

WEBINAR

THE RISING COST OF INACTION

HOW THE ENERGY CRISIS IMPACTS THE WATER SERVICE SECTOR IN THE DANUBE REGION

2 March 2022, 13:30 – 14:45 (CET)

Register now!

Target Audience:

Water policy makers and regulators, water utility managers, water sector professionals, researchers, interested stakeholders.

Description:

The Danube Water Program “KnowNow” webinar series focuses on up-to-date topics relevant for the water sector in the Danube region. This webinar will focus on the water sector’s response to the recent increases in energy tariffs. For the majority of urban water and wastewater utilities, investments in energy efficiency generate the highest return on investment. Electricity costs for water production, distribution, and treatment contribute significantly to operating costs, ranging in many countries from 33% to 82% of non-labour operating costs of water and wastewater utilities. Improving energy efficiency in utilities leads to lower energy costs and reduced vulnerability to energy tariff increases. The webinar will raise awareness and shed light on the benefits of improving energy efficiency in water and wastewater utilities and how the recent energy tariff increase affects the water services in the Danube region.

Learning Objective:

The learning objective of this webinar is to increase the understanding and knowledge around the benefits of energy efficiency in water and wastewater utilities and their relevance and implications for the water sector of the Danube region countries. During the webinar it will be possible to post questions to the panelists in order to deepen understanding and to learn

from the knowledge developed and experiences gained for potential follow-up action under individual specific circumstances.

Panelists:

- ▶ **Mr. Kristoffer Welsien**, Senior Water Supply & Sanitation Specialist, Water, World Bank, US
- ▶ **Mr. Sokol Xhafa**, Acting CEO, Regional Water Company Pristina, Kosovo
- ▶ **Mr. Christian Hasenleithner**, General Manager, ENERGIE AG Bohemia
- ▶ **Ms. Vesna Muslic**, D-LeaP Committee Council Chair and President of AQUASAN Network, BiH

Moderator:

Walter Kling, President, IAWD, Austria and **Wolfgang Gruber**, Staff Unit Manager, Vienna Water, Austria

Agenda:

- 13:30 - 13:35:** Welcome and introduction
- 13:35 - 13:50:** **Impacts of the energy crisis on water utilities and the importance of energy efficiency**, Kristoffer Welsien, Senior Water Supply & Sanitation Specialist, Water, World Bank, US
- 13:50 - 14:10:** Reactions from Panelists
- 14:10 - 14:40:** Moderated discussion including questions from the audience
- 14:40 - 14:45:** Wrap-up and closing of the webinar