UN High Level Political Forum: Business for Agenda 2030

Tuesday, July 19th, 2016

11:00-13:00

Conference Room 1 – UN Headquarters

Intervention[1] by Jack Moss – Executive Director, AquaFed

SDG 6: a Full "Water Cycle" Approach to Water, Central to the Platform of Sustainable Development.

- Water is an essential part of the platform of sustainable development. It must be managed with great care by everybody for the 2030 vision to be realised.

- The dedicated water goal has been crafted carefully to cover all aspects of the water cycle; This wide span makes it too great any single business to tackle alone. Therefore, segmentation, collaboration and specialisation is essential.

- **Water pollution** is as dangerous as air pollution but few people recognise this. As water scarcity grows pollution makes it even scarcer.
- Targets 6.3 and 6.4 aim at managing pollution and extending water resource availability.
- An example of business action on this is the Aquapolo project. This is a partnership between a public organisation SABESP, a private operator, Odebrecht Amiental and a consortium of Brazilian chemical companies. It recovers wastewater from São Paulo and de-pollutes it to provide very high quality water for a multi-industry chemical complex. Today it saves water equivalent to the needs of 350,000 people every day. It aims to rise to 600,000.

  http://www.aquapolo.com.br/

  https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=XMguQPjNnX4

- **Water, sanitation and hygiene** are essential for human health, poverty elimination and social and environmental well-being. They are covered by Targets 6.1 and 6.2. The core activity of AquaFed's members is to help governments meet these. Extending services, and devising special pro-poor initiatives are underway in both developed and developing countries.
- In France, members (FP2E, Véolia, Suez) are working with public authorities and local associations developing special tariffs and other systems to help people in economic difficulty to have secure water and sanitation services. Many thousands of families have already benefitted from these.

  http://www.fp2e.org/Site/Eau_Assainissement/solidarite.php

  http://www.sedif.com/action-sociale.aspx

  http://www.veolia.com/en/citizens/access-essential-services/france-water-all

[1] Extended version: a summary of this text was delivered.

http://www.veolia.com/en/citizens/solidarity

http://www.emag.suez-environnement.com/en/report/fair-pricing-schemes-water

http://www.emag.suez-environnement.com/en/access-water-all-new-forms-social-mediation-8449

- In countries including Morocco (LYDEC) Haiti (LYSA) and many others, members have set up similar systems specifically to help people, with limited means, access services. They are also upgrading infrastructure and operating procedures to improve quality and extending reliable services to more and more people.
- Initiatives like this are helping millions of people worldwide.

https://client.lydec.ma/site/

https://client.lydec.ma/site/fr/c/document_library/get_file?uuid=c36fdf83-ccaa-473f-9c9c-9ca63c89ed13&groupId=10156

http://www.lysagroup.com/en/reference/delegated-water-and-sanitation-management-sesam-haiti

- Other companies are involved in WASH in the workplace, an approach devised within WBCSD and now adopted by the UN Global Compact.

http://www.wbcsd.org/work-program/sector-projects/water/WASHatworkplace.aspx

http://ceowatermandate.org/blog/resource/wash-in-workplace-self-assessment-tool/

- Successes depend on Public Authorities working with Businesses. Between them they set specific targets for every case. Business can take the initiative and propose objectives. Legitimacy and leadership is given by governments.

Check against delivery