

Session Details

Keynote session

Date: Thursday, 18th November 2021

Time: 09:15 – 10:30

Location: Studenica, Ravanica, Gračanica conference halls

Moderator: Maja Medenica, UTVSI

Simultaneous translation: Yes (Serbian and Albanian)

Context and objective

The session will involve an opening keynote presentation delivered by the prominent and renowned speakers outlining the reasons why Asset Management is needed. The session will set the scene and stimulate further discussions on the round table during the panel discussion organized in each of the following forum's session. It will do so by connecting topics of public policy, digitalization and investments to contemporary Asset Management practices globally as well as in the Western Balkan countries.

Session structure

Time		Content	Speaker
09:15	2'	Introduction	Moderator
09:17	20'	Asset Management and Public Policy (live)	Rita Salgado Brito, National Laboratory for Civil Engineering (LNEC), Portugal
09:37	20'	Digital Technologies and AM Advanced Solutions (online)	Peter van Thienen, KWR Water, Netherlands
09:57	20'	AM Implementation and Long-Term Investment Planning (online)	David Tyler, European Bank for Reconstruction and Development (EBRD), United Kingdom
10:17	12'	Round Table	Rita Salgado Brito, Peter van Thienen, David Tyler
10:30	1'	End of session	Moderator

Moderator's and Speakers' bios

Maja Medenica

Ms. Maja Medenica has been employed with the PUC Belgrade Waterworks and Sewerage (BWS) since 2000 and her current position is the Head of Asset Management Centre. She also has large experience as a Coordinator of International project in BWS, cooperating with IFIs and the international consulting companies. During last sixteen years of professional experience, she specialized in Integrated Infrastructure Asset Management as team member on several international projects: From 2015 onward, she is a member of the Association for Water Technology and Sanitary Engineering's (UTVSI) Steering Committee. She is a graduate in Civil Engineering, Department of Hydraulic Engineering, from the University of Belgrade and the owner of a degree from the "Post-graduate Specialization Course in Management of Water Resources and Services" – Water Utilities, Turin, Italy.



Rita Salgado Brito

Ms. Rita Salgado Brito is a civil engineer with 25 years' experience in urban drainage. She has worked in an urban water utility, as a teacher at University, as a consultant and is currently in LNEC, the Portuguese National Laboratory for Civil Engineering, since 2014, as an investigator in the Hydraulics and Environment Department. She has been working in the urban water cycle, including water supply, wastewater, stormwater and natural water, and their interactions, dealing with asset management, condition assessment, monitoring and modelling, and urban resilience to climate change. She has a PhD in Civil Engineering. She is the chair of the Management Committee of the International Water Association Specialist Group in Strategic Asset Management.



Dr. Peter van Thienen

Dr. Peter van Thienen is a senior researcher in KWR's hydro-informatics team and has been with this institute for 12 years. He works with a number of colleagues on improving the management, design and operation of drinking water supply systems, using quantitative methods, numerical modelling and optimization. Example topics include Non-Revenue Water, numerical optimization of pipe and sensor networks, and inspection robotics. Peter holds a master's degree in geochemistry and a PhD in geophysics, both at Utrecht University, the Netherlands.



David Tyler

Mr. David Tyler is the European Bank for Reconstruction and Development's (EBRD) Water Sector Specialist providing expert advice to the banking teams on sustainable solutions that improve the lives of people whilst safeguarding the environment. David's thought leadership is the culmination of 30 years of dedicated work in the water sector; before joining the EBRD five years ago, David's experience ranges from infrastructure design and delivery, operations, asset management, policy development and strategic investment planning having worked previously in the public and private sectors, for two water and wastewater companies, a water economic regulator and a specialist technical consultancy. David has a first degree in Civil Engineering majoring in water management, a Doctorate of Philosophy in applied hydraulics and a Diploma in Business Management.

