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WATER, SANITATION  
AND HYGIENE

WATER RESOURCES  
MANAGEMENT

RESILIENCE TO  
WATER-RELATED  
DISASTERS

WASTEWATER  
MANAGEMENT AND  
WATER QUALITY

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**SWP thematic networking event**

## **STATUS UPDATE ON WATER IN THE SDGs**

### **WATER BENEFIT STANDARD (WBS): AN INNOVATIVE FUNDING TOOL?**

**December 2<sup>nd</sup> 2014 | 15.30-18.30**  
**at HELVETAS Swiss Intercooperation | Maulbeerstr. 10, Bern**



Co-conveners:



The Gold Standard®



Schweizerische Eidgenossenschaft  
 Confédération suisse  
 Confederazione Svizzera  
 Confederaziun svizra

Swiss Agency for Development  
 and Cooperation SDC

15:30 WELCOME AND INTRODUCTION | *Thomas Zeller (SWP Co Chair)*

## 15:45 WATER IN THE SDGS

STATUS UPDATE, OUTLOOK AND HOW CAN SWP MEMBERS GET INVOLVED | *Ambassador Michael Gerber, Manuel Thurnhofer (SDC)*

The international community currently negotiates a global future development framework (SDG). Switzerland has among others prioritized water, developed and advocated for the Swiss position for a future global water goal with contributions from SWP members. On December 2<sup>nd</sup> two experts from the Swiss Ministry of Foreign Affairs will provide a **status update on the SDG process** after the Open Working Group Report has been submitted to the UN Secretary General and provide an **outlook** on the ongoing negotiations and discuss **what contributions SWP members can make** at this stage. Perspectives on a new monitoring and evaluation mechanism and how to finance and implement the SDG on water will feed into an open discussion.

## 17:00 WATER BENEFIT STANDARD (WBS)

AN INNOVATIVE FUNDING TOOL TO IMPLEMENT THE SDG ON WATER? | *Johan Gély (SDC), Brendan Smith (The Gold Standard Foundation), Sascha Lafeld (First Climate)*

The water benefit standard is an **innovative finance mechanism** to drive investment in and maximise the performance of sustainable water projects that could contribute to implementing the future water SDG. Two new SWP members (Gold Standard Foundation and First Climate) have contributed in developing the WBS and will explain **how this standard aims at creating a market for Water Benefit Certificates** quantifying water-related and other socio-economic benefits, providing much needed finance for local communities living in water poverty. Some reflections how this new market is expected to develop and what opportunities there are for SWP members will launch an open discussion.

## 18:00 NETWORKING APERITIF

These two inspiring thematic exchanges are followed by an informal networking aperitif with the opportunity to further develop the inputs received while enjoying a snack and a refreshing drink sponsored by the Gold Standard Foundation and First Climate.

*Moderation: SWP Secretariat*

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**REGISTRATION:** Seats are limited. Please register [here](#) or send a mail to [info@swisswaterpartnership.ch](mailto:info@swisswaterpartnership.ch) before 21.11. No entrance fee