

World Water Week in Stockholm Celebrates Twenty Years

For 20 years, Stockholm has been the meeting place for experts, practitioners, and leaders from around the globe to exchange ideas, foster new thinking and link best practices, scientific understanding, and decision-making. This September, the leading minds in the water sector will connect with their peers and find solutions to the Water Quality Challenge, we welcome you to join them in Stockholm.

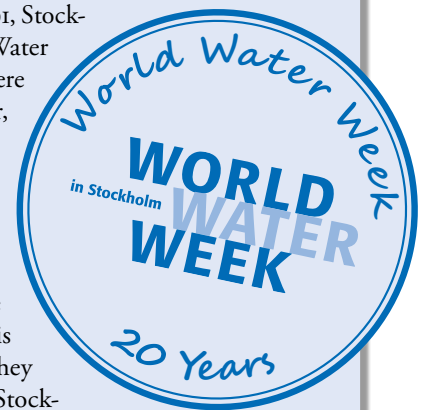
The 2010 World Water Week in Stockholm is not just another conference. For over two decades, it has been the annual platform for participants to build upon solutions to improve the quality, use and management of water on a rapidly changing planet.

The expansive programme of the World Water Week recognises that the challenges faced by the world when it comes to water are considerable, complex, and connected. Nations must find the means to develop their economies, conserve water resources, feed growing populations, protect ecosystems, mitigate and adapt to climate change and provide access to clean water and sanitation to all people. With over 100 workshops, seminars and side events, covering topics ranging from food production, health, climate adaptation and transboundary cooperation to ecosystem management, corporate water footprints, urban water supply and sanitation and pollution abatement, Stockholm offers great opportunities for in-depth discussions

History of the World Water Week

It all started with a spectacular and daring idea. In 1991, Stockholm, the city on water, decided to hold a grand Water Festival. The inhabitants of Stockholm and tourists were invited to enjoy their beautiful city built on water, stroll along the quays, bridges and streets, listen to musicians and singers, and have some good food and a glass of wine along the water front. But the festival was about much more than fireworks and partying along the water lines of Stockholm. The organisers and board members of the festival worked to ensure that forming solutions to a growing global water crisis was at the heart of the week's activities. That is why they enthusiastically supported the establishment of the Stockholm Water Prize and the Stockholm Water Symposium (which later became the World Water Week in Stockholm) from the onset. The Royal Swedish Academy of Science and the Stockholm Water Company was approached to take the lead as organisers and it is out of this initiative that the Stockholm International Water Institute (SIWI) was established. Swedish and international companies and organisations became Founders of the Stockholm Water Prize, and His Majesty the King of Sweden accepted to be the Patron of the Prize. The City of Stockholm and the Government of Sweden stepped in as a strong supporter of the Stockholm Water Symposium.

In 1991, the first Stockholm Water Symposium gathered around 250 participants and some hundred attended the first Stockholm Water Prize Award Ceremony. In 2009 the World Water Week in Stockholm has grown into the leading annual meeting for experts, decision-makers and practitioners on water, environment and development issues with more than 2,400 participants from 135 countries and nearly 200 collaborating organisations. Following the success of the Stockholm Water Prize, prize activities at World Water Week have grown within SIWI to include the Stockholm Junior Water Prize, the Stockholm Industry Water Award, the Swedish Baltic Sea Water Award and the WASH Media Awards.



and targeted networking with a wide audience of representatives from governments, the private sector, NGOs, academia, UN bodies and water professionals. Convening organisations include among others the Asian Development Bank (ADB), Inter-American Development Bank (IDB), African Ministerial Conference on Water (AMCOW), Global Water Partnership (GWP), WaterAid, The United States Agency for International Development (USAID), the International Water Association (IWA), WWF, German Technical Cooperation (GTZ), United Nations Environment Program (UNEP), the United Nations Human Settlements Programme (UN-HABITAT), World Bank, the World Health Organization (WHO), European Union Water Initiative (EUWI), IRC Water and Sanitation Centre (IRC), United Nations Children's Fund (UNICEF), and UN-Water.

The 2010 World Water Week will, as always, also include a variety of social events and prize award ceremonies, including the special 20th anniversary presentation of the 2010 Stockholm Water Prize to Dr. Rita

Colwell, University of Maryland and Johns Hopkins University's Bloomberg School of Public Health in the United States.

Global changes, regional solutions

Different regions face unique conditions but common concerns. This year, numerous events throughout the week will be planned by a host of collaborating partners, who will take a closer look at the specific challenges faced in Africa, Latin America, Asia and the Baltic Sea. The 2010 World Water Week will provide the arena to share lessons learned from around the world on approaches, mechanisms and financial options that can be applied in different regional contexts.

The Water Quality Challenge – Prevention, Wise Use and Abatement

In line with the 2010 World Water Day, the theme of this year's World Water Week will take a closer look at the Water Quality Challenge. Water scarcity and demand for clean water are on the rise while water supplies face mounting pollution. The Opening Day Plenary, the High Level Panel featuring distin-

2010 Supporters and Sponsors

The World Water Week in Stockholm would like to thank: Swedish International Development Cooperation Agency, Swedish Ministry for Foreign Affairs, the City of Stockholm, German Federal Ministry for Economic Cooperation and Development, Nestlé, Black and Veatch, Fundación Femsa, Ramböll, ITT, Siemens, SIGG, Sweco, and Water Environment Federation.

guished experts and policy makers in the field will set the stage for the numerous sessions throughout the week that will take on the epic challenge to stimulate economic development, produce more food and energy for growing populations and improve the health of aquatic and terrestrial ecosystems.

Register today!

Discounted registration is now open. Full week, one day and student registration are all available. Find the full list of events and updated programmes at www.worldwaterweek.org, September in Stockholm, book the date and we look forward to seeing you here!



Photos: Thomas Henrikson and Mikael Ullén/SIWI

Build your networks with a wide audience of representatives from governments, private sector, NGOs, academia, UN bodies and water professionals.