

SUMMARY

COP27 Side Event (Virtual and In-Person)
**“Sustainable Water and Energy Solutions supporting Climate Change
and Biodiversity Objectives through Innovation and Clean Technologies”**
9 November 2022
14:45 – 16:00 (Egypt Time),
7:45 – 9:00 (New York Time)

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1. The COP27 side event on “Sustainable Water and Energy Solutions supporting Climate Change and Biodiversity Objectives through Innovation and Clean Technologies” was held on 9 November 2022 from 14:45 to 16:00 Egypt time at the SDG Pavilion.
2. **Ms. Radia Sedaoui**, Chief Energy Section, UNESCWA served as moderator and began by welcoming panelists and all the participants to this event.

action concerning environmental protection with its project to preserve the biosphere. She stated that all we do today has an impact in future generations and if we all work together, we can win the fight against climate change.

6. **Mr. Pascual Fernández**, CEO, Canal de Isabel II, Comunidad de Madrid, Spain, said that his company provides urban water services to 200 municipalities in Spain and other Latin American countries benefitting over 7.6 million inhabitants. A lot of energy is needed to move water to the cities. Canal de Isabel II has taken several synergetic initiatives towards water management and energy production with 9 hydropower plants and 17 generators that produce renewable energy using biogas. Biogas is a byproduct resulting from wastewater treatment. It is easily generated from organic matters such as sewage, food and garden waste avoiding the use of fossil fuel. It is getting popular in many European countries and billions of euros are being invested in this biofuel. The EU launched a major energy project in 2022 with investment for research and innovation on hydrogen. Over 20% of the investment for hydrogen will be made in Spain. Canal is working on installing the first green hydrogen plant powered by PV solar and biogas cogeneration.
7. **Ms. Emily Rees**, Europe Representative, Ethanol Group, UNALA said that UNALA contributes significantly towards the SDGs on water and energy. UNALA was created in 2017 bringing together representatives of sugarcane and sugar industries from 11 Latin American countries, for sustainable production of sugar and sugar beets. These member states are committed to the sustainable development of their countries. The sugar sector is becoming one of the major producers of renewable energy. That includes ethanol which is used for transport but also bioelectricity, biomethane and green hydrogen. Sugarcane residues today produce 19% of the electricity in Brazil second to hydropower. The industry is also actively engaged in reforestation programmes. UNALA focuses on 3 main areas i.e., planet, people and prosperity. Sugarcane producing countries are helping mitigate emissions from fossil fuel sources all over the world. Over 90% of cars in Brazil today use flex fuel, i.e., ethanol or gasoline as energy source. Since the ethanol initiative in 2003, Brazil has helped to prevent 556 million tonnes of CO2 emissions from being released into the atmosphere. UNALA members produce 1/3 of the world's ethanol and provide jobs to over 7 million people. It also helps protect the water springs. Sugarcane and sugar beets are far more than sugar, as they are used to produce several byproducts such as cosmetics and bio-based plastics, which are low in carbon and friendly to biodiversity.
8. **Ms. Shada El-Sharif**, Green Economy Specialist/Member of Jordan's delegation to COP-27, began by saying that Jordan was the second most water scarred country in the world. Its population consists of 34% of refugees from other countries. The King of Jordan introduced the Climate-Refugee Nexus at the COP-27. Jordan is facing double edged sword of drought and flood due to climate change. In 2020, the members produced 2 T-2()Ro00912 0 612 792 reW*nog nB7'n59s In 20

9. **Ms. Carol Mungo**, Research Fellow, Africa Center, SEI, Kenya,