

## **Challenge funds in the water sector: considerations for the High Level Panel on Water**

**Convened by Results for Development**

**Side Event - Budapest Water Summit 2016**  
**30 November 2016, 13:00-14:00 - Tisza Gallery (Building D)**

The High Level Panel on Water (HLPW) seeks to spur collective action solutions and increased financing and investment to tackle some of the world's toughest water challenges in the coming decades. The HLPW developed an action plan that describes a comprehensive and integrated approach to helping ensure the availability and sustainable management of water and sanitation for all (SDG 6), as well as contribute to the achievement of the other SDGs that rely on the development and management of water resources. Three of the priority areas identified in the HLPW Action Plan were identified as having the potential to be addressed by launching "challenge"-style funding mechanisms designed to unlock innovation in the area: 1) Resilient Economies, Societies, and Disaster Risk Reduction; 2) Universal Access to Safe Water and Sanitation; and 3) Water Data.

Results for Development (R4D) mapped existing "challenge"-style funding and innovation mechanisms aimed at addressing the water challenges mentioned above, as well as other salient water-specific challenge funds and/or innovation mechanisms that should potentially be considered for support by the HLPW. Existing challenge funds and/or innovation mechanisms in the sector were assessed based on their specific traits and the innovations they attempt to generate, the apparent results of existing or completed challenges, and gaps in the innovation space that could be addressed through new challenge initiatives.

This panel will present draft recommendations to potentially be forwarded to the HLPW suggesting ways in which the panel might support or potentially stand up new "challenge"-style innovation or funding mechanisms in the water sector. Feedback will be solicited on the draft recommendations from attendees, and that feedback will be incorporated into the set of final recommendations ultimately submitted to the HLPW.