

“WATER FOR LIFE” BEST PRACTICES AWARD



Members of the Jury

Alberto Tejada-Guibert

President of the Jury of the “Water for Life” Best Practices Award

Director a.i. Division of Water Sciences, UNESCO



Alberto Tejada-Guibert is from Peru. His major specializations are on surface water hydrology and water resources systems analysis and planning. He obtained his Civil Engineer Diploma in Hydraulics from the National Engineering University of Lima, Peru. In 1971 he worked for the Peruvian National Rural Water Supply Plan (Ministry of Health) and then attended Stanford University in California, where he was awarded a M.Sc. degree in Civil Engineering/Engineering-Economic Planning Programme. From 1973 to 1976 he worked for the Peruvian Government in the Executive Directorate of Project Olmos, a major irrigation/hydropower project on the northern Peruvian coast, attaining the post of Head, Planning Office. From 1976 to 1978 he worked as Water Resources Systems Engineer for the Peruvian consulting team in the feasibility study of the Puyango-Tumbes Project, a multiple purpose project for sharing an international river in the Peru-Ecuador border. He was a partner in a consulting firm in Peru for eight years (1978-86), where he held the posts of Technical Manager and Head, Systems and Hydrology. During the period 1980-83 he was Visiting Professor at the Graduate Programme of the Land and Water Resources Department, National Agricultural University, Lima. In 1985 he was hired by GTZ (German Technical Co-operation Agency) to act as Adviser to the Peruvian Electricity Master Plan. From 1986 to 1989 he was Research Assistant at Cornell University, Ithaca, New York, where he obtained his Ph.D. degree in Water Resource Systems with a minor in Economics. From 1990 to 1995, he worked as Technical Expert for the UN Department for Development Support and Management Services, being involved in water master planning at regional and national level in Yemen, 1990-92, and in strengthening the capabilities of the Hydrology Service of Bangladesh, 1993-95. Mr. Tejada-Guibert joined the UNESCO Division of Water Sciences in January 1996 as Programme Specialist in-charge of the urban water management actions within the framework of the International Hydrological Programme (IHP) and as Deputy Secretary

of the IHP. Effective 1 September 2009 and until the new Director of the Division takes up his/her position in Paris, Mr. Tejada-Guibert has been appointed Acting Director of the Division of Water Sciences and Secretary of IHP.

Bert Diphooorn

Director of the Human Settlements Financing Division and Chief of the Water, Sanitation and Infrastructure Branch, UN-HABITAT



Mr. Diphooorn has over twenty years of experience in operational management and the provision of technical assistance and policy advice in Africa, Asia and Europe in the area of water and sanitation. He has strong project design and implementation capabilities as well as a track record in policy formulation. He is currently the Director of the Human Settlements Financing Division and Chief of the Water, Sanitation and Infrastructure Branch at UN-HABITAT in Nairobi, Kenya. As a Director, Mr. Diphooorn is responsible for leading the Human Settlements Financing Division in formulating its periodic work programmes and implementation strategy – in support of UN-HABITAT's Strategic Framework, and in achieving the overall objective: to increase pro-poor investment in slum upgrading, water and sanitation, housing and associated infrastructure including transport and energy, by attracting domestic capital and international support through innovative collaborations with international, regional and national financial institutions. Prior to his work at UN-HABITAT, Mr. Diphooorn was seconded in October 2003 by the Dutch Government to the African Development Bank (AfDB) as Senior Adviser to the Vice President, Policy, Planning and Research. At the Bank, he was tasked with the establishment of the African Water Facility, implementation of the AfDB/Netherlands water partnership program, and coordination of the African input in the 4th World Water Forum. Mr. Diphooorn has also worked as Head of the Water Support Unit at the Ministry of Foreign Affairs, responsible for the overall approaches to water resources within Netherlands Overseas Development Assistance. He was responsible for the organisation of the 2nd World Water Forum in the Hague (2000) and the Water Dome during the World Summit on Sustainable Development in Johannesburg.

Letitia A. Obeng

Chair, Global Water Partnership (GWP)

Letitia Obeng, a Ghanaian, holds a Ph.D. in public health and water resources engineering from Imperial College, University of London. She is the current Chair of the Global Water Partnership, an international network with 13 Regional and over 80 Country Water Partnerships. There are over 2000 GWP Partners who work together to form a neutral and inclusive platform for dialogue and to facilitate change processes. GWP's mission is to



support the sustainable management and development of water resources at all levels. As Chair, Letitia is spokesperson for the Partnership, and among other things, provides strategic guidance on the work of the Partnership and Network. A key aspect of the current GWP Strategy, is working to get decision-makers at the highest possible levels to take ownership of the agenda for sustainable management of water resources because of the major impact water has on social and economic development. Letitia spent 25 years at the World Bank before joining the GWP. Letitia has extensive experience in water and sanitation service delivery in Africa. She spent many years, working with sector ministries and communities, on policies, strategies, project preparation, implementation and evaluation while partnering with other aid assistance groups and organizations. Over the years she has also worked on other sustainable development areas such as water resource management, environment, environmental health, growing capacity, waste management, community development and rural development. Letitia held managerial and director positions in Africa, Middle East and North Africa and Latin America and the Caribbean and, at the Corporate Level as Director, Office of the President while at the World Bank.

Nikhil Chandavarkar

Chief of the Communications and Outreach Branch of the Division for Sustainable Development of the United Nations Department of Economic and Social Affairs (UNDESA) and Secretary, UN-Water



National of India, Nikhil Chandavarkar holds a PhD. in economics from Georgetown University, Washington, D.C., where he taught from 1976–1979 and published his dissertation on "The Balance of Payments and Inflation in Brazil." In 1979 he joined the United Nations, serving in Paraguay, Colombia and twice in Brazil, where he was Deputy Resident Representative and then interim UNDP Resident Representative/UN Resident Coordinator. He was Chief of training and learning in UNDP and later Director of External Relations, where he helped strengthen UN inter-agency coordination and interaction with member states. He later advised policy-makers and policy shapers in various countries in Asia, Africa and Latin America on human development and sustainable development as principal inter-regional adviser in the United Nations Department of Economic and Social Affairs (UNDESA). He is presently Chief of the Communications and Outreach Branch of the Division for Sustainable Development of the United Nations Department of Economic and Social Affairs (UNDESA) and Secretary, UN-Water.

Per-Arne Malmqvist

Scientific Director, Stockholm International Water Institute



Mr. Malmqvist currently works at the Stockholm International Water Institute (SIWI) as Scientific Director, responsible for the Stockholm Water Prize and the Stockholm Industry Water Award. He is also a Professor at the department of Water, Environment and Technology at Chalmers University of Technology, Gothenburg, Sweden. Prof. Malmqvist has a PhD from Chalmers University of Technology's Department of Civil and Environmental Engineering and an MBA at Gothenburg School of Economics. He won the Swedish Water Prize in 2001. Before joining SIWI, Prof. Malmqvist has been a Managing Director of CIT Urban Water Management AB, and he is a member of its board today. He has also been an associate professor at the School of Environmental Engineering at Luleå Technical University, and has been a Programme Director of the MISTRA Programme on Sustainable Urban Water Management, where he contributed significantly to developing and testing models and methods for systems analysis of urban water systems, which were later applied in Sweden and abroad. Prior to this he worked in different managerial and engineering capacities with the consulting company SWECO.

Reza Ardakanian

Director of the UN-Water Decade Program on Capacity Development (UNW-DPC)



Reza Ardakanian was born in 1958 in Yazd, Iran. He holds a BSc in civil engineering from Sharif University of Technology in Tehran, Iran, an MSc in water resources engineering, and a PhD in water resources management from McMaster University in Canada. Dr. Ardakanian has been a faculty member of Sharif University of Technology in Tehran since 1998 and was a member of the Board of Trustees of the University from 1999-2006. He has authored, co-authored, and edited around 80 publications, including books, journal papers, research reports, lecture notes, and articles for the media. At the national level, he has served as the Deputy Minister for Urban Development (1987-89) in Ministry of Interior, Deputy Minister for Planning (1989-91), the First Deputy Minister (1998-2001), and Deputy Minister for Water Affairs (2001-2005) in the Ministry of Energy of Iran. During the latter period, he also served as the General Manager of the National Water Resources Management Company, in charge of constructing/operating of large dams, irrigation networks, and hydropower plants. At the international level, Dr. Ardakanian sat on the Bureau of UNESCO-IHP (2000-02), the

Governing Board of UNESCO-IHE (2003-07), Managing Board of the International Hydropower Association (2004-06), and the Advisory Board of UNU-EHS (2003-07). He was Founding Director of RCUWM, a UNESCO regional center on urban water management based in Tehran (2002-07). In Aug. 2007, he was appointed as the Founding Director of the UN-Water Decade Program on Capacity Development (UNW-DPC) by the Rector of United Nations University. He has also served UNU as Vice Rector in Europe, ad interim, during Aug. 2009 - Nov. 2010.

Members of the Technical Advisory Committee (TAC)

Er. M. Gopalakrishnan

Secretary General, International Commission on Irrigation and Drainage (ICID)



A Distinguished Fellow of the Institution of Engineers, Er. Gopalakrishnan is a Gold Medalist of University of Roorkee with a Master's Degree in Water Resources Development. Engr. Gopalakrishnan has over 47 years of experience and had handled many aspects of Water Resources planning, development and management. He is well-known to the global community on water with his links with World Water Council (2004-06) (Governor), UN-Water, ICOLD, IWRA, IWRS, Institution of Engineers (India) etc. Er. Gopalakrishnan is a member of the Technical Advisory Committee helping World Water Development Reports. He is a recipient of the 'Life Time Achievement award' from the American Academy of Water Resources Engineers with the conferment of the 'Honorary Diplomat' Status in the Academy in 2010. Since 2004, he is with the International Commission on Irrigation and Drainage and has enhanced its partnering roles with other global organizations like IWMI, ICOLD, FAO, WWAP and Global Water Partnership. He facilitated ICID's contributions in the previous World Water Fora meetings.

Estrellita Fuentes

International affairs, Comisión Nacional del Agua de Mexico (CONAGUA)



Estrellita Fuentes has a BA in Communications, 12 years experience in the public sector, where she has held several posts. During the Michoacan state government administration, 1999 – 2002, she acted as General Coordinator of Citizens' Services and was founder and Director of the State Institute for Youth. She has also been an editor and columnist for print media and television, addressing environmental, political and social issues. She is currently in charge of international affairs in CONAGUA, where she has worked since 2003, and is also the Coordinator of the D4WCC.

Guillermo V. Donoso

Director, National Agricultural Research Institute of Chile



Environmental and Natural Resource Economist specializing in Water Economics, Water Allocation Mechanisms, Economic Valuation, Economic Appraisal of Development Projects and Micro-econometrics. At present Director of the National Agricultural Research Institute of Chile and a full professor at the Agricultural Economics Department of the Pontificia Universidad Católica de Chile. He has held the position of Dean of the Facultad de Agronomía e Ingeniería Forestal of the Pontificia Universidad Católica de Chile from 1998 to 2007. Previously was Chair of the Agricultural Economics Department between 1995 and 1998. Has over 16 years of experience, as grants and contract manager in various social and economic sectors as consultant for the United Nations Development Programme (UNDP), the Inter-American Development Bank (IADB), the GTZ and the World Bank in projects for Latin America on water economics, allocation and management, economic valuation, economic appraisal of investment projects, and economic impact assessment of public programs.

Jayakumar Ramasamy

Programme Specialist for Natural Sciences for the East Asian cluster, UNESCO Office in Beijing



Mr. Jayakumar joined UNESCO in July 1997 at its New Delhi Office, and was tasked to carry out International Hydrological Programme (IHP), Geology and Coastal and Small Island programmes and officiating as Regional Hydrologist. During August 2004 he was transferred to the UNESCO Office in Beijing, where he has been tasked to act as the Programme Specialist for Natural Sciences for the East Asian cluster. In this capacity, he is responsible for the implementation of intergovernmental programmes such as IHP, Man and the Biosphere (MAB), International Geoscience Programme (IGCP) and Basic and Engineering Sciences, Science Policy and Sustainable Development, as well as for the preparation and design of regional projects and activities in the area of Natural Sciences. Before joining UNESCO he was working as a consultant on various projects for the European Commission. He has an academic background on hydrogeology and environmental management and wide experience in water resources management projects in developing countries in Asia, especially in India and China. Presently he is also coordinating Asian regional projects related to groundwater mapping and identification transboundary aquifers, sediment and erosion and water management in arid and semi-arid regions.

Sergey Lazarev

Director of the UNESCO Cluster Office in Almaty and Representative to Kazakhstan, Kyrgyzstan and Tajikistan



Born in 1954, Mr. Sergey Lazarev holds a Ph.D. in International Relations from the Institute of World Economy and International Relations of the USSR Academy of Sciences. He also has the title of Senior Research Fellow. Mr. Lazarev began his professional career as a Research Fellow at the Institute of World Economy and International Relations in Moscow. He then moved to the Presidium of the Russian Academy of Sciences as Scientific Secretary responsible for the conception, monitoring and management of social and human sciences. Mr. Lazarev's work in UNESCO started in January 1988. In October 1994, he became Chief, Section for Tolerance. In this capacity coordinated the preparation and implementation of the celebration programme for the United Nations Year for Tolerance, including the drafting of the milestone Declaration of Principles on Tolerance adopted by the General Conference of UNESCO in 1995. From December 2000 to March 2002, Mr. Lazarev was entrusted with the responsibilities of Chief, Executive Office of the Assistant Director-General for Social and Human Sciences. Since April 2002, Mr. Lazarev has been the Chief of the Struggle against Discrimination and Racism Section. In this context, he led the preparation of UNESCO's Integrated Strategy to Combat Racism, Discrimination, Xenophobia and related intolerance adopted by the 32nd session of the General Conference in 2003 and of the UNESCO contribution to the Durban Review Conference held in Geneva in April 2009. Among his responsibilities in this position is the global coordination of the Coalition of Cities against Racism and Discrimination project. From November 2009 Mr. Lazarev is the Director of the UNESCO Cluster Office in Almaty and Representative to Kazakhstan, Kyrgyzstan and Tajikistan.