

WORLD WATER WEEK

World Water Week in Stockholm is organized by Stockholm International Water Institute



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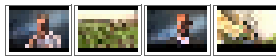
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world water week's youtube



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live stream from world water week

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Live stream schedule:

26 Sunday

09:00-12:30 *Micro-irrigation for food security: the untold stories of forgotten stakeholders*

14:00-17:30 *Sanitation and Water for All: Global Decision-makers Unite for WASH*

27 Monday 10:00-15:30 *Opening Plenary and High Level Panel* 15:45-17:30 *Concrete Actions: Advancing the Integration of Gender, Water, Food Security*

28 Tuesday

09:00-12:30 *Investment Options at Scale, New Directions in Water for Food*

14:00-17:30 *Founders Business Seminar: Water and Energy for Food, Fiber and Fuel*

29 Wednesday

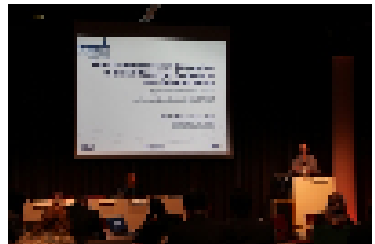
09:00-12:30 *Implementing the Water-Energy-Food Security Nexus*

14:00-17:30 *Cities of the Future – The Future Green and Resilient City*

30 Thursday

27 August 2012

Vignettes from the first day of Stockholm World Water Week



This piece was originally posted on Aditi Mukherji's blog [Waterscapes](#).

By *Aditi Mukherji*

Today was the first day of [Stockholm World Water Week 2012](#). This is the 4th time I am attending SWWW, having attended it in 2003, 2006 and 2009. I love SWWW, not only because I get to meet all my water friends from around the world, but also because I get to hear such interesting talks. Today, I attended a session on 'Promoting Integrity and Transparency in Water and Food Security'.

There were two presentations I found particularly interesting. One was on corruption in giving out water permits in Kazakhstan and Chile – two countries, apparently quite low on corruption perception index, yet, showing high level of petty corruption that affected farmers negatively. This made me think of the groundwater permit system in West Bengal and the petty corruption that it led to. Thankfully, a very sensible bureaucrat in West Bengal saw the permit system for what it really was – a vehicle of rent seeking and corruption by petty officials and did away it. Long live sensible bureaucrats! Kazakhstan, Chile, West Bengal are not the only instances where water permit systems have led to corruption, examples abound from almost all developing countries which have tried to issue water permits to farmers. Why is it that in face of such evidence, country after country wants to introduce permits and quotas in the water sector? Is it because Australia and the US have done it and because it has worked there, it will work elsewhere too? Whatever happened to the context specific policies?

Then there was a presentation by my friend of many years, Elena Lopez Gunn. Elena, a fellow geographer, was associated with London School of Economics in the past and now works with the Botin Foundation in Madrid. She presented her Foundations work with the Transparency International in developing a set of quantifiable performance measurement metrics for major water authorities in Spain and putting them in the public domain. She recounted how within a year of this effort, several water authorities who did not perform well in terms of publicly accessible data, improved their performance in the next year. Can we try this in India? I am not so sure. Given we barely care about multi-million dollar scams that we now wake up to every morning and digest with tea and biscuits, I wonder if anyone will even bother to know about petty corruption in say, urban water distribution systems in small municipal corporations that dot the country. I hope I am wrong, but am afraid not!

About the Author:

Aditi Mukherji is a senior researcher at the [International Water Management Institute](#) at the New Delhi, India office.

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