

Blue cities: enhancing water security and building resilient cities

Host : OECD *

Presenters

Oriana Romano(OECD, France)

Description

Body

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Cities have a key role to play in fostering a Blue Economy, combining economic opportunities linked to marine and freshwater resources with ecosystem preservation and social well-being. Food security, industrial and service sector development, employment, poverty eradication and environmental sustainability strongly depend on the ability of cities to provide reliable water and sanitation services to city dwellers and manage risks of floods (“too much water”), droughts (“too little water”) and pollution (“too polluted water”), exacerbated by megatrends such as climate change, demographic growth and urbanisation.

In addition, the COVID-19 pandemic has demonstrated the critical importance of sanitation, hygiene and adequate access to clean water to contain the spread of the virus as well as the importance of cities and local governments to provide immediate and well as long-term solutions to the crisis.

Objectives

- Debate on how building sustainable blue economies in cities can contribute to water security, quality and resilience
- Understand how cities can contribute to the post-covid recovery putting water at the centre of their agenda.
- Share knowledge and good practices around blue economy, water security and resilience in cities and basins to ensure a safe, equitable and sustainable future for all.

Agenda

What next for the blue economy in cities?

Moderator: Oriana Romano, Head of Unit, Water Governance and Circular Economy, OECD

- Gonzalo Delacámara, Head, Water Economics Department, Madrid Institute of Advanced Study (IMDEA) – *confirmed*
- Eric Tardieu, Secretary General, International Network of River Basins – *confirmed*
- Francois Brikke, Future Cities Team Leader, Mott MacDonald Indonesia – *confirmed*
- Martin Shouler, London Water Leader, Arup – *confirmed*

In conversation with cities and basins

Moderator: Juliette Lassman, Policy Analyst, Water Governance and Circular Economy, OECD

- Fang Ze, Yangtze River Water Partnership, China – *confirmed*
- Speaker tbc, Network of Asian River Basin Organisations (NARBO)
- Speaker tbc, City of Melbourne, Australia