

Multi-Stakeholder Dialogue at the 2017 UN Environment Assembly

“People and Pollution”

December 5, Nairobi, Kenya, 18.30 – 20.00h, Conference Room 1

Introduction

The Multi-Stakeholder Dialogue at the 2017 session of the UN Environment Assembly will provide an opportunity to present how pollution affects people and what initiatives they have taken to beat pollution.

Furthermore, the interactive Dialogue will build upon the Leadership Dialogues that will have been held earlier in the day between governments and public sector and will incorporate the voice of Major Groups and Stakeholders.

The Dialogue will take place on the evening of the second day of the Assembly, Tuesday, 5 December, at 18.30h – 20h.

Theme

The multi-stakeholder dialogue will converse around the topic of **“People and Pollution”**. Building on the campaign for pledges to beat pollution and the discussions held during the Assembly and preceding Leadership Dialogues, it will focus on root causes for different aspects of pollution, including making the connections to poverty, rule of law, human rights etc.

Panelists will present how pollution affects their lives and what solutions have been found that might be applied in various situations and regions. Through this discussion, decision makers will get an insight into how pollution affects people on the ground and the potential of citizen’s action to address the pollution issue.

In telling their stories, participants will help to bring the pollution theme back to the reality daily life and celebrate lifestyle champions.

Participants

Participants include:

- **6 Individuals¹** who present their story (3 – 4 minutes each) how pollution affects their life and how they have successfully beaten pollution:
 - Halima Hussein, Kenya

¹ See short bios in the Annex

- Sascha Gabizon, Germany
 - Olga Speranskaya, Russia
 - Eritai Kateibwi, Kiribati
 - Kaya Dorey, Canada
 - Japheth Oluoch Ogala, Kenya
- **Governmental discussants** preferably from ministerial level
 - **Discussants from Major Groups and Stakeholders** representing the nine Major Groups, Inter-governmental organizations, Multilateral Agreements etc.

The dialogue will be facilitated by Felix Dodds².

Setting

The multi-stakeholder dialogue will be designed in a way that allows a maximum of interaction among governmental and non-governmental participants in a non-formal environment giving the opportunity to speak openly and to raise challenges. The audience will be allowed to contribute to the discussions.

It will have the following set-up

18.30 – 18.35	Introduction by Facilitator on the theme and participants
18.35 – 19.05	Section 1: “How does Pollution Affect Us?”: Three short interventions by Halima Hussein, Sascha Gabizon and Olga Speranskaya on the impact of pollution, followed by a facilitated dialogue among participants.
19.05 – 19.35	Section 2: “How can we address the problem of pollution?”: Three short interventions by Eritai Kateibwi, Kaya Dorey and Japheth Oluoch Ogala on successful solutions to address pollution, followed by a facilitated dialogue participants
19.35 – 20.00h	Open dialogue with the audience, conclusions

Individual presenters will not only present their stories but concrete suggestions and questions for decision makers. These could relate to root causes of pollution and should make the link between pollution and related issues.

² Felix Dodds is an International Ambassador for the City of Bonn. He is a senior fellow of the Global Research Institute, a Senior Affiliate of the Water Institute at the University of North Carolina and an associate fellow at the Tellus Institute in Boston. He was co-director of the Nexus 2014: Water, Energy, Food and Climate Conference and is the co-director of the 2018 conference. He advises a number of organisations working on the post 2015 development goals. He is a writer and was for twenty years Executive Director of Stakeholder Forum for a Sustainable Future from 1992 to 2012.

The discussion among discussant will be followed by an open invitation to the audience to join the dialogue.

Outcome

A short summary on the course of the dialogue will be prepared by the facilitator and made available for the closing session of the Assembly.

Annex: Short Bios of speakers

Halima Hussein, Kenya



Halima I. Hussein is a Kenyan lawyer working with Natural Justice: Lawyers for Communities and the Environment. She supports marginalized communities obtain fairer environmental decisions by empowering them to use the law and thereby mitigate the impacts of extractive and infrastructure projects affecting their culture, land and environment. She has recently been involved in litigating against the first proposed coal plant in East Africa, the Lamu Coal Plant. She is also a member of deCOALonize, a movement made up of environmental and social justice advocates from Kenya and other regions, who aim to educate local communities, policy makers, academics and civil society on alternatives to coal for embracing clean energy, in light of envisioned coal projects in Lamu and Kitui Counties of Kenya.

Sascha Gabizon, Germany



Sascha Gabizon, with a business masters from ESCP/EAP France, developed the organisation WECF (France, Germany, Netherlands) to become a major international network of women and environment organisations working for sustainable development and gender-equality in over 50 countries and contributing to international policy processes (www.wecf.org). She co-facilitates the Women's Major Group at the UN ensuring participation of over 1000 Women's organisations in the Sustainable Development Goals policy processes (www.womenmajorgroup.org) and is actively engaged with the Women & Gender Constituency at the Climate negotiations (www.womengenderclimate.org). WECF's programmes include projects on pollution reduction involving women's organisations in Africa, Central Asia and Eastern Europe, with a focus on priorities of women living in rural areas (<http://www.wecf.eu/english/chemicals/>). Thus, WECF demonstrates how global Environmental

agreements such as the Chemicals Conventions, can be implemented in an inclusive manner. Before joining WECF, Sascha Gabizon worked at the Wuppertal Institute for Climate Environment and Energy, as well as for consultancies in Germany and Spain.

Olga Speranskaya, Russia



Olga Speranskaya is a CoChair of IPEN (International POPs Elimination Network), a global network of non-governmental organisations working towards a toxic free future where she is focused on the design and implementation of IPEN global strategy to address pollution sources, domestic and international chemical safety policies and processes. She represents IPEN in the Steering Group of UNEP Chemicals in Products Project and in the Advisory Committee of the Consumer Information Programme of the 10 Year Framework of Programmes on Sustainable Consumption and Production. She also leads IPEN Hub for Eastern Europe, Caucasus and Central Asia within Eco-Accord NGO where she facilitates stakeholder engagement and provides consultations on chemical safety issues related to international chemical conventions and Strategic Approach to International Chemicals Management (SAICM). Olga works with countries on policy and regulatory development and risk management, including projects which comprise training and capacity building for the implementation of environmental agreements. She works with stakeholder groups on strategic planning and organizational design to strengthen their participation in decision making on environmental issues. Olga is also a co-director of Health and Environmental Justice Support NGO where she focuses on health and gender issues. In 2011 she received UNEP's Champions of the Earth Award and in 2009 was awarded the Goldman Environmental Prize for grassroots environmental activism. Olga graduated with a Master degree in Geophysics from Moscow State University. She received her doctorate in Geophysics from the Institute of Water Problems of the Russian Academy of Science.

Eritai Kateibwi, Kiribati



Eritai Kateibwi, a regional finalist for the Young Champions of the Earth for Asia Pacific, is 28 years old and a Brigham Young University – Hawaii Graduate with a degree in Finance. His home island is Marakei in Kiribati and is a founder of the “Te Maeu Project”, a project that developed a low-impact hydroponics growing system to bring fresh crops back to Kiribati. Locally grown, nutritious food will reduce diabetes and malnutrition, while providing entrepreneurial opportunities.

In January 2017, he organized a major beach clean-up on Betio Red Beach historical site with the help of the LDS church members and Global Sustainable Projects organization. More than 300 people participated in the clean-up which became a major success. In addition, he engages with Global Sustainable Projects to plant mangroves through-out the islands of Kiribati.

Kaya Dorey, Canada



Kaya Dorey, is the founder of NOVEL SUPPLY CO. a sustainable apparel line made in her hometown of Vancouver, BC, Canada. Learning about textiles waste and synthetic fabrics that don’t biodegrade is what prompted Kaya to create a clothing option that was made from natural and organic fabrics. As a Young Champion of the Earth, she is striving to create a zero waste, closed-loop model that takes responsibility for the products she creates. She also believes that automated textiles manufacturing has the ability to shift the industry to one that is more ethical and sustainable.

Japheth Oluoch Ogola, Kenya



JAPHETH OLUOCH OGOLA PROFILE

Japheth is the Director of Kutoka Urban Slums Initiative, a registered non-government organization working in urban slums in Kenya. Brought up in Korogocho slums which is in close proximity to Dandora dumpsite? The dumpsite which occupies about that 30 acres of land is a major cause of pollution affecting directly over half a million people living in residential areas around it such as Korogocho, Kariobangi, Lucky Summer , Baba Dogo and Dandora. Most of these areas are slums. The Initiative has advocated for the decommissioning of the dumpsite for the last seven years with mixed results. Japheth has been at the centre of these campaigns, meeting government and the diplomatic community including UN structures, engaging with urban slums communities to empower them to articulate the problems of pollution and suggest solutions. Besides the dumpsite campaign, Japheth has also participated in other life improving urban slums programmes such as the slum upgrading programme and campaigns to stop demolition of slums. In 2006, Japheth together with Fr. Daniel Moschetti, then a Catholic priest working in Korogocho, made a presentation to the Mashariki Innovations in Local Governance Awards Programme (MILGAP) and won both the national and regional awards.