

**CONFERENCE DAY 2 – 03 MARCH 2021 - SEMINAR  
SMART WATER DISTRIBUTION**

**Venue & Time**

<b>Venue</b>	Seminar Hall
<b>Time</b>	New York 01:00 ~ 03:00 Paris 07:00 ~ 09:00 <b>India 11:30 ~ 13:30</b> Tokyo 15:00 ~ 17:00

**Session Background**

Availability of water for drinking and other needs is a key indicator for social and economic growth. India's water resources are struggling because of anthropocentric as well as climate-induced reasons leading to declining per capita water availability, lack of storage capacity, and spatial and temporal variations. As per the United Nations classification, India has been categorized as a 'water-stressed' country. The issue of water contamination is also rapidly increasing due to large-scale, unplanned urbanization and untreated effluents emitted by industries. The widening demand-supply gap is further compounded by other challenges like depletion of groundwater caused by over-extraction, poor recharge, low storage capacity, erratic rainfall due to climate change, presence of contaminants, poor operation and maintenance (O&M) of water supply systems, etc. It is imperative to conserve water and also improve water use efficiency across sectors.

Urban centers in India lack robust data monitoring systems for water and water utilities being a legacy of water-plenty era, failed to integrate data measurement in its systems and continue to navigate the unsteady path for transformation. Water utilities are failing majorly in asset management, controlling non-revenue water (NRW), maintaining water quality, managing water demand, etc. Quality real-time data through adoption of digital technologies can significantly improve water management in the country.

Government of India has taken serious measures to address these issues and already allotted Rs 5 trillion for improvement of water supply and sanitation in Indian cities. The recently announced Jal Jeevan Mission (JJM) aims at providing Functional Household Tap Connection (FHTC) to every rural household by 2024. It is a great opportunity for leveraging modern technologies, particularly the digital technologies to build new water distribution networks with real-time monitoring of water flows and water accounting to minimize NRW as well as improve the quality of water. With the advent of the digital era, governance systems for water utilities too have continuously adopted advanced technologies to transition towards new systems with data-centric approach. It will create a platform to maintain and monitor water distribution and protect water resources through digital technologies which will play a crucial role for water allocation and industrial and municipal waste management.

The automation and IT systems and the last mile connectivity solutions for building a smart electricity grid can be leveraged for automating the water and gas distribution systems at marginal cost. Similarly, the billing and collection systems of the electric utility can be leveraged to provide a single bill for all 3 services – electricity, water and gas. This will not only enhance convenience of the customer who has to pay only one bill but will also reduce the cost of business operations for the gas and water utilities. From this perspective, ISGF feels there is a compelling business case to bring water distribution companies to the smart grid forum and explore the collaborative business opportunities.

**12:00 ~ 12:30**

**Session-1: National Water Scheme/ Mission**

- Jal Jeevan Mission
- Sustainable water supply to rural areas

**Chair: Vaibhav Chaturvedi**, Research Fellow, Council on Energy, Environment and Water (CEEW)

**Speakers:**

1. **SK Goyal**, Sr Principal Scientist & Head, National Environmental Engineering Research Institute
2. **Sourav Daspatnaik**, Managing Director, Swach Environment Pvt Ltd

**12:00 ~ 12:30**

**Session-2: Enabling Sustainability and driving Customer Experience through Digital Technologies**

- Enhancing the availability and quality of water through digital technologies
- Remote pollution monitoring for industrial and municipal waste

**Chair & Moderator: Neville Bhasin**, Business Developer, Forbes Marshall

**Speakers:**

1. **PC Ladkat**, Executive Engineer, Pimpri-Chinchwad Municipal Corporation
2. **George Hunt**, Chief Strategy Officer (CSO), Smart Energy Water
3. **Dharminder Mohan**, Regional Manager - Water, Forbes Marshall Pvt Ltd

12:30 ~ 13:00

**Session-3: Smart Water Operation**

- Water Distribution Maintenance and Monitoring through Advanced Technologies
- Protection and management of Water Resources through digital technologies
- Industrial Water allocation and Waste Water management

**Chair: A Murlidharan**, Deputy Adviser, Department of Drinking Water and Sanitation, Ministry of Jal Shakti

**Moderator: Ajay Pradhan**, President and Chief Executive Officer, C2S2

**Speakers:**

1. **Jagdish Kumar Arora**, OSD and Nodal Officer (Water), Delhi Jal Board
2. **Sanjoy Roy**, Chief Executive Officer, Orange City Water, Nagpur

**Key Takeaways by Moderator**