



Dialogue with World Bank and IFC

Assistance and Financing for the Water Sector

7th JULY 2020, TUESDAY, 9:00am – 10:30am

COMPLIMENTARY WEBINAR (webex)

Exclusive for SWA Members and SGP water stakeholders

The World Bank Group Moves Quickly to Help Countries Respond to COVID-19 with Liquid Facilities for the Utilities and Project Financing solutions

The impact of the pandemic is seriously felt in many parts of the World especially the developing countries. The World Bank Group is acting quickly to step up support as countries respond to the COVID-19 crisis as they face a wide range of consequences, including the risk of global recession.

The webinar provides an in-depth understanding of the World Bank's Utility Liquidity Facility, its regional focus and work program, and the International Finance Corporation's (IFC) product range.

[Register Here](#)

Contact SWA at T:6515 0812 or enquiry@swa.org.sg for further queries

Time	Agenda
0900 – 0910	Opening <ul style="list-style-type: none">Welcome address from Singapore Water AssociationOpening remarks from World Bank Group – Ms Jyoti Shukla, Director, World Bank Singapore
0910 - 0940	World Bank Assistance and Regional Focus <ul style="list-style-type: none">Utility Liquidity Facility and Financial Impact Assessment – Ms Patricia Lopez, Senior Infrastructure Finance SpecialistEast Asia and South Asia work program – Ms Lilian Pena Pereira Weiss, Senior Water and Sanitation Specialist
0940 - 0955	IFC Private Sector Facilities <ul style="list-style-type: none">IFC's relevant product range – Mr Lubomir Varbanov, Head New Business, Infra and Natural Resources APAC, IFC
0955 – 1010	Q & A and Closing



Speaker Bio:

PATRICIA LOPEZ, Senior Infrastructure Finance Specialist, The World Bank

Ms. Patricia Lopez is a Sr. Infrastructure Finance Specialist with the World Bank's Water Global Practice. She was Program Leader of the Danube Water Program (DWP) from 2016 – 2019, a technical assistance program financed by the Government of Austria targeting countries in the Danube River basin, implemented in partnership by the World Bank and the International Association of Water and Wastewater Companies from the Danube Region (IAWD). At the World Bank, Patricia has worked in providing policy advice on financial and institutional issues to national, regional and local governments, utilities and WSS sector institutions and in preparing, negotiating and managing World Bank lending operations in the water and sanitation and flood management sector. Before joining the Bank, Ms. Lopez worked for different investment banks and consultancy firms advising governments, utilities and private companies in project and corporate finance operations. She holds a post-graduate in financing by Colegio Universatio de Estudios Financieros (C.U.N.E.F), Madrid, Spain. Patricia has hands-on experience in the design of solutions for the provision of water and sanitation services and the financing of infrastructure, particularly with participation of the private sector and PPPs. With the Bank, she has mostly worked in Latin America and the Caribbean, Europe and Eastern Europe.

LILIAN PENA P. WEISS, Senior Water Supply and Sanitation Specialist, The World Bank

Lilian Pena P. Weiss is a Senior Water Supply and Sanitation specialist at the World Bank, based in Singapore. She has been working for over 17 years with World Bank operations, mostly in Latin America and East Asia, and also supported operations in Africa and Europe. She has led over 15 WB-financed investment projects in water sector, including program-for-results financing. Lilian has also worked with water sector reforms, institutional strengthening of water utilities, environmental sanitation topics, community-driven development (CDD) and digital modernization of water utilities. Over the last three years, Lilian has been responsible for the quality assurance and portfolio monitoring in the World Bank's East Asia Water portfolio.

LUBOMIR VARBANOV, Head of New Business, Infrastructure and Natural Resources, Asia Pacific, IFC

Lubomir Varbanov is Head of New Business for Infrastructure and Natural Resources, Asia Pacific at the International Finance Corporation (IFC). Lubomir has over 20 years of industry and investment experience in emerging and developed markets and has led and advised on over US\$5 billion of investments in all infrastructure sub-sectors worldwide. Prior to assuming his current position, he headed the Global Equity Group for IFC Infrastructure and Natural Resources and earlier worked in a progression of origination, execution and portfolio management roles in IFC's Petrochemicals, Financial Markets and Oil & Gas teams. Before IFC, Lubomir was Head of Corporate Finance at energy multinational BG Group in London. Lubomir holds a BA in Business Studies and Languages from Regent's College, London and an MSc in Finance from London Business School. He speaks Bulgarian, French, German and Russian.

The World Bank

With 189 member countries, staff from more than 170 countries, and offices in over 100 locations the World Bank consists of: The International Bank for Reconstruction and Development (IBRD), which lends to governments of middle-income and creditworthy low-income countries; and The International Development Association The International Development Association (IDA) which provides interest-free loans — called credits — and grants to governments of the poorest countries. Together, IBRD and IDA make up the World Bank.

The International Finance Corporation

The International Finance Corporation (IFC) is the largest global development institution focused exclusively on the private sector. We help developing countries achieve sustainable growth by financing investment, mobilizing capital in international financial markets, and providing advisory services to businesses and governments.

About Singapore Water Association (SWA)

Established since 2004, Singapore Water Association has been instrumental in profiling and promoting Singapore as a pivotal regional hub for all water-related services and water technologies, by providing a platform to build effective networking, facilitate opportunities for collaboration, and foster the exchange of ideas and knowledge amongst member companies.

SWA also serves an integral linkage for members, to the global water network through the setting up of Singapore Pavilions at Singapore International Water week and overseas trade shows. In addition, SWA continues to promote development of water technologies and innovations through missions, forums and conferences. There are consistent, ongoing efforts to develop partnerships and collaborations in growth areas of strategic mutual interests and objectives with higher learning institutes and research centres. To-date, SWA has grown to have 260 members from an initial 27 in year 2004.

