

# Presentation

Presentation from the 2009 World Water Week in Stockholm  
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**WORLD**  
in Stockholm,  
August 16–22, 2009 **WATER**  
**WEEK**

# Ensuring human and environmental health

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# Ensuring human and environmental health

## Major Insights from 2009

- **Break the Silos** - across the water resources, water supply, sanitation and hygiene, agriculture, and environmental families
- **A Global Framework for Action** – needed to engage key stakeholders across the water sector

# Opportunities for progress in ensuring human and environmental health

- **Business opportunities exist along the entire value chains** of water, sanitation, and reuse. The scale /scope is huge, unrecognized and growing. The market needs to be understood, recognized and incentivized.
- **Evidence of the scale of economic costs of inaction**, and size of avoidable expenditure, can stimulate change.
- **Emerging progress in changing attitudes** (policy-makers, researchers, citizens) needs to be followed up by changes in conventional financial flows and the implementation of alternative approaches at scale.

# Challenges/obstacles to progress in ensuring human and environmental health

- **Institutional and mindset barriers** limit an adequate response to cross-silo opportunities. Need more evidence and political vision. Guidelines and knowledge need to be translated into action.
- **Make conventional approaches sustainable and visionary approaches practical.** Realize practical applications for, and a financing stream from: wastewater and excreta re-use, the right to water and sanitation, and new business opportunities for sanitation.
- **Fill the financing gap in the financial crisis:** look for greatest leverage of public finance, scaling up alternative financing mechanisms and repayable finance.
- **Tackling water governance** is fundamental to realizing environmental and health benefits – requires instruments to measure/benchmark progress.

# Conclusions and recommendations for ensuring human and environmental health

- **Move to systems thinking** - along whole water-cycle value chains (hydrogeological, sanitation environmental flow). Use sector-wide, city-wide, service-delivery approaches. Structure governance systems. Life-cycle financial strategies.
- **Build alliances, dialogue and knowledge** across the silos (agriculture, water, sanitation, hygiene, environment).
- **Stimulate demand through behaviour change**: improved hygiene, acceptance of re-use, demand for safe sanitation, knowing rights, adopting civic duties.
- **Stimulate the sanitation and re-use market** to respond to demand, through new business lines all along the value chains.