



## **INTERNET ARTICLE**

### **Leave no one behind – what, who and how?**

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The United Nation's 2030 Agenda is a vehicle of ensuring that no citizen of any country will be left out when the Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs) are implemented.

Against this background, Professor Hubert Sevenje, a prominent member of Stockholm Water Prize Nominating Committee, argues SDGs cannot be seen as successful as long as some citizens of the world are still being excluded from development..

Speaking at the Stockholm Water Prize Symposium for 2019, Prof Savenije maintained the inclusion of everyone was the most important commitment towards realisation of the 2030 Agenda. Great achievements had been realised in the fight against poverty, yet inequality persisted within and between countries was on the rise., he said.

“The right to safe and clean drinking water and sanitation is a human right and the issue of survival. These rights oblige states to work towards achieving universal access to water and sanitation for all, without discrimination, while prioritizing those most in need,” added Prof. Savenije.

He added that the development goal remained reach for most of the world's population. In 2015, three in ten people did not have access to safe drinking water six in ten, had no safely managed sanitation facilities.

Prof Savenije, said significant differences in access existed especially between the rich and the poor people.

“The right to water cannot be separated from other human rights. In fact, those who are marginalized or discriminated against because of their gender, age, socio-economic status, or because of their ethnic, religious or linguistic identity, are also more likely to have limited access to proper water and sanitation.”



## water & sanitation

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According to Prof. Savenije, almost half of people drinking water from unprotected sources where the burden of collecting water lies mainly on women and girls, many of whom spend more than 30 minutes on each journey to fetch water. Without safe, accessible water and sanitation, these people are likely to face multiple challenges, including poor health and living conditions, malnutrition, and lack of opportunities for education and employment.

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