

## Questions

The Special Rapporteur seeks to explore what the human rights to water and sanitation require in terms of participation. She is interested in looking at processes at various levels (local, national and international) as well as at the relationship and differences between stakeholder participation and participation by concerned individuals and communities. She will put a particular focus on inclusive participatory processes, discussing ways to ensure that the most marginalised and/or vulnerable individuals and groups can exercise their right to participate and influence decision-making. In many instances, participatory processes will be constant and ongoing, while in other instances a particular process might be completed.

The Special Rapporteur would particularly welcome answers to the following questions:

1. Please indicate and describe a participatory process or processes in your country that are related to the human rights to water and/ or sanitation.
2. Which authorities and organizations are involved in the design and facilitation of the process?
  - a) What are the costs of designing and facilitating the process? Who covers the costs?
  - b) What does the process seek to ensure – participation in legislative proposals, policy-making, budgeting, service provision or other measures?
  - c) At what level does the process take place – the national, local or international level?
3. Has there been a history of mobilization in your country to ensure participation in decision-making? How has your government responded to people's demands for (increased) participation?
4. Is there a legal or policy basis for participation? Specifically, is participation with respect to improving access to water and sanitation provided for in legislation, policy or practice in your country?
5. How have the geographical reach of participatory processes and the concerned individuals and groups been defined? How do processes ensure inclusiveness? How do processes seek to ensure that not just major stakeholders, but also concerned individuals can participate? Are certain

individuals or groups meant to represent others? How does the system of representation work? What is the role of NGOs in these processes? Who do they represent, if anyone?

6. What are the opportunities for participation? Are there officially organised consultations, hearings, opportunities to submit written responses and online fora? What measures are in place to enable people to participate? What measures are taken to overcome barriers that people face, in particular marginalized groups and individuals? What channels have been used to disseminate information about the envisaged measures and the participatory process?
7. How are the inputs taken into account? What is the impact of participatory processes on decision-making and the design of measures and policies? What follow-up has been put in place? Are people informed about the outcome of processes? Are they informed about whether and how their proposals have been taken into account?
8. Would you describe the participatory processes as successful? If the specific process referred to above has been completed, please comment on what accounts for its success or failure. Has the process been evaluated? What lessons does it offer for future processes?