The 23rd OSCE Economic and Environmental Forum "Water governance in the OSCE area – increasing security and stability through co-operation"

EEF.NGO/15/15 12 May 2015

**ENGLISH** only

SECOND PREPARATORY MEETING

Belgrade, 11-13 May 2015

Session V

Ms. Rozemarijn ter Horst, World Water Forum Working Group Water Youth Network





- Young people have a clear role to play
- Who are we
- Youth as an important stakeholder
- Who are youth
- What can we do
- What can you do

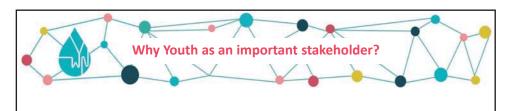


In the water sector, the attention for participation of young people is rising (virtuous cycle):

- Increased attention for stakeholders
- We are the next generation of water engineers, plumbers, politicians, decisionmakers
- Snowball-effect knowledge will be shared with family

But it means we have to live up to expectations, and sometimes set them





Youth has a clear and inherit stake in the future, are a vulnerable group, but also:

OECD Water Governance Initiative: OECD report on Stakeholder engagement for inclusive water governance

Young people constitute a vital force and a critical age group capable of contributing actively to water-related decision making and implementation.

Sendai Framework for Disaster Risk Reduction 2015-2030

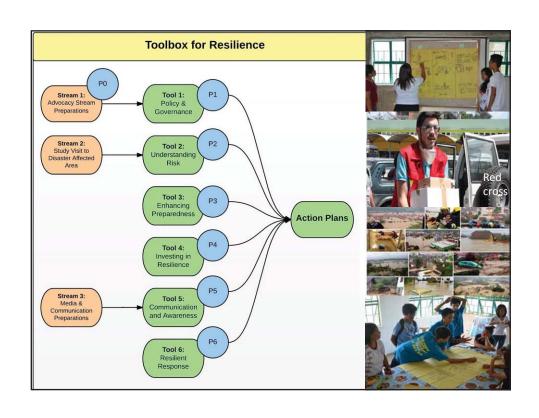
Children and youth are agents of change and should be given the space and modalities to contribute to disaster risk reduction, in accordance with legislation, national practice and educational curricula

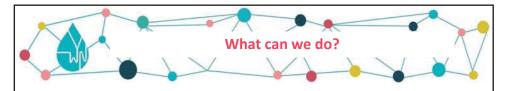






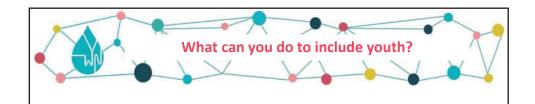






- #Inform, #Involve, #Empower
- We are working on 'Sharing Innovative Practices'
  - Database with youth organisations
  - Making connections and facilitating knowledge exchange
  - Sharing best practices
  - http://youthbeyonddisasters.org/toolbox/





#Inform, #Involve, #Empower

We call on OSCE members to inform youth Involve them meaningfully

And create an enabling environment for them to act – locally, nationally and internationally

