



The Light Millennium, Charitable Global Human Advancement Organization
Associated with the United Nations Department of Global Communications,
Proudly presents the following titled webinar:

WATER, SANITATION, COVID-19, VALUES AND THE FUTURE OF WATER

Observance of the World Water Day (March 22, A/RES/47/193) and in support of the SDG-6 and SDG-3

Date: On SUNDAY, 21 MARCH 2021

Time: 13:00–15:00 (EST) | 12:00–14:00 (CT) | 10:00–12:00 (PT)

18:00–20:00 (UCT) | 19:00–21:00 (CET) & 20:00–22:00 (TR)

*Webinar via Zoom Platform - ID: **791 602 6555** | Passcode: **WWD2021***

TENTATIVE AGENDA | KEYNOTE SPEAKERS

• **Chair of the Session & Keynote Speaker:**

• **H.E. Mr. RODRIGO A. CARAZO**, Ambassador, Permanent Representative of Costa Rica to the United Nations in New York; and *currently*, Vice-President of UNICEF's Executive Board.

• **Keynote Speaker:**

• **Prof. OLCAY ÜNVER**, Arizona State University (U.S.A.); Vice Chair of UN-Water from 2018 to 2020; and Senior Water Advisor to Food and Agriculture Organization of the United Nations.

PANELISTS

• **Ms. NCHEDI MAPHOKGA-MORIBE**, Chief Director for Global Cooperation and Strategic Partnerships in the Department of Water and Sanitation of South Africa

• **Prof. GARY GROSSMAN**, School for the Future of Innovation in Society at Arizona State University, U.S.A.

• **Ms. DIANA ISKREVA**, Executive Director, Earth Forever, NGO, Bulgaria.

• **Ms. MERCEDES CASTRO**, Director and CEO at NGO Agualimpia, Peru.

• **Dr. LEVENT DENIS ŞEKEREL**, Urologist, Haseki Education Research Hospital, İstanbul, Turkey.

• **Youth Speakers:**

• **Ms. ROSAIDA DOLCE**, Land and Water Division, Food and Agriculture Organization of the United Nations (FAO) Rome, Italy

Dr. SISIRA S. WITHANANCHCHI, Senior Researcher Fellow/Project Manager at the University of Kassel, Germany and UNLEASH Ambassador for SDG 6 "Water and Sanitation".

➤ **INTERACTIVE SESSION**

• **Opening and Closing**– Video: **KORKMAZ CAN SAĞLAM**, Student Pianist, The Julliard School, N.Y.

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CONCEPT

“**Water, Sanitation, Covid-19, Values and the Future of Water**” titled webinar aims to contribute to the global conversation, making use of **World Water Day** (March 22) within the framework of the 2021 theme, “**Valuing Water**” towards a road map to bring ‘*systemic change in the way water is valued in policy, practice, finance, management, and behavior and to inspire.*

The core of the Webinar is linked to “World Water Day” and “Water and Sanitation” in connection with Sustainable Development Goal 6 along with the Covid-19 pandemic and with ever-increasing the utmost level NEED for clean water, access to water, and basic sanitation within the framework of “**Valuing Water**” as water is the source of all life on our planet and everything around it, and essential for livelihoods, social and economic activities, culture, recreation and spiritual needs.

Short Bios of the Keynote Speakers

Chair & Keynote Speaker:

H.E. Mr. RODRIGO A. CARAZO, Ambassador, Permanent Representative of Costa Rica to the United Nations in New York; and Vice-President of UNICEF’s Executive Board



H.E. Mr. RODRIGO A. CARAZO, Ambassador, Permanent Representative of Costa Rica to the United Nations in New York; and currently Vice-President of UNICEF’s Executive Board.

Professional development in the public sector includes: first Ombudsman of the Republic of Costa Rica (1993-1997); Member of the Legislative Assembly (2002-2006).

Professional development in the private sector includes: being a liberal professional since 1971 in the fields of Economy, Law and International Relations. He has also served as a consultant for International Organizations (Government, Intergovernmental, Non-Governmental) as well as for private entities.

He has 48 years of experience as a businessman in commercial, industrial, tourist, agricultural and service sectors.

Academic background includes: serving as a university professor in Costa Rica and the United States; Member of the Board of the public Distance University in Costa Rica; he holds a Law Degree from the University of Costa Rica and a similar degree in Economic and Social Sciences from the University of Costa Rica, a PhD in Political Science and International Relations from the University of Geneva- Switzerland and has completed further studies in History and International Law.

He speaks Spanish, English and French.

Ambassador Carazo is 73 years old, married, father of 4 daughters and grandfather of 11 grandchildren.



Keynote Speaker:

Prof. OLCAY ÜNVER, Arizona State University; formerly Vice-President of UN-Water



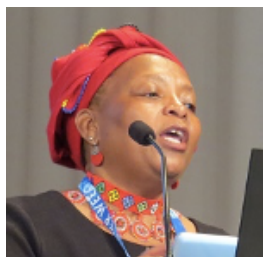
Olcay Ünver is a global leader in water policy. He is currently Professor of Practice at Environmental and Resource Management Program at Arizona State University, and member of Water Policy Group. He served as Vice Chair of UN-Water from 2018 to 2020, and is senior water advisor to Food and Agriculture Organization of the United Nations.

In his public service career spanning three decades, he led FAO's water programs and activities, UN-Water's World Water Assessment Programme, and UNESCO's Program Office on Global Water Assessment. Prior to joining the United Nations, he was a

distinguished professor of water resources at Kent State University, Ohio and President of the Southeastern Anatolia Project in Turkey, where he transformed a large infrastructure project into a sustainable socioeconomic development program. In 1999, he was listed among the 19 "European Visionaries" by Time Magazine and was featured in New York Times for his efforts towards sustainable, human-centered development. He served as Secretary General and Vice President of IWRA, and Governor and Treasurer of World Water Council. He has served on boards and committees involving water, sustainable development, sustainable food and agriculture systems, water cooperation and policy. Olcay holds civil engineering degrees that include a PhD in water resources planning and management, master's in urban hydrology and bachelor's with hydraulics focus. His areas of competence include water and food security; bridging across global frameworks; governance of water-land-soil resources, and water cooperation. Olcay is an associate editor for Frontiers' Water-Smart Food Systems and on the editorial board of Water Security Journal (Elsevier) and Future of Food Journal (Kassel University, Germany). He is a NATO Scholar, IWRA (International Water Resources Association) Fellow, and a TUBITAK (Turkish Scientific & Technical Research Council) Honor Fellow.

Short Bios of the Panelists

Ms. NCHEDI MAPHOKGA-MORIBE, Chief Director for Global Cooperation and Strategic Partnerships in the Department of Water and Sanitation of South Africa



Ms. Nchedi Maphokga-Moribe is a member of the International Advisory Committee of the UN Water Action Decade 2018-2028, a contributor in the UN SDG High Level Political Forum, Served as a Permanent Alternate Sherpa to the President of South Africa, UN- World Bank High-Level Panel on Water (HLPW), She is a Co-Convenor to the Stockholm World Water Week, 2020/2021, served in high-level advisory and negotiating roles for the, UN 2021 & 2023 International Preparatory Committee. Ms Nchedi Moripe is a nominated Board Member of Global Water Partnership Southern Africa, She is a long standing contributor and negotiator in many UN Commissions, including on Sustainable Development, the UN Commission on Status of Women, and the IBSA People to People's Forum. Over the years, Ms. Moripe has championed various initiatives to promote

Gender and the role of Women Globally, participating in activities of the UN Major Groups. She coordinated South African chapter of the Women Sector Groups, in Energy, Mining, and Water . Nchedi has numerous accolades to herself, including the Industrial Action in the Public Service, Dispute Resolution and representation. She is a strong Inter- Sectoral Coordinator and negotiator, Two times Chief of Staff in Political Offices, passionate Public Service Personality. She is an Award holder of the Best Employee of the Year on Special Programmes Coordination, in Public Service.



Prof. GARY GROSSMAN, School for the Future of Innovation in Society, College of Global Futures at Arizona State University



Gary M. Grossman, associate professor in the School for the Future of Innovation in Society, College of Global Futures at Arizona State University, offers more than three decades of experience in the development and management of social, education, technology, and employment and training projects in the United States and abroad.

Experienced in the administration of World Bank, U.S. Government and privately funded projects, Professor Grossman also led the development of and directed a unique transdisciplinary, transnational major in ASU's Master of Science in Technology program.

This degree concentration, entitled 'Global Technology and Development' (GTD), features the combined perspectives of social science research and emerging technological models and is aimed at providing students an opportunity to explore the critical questions of globalization, commerce, sustainable development, information technology, transportation, education, and biotechnology which affect all nations. The program is designed to empower students to help guide and direct those impacts. Classes in the GTD program began at as a concentration in the Master's of Technology degree ASU in 2001, became a stand-alone Master's program in 2012, and transitioned to the School for the Future of Innovation in Society in 2015.

Professor Grossman is internationally recognized for leadership in his areas of interest and has built his career on the mutuality of interests between higher education and the needs of the society of which it is a part, both in his native country and around the world. Professor Grossman was awarded two consecutive Fulbright Grants (2002-2004) and spent that period engaged in research and teaching at Middle East Technical University in Ankara, Turkey. He recently returned from a sabbatical stationed in Rome, Italy, working as a Visiting Scientist with the United Nations Food and Agriculture Organization (UN FAO). His current research concerns the implementation efficacy of the UN Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs) globally, with a particular focus in the nations of Central Asia and the potential contribution of the SDGs to social, economic, and political development at global, national, and community levels.

Ms. DIENA ISKREVA, Executive Director, NGO Earth Forever



Diana Iskreva works in the civil society sector since 1989. She is the Executive Director of NGO Earth Forever - Bulgaria, a well established NGO, specialized in sustainable sanitation management at national and international level.

In 2012, AlertNet – the World's humanitarian news site of Reuters, nominated Mrs. Iskreva among the 10 Water Trailblazers in the world.

She had served for more than 12 years as a national coordinator (for Bulgaria) and regional representative (for Central and Central and Eastern Europe and Central Asia) of Water Supply and Sanitation Collaborative Council, Geneva. Diana is a founding member of Solidarity Water Europe (Strasbourg) and served 3 mandates as a member of the Board; at the moment she is a member of the Control Board of the organization. In her role, she was one of the initiators of national and world Youth Water Parliaments, and the host of the 3rd Youth Water Parliament: an event with participants from 4 continents and 16 countries (Bulgaria, 2003).

In her positions and roles Mrs. Iskreva has made numerous presentations at national, regional and global events – to name few: UN General Assembly (CSD 12 UN, New York), Closing Ceremony 7th WWF (S. Korea, 2014); a number of times at plenary and panels at World Water Week, World Toilet Summit, Summit for Sustainable Development, International Korean Water Week, etc.



Mrs. Iskreva served as a member of International Steering Committee of large international events, eg. High Level International Conference on the implementation of the International Decade for Action. She is the coordinator of Action Group 3F towards World Water Forum 9 and co-organizer of the annual Baikal Water Professionals' Summit.

Ms. Iskreva served as a rapporteur for a number of events and panels incl. high-level panels.

Mrs. Iskreva is a BS in Physical Geography, BSc in English Language, MSc in Geosystem Management, MSc in Agricoology, MSc in Environmental Management, Control and Health, MSc in European Governance.

Ms. MERCEDES CASTRO, Director and CEO at NGO Agualimpia in Peru



Since 2007, Ms. Castro is leading projects financed by international cooperation as IDB, WB, CAF, EU, SDC and private sector, generating public private alliances to benefit vulnerable rural and urban population, seeking to influence public policy. Has developed programs to access to W&S through microfinance in periurban sectors, projects to accelerate water public infrastructure through private investment (shared value), applying a Peruvian law Works for Taxes. Promotes the assessment and management of the water footprint in the private sector at national and international level in cooperation with Peru's National Water Authority.

CEO at Hidrika since 2013, an international consultancy specialized in water issues.

Member of the Water Policy Group since 2020.

Chair of the Steering Committee of the 2030 Water Resources Group in Peru since 2016, a multi stakeholder platform.

Member of the International Advisory Committee to the Dushanbe Process to promote the implementation of the International Decade for Action "Water for Sustainable Development" 2018-2028.

Former Sherpa of Peru for the High Level Panel on Water 2016-2018 (UN WB).

Economist and MBA working exclusively in the water sector. Has previously led private international corporations in South and North America.



Dr. LEVENT DENIS ŞEKEREL, Urologist, Haseki Education Research Hospital, İstanbul, Turkey.

Dr. Levent Denis Sekerel was born in 1962 in Massachusetts, before moving to Istanbul, Turkey with his family. He graduated from Austrian High School in 1981 and then completed Edirne Medical Academy in 1987 with an honorary degree. After completing his 2-year compulsory service in Duzce, Izmit, he worked at Kartal Research and Academic Hospital in Istanbul. In 1998, he became a urologist at Beyoglu Research and Education Hospital. Since then, he has been working at Haseki Research and

Academics Hospital as a urologist. He is married with 2 children and currently resides in Istanbul.



Youth Panelists

Ms. ROSAIDA DOLCE



Ms. Rosaida Dolce is an Environmental Engineer specialized in water. She joined FAO -Land and Water Division in 2016, working on water-related activities including the Global Framework on Water Scarcity in Agriculture (WASAG), Youth, Saline Agriculture, Project Development and Divisional Planning. Prior to joining FAO, she worked at the International Relations Office of UNIBAS and GIS Provincial Office. She did a bachelor research on climate change in Greece, a master research on municipal solid waste in Belgium and a specialization in EU Project Management.

Dr. SISIRA S. WITHANACHCHI, Research Fellow at the University of Kassel, Germany and UNLEASH Ambassador for SDG 6 "Water and Sanitation"



Dr. Sisira S. Withanachchi is a senior researcher fellow/project manager at the University of Kassel, Germany. Dr. Withanachchi contributed to the United Nations World Water Assessment Program (WWAP) and is an expert reviewer in the Intergovernmental Panel on Climate Change. He is an expert reviewer for many reputed international journals. Dr. Withanachchi is a member of the Water Quality Task Force at the International Water Resources Association. His research and working interests are water resource management, land management, environmental governance, disaster management, risk assessment, and local governance. He is one of the United Nations SDGs Global Ambassadors for UNLEASH North and West Europe.

Mr. CAN KORKMAZ SAĞLAM, (Student) Pianist, Opening & Closing Music (Video)



Korkmaz Can Sağlam began studying piano at the age of six, and gave his first recital at the age of eleven. In 2018, he was accepted as a scholar of the "Young Musicians on World Stages" project created and mentored by Güher & Süher Pekinel with financial support of Tüpraş. His recent achievements include top prize at the Franz Liszt Center Piano Competition and being awarded the Ahmet Ertegun Memorial Scholarship at The Juilliard School. Throughout the years, he played in masterclasses of artists such as Pavel Gililov, Boris Berman, Ilya Itin, Michel Beroff and Jean-Francois Heisser. He has appeared in concerts in France, Belgium, Cyprus and Italy.

Korkmaz Can Sağlam, continues his studies with Sergei Babayan in The Juilliard School.



About: THE LIGHT MILLENNIUM, INC. (LM) Charitable Global Human Advancement Organization



The LM is a non-religious, non-political, not-for-profit (status#501-c-3), non-governmental (NGO), an independent organization. It has become associated with the United Nations Department of Global Communications #UNDGC_CS0 (formerly UN Department Public Information, UN.DPI/NGO) effective on December 12, 2005. Formed by **Bircan Ünver** (2001, New York), inspired by the "First Article of the United States Bill of Rights, **Freedom of Speech**", in conjunction with the "United Nations' Universal Declaration of Human Rights Article #19, on **Freedom of Expression**".

The LM invites citizens of the world to submit and/or actively participate, in an appropriate artistic medium, ideas, and experiences that will help foster better understanding between people of different cultures and beliefs. The organization frequently presents ideas from the United Nations on its key issues as well as ideas from all walks of life. In particular, as an NGO associated with the UNDGC Civil Society Unit, it channels its capacity and potential sources in support of the UN Visions, the 2000 Millennium Declaration, and as its second phase, namely in to, **17 Sustainable Development Goals** (SDGs) to be attained by 2030, with a specific focus, towards contributing in the Sustainable **"Human"** Development through its multiple platforms yet on the voluntary basis.

The Organization has **"Amended & Broadened"** its initial 2001 Purposes (*Certificate of Incorporation*) effective on December 17, 2019, along with, **"Amended & Restated"** its By-Laws. With these legal changes in late 2019, the LM has become both **"rights"** and **"service"** based organization. (EIN# 11-363-3087)

2019 Mission: https://lmglobal.org/organization/lm_mission/

2019: By-Laws: https://lmglobal.org/501_c_3/by-laws2019/

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- The concept of the webinar is developed, organized and presented for and by The Light Millennium Organization.
- For more information, email to: **EVENT@LIGHTMILLENNIUM.ORG**
- The outcome of this webinar will be posted to **www.lmglobal.org**.

SPECIAL THANKS TO: Dr. OLCAY ÜNVER, for his provided expertise and support in this project from the start to the end.

Prepared by Bircan Ünver, The Light Millennium on March 5, 2021. | **Updated on** March 12, 2021