

SSuSanA GSC Meeting October 23rd, 2024

Attendees:

Dorothee, Rohini, Arwa, Carla, Alex (Secretariat)

Notes:

Meeting notes

- An assigned person from the GSC will take notes every meeting and then share them with the Secretariat.
- The assigned person will upload the file to the SuSanA Teams file.
- The Secretariat will format them and share them in the SuSanA website.

John's role in the GSC

- Update: We had a call with him to introduce him to the GSC group
- Alex suggests to invite him to regular GSC-Secretariat meeting for him to provide his insights and opinion on things and the development of the network
- He will be invited to the next meeting where we will give an update on the bylaws and pending work. We think maybe he could help with the work on decentralization of secretariat's function and fundraising

WASH AI

- Update: Skat has contracted Olivier to develop a chatbot in the WhatsApp Channel created for the Latin American Community to digest and disseminate the knowledge from RWSN and SuSanA – users write questions and the chat bot generate answers based on the RWSN and SuSanA website content. The funding comes from the IDB. The plan is to have it ready for testing in November. The bot will be in Spanish for the time being.
- Status of AI tool: feature is being developed by Olivier, they are going to use RWNS and SuSanA for the content
- Data protection and European laws – everything seems to be in order
- Ideally it would be using everything in the SuSanA website (incl. SuSanA library and SuSanA forum)
- 5 to 10 people will be testing the WhatsApp feature in November (Dorothee, colleague and Carla would like to test the AI tool)
- If this is successful, we could think about replicating it to other regions and adding the chatbot feature to the SuSanA website.
- The GSC is happy to support this initiative as we think this could be a good opportunity to use the resources from the SuSanA website and other knowledge.
- Alex will let Sean know that Dorothee, colleague and Carla are interested in testing the tool

RWSN for the backstopping of the Swiss Network RESEau

- Update: There is currently a tender for a proposal to do backstopping of the water network – RESEau- this means supporting the management of this network on various levels.
- RWSN would like to have a joint proposal with SuSanA
- SKAT would lead the proposal with some input from the secretariat – the money would go through SKAT foundation, and we would have in kind contribution of SuSanA (still to be defined)
- Alex will ask Sean to organize a brainstorming call on the potential bid and talk about the role of SuSanA – Dorothee, Arwa (has experience working with RESau), Carla would be available to join the meeting

Pending issues

Events and conferences

- Event task force meeting needs a rethink, since not a lot of people are joining
- GWOPA conference could be another place to host another susana meeting – focus could be on water operators and water utilities
- We should think of another global south event where we can host a susana meeting – maybe Latinosan?
- COP29 – SuSanA will be organizing a viewing of Holy Shit on the 15th of November on the water pavilion and Ruben (movie director) might be there to present the movie
- Ruben is organizing a screening tour in 5 cities in Bolivia in collaboration with Lourdes

Bylaws

- We need to revisit the Bylaws, what have we done, where are we and what are the next steps
- Consultants could help put together the bylaws but NOT write them
- Alex will explore what would be possible within the GIZ Sector programme budget and ongoing contracts
- During our next meeting each GSC member will give an update on their work – we will invite John as well.

To do's

- **John's involvement:** John will be invited to the next GSC meeting where we will review the pending tasks with the bylaws
- **Meetings and notes:** One person from the GSC will take notes from the meetings and share them with the Secretariat so they can add them to the website.
- **WASH AI:** Alex will let Sean know that Dorothee, colleague and Carla are interested in testing the WhatsApp AI tool
- **RESEau bid:** Alex will ask Sean to organize a brainstorming call on the potential bid and talk about the role of SuSanA
- **Bylaws:** Everyone will give an update and next steps on their tasks and pending work during the next meeting
- **Bylaws:** Alex will explore what is possible in terms of external support to help us put together the bylaws

Next meeting: Carla will send a message on WhatsApp to agree on the next meeting date and time.