



Sanitation for All

World Toilet Day 2021 - Valuing Toilets

Friday 19 November 2021
9:00 – 10:00 EST / 15:00 – 16:00 CET

BACKGROUND

3.6 billion people live without proper sanitation today, despite the ongoing commitments to achieve SDG 6.2 on sanitation and hygiene for all. World Toilet Day (WTD), celebrated on 19 November every year as mandated by General Assembly resolution 67/291 titled “Sanitation for All”, is an international observance to make sanitation a global development priority. The annual activities are aimed at informing, engaging and inspiring people worldwide to support and take practical action to end the sanitation crisis.

THEME OF WORLD TOILET DAY 2021

The theme for World Toilet Day this year is “Valuing Toilets”. Amidst a global pandemic, basic sanitation and hygiene is now more important than ever. However, achieving such outcomes remains a challenge in many parts of the world. To mark World Toilet Day 2021 and inspire action to tackle these challenges, we will convene a **virtual dialogue among countries and other stakeholders** to draw attention to the fact that toilets – and the sanitation systems that support them – are underfunded, poorly managed or neglected in many parts of the world, with negative consequences for society. The event also seeks to highlight the linkages between safe toilets and basic sanitation on improved public health, gender equality, education, economics and environment. It will build on the discussions from preceding years, and advocate for sanitation issues, which are part of Sustainable Development Goal 6, to be a priority in our common agenda.



FORMAT

- **Co-hosted by** the Permanent Missions of India, Nigeria, and Singapore, and **supported by** UN-Water.
- **Opening remarks** by PGA Abdulla Shahid and DSG Amina Mohammed.
- **Sharing** by co-hosts and UN-Water on the challenges, best practices, and success stories in enhancing sanitation for all.
- **Moderated dialogue** on the theme “Valuing Toilets” and its link to improving gender equality, education, human rights, economics, and the environment.

OBJECTIVES

The event will provide the opportunity for various stakeholders to:

- Gain a better understanding of the sanitation challenges in many parts of the world, and highlight this often overlooked problem that is affecting millions around the world. The framing of the event would be around valuing toilets, with a focus on the COVID-19 pandemic, and the role of access to water and sanitation as an essential element of protecting public health.
- Highlight how COVID-19 has exacerbated our shared vulnerabilities, and the pressing need to get back on track to deliver Sustainable Development Goal 6 on water and sanitation and all other the SDGs by 2030.
- Demonstrate the linkages between universal access to safe water and sanitation, and the health and socio-economic benefits for society at large, especially for women and girls. The costs of inaction will far outweigh the costs of investment, and will be borne disproportionately by the poor.
- Highlight the benefits of investing in sanitation to drive improvements in gender equality, education, human rights, economics, and the environment, and that investment in sanitation brings five-fold returns in health, productivity, education, and jobs.

To register for the event, please RSVP:

<http://bit.ly/wtd19nov>