



WATER AND GENDER



Wednesday December 14th, 13:00-14:00
Tweede Kamer der Staten Generaal, hall (to be confirmed)
(public entrance: Lange Poten 4)

Equitable access to and control over water is a basic human right for all. In many developing countries women and girls are responsible for collecting water for household purposes. Decision-making processes around water use and water resources management are however mostly in the hands of men, at both local and national level. Decisions that may compromise the rights to water, will affect women disproportionately. They traditionally have specific roles in the household and their communities. They have the knowledge that is crucial input for water management policies. Therefore, giving women a voice in decision-making in national affairs is key, yet international players play an important role too.

As a world leader in water management, and a global promotor of human rights and women's rights, the Netherlands is well positioned to promote these rights, both in water projects and investments, as well as in other areas like trade and investment policies. These policies can have a direct impact on the quality or ability to access water resources.

How to effectively protect and promote women's rights to water will be discussed during the next Gender Multi Party initiative.

Guest speakers are:

- **Annelieke Douma**, coordinator water Both ENDS
- **Maria van der Heide**, policy advisor corporate accountability and natural resources ActionAid
- Guest speaker from the Water sector (the name will be announced as soon as possible)

Then there will be a discussion with Members of Parliament on the importance of involving both women and men in the management of water and sanitation and access-related questions.

Admission is free. Please let us know if you are planning to come by sending an e-mail to Laila Ait Baali, at l.aitbaali@wo-men.nl.

With kind regards,

Ingrid de Caluwé
Roelof van Laar
Vera Bergkamp