

Women in Water Diplomacy Network Second Global Network Forum Participants List

March 4-7, 2024 | Vienna, Austria



Alphabetical order by first name

Dr. Aaron T. Wolf (United States) is a water resources geographer at Oregon State University and a trained mediator/facilitator. He co-directs the Program in Water Conflict Management and Transformation, through which he has offered workshops, facilitations, and mediations around the world. He is the author of *The Spirit of Dialogue: Lessons from Faith Traditions in Transforming Conflict* (Island Press, 2017), that he uses to bring facilitation and capacity-building to a variety of conflict settings, notably between entities who share water resources, and also in faith and interfaith communities, and within and between government agencies. He has an appointment as a Professor of Water Diplomacy at IHE-Delft Institute for Water Education in The Netherlands and is a partner at Four Worlds Partners.



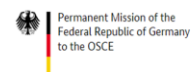
Aigerim Karibay (Kazakhstan) is a young professional and specialist working on water resource management at the local and basin levels. Her expertise spans from effective methods of management to rational use and protection of water resources. She is a hydraulic-engineer and graduated from the Kazakh-German University in IWRM program with a master's degree. Aigerim has worked at Big Almaty canal branch of RSE Kazvodkhoz, the Committee on Water Resources of the Ministry of Ecology, Geology and Natural Resources of the Republic of Kazakhstan to expand interdisciplinary contacts and exchange experience in the field of water resources management and water protection. Aigerim brings strong intercultural communication skills into all her transboundary water cooperation engagements. Additionally, Aigerim is a volunteer, involving young people in regional and national events on water and climate change and implements projects related to youth. She likes swimming and self-development.



Alexandra Pfefferle (Switzerland) works as Mediation Support Officer at the OSCE's Conflict Prevention Centre. Prior to her current function, she worked as Human Security Advisor for the Swiss Government in the Democratic Republic of Congo supporting national authorities and civil society with the design and implementation of peace process, in particular on aspects related to DDR, SSR and transitional justice. She has also extensive experience in the area of security sector governance and reform (SSG/R), including with the OSCE. Her regional experience beyond the OSCE area includes Afghanistan, China, DRC and Nepal. She holds a



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Master's Degree in Conflict, Security and Development from the University of Sussex and is currently enrolled in the Master of Advanced Studies on Mediation in Peace Processes at the ETH in Zurich. She is a member of the Swiss Women in Peace Process network.

Dr Anders Jägerskog (Sweden) is Program Manager of the Cooperation on International Waters in Africa (CIWA) Trust Fund (ciwaprogram.org). He is also the focal point at the World Bank for Transboundary Waters. His work focuses primarily on the African continent and on the Middle East and North Africa region but is also global. Previously he was Counsellor for regional water resources in the MENA region at the Swedish Embassy in Amman, Jordan; Director, Knowledge Services, at the Stockholm International Water Institute (SIWI) where he headed the Transboundary Water Management Unit and was work area leader for applied research. He managed the UNDP Shared Waters Partnership which facilitates and promotes dialogue and cooperation on transboundary water resources. He is Associate Professor (Docent) at Peace and Development Research, School of Global Studies, University of Gothenburg where his work focuses on global water issues. He worked for the Swedish Ministry for Foreign Affairs; at the Embassy of Sweden, Nairobi and at Stockholm International Peace Research Institute (SIPRI). In 2003 he finished his PhD on the water negotiations in the Jordan River Basin at the Department of Water and Environmental Studies at the Linköping University, Sweden. He has published over 100 scientific articles, book chapters, debate articles and reports on global water issues.



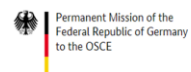
Antti Rautavaara (Finland) serves as the Special Envoy for Water at the Centre for Peace Mediation of the Ministry for Foreign Affairs of Finland. In this role he supports and represents all five water mandated ministries in Finland, and continues to lead Finland's Water Diplomacy efforts. He has been in-house at Tumen River Commission and is well aware of Nile Basin Initiative and GERD dispute insights. Earlier he also managed UNICEF Nepal Water Section during Gorkha Earthquake 2015, including leadership of water sector response and humanitarian cluster coordination for over 4 million people. During his professional career he has been living and working in Sweden, China, Ethiopia and Nepal. Rautavaara holds a MSc from Aalto-university (Helsinki) and a certificate from the Royal Institute of Technology (Stockholm). Antti has been a member of Finnish Water Diplomacy Network since its establishment and in his capacity supports the Women in Water Diplomacy Network.



Assefa Gudina Muleta (Ethiopia) received his first-degree in Agriculture from Haramaya University in Ethiopia and Master of Science in Environment from Wageningen University of the Netherlands. He has extensive experience in different sectors including in Ethiopian Agricultural Research Institute, Ministry of Water and Energy, and Ministry of Environment as a Research Center Director, Water Resources development and management Project Coordinator and Directorate Director respectively in the three sectors. Currently Mr. Assefa is working as Regional Social and Environment Officer and gender focal point at Eastern Nile Technical Regional Office



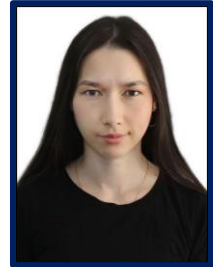
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(ENTRO). He is also member of the male champion platform coordinated by the World Bank’s Cooperation International Water Africa program.

Aziza Sharofova Khamza kizi (Uzbekistan) is a senior specialist-expert of the Center for State Ecological Expertise of the Ministry of Ecology, Environmental Protection and Climate Change of the Republic of Uzbekistan. She graduated from the Faculty of Hydromelioration of the Tashkent Institute of Irrigation and Melioration in the direction of "Ecology and Environmental Protection", has a bachelor's degree in "Environmental Engineer of Water Management" (2016). She also received specialized secondary education in Tashkent Financial and Economic College (2011). As a student of the institute, she had work experience in the field of environmental expertise in a private Uzbek company, which later helped her to successfully pass the interview for the civil service (2015). Her total work experience in the field of ecology and environmental protection is 11 years. During her work at the Center Aziza has conducted state environmental expertise of more than 1000 production facilities of the Republic of Uzbekistan, including those in mining and construction industries, water management, chemical, food industry and others.

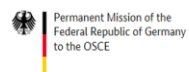


Beesan Shonnar (Palestine) holds a diverse educational background reflecting her commitment to water management and administration. She completed her MSc in Water and Sanitation Engineering from Bir Zeit University, Palestine, in 2007, following a BSc in Civil Engineering with a minor in Water Resources & Environment from Jordan University of Science & Technology in 1999. She furthered her expertise by undertaking an E-learning Course on International Water Law and Law of Transboundary Aquifers from Universite De Geneve, Switzerland, in 2022. Additionally, she obtained a High Diploma in Leadership and Administration from the School of Diplomacy, Vienna, Austria 2021 and another diploma in leadership from the Palestinian National School. Since 2015, she has served as a Freelance Water & Sanitation Engineer (in addition to her position), focusing on gender, networking, capacity building, and training. Prior to this, she held positions with the Palestinian Water Authority and the Ministry of Public Works and Housing in Palestine, contributing significantly to infrastructure and water management projects. She served as a Gender Expert for the UN-Water Integrated Monitoring Initiative for SDG6, contributing to the publication of a Gender Contextualization Report. She was also a Steering Committee Member of the Palestinian Women Water Network and participated in the World Water Fora and various water-related committees and initiatives i.e: Women Water Diplomats in the MENA region -GWP and Geneva Water Hub, Department of States exchange Alumina, the Singapore Water Academy (SgWA) alumni member, Sanitation and water for all network Community of Women in Water member 2021-present, World Water Council 2020- present, Gender Water Alliance 2009-present, in addition to women water plus list.



Bagul Kerimova (Turkmenistan) – *bio and headshot requested*

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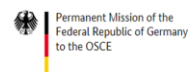
Belyou Tekola (Ethiopia) is an accomplished professional in the field of Political Science and International Relations and Public Policy Management. Graduating with a first degree from Ethiopia, Addis Ababa University in Political Science and International Relations, Belyou furthered her academic pursuits by obtaining a Master's Degree in Public Policy Management from Seoul, South Korea. Her career, marked by a series of influential positions, reflects her deep expertise and commitment to her field. After being employed at the Ministry of Water and Energy of the Federal Democratic Republic of Ethiopia, Belyou's professional trajectory began with key roles such as Personnel Administration Head and Development Cooperation and Foreign Relations Senior Expert. Her career further progressed as she took on the responsibilities of a Senior Hydro-politics Expert and later, as the Boundary and Transboundary Rivers Affairs Directorate Director. Currently, she works as the Hydro-Politics and Diplomacy Desk Head. In this position, Belyou's responsibilities are multifaceted. She is tasked with planning, coordinating, and directing the activities of the desk. Her role involves conducting basic studies, identifying strategies for boundary and transboundary water resource development, and analyzing international laws and agreements to ensure they align with the national needs concerning water resource utilization. Belyou's expertise is further highlighted in her ability to conduct hydro-political and geopolitical studies, present negotiation strategies related to water use, and generate policy ideas. Her work is instrumental in enabling the country to optimize benefits from its boundary and transboundary water resources. This involves a comprehensive approach, including media surveys, hydro-politics analysis, preparing responses, and coordinating diplomatic activities.



Birgit Vogel (Austria) was appointed as the Executive Secretary of the International Commission for the Protection of the Danube River (ICPDR) in August 2021. She is the first woman to take on the role of Executive Secretary and the fourth since the ICPDR's establishment. An Austrian native and water resources manager, she has a very elaborated multicultural and international work experience in river basin management. Over more than 20 years, she has worked across Europe, India, South-East Asia, China, Africa, and the South Caucasus, covering many transboundary river basins like the Danube, Mekong, the Ganga, the Okavango. Ms. Vogel previously worked for the Secretariat of the Mekong River Commission, where she tackled coordination matters including mainstream hydropower development and possible transboundary impacts. Her last post was in Delhi with GIZ India within an EU and German BMZ co-financed action, in which she successfully supported the EU to strengthen the India-EU Water Partnership and the joint water policy dialogue regarding the challenging management of river basins of India. Along the way, she's gathered very good skills in leadership, coordination, management, and negotiation, which will support well-informed decision making in the diverse environment of the Danube.



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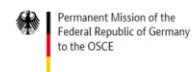
Bogadi T. Mathangwane (Botswana) is a Water Resources Specialist with more than 30 years' experience in water resources and sanitation management. She holds a BSc Honors Double major in Applied and Analytical Chemistry from United Kingdom and a Master's Degree in Water Resources from Iowa State University in the United States of America. She is the first woman to be appointed the Director in the Department of Water and Sanitation in Botswana in 2016 and currently holds that position. This is a department in the Ministry of Lands and Water Affairs, tasked with national planning, development and management of water resources and sanitation in the country. Ms. Mathangwane has extensive knowledge in areas of integrated water resources management with emphasis in water conservation, water demand management, water quality and trans-boundary water resources management. She has also facilitated and directed mega water and sanitation projects in the country including those funded by different International cooperating Partners. She is a member and sits in the advisory committees of the Southern Africa Development Community (SADC) River Basin Commissions as well as in the continental ones of which Botswana is party to. She is currently a Board member to Water Utilities Corporation (WUC), a parastatal wholly owned by the Government of Botswana whose Board provides an oversight role by closely monitoring the implementation of the Corporate Strategy and its related initiatives. She has held similar position of Board Member at Botswana Geoscience Institute (BGI), which was established to undertake research in the field of geosciences and provide specialised geoscientific services and exploration of any mineral in Botswana.



Burcu Çallı (Turkey) completed her undergraduate education at Marmara University, Istanbul majoring in Political Science and International Relations. She received her master's degree (MSc) from The London School of Economics and Political Science (LSE) European Institute in the UK. From 2009 to 2012, she worked as an editor in the media sector focusing on politics and culture. In 2012, she joined the Turkish Water Institute (SUEN) under the Ministry of Agriculture and Forestry of Türkiye as an expert. Her expertise lies in transboundary water policy, with a specific emphasis on the Euphrates-Tigris Basin, water diplomacy, water cooperation and the relation between water and migration. She has been involved in various official meetings and transboundary water negotiations at various levels besides, Track 1.5 and Track 2 diplomacy activities such as Collaborative Programme Euphrates and Tigris (CPET) and Blue Peace Middle East. She has been an active member of the OECD Water Governance Initiative, representing Türkiye since 2015. In 2017, Burcu acted as the thematic coordinator for the 4th Istanbul International Water Forum. In 2020, she led the negotiation committee representing Türkiye at G20 Water Deputies Meetings and served as the lead negotiator. She currently serves as the Head of the Ministry of Agriculture and Forestry's Water Diplomacy Task Force, which functions as an advisory body. Burcu has delivered speeches on Türkiye's approach to water diplomacy, water and sanitation needs of immigrants, climate, water, and migration at various international conferences and events. She has contributed to published works with chapters on water-related topics and has been giving lectures on water diplomacy in national and international training programs organised by SUEN.



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Cholpon Aitakhunova (Kyrgyzstan) is a project manager at CLI Potsdam. She focuses on projects in Asia and has a strong interest in collaborations in complex water and climate adaptation contexts. She has gained extensive field experience working with diverse multi-stakeholder collaborations in Central Asia including through the Green Alliance Kyrgyzstan, international KGSTAT twinning project with Destatis, and the CAY4W Network (a regional network of young water professionals). Cholpon is an active member of the Women in Water Diplomacy Network and supports its Central Asia branch. She is an awardee of the International Climate Protection Fellowship of Alexander von Humboldt Foundation, and holds a Master's degree in Politics and Security from the OSCE Academy in Bishkek.



David Hebart-Coleman (New Zealand) is a Senior Program Manager at the Stockholm International Water Institute and an environmental planning and policy expert, with over 15 years of experience in environmental policy development. His professional background is in local and regional government in New Zealand, where he worked on water and flooding issues in Christchurch in his early career and then later was Senior Specialist – Policy in northern New Zealand where he worked in urban, strategic, and catchment planning, including several advisory and governance roles in catchment management groups. Most recently, he provided water resources and climate change adaptation services as an expert within the African Water Facility in Cote D'Ivoire. He is highly interested in the application of ecosystem services into watershed and regional planning as well as governance frameworks that strongly incorporate indigenous perspectives.



Diana Ulloa Jiménez (Ecuador) is a water engineer with experience in water management, especially for national and local governments. Consultant and advisor for public and community water services such as irrigation and water utilities. Experience in climate change, ecosystem-based adaptation, hydrological models, and water conservation. Water activist in Red Agua Ecuador, and Governing Member of Ecuador's International Water Association (IWA) chapter.



Dimka Stantchev Skeie (Switzerland) holds a degree in Political Sciences (University of Lausanne), a graduate diploma in Economics (University of London), a master's degree in Development Economics (University of London), and a master's degree in Management of Development projects (University of Manchester). She joined the Swiss Federal Department of Foreign Affairs (FDFA) in 2000, working during three years for the Swiss Agency for Development and Cooperation (SDC) in the Swiss Cooperation Office in Mozambique for the Economic Management support program. Following this, she occupied several functions in the Head Office of the SDC, in Berne, as a Program Manager in the Western Africa Division, Institutional Partnerships Division, and the Global Program Food Security Division. Between 2007 and 2009, she worked at the Centre for Development and Environment (CDE, University of Bern) as a scientific collaborator. From 2018-2021, she was Head of the Domain Governance and Municipal Services at the Swiss Embassy in Bosnia and Herzegovina. In 2021 she took her



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current position as Program Manager in the Section Water at the Head Office of SDC in Berne. She is responsible for a portfolio of projects in governance and management of water resources, including the Blue Peace Financing initiative and the Blue Peace Central Asia project. She is married and has two children.

Dominik Lehnert (Germany) serves as Senior Advisor, Consultant and Editor at Media in Cooperation and Transition gGmbH (MiCT) and is the Editor-in-Chief at The Niles. Since 2017, The Niles has focused on promoting transboundary water cooperation in the Nile Basin in collaboration with the Nile Basin Initiative (NBI) and with support from the Deutsche Gesellschaft fuer Internationale Zusammenarbeit (GIZ) GmbH. With over 15 years of experience in peace, development, and communications, Dominik has led international projects spanning media, humanitarian assistance, and peacebuilding. He holds a master’s degree in Peace and Conflict Studies and a bachelor’s degree in Business Administration and Journalism. Fluent in both English and German, Dominik is also passionate about multimedia storytelling and has developed the Media for Peace framework, which is widely used in media development projects across different regions.



Elizabeth A. Koch (United States) serves as the Senior Manager for International Programs at the Environmental Law Institute (ELI) and leads the Women in Water Diplomacy Network’s Process Support Team, supporting the Network’s development since inception. Elizabeth has over 15 years of experience supporting water diplomacy engagements in conflict sensitive basins on behalf of ELI, SIWI’s Shared Waters Partnership programme, the UNESCO Category II International Centre for Water Cooperation, and EcoPeace Middle East. Elizabeth holds a MA in Government, Diplomacy and Strategy and BA in International Relations.



Dr. Erika Weinthal (United States) is a Professor of Environmental Policy and Public Policy at Duke University. She received her Ph.D. in Political Science from Columbia University. She specializes in global environmental politics and environmental security with an emphasis on water and energy. Erika is a founding Vice President of the Environmental Peacebuilding Association and an associate editor at the new journal, *Environment & Security*. In 2017 she was a recipient of the Women Peacebuilders for Water Award under the auspices of “Fondazione Milano per Expo 2015”. Erika is author of *State Making and Environmental Cooperation: Linking Domestic Politics and International Politics in Central Asia* (MIT Press 2002), which received the 2003 Chadwick Alger Prize and the 2003 Lynton Keith Caldwell Prize. Her recent books include: *Water Quality Impacts of the Energy-Water Nexus* (Cambridge University Press 2022) and *The Oxford Handbook of Comparative Politics* (Oxford University Press forthcoming, 2023).



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Fatou Ndour (Senegal/Austria) is the Senior Project Manager of the Capacity Development for Humanitarian Assistance in West Africa (HAWA) project at the Austrian Center for Peace. Trained in international relations, international crime and justice, and human rights law, she possesses a vast experience in post-conflict justice. She previously worked for UN entities and NGOs, supporting capacity-building programs and research studies in the fields of human rights (including children’s rights, gender, and migration). Furthermore, her past duties include supervision and project management; compliance; legal research, analysis and drafting; and mainstreaming gender dimensions into human rights policies and programs. She has a good knowledge of the development sector and a good understanding of challenges at the local, national and regional levels in developing countries.



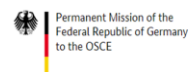
Firmina Acuba (Uganda) serves as the Senior Sociologist in the Ministry of Water and Environment in Uganda. Firmina has worked with the Ministry of Water and Environment, Uganda since 2001, serving as the Ministry’s Gender Equality and HIV Mainstreaming Expert. Firmina has developed, guided, and revised several Ministry of Water and Environment Gender Equality and HIV mainstreaming policies and strategies and provided extensive capacity building on these areas. She is an advocate of inclusion of rights of women and vulnerable groups in water supply and management programming and a training and capacity development expert. Firmina has years of experience supporting bottom up/grassroots water diplomacy processes and inclusive decision making in several key sub-basins in the Nile including the Maziba River catchment in the Kagera – one of the key sources of Lake Victoria shared by Uganda, Kenya and Tanzania.



Dr. Florence Grace (Uganda) is the Executive Director of the Nile Basin Initiative and serves as the current President of the Africa Network of Basins Organisation (ANBO). She is an accomplished water and environment resources management professional with an experience of 37 years in the public sector (30 years spent in the water domain and 7 in the field of higher education). Among the positions held in the water domain in Uganda are: Director, Water Resource Management, Commissioner of Water Quality Management Department and Assistant Commissioner in the same Department. She was also the Principal Technical Advisory Committee member for Uganda on two main Nile Basin Initiative Governance Bodies; Nile and Nile Equatorial Lakes Technical Advisory Committees (2015-2023). Dr. Adongo also served as the Vice-Chair for the Uganda Public Service Directors, Commissioners and Under Secretaries Forum by the time of her appointment to her current position. She holds a Master’s of Science in Water and Environmental Resources Management from IHE-Delft Institute of Water Education, Netherlands, a Masters in Business Administration (Executive) from Eastern and Southern East African Institute in Arusha, Tanzania, and a Doctorate in Business Administration, majoring in water optimization from the Atlantic International University, U.S.A.



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Foman Forough (Afghanistan/ Canada) holds a Master’s degree in Hydraulic Structures from Ferdowsi University. She served at the National Water Affairs Regulation Authority (NWARA) as General Director of the Kabul River Basin, the largest basin in Afghanistan, before the Taliban captured Kabul in 2021. She is currently working as a water resource specialist- engineering at the South Nation Conservation Authority in Canada. Foman has extensive experience in transboundary water management serving in various capacities at NWARA including as Acting Director of Water Allocation, a Dam and River Adviser, and Hydraulic Structures Design Specialist. In addition, Foman has taught courses on Hydraulic Structures at Kateb Private University and is a proud board member of the Afghanistan Infrastructure Transparency Initiative (COST), which works in the field of transparency in infrastructure projects, access to information, and anti-corruption.



Gabriela Caloca Michel (Mexico) is an Oceanologist from the Universidad Autónoma de Baja California and has a Specialization in Environmental Management in Geographic Information Systems from the same university. Her vast experience has allowed her to lead, since 2012, the Water and Rivers Program of Pronatura Noroeste. He coordinates the restoration efforts in the Colorado River Delta and the Tijuana River project. She also actively participates in the Act 320 Binational Base Group, is a civil society member of the Baja California Watershed Council and co-chairs the Mexican delegation of the Act 323 Environmental Working Group.



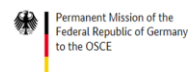
Giulia Sechi (Italy) is Adviser on Gender Issues in the Office of the Secretary General of the Organization for Security and Cooperation in Europe (OSCE) and has an extensive experience in gender mainstreaming in post-conflict scenarios. Before joining the Secretariat in Vienna, Giulia worked in different positions in the OSCE Field Operations in Montenegro and Skopje (Northern Macedonia) and as Special Assistant to the Head of the OSCE Mission in Kosovo. She started her career in 2011 as Project Management Consultant for the UN Environment Programme-Office in Vienna, dealing with climate change adaptation in mountain areas. Giulia holds a Bachelor’s degree in Political Science and a Master’s degree in International Relations from the University of Cagliari, Italy. She is currently a PhD fellow in Public Policy and Governance at the United Nations University-MERIT/Maastricht University Graduate School of Governance focusing on inter-organizational relations and the implementation of the UN Women, Peace and Security Agenda in Kosovo.



Gulzhan Makhmudova (Kyrgyzstan) currently serves as the National Project Coordinator/Advisor for the EU-funded project Climate Change and Resilience in Central Asia (Fergana project). Prior to joining UNDP Kyrgyzstan in 2022 she was the Environmental Sustainability Expert and Leading Specialist in the Ministry of Natural Resources, Ecology and Technical Supervision of Kyrgyzstan. Gulzhan holds a Bachelor's Degree in Ecology from the International University of Kyrgyzstan, a Master's Degree in Law and a Master's Degree in Environmental Sciences (Japan, Tsukuba University). Gulzhan is an experienced and hardworking ecologist with more



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than 10 years of professional experience in the government sector in different environmental directions - environmental assessment, SDG, environmental sustainability, water safety, climate change issues, water issues, industrial safety and environmental management, regulatory framework and permitting mine reclamation and closure, and has a wide network with key government, academic and non-governmental stakeholders in Kyrgyzstan. Gulzhan has been a member of intergovernmental working groups focusing on environmental safety (including water safety), sustainable development and climate change. Throughout all of her professional roles Gulzhan has brought strong gender awareness and sensitivity and the ability to integrate a gender perspective into tasks and activities as well as intercultural communications drawing from her extensive experience working in multicultural teams implementing environmental projects in Kyrgyzstan as well as England, Germany, Japan, Korea, Russia, Italy, and Kazakhstan.

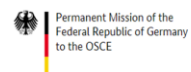
Gwendena Lee-Gatewood (White Mountain Apache/ United States) is co-chair of the Indigenous Women Leadership Network (IWLN), a partner in the North American Women in Water Diplomacy Network. Gwendena is the first female ever elected to the highest office for her Tribe, serving as Tribal Chairwoman from 2018-2022. As Chairwoman, she was active on many platforms to improve the way of life for her people, especially doing so during the challenging time period of the Covid 19 pandemic. In her spare time, she loves spending time with her family, writing, taking daily walks to enjoy nature, hunting, photography, finding opportunities to ride horses, she has a passion for horses. Gwendena has been invited to speak at various events that focuses on Indigenous women, and what she encourages most is for these young women to know their self- worth and make an impact on their homelands and beyond, to express themselves by advocating for things they are passionate about, and to advocate for their peers, learn, and become more actively involved in issues that affect our communities. Believe in yourselves, don't let circumstances dictate your future, and most of all stay close to the Creator, through prayer - after all you were made to succeed not to fail, and each challenge is a stepping stone, embrace it as a reflection of your ancestors planting their seeds of hope to be harvested in our day is something to behold.



Hana Teshome (Ethiopia) joined the Ministry of Foreign Affairs of Ethiopia in 2019 as a trainee diplomat where she gained experience working in the various departments of the Ministry. Today she serves in the International Legal Affairs Directorate General Office of the Ministry where she is responsible for preparing, drafting, commenting, negotiating, and finalizing bilateral and multilateral international agreements that Ethiopia signs with other countries and international organizations. She also provides advice to the government on various international legal issues. Hana completed her LLB degree at Adama Science and Technology University in 2018. She also studied Business Management at Bahirdar University earning her degree in 2020. Additionally, Hana completed a Postgraduate diploma in International Relations and Diplomacy at Civil Service University in 2021 and is currently pursuing a master's degree in public international Law at Addis Ababa University.



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Hélène Masliah Gilkarov (Austria) has served as Technical Expert for Public Participation and Communication with the International Commission for the Protection of the Danube River (ICPDR) located in the UNOV in Vienna since 2016. Hélène is in charge of the technical support for ICPDR Contracting Parties on issues related to public participation as well as the coordination of all Communication Activities on behalf of the ICPDR Secretariat. On her agenda with the ICPDR, she develops communication and outreach projects well as actively supports the Public Participation Expert Group and ICPDR's international endeavors in the Danube River Basin and beyond. A political scientist and specialist of international relations trained in international universities in France, the US and Israel, and with a background in political science and international relations, she is also a strong advocate for public participation. She thrives for experience and values such as service for others that are close to her heart.



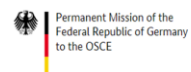
Dr. Imane Messaoudi-Mattei (Morocco/ Switzerland) is a Senior Research Associate at the Geneva Water Hub. She holds a PhD in geography from Paris Nanterre University (France) and from University of Fribourg (Switzerland). Her work consists on exploring, within the framework of research anchored in social sciences, the issues of access, use and management of water (and land) resources around the world. Imane is currently working on critical discourses analysis in transboundary water management. Prior to joining the Geneva Water hub, Imane worked as an agronomist engineer specializing in the economic and social development of rural areas. Her research work has mainly focused on irrigation practices, on the sustainability of rural areas, the interdependencies between rural spaces and urban spaces, and more generally on the analysis of agricultural and environmental policies in semi-arid countries. In addition to her research activities, during the last 8 years, Imane has taught in several universities and engineering schools to different audiences on various environmental questions and issues.



Inkeri Kollmann (Finland) is a young water professional working as a project advisor at the Finnish Water Forum, a non-profit organization of Finnish water stakeholders aiming to solve global water challenges. In her role, she supports Finland's International Water Strategy - "Finnish Water Way" by approaching global water sustainability and equity challenges with a multistakeholder, cross-sectoral approach. She holds a master's degree in political science from the University of Helsinki, having studied public governance, public policy and European studies in Germany, the Netherlands and Finland. Through her work she has grown a keen interest in the development and adoption of innovative and technological solutions in transboundary water cooperation. Inkeri brings strong intercultural and interorganizational cooperation experience and believes in a need for the inclusion of a true diversity of actors in transboundary water cooperation. Inkeri also supports the fostering of a new generation of thinkers and doers in water cooperation by volunteering in the Finland chapter of Young Water Professionals (YWP).



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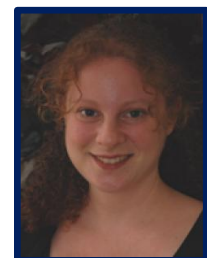
Jacqueline Nyirakamana (Rwanda) is a Transboundary Water Resources Cooperation Specialist in Ministry of Environment of Rwanda since 2015. From 2005 -2008 she served as Rwanda’s Nile Basin Initiative Focal Point. She has served as a Nile Technical Advisory Committee (Nile-TAC) member since 2016 and as NILE-TAC Chairperson from 2020-2021. She is also a Nile Equatorial Lakes Technical Advisory Committee Member (NEL-TAC), serving as Chairperson for the year 2023-2024. From February 2018 to June 2019, Jacqueline served as Rwanda’s Representative to the Lake Kivu and Rusizi/Ruzizi River Basin Authority (ABAKIR). She has more than 10 years experience in transboundary water resources cooperation, water conflict resolution, water diplomacy and water policy and Governance. Jacqueline holds a Masters MBA in Strategic Management from Mount Kenya University and a Bachelor’s degree in Public Administration from Université Libre de Kigali. She is a Member of the Women in Water Diplomacy Network since 2018 and serves on the Network’s Leadership Council. She is also a member of Initiative for Future of Great Rivers (IFGR) based in Lyon-France. Jacqueline is a native French speaking and proficient in English.



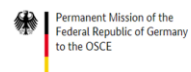
Jesse Ferraioli (United States) is a Research Associate at the Environmental Law Institute (ELI). She holds a BA in Environmental Studies and Philosophy from Dartmouth College. At ELI, she assists Elizabeth with the Women in Water Diplomacy Network and has worked on projects spanning from the use of natural infrastructure in hazard mitigation to the evaluation of California's Tribal consultation policies. For her senior thesis, Jesse researched the role of the U.S. Forest Service in safeguarding groundwater and cultural resources from uranium contamination in northern Arizona.



Jessica Troell (United States) is a Senior Attorney and has directed the Environmental Law Institute’s International Water Program since its founding in 2006. Under her leadership, the Program has developed and implemented projects to define and track the legal recognition and protections for Indigenous and community-based water tenure; create realistic mechanisms for involving diverse stakeholders in water-related decision-making; identify and implement innovative water governance mechanisms to strengthen resilience of communities and countries in the face of climate change; build the legal and institutional capacity to manage transboundary water challenges; strengthen livelihoods and food security through more effective water management; and ensure that water management is effectively leveraged in fragile and post-conflict states to promote peacebuilding. Jessica works with NGOs, governments, the private sector, and universities to create, implement, and enforce sustainable water laws, policies, and management mechanisms. Jessica has supported the development and implementation of the Women in Water Diplomacy Network on behalf of ELI’s International Waters Programme since inception in 2017.



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Julienne Ndjiki (Ngo Yebga) (Cameroon/ South Africa) has more than nine years of hands-on experience in water governance and transboundary cooperation as well as Integrated Water Resource Management and Gender and social Inclusion. In her current role at the Stockholm International Water Institute (SIWI), where she serves as Programme Officer within the Water Cooperation and Diplomacy (WCD) department, Julienne is responsible for supporting water diplomacy processes as part of the SIWI's Shared Waters Partnership programme through stakeholders engagement and partnership building, technical capacity strengthening and training at various levels. Julienne exhibits great skills in Design, Monitoring, Evaluation and Learning as well as facilitation, programme management and development. In addition to her Masters degree in Water Resource Management, Julienne holds a Master's degree in Animal Biology. Julienne is a native French speaking and fully proficient in English.



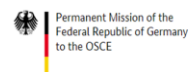
Kathia Havens (United States) joined the World Bank in 2015 and the Danube Water Program (DWP) in 2019, supporting the roll out of Water Security analytical and advisory activities and overall program administration. In addition to her work on the DWP, she supports the Global Facility for Transboundary Water Cooperation, as well as other World Bank operations in the Europe and Central Asia Region. Prior to joining the DWP, Ms. Havens served as a technical specialist to the Global Water Partnership (2018-2019) and the World Bank Water Global Practice (2015-2018). At GWP, Ms. Havens supported the transboundary water program: working on regional capacity building workshops on international water law and governance; the design of a MOOC for Transboundary Water Governance and Freshwater Security; and the development of the organizations' programmatic approach to transboundary water management. Prior experience at the World Bank includes technical and programmatic support in the fields of transboundary water management, global water security, nature-based solutions, and agricultural water productivity. Ms. Havens holds a Masters in International Environmental Policy from the Fletcher School of Law in Diplomacy.



Kathryn Pharr (United Kingdom/ United States) founded the Community of Women in Water (CWiw) in January 2019 to connect women working on water to help them better address the challenges they work on through enhanced networks and knowledge. CWiw currently has over 1,000 members globally. Since 2011, Kathryn has worked on science policy and programme management; her policy and research focus on water since 2015 has included climate change, gender, transboundary, urban resilience, IWRM, governance, finance, and WASH. Kathryn has worked with the Alliance for Global Water Adaptation (AGWA), Arup, the Global Water Forum, the U.S. Department of State, USAID, the University of Oxford, and WaterAid.



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Katie Goldie-Ryder (Canada/Sweden) supports the Shared Waters Partnership (SWP) programme at the Stockholm International Water Institute (SIWI), focusing on advancing SWP water diplomacy processes with a focus on Central Asia & Afghanistan and the Middle East engagements. Her main focus is on water cooperation and diplomacy, and climate and security. She has practical experience building and sustaining networks and supporting cooperative processes and multi-stakeholder dialogues in regional contexts. Katie supports the Women in Water Management Network in Central Asia and Afghanistan. She serves as the Youth Empowerment Champion for the Water Cooperation and Diplomacy team. Working closely with the programme managers and advisor for water and peace, Katie provides efficient coordination, programme management and logistical support for several projects, ensuring effectiveness and sustainability across the work. Katie has experience in the fields of societal security and disaster risk reduction. She holds a Master Degree in Peace and Conflict from Uppsala University and wrote her MA thesis for the 'Equal Peace?' project at the Peace Research Institute Oslo (PRIO), Centre on Gender, Peace and Security.



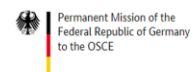
Professor Karima Attia (Egypt) is Professor Emeritus at the Egyptian National Water Research Center having formerly served as the Director of the Water Resources Research Institute (WRI), National Water Research Center from 2014 -2018. Dr. Attia has more than 35 years of experience in water resources from different disciplines. She has worked as a team leader and member of many national and international projects, including for example as team leader for the study “Windblown Sand to Lake Nasser/Nubia” funded by World Bank, Improved Drought Early Warning and Forecasting to Strengthen Preparedness and Adaptation to Droughts in Africa (DEWFORA), Case study of Ethiopia, local consultant for the Nile inland waterway transport by the European Bank for Reconstruction and Development and Ministry of Finance Central Public Private Partnership Unit, and short term consultant in support to the reform of the Egyptian Transport Sector (EuropeAid/129-110/SER/CE/G) "Strategy for the Sustainability of the Egyptian Transport System", (Navigation for First Class Waterways), The principle investigator for the project "Enhancing Sediment Transport Modeling in Nile Basin Reservoirs" 2009-2012 funded by ESA through TIGER II initiative. She is one of the Principal Authors of the book “The Regime of the River Nile in Egypt” Egypt 1990, ISBN:0-9696846-1-4, (B. Evans, North Hydraulic Consultant, Canada, and K. Attia, Nile Research Institute, Editor in Chief, M. Rafeek Abdelbary, Nile Research Institute,) and has published more than 50 research papers in scientific journals and conferences.



Katja Ahlfors (Finland) is the Director of the Centre for Peace Mediation at the Ministry for Foreign Affairs of Finland. Prior to this she served as Senior Advisor on Horn of Africa to the Minister for Foreign Affairs of Finland. She joined the Foreign Service in 2004 and has since served at the Department for Africa and the Middle East, the Department for Americas and Asia and at the Department for Development Policy. Ahlfors has served at the Embassies of Finland in Addis Ababa and Stockholm. She has also been seconded to the European Commission in Brussels and as Senior Advisor to



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CMI - Martti Ahtisaari Peace Foundation. Katja as a senior diplomat and a peace mediator in her capacity supports the Women in Water Diplomacy Network.

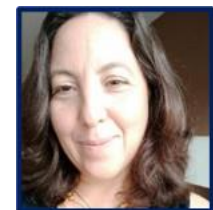
Kerry Schneider (United States/Sweden) serves as SIWI’s Senior Programme Manager for the Shared Waters Partnership programme, a multi-stakeholder platform aimed at advancing cooperation over shared water resources in regions where political tensions could be a source of conflict. He contributes to the development of research and project management in a number of fields including transboundary water management, climate change, and capacity building. Kerry holds a Master’s degree in International Humanitarian Action from Uppsala University, Sweden. Prior joining SIWI in 2013, Kerry worked for Stockholm International Peace Research Institute (SIPRI). Kerry has supported the inception and development of the Women in Water Diplomacy Network since 2017 as a flagship engagement of SIWI’s Shared Waters Partnership programme.



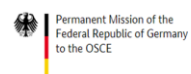
Letizia Zuliani (Italy) is currently acting Assistant Project Officer at the Organization for Security and Co-operation in Europe (OSCE) in Vienna. Letizia joined the OSCE in 2020 and is currently supporting the daily work of the Environmental Cooperation Unit, with particular reference to the Water Management portfolio. Letizia holds a Master in International Relations and Eurasian Studies at the University of Bologna and Saint Petersburg State University and a post-graduate Master in Sustainable Development and Geopolitics of Resources. Letizia has supported the development of the Women in Water Management Network in Central Asia and Afghanistan since 2021.



Dr. Liliana Pimentel (Brazil) is an Architect and Urban Planner and Specialist in Water Resources Management holding a Master’s in Urban and Regional Planning focusing on bioregional planning and landscape ecology, and a Ph.D. in Geography focusing in hydrology and governance for conflict transformation. She is a Former Fulbright Hubert Humphrey Fellow attending SPURS/MIT and currently works as a civil servant at the Ministry of Indigenous Peoples in Brazil. Liliana is a trained mediator interested in transboundary cooperation and conflict prevention over natural resources. Her passion for mediation and peacebuilding drove her to join the Environmental Peacebuilding Association since its very beginning and the Mediators Beyond Borders International. By volunteering for several non-profit organizations, she keeps enhancing her negotiation and conflict prevention skills to benefit governance, decision-making, and public policy processes in Latin America and the Caribbean Region. Liliana has more than 30 years of professional experience working in climate change, environmental conservation, biodiversity, governance, water resources, STEM, and WASH for the public, private, and third sectors. She holds extensive teaching experience and, in the last two decades, has been a lecturer in Architecture and Urban Planning Courses. A former coordinator of the Climate Justice Cluster at OLAC and former co-chair of the EnPAX Interest Group on Water, she plans to set up a Water Group under the MBBi’s UNMWG umbrella, focusing on the role of women in water management and the use of traditional knowledge to enhance water quality.



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Lyazzat Syrlybayeva (Kazakhstan) has over five years of experience in the water sector, focusing on integrated water resources management, transboundary water cooperation, climate change, and Sustainable Development Goals. In her previous role, Lyazzat co-led a regional project supported by the Swiss Agency for Development and Cooperation. She also served as a consultant for the World Bank Group, the OSCE, and others. Armed with a master's degree in natural resources management from the University of Padova and the University of Lisbon, she made significant contributions to Kazakhstan's Country Climate Development Report. Currently a project analyst at UNDP Kazakhstan in the Energy and Environment Unit, Lyazzat continues her impactful journey in advancing sustainable development initiatives.



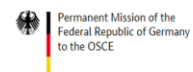
Dr. Maha Abdelrahim Ismail (Sudan) holds a PhD in Geology and Hydrogeology. She has worked as a geologist at Gemarson drilling company, Asma drilling company, and White Nile Petroleum Operating company. Maha served as Head of Department for Environmental Studies, University of Medical Science and Technology, lecturer at the Geology Department, University of Khartoum, and a lecturer on part time basis at UNESCO Chair in Water Resources, Omdurman Islamic University. Maha worked IWRM consultant for UNESCO, ITT Cologne, part of the CNRD group, ZOA Sudan, NAPATA project French Embassy Khartoum. Dr. Ismail joined the Nile Basin Initiative team in January 2021 as the Technical Team Leader for the GEF/UNDP conjunctive use project.



Margaret Irungu (Kenya) is Deputy Director Transboundary Water Resources Department, working within the Ministry of Water, Sanitation and Irrigation as a Senior Principal Water Research Officer. She is the Nile Basin Initiative Desk Officer, Kenya and Deputy Project Coordinator Horn of Africa Groundwater for Resilience Project. She has long experience of working on issues relating to groundwater. She is currently the Focal Person, 'Enhancing conjunctive management of surface and groundwater resources project, Mt. Elgon aquifer, shared between Kenya and Uganda, among other projects. She is also the Focal Person in Kenya within the Angololo Multipurpose Water Development Project shared between Kenya and Uganda. She holds a Masters in Geology, from The University of Nairobi and is trained on various aspects of water, to include; Isotope, Database and Groundwater Modeling, International Water Law, Negotiations and Hydro-Diplomacy, International Water Law, Climate Change in Integrated Water Management, among other areas. Margaret is a registered Geologist and a member of Women in Water Diplomacy within the Nile Network.



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Margaret J. Vick (United States) is a Doctor of Juridical Science (JSD) in the law of international water resources having studied from her advisor Stephen C. McCaffrey at UOP McGeorge School of Law. She also has a law degree (JD) from McGeorge. She worked with and advised Native American Tribes and tribal organizations in the Western United States on cross jurisdictional matters with a focus on water resources and water rights and has advised foreign governments about shared water resources through USAID and United Nations programs. She worked for a year as an imbedded advisor to the Ministry of Energy and Water within the Government of Afghanistan from 2009 - 2010 teaching an inter-ministry group of officials key principles of international law, international water law, and negotiation strategy.



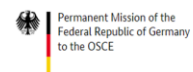
Maria Amakali (Namibia) is a water resource manager and head of the Water Department from Namibia. With 30 years' experience in the water sector, her expertise lies in integrated water resource management and transboundary water governance. She has developed water policies, strategies and IWRM Plans for Namibia and shared watercourses in SADC. She leads the Namibia delegation to Kunene, Cuvelai and Orange-Senqu River Basin commissions, whose basin agreements she was involved in development and provides technical advice to Okavango and Zambezi Watercourse Commissions. She is a member of the Technical Committee of Expert for the Cabinet Committee on Water Supply Security in Namibia whose main task is to ensure water supply security in the country. Maria holds a Master of Engineering on Water and Environmental Resources Management from IHE-Delft, Netherlands and a Bachelor of Science in Mathematics and Chemistry from Dana College in the USA. Maria and her colleagues are currently driving the development of the Women in Water Diplomacy Network in the Orange-Senqu and will be joining the Global Network Forum in person.



Dr. Maria A. Gwynn (Paraguay) is an international lawyer and an International Arbitrator. She is Senior Fellow at the International Law Institute, University of Bonn, Germany. She was a Governing Council Member of the Binational Entity ITAIPU (2019-2023). She was also Professor of the Strategic Studies Institute of Paraguay, and a member of the Paraguayan National Climate Change Commission. She was a delegate of the Republic of Paraguay and ITAIPU at the COP 26, COP 27, the World Water Forum, the World Energy Council, and multiple other international fora. She was selected for the UN Global Compact Leaders Summit 2022 and at the UN Water Conference 2023 was a keynote speaker for the dialogue on Water Cooperation. Previously, she was an Oxford-Princeton Global Leaders Fellow (2016-2018): Post-doctoral Research Fellow at the Blavatnik School of Government and SCR Research Associate, University College, University of Oxford (2017-2018); and at the Woodrow Wilson School of Public and International Affairs, Princeton University, USA (2016-2017). She was also a Member of the CAS Ad Hoc Division for the Olympic Winter Games Beijing 2022. She holds a PhD *magna cum laude* from the Bergische Universität Wuppertal, Germany; a Magister Juris from the Law Faculty, University of Oxford, UK; and an LLB-Honours degree from the Faculty of Law, National University of Asuncion, Paraguay, as well as various postgraduate degrees, among them a Directed Studies Diploma from The Hague Academy of International Law, and an



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International Arbitration Diploma from the College of Law of England and Wales. She is the author of several books and articles in international journals.

Dr. Marie-Amélie Pétré (Finland) is a Senior Scientist in hydrogeology at the Geological Survey of Finland (GTK). She was appointed Associate of the International Association of Hydrogeologists' Commission on Transboundary Aquifers in 2020. She has over ten years of experience in transboundary groundwater cooperation, stakeholder engagement, and communication. Dr Pétré obtained her PhD in 2016 on the assessment of a regional transboundary aquifer between Canada and the USA. Her research works have become a standard against which other transboundary aquifers in the world are being assessed. Dr. Pétré has participated in global initiatives and programs (such as IGRAC and UNESCO-ISARM). Since 2019, she has also been conducting research projects on emerging contaminants in groundwater.



Dr. Marisa O. Ensor (United States) is a climate security specialist with a background in the socio-environmental dimensions of Climate Change, Disasters, Conflict, and Displacement. Combining science and rights-based approaches, her work examines intersectional gender, youth, and Indigenous perspectives on human-nature interactions. A central component of her work are the critical linkages between water and climate change in the context of increasing global and local insecurity with a focus on gendered water governance and adaptation strategies. Dr. Ensor is currently based at Georgetown University where she teaches courses on Gender, Climate and Security, Conflict Analysis and Transformation, Peacebuilding, and Research Methodologies. Additionally, she serves as Senior Climate Research Fellow at the Georgetown Institute for Women, Peace and Security (GIWPS) where she is responsible for shaping GIWPS's climate research agenda. She is also the current Chair of the Gender Interest Working Group of the Environmental Peacebuilding Association. As an applied researcher and international consultant, Dr. Ensor has lived and worked in over 25 environmentally fragile and conflict-affected countries of Africa, Asia, Europe, the MENA region, and Latin America. She has consulted with various UN agencies (UN Women, IOM, UNHCR, UNICEF, OHCHR), the Economic and Social Research Council, USAID, and the United States Institute of Peace. She is currently co-leading a multi-disciplinary project on the gender-climate-security nexus in 5 countries across the world, focusing on the identification of context-specific solutions, including water-related challenges and opportunities. Her research has resulted in numerous publications including five books, over 50 book chapters and journal articles, and dozens of technical and policy-oriented reports.



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Marissa Mar Pecero (Mexico) holds a Bachelor's degree in Communication and a Master's Degree in Public Policies, with diplomas in Information Law and Governance. Marissa has collaborated with the Broadcasting Committee of Congress, the Federal Institute of Telecommunications, the National Water Commission, Water Utilities, the Rio Bravo Basin Council and the IHP of UNESCO in Mexico and Latin America. She has contributed to projects such as the Water Culture Program, the IV WWF and the 2030 Water Agenda, the inclusion of the water issue in the Final Declaration of the UNESCO World Conference on EDS and co-organized the only meeting of women in water in LAC at the 2023 UN Water Conference. Currently, she is a consultant and advisor on communication, education, transparency and ICT on water; member of the Mexican Network of Watersheds, the National Water Advisory Council, Aquatech Mexico Council and participates in projects related to youth and women.



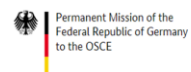
Mary Nelson Khamis Noah (South Sudan) is a water diplomat with over 20 years of experience. Mary holds a Degree in Community studies and Rural development obtained at the University of Juba. She worked for three years (2004 – 2006) as Assistant Secretary for Women Affairs, which afforded her the opportunity to participate in humanitarian activities and mobilise women and ladies for social counselling. She further worked as a nutritionist in Health Center Sudan NGO Medecins du Monde Sudan from 2009 to 2011. She joined the Ministry of Foreign Affairs and International Cooperation of South Sudan in 2013 in the office of the Deputy Minister as Secretary, following which she worked in the Department of Natural Resources at the Embassy of South Sudan in Nairobi, Kenya, working in close collaboration with the Ministry of Water and Irrigation. She has been a member of the Women in Water Diplomacy Network in the Nile since 2017.



Maysoon Osman (Sudan) is a water resources modelling engineer and a lecturer with a passion for water diplomacy. She has played a role as a member of the Sudanese team for Transboundary water negotiations in the Grand Ethiopian Renaissance Dam issues. She has extensive experience in hydrology, hydraulic and morphological studies, simulation of dam operation, rainfall-runoff modelling, and transboundary water negotiations. She has worked at and has provided consultancy services for various national and international organizations, such as the Ministry of Irrigation and Water Resources in Sudan, IGAD, COOPI, and LambdaConsult. She has also taught at the University of Khartoum and the University of Garden City. She holds a M.Sc. in Water Resources Engineering from the University of Khartoum, where she conducted research on the impact of the Grand Ethiopian Renaissance Dam on the Blue Nile discharges and sediment loads. Maysoon is interested in pursuing further studies and projects related to water management and diplomacy. **Pending Visa.**



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Meerim Seidakmatova (Kyrgyzstan) is a water specialist with a Master's degree in Integrated Water Resources Management with experience working with local and regional non-profit organisations and state governments in environmental monitoring, pollution, avalanche monitoring and glacier measurements, ecosystem conservation, climate and water studies, citizen science, and environmental activism. Meerim gained experience coordinating the Central Asia Youth for Water Network, where she was engaged in raising awareness among over 1000 young people from the Central Asia region on water and climate issues. She has advocated for the inclusion of Central Asian youth and women in water governance, water diplomacy, and climate change at the UN Water Conference, World Water Week 2022, the 9th World Water Forum, and the Regional Conference of Youth.



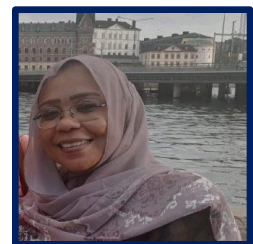
Minura Begishbek kyzy (Kyrgyzstan) previously worked in the Karasuu District Water Management Department and in the Osh Basin Water Management Department as chief economist. She completed a master's degree in Integrated water Resources Management at the Kazakh-German University. Minura currently works as a Water, Sanitation and Hygiene Assistant at Mercy Corps Kyrgyzstan. She has scientific publications focused on the role of women in the water sector in Central Asia, and she is a nominee of Blue Peace Story. She wants to continue her career in the water sector, as well as grow professionally.



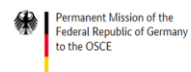
Monika Psenner (Austria) serves as the Head of Capacity Development at ACP, where she provides strategic and operational oversight of the organization's comprehensive training portfolio. This includes spearheading initiatives such as the EU Civilian Training Initiative (EUCTI) and programs aligned with the European Security and Defence College (ESDC) framework. Committed to fostering sustainable peace, Monika actively integrates Environmental Peacebuilding principles into ACP's multifaceted endeavours and advocates for the adoption of the Climate, Environment, Peace, and Security Nexus in both European and global initiatives. Monika's academic background encompasses international affairs as well as crisis and contingency management. Bolstered by her professional foundation in development cooperation and humanitarian aid, she brings a wealth of experience in intercultural network collaboration, leadership, organizational development, project management, and training to her work.



Dr. Muna Mohammed Musnad Farah (Sudan) has more than eight years in the field of Water Resources Engineering, Development, and Management. Currently Dr. Muna is a Water Resources Modeler at the Eastern Nile Technical Regional Office (ENTRO) of the Nile Basin Initiative (NBI). She served as Director and UNESCO Chair in Water Resources at the Omdurman Islamic University (OIU) and as a head of the Research and Innovation Department. Dr. Muna has more than 19 years' experience as a researcher and more than 6 years as a consultant at KIMA consultancy. She is a Chair of the Integrated Water Resources Management



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Network-Sudan (IWRM-Net-SD) and serves on the Governing Board of the International Water Cooperation Centre (ICWC) hosted by the Stockholm International Water Institute. She holds an MSc degree from University of Dar es Salaam, Tanzania in 1998 and a PhD in Water Resources Engineering Development and Management in 2016 from UNESCO Chair in Water Resources, OIU- Sudan. Her technical experience is extensive with knowledge in Integrated Water Resources Management, water quality and water supply, and with hydrological and hydrogeological models such as MODFLOW, HEC-RAS, HEC-HMS, Q2K as well as knowledge in GIS. Her research includes work with Riverside Company (USA) for ENTRO-NBI and the Nile Basin Capacity Building Network-River Engineering Project (NBCBN-RE). In addition, she is a lecturer in a M. Sc. Program in Environmental Engineering. Dr. Musnad is a founding member of the Women in Water Diplomacy Network and serves on the Network's Leadership Council.

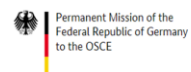
Mwasiti Ally Rashid (Tanzania) holds a Master of Science in Water Science and Engineering, Specialization in Hydrology and Water Resources from UNESCO-IHE Institute for Water Education, Delft, the Netherlands and the Bachelor of Science with Geology Degree from the University of Dar es Salaam, Dar es Salaam, Tanzania. She has more than 15 years of professional experience and competence in transboundary integrated water resources planning, development, and management; water diplomacy; water policy and governance; and complex water and climate projects/programs planning and management. Ms. Mwasiti Ally Rashid has an in-depth knowledge and experience in multisectoral strategic analysis for planning and management of water and related resources. She has experience in resource mobilization for implementation of projects portfolio; experience in strategic expansion of portfolio through identification and preparation of investment projects; contracts management; procurement and management of finance resources.



Ambassador Nadia Eisa Gofoun (Sudan) currently serves as the Deputy President of the Charter Committee of Arab Human Rights. Ambassador Gofoun has over 30 years of direct experience in formal water diplomacy processes in the Nile Basin on behalf of Sudan. Ambassador Gofoun has played key roles in regional and bilateral water cooperation since the 1990s, including as a Member of Sudan's official delegation in the GERD negotiation processes. Until 2021, Ambassador Gofoun served as the Deputy General Director of International Issues at the Ministry of Foreign Affairs and Director of the Department of Water, Environment and Natural Resources. She also served as a Member to the Human Rights Committee in the Arab League from 2016-2021. She served as Sudan's Ambassador to Norway and Demark (2011-2015), prior to that she served as Sudan's Deputy Ambassador to Sweden, Malaysia, and served as part of the delegation to the United Nations. Ambassador Gofoun is a founding Member of the Women in Water Diplomacy Network. **Pending Visa.**



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Natasha Carmi (Palestine/Switzerland) is an engineer by education, holds a Master’s Degree in Hydrology for Environmental Management. She joined the Geneva Water Hub in March 2018 and contributes to the establishment of the Global Water Observatory on Water and Peace, as well as the development of the women, water and peace agenda. Prior to that, she worked as water policy advisor to the Palestinian Negotiations Support Project, working closely with decision makers, and has experience in bilateral and regional water negotiations. She is used to working in highly sensitive and timely political environments. She worked with water resources and environmental challenges in the Middle East for the past 20 years. She serves frequently as a faculty member for conferences and workshops dealing with transboundary water resources in general, and hydropolitics in particular, at which water is a core political issue and international water law is a necessary framework for resolving conflicts and identifying opportunities and solutions.



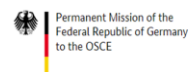
Nazokat Isaeva (Tajikistan) is a water resources management specialist, currently working in the field of surface water quality monitoring and assessments. Her “water journey” began in 2005 when she served as a volunteer for the UNICEF “WASH in Schools” project in rural areas of Tajikistan. She worked within diverse communities, ensuring safe access to drinking water and sanitation, as well as raising awareness among poor community groups. During the last 20 years she worked in NGOs, UN Agencies (Unicef, WHO, UN Women and UNOPS) as well as in such bilateral donor institutions as JICA, SDC, and Norwegian MFA. In 2015 Nazokat joined the program under the Wider European Initiative (WEI) and worked as a National Program Manager in Tajikistan, covering Finnish-funded projects – from drinking water provision to managing transboundary water cooperation. She participated in the National Policy Dialogues on IWRM in Tajikistan, contributing to policy formulation on water safety, water quality, environmental data exchange and gender equality within water programming. She also served as a national focal point for the development of water-related targets under the Protocol on Water and Health, UNECE. For the last decade, Nazokat has been actively engaged in the facilitation of Women Water Forums (2013, 2015, 2018 and 2022) within the International Water Conferences in Dushanbe, Tajikistan.



Dr. Nehal Adel (Egypt) is currently the Head of the Central Department of Foreign Cooperation at the Egyptian Ministry of Water Resources and Irrigation. She has over 30 years of experience in the water sector, and has held a variety of leadership positions in Egypt and Africa. Dr. Nehal Adel graduated from the Faculty of Engineering, Ain Shams University, in 1992 with a Bachelor of Science degree in civil engineering. She then worked in the field of design and implementation of major water projects. In 2003, she earned a Master of Science degree in environmental impact assessment of water projects from Ain Shams University. In 2004, Dr. Nehal Adel moved into the research field, joining the Strategic Studies Unit at the National Water Research Center. She earned her Doctor of Philosophy degree in hydropolitics from Cairo University in 2010. In 2011, Dr. Nehal Adel was appointed Director General of Studies and African Affairs at the Office of the Minister of Water Resources and Irrigation. She served as Chair of the Technical Committee of the African



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Ministers' Council on Water (AMCOW) and received the AMCOW Award for Distinguished Technical Leaders in the Field of Water at the African Level. She earned a Diploma in Political Science from the American University in Cairo in 2020. In 2022, Dr. Nehal Adel was appointed Assistant Minister for International Cooperation. In 2023, she was appointed Head of the Central Department of Foreign Cooperation. Dr. Nehal Adel is a mother of two daughters, one a pharmacist and the other a doctor. She is a member of the Egyptian Society of Hydrology and Water Resources and the African Water Association.

Nompumelelo Ntshalintshali-Motsa (Eswatini) Nompumelelo Ntshalintshali – Motsa is the Former Sanitation and Water for All (SWA) Regional Coordinator for Africa. She is a member of the Women in Water Diplomacy Leadership Council and a founder member and Executive Director of the GlobeCare Foundation. Ms. Ntshalintshali is a development practitioner focusing on WASH governance, gender equality and social inclusion, climate change, policy development and execution with over 20 years of extensive experience and proven record of achievements at national, sub-regional, regional and international platforms. As a Development Practitioner, Ms Ntshalintshali has a vast experience in multi-stakeholder engagement programming. She has led the sector policy formulation and execution, governance, advocacy, rural/community development, behaviour change communication, gender, climate action, and sector coordination.



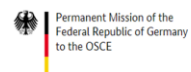
Oygul Usmanova (Uzbekistan) serves as the Head of International Communications Division at the Scientific-Information Center of the Interstate Commission for Water Coordination in Central Asia/SIC ICWC, a regional organization that contributes to fostering transboundary water cooperation in the region through data, information and knowledge development and dissemination. Oygul has been supporting for over 25 years the projects implemented under the umbrella of the Commission and contributed to the establishment of the Gender and Water Network in Central Asia in 2007. Oygul also maintains activities of the Network of Water Management Organizations from Eastern Europe, Caucasus and Central Asia (EECCA) as a member of the Network's Secretariat and leads the activity on the development of a Regional Centre of Excellence on the nexus approach on the base of the existing Expert Platform for Water Security, Sustainable Development and Future Studies. Oygul holds a diploma in Applied Maths.



Prisca Nandede (Uganda) serves as a Senior Sociologist with the Ministry of Water and Environment in the Republic of Uganda. She has a background in Social Sciences with specific interest in gender equality and community development. Prisca, an advocate for improved livelihoods of vulnerable people through provision of sustainable water and environmental services. She is also a member of the International Association for Community Development. Prisca has been involved in the development and review of a number of policies and strategies key among which include: the first African Ministers' Council on Water's Gender Strategy (AMCOW's), the Strategy for Mainstreaming Gender in Uganda's Water and Environment Sector, National Guidelines for Assessing Gender, Environment and Social Risk in the Water and Environment Sector in Uganda, and



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the development of Grievance Redress Mechanisms for several projects in the Ministry of Water and Environment. A firm believer and beneficiary of mentorship and coaching, her main areas of interest are gender equality, community development, religion, conflict resolution and water security. Ms. Nandede holds a Bachelor’s Degree in Social Sciences at Makerere University, Uganda and is currently pursuing a Master’s degree in Development Studies. Prisca has been active in the Women in Water Diplomacy Network since 2018.

Rehab Abd Almohsen (Egypt) is an Egyptian science journalist, based in Cairo, covering all MENA water issues extensively. In 2021, Rehab took home three prizes from the Nile Media Awards ceremony, in the categories of Digital, Print and the Best Female Entry. Rehab is also a science media trainer, she done trainings with the British council, Goethe institute, international science media and communication forum, and she published a MOOC course with Aljazeera online learning which consists of 20 lessons on science journalism. Rehab also contributed to the open access e-book Water Conflicts and Cooperation: A Media Handbook coordinated by SciDev .Net under the Open Water Diplomacy Lab project. The Handbook was designed for journalists and other professionals working on science communication in the field of water, peace, and cooperation and draws upon the experience of like journalists like Rehab.



Dr. Róisín Burke (Ireland) is an Assistant Professor of Public International Law with the Netherlands Institute of Human Rights. Róisín’s present and past work, publications and teaching have cut across the areas of international criminal law, international humanitarian law (IHL), human rights law, women peace and security (WPS), peace operations, international security law, rule of law programming in conflict-affected states, legal pluralism, and public international law. She is leading an NWO project related to WPS, transboundary water security and environmental peacebuilding in the South Caucasus. She has been a consultant on projects related to gender, human rights, IHL, and peace-building with NGOs, and international and regional bodies. Previously, she was a Senior Law Lecturer (above the bar) at the University of Canterbury, and worked as Political Advisor to the Permanent Mission of Ireland to the UN. She holds a doctorate from the Asia Pacific Centre for Military Law, University of Melbourne, a LLB in Law and European Studies (UL), an LLM in International Human Rights Law (Irish Centre for Human Rights) and is admitted as an Attorney in New York State.

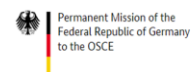


Roza Berkeliyeva (Turkmenistan) – *bio and headshot requested*

Safia Saldeeye (Somalia) is a seasoned professional in the field of international development and advocacy, boasting over a decade of invaluable experience working with esteemed organisations such as the Somalia Federal Government, European Union, United Nations, and various NGOs. She holds a Master’s degree in Development Studies and a Bachelor’s degree in Business and Public Administration. She has a specialised focus on Protection Sexual Exploitation and Abuse (PSEA) and Gender-Based Violence (GBV) and has successfully facilitated comprehensive training



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programs, advocated tirelessly for women's equality within armed forces, and spearheaded projects aimed at fostering significant socio-economic impact with extensive expertise spanning project management, strategic engagement, and effective communication between parts. In her role as Chief Protocol and GBV Adviser to the First Lady of Somalia, she has been instrumental in driving forward initiatives aimed at supporting victims and combatting pervasive social stigma. Her unwavering dedication to gender equality is further evidenced by her contributions to the drafting of Somalia's 10-year gender policy in year 2015, and her support for refugee families in London.

Dr. Saule Ospanova (Kazakhstan) is a Senior Environmental Affairs Advisor heading the environmental cooperation portfolio at OSCE with activities in sustainable water management, water diplomacy, disaster risk reduction, good environmental governance, and hazardous waste management. She has over 20 years of experience contributing to international multi stakeholder initiatives, managing, and implementing sustainability projects in different parts of the world (including Eastern Europe, Central Asia, Africa and China). Prior to joining OSCE, she worked with the International Institute for Environment and Development, the World Bank, UN and other institutions on policy development in water, climate change, energy and green economy, as well as accountability in the extractive sector. Her doctorate studies at the University of Michigan Ann Arbor focused on resource governance and environmental justice. Dr. Ospanova and the OSCE are founding supporters of the Central Asia-Afghanistan Network and she will be participating in person at the UN Water Conference on behalf of OSCE.



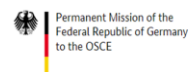
Shemshat Setdarova (Turkmenistan) since January 2023, Shemshat has been working as a chief specialist of the Department of Organizational and Cultural Affairs of the Women's Union of Turkmenistan. Prior to this she served as the Head of the Department of Information, Analysis and International Relations of the National Center of Trade Unions of Turkmenistan



Shohida Tulieva (Tajikistan) is the National Expert on Gender, Social Equality and Youth Engagement in the Water Sector Reform Program of the Government of Tajikistan. Also, she is the President of the Association "Woman and Water" of Central Asia and Afghanistan with the aim of developing networking and increasing the potential of women specialists in the water sector. In addition, Ms. Tulieva is a member of the Women in Water Diplomacy Network in Central Asia and Afghanistan (OSCE, SIWI, ELI, CAREC), member of the National Commission on Irrigation and Drainage in Tajikistan (ICID India), and a Lecturer at the Kazakh-German University on Gender in water sector and Basin Management. She is activist on public speech on raising Gender, Youth and water issues, social-gender equality, climate change, water diplomacy taking into account the principles of Integrated Water Resources Management at the International conferences, dialogue platforms in such events in Sweden, USA, Germany, Israel and others. Ms. Tulieva has 15 years of professional experience in water sector at operational and portfolio management levels with cross-cutting aspects on Gender and Water Resource Management into account a "Bottom-Up" approach based on developing methodologies and



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tools for gender research in particular at the local level in Tajikistan, Central Asia and Afghanistan. In her professional work, she created a dialogue platform - Basin Women Forum of the Syrdarya River, under the SDC project and contributed to the developing the sustainable replication mechanism to create another Basin forum in Kafarnigan river in the south of Tajikistan, by raising the voices of women from rural area and lobbying their interests on the front of the ministries' decision makers at the national level. Ms. Tulieva, holds a M.A. in Social studies with a specialization in Integrated Water Resources Management in Central Asia in the Kazakh-German University, Almaty, Kazakhstan

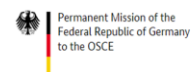
Simla Yasemin Özkaya (Turkey) is a Counsellor (Transboundary Waters and Environment) at the Turkish Ministry of Foreign Affairs. She graduated from the Middle East Technical University (METU), Environmental Engineering Department, in 1998 in Türkiye. Received her Msc degree on EU Water Legislation at the Hacettepe University in 2004 in Türkiye. Joined the Ministry of Foreign Affairs in 2001. She worked at the Permanent Delegation of Türkiye to the UN Office in Geneva from 2004-2008. During her tenure, participated in the meetings of UNECE Convention on the Protection and Use of Transboundary Water Courses and International Lakes as the delegate of Türkiye. One of the accomplishments during her duty was making contributions to the UNECE Report on “First Assessment of Transboundary Rivers, Lakes and Ground Waters”. Worked at the Permanent Delegation of Türkiye to UNESCO from 2012-2016. During her mission, she was the Delegate of Türkiye in the Intergovernmental Hydrological Programme (IHP) Committee, the member of Groundwater Governance Permanent Consultation Mechanism of UNESCO and the member UNESCO Integrated Water Resources Management Guidelines Steering Group. Worked at the Permanent Delegation of Türkiye to OECD in between 2018-2022. As the Delegate of Türkiye in various Committees, including the OECD Environmental Policy Committee, actively involved in the preparation process of 2019 OECD Environmental Performance Review of Türkiye report. Made substantial contributions to the report titled “Applying the OECD Principles on Water Governance”. Carried out Bureau membership of “Biodiversity, Water and Ecosystems Working Group of OECD” and the “OECD Climate Change Adaptation Task Force Steering Group”. Currently working at the Department of the Transboundary Waters at the Ministry of Foreign Affairs (MFA) as the Consellor. During her carrier in the MFA in Ankara and in abroad, she has prepared various concept notes for decision makers based on trends on water policies and has negotiated various documents at the international meetings.



Sofía de la Rosa Solano (Columbia/ The Netherlands) has ten years of experience working in the fields of water and climate adaptation. My skills include valuing water, project monitoring, water sector expertise, qualitative data analysis, partnership creation, networking, and event organization. I have worked in Latin America and the Caribbean, the UK, and the Netherland in the academic, NGO and public sectors.



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Sogol Jafarzadeh (Switzerland) is an Environmental Scientist with more than 12 years of experience working on environmental policy and inclusive governance. In her capacity as UNU-INWEH’s Governance and Gender Coordinator for East and Southern Africa, she works with stakeholders in the region to address water, health and sanitation, climate and environmental issues as well as their gender-related and justice implications. Based in Harare, Zimbabwe, she liaises with partners and donors to identify new opportunities for collaboration and implements relevant projects and activities in East and Southern Africa. Sogol joined UNU from the Organization for Security and Cooperation in Europe (OSCE), where she served as the Environmental Affairs Adviser, focusing on transboundary water cooperation and water diplomacy. She was also the gender focal point of her department and led efforts to establish the Women in Water Management Network in Central Asia and Afghanistan. Before joining the OSCE, Sogol worked at UNEP and UNDP, supporting initiatives on environmental policy, including combating sand and dust storms. She also worked as an Adjunct Instructor at the City College of New York, teaching environmental sciences and environmental psychology, and as a researcher at ETH Zurich, looking at drivers of land degradation in water-scarce rangelands. Sogol holds an MSc in Environmental Sciences from the Swiss Federal Institute of Technology (ETH Zurich) and a postgraduate certificate in Conservation Biology from the Earth Institute, Columbia University in New York.



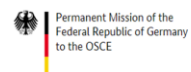
Sophia Stanger (Austria) is Junior Project Manager and provides support to the "Capacity Development for Humanitarian Assistance in West Africa" project as well as to training programmes within the framework of the European Union (EUCTI). She is also responsible for coordinating ACP’s Environmental Peacebuilding activities and involved in dialogue projects around water & peace, among others in the Persian Gulf region. Sophia Stanger has many years of experience in NGO work, project management and team leadership, for example in the fields of education, humanitarian advocacy and volunteer missions. Her expertise also lies in the intersection of environment/climate and conflict resolution approaches. Sophia Stanger is also a qualified trainer.



Suray Charyyeva (Turkmenistan) is a Junior researcher at the Leibniz Institute for Agricultural Development in Countries in Transition, specialising in sustainable agricultural practices in Central Asia. She is actively involved in the Central Asia Research Group, studying topics such as gender dynamics, crop diversification, water management, agricultural trade, etc. In addition, Suray cooperates with Turkmen institutions, offering expertise in agricultural economics at the Dakhsoguz Agricultural Institute. She also mentors female students at the International University of Humanities and Development in an effort to empower the next generation of leaders. Through her diverse activities, Suray demonstrates a commitment to sustainable development and inclusiveness in Central Asia's agricultural sector.



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Tais Reznikova (Kazakhstan) is a water resources management specialist with a focus on Integrated Water Resources Management (IWRM), environmental management, and policy. She currently coordinates the Mentoring and Career Development Programme for Women in Water and serves as the Blue Peace Central Asia Secretariat at the Regional Environmental Centre for Central Asia (CAREC) in Almaty, Kazakhstan. Tais has over 7 years of practical experience in project implementation across Central Asia, specializing in basin management, planning, and water diplomacy. She holds a master's degree in Environmental Science, Policy, and Management from Central European and Lund Universities, and another in IWRM from Kazakh-German University. Tais has been actively involved in nurturing the Women in Water Management Network in Central Asia and Afghanistan since its establishment in 2021.



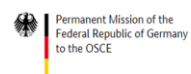
Ambassador Tanja Miškova (Slovenia) is Ambassador-at-Large for Water Diplomacy at the Ministry of Foreign and European Affairs of Slovenia. During her diplomatic career she served as Director General for Multilateral Affairs and Development Cooperation, as head of Department for Emerging Challenges, as Ambassador to Egypt (non-resident to Jordan, KSA, UAE, Qatar, Kuwait and Oman), as Diplomatic Adviser to the President of Slovenia and as Deputy Head of Mission at the Embassy of Slovenia to Israel. In her current work, she is focusing on the priority areas of the Slovenian water diplomacy: water & peace nexus, transboundary water cooperation, and water & climate change nexus. She also serves as a Deputy Commissioner of Slovenia to the International Sava River Basin Commission.



Tim Kraenzlein (Switzerland) has a background in agricultural engineering and works for the Organization for Security and Co-operation in Europe (OSCE), where he serves as Environmental Affairs Adviser, focusing on transboundary water cooperation and water diplomacy. Before joining OSCE, Tim worked for Switzerland's Federal Department of Foreign Affairs (FDFA) as Deputy Head of the Swiss Mission to the Rome-based UN agencies, dealing with agriculture and food systems. His work in Rome was focusing on youth engagement in the transformation of food systems towards sustainability under a unifying and shared vision of the future. Tim holds a PhD of the Swiss Federal Institute of Technology (ETH Zurich) and an Agricultural Engineer's title from TU Munich (Germany) University. Tim is a systems thinker and convinced that Network approaches have the potential to change the way we manage water resources.



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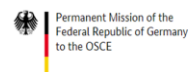
Tracy Sithabile Molefi (Botswana) is a Programme Coordinator for the Permanent Okavango River Basin Water Commission (OKACOM) Secretariat responsible for the overall coordination of the entire OKACOM programme with specific focus on the implementation of the OKACOM Strategic Programme. Prior to joining the OKACOM Secretariat, she was the Deputy Director-Water Resources for the Department of Water and Sanitation of Botswana. Tracy earlier served as National Coordinator- River Basin Organizations, heading the Ministry’s International Waters Unit. In this role, she oversaw, facilitated, and coordinated the programme and activities of the four river basins of Zambezi, Limpopo, Orange-Senqu and Okavango and other water related bilateral and joint commissions that Botswana has formed agreements with other countries. She has served in different capacities on the various structures or organs of these four river basins including being Co-Chair of the Okavango Basin Steering Committee (OBSC) under OKACOM. Tracy has over ten years’ experience in water resources development and management cut across national and regional level focusing on community development and capacity building, environmental protection and natural resource management, Integrated Water Resources Management (IWRM), advocacy and developing strategic partnerships. She has knowledge of Project Management gained through work with regional projects such as the Swedish funded Every River Has Its People project (where she was a project coordinator), and the USAID funded Okavango Integrated River Basin Management project, implemented in Botswana, Namibia and Angola. Tracy is the former Chairperson of the African Network of River basin organisation and Member of the Global Water Partnership Organisation (GWPO) where she also serves as member of GWP Nomination Committee. She is the member of Kalahari Conservation Society and IUCN's Communication and Education Commission. She has a master’s degree in Environmental Science holder coupled with several professional courses in trans-boundary water resources management.



Tumaini Mwamyalla (Tanzania) serves as Tanzania’s National Desk Officer for the Nile Basin Initiative (NBI) and principal project preparation and coordination officer within the Ministry of Water. She holds a MSc in Community Economic Development from New Hampshire University and MSc in Engineering Management from the University of Dar Es Salaam as well as a Post Graduate certificate in Integrated Water Resources Management from the Stockholm International Water Institute. Throughout her career, Tumaini has held responsibility of coordinating and supervising, preparation and execution of transboundary water resources management and development plans as well as implementation of national, regional, and international programmes at national level. Tumaini has eighteen years of experience in transboundary water resources management coordinating transboundary issues with different regional cooperation institutions including African Ministers’ Council on Water (AMCOW), the NBI, the Zambezi Watercourse Commission (ZAMCOM), Lake Victoria Basin Commission (LVBC), Lake Tanganyika Authority, Ruvuma Basin Commission and Songwe River Commission. Tanzania has eleven surface water bodies shared with eight neighboring countries including Burundi, Democratic Republic of Congo, Kenya, Malawi, Mozambique, Rwanda, Uganda and Zambia (not including shared ground water aquifers). Tumaini has participated from negotiations to ratification in the Nile Basin Comparative Agreement Framework (CFA) dialogues and in the preparation and implementation of several Shared Vision Programmes under the Nile basin Initiative.



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Tumaini is a founding member of the Women in Water Diplomacy Network and serves on the Network's Leadership Council.

Valentina Ceres (Moldova) is a Senior Consultant, Integrated Water Resources Policy Directorate of the Ministry of Environment. Bachelor in Geography and Hydrology. I have a rich experience in the field of flood and drought management, I have developed the Operational Manual on flood management in the Dniester and Prut river basins for the General Inspectorate for Emergency Situations. I've been working for over 10 years as head of the Hydrological Forecasting Department in the State Hydrometeorological Service. I am a member of the working groups of the Commission for the Sustainable Use and Protection of the Dniester River Basin (Exceptional Situations Working Group and the Working Group on River Basin Planning and Management).



Verdiane Nyiramana (Rwanda) with a master's degree in Project Management and a Bachelor's Degree in Business Information Technology, Verdiane Nyiramana has benefited from different trainings in different domains including peace building, women empowerment and conflict resolution. In the aftermath of the 1994 Genocide against Tutsis, Verdiane did not fear to take the lead as a young lady to mobilize other young women in Rwanda to actively engage in reconciliation and rehabilitation of Rwanda focusing on reconciliation and peace.

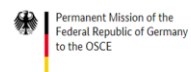


Her determination and commitment to give back to communities, led to her appointment as the Executive Director of BENIMPUHWE organization. In addition, Verdiane's networking; communication and persuasive skills have led BENIMPUHWE organization to attract donors from different sources including Rwanda Government, USA, Belgium, Canada, Netherlands, Germany and France. Currently she is a Regional Chairperson of Nile Basin Discourse, Founder and chair of women for water and climate cooperation network (WWCCN) and former Regional Board member of Concertation des collectives des Associations Feminines de la Region des Grands-Lacs.

Vineetha Kartha (United States) is currently employed as the Colorado River Programs Manager with the Central Arizona Project. In her capacity with CAP, Vineetha and her team provide technical and policy support to management and the CAWCD Board of Directors on Colorado River issues including developing and implementing strategic planning efforts and projects protecting and enhancing CAP's interest in the Colorado River water supplies. Vineetha has worked with Freeport-McMoRan as their water resources manager working on water rights management issues across Freeport mines in Arizona and has previously served as the Manager for the Colorado River Management Section at the Arizona Department of Water Resources. She holds a Master of Urban and Environmental Planning degree from the Arizona State University and a Master of Geology degree from the University of Bombay and a post graduate Diploma in "International Negotiations and Capacity Skills" from the Diplomatic Academy of Vienna.



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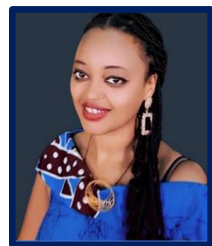




Yara Fernandes Lourenço (Angola) joined TNC in January 2023 as Chief of Party for the USAID-supported Ecosystems, Communities and Climate (ECCO) project. Prior to TNC, Yara served as Government Relations Manager at The HALO Trust in Angola where she focused on accelerating donor relations, assisted in developing the organizational profile and conducted research and development of new funding opportunities. Yara has over 20 years of experience in project management and implementation and leading teams in the Southern Africa region. Her expertise includes: the development and implementation of MEL plans; undertaking program evaluations; and working extensively with gender and community-based projects throughout Angola. She previously conducted evaluations for UNICEF, Norwegian Norad and the European Union and provided technical guidance and support to grant management as Country Director for mothers2mothers/PEPFAR in Angola. Additional experience includes delivering strategic guidance and advise to a multitude of stakeholders (government agencies, international donors, civil society organizations, INGOs) in Angola and the Southern African region. Yara holds a Master of Sciences in Development Studies from the School of Oriental and Africa Studies, UK and a Bachelor of International Relations and Politics from the University of Westminster, UK. Finally, she has over 18 years of experience as a Lecturer in International Relations and Africa Development.



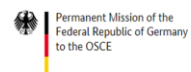
Yodit Balcha (Ethiopia) is a founding member of the Women in Water Diplomacy Network and serves on the Network's Leadership Council. Yodit is also a founding member of the African Women in Water and Climate Association. Currently, Yodit works as a Climate Adaptation research officer at the Alliance of Bioversity International and CIAT-Africa Hub in Addis Ababa, Ethiopia. Until early 2022, Yodit served as the Senior Climate Change Adaptation Advisor at the Ministry of Water, Irrigation, and Energy in Ethiopia, where she is responsible for mainstreaming climate change adaptation and resilience plans into the ministries sectoral strategic and development projects, she was also one of the few women water diplomats during the GERD negotiations back in 2019. Her work focuses on the nexus approach of Climate, Land (Agriculture), Energy, and Water Systems. Yodit holds a Master's degree in Sustainable Development from Uppsala University, a Master's course in Agricultural Economics from Haramaya University, and Bachelor's Degree in Natural Resource Economics and Management from Mekelle University.



Dr. Yolanda Lopez-Maldonado (Mexico) is an Indigenous Maya woman from Mexico and science diplomat, working on the social dimensions of water conservation. Her career has spanned several topics from both natural & social sciences pertaining to the science-society-policy interphase. She has worked for academic/non-academic organizations and achieved high-level results in diplomatic environments at different levels in social issues and science fields including UNESCO, UNPFII, CBD, ICCROM, IPBES, IUCN, fostering debates about how science (Western and Indigenous) can build trust between nations & support foreign policies. Her fields of expertise include in-depth knowledge of theories, frameworks, methods and analytical techniques to investigate complex systems undergoing global change. A Young Scholar from the Beijer Institute of Ecological Economics, The



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Royal Swedish Academy of Sciences, and fellow of the International Institute for Applied Systems Analysis (IIASA), Dr. Lopez-Maldonado received a PhD degree in Human Geography from the Ludwig-Maximilians-Universität München, Germany.

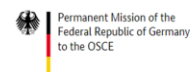
Dr. Yumiko Yasuda (Japan/ Sweden) is the Senior Network and Transboundary Water Cooperation Specialist at Global Water Partnership (GWP). She is presently the Network Specialist for both GWP-C and GWP Southeast Asia. She joined GWP in 2017, and has been network officer for China, Southeast Asia, South Asia and Pan Asia. In addition to being a Senior Network Specialist, she currently leads GWP’s thematic work on transboundary water, and is the lead faculty of the Massive Open Online Course (MOOC) on Transboundary Freshwater Security, where she designed and directed the production of the course. Her areas of expertise lie in the analysis of water and environmental governance, water diplomacy, political economy analysis surrounding natural resources management, with a focus on transboundary rivers and non-state actors’ engagements in natural resources management. Yumiko brings GWP experiences working in multiple sectors in the field of water and environment including: UNDP-GEF Asia and the Pacific region programme officer, livelihoods specialist for WWF Mekong programme, community based ecotourism advisor in Cambodia, environmental specialist at Ericsson, postdoc researcher on water diplomacy at SIWI, Uppsala University and the Hague Institute for Global Justice. She obtained her PhD degree from the Centre for Water Law, Policy and Science at the University of Dundee, MA in environmental policy from the Tufts University, and MSc in Environmental Science from Tsukuba University. Her research on the Mekong has culminated in the publication of a book titled “Rules, Norms and NGO Advocacy Strategies: Hydropower Development on the Mekong River” by Routledge in 2015.



Dr. Zodwa Dlamini (South Africa) is a seasoned international transboundary water management specialist, development professional, and senior infrastructure projects manager. As the former South Africa’s Chief Delegate and Permanent Representative on the Lesotho Highlands Water Commission (LHWC) for 11 years, she oversaw the Lesotho Highlands Water Project (LHWP) and its implementation and served as South Africa’s Chief Negotiator for Phase 2 of the Lesotho Highlands Water Project valued at \$5 Billion that is currently being implemented in Lesotho. The LHWP is a binational project between the government of the Republic South Africa and the Kingdom of Lesotho responsible for delivering water from the highlands of Lesotho to South Africa, and utilising the water delivery system to generate 72MW hydro-electric power for the Kingdom of Lesotho at ‘Muela Hydropower Station. LHWP was Africa’s largest water transfer scheme prior to the construction of the Grand Ethiopian Renaissance Dam (GERD). Dr. Dlamini further ensured that gender policies in the LHWP are intentional and decisive in matters of gender inclusivity and participation of women. It was during her tenure when the LHDA first appointed a woman Chief Executive Officer (CEO) in over 20 years of its existence. Dr. Dlamini is currently an independent consultant currently supporting the development of the Women in Water Diplomacy Network in the Orange-Senqu. Dr. Dlamini is a founding member of the Women in Water Diplomacy Network and serves as a member of the Network Leadership Council.



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Zoe Rosenblum (United States) is a doctoral candidate in geography at Oregon State University (OSU). Her research explores the intersection of international water governance and transboundary wetlands, investigating the role of law and institutions in shared wetland areas. She employs geospatial and qualitative analyses to understand the global distribution of transboundary wetlands and how transboundary wetland governance is implemented on the ground. Zoe is a graduate of the Water Cooperation and Diplomacy joint master’s program of OSU, IHE-Delft and the United Nations-Mandated University for Peace. She is advised by Professors Aaron Wolf (OSU) and Susanne Schmeier (IHE-Delft), with whom she supports transboundary water cooperation workshops and capacity building in basins across the globe.



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