Blue Peace
Switzerland’s water diplomacy initiative

Jean-Gabriel Duss
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The targeting of water installations as well as collateral damage resulting from the fighting has impacted the functionality of water systems. Lack of access to water and poor water quality pose a threat to human health” OSCE 2015
There is a mounting global water crisis that risks undermining both development and peace.
It is a Swiss foreign policy priority to promote transboundary water cooperation, strengthen hydro-diplomacy and leverage water as an instrument to prevent conflict and sustain peace.
Blue Peace

A GLOBAL WATER DIPLOMACY INITIATIVE

Recommendations of the Global High-Level Panel on Water and Peace (14 co-convening countries)

“We are all one big family, we are all one humanity and when we are talking about water, we are talking about survival as our common dignity and existence.”

DR DANİLO TÜRK, CHAIRMAN OF THE GLOBAL HIGH LEVEL PANEL ON WATER AND PEACE
WATER AS A SOURCE OF PEACE: TOWARDS A ROADMAP FOR COMMON ACTION

- An Ounce of Prevention: International Water Law and Transboundary Water Cooperation
- Quantity and Quality: Strengthening of the Knowledge-Based and Data-Driven Decision Making and Cooperation for Security and Peace Building
- Financial Innovation for Water cooperation
- In Pursuit of Agency: New Mechanisms of Water Diplomacy
Regional Water Diplomacy Initiatives

-> Promotes transboundary water cooperation as a tool for peace building

-> Combines policy level with technical work on the ground

>> Blue Peace Middle East

>> Blue Peace Central Asia
Cost of inaction on the rise 4.5bn USD/a

Status quo is not an option
Hydro-diplomacy in motion
• High level dialogue platform

Smart water practices
• Hydro data: improvement and sharing
• Climate change adaptation (Cryosphere)
• Water quality
• Joint infrastructure (blue investment)

Next generation of water champions
• Education
Thank you
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