

Contribution to WaterLex

Supporting the implementation of the Human Right to Water and Sanitation



Region
Global

Partner
WaterLex

Background information
Strengthen the integration of legal frameworks regulating water governance to respond to global water governance challenges.

Project objectives
Improve governance frameworks to secure the realization of the human right to water and sanitation.

Beneficiaries
Governments, Parliamentarians, NHRIs, and non-state actors.

Costs
CHF 250,000

Duration
03.2016 – 06.2018

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 Schweizerische Eidgenossenschaft
Confédération suisse
Confederazione Svizzera
Confederaziun svizra

Swiss Agency for Development and Cooperation SDC

WaterLex is a Geneva-based international membership association, established in 2010 to provide support to all water governance stakeholders in the implementation of and compliance with the human right to water and sanitation (HR2WS).

SDC supports WaterLex's core budget. This enables WaterLex to reinforce its position as a specialist – and a facilitator – within the global water agenda. The focus is on the improvement of water related legal and policy frameworks.

WaterLex is both an innovative *legal incubator* and a *field-facilitator* of water governance reforms. These two sides of the organization are reflected in the two divisions that determine the staffing and the activities: the Legal Desk and the Operations Desk.

WaterLex Legal Desk – Providing quality legal services

WaterLex identified the harmonisation of existing law and policies governing water resources at international, regional and national levels as the highest priority. Therefore, to shape new ways of water governance and to operationalise the human right to water and sanitation, WaterLex established working relationships with inter-governmental organisations, including UNECE, WHO, UNDP, UNEP and UNESCO.

WaterLex compiles, evaluates, designs and promotes water laws and policies that comply with human rights commitments of States through strategic projects such as: the Legal Database Initiative; its Parliamentarian HelpDesk; and the National Human Rights Institution (NHRI) Initiative.

WaterLex Operations Desk – Building the capacity of practitioners

The WaterLex Operations Desk undertakes core activities and delivers a range of products that are practical and that are able to overcome obstacles that hinder making the HR2WS a reality for the poorest and most vulnerable citizens around the world.

WaterLex activities include:

- multi-stakeholder country water governance assessments;
- multi-stakeholder workshops to draft National Action Plans and Strategies (e.g. in the field of decentralized water cooperation);
- the provision of targeted field assistance and training to main water governance stakeholders;
- the design of innovative education and capacity-development materials, for example: a Toolkit on the human rights-based approach to integrated water resources management (IWRM), a country mapping for Uganda on implementation and monitoring of the HR2WS, or activities to promote parliamentary action on water.

Additional information:
www.waterlex.org

