

6 CLEAN WATER
AND SANITATION



BREAKOUT SESSION: STANDARDS FOR CLEAN WATER AND SANITATION

#StandardsfortheSDGs

Objectives of Breakout Session

The breakout session aims to:

- A. Provide a forum for discussion where standards organizations and policymakers can collaborate with their peers and other relevant stakeholders to share experiences, propose solutions to identified problems and present recommendations for future regulatory cooperation in standards for the SDGs.
- B. Review a set of key standards, action areas and good practices that can be shared with a broader audience;
- C. Identify ways standards can support access to adequate and equitable water and sanitation for all, paying special attention to the needs of those in vulnerable situations (e.g., women and girls).

Breakout Format

The breakout session offers attendees a unique opportunity to engage global stakeholders in a dynamic and interactive discussion to examine issues as they relate to Sustainable Development Goal 6 (Clean Water and Sanitation). The dialogue will explore how standards can help realize the targets of SDG 6, promote international cooperation and capacity-building support to developing countries and encourage the implementation of integrated water resource management. All conference participants are encouraged to share their knowledge, expertise and recommendations on the topic. A selection of case studies will be presented for discussion, with additional studies available in an online catalogue.

Topics for Discussion

The breakout session will present thought-provoking case studies, which have implications for the successful implementation of standards for the SDGs. During this session, participants will be presented with the opportunity to actively engage in critical discussion and address specific questions to the panel.

The session will consider the role of standards for the achievement of SDG 6 and promote discussion on the following key talking points:

- A. How can standards better support the shift from a culture of abundant water to rationalized demand? How can governments better align national drinking-water quality standards and regulations with contexts, understanding and technological innovations?
- B. Which standards and technologies can support innovative monitoring and reporting among different stakeholders (with emphasis on those who face barriers to access, such as women and girls) to ensure that monitoring initiatives respond to national need?
- C. How can the use of innovative models for data collection be supported, whilst mitigating challenges related to harmonization of different data formats, the assessment of reliability and the respect of standards?
- D. How can the various standards mapping tools being developed be scaled to enable greater corporate engagement on water supply, sanitation and hygiene? How can the tools support stakeholders to identify critical economic, environmental and social issues and make effective improvements to improve the sustainable management of water and sanitation?

The respective targets, indicators and 2017 progress information on Sustainable Development Goal 6 is available on the [UN Sustainable Development Knowledge Platform](#).

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Please contact oisin.curtis@un.org or cuschieri@iso.org for further information on this breakout session.