



Meet & Greet for SWA Delegation and Dutch Water Sector

Charles Groenhuijsen: Good evening on behalf of Simavi, IRC, Netherlands Water Partnership, the Ministry of Foreign Affairs, and the Dutch Postcode Lottery. Welcome and this is going to be a joyful evening.

Andy Palmen (Simavi): We are organising this evening because we really want to stress the importance of a stand-alone goal for WASH in the SDGs, and also because we think if you work in WASH you should really include WASH in schools, WASH at work, and WASH in clinics.

Karin Roelofs (Ministry of Foreign Affairs): “The Netherlands is not really in favor of a stand-alone goal for WASH.”

Arnold Omondi (Peepoople Kenya): “Pretty much what we do in Kenya is we provide sanitary solutions in terms of toilets for community in Kibera, for Kibera has a lot of slums and no toilets so we provide solutions for that. We provide toilets for schools, for the community and for the people in general.”

Arfan Cordalija (Flexsolutions GFS BV): “Businesses can help, especially western businesses can help in developing water and sanitation in the world through their efficient processes and technological know-how but also bridge the gap in terms of production and design that NGOs sometimes lack.”

Moderator: “Any results?” – Results so far, I think, very promising. We’re two years down the line and we have a good group of organisations doing this, and I think we have a very good programme in schools, yes.

Federico Properzi (Chief Technical Advisor UN Water): “So the MDGs the ultimate goal of the MDGs was to eliminate poverty. A lot of progress has been made during the past 15 years. Now the SDGs, the Sustainable Development Goal agenda is supposed to broaden up the discussion to the whole sustainable development dimensions. So it’s not only about eliminating poverty, it’s eliminating poverty together with protecting the environment for example. So it’s a much bigger discussion, but certainly

finishing the MDG business remains key priority for the SDGs.

Karin Roelofs (Ministry of Foreign Affairs): “There is a lot of Dutch organisations in the field of WASH that contribute importantly to attaining the goals that we have set, the MDGs, The Millennium Development Goals. They play an important role. We fund many programmes of Dutch organisations, for example Simavi. And we see that they make an important contribution, especially in the field of sanitation.”

Chris Williams (WSSCC): “So whatever the target is, education, health, sanitation, nutrition, they need to be concerned about the whole population, not just easy to reach.

Andy Palmen (Simavi): There are all governments. Lots of people work at the government. It is really important that if you are involved in negotiations, if you are writing reports, if you are speaking to people, to members of parliament, that you make sure that the SDGs have a single stand-alone goal on WASH and the three really important targets: WASH in schools, WASH at the work place, and WASH in clinics.

Federico Properzi (Chief Technical Advisor UN Water): “It will be important to keep the attention of political leaders, to keep the pressure on political leaders, to remind them how important this is, of course in a broader context of education, water supply, and of course water resources management and caring for our planet, because this is what the SDGs are.

Catarina de Albuquerque (SWA Vice-Chair): “I think that the secret for making water, sanitation and hygiene more visible, and a bigger political priority is for us to work together, and that’s what I take from many meetings I go to in this area.”