



## **INVITATION**

To

## **BUSINESS FORUM**

A HIGH-LEVEL ROUNDTABLE DISCUSSION

**Groundwater and climate change**  
the interplay of policy, science, and technical innovation

**SLOVENIAN PAVILION @ EXPO2020 DUBAI**

**MARCH 22<sup>nd</sup> 2022 at 11 am**

*Ministry of Foreign Affairs, Ministry of the Environment and Spatial Planning and SPIRIT Slovenia – the Public Agency for Entrepreneurship, Internationalization, Foreign Investments and Technology of the Republic of Slovenia are organising a high - level event on the UN World Water Day.*

*The event will discuss how to employ science and technological innovation in groundwater policies, governance, and management, in order to ensure its good quantitative and qualitative status and benefits also under altered conditions and circumstances due to the climate change effects.*

*The roundtable shall be performing inserts of practical solutions in cooperation with Slovenian Centre of Excellence for Space Science and Technologies (SPACE-SI), National Laboratory of Health, Environment and Food and with the international water platform Bled Water Festival – [video](#) .*

**Agenda:**

<p>11.00 am - 13.00 pm</p>	<p><b>Welcome Address</b> (video) by H.E. Mr. Borut Pahor, President of the Republic of Slovenia</p> <p><b>Welcome Address</b> by Mr. Rok Tomšič, Ministry of Foreign Affairs of the Republic of Slovenia</p> <p><b>Welcome Address</b> by H.E. Mr. Andrej Vizjak, Minister, Ministry of the Environment and Spatial Planning the Republic of Slovenia</p> <p><b>UNESCO World Water Assessment Programme: World Water Development Day 2022 – Making the invisible visible</b> (video)</p> <p><b>Panel discussion " Groundwater and climate change "</b></p> <p><b>Panellists</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>○ H.E. Mr. Andrej Vizjak, Minister of Environment and Spatial Planning, Slovenia (host)</li> <li>○ H.E. Ms. Mariam Almheiri, Minister of Climate Change and Environment, U.A.E.(t.b.c.)</li> <li>○ Ms. Jaana Husu-Kallio, Permanent Secretary of the Ministry of Agriculture and Forestry, Finland</li> <li>○ Mr. Sumit Vij, Senior Scientific Officer, Geneva Water Hub, Geneva</li> <li>○ Mr. Loic Charpentier, Water Innovation Policy Manager, Water Europe, Brussels</li> <li>○ Mr. Vinod Tare, Founding Head, cGanga, IIT Kanpur, India</li> <li>○ Mr. Marco Keiner, Director, Environment Division, UNECE</li> </ul> <p><b>Presentations of practices</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>○ Mr. Tomaž Rodič, Director, Slovenian Centre of Excellence for Space Sciences and Technologies (SPACE-SI), Slovenia</li> <li>○ Mr. Marko Maver, Assistant Director, National Laboratory of Health, Environment and Food, Slovenia</li> <li>○ Mr. Marko Gajić, Bled Water Festival, Slovenia</li> </ul>
<p>14:00 pm</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>● Networking lunch; <i>according to the menu, waters are chosen and presented by water sommelier;</i></li> </ul>

Event will be moderated by Mr. Aleš Bizjak, Ministry of the Environment and Spatial Planning, Slovenia.

**Registration:** Please click on the link to register <https://guestboard.co/join/aCZUBvSZrRdOMMJF>