

*Institutional and legal issues in implementing  
SDGs at the local scale*

SS Water & SDGs – Downscaling Water relevant SDGs

12 September

XVIII IWRA World Water Congress

# 2030 Agenda (UN GA resolution 70/1 (2015))

17 Sustainable Development Goals with 169 associated targets

➔ **Due consideration and implementation by States in their national frameworks**

## Implemented through

➤ Partnership and cooperation

➤ **the HRs**

➤ **the sustainable development principle** (*3 dimensions: economy, environment, society*)

➔ The goals are defined as integrated and indivisible

➔ *some goals are transversal*



# 2030 Agenda (UN GA resolution 70/1 (2015))

## ➤ Partnership and cooperation (UN GA resolution 70/1 (2015))

“All countries and all stakeholders, acting in collaborative partnership, will implement this plan”.

→ not only between countries, but also between **stakeholders**

👉 challenge of identifying and involving all relevant stakeholders



→ Target 6.b Support and strengthen the participation of local communities

# 2030 Agenda (UN GA resolution 70/1 (2015))

## ➤ **The HRs**



The SDGs “seek to realize the human rights of all”

Reference in the Resolution : Universal Declaration of Human Rights, international human right treaties, previous UN General Assembly resolutions related to development such as the Millennium Declaration, the 2005 World Summit outcome or the Declaration on the Right to Development which are based on the respect of the human rights.

- Human right to safe drinking water and sanitation mentioned explicitly
- Reference to the right to food

At the national level

## Stakeholders dialogue



### ➤ Across scales

- Called by the national/central government
- Gathers representatives of:
  - State
  - Local governments
  - Water agencies
  - NGOs, users associations etc
  - Private sector
  - Academics



# Legal framework

▪ Need for a framework law :

➤ establishing the objectives:

→ Overall principle : HRs & Sustainable development, & SDGs

- water access
- water abstraction & use
- water protection
- Increasing efficiency & limiting over-use
- Acknowledgement of the value of ecosystem services and biodiversity
- Raising awareness
- Creating the institutional setting (coordination body)



# Legal framework

- Creating institutions with clear and strong mandates, national and local levels, with coordination mechanisms, involving the identified stakeholders: NGOs, users associations, private sector, academics
- Adopt the necessary regulations/by-laws for the implementation of principles
- Financial issues need to be adopted
  - Access of the basic services to the poor

# Institutions

At the local level:

What level?

*Possibility: local government (water supply; sanitation), or basin level (abstraction, pollution prevention...),*

*Coordination mechanism*

No one solution

*Other?*

- Adoption of an integrated management plan, translating the national policy at the local level