

2016 WORLD WATER WEEK

Water for sustainable growth

Call for abstracts and event proposals

Key collaborating partners



Organized by



It is time to fulfil our promises

Photo: Thomas Henrikson



It is just weeks since the leaders of the world put their signatures to the 17 Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs). The time has come to implement what the world has promised. We at SIWI intend to work hard to contribute to the fulfilment of Goal 6, about sustainable water management and sanitation. We will also strive to help reach other goals that are dependent on water. To list a few examples, how will we be able to end hunger, ensure good health, build sustainable cities and fight climate change, if we do not have reliable access to the most fundamental resource of all? Water, and good water management, is central to development, to sustainable growth, and to the overarching goal of lifting people from poverty.

From our water horizon, we also intend to shed more light on the areas of migration and urbanization, both closely

linked to the need for long-term, sustainable water planning and management.

In 2016, we will meet in Stockholm between 28 August and 2 September. Tracking water's progress in our new development framework is crucial for real change. Therefore, SIWI will provide World Water Week as an annual opportunity for stock-taking of water in the implementation of the water-related SDGs and the Paris climate agreement. By that time, we will have a set of indicators to track progress of the SDGs, and although it will be too early to collect meaningful statistics, it is important to discuss and calibrate the implementation. One of the days of the conference will be specifically dedicated to following up on water's role in the implementation.

In these pages, we present the thematic scope as well as the eight core seminars (previously workshops) of the 2016 World Water Week, and we provide you with the information needed to submit abstracts and event proposals for the Week. Don't delay. The submission system has been opened, and we are waiting for your ideas!

Torgny Holmgren
Executive Director
Stockholm International Water Institute

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2016 World Water Week

SIWI – Stockholm International Water Institute – organizes the 2016 World Water Week in Stockholm under the theme “Water for sustainable growth”.

World Water Week provides a unique forum for the exchange of views, experiences and practices between the scientific, business, policy and civic communities. It focuses on new thinking and positive action toward water-related challenges by:

- linking scientific understanding with policy and decision-making to develop concrete solutions
- fostering proactive partnerships and alliances between individuals and organizations 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
- awarding outstanding achievements

As an open platform, World Water Week provides many opportunities for individuals and organizations to get involved.

Present in a seminar | Any person is welcome to submit an abstract to be considered for the seminars’ programme. The abstract must relate to the Thematic scope (see page 4) and must complement a specific seminar topic (see seminar guidelines on page 9).

Participate | By attending World Water Week you will be able to build knowledge and discuss the latest developments in your field of expertise and have the opportunity to meet leading experts and decision-makers.

Organize an event | Organizations and companies can submit a proposal to have an event in the official programme (see guidelines on page 8). Events contribute to the diverse, leading-edge and innovative nature of World Water Week. A selection of 2015 events can be watched here:

www.worldwaterweek.org/events-2015

Host a SIWI Sofa | A cross between a speakers’ corner and an interview studio, journalists conduct interviews and facilitate discussions between experts on a variety of water-related issues. Read more and watch all the videos and podcasts from the 2015 SIWI Sofa,

www.worldwaterweek.org/siwi-sofa

Exhibit | The non-commercial exhibition’s purpose is to share experiences and educate the participants on water-related issues. For more information, please visit worldwaterweek.org/participate-support/#exhibit

Become a sponsor | World Water Week in Stockholm enables sponsors to highlight their engagement in a variety of ways. Every sponsor gains an array of options for visibility in publications, at events, and through publicity or promotion. For more information, please visit worldwaterweek.org/support



Photo: Mikael Ullén

Thematic scope

Water for sustainable growth

Water, jobs and sustainable growth | 2016 is a critical year for addressing the role of water in the post-2015 development agenda. That agenda has been developed in 2015 through two pivotal events: (1) the adoption of the Sustainable Development Goals (SDG) by the UN General Assembly, charting the world's development course through 2030, and (2) a new global climate agreement adopted by COP 21 in Paris with important implications for water related mitigation and adaptation to climate change. 2015 was also the year of world summits on disaster risk reduction and finance for development. These events have profound importance for water development, stewardship and management. Informed by the World Water Development Report 2016, the UN will focus on “water and jobs” at World Water Day in March 2016 as one of the key future water issues: making a contribution to better the lives of millions of people by maintaining and creating meaningful jobs related to water and wastewater development, service provision, protection and management.

World Water Week in Stockholm in 2016 will echo and follow up on the UN “water and jobs” theme, but in the broader context of sustainable growth, and thus directly and indirectly contribute to the SDG 8 to “promote sustained, inclusive and sustainable growth, full and productive employment and decent work for all”. Hence, the theme will address sustainable growth for all by focusing on inclusiveness in terms of the societal and human dimensions in all regions of the world. While the primary focus will be the “water for sustainable growth” theme, the Week will also follow up more generally on the implementation of the water related SDGs and the new climate agreement. Firmly placed at the intersection between policy, research and practice, the World Water Week is also a natural place for exploring new ideas and perspectives in the area of water and sustainable growth between a diverse set of actors.

The water and growth challenge | Millions of water-related jobs ensure that water is made available every day for domestic use, and for removing our wastes, as well as for sustaining our production of food, energy, industrial products and other societal goods and functions. At the same time the daily livelihoods of millions of people depend on well-functioning and well-managed ecosystems. Growth as a result of population increase, rapid urbanization and economic development, along with changing consumption and water use patterns for an increasingly demanding population, is therefore putting considerable pressure on the availability and quality of our water resources. Water of adequate quality is not abundant everywhere, and at any time, and our water resources therefore set limits to growth

unless we manage them wisely. Sustainable growth depends on water security attained through sustainable water resources management.

Water can be both a blessing and a curse: at any location there can be too much or too little of it at different times. Hence water can be a serious threat to sustainable growth due to hydrologic variability, especially floods and droughts, both natural and exacerbated due to human development activity and climate change.

In addition to its direct production and service provision functions water may have indirect positive and negative effects on growth, such as migration of population from lands suffering from environmental degradation and water shortages, loss of jobs in sectors that due to inadequate water allocations relocate or reduce production, or a shift of jobs from rural to urban areas. Poor health can affect productivity and cause loss of jobs and livelihoods; many health issues are water related, both directly through water-borne diseases and indirectly due to food insecurity in the form of malnutrition and obesity.

The economic perspective | As recently demonstrated by the “Global Dialogue on Water Security and Sustainable Growth”, coordinated by OECD and GWP, significant evidence connects water security to economic development, hence reinforcing the link between water and sustainable growth. This in turn calls for investments in water security, in water infrastructure, in risk management, as well as in knowledge, people and partnerships. Financing of such investments is a major challenge for many countries; new financing models, innovative financial instruments and incentives for financing jobs and growth are needed.

The concept of ‘water as a financial risk’, primarily by the private sector with potential business values at risk, needs to be turned around, and countries need to shape their growth trajectories towards sustainable allocation of water for growth through new forms of policies, regulation and management. Many approaches and instruments can be mobilized to do so, such as special focus on ‘green jobs’, including making current water-related jobs relevant for the future, and a stronger focus on technology and innovation as drivers for job creation. At the same time system thinking would call for increased focus on a circular economy linked to efficiency in the use and reuse of water, waste and wastewater.

In a globalized and rapidly changing world increased attention should be given to growing markets and economies in all regions of the world, not least in the developing countries.

From a water perspective this would link water and trade, including the growth potential in ‘virtual water’ management in the production and trade of food, energy and industrial products.

The social perspective | As formulated in SDG 8 water shall promote “sustained, inclusive and sustainable growth”. This needs to occur in a way in which the benefits of growth are shared in an equitable and reasonable manner, thus contributing to poverty reduction and narrowing the gap between rich and poor everywhere. Water needs to become a driver for economic growth and social well-being at the same time, and decent work must be considered as an important contributor to human dignity.

The vital social role of water is most clearly and directly recognized by securing access to safe water, sanitation and hygiene (WASH). Clean water for personal and domestic uses was already recognized by the UN in 2002 as a fundamental human right, and the first two targets of the SDG 6 on water call for universal and equitable access to drinking water and sanitation by 2030. Securing access to WASH services for a growing, urbanizing and increasingly demanding population will maintain and create millions of jobs. At the same time focus on WASH will result in reduction in the loss of productive time due to collection of water and firewood, and losses due to water-related health impacts, mainly impacting women and children.

The ecosystem perspective |

Sustainable growth implies, importantly, that economic growth and human development is de-coupled from negative environmental impact, including ecosystem degradation, and vice-versa that the impacts and threats of ecosystem degradation on economic activities are minimized. Our societies must keep sustaining and improving ecosystem-based productive functions, services and livelihoods, and address these from a holistic perspective from ‘source to sea’. This includes enhancing the growth potential by improved water quality standards and management, and by ensuring sustainable infrastructure development, with special focus on green infrastructure. A particular, but often overlooked perspective is that of our groundwater resources as strategic but vulnerable resources for growth on which the livelihoods and jobs for many people depend, particularly for domestic use and food and energy production.

In economic development planning and ecosystem management for improved livelihoods, the ‘rebound effects’, and the ultimate threat to planetary boundaries, need to be considered. In addition, for many ecosystems, both terrestrial

and aquatic, climate change may increasingly present a threat through the water system at local, national and regional levels, and we need to recognize ecosystems as a critically important basis for building resilience through adaptive management.

Governing water for sustainable growth | Good water governance at all levels, from local through national to regional, is a precondition for water security and sustainable economic and social development, and hence also to maintain and create jobs and growth. This includes proper planning in space and time, along with improved management and water allocation for protection, production and service provision. It must do so in a transparent, non-corrupt and inclusive manner. Good water governance must include all sectors and stakeholder groups, and recognize the vital role of new public-private-civic partnerships underpinning innovation and technology development for job creation and growth.

Among the six specific targets of SDG 6 on water one is to “By 2030, implement integrated water resources management at all levels, including through trans-boundary cooperation as appropriate”. This, along with better policy alignment and implementation between various water related sectors and SDGs, particularly food and energy, pose new challenges – and opportunities – to good water governance.

In many countries education, knowledge transfer and capacity-building pose important challenges in planning and decision-making at the various levels. This may constrain countries from successfully executing their growth trajectories and for some, international cooperation and assistance may be required. This includes instruments to ensure gender-sensitive job and leadership opportunities and career paths for all societal groups. Incentives for growth and job opportunities need to include the entire value chain from natural resources to the consumer.

Good governance is about managing change for sustainable and inclusive growth, both demographic and physical, including climate change. Change also comes in the form of conflicts, disasters and crises, be they humanitarian, financial, health crises (e.g. ebola) or other, that may effectively put a break on development and lead to increased poverty and unsustainable management. Wise change management is increasingly called for to address such challenges.





SIWI's vision is a water wise world, where we recognize the value of water, and ensure that it is shared and allocated sustainably, equitably and efficiently, to meet everyone's basic needs.

Through applied research, policy consultation, capacity-building and connecting key actors across sectors, SIWI stimulates the development of innovative policies and scientifically-based solutions to water-related challenges.



Key Collaborating Partners



The global community increasingly understands how water defines growth and sustainable development. It also experiences how water risks affect people's health and well-being, the environment and economies.

The OECD contributes robust information, good practices, and a forum for exchanging country experiences. OECD work focuses on water economics and governance and covers both developed and developing countries.



The Water Research Commission (WRC) is the premier water knowledge hub located in South Africa and has growing regional and continental foot print. It promotes co-ordination, co-operation and communication in the area of water research and development; establishes water research needs and priorities; stimulates and funds water research according to priorities; promotes effective knowledge uptake, technological transfer and demonstrations as well as local and regional capacity building in water research.

World Water Week committees

Scientific Programme Committee

The Scientific Programme Committee (SPC) is comprised of a number of professors, scientists, and experts from the water and development-related fields. The work of the SPC involves

- Dr Torkil Jønych Clausen, DHI (Chair)
- Renee Andersson, sustainability consultant
- Dr Robert Bos, IWA
- Dr Guillermo Donoso Harris, Pontificia Universidad Católica de Chile
- Dr Phil Graham, SMHI
- Dr Dipak Gyawali, Nepal Academy of Science and Technology
- Dr Anders Jägerskog, Sida
- Angela Kallhauge, IRENA
- Eiman Karar, WRC
- Dr Louise Karlberg, SEI

development of the thematic scope for World Water Week, determining seminar topics, selecting abstracts to be presented and developing seminar programmes. Members are:

- Dr Marianne Kjellen, SIWI
- Dr Xavier Leffaive, OECD (Co-opted member)
- Dr Stanley Liphadzi, WRC (Co-opted member)
- Dr Jakob Lundberg, We Effect
- Dr Diego Rodruiguez, World Bank Group
- Will Sarni, Deloitte
- Danka Thalmeinerova, GWP
- Prof Kalanithy Vairavamoorthy, IWMI
- Torgny Holmgren, SIWI (Vice Chair)
- Karin Lexén, SIWI
- Adrian Puigarnau, SIWI (Secretary)

Call for 2016 Young Scientific Programme Committee

SIWI is seeking eight committed young professionals interested in providing support to the Scientific Programme Committee.

SIWI's commitment | As one of the leading actors in the water sector, SIWI is interested in developing the future leaders of the water community. SIWI has organized the prestigious Stockholm Junior Water Prize competition since 1997, and since 2008 the Young Professionals Seminar has been a steady feature during World Water Week.

The initiative of a Young Scientific Programme Committee, which started in 2012, provides professionals at the start of their careers with an exciting opportunity to collaborate with top level scientists and water professionals in developing the programme of one of the world's most renowned water conferences, gaining increased visibility within the water community in the process.

Meanwhile, the involvement of young professionals will provide the Scientific Programme Committee with youthful input and perspectives.

SIWI will provide each of the members of the Young Scientific Programme Committee with a full week complimentary registration to World Water Week.

The tasks | The eight members of the Young Scientific Programme Committee will work together with the Scientific Programme Committee to develop the programme of the seminars.

The tasks are as follows:

- Between January and March, to screen and review the abstracts received for each of the seminars.
- Between April and August, to provide support in the planning of the seminars programme.
- During the World Water Week, to support the seminar rapporteur teams and will join the Best Poster Award jury.

Those interested in being part of the Young Scientific Programme Committee should send their self-nomination (resume, recommendation letter and motivation letter indicating the seminar to work with) by 6 December, 2015 to adrian.puigarnau@siwi.org. For more information, please visit www.worldwaterweek.org/young-professionals-2016

2016 World Water Week will feature a Young Professional's Day for the fourth time. It will include activities that aim to inspire young professionals, provide them with a platform to network, and present their ideas and projects. The activities will cover topics such as technological innovations and social media, promotion of youth in development and a study visit. The Young Professionals' activities will be organized in collaboration with Arup.

ARUP



Photo: Thomas Henrikson

Event guidelines

Proposals are welcome from organizations or companies who wish to host an event at World Water Week. By hosting an event, you engage a wide range of stakeholders in discussions and debate around a specific issue of your choice.

SIWI encourages collaboration between organizations in order to build partnerships and bring a diversity of perspectives to World Water Week.

Events at World Water Week are 90-minute sessions where the topic, content, format and speakers are set and developed by you and your partners. In order to ensure a diverse and dynamic programme for World Water Week, in terms of topics, geographic regions, convenors and formats, SIWI may propose a merger between similar or complementary event proposals.

Selection criteria | SIWI welcomes all water-related event proposals and will design the programme based on a thorough review. The following criteria will be guiding the selection:

- Multi-disciplinary discussion: the integration of different areas of expertise aiming at avoiding trade-offs and promoting participation from non-water actors.
- Stakeholder diversity: the promotion of diverse interests and organizational types encouraging constructive debate between stakeholders.
- Development focus: the integration of aspects of poverty reduction, sustainable development, gender equality, integrity and human rights.
- Outputs and impact: the concreteness of key messages for improving the science, policy and practice.

- New thinking, findings or approaches: the focus on current debates and the generation of new ideas and solutions, including learning from failure.
- Programme format: the innovativeness and quality of presentations and the interaction and engagement of the intended audience.

Organizations and companies are encouraged to consider an equal gender balance when selecting speakers, panelists and moderators and to integrate the youth perspective. Suggestions with a clear objective on reaching a gender balance will be prioritized among otherwise equally regarded suggestions.

Thematic focuses of events | SIWI welcomes all water and development-related event proposals, but the focus of the 2016 World Water Week will be on *Water for sustainable growth*. SIWI is especially interested in proposals that expand on topics raised in the thematic scope (see page 4) such as the role of water in implementation and monitoring of the SDGs, and the Paris agreement, water and security, innovative financing, water in an urbanizing world, carbon-neutral agriculture and water and the maintenance of healthy and rich environments. Event proposals that follow up on previous year's themes on water linked to energy, food, cooperation and development are also of interest. In addition, particular attention will be given to following up on the 2030 agenda and the 2015 Paris Climate agreement.

For full selection criteria, fees and conditions for hosting an event, please visit worldwaterweek.org/participate-support/#host-an-event

If you have any questions, please contact Ingrid Stangberg at ingrid.stangberg@siwi.org

Submissions should be made before January 24.

Seminar guidelines

Eight seminars (previously workshops) take place during the Week and their content is connected to the thematic scope (see page 4).

The basis of the seminars are the abstracts which have been submitted through an open process. All fields of research are welcome to submit a seminar abstract. The abstracts received are reviewed by the Scientific Programme Committee, who selects those which would make the seminar versatile and dynamic in regards to content, innovation and regional and sectoral diversity. The seminar programme is complimented by keynote speakers.

Seminar abstract submission | World Water Week welcomes abstracts from experts of all disciplines who wish to present their work and research at World Water Week.

All abstracts selected by the Scientific Programme Committee will be included in the Abstract Volume and published online. Abstracts must be submitted through our online submission system to be considered.

Author participation | At least one author of each selected abstract must register and attend the conference. Authors must meet their own expenses associated with attending World Water Week (registration fee, travel, accommodation, etc.).

Abstract format | Prospective authors are invited to submit an abstract in English for review by the Scientific Programme Committee. The abstract should be text only, include no graphics and be submitted in the following format:

- abstract title (up to 10 words)
- five keywords
- highlights of your work (up to 50 words)
- introduction and objectives – a short background of the topic (up to 100 words)

- methodology approach – description and discussion of the approach of the study (up to 100 words)
- analysis and results – clear and understandable statements on which we can assess the value added of the proposed paper (up to 200 words)
- conclusions and recommendations (up to 100 words)

The author must identify the seminar in which the abstract will be presented. *Abstracts which do not adhere to these requirements will not be considered.*

Selection criteria | The abstracts will be evaluated and accepted on the basis of their relevance as well as their scientific quality. The Scientific Programme Committee will grade the abstracts against the following criteria:

- the extent to which it advances knowledge of and/or innovation within the subject
- the scientific quality and originality of the subject treatment
- the practical applications of the content
- the capacity for procedures or practices described to be replicated

Interactive poster exhibition | An abstract can be submitted for oral presentation or poster presentation in one of the seminars. The authors of the selected poster abstracts will develop a poster and display it in the interactive electronic poster exhibition, where conference visitors will be able to view and learn more about the projects behind the posters. The posters will be presented by the authors in close connection to the seminar programme.

For more information on seminars, abstract submissions and financial support, please contact Maarja Undrits Cederlöf at maarja.cederlof@siwi.org

Submissions should be made before January 24.



Photo: Mikael Ullén

Water as a driver for sustainable growth

Co-convenors: Global Water Partnership, Organisation for Economic Co-operation and Development and the World Bank

Water management is not only a goal in itself: it is a requirement to achieve a range of policy objectives. As explicitly acknowledged in the SDGs, sustainable growth strongly depends on water, and poor water management can hinder growth. At the same time, economic growth can add pressure on water resources, through risks of pollution or excessive consumption; economic growth also increases the value of assets at risks of flooding. It follows that water-related investments are essential to sustainable development and growth. While economic growth can enhance water-related risks, it also provides critical resources to mitigate them, including finance for capital-intensive investments in water-related infrastructure.

A better understanding of the role of water in sustaining economic growth is essential to meet the SDGs. It can make water and economic development policies mutually supportive, with multiple benefits in terms of equity, the environment, and public finance, now and in the future.

This seminar aims to explore questions such as: are growth opportunities foregone because of poor water management? Which policies and incentives can manage water so that it drives sustainable growth? How can monitoring the SDGs best capture the link between water management and sustainable growth?

Water security in a changing world: coping with threats

Co-convenors: Alliance for Global Water Adaptation, International Crisis Group (tbc), the Rockefeller Foundation, and UNESCO-IHP

International and regional crises and conflicts, and changes in the environment and climate, are threats to water security and sustainable growth. Massive political and economic consequences accrue from regional tensions in transboundary basins, in part resulting from human pressure on finite water resources. Further threats come from severe health-related challenges, such as the recent Ebola crisis. Conflicts at the national level often relate to water resources (among others) and climate variability, which is especially troublesome in situations of weak governance.

The effects of climate change risk increasing the problems. The outcome of the UNFCCC COP 21 will therefore be important for future management of these threats.

Resilience to climate change goes beyond mere adaptation measures and into the core of societies. What mechanisms can promote growth under situations characterized by conflict and change? How do transboundary and domestic challenges differ? What type of water management is required to promote economic development?

The seminar will address challenges to achieving sustainable growth under situations of crisis and change, with particular focus on water. This includes growth in conflict zones, climate change adaptation, knock-on effects of crisis situations beyond the country/region and achieving resilient water management in conflict and crisis areas.



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Water and job opportunities: a critical nexus for growth

Co-convenors: The International Water Association and International Labour Organization

Water and job creation are linked bi-directionally: millions of farmers' livelihoods depend on access to irrigation water; the WASH sub-sector generates a considerable volume of varied jobs; the number of functions required for ecosystem management increases as the circular economy accelerates. Conversely, safe drinking water, sanitation and wastewater management, and nutrition-sensitive agriculture, are crucial determinants for a healthy, productive workforce. A lack of fundamental data, targeted policy frameworks and effective institutional infrastructure hampers the development of a human resource (HR) base essential to optimize water management and reduce the impact of poor water/sanitation services on workers' health.

HR action plans based on sector needs assessments can address these issues. The development of skills, knowledge

and experience must envisage: setting-specific appropriate technologies; focus on equitable, green solutions; aligning technical and vocational education/training better with current and future labour needs. Solving labour market imbalances must consider career structures, de-stigmatizing certain jobs and gender-sensitive equal opportunities.

This seminar will ask: How can employment policies be harmonized across sectors and levels of administration? What are the entry points to strengthening the labour market and green infrastructure? How can career opportunities, incentives and management strengthen water-related HR frameworks? How can workers' health, as affected by water/sanitation, be improved in an evidence-based manner?

Ecosystem degradation and livelihoods: moving from vicious to virtuous cycles

Co-convenors: Water Research Commission, Swedish Agency for Marine and Water Management, WeEffect and The International Centre for Integrated Mountain Development

Ecosystem degradation has been the corollary of narrow focus on economic growth, which has threatened the livelihoods of the poor and marginalized communities dependent on them. Efforts have been made to challenge the notion that growth and conservation are antagonistic and to present alternatives. They range from environment protection legislations to new concepts such as sustainable intensification, footprints, voluntary frugality and nexus thinking. Human well-being is ultimately dependent even for industrialized societies on the services provided by nature, including some as essential as water provisioning and quality. It is more acute for traditional communities often in the informal sector wholly dependent on their ecosystem, who find

themselves increasingly marginalized as they bear the brunt of degradation without recourse to remedies. The conundrum of sustainable development with prosperity for all as envisaged by the new SDGs cannot be addressed without revisiting water and ecosystem management from mountain ridge to sea reef.

This seminar will discuss the conundrum of economic growth and water's role in healthy ecosystems for dignified livelihood of the poorest in order to achieve the new SDG targets. Challenges from various vulnerable ecosystems will illustrate how water underpins the livelihoods of the marginalized and provides opportunities for 'green' solutions.

Water for sustainable and inclusive cities – how to induce change?

Co-convenors: Global Water Operators' Partnerships Alliance at UN-Habitat, the World Bank, Global Water Partnership and Water Environment Federation

Cities under rapid urbanization face a range of pressures including unplanned growth and unmet demand for basic services, as well as increased water consumption, waste generation and water discharge. Such scenarios also offer opportunities for innovative solutions encompassing the productive reuse of water, nutrients, organic matter and energy, and where good urban planning can promote cascading water uses between domestic, industrial and agricultural sectors. Such a paradigm shift requires technological but also institutional innovation: infrastructure planning needs integration across the urban space, within catchments, and upstream and downstream communities.

Sustainable urban water management can address key element of SDG6, but also links to a broader vision of inclusive, safe,

resilient and sustainable cities (SDG11). Political processes with participation and stakeholder engagement can ensure that opportunities provided by growth are translated into universal and equitable service provision and water security for all.

This seminar will explore the imagination, creativity and leadership, required to repurpose urban water systems in new and integrated ways. It will consider social vulnerabilities and environmental inequalities along with new technologies and regulatory arrangements that promote productive resource reuse, viable businesses, jobs and income creation for sustainable growth.

Water to fuel business growth

Co-convenors: World Wildlife Fund, World Business Council for Sustainable Development, Deloitte and DHI Group

Water scarcity is driven by increased competition for water as a finite resource and the impacts of climate change. Companies operating in water scarce areas are faced with multiple constraints and intensifying risks that impact their business continuity and growth strategies. This has driven many companies to focus on water efficiency and reuse in production and building water stewardship strategies to ensure business growth and address economic, environmental and social value to the communities in which they operate. Shared value initiatives and other mechanisms are emerging as firms work to align their strategic growth agenda with this reality and the agendas of other stakeholders that have a vested interest in access to water.

Leaders in water stewardship have built strategies focused on: supporting SDGs; water technology innovation including treatment technologies, information/communication technologies and the internet of things; aligned action initiatives; entrepreneurship; and innovative public – private partnerships (P3).

The objective of the seminar is to illustrate the importance of water in business by providing practical case studies of how companies have successfully leveraged their water strategies to fuel business growth.



Photo: iStock



Photo: iStock

Financing water infrastructure for sustainable growth

Co-convenors: Organisation for Economic Co-operation and Development, World Water Council and Ministry of Infrastructure and Environment, the Netherlands

Risks of too much, too little, too polluted water, deteriorated water ecosystems and lack of access to water supply and sanitation hinder growth and sustainable development. Sustaining growth therefore requires substantial investments in water security, water infrastructure, risk management and knowledge, people and partnerships. Financing such investments is a major challenge for both developed and developing countries, as reiterated at the Third International Conference on Financing for Development held in Addis Ababa in 2015. A new look is required at financing water-related infrastructures, to minimize investment needs, e.g. through better water management, operation of existing assets, or use of green or multipurpose infrastructure; making the best use of existing

sources of finance by proper project design, planning and sequencing; and harnessing new sources of finance such as carbon finance, long-term investors, or philanthropies. The focus will be on innovation, and on investment in institutions and human capital (the enabling environment).

The seminar aims to address such issues as: How to minimize financing needs in water management? How to channel additional sources of finance to cover capital and operating expenditures? Which innovative financing models and investment vehicles can bridge the gap between financial risk and returns from investment in water security?

Good water governance for inclusive growth and poverty reduction

Co-convenors: Water Research Commission, UNDP Water Governance Facility at SIWI, The International Water Management Institute, and Organisation for Economic Co-operation and Development

Good governance of water availability and quality from local to transboundary levels is a prerequisite for sustainable and inclusive growth. Stakeholder participation is key and includes recognition that gender-differentiated roles are central to effective, inclusive and efficient water resources management from source to sea. Yet moving from recognition of challenges to practice on the ground is not easy: How can robust public policies be designed and implemented to contribute to water-related SDGs? How can institutions effectively engage social and economic diverse stakeholders? How can institutions translate local action into growth outcomes and reap the full benefits of national frameworks and incentives at a local level?

How can other sectors – food, energy and the environment – be brought into the equation to avoid a zero-sum logic, and what is the private sector ‘value proposition’? Finally, how can institutions ensure accountability and avoid corruption creeping in at different levels?

The objective of the seminar is to encourage diverse participation and inputs to elaborate on core dimensions of the ‘good water governance’ challenge given often diverse social, economic and legal contexts, the need to engage with other sector actors and the requirement to support achievement of SDG targets, specifically target 6.5 on IWRM.

General information

Venue | The 2016 World Water Week in Stockholm will be held at Stockholm City Conference Centre. For more information about the conference venue, please visit www.stocccc.se

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

Work as a volunteer at World Water Week | Whether you want to flesh out your CV, get some international work experience or help save the planet, we have a spot for you! Application period opens in April.
www.worldwaterweek.org/great-possibilities



Photo: Mikael Ullén

World Water Week

The 2016 process





Prizes and awards

Stockholm Water Prize | The prize honours outstanding achievements in water-related activities and is awarded annually to visionary individuals and organizations whose accomplishments contribute to conserving and protecting the world's water resources, and improving the health of inhabitants and ecosystems.

www.siwi.org/prizes/stockholmwaterprize

Stockholm Junior Water Prize | The prize is awarded to students between 15 and 20 years who have conducted water-related projects. Each year, hundred of thousands of students from all over the world enter national competitions in the hope of making it to the international final in Stockholm.

www.siwi.org/prizes/stockholmjuniorwaterprize

Stockholm Industry Water Award | The award honours business sector contributions to wise use and management of water. An international award committee selects the winner among companies and business organizations that demonstrate devoted water stewardship through exceptional achievements.

www.siwi.org/prizes/stockholmindustrywateraward

Best Poster Award | An important part of World Water Week seminars is the interactive poster exhibition. The most informative, innovative and well-designed poster is honoured with the "Best Poster Award".

www.worldwaterweek.org/prizes-awards

Core support



Strategic partners



Collaborators



Contributors



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