



Policy and Practice for Safe Drinking Water

- Date:** Tuesday, 26 November 2013
- Time:** 13:30 – 14:30
- Venue:** “Storesal” room
- Presenter:** Mr Tom Williams, International Water Association (IWA)
- Language:** English with simultaneous translation into Russian

The side event will present policy and practice dimensions of managing drinking water supplies, including the human right to water and sanitation (HRWS) and Water Safety Plans (WSP), and provide guidance on how to manage the interface between policy and practice.

Background

The enshrinement of the HRWS in 2010 and the more recent discourse regarding possible water related post-2015 Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs) are placing a greater emphasis, amongst other things, on the *explicit* safety of water supplies; something which was only *implicitly* recognized in MDG Target 7 and the WHO/UNICEF Joint Monitoring Programme (JMP). With this anticipated shift in global policy, the implications for what it means at a practical, local level are starting to emerge. Through IWAs work on the HRWS and WSPs, there are a number of tools and experiences to share with practitioners – water suppliers and regulators – on how to better manage the safety of water supplies.

Objectives and expected outcomes

The overarching objective of the side-event is to raise awareness of the practical implications of realizing the HRWS, with a specific focus on safe water supplies. Attendees will be introduced to practical tools to support improved management water supplies, mainly concerned with WSPs, and appreciate how policy and practice are interconnected (i.e. understanding the implications of specific policies on practices and vice versa).