



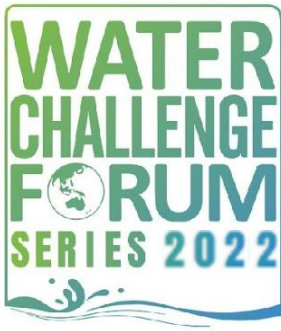
## BACKGROUND

Achieving water security remains to be a major longstanding challenge for the Philippines. The country has dealt with numerous water-related challenges including water pollution, water scarcity, and insufficient access to sanitation among others, as well as water hazards such as flood, drought, and storms. These threats continue to evolve and intensify due to aggravating factors like climate change, environmental degradation, and most recently the pandemic.

The ECCP reaffirms its commitment to work with the government to finally address the evolving water crisis in the country. As part of its sustainability-related advocacies, the Chamber has launched various initiatives focusing on the water sector with the main objective of raising awareness on the challenges and opportunities in the said sector. Among these initiatives is the Water Challenge Forum Series (WCFS).

Now on its sixth run, this year's WCFS will be a two-forum series that will occur in November and December. This virtual event will provide stakeholders and participants an opportunity to engage in a multi- and cross-sector dialogue relating to the need to address water challenges and water-related hazards. The specific objectives of the event are:

- To engage the national and local government executives to share the policy directions and updates on policies, plans, projects and implementation concerning the water sector;
- To encourage the business sector to support the government's water-related initiatives by investing and providing innovative technology solutions;
- To engage non-government organizations and international organizations to share their insights and programs on developing the Philippine water sector; and
- To access the experiences and lessons learned by stakeholders and contribute to the enhancement of knowledge and the sharing of best practices to achieve the goal stated in the UN SDG 6.



## WCFS FORUM 1

*A Deep Dive into the Philippine Water Sector: Exploring solutions for the country's water supply and sanitation system*  
7 November, 2:00 - 4:00 PM via Zoom

### INTRODUCTION

Water scarcity has increasingly become a worldwide problem, affecting more than 40% of the global population with water resources depleting at an alarming rate due to the increase in the world's population coupled with the impact of climate change. Data from the Asian Development Bank also show that global water demand projections are estimated to increase by nearly 55% with the global population increasing to almost 10 billion by 2050. For the Philippines, the issue of water scarcity is not foreign. It has been the topic of numerous discussions between the public and private sectors and is one of the longstanding issues that the country faces.

In this webinar, we aim to discuss the current and future plans/initiatives of the current administration to address the water and sanitation supply problems in the country. The webinar will also feature discussions on innovative solutions to address water challenges and partnership opportunities in the water sector.

### TENTATIVE PROGRAM

Time	Agenda
2:00 – 2:05 PM 5 mins	Opening Remarks  ECCP
2:05 – 2:25 PM 15-20 mins	Government initiatives to attain water security under the Philippine Water Supply and Sanitation Master Plan in pursuit of achieving the country's SDG No. 6 targets  <b>Hon. Arsenio Balisacan</b> Secretary National Economic and Development Authority
2:25 – 2:40 PM 15 mins	The future of water: Government initiatives for the innovation of the Water Sector  <b>Dr. Renato Solidum Jr.</b> Secretary Department of Science and Technology



## WCFS FORUM 1

*A Deep Dive into the Philippine Water Sector: Exploring solutions for the country's water supply and sanitation system*

7 November, 2:00 - 4:00 PM via Zoom

<p>2:40 – 2:55 PM 15 mins</p>	<p>DPWH's efforts on Water Infrastructure and its sewerage and septage management initiatives to protect water resources</p> <p><b>Hon. Emil Sadain</b> Senior Undersecretary for Unified Project Management Office Department of Public Works and Highways</p>
<p>2:55 – 3:05 PM 10 mins</p>	<p>Private Sector Initiative: Improving drinking water supply through innovation</p> <p>Industry Representative</p>
<p>3:05 – 3:15 PM 10 mins</p>	<p>Private Sector Initiative: Expanding access to improved sanitation</p> <p>Industry Representative</p>
<p>3:15 – 4:00 PM 45 mins</p>	<p>Panel Discussion and Open Forum</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>● <b>Dr. Seville D. David, Jr. CESO III</b>, National Water Resources Board Executive Director</li> <li>● <b>Hon. Leonor C. Cleofas, CESO IV</b>, Metropolitan Waterworks and Sewerage System Administrator</li> <li>● <b>Hon. Ma. Cynthia Hernandez</b>, PPP Center Executive Director</li> </ul>
<p>4:00 PM</p>	<p>End of Program</p>

*Note: All speakers are invited unless stated otherwise.*