

Cuba Celebrates Water Day with a Look at Recycling

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Havana, Cuba, Mar 22 (acn) Cuba celebrated World Water Day on Wednesday in Havana conscious that it is still facing challenges related with recycling water, issue selected by the UN on occasion of the date.

In the context of the Cubagua 2017 International Convention, a ceremony was held for World Water Day with the presence of the Commander of the Revolution Ramiro Valdes in addition to representatives from UN agencies in the country.

During the activity, Ines Maria Chapman, President of the National Water Resources Institute (INRH) recognized that although the country has advanced in making water drinkable for the population there is still a long way to go regarding recycling the precious liquid.

She added that 20 works were concluded recently for the residual treatment of water in tourism and industry but the infrastructure is still insufficient to generalize this process in other sectors.

The specialist highlighted the promotion of recycling water was included in the National Water Policy, approved by the Council of Ministers in December of 2012 and includes four priorities.

During the speech, Chapman extended his condolences and solidarity with the people of Peru for the recent flooding that has inflicted the loss of lives and countless resources in the South American nation.

Myrta Kaulard, resident coordinator for the UN in Cuba, read a message calling out the attention that over 80 percent of the residual water generated in the homes, cities, industries and agriculture return to its natural state without treatment.

She added that residual water should not be considered superfluous, but rather a valuable and useful resource that can benefit people and the ecosystem.

The UN recalls that the 6.3 goal of the Sustainable Development Objectives demand better quality of water, reducing the amount of liquid to its natural state without purification and increasing recycled the water by the year 2030.

Laura Melo, representative of the World Food Program in Havana also talked about the need to achieve an integrated use of the management of liquid residuals at a moment in which Cuba is suffering a prolonged drought.

The official also referred to the work developed by the agency to reduce the impact of the drought in food security and nutrition in the eastern part of the country, which is the most affected by the lack of water.