

Webinar 5th August – Panellists Photographs and Bios

Amanda Loeffen

Chief Executive, Human Right 2 Water



Amanda is CEO of Human Right 2 Water, and an experienced general manager and business development executive in water, energy and sustainable development, with international experience in Australasia, Europe and North America. Her goal is to provide sustainable solutions based on human rights to improve water governance worldwide. Previously as Director General of WaterLex, she led a team of water governance experts to encourage law and policy reform. Current projects include her leadership of the UNECE People-First PPP Stakeholder Engagement subgroup to realise benchmarks for developing human rights-based approaches. Previously, as CEO of a project management company in New Zealand, Amanda delivered environmental resource consent for a community water infrastructure scheme for irrigation and hydro-generation.

Dr. Anand Chiplunkar

Board Member, Human Right 2 Water



Dr. Anand Chiplunkar has a unique expertise of more than three decades in the fields of urban infrastructure development and environment management. He worked in the Asian Development Bank, Manila till April 2016 as Director, Urban Development and Water Division in the Central and West Asia Department. Earlier he worked in IL&FS Infrastructure Development Corporation, New Delhi as Senior Vice President. Since 2016, he provides strategic advisory services to different organizations including the UN Economic Commission for Europe in People's First Public Private Partnerships.

His experience in urban infrastructure development covers projects in water, wastewater and solid waste management, urban transport and other municipal activities. His expertise lies in developing Public Private Partnership (PPP) projects in partnership with government agencies in urban, industrial area development, transport and tourism sectors. He also has conducted numerous Environmental Impact Assessment (EIA) studies for infrastructure sectors and industries. He holds a Ph/D. in Environmental Science and Engineering. He has been a Hubert Humphrey Fellow at the University of Washington, Seattle and affiliated with the US Environment Protection Agency. He is now retired and based in Pune, India.



Olcay Ünver is currently Vice Chair of UN-Water, senior water advisor to FAO in Rome, Italy, and a member of Water Policy Group. He has been an influential figure as both an executive and an opinion leader in global water policy. In his public service career spanning three decades, he led FAO's water programs and activities, UNESCO's World Water Assessment Programme, a collaboration initiative for Euphrates-Tigris, and Turkey's South-eastern Anatolia Project. He was named a European Visionary by Time Magazine and was featured in New York Times for his efforts towards sustainable, human-centred development. He served as Secretary General and Vice President of IWRA, and Governor and Treasurer of World Water Council, among numerous boards and committees involving water, sustainable development, sustainable food and agriculture systems, water cooperation and policy. Olcay holds civil engineering degrees that include a PhD in water resources, master's in urban hydrology and bachelor's with hydraulics focus.

Patricia Lopez

World Bank, Sr. Infrastructure Finance Specialist



Patricia Lopez is a Sr. Infrastructure Finance Specialist in the World Bank's Water Global Practice with more than 20 years' experience in water operations. She is currently serving as coordinator of a global group called Financial Innovation Team within the Water GP, and leading several World Bank lending operations in the Europe and Central Asia region. From 2016-2019 she was Program Leader for the Danube Water Program, a technical assistance program financed by the Government of Austria implemented in partnership by the World Bank and the International Association of Water and Wastewater Companies from the Danube Region (IAWD) focusing on analytical work, institutional development and capacity building for water sector institutions within the Danube basin countries. Patricia has worked on policy advice and financing operations with World Bank client countries on financial and institutional issues, working closely with national, regional and local governments, public and private water utilities and other water sector stakeholders. Before joining the World Bank, Patricia worked for different investment banks and consultancy firms advising governments, utilities and private companies in project and corporate finance operations. Patricia has hands-on experience in the design of solutions for the provision of water and sanitation services and the financing of infrastructure, particularly with participation of the private sector and PPPs. With the World Bank, she has worked in global knowledge work and operations in Latin America and the Caribbean, Europe and Central Asia.

UNECE, Chief of the International PPP Centre of Excellence



Geoffrey Hamilton is Chief, of the Cooperation and Partnerships Section of the Economic Cooperation and Integration Division with the United Nations Economic Commission for Europe (UNECE) in Geneva. His current responsibility is promoting People-first Public-Private Partnerships (PPP) for infrastructure development in support of the Sustainable Development Goals where he leads the UNECE International PPP Centre of Excellence and a programme on building the capacity of governments to undertake successful projects.

Accordingly, he has developed Guiding Principles on People-first PPP, that sets down the enabling environment for such new models with a focus on transparency, capacity building, environmental sustainability, stakeholder dialogue etc. He has furthermore developed a programme to develop international standards in People-first PPP dealing with road, rail, health care and smart cities, etc. In addition, under his leadership a Standard on Zero Tolerance to Corruption in PPP Procurement was approved. Looking to the future he is currently managing the development of an evaluation methodology to score People-first projects ex post and ex ante.

In undertaking this work, Mr. Hamilton has encouraged the UNECE to engage more closely with the private sector, establishing a UNECE PPP Business Advisory Board that assists governments to develop high quality infrastructure projects.

His other interests include Good governance, FDI issues, the economic aspects to peace building and security, property rights for the poor and the protection of intellectual property for innovation.

Before joining the UNECE he has worked in several international organizations including the United Nations Conference on Trade and Development, the International Labor Organization, the Commonwealth Secretariat and the Institute for Research on Multinational Enterprises.

He holds a PhD and a Masters from the University of Glasgow, Scotland.

Irina Tsay

SOS Children's Villages International, Regional Project Manager



Irina Tsay is an APMG Certified PPP Professional, a regional project manager in SOS Children's Villages International (Austria) and a director on International business in Global PPP Forum (South Korea). She holds a Master of Arts on International Business and Management, University of Westminster (London) and has more than 20 years of experience in Finance, Operations and Strategic Management field in different sectors like Hotel industry, Construction, Investments, INGO, as well as 12 years in INGO SOS Children's Villages International with more than 40 countries assigned in ASIA, ESAF, CEE and CIS regions and 5 years of experience on Government relations and Public Private Partnership in developing countries.

Neil Dhot

AquaFed, Executive Director



Neil Dhot was appointed Executive Director at AquaFed in 2017. He joined the Federation from Water UK, where he was Head of Corporate Affairs. Prior to that he was Secretary General of EurEau, the European Federation of Water Associations. Before joining the water sector in 2013, Mr. Dhot was Head of Public Affairs at the UK Financial Services Authority during the global financial crash. He started his career as a journalist and has held senior public relations roles at local municipal authorities in the UK. He has an academic background in politics and law, with an additional Masters of

Business Administration.