

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

## BREAKING NEWS

### The WHO Global Task Force on Cholera Control has been revitalized, SDC shows its commitment

Through a special resolution in 2011, the WHO Director-General decided to revitalize the Global Task Force on Cholera Control (GTFCC) and to strengthen the collaboration and coordination among relevant stakeholders. The vision is to: i) support accelerated implementation of evidence-based strategies to control cholera; ii) strengthen international collaboration and improve coordination amongst stakeholders active in cholera-related activities, iii) raise the visibility of cholera as a public health issue and contribute to capacity development in all areas of cholera control. The revitalization process has been completed with a kick-off meeting in June 2014, where membership and priorities were finalized.



SDC is represented within the GTFCC with a member of the Swiss humanitarian aid unit, Claudio Valsangiacomo, Professor at the WASH Competence Centre of the Swiss University of Applied Sciences ([claudio.valsangiacomo@supsi.ch](mailto:claudio.valsangiacomo@supsi.ch)).

For further information: [www.who.int/cholera](http://www.who.int/cholera)

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## 7th World Water Forum in Daegu & Gyeongbuk, Republic of Korea on 12-17 April 2015 with a strong focus on SDGs

SDC is well-prepared for the World Water Forum to be held in April in South Korea. With more than 35,000 delegates expected from 170 countries, it is the most important event for the water community. One of the Forum's highlights will be the High-Level Panel on Water in the Post-2015 Development Agenda, which is co-chaired by Switzerland. The presence of the South-African Minister of Water & Sanitation and the Minister of Environment from the Netherlands has been already confirmed. John Sibi-Okumu, experienced broadcaster and actor, will facilitate the session. This panel will strengthen the dialogue around the SDGs as a means to support their achievement. Visit <http://eng.worldwaterforum7.org/main/> for more information.



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## HEADQUARTER ACTIVITIES

### SDC and partners participate in Coffee Outlook Conference 2015, Vietnam

As part of the 5<sup>th</sup> Coffee Festival in Buon Ma Thuot - capital of Vietnam's largest coffee growing province Dak Lak - the Minister of Agriculture and Rural Development opened and chaired the National Coffee Outlook Conference 2015 of the world's largest Robusta coffee producer. Over 200 national and international delegates from the roasting industry, trade, public sector, research & development and farmer communities participated. EDE Consulting and the Swiss University of Neuchatel official-



ly presented the Public-Private Partnership Project between Nestlé and the Swiss Agency for Development and Cooperation (SDC) on the topic: "Vietnam to Produce More Coffee with Less Water – Towards a reduction of the Blue Water Footprint in coffee production" to the wider public. The audience welcomed this initiative and the first results will be shared at the next forum.

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### 1<sup>st</sup> Peer Review and Joint Learning Event of the "Equitable Access" Portfolio held in Geneva

Component 3 of the GPWIs Strategic Framework 2013-2017 aims at *Influencing at the global level for improved, equitable access to basic water services and efficient use of water for agriculture*. The 1<sup>st</sup> peer review brought together i) the GPWIs partners implementing programs belonging to this "Equitable Access" portfolio with its two clusters "WASH" and "Water for Agriculture", ii) the respective program managers at the GPWIs, and iii) a panel of three advisors. The objective was to review jointly the key programmatic progress and challenges of the programs, with a specific focus on the Human Rights to Water and Sanitation (HR2WS) and Gender, whilst exploring opportunities for synergies among the endeavours and scaling-up of their effects. The agenda was made up of a day devoted to strategic issues (global sector context and strategic partnerships) followed by a day dedicated to programmatic issues. The panel of three advisors included Asha Abdulrahman (Woman for Water Partnership), Catarina De Albuquerque (Human Rights Advisor, former Special Rapporteur HR2WS) and Letitia Obeng (now at IWMI, former Chair of GWP)

If you want to contribute to this then email to [equity@dgroups.org](mailto:equity@dgroups.org)

## New RésEAU Shareweb online

The Shareweb of the RésEAU has been completely overhauled and is now online. The Shareweb offers an overview on what SDC is doing in the water sector, gives news and information on what is going on in the RésEAU and the regional Sub-RésEAU, and provides access to resources like documents and videos. The Shareweb also offers new functionalities for communication in the RésEAU community, such as a blog and discussion forum. Some of these features are still being tested and improved, but you can visit the website, browse its content and add your comments.

Visit the Share-web here: [www.sdc-water.ch](http://www.sdc-water.ch)

For comments and suggestions to the Shareweb, contact [andreas.steiner@eda.admin.ch](mailto:andreas.steiner@eda.admin.ch)

## IN-COUNTRY ACTIVITIES

### SDC activities in the Andean Region

SDC's strategic work with the Peruvian National Water Authority (PNWA) based on the *Suizagua Andina* project is advancing towards the scaling up of the project model. The PNWA has communicated their decision to (i) recognize the work developed by the *Suizagua Andina* partner companies and (ii) to motivate the whole Peruvian private sector to follow the project's model and recognize companies that are responsible with their water management. A stakeholders' committee meeting of *Suizagua Andina* took place in Lima in February 2015 as a specific activity to support the PNWA in their process design of scaling up the *Suizagua Andina* model in the Peruvian private sector. The committee representatives were from (i) the Peruvian National Water Authority, (ii) 2030 WRG, (iii) Peru 2021 -World Business Council for Sustainable Development – Peruvian Chapter, (iv) *Suizagua Andina* Peru partner companies, (v) *Agualimpia - Suizagua Andina* executive team, and (vi) SDC.

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### Rural Water and Sanitation Boards of Peru and Chile exchange their experiences and knowledge

Peru and Chile share common issues in the rural water and sanitation management, despite their differences in rural poverty levels. This was one of the findings of the exchange of experiences and knowledge among the Boards of rural Water and Sanitation in Peru and Chile that took place last February in Santiago de Chile as part of the knowledge management activities of SABA PLUS project in Latin America under an agreement of SDC and Avina Foundation.



Members of the National Federation of Rural Drinking Water (FENAPRU) in Chile and OCSAS (*Organizaciones Comunitarias de Agua y Saneamiento*) in Peru shared experiences and realised that they face the same challenges, including sustainability, skill development and territoriality. They discussed topics of i) organizational arrangements for management (committees and cooperatives); ii) regulatory frameworks iii) consumer subsidy scheme for rural drinking water; and iv) Public-Community model.

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## Progress towards Institutionalization in Rural Water and Sanitation and enhancement of water quality in Peru

A USD 300 million fund for improving municipal water and sanitation has been launched. It is collaboration between the Ministry of Water Sanitation, the Ministry of Inclusion and Social Development and the Ministry of Finance. The funding will be targeted at improving operations, maintenance, administration and human resources capacity of municipal authorities so that they deliver reliable services and meet water quality standards. This is aligned with the principles of the Sustainable Development Goals. This fund will be used in 2015 and it is expected to be extended until 2016.

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## Condominial sewerage technology scales up in Central America and the Caribbean

Forty members of water and sanitation institutions from El Salvador, Honduras, Nicaragua, Costa Rica, Panama and Dominican Republic have strengthened their knowledge about simplified sewerage - also known as *condominial* sewerage - technology through a workshop organized by the SDC's Regional and Small Cities and Schools WASH programs in Managua, Nicaragua from February 2-6<sup>th</sup>, 2015. The sharing of this knowledge is being led by Brazilian and Nicaraguan experts. Since the last decade the *condominial* sewerage technology has become a common solution for Brazilian cities because of its low cost and adaptable design which satisfy most of the developing countries' informal urban needs. 17,000 people from two small cities of Jesús de Otoro and San Juan de Intibucá both in Republic of Honduras gained access to clean water and sanitation services using this technology.



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## Water encourages starting family businesses in Nicaragua

A SDC's WASH program (AGUASAN) impact assessment study from Nicaragua has confirmed that low income families economic conditions in rural villages improves after accessing better water supply and sanitation facilities. This impact of access is even more evident in families that have expanded their small businesses such as food or Tortilla stands. In many cases the businesses are managed by women, who get more time to prepare food and attend customers in a more professional manner. *"When people realize that we use clean water for cooking, customers forget about the risk of getting sick by eating in my food court. Also, many travellers became customers because they are attracted by the clean toilet we offer them,"* said Rosibel Herrera to the AGUASAN's research team.



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## Inauguration of First Water Supply Infrastructure in MKAJI Project, in Dodoma, Tanzania

The official inauguration of the rain water harvesting infrastructure for a public primary health facility in Mpamantwa village in Bahi district was done jointly by the SDC representative of Tanzania and the District administrator on 19 February 2015. This is the first water infrastructure implemented and completed by the Maji kwa Afya ya Jamii (MKAJI) Project, aiming to establish sustainable water supply and sanitation services for a 100 primary health facilities in the Dodoma Region. The 5-year project is implemented by the Dutch NGO Simavi in a consortium with Witteveen+Bos, a consulting and engineering company, and the Tanzanian NGO partners CBHCC, UFUNDIKO and PATUTA.



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## CURRENT TOPICS

### New Special Rapporteur on the human right to safe drinking water and sanitation (HR2WS) appointed

Mr. Léo Heller was appointed by the Human Rights Council in November 2014 as the second Special Rapporteur on HR2WS. He replaces Catarina de Albuquerque who held the post since 2008. Mr. Heller started his mandate on 1 December 2014.

For further information visit <http://www.ohchr.org/EN/Issues/WaterAndSanitation/SRWater/Pages/LeoHeller.aspx>

### Geneva Water Hub initiates "Water Talks Series"

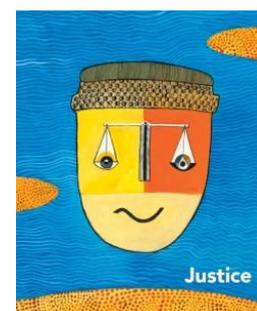
The Geneva Water Hub – Education & Knowledge (University of Geneva) has initiated the first edition of the "Water Talks Series". This series is an open-speech opportunity for researchers to expose and explain their ideas, their stances on contemporary challenges linked to water governance. The first edition on 9 February 2015 featured Dr. Jeremy Allouche (Institute of Development Studies, Brighton, UK) on "Water governance: from rivers and wars to individuals" and Prof. Joyeeta Gupta (University of Amsterdam, UNESCO-IHE Delft, Netherlands) on "Water is a glocal issue".

Videos of the presentations are accessible on:  
<https://plus.google.com/100952731808451794322/videos>

## KNOWLEDGE PRODUCTS

### Handbook on the Human Right to Water and Sanitation

The former UN Special Rapporteur on the human right to safe drinking water and sanitation, Catarina de Albuquerque has presented her new publication: Realising the human rights to water and sanitation: A handbook. This Handbook is the product of six years of work by the first UN Special Rapporteur on the human rights to water and sanitation. It explains the meaning and legal obligations that arise from these rights, translating the often complex technical and legal language into accessible information.



It can be downloaded [here](#).

## New UN Water Toolbox for the Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs)

The Water SDG implementation toolbox gathers existing practical guidance which could be useful for the implementation of the different water related targets proposed under the Sustainable Development Goals. The toolbox offers numerous tools developed by the different UN entities, as well as specific developments and cases of application.

For further information visit: <http://watersdgttoolbox.org>

## Compendium of accessible WASH technologies

This Compendium of low-cost technologies to improve the accessibility of household WASH facilities is designed for use by staff, such as health workers and community volunteers, working directly with communities in rural areas of sub-Saharan Africa. A few examples of technologies are presented that families can adapt to suit their needs and budgets. Many more options are possible. Most of the ideas are suitable for disabled and older people, or anyone who may have difficulty using standard facilities. The main focus is on household facilities, rather than institutional facilities, although some ideas might also be useful in these settings. The compendium is available in English, French and Portuguese from the [WaterAid website](#).



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## Manual Drilling Compendium 2015

This compendium has been compiled by Kerstin Danert, Director RWSN, (Skat Foundation), with support from UNICEF and numerous individuals and organisations promoting and supporting manual drilling. It provides an overview of the experiences, impacts and challenges of manual drilling from 36 countries. Manual drilling can provide a viable drinking water supply. The compendium should help to spur water supply stakeholders to consider this technology, and manual drillers themselves more seriously. There is felt need for support to develop a professional manual drilling sector (where viable) alongside professional mechanised drilling. The compendium, together with reflections on the government role in supporting manual drilling was also presented at the RWSN webinar: Manual Drilling – a global perspective of local realities (English) / Le forage manuel - points de vue internationaux sur les réalités locales (French).

It can be downloaded from [Download from RWSN](#).

## The Human Rights to Water and Sanitation in Courts Worldwide

The Human Rights to Water and Sanitation in Courts Worldwide: A Selection of National, Regional and International Case Law. The publication is available on the websites of WaterLex and WASH United.

Please visit [http://www.waterlex.org/?post\\_type=post\\_publications&p=2817](http://www.waterlex.org/?post_type=post_publications&p=2817) or <http://www.wash-united.org>

## CALENDAR

### 'My Water, My Business': a Seminar and fair on self-supply in Addis on 19<sup>th</sup>- 20<sup>th</sup> March 2015

Ethiopia is pioneering new approaches in water, sanitation and hygiene (WASH) that draws on the resources of local people, communities and entrepreneurs to further improve water security, food security

and wealth. 'My Water, My Business' is a series of linked events organised as part of the 2015 World Water Day celebrations to bring attention to these household-level efforts. The events will connect sector policy-makers, development partners, professionals, local governments and communities. A self-supply Seminar will promote local initiative and business to help all Ethiopians access safe water supplies. This seminar will bring together stakeholders to debate challenges and identify potential solutions to some critical policy issues in household-led water supply. At a WASH product fair, old and new products and services will also be presented. The fair is expected to attract over 50 exhibitors to showcase and sell their products and services. Attractions will include practical workshops, demonstrations, a photograph exhibition and short films. The My Water, My Business events are initiated by the JICA-funded [WAS-RoPSS Project](#), [Millennium Water Alliance](#), [IRC](#), [Aqua for All](#) and the [Global Water Initiative](#).

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### Water Week Latin America in Viña del Mar, Chile: 22<sup>nd</sup> - 27<sup>th</sup> March 2015

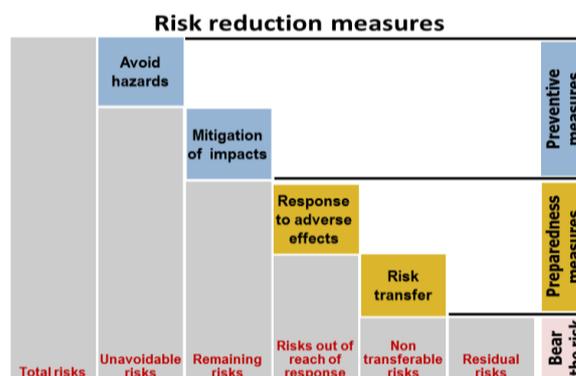
The Water Week Latin America (WWLA) "Making flow for Latin America" will take place in Viña del Mar - Chile from 22<sup>nd</sup> to 27<sup>th</sup> March. WWLA provides a unique platform for the exchange of experiences and practices among the scientific, business, political and civil communities. It focuses in a new way of thinking and positive action towards water related challenges and their impact on the environment, health, climate and economy. SDC - through its Suizagua Andina initiative – is part of the WWLA technical partners with the Chilean Authorities for Water, World Bank, Inter-American Development Bank, among others. The modules for this WWLA are: (i) Water Governance, (ii) Water and Industry, (iii) Water and Energy Scenarios, (iv) Corporate Strategic Water Management, (v) Territorial Planning and Water Resources Management, (vi) Water Supply and Sanitation (vii) Sustainable Hydrological Areas and (viii) Food and Water Security.

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### 31<sup>st</sup> AGUASAN Workshop, "DRR in WASH", 22<sup>th</sup> – 26<sup>th</sup> June 2015

#### **A workshop for water professionals, DRR specialists and wider development practitioners**

Water is key in tackling natural disasters and climate change, because it's the medium through which most of their impacts are felt. Water management and development strategies have a pivotal role in reducing vulnerability of people and assets to natural hazards. Seen its extensiveness, we propose to unravel the topic from the view-point of DRR in WASH: inadequate WASH services can cause disasters, while disasters can further degrade WASH services, both resulting in increased risk. Hence, the key question of "How to best implement DRR principles in the WASH sector to strengthen resilience to natural disasters in a multi-hazard approach?" will drive this year's AGUASAN workshop.



Based on thematic inputs, topic-specific cases and the broad expertise gathered by the participants, the 5-day cumulative knowledge generation process aims at preparing the practitioners community to respond effectively to the post-2015 interlinked water and DRR challenges. The participants will share experiences and develop entry points regarding the workshop topic, and leave the event with practical measures to apply back home as well as with a strengthened professional network across the different communities.

For further information and application (deadline 19.03.2015) see <http://www.aguasan.ch> or contact [roger.schmid@skat.ch](mailto:roger.schmid@skat.ch)

### 2015 Water Team Days on 29<sup>th</sup> - 30<sup>th</sup> June 2015

SDC Network RésEAU invites you to register your participation for the 2015 Water Team Days to be held on 29<sup>th</sup> and 30<sup>th</sup> June. For registering, please fill the registration form by 20<sup>th</sup> April 2015: [registration form](#). Please note that places for participation are limited and SDC Network RésEAU may not be able to accept all registrations. SDC will confirm your registration by end of April.

As usual SDC network RésEAU also invites you to assist in shaping the final agenda with your ideas and topic suggestions. Please provide your suggestions together with your registration in the registration form. For any questions related to the registration or the suggestion of topics, contact [florian.klingel@skat.ch](mailto:florian.klingel@skat.ch)



### Integrity in the water sector: How water professionals fight corruption - challenges and opportunities, event on 18<sup>th</sup> June 2015.

Water Integrity is an emerging issue which is based on three pillars: transparency, accountability and participation. An entry-level event will take place on June 18 in Willisau (near Lucerne) in order to showcase experiences from around the globe, highlight some tools to address Water Integrity and start an open discussion on how water professionals fight corruption. The Conveners are: Swiss Water Partnership, International Centre for Water Management Services (CEWAS), Helvetas SwissIntercooperation, Swiss Agency for Development and Cooperation (SDC), WaterLex, Water Integrity Network.

For further information:

<http://www.swisswaterpartnership.ch/events/starting-debate-water-integrity/>

### Save the date: Regional Water Team Days for Eastern Europe and Central Asia from 29<sup>th</sup> September - 2<sup>nd</sup> October 2015

The regional Water Team Days for Sub-RésEAU Eastern Europe and Central Asia will be organised for exchange of experiences and discussions on topics of common interest for NPOs and implementers of water, sanitation and IWRM projects from Central Asia, Eastern Europe (Moldova and Ukraine) and the Western Balkans. It will be hosted by SCO Moldova, ApaSan Moldova, DESPRO Ukraine. The event will cover a full week, 3½ days of (optional) field visits in Ukraine and Moldova, and 1½ days of workshop. More information on the agenda and the registration will be communicated soon.

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### Launch of IV LATINOSAN on 9<sup>th</sup> March 2016.

The Ministry of Housing, Construction and Sanitation of Peru will launch Latinosan 2016. A Supreme Decree signed by the President of Peru Ollanta Humala will be presented. The Decree declares the realization of Latinosan 2016 an issue of national interest and establishes a multi-sector working group for its organization. SDC is a key partner for Latinosan 2016.

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## ABOUT

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

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

"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](#)

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