JUAN MANUEL FERNÁNDEZ ORTEGA

Manager of Alliances and Institutional Relations of StepbyWater

"Water, the arché of the Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs)"

StepbyWater is a comprehensive initiative inspired by the 17 SDGs of United Nations (UN). It is a multistakeholder alliance established in Spain, which operates internationally under one and the same brand name. This brand intends to foster and drive key supranational initiatives such as the 2030 agenda for SDGs, water-action decade, climate actions and urban agenda in a cross-disciplinary (and holistic) way by bringing together ideas and adopting a common position. Given the alliances' opinion is taken in due consideration, they are indispensable players for the so-called "water cultural revolution" at a crucial moment to give a boost to strategies speeding up compliance with the 2030 agenda and the SDGs. With the support of the Government of Spain and the Spanish Federation of Municipalities and Provinces, StepbyWater is the first alliance formed in Spain between institutions, companies, nongovernmental organizations and civil society to comply with the above-mentioned, in particular, the 6th of SDGs. StepbyWater aspires to response to the call for the Water Action Decade launched by UN to accelerate the 6 SDGs. The alliance aims at reporting, training and inspiring society to a greater commitment with the sustainable water management, raising awareness about the threats of climate change on water resources in Spain. We are deeply convinced water is vital to meet the rest of SDGs, as the UN Secretary General maintains, and committed to build a more sustainable future that cares about planet health. Mankind runs the risk of a global water crisis exacerbated by climate change. Thus, UN has placed water at the heart of SDGs and launched a global boosting framework into the Water Action Decade. StepbyWater intends to incorporate Spain among the countries that provide creative, innovative and sustainable responses to the UN Actions, emphasizing the role of water in the adaptation to climate change.