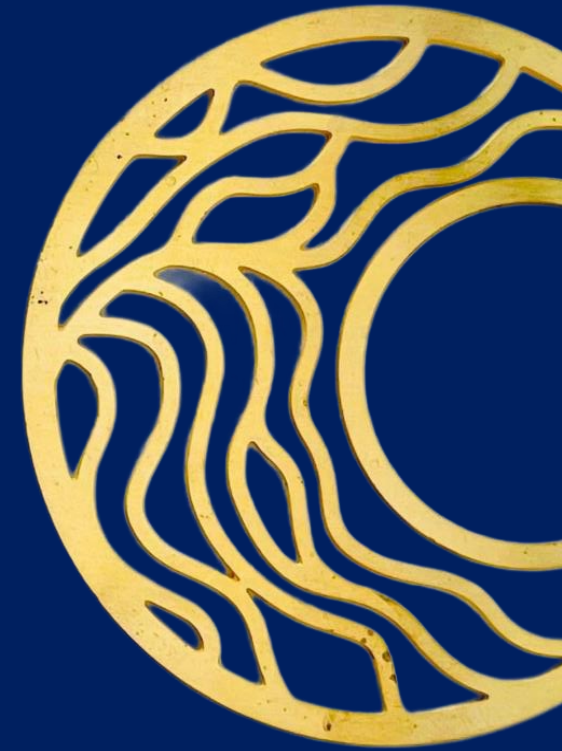


Women in Water Diplomacy Network Experience Exchange Seminar Series: *Confidence Building Measures in Water Diplomacy*



Tuesday, February 11, 2025 | 8:00-10:00 EST / 14:00-16:00 CET/ 15:00-17:00 CAT | Online



WOMEN IN
WATER DIPLOMACY
NETWORK & PARTNERS



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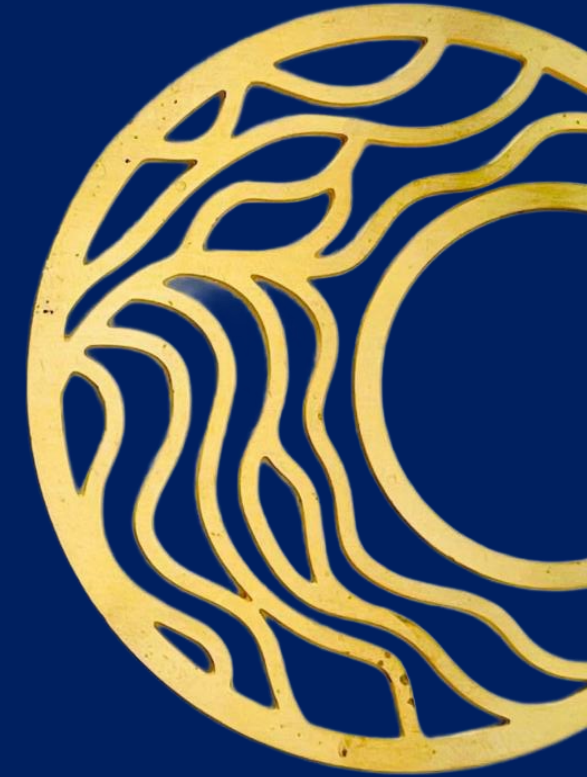
Welcome!



Elizabeth A. Koch

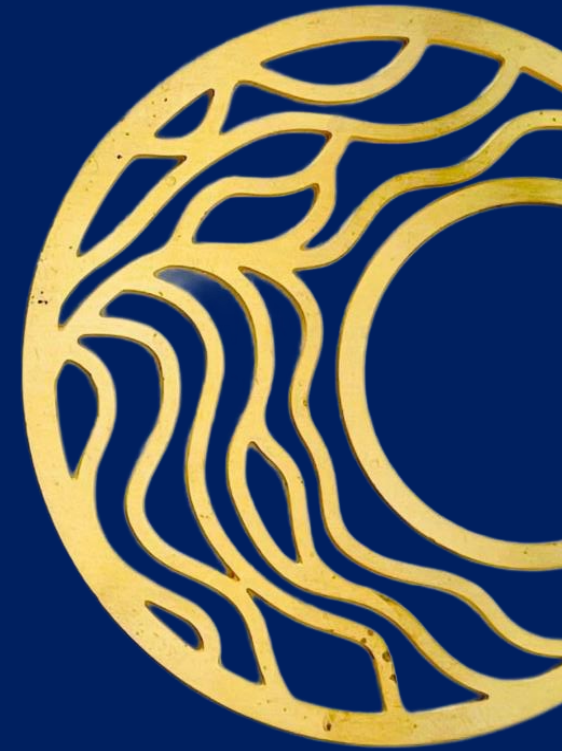
Senior Manager, Environmental Law Institute

Process Support Team Lead, Women in Water Diplomacy Network



Women in Water Diplomacy Network

Our Mission: To improve gender equality in high-level decision making in transboundary basins with focus on women's leadership in regional dialogues around shared waters - with resultant positive implications for regional *peace and human security*.



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Snapshot: Women in Water Diplomacy Network

- Initiated in the Nile Basin in 2017
- Central Asia-Afghanistan Network launched in 2021
- Global Strategy 'A Path Forward for Women, Water, Peace and Security' released in 2022
- North America Network launched in 2023
- South Caucasus Network launched in 2024
- New basin Networks under development – Southern Africa, Latin America

Women in Water Diplomacy Network's Global Strategy:

PILLAR 1



GENDER AND YOUTH EMPOWERMENT

In transboundary water decision making

PILLAR 2



PEER-TO-PEER LEARNING

Capacity development & experience exchange

PILLAR 3



RESEARCH COOPERATION

Supporting network members & institutions

PILLAR 4



LINKAGES TO BASIN

Regional and global processes



What Network activities to expect in 2025?

- **New Global Leadership Council** – deadline to submit nominations is Feb 3, 2025.
- **Online Experience Exchange Sessions** will continue – we are aiming for quarterly sessions open to global engagement on key topics of water diplomacy. Registration is open for Feb 11 session on confidence building mechanisms in water diplomacy.
- **Celebrating key international dates with ‘open’ online events** including International Women’s Day (March 12), International Women in Diplomacy Day (June 24) and Annual Year-in-Review.
- **Resource mobilization and partnership development.**
- **Network LinkedIn page and newsletter**



Scan to volunteer



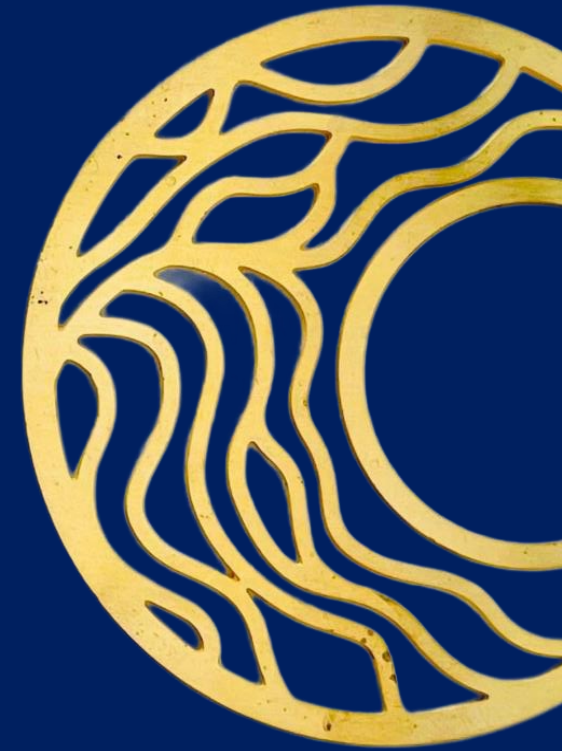
Scan to register for
March 12, 2025 session

Session Snapshot:

- Introduction to Confidence Building Measures (CBMs)
- CBMs in water diplomacy
- Panel discussion
- Key take-home messages for the Women in Water Diplomacy Network

Participation Guidelines:

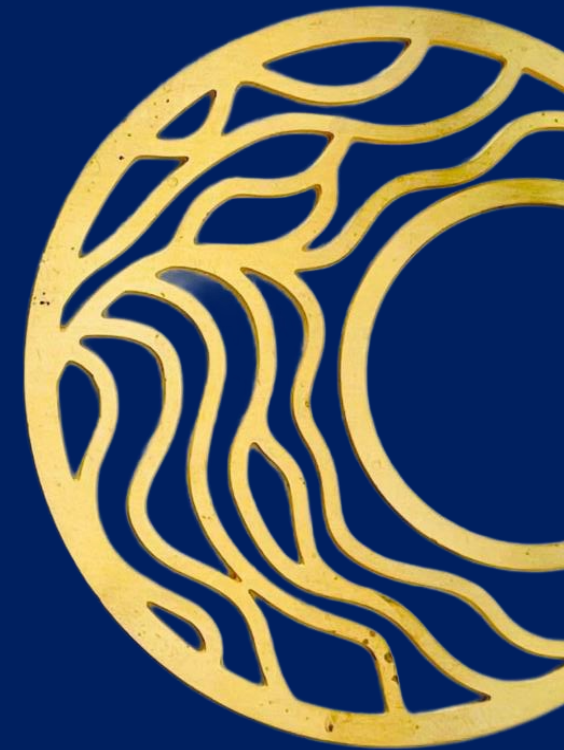
- This session is not being recorded and is being held under the Chatham House Rule.
- Be considerate, respectful, and collaborative. Refrain from demeaning, discriminatory, or harassing behavior and speech.
- The organizing partners reserve the right to remove anyone due to unacceptable behavior or speech.



Special thanks to our session partners!



Introduction to Confidence Building Measures



Dr. Róisín Burke,
Assistant Professor of Public International Law, the
Netherlands Institute of Human Rights



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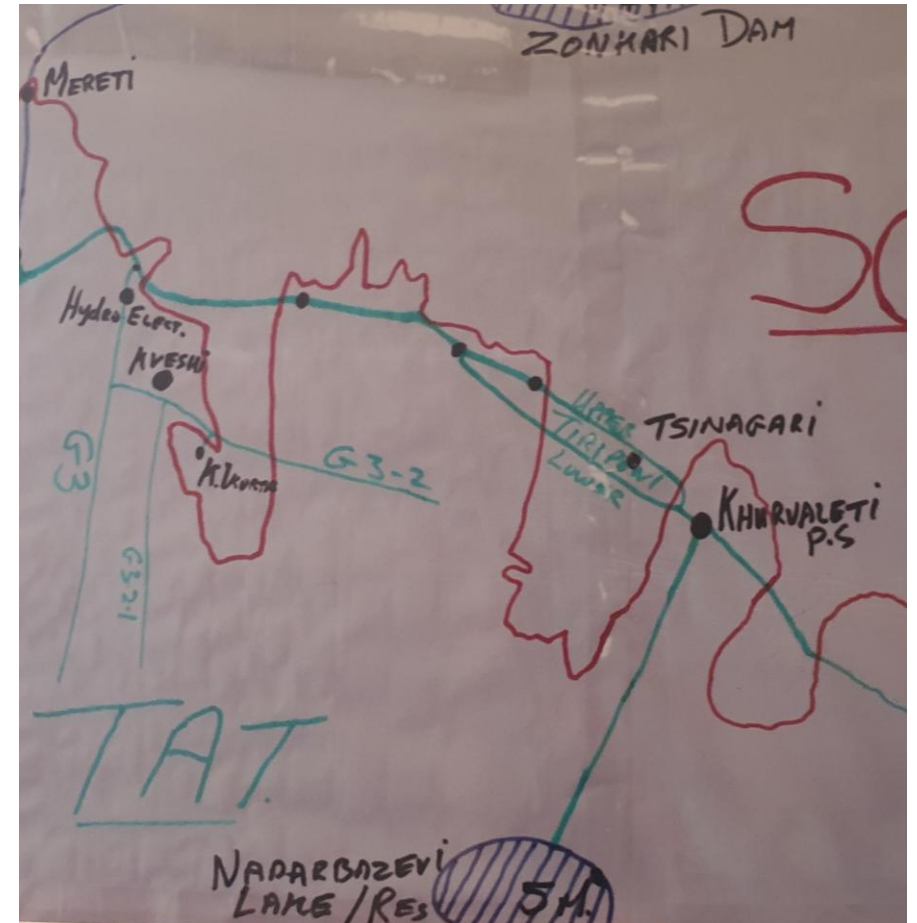
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Water Confidence Building Measures (CBMs)

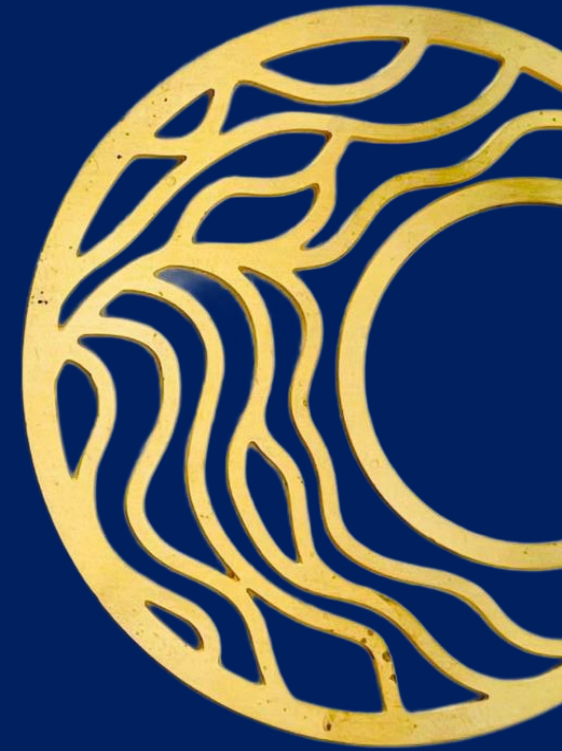
- Environmental peacebuilding is the ‘process of governing and managing natural resources and the environment to support durable peace’ ([Bruch et al, 2012](#))
- Positive environmental cooperation on an issue may foster confidence-building between parties in inter-state and intra-state conflicts - entry point for dialogue
- Stimson Center, CBMs are ‘diverse...tools, such as hot lines, people-to-people exchange, prior notification of exercises and cross-border economic projects that can help defuse tension, resolve misunderstanding, and promote cooperation...’ (1999)
- CBMs – mutual incentives and benefits, inclusivity, intergroup or interstate communication, trust-building, de-escalation and peacebuilding tool
- Water-related CBMs - e.g. Georgia, Central Asia, etc



Ignite Presentation: Confidence Building Measures and Water Diplomacy



Katja Ahlfors,
Senior Advisor for the Northern
and Western Africa Unit,
Ministry for Foreign Affairs, Finland



Experience Exchange:

Facilitated by:

Sogol Jafarzadeh,

UN and Government Relations

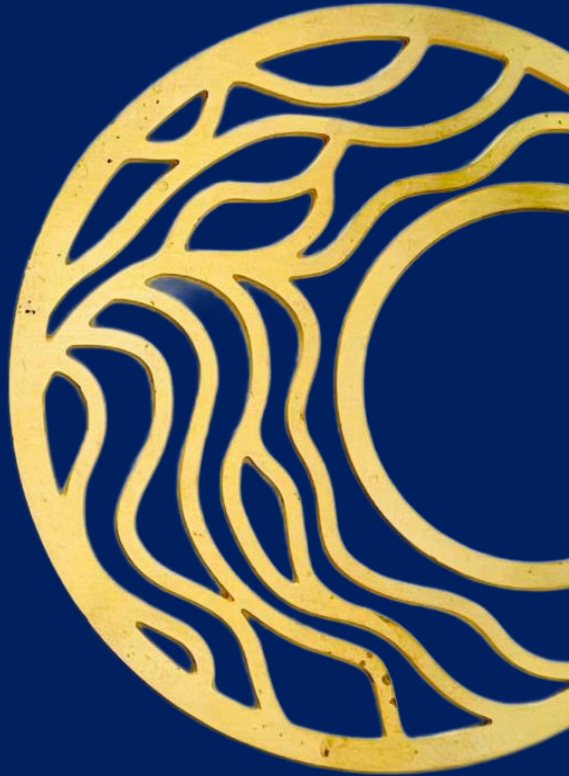
Coordinator & Gender and

Capacity Building Focal Point for Africa,
UNU-INWEH; *with:*

Invited Reflections from:

- **Dr. Erika Weinthal**, John O. Blackburn Distinguished Professor of Environmental Policy, Duke University, United States
- **Sonja Koeppel**, Secretary of the Water Convention and co-Secretary of the Protocol on Water and Health, UNECE, Germany
- **Julia Kharashvili**, Chair, IDP Women Association “Consent”, Georgia
- **Dr. Zodwa Dlamini**, Former South Africa Chief Delegate and Permanent Representative to the Lesotho Highlands Water Commission and Founding Member of the Women in Water Diplomacy Network

Take-home messages for the Women in Water Diplomacy Network?



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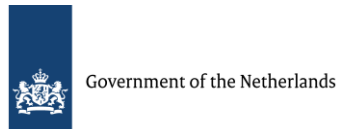


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With thanks to our community of partners!



Group 'Photo' Time

