



# 5<sup>th</sup> INTERNATIONAL CONFERENCE

## EFFICIENT AND SUSTAINABLE WATER SERVICES

Neum, 16 and 17 October 2024

# INVITATION

Dear Sir/Madam,

Association for Water and Environmental Protection Sector "Aquasan Network in BiH" is pleased to invite you to the two-day Conference "Efficient and Sustainable Water Services".

## The Conference will be held on 16 and 17 October 2024 in Neum, Grand Hotel Neum.

The partner of this year's Conference is the Embassy of Switzerland in Bosnia and Herzegovina (BiH).

The overall objective of the Conference is to facilitate the continuing of the dialogue aimed to contribute to the improved water services sector in BiH through the exchange of knowledge, experiences and good practices.

#### Specific objectives:

- To support discussion on directions and adoption of recommendations for the improvement of the strategic, legal and institutional framework for delivering and developing the water services in BiH;
- To contribute to the strengthening of institutional, organizational and human capacities of all stakeholders in the water services sector in BiH, especially local self-government units (LGUs) and public utility companies (PUCs) with the aim of improving the quality of water services and their sustainability;
- To provide a forum for information sharing and exchange on current issues in the water services sector and thus strengthen cooperation, networking and coordination at all levels.

The focus of the Conference is on local institutions, organizations and experts and their role and responsibility in the process of the BiH water services sector reform in order to jointly communicate the interest and commitment to changes and ownership of the process. It is also our intention to demonstrate that there are staff and experts in the water services sector in BiH who work on a daily basis to deliver quality and safe water services to the citizens and seize opportunities to improve them. To this end, we will also present the knowledge and experience of international experts that we can use and apply in BiH, but with an emphasis on the role and responsibility of all of us in the sector. It is particularly important to emphasize that improvements of the water services sector in BiH are not project-based activities that are

implemented in order to meet criteria established by financiers, but activities that are carried out on a daily basis for the benefit of the citizens, service users.

The Conference will bring together a large number of stakeholders from the water services sector in BiH from the local, cantonal, entity and state levels of BiH and the countries of Southeast and Western Europe, as well as representatives of international development partners and financial institutions working in BiH. As in previous years, a large number of mayors and heads of LGU departments, PUC directors, line ministries and institutions and guests from neighboring countries are expected.

The Conference is held within The Regional Capacity Development Network for Water and Sanitation Services (RCDN+) project.

The agenda of the Conference and the registration form are attached to the invitation.

The organizer has ensured financial resources to cover registration fees and organization costs, including costs of lunches and refreshments during the Conference. Travel and accommodation costs and hotel reservations shall be borne by the participants.

Please send the Registration Form no later than 15 September 2024 to the e-mail address info@aquasanbih.ba.

We are at your disposal for all questions and further information.

Sincerely,

Vesna Muslić

Aquasan Network in BiH

Support for the implementation of the conference is provided by:





