WORLD WATER WEEK | 23–28 AUGUST, 2020

Water and climate change: Accelerating action

CALL FOR ENGAGEMENT

SIWI WORLD WATER WEEK

Help us find the tools to tackle climate change!

Photo: Thomas Henriksson

More and more people are starting to understand that the climate crisis is in fact a water crisis. Most of us experience climate change in the form of water – as floods, droughts, cyclones, and increasingly unpredictable rainfall patterns. The water community can play a leading role in finding common solutions, but we must do so fast. The coming years will be decisive.

Although there are processes and complex interlinkages that we do not yet fully understand, this must not stop us from taking action. If we all come together, we will be able to develop new ideas, and find solutions, that will help tackle the climate crisis. More research is certainly needed, as well as the development of new ideas to make both the private and public sectors more resilient. Not least, best practice examples must be shared across the globe at unprecedented speed.

World Water Week 2020 offers a unique platform for this much needed knowledge sharing and collaboration. With the theme being "Water and climate change: Accelerating action", the focus will be on innovation, science and actions taken to achieve a climate resilient future. We want to learn from what we already are doing (what works, what does not), but also explore how we can move forward and create disruptive actions that will help us leapfrog to a fossil free future.

Drawing on the lessons from World Water Week 2019 on the theme of inclusion, we are seeking broad solutions that include everybody, the private and the public sectors as well as civil society. An obvious starting point must be that forming future solutions should also involve marginalized groups and make it easier for fragile societies to become more resilient.

We now invite you to be part of this important journey. Which topics, new developments, cases and examples would you like to highlight at World Water Week 2020? We are eagerly waiting for your proposals that help the world tackle water challenges and the climate crisis. Join us at World Water Week 2020 – your voice is needed!

Torgny Holmgren
Executive Director SIWI

SIWI

World Water Week is organized by the Stockholm International Water Institute (SIWI). One of the world's leading water institutes, SIWI works to strengthen the governance of freshwater, globally, regionally, nationally, and locally.

Our vision is a water wise world – a world that recognizes the value of water and ensures that it is inclusively shared and used sustainably, equitably and efficiently for all. We believe that the best way to tackle water crises and help bring about lasting change – with the ultimate goal being the eradication of poverty – is to strengthen water governance, among public and private actors alike.

Our mission is to "Strengthen water governance for a just, prosperous and sustainable future".

SIWI was founded in 1991 and has a strong international team of knowledge-generators, convenors, facilitators, and trainers that have built unique expertise in strengthening the systems and processes that govern access to fresh water.

We also award the prestigious Stockholm Water Prize, under the patronage of the H.M. King Carl XVI Gustaf of Sweden, and the Stockholm Junior Water Prize under the patronage of H.R.H. Crown Princess Victoria of Sweden.

This announcement is published by the Stockholm International Water Institute.
Cover photo: Adobe Stock | Graphic design: Marianne Engblom/Ateljé Idé, Emy Welin, Ingrid Stangberg

World Water Week 2019: A smashing success!

Tele2 Arena Photo: Mikael Ullén

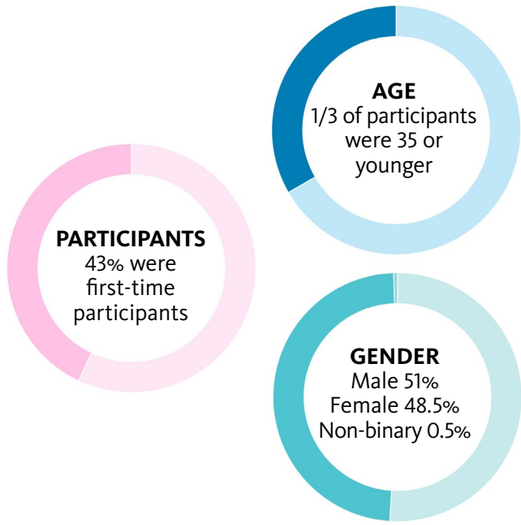
In 2019, World Water Week relocated to a new venue, the Tele2 Arena in Stockholm, enabling the creation of a more collaborative and inclusive learning experience. Tele2 Arena facilitates greater flexibility while providing ample networking opportunities, with a World Water Week Village at its very heart. Several sessions were opened up to the public while young professionals had the opportunity to join one day for free and, for the first time, they had three days to choose from to enable greater choice and access to the Week.

With 4,000 participants, 277 sessions, 74 exhibitors and 578 convening organizations, World Water Week 2019 broke several records and experimented with new formats.

Gold Standard

in 2019, 73 per cent of all sessions adhered to the Gold Standard, meaning that at least 40 per cent of presenters were female, at least one presenter was under 35, and the sessios were designed to encourage audience participation.

In 2019, over 4,000 participants from some 138 countries gathered in Stockholm



World Water Week network

World Water Week could not happen without our community of advisors and supporters that work together with us in different ways to ensure an inclusive Week.

Key Collaborating Partners

Each year, we team up with Key Collaborating Partners (KCPs) to widen the reach of the Week, enrich the discussions, and encourage participation. In 2019, the Key Collaborating Partners are:

CEO Water Mandate | The CEO Water Mandate is a commitment platform mobilizing a critical mass of business leaders to address global water challenges through corporate water stewardship, in partnership with the United Nations, governments, civil society organizations, and other stakeholders. Being a 2020 Key Collaborating Partner is centrally aligned with the Mandate's mission and programmatic work given the major impacts that climate will have on today's water systems and the water resilience imperative that is spurred by the climate crisis.

The Global Commission on Adaptation | To thrive under climate change, humanity faces two urgent imperatives: Sustaining an Earth system with a suitable environment and Building the resilience of human systems to change. Water is vital to achieving both aims. The Global Commission on Adaptation and over 30 global partners gathered under its leadership will champion a global effort to accelerate progress towards these critical aims. The Global Center on Adaptation, a managing partner of this endeavor, recognizes 2020 World Water Week as a key platform and SIWI a key partner to mobilize action commensurate with these great and urgent ambitions.

World Meteorological Organization (WMO) | a specialized agency of the UN, cooperates with National Meteorological and Hydrological Services to provide necessary climate, weather and water information for informed decision-making and to protect their populations against related disasters. The Organization provides tools, guidance and capacity building for operational hydrology. It supports modelling, forecasting and early warning of disasters associated to flood, drought and water quality. It also helps collect, manage and share data for the quantification of water resources, food security, and sustainable development. These activities are fundamental so that countries develop water management solutions that effectively contribute to climate adaptation and mitigation, the SDGs, and the Sendai Framework.

Scientific Programme Committee

The Scientific Programme Committee is comprised of professors, scientists, and experts from water and development-related fields. Their role includes the development of the World Water Week thematic scope and seminars.

Members are:

- Dr Torkil Jønch Clausen, SIWI (Chair)
- Prof Jennie Barron, SLU
- Dr Fred Boltz, Global Commission on Adaptation (co-opted member)
- Mr François Brikké, GWP
- Mr Sergio Campos, Inter-American Development Bank
- Mr Johannes Cullmann, WMO (co-opted member)
- Ms Viktoria Granström, IKEA Industry AB – Inter IKEA Group
- Prof Gyewoon Choi, Incheon National University
- Prof Guillermo Donoso Harris, Pontificia Universidad Católica de Chile
- Ms Mai Flor, WaterLinks
- Dr Jenny Grönwall, SIWI
- Ms Mai-Lan Ha, CEO Water Mandate (co-opted member)
- Ms Eiman Karar, UNEP
- Dr Louise Karlberg, Swedish Society for Nature Conservation
- Dr Marianne Kjellén, UNDP
- Dr Martina Klimes, SIWI
- Mr Jon Lane, Independent consultant
- Ms Karin Lexén, Swedish Society for Nature Conservation
- Mr Ravi Narayanan, Asia Pacific Water Forum/WIN
- Mr Henk Ovink, Special Envoy for International Water Affairs of the Kingdom of the Netherlands
- Ms Belynda Petrie, OneWorld
- Mr Adrián Puigarnau, SIWI
- Dr Diego Rodríguez, The World Bank Group
- Dr Joan Rose, Michigan State University
- Prof Stefan Uhlenbrook, IWMI
- Mr Torgny Holmgren, SIWI (Vice Chair)
- Ms Ingrid Stangberg, SIWI (Secretary)

Photo: Thomas Henriksson

Young Scientific Programme Committee

The Young Scientific Programme Committee (age 35 and under) is a group of individuals selected each year to support the Scientific Programme Committee. They collaborate with experienced scientists and water professionals and develop the seminar programmes.

Advisory Committee

The Advisory Committee advises SIWI on strategic issues to develop and improve World Water Week. It aims to strengthen the Week as a meeting place for decision-makers connected to water-related challenges and how the impact the world's environment, human health, economic development and poverty reduction agendas.

Help us bring in the youth perspective!

Are you a youth organization?

Are you interested in the World Water Week and want to help us organise a water/climate change related session?

Every year, the World Water Week hosts several sessions with youth and water at its core as part of our continuous work on inclusiveness. This year, we take it one step further and invite interested organisations to co-convene these sessions with us based on suggestions and ideas from previous young professional participants.

Submit your proposal here before 1 **December 2019!**

For more information, please contact Cajsa Larsson at cajsa.larsson@siwi.org

Photo: Mikael Ullén

World Water Week 2020

Water and climate change: Accelerating action

This Thematic Scope outlines the rationale and overall content of the 2020 World Water Week theme: "Water and climate change: Accelerating action".

World Water Week (WWW) | takes place in the city where a young girl, Greta Thunberg, started a world-wide movement to demand action to address climate change now, while there is still time to save our planet, and with that the livelihoods for her and coming generations. The call by the young generation has inspired climate-concerned voices who are demanding that the data and information provided by scientists are listened to, and to begin moving towards a political agenda that recognizes climate change as the single biggest threat to the world. The UN Climate Summit of September 2019 took these demands on board and demonstrated growing recognition that the pace of climate action must be rapidly accelerated to achieve the Paris Agreement.

In this context World Water Week | will focus on the role of water, recognizing that the climate crisis is, indeed, a water crisis, and on turning climate risks into engagement. As we recognize "water as the connector across the Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs)", we must also be looking outwards, beyond our water community, to actively include climate actors from all communities, and link our discussions, solutions, and initiatives to other international water and climate-related events and processes. In March 2020 the UN World Water Development Report will address water and climate change. Together with other key global reports such as the 2018 Intergovernmental Panel on Climate Change (IPCC) 1.5-degree Report, the Report of the Global Commission on Adaptation, and significant global reports in 2019 addressing climate change, food, biodiversity, and land, set the stage for our discussions. Just a few months after WWW, COP26 will take place in Glasgow, Scotland, which our discussions in Stockholm should aim to influence.

World Water Week is about "accelerating action", | so we need a strong focus on concrete examples and cases: what worked, what did not work, and what did we learn? We shall also focus on innovation and science towards building a resilient future, illustrated by examples and ideas. We have no excuse for inaction: we have enough facts, solutions, and experiences to act now. Certainly, we do not have all the answers and technologies, neither in the short term, nor the long term, to design the transformation required for long term sustainability, but this should not stop us. World Water Week 2019 addressed the theme of "Water for Society – Including All", linked to the UN's "no-one left behind"-agenda. We shall follow that up by ensuring the inclusion of women and youth in all our deliberations, both in substance and by promoting the Gold Standard in all sessions.

During the many events at World Water Week, discussions will address the theme from different perspectives, led by a broad range of stakeholders from within and outside the water and climate communities. Several key topics that provide broad coverage of the theme have been identified as the focus of the nine core SIWI Seminars, each to be co-convened by three to four partner organisations. These are addressed in the following paragraphs.

Water and politics: The leverage for climate and SDG impact | Water represents one of humankind's most challenging and complex risks. Floods, droughts, and pollution coincide with rapid urbanization, increasing the demand for food and energy, growing populations and migration, gender inequality, and climate change. Conversely, these challenges also bring opportunities to use water as a catalyst for political action. How do we improve connections between the water community and political leaders to ensure more attention is given to water as a driver of change to achieve all the SDGs, the Paris Agreement and other internationally agreed instruments such as the Sendai Framework for Disaster Risk Reduction? What are the most effective triggers of change? How can we support the implementation of the Nationally Determined Contributions (NDCs) after Paris 2015 with their large focus on water? How do we reach out to climate actors from all sectors, particularly in the least developed countries and small island developing states, and how do indicators, monitoring and data management help this political process?

Building resilience at all levels: From local to national and global | Most current water management policies and practices across the world assumes a given set of circumstances. But scientific predictions and an evident spike in unseasonal natural events are upsetting this balance. Global warming, and its impacts on rainfall variability and extreme events, coupled with high rates of population, economic growth, and urbanization, is decreasing water availability in the previously-expected right place and time. How do we adapt to that and mainstream climate resilience across governance systems

Photo: Adobe Stock

and build capacities at all levels from local-national-regional in a gender-sensitive way? How do we better anticipate and respond to both the gradual onset of climate change and the prevalent increases in frequency and intensity of extreme events? How do we learn to respond to climate events to enable returns on investment in short and long term financial, social, and natural capital? This is challenging since the most threatened regions are those with the weakest capacities to respond.

Addressing the burden of vulnerable people under climate change | Climate change is set to put disproportionate pressure on the already poor and vulnerable, among these especially women and children. More extreme weather, water scarcity, and water quality degradation will manifest itself through more droughts and floods that will impact hunger and malnutrition, as well as basic water supply and sanitation, with the risk of increased climate-induced migration. How does increased climate variability and frequency of disasters affect food security and health for the most vulnerable people? What are the mitigation strategies for addressing food security, nutritional quality, and sanitation to improve the health and well-being of vulnerable groups and the poor? Given that the most vulnerable will be the least able to build resilience towards the escalating and multiple challenges of climate change, what are the solutions needed to reach the SDG goals and targets on well-being, improved livelihoods and economic resilience?

Addressing climate change holistically: Across sectors and boundaries | Climate change, ecosystems, society, and economies interact dynamically and, therefore, a holistic approach to adaptation and mitigation is paramount. Healthy ecosystems have the potential to capture carbon at a rate which far exceeds any related human efforts, but how do we stimulate carbon capture in ecosystems through integrated land-water management? The changing climate is also affecting traditional water management for food and energy production, all the way from source to sea, including inter-state negotiations on shared water resources, most notably in conflict-afflicted regions. How can stakeholders ensure gender and social inclusion in transboundary water management? How does the vulnerability and resilience to a changing climate affect transboundary basins? How can increased inter-regional connectivity be made part of future solutions? What new approaches to water management and inter-sectoral cooperation are required to reduce the risks from floods, droughts, water quality degradation, saltwater intrusion, and water-related stresses?

Climate-smart cities: Utopia or reality? | By 2030, cities will house 60 per cent of the world population and be the main engine of growth, accounting for 70 per cent of the world's economy. Urban planners and local authorities are increasingly facing the challenge of finding ways to include adaptation strategies into their work, but how can they be helped to better address the combination of heat island effects, sea-level rise, coastal, and inland flooding and droughts? A paradigm shift is required at the system-wide level, that benefits all sectors of society, including poor peri-urban women and men, while also addressing rural-to-urban climate induced migration. How do we develop integrated adaptation-mitigation approaches and move towards climate-smart and green cities through transformational change, by adopting principles of the circular economy and innovative approaches? What will inspire leadership and the participation of all key stakeholders, including local operators, utilities and civil society?

The private sector in action: From stewardship to business opportunity | The world's economy is crucially dependent on water. Agriculture/food production account for some 70 per cent, and industry/energy another some 20 per cent on a daily basis. All activity needs to become a lot more efficient in their use of water if the SDGs are to be met. The economic and financial risks of water-related losses are significant. Novel green solutions are appearing, but how do we up-scale? What can private sector companies do to promote climate-friendly processes throughout their supply chains, and promote entrepreneurship and innovation in creating a green economy? Can companies work together with regulatory agencies to improve water management? How can sustainable solutions, underpinned by green finance, create even more business and jobs at all levels, including in local communities. Water use per unit of output is declining, but what is required for private sector actors to go a lot further in mainstreaming resilience planning across production sectors and value chains?

Seeking coherence between adaptation and mitigation | A changing climate requires changes in management practices for agriculture, forestry and energy production to maintain sustainable production of food, fuel, and fiber. Its complexity requires a more integrated response; however, linkages between climate change adaptation and mitigation remains largely unexplored. How can ecosystem management and governance of water resources achieve this coherence and ensure multiple ecosystem services, such as carbon sequestration, water purification, supply and recharge, and habitat provisioning for biodiversity? How can spatial planning be used as a mechanism towards re-carbonating the landscape, by, for instance, increasing the carbon content of tropical soils? How do we further explore the role of different products and actors along the supply chain in industries and utilities to find new solutions, and promote behavioral change, in order to achieve a more circular economy? How do we support the particular roles of women and youth as agents of change for climate mitigation and adaptation?

Tapping into climate finance | Adaptation and mitigation measures to achieve the SDGs will widen the already enormous financing gap until 2030. Traditional sources of public and private finance will most likely be insufficient, so how do we improve and develop new mechanisms to attract financial flows? How can innovative financial mechanisms, such as green and climate bonds that have flourished in recent years, play a more important role in funding projects? How can we map and attract different types of investors, and the structuring of new schemes, combining sovereign and non-sovereign financing? How can we include gender aspects in climate finance? Climate insurance can provide security against losses from extreme weather events; how can it also incentivize investment in prevention? What can be done to enforce medium and long-term planning as part of climate finance and action agendas at both national and local levels?

Through data and science towards innovative policies, governance, and capacity | Solid data and information, ground-truthing and big data alike and sharing of climate change science are key to innovative decision-making and meaningful stakeholder participation, and thus good governance. Does citizen science and open access provide for increased ownership and involvement in climate mitigation and adaptation? Can climate services including, digital transformation be capitalized on to build climate resilience? How can stakeholders drive change towards innovative policy development and new governance practices, including multi-level Integrated Water Resources Management (IWRM) and bottom-up processes as keys to adaptation? How do we better ensure a just transition and better include the private, public and civil society actors and multi-stakeholder partnerships, including women and youth, for policy implementation and scaling up of responses to climate change? How can emerging law and policy, the human-rights based approach and governance systems be made more responsive to climate change-induced risks?

At SIWI we hope that the Thematic Scope outlined above will provide inspiration for lively and thought-provoking discussions during World Water Week 2020.

How will you engage in World Water Week in 2020?

There are several ways to engage in World Water Week. The theme guides the construction of the World Water Week programme. SIWI is also interested in receiving session proposals that link to previous themes, and/or have a strong focus on current debates, generate new ideas and advance solutions.

Start here!

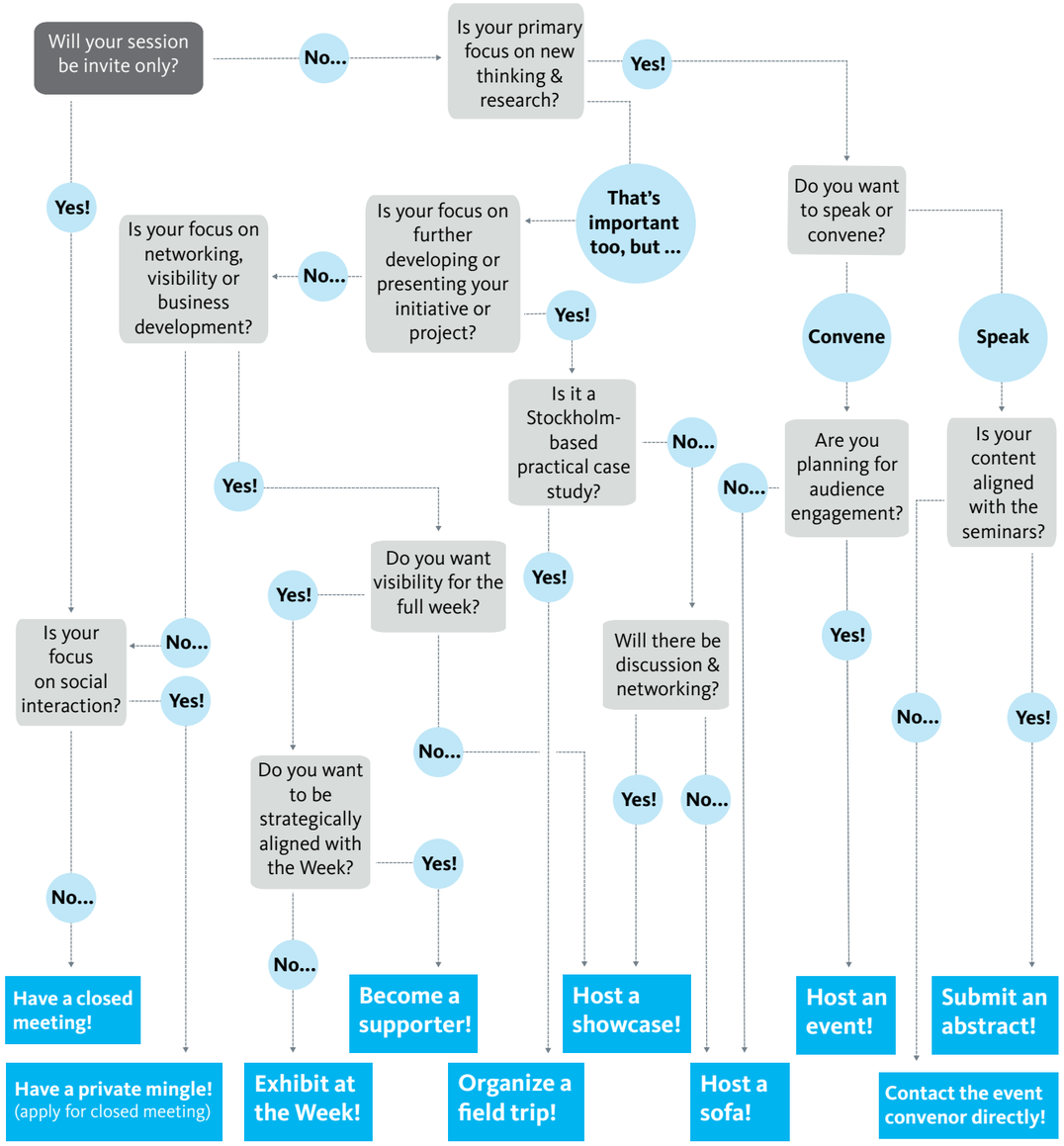


Photo: Mikael Ullén

Seminars

Individuals who want to present their research in one of the Weeks seminars are welcome to submit abstracts. Reviewed by the Scientific Programme Committee your abstract can be submitted relating to any subject around the important issues addressed in the seminars (see pages 14–18).

Length: Approximately a 10 minute presentation
Price: See terms and conditions
Deadline: 19 January 2020

Photo: Thomas Henriksson

Gold Standard

Inclusiveness is at the very core of SIWI's work and in 2020 we would encourage all sessions to pursue the Gold Standard of excellence.

Criteria will be based on gender and youth representation, interactive format, and how the session attempts to incorporate inclusiveness principles (e.g. human rights, gender, youth, non-water stakeholders) in the discussions.

Read the full criteria on World Water Week's website.

Events

SIWI welcome organisations who strive to advance knowledge and present new and innovative findings to submit an event proposal.

SIWI encourages proposals from all sectorsthat encourages collaboration and inclusiveness to bring diverse perspectives to the Week.

Length: 90 minutes
Price: SEK 28 800*–36 000 (*with maximum discount)
Deadline: 19 January 2020

(All prices are excluding VAT)

Showcases

Photo: Thomas Henriksson

In a short, snappy showcase session organisations and companies looking to to tell their water stories have the opportunity to promote their approaches and share their perspectives, initiatives, tools and projects. Possibility to open up for the public!

Length: 45 or 90 minutes
Price: SEK 24 000 or 40 000
(extra fees will apply for external participants)
Deadline: 8 March 2020
(Applications open 20 January 2020)

(All prices are excluding VAT)

Movie night

Photo: Istock

Have you produced a movie on a water related topic? Take the opportunity to show your movie to the Weeks audience in this new session format. Taking place in the evening these sessions are open to the public.

Length: 60 minutes
Price: SEK 24 000
Deadline: 8 March 2020
(Applications open 20 January 2020)

(All prices are excluding VAT)

Field visits

Field visits offer the perfect opportunity for local organisations and companies to demonstrate practical case studies, initiatives, tools or projects by inviting participants to experience unique locations in close proximity to Stockholm.

Length: 2–4 hours (incl. transport time)
Price: SEK 20 000
Deadline: 8 March 2020
(Applications open 20 January 2020)

(All prices are excluding VAT)

Photo: Lotta Samuelson

Sofa

Photo: Thomas Henriksson

The sofa is an innovative window into the Week. A cross between a speaker's corner and an interview studio, and broadcasted live beyond the walls of the Week, experts, decision-makers and leaders are interviewed on a wide variety of water-related topics. A sofa segment can be used to highlight a hot topic, interdisciplinary collaboration, knowledge sharing, or to increase understanding of key water issues.

Length: 1 x 25 minute segment OR
1 x 15 minute + 1 x 3 minute
Price: SEK 27 000 or 30 000
Deadline: 3 May 2020
(Applications open 9 March 2020)

(All prices are excluding VAT)

Exhibition

If your organisation strives to develop and enhance its brand, why not apply for a booth at our exhibition area.

Engage with water and development decision-makers and present your organization's water and environment-related innovations and initiatives. Exhibition spaces of different sizes are available to cater for your needs.

Price: From SEK 25 000 and up
Deadline: 3 May 2020
(Applications open 9 March 2020)

(All prices are excluding VAT)

Photo: Mikael Ullén

Photo: SIWI

Closed meetings

For many, the Week is an opportunity for participants to meet their international networks in person. Host a committee meeting, annual general meeting, board meeting, project initiation or a brainstorming session. Rooms of varying sizes, and IT facilities available.

Length: 1/2 or full day
Price: SEK 6 000–25 000
Applications open in May 2020.

(All prices are excluding VAT)

Photo: Mikael Ullén

Volunteer at World Water Week

Would you like to experience the atmosphere of the Week? Are you interested in water and determined to build your network? Help us deliver the world's leading annual event for water and development by becoming a volunteer. Volunteers receive free registration for the full week (including lunch), access to social events, public transportation within Stockholm, and endless networking opportunities.

The Young Scientific Programme Committee

Are you 35 or younger, and interested in water and development issues? Apply to be one of nine committed young professionals supporting the Scientific Programme Committee (SPC). Collaborate with experienced scientists and water professionals, develop the programme of one of the world's most renowned water conferences, and gain visibility within the water community. Your involvement also adds another, important perspective to the SPC's work. The members of the Young Scientific Programme Committee will work directly with the SPC to develop the seminar programmes.

Submission open 1 November to 1 December

Junior Rapporteurs

As a Junior Rapporteur, you are an instrumental part of the reporting and concluding process by capturing, summarizing and analysing the cross-cutting trends, knowledge and innovations discussed in sessions at World Water Week

Submission open 1 March to 12 April

Our Assistants

Over 120 water and development professionals volunteer as assistants at World Water Week, elevating the experience and atmosphere for the participants. Our assistants come from all over the world to take part in the conference, dedicating their time to ensure that the Week is a true success. They assist us in answering participants' questions, assist presenters in preparing for sessions and generally ensure the smooth running of the event. They are the eyes, ears, and arms of the Secretariat and are the welcoming faces of SIWI throughout the Week.

Submission open 1 March to 12 May

Seminars 2020

Water in a climate crisis: Capacitating resilient solutions

Co-conveners: 2030 Water Resources Group 2030, ICIMOD (tbc)

Global warming – or heating – is rapidly propelling the world toward a state of climate emergency. Yet, water management policy and practice assume a stable set of circumstances, while disaggregating disaster risk solutions from those for building long-term resilience. Scientific predictions and a spike in unseasonal extreme natural events challenge these assumptions. With high rates of population growth and urbanization, this accentuates the significant risk to water governance and development. Resource mobilization that confronts climate change is urgently needed to mainstream resilience while transforming development – impossible without evolved, gender balanced, capacities across systems and geographies. In turn, these must leverage responses to current climate crises to build sustained resilience to the gradual onset of climate change. A granular understanding of how to enable returns on investments in short and long term financial, social and natural capital, is critical. However, the most threatened regions are those with the weakest resources.

This seminar will focus on developing impact and cost benefit investment pathways for the most vulnerable areas and populations, an approach consistent with achieving the SDGs. What examples of good practice demonstrate the rationale and materiality for urgent interventions? Do any of these yield tangible alternatives to 'business as usual' or transformational development? And, do they address a range of systemic issues, from financial resourcing to combined institutional and human capacity development – particularly for women – while applying the right science and technology? Presenters will be encouraged to share ideas for leveraging climate crises spend and solutions for sustained resilience.

Water politics for climate impact

Co-conveners: Government of South Africa, World Meteorological Organization, World Resources Institutes

Water represents mankind's most challenging and complex risk. Floods, droughts and pollution coincide with rapid urbanization, growing demand for food and energy, migration, and climate change. As these water challenges become more important, so too does the role of politics to address them: political decisions can either trigger or block sustainable and fair water development. Conversely, water can also be a catalyst for political action. The water community has useful knowledge to contribute to political discussions and to help drive change to achieve all the SDGs, the Paris Agreement and other internationally-agreed instruments such as the Sendai Action Plan. To focus attention on some critical aspects, the High-Level Panel on Water, the OECD Water Governance Initiative, the Global Commission on Adaptation and others have emphasised: reaching out to climate actors from all sectors; giving special attention to least developed countries and small island states; agreeing and monitoring key indicators.

This seminar will focus on clear, actionable examples. We invite abstracts that demonstrate good practice and highlight the role of politics (and related concepts such as accountability, transparency and stakeholder influence). How can understanding and managing water help the world achieve the 2030 Agenda and Paris Agreement? How can we update and water-proof the NDCs while following the Katowice Rulebook? What are the most effective triggers of change? How do indicators, monitoring and data management help this political process? How can politicians and the water community together make water the catalyst to sustain the climate and achieve the SDGs?

All aboard? Water for inclusive health and food security

Co-conveners: CAF, Catholic Relief Services, Food and Agriculture Organization

Climate change is set to put disproportionate pressure on the already poor and vulnerable, who live on less than USD 3.20 a day and include more than 800 million undernourished people. Climate change will bring more extreme weather, water scarcity and water quality degradation will be manifested with more droughts and floods impacting hunger and malnutrition (SDG2), basic water supply and sanitation (SDG6). Food security will be affected through climate and water variability in rainfed and irrigated agriculture, incl. freshwater fisheries. In combination with inadequate sanitation infrastructure, it will increase risk for health concerns and disease in addition to food insecurity. The most vulnerable will be the least able to build resilience and wellbeing towards the escalating and multiple challenges. Without a focus on solutions to address increasing climate variability, extreme weather events, alongside water security issues, reaching goals on well-being, increased livelihood and economic resilience will not be possible.

In this seminar, the focus is on solutions for the most vulnerable and poverty affected populations in the face of increasing climate variability and water scarcity today and tomorrow. How are new facets of risk for food, health and disaster changing for vulnerable people? What are the mitigation strategies for addressing food and nutritional security, and sanitation to improve the health and well-being for the vulnerable and poor, especially women and children? How do linkages co-varying to disable (or enable) transformation towards higher wellbeing? What is the impact of climate migration? Finally, how can risk mitigation and resilience be strengthened with financial mechanisms and/or partnerships?

Adaptation and mitigation: Hand in hand

Co-conveners: Alliance for Global Water Adaptation (tbc), Swedish Society for Nature Conservation, World Agroforestry (tbc)

Identifying and facilitating synergies between mitigation and adaptation to avoid inefficiency and ineffectiveness of compartmentalized approaches is urgently needed to tackle climate change. The climate crisis requires far-reaching changes in management practices for sustainable production of vital commodities. Sustainable management and governance of water resources provides such changes. Multiple ecosystem services, such as carbon sequestration, water purification, supply and recharge, and habitat provisioning for biodiversity, all interact with a changing climate. Re-carbonisation of the landscape has a large potential for binding substantial amounts of carbon dioxide whilst boosting agricultural yields. Simultaneously, there will be new demands for bio-based products during the transitioning towards a fossil-free, circular economy, while ensuring a smart allocation of water resources. Enabling conditions for a synergistic design and implementation and new governance and policy mechanisms, need to be implemented in the energy and water sectors to promote the necessary shift towards mitigation and adaptation coherence.

In this seminar we will explore how water and ecosystem management and governance will need to change in order to maintain functionality and resilience, whilst accounting for climate change mitigation. Are paradigm shifts needed to foster synergy between mitigation and adaptation, or will modifications of conventional practices be sufficient? What are new opportunities for management and governance of agriculture and forestry? We will also dig deeper into the role of different actors along their supply-chains, finding new solutions for moving towards a more circular and green economy. Examples of behavioural change amongst different actor groups will furthermore be explored.

Breaking silos: Climate action and water – across sectors and boundaries

Co-conveners: Cooperation in International Waters in Africa, International Water Management Institute, NATO, United Nations Economic Commission for Europe (tbc)

Climate change, ecosystems, society and economies interact dynamically and, therefore, a holistic approach to adaptation and mitigation is paramount. For example, improved water management can support healthy ecosystems that also capture carbon and provide livelihood opportunities, whereas degraded ecosystems can develop into additional carbon sources and hamper socio-economic development. The changing climate is also affecting traditional water management for food and energy production, all the way from source to sea. Floods, droughts, water quality degradation, and related water stresses are increasing in severity and frequency in many places, where the most vulnerable people are increasingly threatened. While creating additional challenges, the changing climate also opens new opportunities for transboundary and inter-sectoral cooperation facilitating states to take joint actions which can bring mutual benefits in the future. This calls for new approaches to water management and inter-sectoral and transboundary cooperation to reduce risks while simultaneously stimulate carbon capture and other ecosystem services and provide new opportunities for socio-economic development.

How can we all work better together towards a water-wise and climate-smart world? The seminar will explore political, socio-economic, institutional and technological strategies for addressing climate change across different sectors and boundaries through water management. More specifically, how is vulnerability and resilience affecting transboundary basins and inter-regional connectivity? What roles do international trade, demographic changes, expanding economies, land use change, digitalization and other aspects of globalization play? What are the options for stimulating carbon capture in ecosystems through integrated land-water management and related policies and strategies? Finally, how can progress through innovative and disruptive technologies, and how can digital transformations be accelerated?

Climate smart cities: From utopia to reality

Co-conveners: ENDA, Megacities Alliance for Water and Climate, Global Center on Adaptation, World Bank

By 2030 cities will house 60 per cent of the world population and will be dominant engines of growth, accounting for 70 per cent of the world economy. Of the cities with at least 500,000 inhabitants in 2018, 60 per cent representing a population of 1.4 billion were at a high risk of exposure to climate- and water-related disasters. Faced with the coupled challenges of increasing human growth and vulnerability, urban planners and local authorities must urgently build robust climate change adaptation strategies, while also mitigating the urban climate footprint.

A paradigm shift in urban development is imperative, one that shifts from a growth-driven approach to one of building urban system sustainability and resilience. This shift will require an integrated approach to urban water resilience, comprising climate-smart design and an efficient, circular economy approach. Coherence in adaptation and mitigation as well as addressing the needs of the urban poor and rural/urban trade offs are critical to progress.

The objective of the seminar is to present state-of-the art approaches to the development of urban water resilience for climate-smart cities in different regions and geographical contexts. How can cities address at the same time climate-smart urbanization, and the tremendous demographic, social, economic, and environmental challenges that they are facing. What key steps cities could make in order to advance towards climate-robust and inclusive urban development? What are the critical roles of local authorities, operators and civil society in undertaking transformative change to build resilient urban futures? These questions will be addressed through specific examples and open debates.

Business water resilience in uncertain times

Co-conveners: CEO Water Mandate, World Business Council for Sustainable Development

The world's economy is crucially dependent on water. Agriculture (70 per cent) and industry (20 per cent) constitute most uses of the world's freshwater consumption. Climate change introduces uncertainties to the water cycle that requires businesses to adapt and innovate in order to endure and thrive. Businesses of all sectors must approach climate change systemically, changing their overall business strategy to better understand, anticipate and navigate new risks and opportunities. Such an approach will need to be inclusive and consider broader dynamics within the catchment under different scenario and timeframes. Companies are partnering with stakeholders on reforestation and wetlands reconstruction and working with regulatory agencies to improve water management. Green solutions underpinned by innovative financing models are creating new opportunities at all levels including for local communities. But the much more needs to be done to mainstream resilience planning across sectors and value chains.

The seminar is looking for successful actions by businesses that have taken us closer to addressing the climate crisis and contributing to the SDGs. Nature based solutions show promise, but how do we achieve scale? What can business do to promote climate-friendly processes throughout their supply chains, and promote entrepreneurship and innovation in transitioning to a low carbon, resource efficient, and socially inclusive economy? How should business partner with other water users, working together with regulatory agencies to improve water management and be good stewards? How can investments be de-risked with innovative public-private partnerships that unlock financial flows, creating even more business, jobs, and usher in a just transition? What is required for business to mainstream approaches, practices and markets that strengthen business, social and environmental resilience?

Tapping into climate finance

Co-conveners: Asian Development Bank, Inter American Development Bank, Ministry of Environment and Energy of Costa Rica, SEB (tbc)

Wide-ranging impacts of climate change–droughts, floods, sea-level rise, melting glaciers, among others – pose serious threats to the timely achievement of the SDGs. Adaptation and mitigation needs will widen the already enormous financing gap until 2030. Traditional sources of public and private financing will be insufficient, making it crucial to improve and develop new mechanisms to attract financial flows. Innovative financing, such as green and climate bonds that have flourished in the last years, can play an important role in funding projects and in mapping and attracting different type of investors and the structuring of new schemes combining sovereign and non-sovereign financing. Climate insurance has come under the spotlight to provide security against losses from extreme weather events; and insurance premiums could incentivize investment in prevention. To ensure the sustainability and efficiency of climate actions and financing, it's necessary to reinforce long-term planning at the national and local levels.

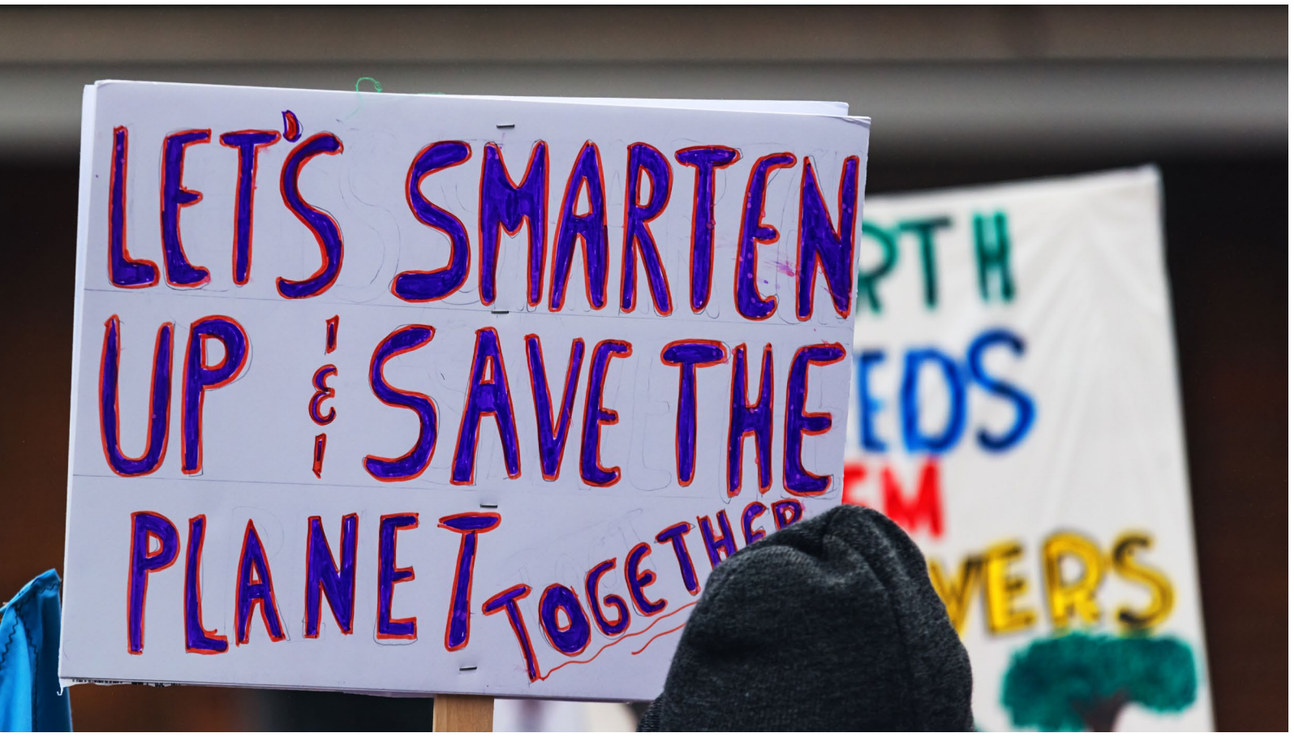
The seminar will explore financing alternatives that support mitigation and adaptation actions in water and sanitation. What can countries do to attract institutional investors to expand the long- term financing for mitigation and adaptation projects? What specific actions can governments take to develop robust portfolio of projects to attract climate finance? What is the eligibility criteria to tap into the green and climate bond markets and other similar instruments? What can we do to facilitate broader use of climate insurance? and What can be done to enforce medium- and long-term planning as part of the climate finance and action agenda?

Dancing the climate resilience tango: Information, governance and justice

Co-conveners: Stockholm Environmental Law and Policy Centre, Swedish Meteorological and Hydrological Institute, UNDP-Water Governance Facility

Building resilience to extreme weather events and water crises can be enhanced by the use of ground-truthing and big data alike, to better respond to climate risks, uncertainty and equity concerns. Generating useful information and participatory knowledge-sharing regarding climate change and water-related impacts are key to innovative decision-making and meaningful stakeholder involvement. Stakeholders must drive change towards a just transition through global partnerships and creative policy development. Novel governance practices, including multi-level IWRM and bottom-up organizing, are key to adaptation. There are vital roles to play for private, public and civil society actors and multi-stakeholder partnerships under SDG 17 – including women and the young – for policy implementation and scaling up appropriate responses to climate change. Meanwhile, courts, and climate lawsuits against violations of human rights and obligations, have added an arena for demanding accountability, greater transparency, lowered emissions and a future without climate-induced droughts and flooding.

The seminar will engage questions like: does citizen science provide for increased ownership and involvement in climate mitigation and adaptation? How can big data and open access complement? Can climate services and the digital transformation be capitalized on to build climate resilience? How can improved awareness, education and capacity involve all while embracing differences in contexts and needs? How can emerging law and policy, the human-rights based approach and governance be made more responsive to climate change-induced risks, leaving no-one behind? Can courts supported by climate knowledge and data provide an arena for civil society to demand a clean environment with reduced GHG emissions?



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Prizes

Recognizing outstanding achievements in water, SIWI hosts the world's most respected water prizes – the Stockholm Water Prize and Stockholm Junior Water Prize. SIWI is grateful for the years of support from prize patrons, H.M. King Carl XVI Gustaf and H.R.H. Crown Princess Victoria of Sweden.

Stockholm Water Prize

The world's most prestigious water award honours visionary women, men and organizations whose outstanding work contributes to the conservation and protection of water resources, and to the well-being of the planet and its inhabitants. The Laureate is announced on UN Water Day in March, and awarded the prize by the patron, H.M. King Carl XVI Gustaf of Sweden during World Water Week.

Stockholm Junior Water Prize

For 24 years the Stockholm Junior Water Prize has brought together some of the world's brightest young minds. The competition aims to encourage young people's interest in water and the environment.

Each year, thousands of students between the ages of 15 and 20, from around the world, enter national competitions in the hope of making it to the international final in Stockholm. The winner is announced by the prize patron, H.R.H. Crown Princess Victoria of Sweden during World Water Week.

World Water Week 2020

Important dates

December 2019
1 Deadline
- Join the Young SPC

January 2020
19 Deadlines
- Host an event
- Present in a seminar

20 Applications open
- Host a Showcase
- Host a movie night
- Host a Field Visit

February 2020

March 2020
8 Deadlines
- Host a Showcase
- Host a movie night
- Host a Field Visit

9 Applications open
- Host a Sofa session
- Exhibit at WWW

16 Applications open
- Become a Junior Rapporteur
- Become an Assistant

16 WWW tickets available

April 2020
9 Networking and Closed meeting tickets available
15 Deadline
- Become a Junior Rapporteur

15 WWW Programme is published

May 2020
3 Deadlines
- Host a Sofa session
- Exhibit at WWW

June 2020
3 Deadline
- Become an Assistant

3 Application open
- Organize a press briefing

July 2020

August 2020
23-28 World Water Week
Water and climate change: Accelerating action

September 2019
30 Deadline
- Stockholm Water Prize 2020 nominations

October 2019
Overarching Conclusions from WWW 2019 is published

November 2019
1 Application open
- Join the Young SPC

4 Call for Engagement is published

4 Applications open
- Host an event
- Present in a seminar

World Water Week Partners

xylem Let's Solve Water

Government of the Netherlands

STOCKHOLM LIVE

BMZ Federal Ministry for Economic Cooperation and Development

Nestlé Good Food, Good Life

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Key Collaborating Partners

UN GLOBAL COMPACT CEO Water Mandate

GLOBAL CENTER ON ADAPTATION

WORLD METEOROLOGICAL ORGANIZATION

Stockholm Water Prize

BACARDI

Water Environment Federation Preserving & Enhancing the Global Water Environment

Poul Due Jensen Foundation

RAGN-SELLS En del av kretsloppet

xylem Let's Solve Water

ÅLANDSBANKEN

Thanks to: Grand Hôtel

Stockholm Junior Water Prize

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