

The discussion focused on the urgent need to prioritize water as a global public good and accelerate action towards sustainable and equitable water management. Here are the main takeaways from the dialogue:

Valuing Water as a Global Public Good

The panel emphasized the importance of valuing water as a global public good, highlighting the need for a Special UN Envoy for Water and the formation of a task force comprising member states and other organizations to drive progress. They also emphasized the importance of consolidating and sharing data on water, as well as developing mechanisms to collect and share this data.

Pricing Water at Its True Value

The panel also stressed the need to price water at its true value, which they argued was critical for achieving equality and inclusion. They noted that pricing water appropriately would provide the ability to subsidize the poor, thereby ensuring that access to clean water is not limited to those who can afford it.

Mobilizing International Finance

The panel discussed the importance of mobilizing international finance to support sustainable water management, highlighting the need to keep momentum and drive transformational change. They emphasized that cultural transformation would be required to achieve this change and that greater visibility of water on the global agenda would be critical.

Shared Groundwater Agreements

The lack of agreements on shared groundwater was a concern for the panel, which emphasized the need to work towards greater cooperation and collaboration in this area. They noted that shared groundwater resources are often essential for sustainable water management and that failure to cooperate could lead to conflict and unsustainable use of resources.