

Our Water

Hosted by United Press International
September 23, 2009
11:00 AM – 2:00 PM
1st Floor, Verizon Building
1133 19th St. NW
Washington, DC 20036

Our Water

On September 23, 2009, United Press International will host a multimedia newsmaker event on preventable water-related illnesses [in developing countries] in Washington, D.C. *Our Water* will include a panel of experts and organizations that are actively working to document and solve the world wide water crisis. Participants will discuss the scope and gravity of the crisis, including solutions that are in development and solutions that are being implemented to provide sanitary water and to reduce disease.



Why Water?

After oxygen, water is the most essential resource for the human body. Over half of the human body is composed of water, nearly 70% of the world is covered in water, and yet less than one percent of the freshwater on the planet is readily available for consumption. Without access to sustainable, clean water resources, people are forced to drink contaminated, unsanitary water. In more than 150 countries, including Pakistan, Indonesia, Iraq, and areas of sub-Saharan Africa, West Africa, South Asia, Central America and Europe, among others, between 2 and 5 million people across the globe die each year without access to clean water.



UPI and Our Water

United Press International continues to be a leading and trusted source for news, analysis and insight for readers around the world. We are committed to serve as the media source which will promote awareness of the water crisis and highlight possible solutions.



Take part now

Become Part of the Conversation

You can make a difference by writing, discussing and supporting solutions for the water crisis.

Tell your story

- Build your profile and contribute water-related content to UPIU.com
- Become a columnist for the Global Water Feature on UPI.com
- Blog about the water crisis

Share with others

- Visit the Global Water Feature on UPI.com for water-related news
- Join the UPI.com Facebook fan page and invite others to keep up with the latest stories from our Global Water Feature
- Spread awareness through Twitter by using the hashtag #ourwater

Volunteer

To receive a list of water-related organizations that could benefit from your participation, contact Lori Hodge at lhodge@upi.com.

Donate

United Press International offers multiple levels of sponsorship to show your support for the global water crisis through *Our Water*.

Platinum-\$5,000

- Recognition for contribution on event invitation
- Advertising space on UPI.com
- Full page advertisement in event brochure
- Personal table at *Our Water* to promote and distribute organization information

Gold-\$1000

- Recognition for contribution on event invitation
- Advertising space on UPI.com
- 1/2 page advertisement in event brochure

Silver-\$500

- Individual or company recognition for contribution on event invitation
- 1/4 page advertisement in event brochure

Bronze-\$100 or less

- Individual or company recognition for contribution on event invitation and brochure

About UPI

Since 1907, United Press International (UPI) has been a leading provider of critical information to media outlets, businesses, governments and researchers worldwide. UPI is a global operation with offices in Beirut, Hong Kong, London, Santiago, Seoul and Tokyo.

UPI licenses content directly to print outlets, online media and institutions of all types. In addition, UPI's distribution partners provide our content to thousands of businesses, policy groups and academic institutions worldwide. Our audience consists of millions of decision-makers who depend on UPI's insightful and analytical stories to make better business or policy decisions.

Each day UPI publishes its content directly to UPI.com, reaching a growing online audience. Over 3.5 million unique visitors visit our web site every month and the number is rising. In January of 2009 alone, UPI.com received 9.8 million page views.

Participants

Moderators

Omar Khan, MD MHS, American Public Health Association (APHA), International Program Chair
Dr. Khan has been honored with the 2005 APHA's Director's Citation; The Gold Foundation's Humanism in Medicine Award; the Resident Teacher of the Year Award by the Society of Teachers of Family Medicine; and the 2007 Pfizer Teacher Development Award.

Joseph B. Treaster, Editor, 1H2O.org, the University of Miami's Internet magazine on the worldwide water crisis, and weekly columnist for UPI.com on global water issues.
Mr. Treaster, a former reporter and foreign correspondent for The New York Times, is the John S. and James L. Knight Chair for Cross-Cultural Communication at the Knight Center for International Media at the university's School of Communication.

Participants

Panelists

Sally Cowall, Population Services International (PSI), Americas Region

Ms. Cowall currently oversees the Americas Region and maternal and child health at PSI. Her previous work experience includes the U.S. Foreign Service as ambassador to former Presidents George Bush and Bill Clinton, and serving as deputy director and one of the founders of UNAIDS.

Becky Straw, charity:water, Water Projects Director

Ms. Straw is the Water Projects Director at charity:water, and a former intern at UNICEF's Division of Water, Environment and Sanitation.

Abul Hussam, George Mason University, Professor and Director of Chemistry and Biochemistry

Dr. Hussam was awarded the 2007 National Academy of Engineering-Grainger Challenge Prize for the development of the SONO filter, which purifies groundwater from arsenic species.

Participants

Panelists

John Sauer, Water Advocates, Communications Director

Mr. Sauer is the Communications Director for Water Advocates, and is a weekly columnist for the Global Water Issues feature page on UPI.com.

Katherine Bliss, PhD, Center for Strategic and International Studies (CSIS), Deputy Director and Senior Fellow, Americas Program and Senior Fellow, Global Health Policy Center

Ms. Bliss has previous experience as the foreign affairs officer at the U.S. Department of State, focusing on global health and the Western Hemisphere in the Bureau of Oceans, Environment, and Science, and received the 2006 Superior Honor Award for her work on environmental health.

Paul Faeth, Global Water Challenge, President

Mr. Faeth is the president of Global Water Challenge. His previous experience includes positions as Executive Vice President and Managing Director of the World Resources Institute, International Institute for Environment and Development, and the USDA's Economic Research Service.

Schedule

Arrival/Check-in Meet & Greet	11:00am-11:15am
Opening Remarks Introduction to <i>Our Water</i> by UPI president, Nicholas Chiaia Moderators and panelists introduced	11:15am-11:30am
Panel Discussion Preventable water-related illnesses: problems Moderator: Omar Khan, <i>American Public Health Association</i> Panelists: Abul Hussam, <i>George Mason University</i> Katherine Bliss, <i>Center for Strategic and International Studies</i> Topics: Geo-political, Health, Economic and Academic aspects at play	11:30am-12:15pm
Luncheon	12:15pm-1:00pm
Panel Discussion Preventable water-related illnesses: solutions Moderator: Joseph B. Treaster, <i>Editor, 1H2O.org, Knight Chair in Cross-Cultural Communication at the Knight Center for International Media at the University of Miami's School of Communication</i> Panelists: Sally Cowall, <i>Population Services International</i> Becky Straw, <i>charity:water</i> John Sauer, <i>Water Advocates</i> Topics: Programs, Projects, Advocacy in the global water crisis*	1:00-1:45pm
Closing Remarks	1:45-2:00pm

*There may be 15 minute question and answer session



Our World. *Our Water.*