

Rights and Wrongs: the fight for the right to water and sanitation

Time: Thursday 14th October, 0900-1200

Place: Håndverkeren, Rosenkrantzgate 7, Oslo



Programme

09:00 **Welcome**

– Andrew Preston, Director, Foreningen for internasjonale vannstudier (FIVAS) <http://www.fivas.org/>

- Advancing the right -

09:05 **Strengthening economic, social and cultural rights - an historical overview**

– Kristin Kjæret, Director, FIAN Norge <http://www.fian.no/>

09:20 **What's wrong with the right to water and sanitation?**

– Maike Gorsboth, Secretariat of the Ecumenical Water Network, World Council of Churches, Geneva <http://www.oikoumene.org>

09:40 **Norway and the right to water and sanitation**

– Geir Løkken, Assistant Director General, Ministry of Foreign Affairs <http://www.regjeringen.no/nb/dep/ud.html?id=833>

10:00 **Break** – coffee and tea

- Different perspectives -

10:10 **A view from the South: experiences with the right to water in El Salvador**

– Gregorio Ramirez Villanueva, Federación Unidad Ecológica Salvadoreña (UNES), El Salvador <http://www.unes.org.sv/>

10:25 **Silent violation of human rights to water and sanitation in Africa: Where is the water and sanitation affordable?**

– Anselme Vodounhessi, Project Leader, Water Security Improvement Project in West Africa, Burkina Faso

10:40 **The politics of water: why are the rights to water and sanitation so important?**

– Lyla Mehta, Research Fellow, Institute of Development Studies, University of Sussex and Professor II, Noragric, Norwegian University of Life Sciences (UMB) <http://www.ids.ac.uk/>

11:00 **Realising the right - Is public oversight enough or should water be in public hands?**

– Carl Ivar Delingsrud, Advisor, Fagforbundet <http://www.fagforbundet.no/>

11:15 **Discussion**

12:00 **End**

Sanitation for all: an engine of economic growth in Africa and Asia

Time: Thursday 14th October, 13.00-15.30

Place: Håndverkeren, Rosenkrantzgate 7, Oslo

Programme

13:00 **Welcome**

13:05 **Sanitation for all as an engine of economic growth – Presentation of a new report from Forum for Environment and Development’s working group on water and sanitation**
– *Karsten Gjefle, Director, Sustainable Sanitation Design* <http://www.susan-design.org/>

13:35 **Questions**

13:45 **Challenges for Sustainable Sanitation in Africa: Vision and ways forwards**
– *Anselme Vodounhessi, Project Leader, Water Security Improvement Project in West Africa, Burkina Faso*

14:15 **Agricultural production as a driver for sanitation - rural and urban experiences in West Africa**
– *Linus Dagerskog, Stockholm Environment Institute* <http://sei-international.org/>

14:45 **Discussion**

15:30 **End**



Registration to both seminars can be made by sending an email to: fivas@fivas.org by Tuesday 12th October. A simple lunch will be served to all registered participants.

List of speakers

Kristin Kjæret is a human geographer and Executive Director of FIAN Norway – an international human rights organization for the right to food. FIAN has since 1986 worked on more than 400 cases of violations of the right to food and water worldwide. FIAN is a networking organization with close links to social movements, academia and UN experts.

Maike Gorsboth has been coordinator of the Ecumenical Water Network at the World Council of Churches in Geneva, Switzerland, since January 2007. Before this she was involved in education, campaigning and advocacy on the human right to water with organizations including FIAN International and Brot für die Welt in Germany.

Geir Løkken has a Master's degree in comparative politics. He has been employed with the Norwegian Ministry of Foreign Affairs for many years and served abroad in the Middle East and Europe. In the Ministry, he has held a number of positions in various policy fields, including international development. He has for the last two years served as Assistant Director General in the Section for Human Rights and Democracy.

Gregorio Ramirez Villanueva works for Federación Unidad Ecologica Salvadoreña (UNES) in El Salvador. UNES is a federation of environmental and human rights organizations, universities and local groups that work to strengthen environmental movements in El Salvador and spread information about environment, ecology and human rights issues. UNES works for sustainable water management, and works both with local communities and at a national level to influence policies and the legal framework.

Anselme Vodounhessi is currently the project leader of “The Water Security Improvement Project in West Africa” hosted by the Global Water Partnership, West Africa office (GWP-WA). He has previously coordinated several projects in the sanitation sector, most recently a bold urban ecosan project in Ouagadougou known as “Ecosan_UE”, 2006-2009. Anselme is from Benin, and has a Rural Engineering degree from the International Institute of Water and Environmental Engineering in Ouagadougou, Burkina Faso and an MSc from IHE in Delft, Netherlands.

Lyla Mehta is a Research Fellow at the Institute of Development Studies, University of Sussex and a Professor II at Noragric, Norwegian University of Life Sciences. She is a sociologist and her work has focused on the politics of water and scarcity, gender, rights and forced displacement and questions of rights and access to water and sanitation. Her empirical research has largely been in India and South Africa. Her books include 'The politics and poetics of water: Naturalising Scarcity in Western India', 'Forced Displacement: Why Rights Matter' and The Limits to Scarcity: Contesting the Politics of Allocation (Forthcoming).

Carl Ivar Delingsrud is an Advisor at Fagforbundet (the Norwegian Union of Municipal and General Employees - NUMGE). Fagforbundet is the largest union in LO (the Norwegian Confederation of Trade Unions), with around 315,000 members, and works to strengthen the welfare state and ensure that welfare services are organised through public ownership and management. Carl Ivar works with technical services, including water and sanitation, and has a public transport background.

Linus Dagerskog works with the EcoSanRes programme, at the Stockholm Environment Institute (SEI). He is part of the team responsible for capacity development of the eight organizations in the South acting as “knowledge nodes on sustainable sanitation” in the EcoSanRes program. Between 2006-2009 he was based in Ouagadougou, Burkina Faso, as a Sida “Bilateral Associate Expert”, assisting CREPA's regional EcoSan program. He then moved on to coordinate an IFAD-financed productive sanitation project in Aguié, Niger. Linus has an MSc in Environmental and Aquatic Engineering from Uppsala University/SLU (2003).