

Personal Stories of Change

Carlos Rosito: A perspective from industry

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Carlos Rosito joined the Brazilian National Working Group, or “Private Sector Participation Group”, during its inception, at the invitation of Antonio Miranda Neto, founding member of The Water Dialogues International Working Group. Carlos has worked in the Water and Sanitation sector for 40 years and is a member of various associations, including the Brazilian Association of Equipment for Water Manufacturers (ASFAMAS) and the Inter-American Association of Sanitary and Environmental Engineering, AIDIS (and its Brazilian National Chapter – ABES). Carlos was elected president of AIDIS in November 2006 and his two-year term in office began in October 2008. AIDIS seeks to catalyse the move towards water and sanitation for all by 2025 in Latin America and the Caribbean. Many of the associations in which Carlos is a Director are integral members of the Brazilian NWG, hence Carlos’ involvement was secured early on. But his presence, in part, was also to bring together the Scoping Study consultants and stakeholders in Bolivia and Chile, which it was agreed, AIDIS would help to facilitate.

For 20 years, the private sector participation debate has plagued the Brazilian water sector, which has attracted passionate members just like Carlos to the Dialogues. Carlos attests that the collaboration and trust now established between Dialogues members are “a part of a very important movement in the Brazilian Water Sector,” which has greater credibility because of the close involvement of the Brazilian Government (who funded the Brazilian Private Sector Participation Group with a World Bank loan of around \$1.8 billion).

From Carlos’s perspective, some of the Brazilian Dialogue’s major achievements are the more complete picture that the research has lent to information about water services operated by the private sector; a knowledge about the “changes and improvements needed in the process of contracting water and sanitation services,” both privately and publicly; and the importance of management as spelled out in contracts.