

First Announcement

Responding to Global Changes: The Water Quality Challenge – Prevention, Wise Use and Abatement

- Call for Workshop Abstracts
- Call for Seminar and Side Event Proposals



WORLD
in Stockholm,
September 5–11, 2010
WATER
WEEK

www.worldwaterweek.org



Photo: Rosanna Riccuti, SIWI

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Water Quality in Focus as We Gather in Stockholm for the 20th Time

Since the beginning, World Water Week has built on the success and participation of the previous years. With your help it has become more engaging and thought-provoking each time. I would like to invite you to take part in the 2010 World Water Week in Stockholm on September 5–11 when we will mark the 20th anniversary of this important event that started in 1991 as the Stockholm Water Symposium.

We can also very proudly welcome you Stockholm, which has earned the distinction of the 2010 European Green Capital. It is a well-deserved honour for a city whose bold urban vision has kept it on the cutting edge of sustainable design.

For a full week in Stockholm, experts, researchers, government representatives, UN officials, representatives from international organisations, NGOs and stakeholders discuss challenges, debate issues, and make real progress on solutions to the world's most urgent water problems. Collaboration, new thinking, and innovation are the watchwords for the Week.

This first announcement will give you a preliminary overview of the 2010 World Water Week in Stockholm. Our theme is *Responding to Global Changes: The Water Quality Challenge – Prevention, Wise Use and Abatement*. During the Week we will look at virtually every facet of this challenge with a mandate to explore problems but also solution; practical ideas, policies, and strategies for keeping the world's precious water resources clean, secure and accessible.

Our complete agenda for the World Water Week in Stockholm this year is far-ranging and diverse, encompassing critical

topics such as climate, sanitation, food security, water resources management, governance and agriculture, as well as topics focused on the central theme of water quality. Furthermore, 2010 will have special significance and prominence as it also marks the 20th anniversary of the Stockholm Water Prize.

In this announcement, you can learn how to take an active role in the programme. It includes instructions for submitting a workshop abstract and for convening a side event or seminar during the Week. We urge you to consider how you and your organisation can be an important part of this global event.

More detailed information about the programme, plenary sessions, special events, prize ceremonies, and field visits will be available in April 2010 when we will publish the Second Announcement and on our website www.worldwaterweek.org.

So please join us for the 20th anniversary of the World Water Week in Stockholm. Our shared mission and our work matter more than ever for the environment, for our economies, for individual and international security and, indeed, the very future of our planet.

Anders Berntell
Executive Director
Stockholm International Water Institute

20th Anniversary – How it all Began

Next year, in 2010, the Stockholm Water Prize and the World Water Week in Stockholm will celebrate its 20th anniversary. Over two decades, Stockholm has become the annual meeting place for the international water world.

The Swedish capital has a water history that gives it the proper foundation to be home for the World Water Week and the Stockholm International Water Institute. Thanks to high standards of wastewater treatment, people can fish and swim in the very centre of Stockholm. Go back a few decades, however, and these waters were unhealthy and unfit for swimming. Massive investments in water treatment resulted in improvements that were obvious to everyone. In 2010, the City of Stockholm has received the Award for the Green Capital of Europe for its work in creating a sustainable city, a well-deserved honour with a water component.

A daring idea with a purpose

The idea to establish a Stockholm Water Prize and host a Stockholm Water Symposium (that later became the World Water Week in Stockholm) around global water issues came originally from within the City of Stockholm. The Stockholm Water Festival was at that time organised in parallel to the Symposium, and the latter became the more serious part of the celebration of Stockholm's Water. The Royal Academy of Sciences and the Stockholm Water Company were 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 strong supporters of the World Water Week in Stockholm.

20 years after

Over the years, excited, inspired and motivated people have been driving forces behind the development and success of the Water Prize and the World Water Week. From its onset, the

Week sought to create a platform to share experiences around water-related challenges around the world and form solutions to a growing global water crisis. For two decades, the World Water Week has grown into the leading annual, future-oriented meeting on cross-sectoral, inter-disciplinary water, environment and development issues and the Stockholm Water Prize has evolved into the field's most prestigious international honour. In 1991, the first Stockholm Water Symposium gathered around 250 participants and some hundred attended the first

Stockholm Water Prize Award Ceremony. In 2009 more than 2,400 participants from 135 countries representing governments, local authorities, business, stakeholder groups and NGOs gathered in Stockholm and the Stockholm Water Prize was for the 19th time awarded to an inspirational individual who has made enormous contributions in the field of water.

Beyond leading and organising the World Water Week and the Stockholm Water Prize, SIWI's policy and research acumen has grown and expanded. SIWI is today engaged in capacity building, advisory services, applied research, communications and advocacy with a mission to contribute to a world that utilises and manages its water wisely. Following the success

of the Stockholm Water Prize, prize activities now include the Stockholm Junior Water Prize, the Stockholm Industry Water Award and the Swedish Baltic Sea Water Award.

Looking back and ahead

An upcoming jubilee makes you both look back and ahead and that is exactly the plan for 2010 – to celebrate the 20th anniversary by remembering the past and what has been achieved over the years and making plans and decisions for a future towards a more water wise world. In the Second Announcement to come in April, we will showcase some of the accomplishments of the World Water Week in Stockholm and the look back at some of the distinguished Laureates of the Stockholm Water Prize.





World Water Week in Stockholm

Host

World Water Week is hosted and organised by the Stockholm International Water Institute and takes place each year in Stockholm. The Week has been the annual focal point for the planet's water issues since 1991, and will celebrate its twentieth year in 2010.

The aim: Build capacity, promote partnership, review implementation

World Water Week provides a unique forum for the exchange of views and experiences between the scientific, business, policy and civic communities. It focuses on new thinking and positive action toward water-related challenges and their impact on the world's environment, health, economic and poverty reduction agendas. It does so by:

- Exploring the interconnected problems of water, society, the environment and economic vitality, building capacity and charting action toward practical solutions.
- Fostering proactive partnerships and alliances between individuals and organisations from different fields of expertise.
- Highlighting ground-breaking research, best practices and innovative policy work by stakeholders and experts around the world and from multiple disciplines.
- Reviewing the implementation of actions, commitments and decisions in international processes and by different stakeholders in response to the challenges.

By harnessing and linking best practices, scientific understanding and policy and decision-making, World Water Week in Stockholm moves beyond rhetoric to provide real answers to the world's water, environment and development problems. The perspective is global, but the context is attuned to differ-

ences and similarities between regions of the world, phases of development, political systems and climatic conditions.

World Water Week niche and theme

Each year the World Water Week addresses a particular theme to enable a deeper examination of a specific water-related topic. While not all events during the week relate to the overall theme, the workshops driven by the Scientific Programme Committee and many seminars and side events do focus on various aspects of the theme. The theme changes each year, but each fits within a broader "niche" that covers several years. The grouping of themes within a niche is designed to develop a long-term perspective on a broad yet significant water and development issue. It also ensures that each year builds upon the previous years' outcomes and findings.

The current niche for 2009–2012 is "**Responding to Global Changes**", which looks at the potential and necessary responses in water policy, management and development to address pervasive and increasingly impacting global changes. The themes within the current niche are:

- 2009: Accessing Water for the Common Good
- 2010: The Water Quality Challenge
- 2011: Acting on the Urban Challenge (to be specified)
- 2012: Water and Global Food Security (to be specified)

The Thematic Scope for 2010 on the water quality challenge is explained on pages 8–9. The workshops that cover different aspects of the theme are described on pages 10–13. While the theme is addressed in many events during the year, issues that are not directly related to the theme are also taken up in seminars and side events as described on the next page, resulting in a diverse programme covering many water-related issues and fields.

Structure of the Week

The 2010 World Water Week takes place over seven days from Sunday 5 September to Saturday 11 September. The figure below shows how the programme is structured. For more information on the events of the week, please visit www.worldwaterweek.org.

Plenary sessions

The Opening Plenary Session on Monday features the official opening of the World Water Week. A number of distinguished guests, including the 2010 Stockholm Water Prize Laureate, will deliver keynote presentations. The High Level Panel takes place on Monday afternoon and will focus on the overall theme of the week. The Closing Plenary Session on Friday includes keynote presentations, award ceremonies and a session that reports back on the major findings of the week.

Workshops

Workshops are convened by SIWI and the topics are defined by the Scientific Programme Committee (SPC). The aim is to focus on a theme-related topic and allow for an indepth discussion between the presenters and the audience. The full-day workshop programme is developed by the SPC in collaboration with co-convening organisations and is based on an open abstract submittal process. Accepted abstract authors either hold a presentation during the workshop or present a poster during the workshop poster sessions.

Seminars and side events

Seminars provide opportunities for organisations to arrange a three-hour session. Side events are one-hour sessions at lunch and evening. Seminar and side event convenors develop the

content, format and programme on a topic of their choosing. Topics can fit within the overall theme of the week, address other issues, for example emerging challenges, or follow up on ongoing processes. Examples of topics that have been addressed include the following:

- Climate change and energy
- Sanitation and health
- Freshwater ecosystems
- Water supply and services
- Disaster and conflict
- EU Water Initiative
- Groundwater
- Gender and water
- UN-Water and World Water Day
- Private sector and water footprint
- Water resource management
- Transboundary waters
- Agriculture
- Financing

Prize ceremonies and awards

World Water Week features several prestigious world-renowned award ceremonies:

- Stockholm Water Prize
- Stockholm Junior Water Prize
- Stockholm Industry Water Award
- Swedish Baltic Sea Water Award
- WASH Media Awards

For more information about the prizes, see page 18.



Opportunities to Get Involved in World Water Week

As an open platform, World Water Week provides a variety of options for individuals and organisations to be involved. These range from participating as a workshop presenter, an organiser of a seminar or side event, or as a participant.

Workshop presentation or poster

This First Announcement is a call for abstracts in order to present either a poster or a oral presentation at a workshop. Any person(s) is able to submit an abstract in line with the guidelines on pages 14-15. The abstract must pertain to the Thematic Scope described on pages 8-9 and must relate to a specific workshop topic (pages 10-13) and submitted by the deadline of 15 February 2010.

Seminar or side event convenor

This Announcement is also a call for proposals for seminars and side events that will contribute to the diverse, leading-edge and innovative nature of the World Water Week. Organisations can submit a proposal for a seminar or side event using the guidelines on page 16-17. The deadline for proposals is 15 February 2010.

Participant

Registration for the World Water Week will open for all participants in April 2010. Early bird registration with a discounted fee will end 30 June 2010.

Online resource for all World Water Week information

The World Water Week website www.worldwaterweek.org provides more information on the structure, practical arrangements, media and latest news of the Week. It also contains a comprehensive event finder tool that enables visitors to explore the programme and search for events of interest by theme, region, day, event type or keyword. The event finder for previous World Water Weeks also contain comprehensive outcomes, presentations and summaries of all events and presents the overarching conclusions of the week.

Capturing the outcomes of the World Water Week

One of the most important aspects of the World Water Week is to ensure that concrete outcomes are generated to advance progress on water and development issues. The World Water Week is a forum that brings people together in order to take issues forward and create positive change. To facilitate this SIWI works together with the co-convening organisations and participants to capture the major outcomes of the week through a number of means:

- Abstract volume containing workshop paper and poster printed and distributed to participants



Visit www.worldwaterweek.org to find the latest news, information and resources.



The event finder provides information on the programme sessions and allows users to search by theme, region and issue.

- Reporting back on major themes at the closing plenary session by rapporteur teams
- Overarching conclusions from the Week will be included in a variety of printed and online materials.
- Presentations and outcomes from all workshops, plenaries, seminars, and side events on the programme event finder at www.worldwaterweek.org
- Special journal issues for particular sessions in partnership with publishers
- Annual publication of peer-reviewed articles selected by the Scientific Programme Committee that represent a selection of outstanding presentations from plenary, workshop and seminar sessions.



Photo: Rebecca Löfgren, SIWI

Thematic Scope: The Water Quality Challenge – Prevention, Wise Use and Abatement

The thematic scope frames the key issues and discussion points related to the 2010 theme “The Water Quality Challenge – Prevention, Wise Use and Abatement”. The intention is to deepen the understanding of, stimulate ideas on, and engage the water community around the challenges related to water quality.

The challenge

Driven by demographic change and economic growth, water is increasingly withdrawn, used, reused, treated, and disposed of. Urbanisation, agriculture, industry and climate change exert mounting pressure on both the quantity and quality of our water resources. Our water resources – green and blue – face a daunting future and the costs of inaction are very high. We are confronted by a combination of escalating water scarcity, increasing demand for clean water, and worsening water quality, which severely restricts water-related human activities, affects human health, and impacts the health of aquatic and terrestrial ecosystems.

Virtually every corner of the world is exposed to the water pollution challenge. Although improvements have been made in some regions, water pollution is on the rise globally. Every day, an estimated two million tonnes of human waste are disposed of in watercourses. Seventy percent of industrial wastes in developing countries are dumped untreated into waters where they pollute the usable water supply. The complexity of the challenge is revealed by the many different forms that pollution can take, the range of pollution sources, and the varying scales – local, regional or global – at which pollution can develop. Lack of monitoring and enforcement also makes it difficult for countries and regions to understand and deal with this challenge. As with most challenges, however, opportunities exist that can reverse the water degradation trend, contribute to economic growth and improve human and environmental health.

The current situation and future solutions

Many human activities that produce a good also generate pollutants, indeed every human may be seen as a source of pollutants. These pollutants often find their way into sinks such as reservoirs, wetlands and aquifers. Within the context of global changes, the 2010 World Water Week will strive to highlight the more sobering aspects of the challenge: the pollution-causing activities, the prevalent and emerging pollutants, and the scale and trends of the impacts on human and environmental health. This will help to clarify the current status and convey the urgency, magnitude and pervasiveness of the water quality problem.

Examining how some countries and regions have responded to water quality degradation in the past may shed light on how to circumvent historical trends as we move forward. Learning from the association between development and water quality degradation in the past can help to prevent patterns from re-occurring as countries develop. By learning from what has worked and not worked, we can avoid a business-as-usual approach that would delay even further the recovery of ecosystems and lead potentially to irreversible shifts.

The 2010 World Water Week is an opportunity to gather and demonstrate the experiences, technologies and resources that people are mobilising in order to deal with water quality management problems. The Week will analyse promising examples, case studies and leading-edge technologies that are in use around the world. This will draw attention to effective response measures related to pollution prevention, wise resource use and sound abatement practices and allow for an analysis of the alternatives to improve the current and future water quality problems. Ideas, examples and initiatives are sought that will stimulate the discussion.

Significance of a flow perspective

Water is a solvent and transport mechanism continuously moving through the landscape. Human modifications of water systems and changes in land use have significant effects on surface and groundwater quality, which in turn has negative effects on human and ecosystem health. There is often a disconnect for people that pollute and the effects of that pollution on people and ecosystems downstream or in other parts of shared lakes and aquifers. The flow perspective can shed light on the creeping and often invisible nature of water pollution. Accumulation of pollutants over time in the natural sinks in the landscape can have considerable long term impacts on human and ecosystem health. Groundwater systems are especially vulnerable to pollution, as they are often difficult and costly to remediate. Some pollutants can occur in high concentrations even though the water can appear clean and safe.

Intensified resource use in all sectors is generally associated with increased loads of nutrients, sediments, chemicals, pathogens and metals. Tracing the pathways of these pollutants, from rain to drain, can help to shed light on many issues, including how pollution can contribute to the undermining of ecosystem resilience. Weakened resilience diminishes the capacity of ecosystems to cope, leading to tipping points and regime shifts. Sometimes these shifts are irreversible and the goods and services that humans derived from the ecosystems are lost.

Point and non-point sources of pollution

For analytical reasons and effective policy-making, it is useful to distinguish between point and non-point sources of pollution. Point sources include pipelines, channels and drains from identifiable locations such as an industrial plant or landfill. Non-point or diffuse sources of pollution arise from extensive land areas and are mobilised by precipitation and thus closely related to the hydrological cycle. Agricultural and urban runoff and air borne particulates are examples of diffuse sources, and their entry points to receiving waters are often difficult to identify. Diffuse pollution sources are significant due to their far reaching geographical and temporal effects and the difficulty to contain them once they are in the water systems. For non-point pollution in particular, prevention is the most effective measure. Harmful production, consumption and disposal practices need to be monitored, controlled, and where possible prohibited, to prevent hazardous substances from reaching water bodies and impacting human and ecosystem health.

Integrated approaches and the human dimension

The identification of the source and level of pollution is the first step in assessing the risk that pollution poses. Pollutants have a sender and a receiver and these must also be identified as part of any approach. With this knowledge, abatement strategies can be put in place that utilise technologies. Implementation of an

integrated pollution prevention and control strategy should take into account the interfaces between air, land and water. It also must address economic policies and transboundary implications that can enable or hinder effective pollution abatement. An integrated approach to water quality management can help to identify situations where a pollutant in one area can be used as a valuable resource in another. A case in point is phosphorus, which is often the cause of eutrophication, yet is also a scarce resource for which there is no substitute in food production. By reusing and recycling wastewater, gains in water use efficiency can be realised. An exploration of the connection between water quantity and quality can lead to situations where demand is met, scarcity is eased and water quality is improved.

Finally, the institutional arrangements as well as individual responses to pollution must be adequately analysed. There are various ways to prevent and mitigate pollution. The “Polluter Pays Principle” asks the sender to pay for the pollution mitigation, thereby transferring the costs to those that are responsible, and in turn stimulating new innovative solutions. Another method is “Name and Shame”, where those that are found to be polluting water systems are publically singled out, with the aim to deter future recurrences. What other strategies exist to prevent and mitigate pollution? What institutional obstacles exist that may inhibit the implementation of pollution policies? Is there a role for media and the general public in facilitating decisions at all levels of government and society?

Scientific Programme Committee (SPC)

- *Prof. Jan Lundqvist*, Stockholm International Water Institute (Chair)
- *Dr. Husamuddin Ahmadzai*, Swedish Environmental Protection Agency
- *Prof. Lotta Andersson*, Swedish Meteorological and Hydrological Institute
- *Prof. Paul P. Appasamy*, Karunya University, India
- *Dr. Akiça Bahri*, International Water Management Institute
- *Dr. Thomas Chiramba*, UNEP (co-opted member)
- *Prof. Mohamed Dahab*, Water Environment Federation and Nebraska University, USA
- *Prof. Malin Falkenmark*, Stockholm International Water Institute
- *Dr. Line Gordon*, Stockholm Resilience Centre
- *Mr. Jack Moss*, World Business Council for Sustainable Development and AquaFed
- *Prof. Peter Rogers*, Harvard University, USA
- *Prof. Hubert Savenije*, Delft University of Technology, The Netherlands
- *Prof. Thor Axel Stenström*, Swedish Institute for Infectious Disease Control and World Health Organization
- *Prof. Xiaoliu Yang*, Peking University, China
- *Mr. Martin Walshe*, Global Water Partnership
- *Mr. Anders Berntell*, Stockholm International Water Institute
- *Ms. Katarina Andrzejewska*, Stockholm International Water Institute (Secretary)
- *Mr. Michael Moore*, Stockholm International Water Institute (co-opted member)

World Water Week Workshops

The following section describes the eight Workshops that will be convened during the 2010 World Water Week in Stockholm. The Workshop topics are determined by the Scientific Programme Committee. Workshops provide individuals with the opportunity to submit abstracts for presentation in peer-reviewed workshop and poster sessions. Guidelines for submitting abstracts for these eight workshops can be found on pages 14-15.

Workshop 1

Integrated Pollution Prevention and Control

Since the industrial revolution, many societies have perceived rivers as convenient conduits for transporting waste. This practice has affected aquatic biodiversity, impacted human activities and health, and polluted coastal and marine waters. However, it is important to recognise that watercourses are not the only media through which pollutants are transported. Airborne pollutants are also a significant source of water quality degradation. Many problems arise from particulate matter, high tropospheric ozone concentrations, acidification and long range transport of hazardous substances. Significant progress has been made in treating sewage and industrial wastes in developed countries, which has resulted in measurable improvement in water quality. Yet activities in primary sectors (agriculture, forestry, extracting activities, transport) and also other diffuse sources of pollution, continue to cause widespread problems that need remedy. Concurrently, increasing population, urbanisation and expanding economies are putting greater demand on good quality water resources. The challenge looks different in different contexts. For this reason it is necessary to address the challenge in an integrated manner based on a recognition of the myriad of sources and pathways for water quality degradation.

The workshop will focus on an integrated pollution prevention and control approach that facilitates protection of the entire environment. Considering the complexity and variation in the composition of the challenge, case studies are important to illustrate how an integrated approach has been formulated and implemented at various geographical scales. It is relevant to scrutinise the role of subsidies and institutional arrangements that may improve or harm introduction of cost-effective technologies and practices. Methodologies that take into account the numerous media through which pollutants are transported and the associated trade-offs between air, land and water will be discussed.

Workshop 2

Shortcutting Historical Pollution Trends

With a business-as-usual approach, the association between human development and water quality is assumed to follow four stages: 1) pollution loads are proportional to population size; 2) pollution load increases faster than the population as a result of industrialisation, intensification of agriculture and associated increases in the use of inputs in production; 3) society develops infrastructure for wastewater treatment and reduces or prohibits the use of toxic substances; 4) water pollution abatement strategies are put in place together with more efficient production technologies leading to improved water quality. However, by continuing this course in developing countries, water quality degradation will delay development, impact on the quality of life for people, and often irreversibly damage ecosystems. Consequently, it is crucial to develop and implement policies and human resources that shortcut this historical trend. This workshop poses the challenging question: is development without water quality degradation possible? To bypass the trends between development and pollution, a prerequisite could be to identify the obstacles for implementation of strategies on the local and regional levels. These obstacles then need to be communicated to decision-makers so that they are addressed within development plans and strategies.

Good examples of proactive planning that integrates aspects of socio-economic development and climate change with strategies to limit pollution are welcome. An emphasis on initiatives that enable action by local stakeholders in developing countries is relevant. An aim is to examine how to deal with a diversity of realities and how to adjust national and international policy-making to facilitate local actions for dealing with water quality challenges. Attention will be given to decision-support systems, for example visualisation techniques, to support dialogue and awareness building on possibilities to integrate pollution abatement with socio-economic development. Examples are also sought that highlight the potential of environmental extension services that are integrated with socio-economic and cultural perspectives.

Workshop 3

Water Quality for Human Health

The effects of poor water quality on human health needs little argument. Ill-health from unsafe drinking-water affects all nations. Management of human health determinants must be integrated in a system-driven context. Key components of IWRM go hand-in-hand with more human-oriented Water Safety Plans and proposed Sanitation Safety Plans. Risk and vulnerability assessments should include issues of human exposure to pathogenic microbes and hazardous chemicals. Such exposure varies depending on how water is handled at the household level as well as at the community, regional and basin level. Downstream populations are exposed to water pollution from upstream activities. The increasing use of wastewater and heavily polluted surface water for agricultural production exposes humans to multiple microbial threats through the food chain.

Apart from the direct human suffering related to ill-health, it also has a high socio-economic cost as sick people have a reduced ability to participate in societal activities.

This workshop will look at water quality issues from a systems perspective in the context of IWRM strategies, with a view to protecting and promoting health. Abstracts are welcome that will highlight approaches and solutions on how to effectively deal with the health threats emanating from wastewater and polluted water sources. Examples on how Water Safety Plans can be integrated into water management policies to reduce human exposure to microbial and chemical threats are important to illustrate the administrative, practical and socio-economic aspects in different contexts.



Photo: Getty Images

Workshop 4

Improved Water Use Efficiency through Recycling and Reuse

With increased urbanisation and growing threats to water security from climate change, there is a need for a shift in thinking towards improving the efficiency of water use by managing water, wastewater, surface water runoff, pollution control and water reuse in an integrated way. Compared to desalination, water reuse is a cost-effective and energy saving option to increase water supplies, mitigate the impact of climate variability and climate change and protect the environment. By far the most common use of wastewater is for irrigation, although institutional and perceptible barriers to such use remain. Sewage, household grey water and wastewater contain potential sources of fertiliser and energy. Treated effluent can replenish watercourses or be reused directly for many purposes. Substances such as phosphorus are harmful in one situation, but a valuable resource in another. Improving water use efficiency through recycling and reuse needs

to be seen as an essential component of national strategies for integrated water resource management and climate change as well as a means to deliver economic benefits and environmental opportunity whilst securing water for population growth and economic development.

With water scarcity increasing in some regions and with an emerging focus on improving water efficiency, this workshop will address the institutional, economic, technical and policy aspects of recycling and reuse. What are the barriers to reuse? To what extent can wastewater reuse be incorporated into sustainable development, climate change adaptation and integrated water resources management strategies? What will it take to make this a reality? Are there adequate quality standards and affordable technologies for recycling and reuse – and can they be enforced?



Photo: Getty Images

Workshop 5 Management of Groundwater Abstraction and Pollution

Groundwater is of major importance for potable water supply and also provides for much of the water used in agricultural irrigation and industrial production. Worldwide, however, groundwater resources are experiencing over-abstraction and an increasing threat of pollution coming from urbanisation, industrial development, agricultural activities and mining enterprises. In some intensively developed aquifers, over-abstraction and the lowering of the water-table has led to the loss of the ‘ecological function’ of groundwater needed to sustain certain types of aquatic, terrestrial and coastal ecosystems. And for others, ecosystems are threatened by deterioration in groundwater quality due to diffuse pollution. Furthermore, groundwater resources in many areas throughout the world have also been subjected to severe contamination by hazardous and anthropogenic chemicals. In addition, the natural occurrence of elevated concentrations of certain trace elements, which have longer-term health implications for water consumers, have been found in some groundwater supplies, rendering the source unusable for potable supply. Greater awareness and efforts are needed to balance the exploitation of groundwater with the increasing demands of water and land users who can pose a threat to its availability and quality.

This workshop will address the protection of the groundwater resource. Groundwater is under increasing threat from inadequately-regulated pumping and pollution that arises from inadequately-controlled effluent and waste disposal and land use. The following issues will be discussed: To what extent does institutional responsibility for control of groundwater abstraction and protection against pollution need to be strengthened? Can groundwater protection strategies be developed to accommodate trade-offs between competing interests? Can land use, effluent discharge and waste disposal practices be constrained? What efforts are needed to make groundwater use and environmental conservation more compatible?

Workshop 6 Minimising Land Use Based Water Pollution

This workshop will focus on how to minimise and stop water pollution from land use. Pollutants that need to be addressed include: 1) sediment-borne contaminants from erosion and siltation, 2) chemical fertilisers and pesticides, and 3) salts from human-induced soil and water salinisation. These pollutants are generated by activities which lead to multiple harmful impacts, including: the loss of protective vegetation cover, eutrophication of surface water bodies, altered water partitioning (which influences the salt balances in the soil), groundwater contamination, and transboundary processes that affect upstream–downstream linkages. Projections indicate a considerable risk that past failures to address these problems will allow them to grow even more severe as pressure mounts from population growth, increasing food needs, growing water shortages, climate change, and increasing rainfall variability. Failures include inappropriate practical and technical approaches, institutional settings, policies and incentive mechanisms, and severe response delays, both within society and the physical hydrological environment.

Focus will be directed to the WHAT, WHY and HOW. What specific land use problems do we face related to water pollution in terms of silt, nutrients, pesticides and salts? Why do pollutants persist, emerge or worsen? And, most importantly, how do we solve the problem and improve the situation. The workshop will NOT discuss the impacts themselves. Interest will be concentrated on more specific integrated watershed management efforts to minimise erosion, sedimentation, nutrient and pesticides leakages from agriculture, and human-induced land salinisation. Particular attention will be paid to how to overcome societal response barriers through means of raising awareness and understanding, improving policy-making and exploring options for financing, such as payments for environmental services.

Workshop 7

Resilience, Uncertainty and Tipping Points

Global environmental change is contributing to shifts in droughts and floods patterns. Increasing environmental pressures, such as pollution, diminish the capacity of lakes, rivers and coastal zones to cope. There is increasing evidence that many aquatic systems can pass thresholds where sudden and surprisingly large changes in their functions takes place. Examples include the rapid development of hypoxic areas in coastal zones and lakes that switch from clear water to turbid water, referred to as regime shifts. When these changes occur, many of the benefits that society derives from these systems, such as fisheries and places for recreation, can be lost. It is often difficult, costly, and sometimes impossible to reverse these situations once a certain threshold is crossed. Although we know these types of regime shifts happen and have important consequences, we still have limited knowledge on: 1) how ubiquitous they are, 2) where particularly vulnerable regions exist, and 3) how we can build resilience to avoid undesirable

tipping points. Current research, policy-making and management therefore face new challenges. This includes issues such as: how to improve our predictive capacity to understand when thresholds are approached and how to adapt accordingly; how to deal with the large uncertainty involved; and how to improve management and governance to build resilience in order to avoid regime shifts.

The workshop will focus on how to assess and manage resilience of social-ecological systems related to water quality challenges. It will examine the existence of regime shifts and tipping points in aquatic systems, how these regime shifts can be predicted and/or anticipated, and which strategies need to be adopted when faced with the risk of regime shifts. Particular focus will be on tools that can be useful to deal with uncertainty, such as adaptive management and scenario planning, to improve land and water management interventions.



Photo: Image 100 Ltd.

Workshop 8

Origins, Pathways and Accumulation of Pollutants – An Urban Perspective

Concentration of people and human activities in urban areas create complex challenges in terms of managing water quality, in cities as well as in downstream areas. Close proximity to sensitive and highly valued water bodies makes it important to better understand the origins, transmission and accumulation of pollutants. Naturally, effective strategies must be designed for different socio-economic and hydro-climatic contexts. Pollutants are generated from a wide range of sources, including industry and energy sectors, traffic, buildings and other infrastructure, i.e. the “technosphere”. In addition, the use and disposal of consumer goods adds to the pollution load. Circulation is to large extent related to hydrological circumstances. Stormwater runoff is an important pathway for transmission of pollutants. Many pollutants can be dealt with through wastewater treatment, but a combination of unpredictable hydrological events and difficulties

in capturing many substances makes it unrealistic to rely only on abatement strategies. Effective pollution reduction strategies must also address the origins of pollutants. To compliment government efforts, an active involvement by the private sector is essential in the design and use of materials in products and processes. Just as important is the recognition of the role the general public plays in causing and addressing water quality challenges.

This workshop will focus on the identification of sources of urban water pollution and what combination of prevention and abatement strategies can be effective. Abstracts that contribute to a better understanding of the origins, pathways and accumulation of polluting substances and mitigation are welcome. Innovative technologies and public awareness campaigns to reduce the use of harmful substances in urban settings are of great interest.



Photo: Mikael Lillén/SIW

Workshop Paper and Poster Abstract Submission – Guidelines and Information

Invitation

Proposals for workshop paper and poster presentations for the World Water Week are welcome from experts and actors in different disciplines. **The deadline for abstract submittal is February 15, 2010.** Abstracts are welcome on the specific workshop themes listed below and described on pages 10-13.

Workshop Themes:

- Integrated Pollution Prevention and Control
- Shortcutting Historical Pollution Trends
- Water Quality for Human Health
- Improved Water Use Efficiency through Recycling and Reuse
- Management of Groundwater Abstraction and Pollution
- Minimising Land Use Based Pollution
- Resilience, Uncertainty and Tipping Points
- Origins, Pathways and Accumulation of Pollutants – An Urban Perspective

Character of the workshop and poster sessions

Workshops are integral components of the World Water Week's capacity-building agenda. Depending upon the composition and issues brought up in the abstracts, the format of the workshops may differ. Some are organised in the traditional lecture format, while others may consist of mini-panels, or a combination of both. In either case, a critical component of the workshops is the discussion between presenters and their audience.

The posters will be displayed during specially arranged poster sessions where the author(s) will be given an opportunity to highlight the key points of their poster, respond to queries and

otherwise interact with fellow participants. In addition, a jury from the Scientific Programme Committee will select a "Best Poster". The winner will be presented during the closing session on Friday and receive a diploma as well as complimentary registration plus travel and accommodation for one person at the following year's World Water Week.

Authors of papers and posters are expected to participate during the entire workshop.

Abstract format

Prospective authors are encouraged to submit an abstract in English for review by the World Water Week's Scientific Programme Committee. Abstracts which do not adhere to the following requirements will not be considered. The abstract should include the following parts:

1. Personal information about the author
2. Co-author(s)
3. Abstract type – for paper or poster presentation
4. Workshop to which the abstract is submitted
5. Abstract title
6. Five keywords
7. Abstract:
 - introduction/problem identification
 - analysis/results and implications for policy and/or research
8. Advance knowledge of/innovation within the subject
9. Practical applications of the contents of the proposed paper
10. Replicability of the procedures or practices described in the proposed paper

The abstract should be text only (no graphics), focusing on results and contain up to 6,000 characters, including blank spaces.

In addition, it should include a biography of the author containing up to 1,000 characters, including blank spaces.

Submit abstracts at www.worldwaterweek.org

Abstracts can only be submitted via the online form found at www.worldwaterweek.org. Submit your abstract early to avoid heavy traffic at the deadline, which may cause errors that prevent successful submission and review of your abstract.

There is no limit to the number of abstracts that may be submitted by one individual, but the Scientific Programme Committee policy imposes a limit of one accepted first author contribution at the World Water Week. Please do not submit your abstract more than once. You will be informed in late April 2010 whether your abstract has been accepted.

Selection criteria

In general, abstracts for papers and posters in workshops will be evaluated and accepted on the basis of their relevance as well as their scientific quality. In particular, the Scientific Programme Committee will grade the abstracts against the following criteria:

- how the abstract advances knowledge of/innovation within the subject
- the scientific quality and originality of the subject treatment
- the practical applications of the paper's content
- the capacity of the procedures or practices described to be replicated.

Please note: abstracts not clearly addressed to a specific workshop will not be considered.

Abstract volume and reporting

All paper and poster abstracts selected by the Scientific Programme Committee will be included in an Abstract Volume to be available on-site in Stockholm and published online at www.worldwaterweek.org. In addition, workshop programmes will be published in the Second Announcement and Programme. Summaries of each workshop will also be published on the World Water Week website.

The Event Finder tool on the website will contain all information relevant to each workshop, including the description, programme, summaries and other background resources and links. The Event Finder will be updated continuously throughout the year for the workshops.

Financial support for workshop presenters

Unless otherwise specified, acceptance of a paper or poster in no way implies that the World Water Week assumes any responsibility for registration fee, travel or accommodation. SIWI in collaboration with the Swedish International Development Cooperation Agency (Sida) and other donors offer a very limited amount of financial support to assist some workshop presenters from developing countries and countries in economic transition. It is, therefore, strongly recommended that participants seek financial support from other sources. Equal consideration is given by the World Water Week organisers to participants giving a workshop presentation as a paper or as a poster.

For more information on workshops, abstract submission and financial support, please contact Ms. Katarina Andrzejewska at katarina.andrzejewska@siwi.org.



Photo: Mikael Ullén/SIWI



Photo: Mikael Ullén/SIWI

Seminar and Side Event Proposals – Guidelines and Information

Invitation

Proposals are welcome from organisations who wish to host a seminar or side event at the 2010 World Water Week. The deadline for proposals is February 15 2010. By hosting an event, organisations can engage a wide range of stakeholders present at the conference in discussions and debate around specific issues. Organisations develop their own programmes, invite speakers and decide on the event format. SIWI encourages convenors to collaborate with other organisations as co-convenors, thereby facilitating partnerships and allowing for a diversity of perspectives.

What is a seminar?

An open seminar at the World Water Week is typically a 3 hour session. Seminars take place on Sunday, Monday afternoon, Tuesday, Wednesday and Thursday during the week (see page 6 to see how seminars fit into the open programme). The content, format and programme of the seminar are developed by the convening organisation(s). Seminars run in parallel with workshops, seminars and other events.

What is a side event?

An open side event at the World Water Week can be either a lunchtime event (12:15-13:15) or an evening event (17:45-18:45). Side Events take place every day during the week (see page 6 to see how side events fit into the open programme). Like seminars, the content, format and programme of the side event

are developed by the convening organisation(s). Side events are commonly used by convenors to launch projects or publications, debate and discuss particular water-related issues and present tools, initiatives or project results. All ideas are welcome. Side events run in parallel with side events, workshop poster sessions and other events.

Event formats

Organisers are able to arrange their seminar or side event using various formats. These can include:

- Standard presentations followed by discussion.
- Open space sessions to maximise interaction between participants.
- Roundtable group discussions.
- Classroom style workshops.
- Other formats determined by the organiser.

Seminars and side events will be published in the Second Announcement and Programme for the World Water Week, as well as within the Event Finder tool at www.worldwaterweek.org. Each event in the programme will have its own page on the website, enabling convenors to market the event leading up to the conference and to upload flyers, discussion papers and the outcomes from the event. Following the conference, results and recommendations from the event will be included in a variety of printed and online materials.

Application process

The process for applying for a seminar or side event is as follows:

1. Contact Mr. Michael Moore at michael.moore@siwi.org to obtain an event application form and conditions for convening an event.
2. Complete the application form and submit by the deadline of February 15 2010.
3. Proposals received will be analysed by SIWI when developing the programme (see below for rationale).
4. Where appropriate, SIWI may suggest a merger between events that deal with similar topics or issues. Convenors of proposed mergers will be contacted by SIWI to discuss the suggestion.
5. Convenors will be notified by April 2010 of the decision regarding their proposal.
6. The open programme for the week will be set by SIWI prior to the publishing of the Second Announcement in April 2010.

Rationale behind the World Water Week programme

SIWI will determine the programme for the week based on a review of the application forms submitted by all prospective convenors. Considerations include the following:

- Whether the proposal fits within the thematic scope of the World Water Week. One option for convenors is to frame their event under the overall theme of “The Water Quality

Challenge – Prevention, Wise Use and Abatement”. The thematic scope in this First Announcement (pages 8-9) provides more information for convenors to consider when developing their proposal.

- Extent to which events focus on a relevant topic of debate and generate new and innovative ideas. Outputs from the events should aim to improve the understanding and management of water and sustainable development issues around the world.
- Extent to which events facilitate multistakeholder dialogue and encourage open discussion involving stakeholders with potentially conflicting views.
- Diversity of interests and organisational types in the programme, including research institutes, government agencies, non-government organisations, donors, academic institutions, stakeholder groups, business, consultants and others.
- Contribution to the diversity of the overall open programme for the week in terms of topics, geographic regions, convenors, formats, target audiences and other aspects.

Event fees and conditions

Please note that there are fees and conditions applicable to hosting a seminar and side event. For more information on fees and conditions, please contact Mr. Michael Moore at michael.moore@siwi.org.



Photo: Thomas Henrikson/SIWI

Prizes and Awards



Photo: Exray

Stockholm Water Prize

The Stockholm Water Prize is the world's most prestigious prize for outstanding achievement in water-related activities and will celebrate its 20th anniversary in 2010. The prize is awarded annually to honour individuals, institutions or organisations whose work contributes broadly to the conservation and protection of water resources and to improved health of the planet's inhabitants and ecosystems. The Stockholm Water Prize, which was first presented in 1991, is valued at USD 150,000. H.M. King Carl XVI Gustaf of Sweden is the Patron of the Stockholm Water Prize.



Photo: Exray

Stockholm Junior Water Prize

The Stockholm Junior Water Prize competition brings together bright young students to encourage their continued interest in water and the environment. The competition is open to students between the age of 15 and 20 who have conducted a water-related project. Since 1995, when the prize was first awarded, it has grown into an international competition with 29 nations represented in 2009. The prize, worth USD 5,000, is presented during the World Water Week in Stockholm. H.R.H. Crown Princess Victoria of Sweden is the Patron of the Stockholm Junior Water Prize.



Photo: Exray

Stockholm Industry Water Award

The Stockholm Industry Water Award honours and encourages business sector contributions to sustainable development in the water sector. Established in 2000 by the Stockholm Water Foundation in collaboration with the Royal Swedish Academy of Engineering Sciences and the World Business Council for Sustainable Development, the honorary award is presented to recognise innovative corporate development by enterprises that help improve the world water situation. Nominations for this award may be made until February 15, 2010.



Photo: Mikael Ullén/SWI

The Swedish Baltic Sea Water Award

Established in 1999, the Swedish Baltic Sea Water Award recognises direct and practical efforts to improve water quality in the Baltic Sea. This regional award recognises the dedicated work done by individuals, corporations, non-governmental organisations and municipalities to help protect and restore the Baltic Sea's water environment. Worth SEK 150,000, the award is presented annually by Sweden's Ministry for Foreign Affairs during the World Water Week in Stockholm.



Photo: Mikael Ullén/SWI

The WASH Media Awards

The WASH Media Awards initiative recognises and supports the crucial role of the media in raising awareness of the importance of water, sanitation and hygiene services. It aims to help improve access to these services by having a positive influence on politicians, business persons, civil society representatives and individual citizens. First launched in 2002 by Water Supply and Sanitation Collaborative Council (WSSCC), the biannual award is presented in collaboration with Stockholm International Water Institute (SIWI) at the World Water Week.

General Information

Dates to Remember

February 15, 2010

- Deadline for workshop abstract submission
- Deadline for seminar and side event proposals

April/May 2010

- Abstract acceptance letters sent
- Programme of workshops, seminars and side events set
- Registration opens

June 30, 2010

- Discounted registration period ends

September 5-11, 2010

- The World Water Week takes place at the Stockholm International Fairs

Venue

The 2010 World Water Week in Stockholm will be held in the Stockholm International Fairs. More information about the conference venue is available at: www.stockholmsmassan.se.

Language

The official language of The World Water Week is English. All presentations must, therefore, be made in English. There is no simultaneous translation.

More information

Visit www.worldwaterweek.org for the latest information or contact the World Water Week Secretariat:

- *Ms. Cecilia Martinsen*, Director
Email: cecilia.martinsen@siwi.org
- *Ms. Katarina Andrzejewska*, Project Manager
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- *Mr. Michael Moore*, Project Manager
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Photo: EdelPix

First Announcement

World Water Week in Stockholm

Building Capacity – Promoting Partnership – Reviewing Implementation

The World Water Week in Stockholm, organised by the Stockholm International Water Institute, is the leading annual global meeting place for capacity-building, partnership-building and follow-up on the implementation of international processes and programmes in water and development. It includes topical plenary sessions and panel debates, scientific workshops, independently organised seminars and side events, exhibitions and festive prize ceremonies honouring excellence in the water field. Stockholm is the meeting place for experts from businesses, governments, the water management and science sectors, inter-governmental organisations, non-governmental organisations, research and training institutions and United Nations agencies.



www.worldwaterweek.org • www.siiwi.org



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