



# **Announcement of the Global Water Changemakers Award Finalists**

**UN SDG Summit 2023 Side Event** 

Date: 22 September 2023 (Friday)

Venue: (Hybrid) New York, United States of America

#### 1.0 Background

The Global Water Changemakers Awards was announced by H.E Mokgweetsi Masisi, President of Botswana, Chair of the Global Changemakers Award on 22 March 2023 during the UN Water Conference in New York. H.E Mokgweetsi Masisi, also presented the Presidential Global Water Changemakers Awards to six current and former Heads of State. Four co-chairs of the International High-Level Panel on Water Investments for Africa; H.E Macky Sall, President of the Republic of Senegal, H.E Hage Geingob, President of Namibia, H.E Mark Rutte, Prime Minister of the Netherlands and H.E Jakaya Kikwete, Former President of the Republic of Tanzania each received the Presidential Global Changemakers Award for demonstrating high level political commitment and leadership for climate resilient water security in Africa.

The Water Changemakers 2023 Innovation Award was launched on 6 July 2023, in Songsan, South Korea, during the International Asia Water Week, the largest gathering on water in Asia. The Global Water Changemakers Award is a global initiative that aims to recognise high-level commitment and leadership for climate resilient water investments and showcase the most promising climate resilient innovations with the greatest potential for scale, replication, and further investment to support a water-secure world.

The overall objective of the Water Changemakers 2023 Awards is to identify and promote the most promising and innovative water and climate resilient solutions. The Changemakers 2023 Awards has three categories which includes;

- (i) The Presidential Changemakers Award for demonstrated leadership and commitment;
- (ii) Innovation Changemakers Award- for the most promising climate innovations;
- (iii) Youth Water Changemakers Award-for demonstrating commitment to social change.

The Global Water Changemakers Innovation Award 2023 will support the most promising climate innovations that can be scaled up through further investment. The changemakers will seek innovations that have already proven their business model by operating for at least 1 year. Selected Water Changemakers will receive technical assistance and seed funding to scale up their innovations and strengthen their business and investment case for investors.

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The Water Changemaker Awards will bring together the supply and demand for innovative finance with a special focus on climate resilient, blended public-private finance, and gender transformative approaches. The initiative promotes the most promising climate resilient innovations to enable them to access new and innovative finance sources from institutional investors, debt, equity, and others from private and public sources, to enable them to scale up.

#### 2.0 Showcasing of the Top 30 Finalists

The announcement of the top 30 Finalists will happen through a virtual hybrid meeting on 22 September.

## 2.1. Expected outcomes of the Showcasing of the Water Changemakers Finalists

The expected outcomes of the side session are:

- i. Officially announce the top 30 Finalists.
- ii. Showcase the innovative initiatives undertaken by these top 30 Finalists, aimed at strengthening climate resilience in the water sector.
- iii. Present the Vision Statement outlining the goals and the roadmap for the 2023 Changemakers event during COP 28 in Dubai, United Arab Emirates, focused on global water changemakers.

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### 3.0. Agenda

Time (CET)	Draft Agenda
14:00-14:20	Opening of the Water Changemakers session
	Welcome Remarks
	Pablo Bereciartua, Chair Global Water Partnership
	Intorductory video Water Changemakers
	H.E Ban Ki Moon and H.E Mokgweetsi Masisi Botswana
	Congratulatory Remarks
	Seog-dae Yun, CEO K Water (2 minutes)
14:20 14: 20	
14:20-14: 30	Announcement of the process
	Andiswa Nyongwana, Water and Climate Assistant Programme Coordinator, Global Water Partnership
14:30-14: 40	Keynote Address: Importance of Social Innovation to reach the SDGs
	Doug Galen, Co-Founder and CEO, Rippleworks
14:40-14:50	Next Steps on the Changemakers Awards
	Jaehyang So, Technical Committee Chair, Global Water Partnership
14:50-15:10	Showcasing of the top 30 finalists (Slide deck)
15:10-15:15	Closing Remarks:  • Jaehyang So, Technical Committee Chair, Global Water Partnership

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