

YOUR NEWSLETTER - LINKING YOU 4 TIMES A YEAR WITH YOUR COLLEAGUES AND THE SECTOR

BREAKING NEWS

13th session of the European Youth Parliament for Water held in Switzerland

Burier, 14.03.2016 – Federal Councillor Didier Burkhalter opened the 13th session of the European Youth Parliament for Water (EYPW) with a speech titled “Switzerland seeks to empower youth to build bridges and advance water cooperation”, underlining that the young members of parliament can, upon returning to their countries, play a part in turning the issue of water into a peacebuilding instrument.

Founded in 1998, the EYPW aims to promote the participation of young people in water policies and to raise their awareness of the challenges of water management through workshops, discussions with experts and elected representatives, and field trips. This is the second time that such a meeting takes place in Switzerland. The topic selected this year for the 13th EYPW – ‘Water and risk management’ – is very much in line with Switzerland’s activities in the water sector.



[Speech](#)

[Press release](#)

[Local TV broadcast \(télé régionale lémanique\)](#)

[Blog of the Department of Federal Affairs](#)

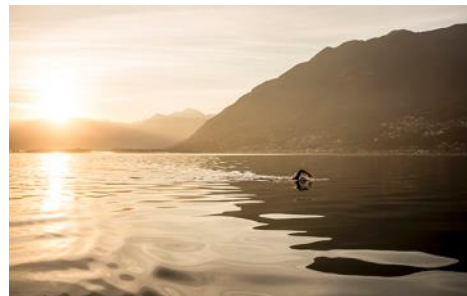
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HEADQUARTER ACTIVITIES

Swimming in the North for clean drinking water in the South

Ernst Bromeis is a former trainer of triathlon athletes who now devotes himself to the work of a “water ambassador”. Some of his long-distances swimming expeditions (including last year’s 100 km trip to the World EXPO in Milano) generated considerable media coverage worldwide, which he used to talk about water and solidarity, among other issues. He acts as Goodwill Ambassador to Solidarit’eau, a platform initiated by SDC where funders and supporters (mostly municipalities or water supply associations from Switzerland) can find projects to improve access to drinking water in the global South. On the occasion of World Water Day 2016, a new video titled “[The Water Ambassador](#)” was launched (5:34 minutes). When asked about his message for World Water Day, he said: *We must all work together to ensure that everyone on the planet has access to adequate water supply.*



[Press release and interview with Ernst Bromeis](#)

[Website of Solidarit'Eau Suisse](#)

Excess irrigation for Robusta coffee production gives rise to alarming seasonal groundwater level decline in Vietnam

New evidence from a scientific study shows how excess irrigation water for Robusta production is temporarily trapped in the soil and no longer available for use during the dry season. The groundwater level decline caused by excess irrigation leads to drying up of shallow wells in many locations, with negative impacts on coffee production as well as water availability for other purposes.

These are some of the findings of a hydrogeological study presented in a conference on 3rd March, 2016 by the Swiss Center for Hydrogeology and Geothermics of Neuchatel (CHYN) and Embden, Drishaus and Epping Consulting (EDE). Over 100 participants from 5 major coffee producing provinces in Vietnam attended, including representatives of several government agencies, academia, private coffee traders and roasters, and farmers, among others. The study is part of the Public Private Development Partnership project of Nestlé and SDC.



For further information: [Eileen Hofstetter](#)

8th Peer Review of SDC's Global Program Water Initiatives: Innovative Media Coverage

In September 2015, the Global Programme Water Initiatives (GPWI) organized the 8th Peer Review for its strategic pillar Water Governance, bringing together all the partners of the pillar. They were invited to present their projects and to evaluate and discuss the current portfolio, develop synergies between projects and identify gaps between GPWI portfolio and strategy. The GPWI successfully organizes peer review meetings on a regular basis, with an increasing number of projects and participants. They are highly appreciated by partners and GPWI staff and offer a unique opportunity to share new ideas, inputs and experiences.

[Further information using innovative media](#)

IN-COUNTRY ACTIVITIES**RésEAU-Exchange, Peru, March 2016: Learning from successful up-scaling in Peru (SABA plus)**

The SABA plus project in Peru is one of SDC's most successful endeavours of upscaling in the WASH sector to date, since the Peruvian Government fully integrated the approaches developed by SDC in its National Rural Sanitation Programme. The RésEAU exchange event brought together staff from the SABA Plus project with staff from SDC's WASH projects in Latin America and the CIS-Region, which all developed promising models for rural water supply and sanitation and are working towards bringing these models to scale to achieve lasting changes in the national WASH sector institutions and programmes. Discussions during a field visit and a workshop, organised in parallel to the Latinosan conference in Lima, enabled the participants to understand the factors that led to the success of the SABA plus project and review the strategies for up-scaling employed in each of the participants' projects. During a peer assessment of the SABA plus project participants analysed the transferability of its key success factors on global scale. The results of the event will be documented and made available to the RésEAU shortly.



Further information: [Hanna Capeder](#)

Full Cost Recovery Model for rural water supply implemented in Uzbekistan and Tajikistan

SDC supports two initiatives, one in Uzbekistan and one in Tajikistan, aiming to ensure a sustainable and affordable access to drinking water for rural populations. Based on their long-term experience (activities in Uzbekistan started in 1998) and successful completion of previous phases (160,000 people from 32 villages in the two countries gained access to drinking water), these projects were able to establish a full cost recovery model for rural water supply. In order to document these advances, two videos were produced which are summarizing the main elements of this model:

- [short video](#), (4 minutes)
- [long video](#), (12 minutes)

Further information: [Olivier Magnin](#)

Water and Sanitation networks for the Jerash Refugee Camp in Jordania

An SDC direct implementation project is underway to construct water and wastewater networks for the Jerash Palestine Refugee Camp in Jordan. The project is designed to serve 25,000 people, with planned extensions for up to 37,000 people by 2025. A local engineering consultant company oversees the works of two local contractors, and the project also includes the transfer of technique and technology (HDPE piping and manhole cores) to the Jordan Ministry of Water and Irrigation. Project planning took place in 2012 in "Fast Track Mode" and its first phase



(2013-2016) is well underway, with handing over to the corresponding Jordanian governmental entities concerned planned for April/May 2016.

For further information: [George Burri](#)

or visit: <https://www.eda.admin.ch/deza/en/home/countries/middle-east.html>

Lima Declaration: Latin American countries agree to prioritize Government investments in rural areas

The Fourth Latin American Sanitation Conference (Latinosan), which was held in Lima (Peru) in March 2016, concluded with the publication of the Lima Declaration, reaffirming the signing countries' commitment to reach universal access to water and sanitation and to prioritize government investments in rural and marginal areas. They expressed their will to narrow water and sanitation gaps not only through financial resources, but also through institutional support, improved policies, technological adjustments and better management models. Another important agreement of the Lima Declaration is to celebrate the First Regional Meeting of Water and Sanitation Ministers, to be held in March 2017 in Mexico.



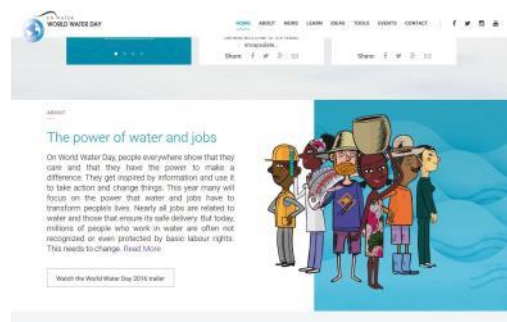
[More information](#)

Contact: [Jean-Gabriel Duss](#)

CURRENT TOPICS

World Water Day

22nd March was World Water Day with activities taking place around the globe. The event is an opportunity to put a spotlight on specific water-related issues and projects. This year, media coverage included several activities where SDC was involved. For example the regional AGUASAN project in Central America produced various documentaries, TV and radio spots, articles in newspaper, and it also provided some content for social media. In Kosovo a film on water quality was launched at a special event which featured speeches from the Prime Minister of Kosovo, the Minister of Environment and Spatial Planning and the Ambassadors of Switzerland and Germany. Regional Water Companies held a series of public events during the week including TV debates, visits to water treatment plants, public exhibitions, visits to schools and in one case a fly-by of paragliders over Prizren with banners and leaflets.



More information:

[World Water Development Report 2016](#)

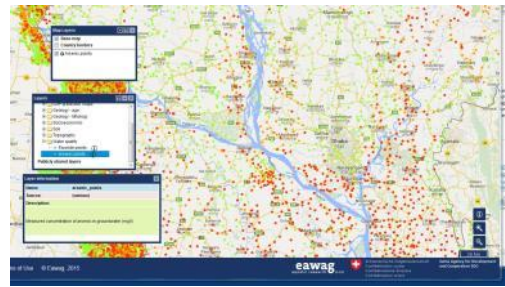
<https://www.facebook.com/SwissCooperationAmericaCentral/> or

<https://vimeo.com/159955687>

[Global website of World Water Day](#)

Mapping Groundwater Resources

SDC supports Eawag, the Swiss Federal Institute of Aquatic Science and Technology, to develop a global Groundwater Assessment Platform (GAP). The platform includes an online mapping tool (GAP Map) and a Wiki database (GAP Wiki). The GAP Map module serves to visualize maps, upload and analyze data, as well as sharing data with others. The GAP Wiki helps to find information on geogenic contamination and to allow people to contribute to a common database. The platform is under development and feedback from current and potential users would be highly appreciated.



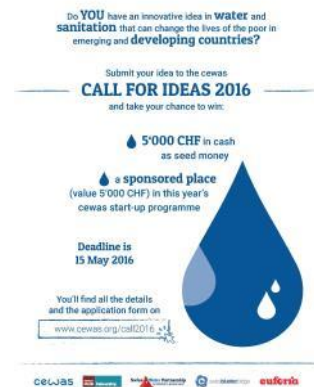
Project website: www.gapmaps.org

For further information: [Michael Berg](#)

Fostering private sector initiatives

seecon international gmbh and cewas, the Switzerland-based business incubator for start-ups in the water and sanitation sector, are fostering private sector initiatives around the globe. Currently, two different projects are calling for broad participation:

1) There is a call for promising, interesting and creative ideas in sanitation, water and resource management for the poor. The winner of this competition obtains a sponsored place in the cewas Business Start-up Programme 2016/2017. This is a joint effort of cewas, Impact Hub, Swiss Water Partnership, Swiss Bluetec Bridge and euphoria.



For further information visit: <http://www.cewas.org/call2016/>

2) A consortium of organizations led by seecon international gmbh offers business matchmaking and innovation-brokering processes between European technology and services firms and Small and Medium-sized Enterprises in Namibia, South Africa and Zambia. The matchmaking processes are ideal for European companies who wish to place their products or services in the Southern African market and SMEs from Namibia, South Africa and Zambia who wish to team-up and collaborate with European companies to mutual commercial benefit. Participating companies will enjoy intensive, high level coaching in the development and implementation of joint business models.

For further information: [Martin Wafler](#)

or visit: <http://cewas.org/business-development-training/>

KNOWLEDGE PRODUCTS

The Costs of Meeting the SDG Goal on Drinking Water, Sanitation and Hygiene

A WSP technical paper titled “The Costs of Meeting the 2030 Sustainable Development Goal Targets on Drinking Water, Sanitation, and Hygiene” is now available. The study provides an assessment of the global costs of meeting the WASH-related targets of Goal #6. The key findings are:

- Current levels of financing can cover the capital costs of achieving universal basic service for drinking water, sanitation, and hygiene by 2030, provided resources are targeted to the needs.
- The capital investments required to achieve the water supply, sanitation, and hygiene SDGs (targets 6.1 and 6.2) amount to about three times the current investment levels.
- Sustained universal coverage requires more than capital inflows: financial and institutional strengthening will be needed to ensure that capital investments translate into effective service delivery.

The [summary](#) and [full report](#) are available for download.

**Water Integrity Global Outlook 2016 – Clean water needs clean governance**

The Water Integrity Global Outlook 2016 (WIGO) is a publication by the Water Integrity Network (WIN) in collaboration with CapNet, GIZ, GWP, UNDP Water Governance Facility at SIWI, Transparency International and TI-Bangladesh. WIGO is: (1) a demonstration of how integrity and good governance have become international and national priorities; (2) a review of how institutional fragmentation and corruption undermine resources and services; (3) an outline of tools and techniques to achieve improvements; (4) a set of recommendations for action to governments, sector actors, the private sector and civil society bodies. One of the key messages of the Global Outlook is that improved governance, integrity and anti-corruption measures can win back US\$ 75 billion every year. The official launch of the Water Integrity Global Outlook took place in Berlin on World Water Day, 22nd March. This will be followed up by a series of in-country launch events all over the world.



The Water Integrity Network (WIN) is a network of organizations and individuals promoting water integrity to reduce corruption and improve water sector performance. SDC has been supporting WIN since 2009 and currently the cooperation between SDC and WIN is in its third phase.

[Download WIGO](#)

For further information, write to info@win-s.org

CALENDAR

Water Team Days

The Water Team Days 2016 will be organised on Thursday 23rd and Friday 24th of June 2016 in Berne. The Water Team Days is the yearly face-to-face meeting and the main event of the RésEAU, so please reserve these dates in your calendar! The call for registration will be sent out by beginning of April 2016, including details on the agenda and information on how to contribute to the event.

Please note that this year, the Water Team Days are held before the Aguasan-Workshop (27.6.-1.7.2016).

Contact: Christian Eggs or Hanna Capeder

AGUASAN Workshop

This year's AGUASAN workshop, taking place in Spiez between 26th June and 1st July, 2016, is dedicated to the topic of "Implementing the Water Goal- SDG in practice". The AGUASAN Workshop is open to field staff, desk officers, policy makers, researchers, consultants and other water and sanitation specialists with a background in the various sectors/ topics covered by the Water Goal. The focus will be on the assessment and development of practical tools for shaping the Water and Sanitation 2030 Agenda on the project and policy level. Deadline for submitting applications: 24 March, 2016.

Contact: [Tandiwe Erlmann](#)

7th Rural Water Supply Network (RWSN) Forum – Abidjan, Côte D'Ivoire

The 7th Rural Water Supply Network (RWSN) Forum will take place from 29th November to 2nd December in Abidjan, Côte D'Ivoire. The RWSN Forum is about bringing together those who are passionate about rural water services, be they water users, practitioners, service providers, political leaders, researchers, funders or policy makers. It is the foremost global event on rural water services and takes place every 5 years. Some 650 participants from all over the world are anticipated to come. It will be held in English and French. SDC is a gold sponsor of the event.

The Open Call for Submissions includes short and long papers, posters, films and pictures or illustrations, and the deadline for submitting these materials is 30 April.

[More information and registration](#)

[More information on becoming an event sponsor](#)

[More information on submissions](#)

Course on International Economic Legal System and Sustainable Development

UNITAR, the United Nations Institute for Training and Research, is inviting for the pilot course on International Economic Legal System and Sustainable Development. This course is one of series within the topic of International Law for Sustainable Development (Law4Dev) and will take place twice in 2016: 2 - 30 May and 14 November - 12 December.

[Further information](#)

Swiss Water Partnership General Assembly

The General Assembly 2016 of the Swiss Water Partnership will take place on Wednesday 18 May at EPFL in Lausanne. As in previous years, there will be time dedicated to exchanges and mutual learnings.

[Further information](#)

Tech4Dev Conference: Serving Base-of-the-pyramid markets and customers: from pilot to scale-up

On the first day of EPFL's Tech4Dev Conference, Swiss Bluetec Bridge, Eawag and the Swiss Water Partnership will co-organize a session on the topic of "Serving Base of the Pyramid Markets and Customers: From Pilot to Scale", showcasing case studies from Antenna Technologies, Ennos, Weconnex, x-runner venture and responsAbility. Markus Bürlü of GPWI will discuss the role of public and private sectors in service delivery.



For more information, check out [this website](#) or contact [Anne Sophie Aublet](#)

World Water Congress & Exhibition 2016

The IWA World Water Congress and Exhibition has a major focus on the key areas of urban water policy and practice, it looks at the science and technology of our future 'water cities'. The Congress aims to inspire change amongst urban and local leaders and catalysing a shift in the current water management paradigm to make our cities more resilient and liveable.

Date: 9-14 October 2016

Location: Brisbane – Queensland – Australia

[More information](#)

Training Workshop on International Law and Transboundary Freshwater

The Centre for Water Law, Policy & Science will organise its 7th Annual International Law and Transboundary Freshwater Training Workshop in Dundee, from 27-30th June 2016. Through a series of lectures from experienced water law experts, case studies and group exercises the workshop provides participants with the opportunity to benefit a range of experts (lawyers and non-lawyers) working on transboundary water issues from across the world, including those from government, international organisations, civil society groups, universities, research institutes and private companies. For additional information or to book your place, please visit <http://www.dundee.ac.uk/water/events/>.

For general enquiries please contact [Jaclyn Scott](#)

ABOUT

"SDC Water News" is the electronic news bulletin of SDC's Global Programme Water Initiatives (GPWI) sent out to Swiss international cooperation people who are loosely organised in the water network "RésEAU".

RésEAU aims at assuring the sector knowledge management within SDC and with its partners. It is anchored in the Global Programme Water Initiatives and the network's focal point is Christian Eggs.

"SDC Water News" lives through interaction and active involvement and you are invited to send – at any time – your contributions, feedbacks, as well as subscription issues to the editor. The news team is grateful for any input received.

[SDC's Global Programme Water Initiatives](#)

[RésEAU Shareweb](#)

[SDC Water News Archive](#)

RésEAU Focal Point: [Christian Eggs](#)

Send articles and comments to the Editor: [Sanjay K Gupta](#)



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