponsors refers to the delegates/ambassadors which will lead and contribute to a draft resolution. They will be named within the document and often one of them will be chosen to introducing it within the committee.
- **Signatories**: Signatories are delegates/ ambassadors within the committee that sign resolution drafts. Sponsors will go around and propose their resolutions to different delegates/ambassadors and attempt to get them to be signatories for their resolutions. Being a signatory essentially signals that one stands behind what the document says and supports it.
- **Preambulatory Clause**: Explanatory clauses which showcase why one has decided on the policies one mentions within the operative clauses. They can give context as to the reasoning, explain a problem, showcase data, etc.
- **Operative Clause**: Numbered clauses that detail policies that are implemented to solve the conflict at hand.
- **Amendment**: Amendments are used to change policies provided, add new ones or erase sections and clauses which others might not agree with.

** We strongly recommend that you familiarize yourselves with common points/motions and rules of procedure in order for us to have the most appropriate and productive conference possible. If you are confused about clauses, draft resolutions, sponsors, etc., please research these ideas further or contact us so that we can help you understand them as they are essential components of the MUN experience and must be clear to all.*

Bibliography & Useful Websites

- <https://www.epa.gov/sustainable-water-infrastructure/planning-sustainable-water-infrastructure>
- <https://sustainabledevelopment.un.org/owg.html>
- <https://www.un.org/sustainabledevelopment/water-and-sanitation/>
- <https://sustainabledevelopment.un.org/focussdgs.html>
- <https://sustainabledevelopment.un.org/content/documents/4673dano.pdf>
- <https://www.unwater.org/about-un-water/what-we-do/inform-policies>
- <https://www.unwater.org/about-un-water/what-we-do/monitor-and-report>
- <https://sustainabledevelopment.un.org/content/documents/hlpwater/08-WaterInfrastInvest.pdf>
- <https://www.worldbank.org/en/topic/water/publication/high-and-dry-climate-change-water-and-the-economy>
- https://www.worldwatercouncil.org/sites/default/files/2017-10/WWC_OECD_Water-fit-to-finance_Report.pdf
- <https://openknowledge.worldbank.org/handle/10986/23681>

<https://www.unwater.org/publications/sdg-6-progress-reports>

<https://www.ohchr.org/en/water-and-sanitation/about-water-and-sanitation>