

World Water Week | Call for engagement

Water for society – including all

25–30 August, 2019



SIWI WORLD WATER WEEK

Diverse perspectives, united action

Photo: Thomas Henriksson



For many of us, recent extreme weather events have been a stark reminder of our dependence of water – and this is only the beginning. As was made evident in the recent report from the UN Intergovernmental Panel on Climate Change (IPCC), freshwater volatility will be an issue of concern across the globe in coming decades.

At the same time, we must remember that not everybody will be impacted in the same way. The already vulnerable are likely to suffer the most. Therefore, this year's theme for World Water Week is Water for Society – Including All.

As the water-related challenges grow, water governance will be crucial, and a key aspect is how to make sure that marginalized groups have more of a say on matters of importance to them. Good water governance requires us to critically look at existing social norms and power relations – including attitudes related to gender and age – and to discuss how we can better uphold the values of transparency, accountability and participation. Exchange of knowledge and experience from regional perspectives will also be important to these processes.

The good news is that in the long run, a human-rights based approach will benefit everyone. Water plays a critical role in reducing poverty and hunger, as well as driving sustainable development. Ensuring clean and affordable water and sanitation for all is a shared interest.

The 2019 World Water Week will explore different aspects of this inclusive approach: How do we maintain and improve rural ecosystems and livelihoods? How do we create jobs for the young generation? How do we make sure that the poor get better access to safe water and sanitation? How can circular economy approaches help towards inclusiveness? Furthermore, the theme of the Week is not only focused on issues pertaining to water, but also how to collectively achieve the overall 2030 Agenda on Sustainable Development.

With this call for engagement I invite you to be part of the World Water Week movement. Read about the theme and how you can contribute through sessions, partnerships and more. We look forward to your engagement and welcoming you to our new venue in Stockholm!

A handwritten signature in blue ink that reads "Torgny Holmgren". The signature is fluid and cursive.

Torgny Holmgren
Executive Director
Stockholm International Water Institute



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 freshwater.

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, with H.R.H Crown Princess Victoria of Sweden as its patron.

This announcement is published by the Stockholm International Water Institute.
Cover photos: Istock | Graphic design: Marianne Engblom/Ateljé Idé

The future of World Water Week



Tele2 Arena: The new venue is a modern multi-purpose arena located just 10 minutes by subway from Central Station. It offers larger session rooms and meetings spaces, creating a more spacious, dynamic exhibition and networking hub. The arena has excellent access to public transport, accommodation options and restaurants. Illustration: Workman

World Water Week is the annual focal point for the globe's water issues. It is a meeting place for scientists, policy makers, and private sector and civil society actors to network, exchange ideas, and foster new thinking around the most pressing water-related challenges. It inspires collaborative action and bridges science, policy and practice.

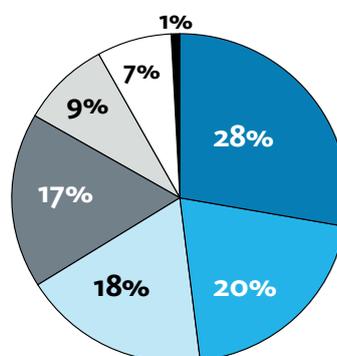
Many partnerships and alliances have been formed among individuals as well as organizations during previous Weeks. It is also where informal follow-up on implementation of actions, commitments and decisions from international processes and stakeholders often takes place.

In 2018, World Water Week was attended by more than 3,700 participants from some 135 countries, representing over 1,000 organizations.

In 2019, we move to a new venue, the multi-purpose Tele2 Arena. While the structure and programme will be largely the same as previous years, we envision that the new venue will allow the Week to be even more innovative and spread its reach even further.

Visit [page 9](#) to learn how your organization can get involved.

In 2018, over 3,700 participants from some 135 countries gathered in Stockholm.



Participants by organization

■ NGO/Civil Soc/Prof
 ■ Gov. agency
 ■ Scientific/Research/Academic
 ■ Private sector
 ■ Intergov. organization
 ■ Other
 ■ Media

The World Water Week community

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:



The Inter-American Development Bank (IDB) is devoted to improving lives. Established in 1959, the IDB is a leading source of long-term financing for economic, social and institutional development in Latin America and the Caribbean. It also conducts cutting-edge research and provides policy advice, technical assistance and training to public and private sector clients throughout the region.



Women for Water partnership (WfWP) is a unique partnership of women's organizations and networks, uniting women leadership around the globe. Its mission is to position women as active leaders, experts and partners to realize access to safe water for all for all uses. The 2019 theme "Water for society – including all" fits our mission perfectly.



UN-Water | The theme "Water for society – including all" offers a unique space to focus on "Leaving No One Behind", the theme of UN-Water's 2019 World Water Day and World Toilet Day campaigns, coordinated by OHCHR and UNHCR on behalf of UN-Water. "Including all" is also the essence of the commitment of the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development

Scientific Programme Committee

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

Members are:

Dr Torkil Jøneh Clausen, SIWI (Chair)
Mr Sunil Abeyasekera, SLU (co-opted member)
Prof Jennie Barron, SLU
Mr Murray Burt, UNHCR (co-opted member)
Mr Sergio Campos, Inter-American Development Bank
Prof Gyewoon Choi, Incheon National University
Prof Guillermo Donoso Harris, Pontificia Universidad Católica de Chile
Ms Mai Flor, WaterLinks
Dr Phil Graham, SMHI
Dr Jenny Grönwall, SIWI
Mr Rio Hada, UNHCR (co-opted member)

Dr Hussam Hussein, University of Kassel
Ms Annemiek Jenniskens, WfWP (co-opted member)
Ms Kanokphan Jongjarb, UNU-EHS
Ms Eiman Karar, UNEP
Dr Louise Karlberg, SEI
Dr Marianne Kjellén, UNDP
Mr Jon Lane, Independent consultant
Ms Karin Lexén, Swedish Society for Nature Conservation
Mr Rami Narte, Nordic Agency for Sustainable Impact
Ms Belynda Petrie, OneWorld
Dr Diego Rodríguez, The World Bank Group
Mr Will Sarni, Water Foundry
Dr Danka Thalmeinerova, GWP
Prof Stefan Uhlenbrook, WWAP
Ms Mariet Verhoef-Cohen, WfWP (co-opted member)
Mr Torgny Holmgren, SIWI (Vice Chair)
Mr Adrián Puigarnau, SIWI
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 their impact on the world's environment, human health, economic development and poverty reduction agendas.

Strategic Network

Looking towards the exciting new venue in 2019 and building on SIWI's mission to leverage knowledge and our convening power to strengthen water governance for a just, prosperous and sustainable future, we are embarking on a multi-year process to evolve World Water Week into the world's most influential movement transforming global water challenges.

We invite you to join us on this mission.

SIWI believes multi-dimensional, value-driven partnerships that leverage combinations of finance, expertise, implementation capacity and outreach power have the greatest impact. We also know that the Week's value and impact is not limited to the six days at the end of August each year. The same applies to our World Water Week and Prizes partnerships. Like our future vision for the Week and the Stockholm Water and Junior Water Prizes, we aspire to together with support from our partners, realize our vision for a water wise world.

SIWI continues to focus on values of inclusiveness, quality, integrity and passion, and cross-cutting issues – gender

equality, youth empowerment and the human rights-based approach. We believe our partners will play an important role in transformative action in these important areas.

By supporting World Water Week you have the opportunity to:

- Support initiatives aligned with your organization's goals
- Strengthen your network
- Advance knowledge and new thinking
- Strengthen your brand within the water and development community
- Showcase collaboration
- Promote your approach, project or initiative
- Connect with digital audiences
- Communicate your value
- Support and reward innovation
- Support forgotten stakeholders

The theme

Water for society – including all

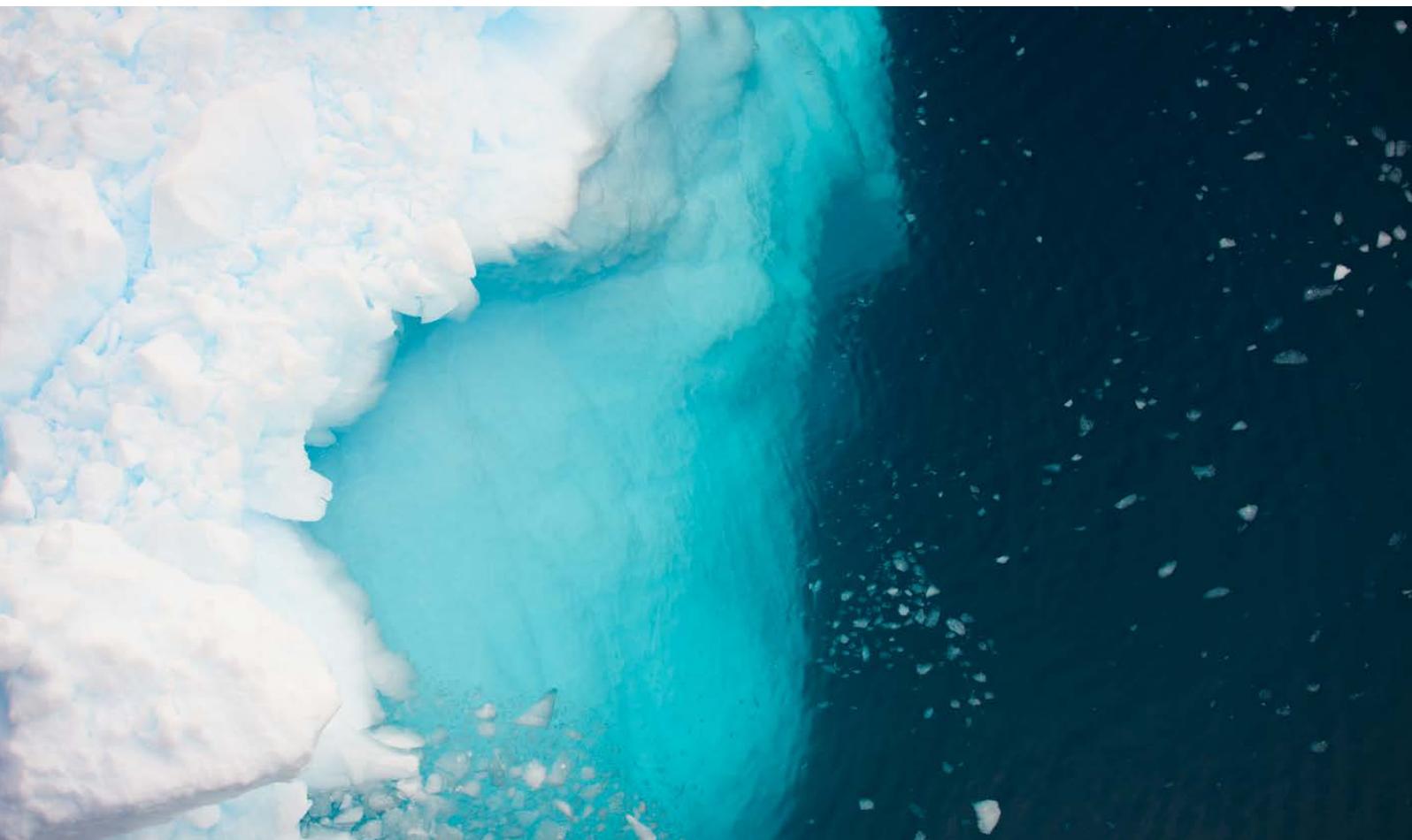


Photo: Istock

This Thematic Scope outlines the rationale and overall content of the 2019 World Water Week theme: “Water for society – including all”.

The 2019 theme: time to focus on inclusiveness | In the fourth year of implementing the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development, the 2019 World Water Week addresses the basic objective of this agenda to secure inclusive and sustainable development for all people in all countries. The UN is focussing on “no-one left behind” as the theme for the 2019 World Water Day and World Water Development Report. In Stockholm, we are aligning this 2019 Thematic Scope with that theme, broadened to the wider perspective of inclusiveness. Water security underlies human and environmental security; access to and use of water in adequate quantity and quality are fundamental to survival and prosperity.

The 17 Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs) set ambitious targets for our future development applying to all countries,

whether high, middle or low income. This Thematic Scope covers many of these goals, in particular SDG 1 on poverty, SDG 2 on hunger, SDG 5 on gender equality, SDG 6 on water and sanitation, SDG 10 on inequality and SDG 16 on peaceful and inclusive societies. Achieving these goals is central to the inclusive societal transformation process which is required to achieve all the SDG targets by 2030.

Who needs what water and sanitation – where, why and how? | As connector across the SDG agenda, water has a critically important role in reducing poverty and hunger and driving sustainable development. This calls for a human-rights based approach, ensuring clean and affordable water and sanitation for all. To achieve this in an inclusive manner, some key questions must be addressed: who gets and uses what water and sanitation services, where, why and how; and who does not and why? What actors, networks, interests, finance and knowledge are mobilized? How do we include everybody: men and women, young and old, poor and rich, minorities, indigenous people and persons with disabilities? How do we ensure equal power relations?



Photo: Håkan Tropp, SIWI

In searching for answers to these questions, transparency is of key importance since it links to human rights, ensuring that water policy targets, legislation and implementation consider human rights and welfare. Another key issue is calling for efforts to stop exploiting the poor through irresponsible and unsustainable production and consumption by the rich, and to create inclusive legislation that does not favour the well-to-do at the expense of the marginalized.

The challenge is compounded by population growth. Ironically, even though the proportion of people without access to water or sanitation has gone down across nearly all regions, in the case of sanitation - for which the progress is much slower than for water - the absolute number of people without access to basic sanitation appears to have increased.

How can we maintain healthy ecosystems for people and nature when climate changes? | Healthy ecosystems form the basis for water and human security. They underpin human livelihoods, especially for the poor, as well as habitats essential for sustaining biodiversity. In addressing ecosystem health, a system view from source to sea is required that considers people and nature, both rural and urban. When doing this, ecosystem boundaries and tipping points are important to consider, from local to planetary. Our ecosystems provide essential services for people and biodiversity, so we need to maintain, protect and restore them.

How do we manage the impact of change in land use, food and energy production and other development, while integrating ecosystem services value into inclusive planning and decision making? The poor and marginalized, including people from many indigenous groups, call for special attention, but how do we properly recognize and consider their dependence on land and biodiversity, and use their knowledge as tools for enhancing resilience and finding solutions?

Climate change adds complexity to the problem of managing ecosystems throughout the world, due to both long term hydrological change and sea level rise, and the increase in climate variability and frequency and severity of natural dis-

asters. How do we make nature-based solutions effective in adapting to climate change? How do we develop transparent, inclusive and innovative governance and action plans to address these changes? How can adaptation measures contribute to peace and environmental justice?

Will improving ecosystems and livelihoods help people avoid forced migration? | Migration by people from unsustainable livelihoods, hunger and humanitarian crises is a major water-related issue, that can create problems and suffering for both the refugees themselves, the host communities and the environment. Forced migration is often linked to water scarcity and prolonged droughts, exacerbated by climate change. It happens in many regions of the world, and at many scales, both rural-urban and across regions and continents. With no scope for finding rural jobs, villages become depopulated and lose important parts of the work force, while cities need to transform their roles to deal with rapid population growth. Women often remain behind. How do we target policies and geographic metrics to reach the most marginalized, and hence address the challenges related to increasing migration? How do we maintain and improve rural ecosystems and livelihoods? How do we create jobs for the young generation? How do we turn population growth from crisis to opportunity?

Can economic development help to improve inclusive water security? | Traditional economic models are rarely designed to achieve inclusiveness. How do we promote inclusiveness, and enhance water's contribution to economic participation? How can circular economy approaches help towards inclusiveness? How can benefit sharing help promote inclusion? By addressing these and other similar issues, while valuing water for different uses, decision makers can derive important lessons on how to develop a desirable "inclusive water security and economic development nexus". The private sector may help us move in the right direction, based on corporate strategy and environmental footprint, especially related to water.



Photo: Jannie Sif Herskind

Financing water security and economic development calls for balancing proper pricing and affordability, while ensuring access to needed financial resources. How do we develop innovative financial incentives to provide mechanisms for inclusion?

How does good water governance improve inclusiveness?

Good water and sanitation governance can improve inclusiveness by addressing inequity and discrimination, and by promoting empowerment and ethical behaviour, while fighting corruption. Policies affecting land tenure and water use need to respect human rights and secure development for all, at local, national and regional levels. We need to link politics, policies and governance and build proper relationships between local and national actors in order to underpin implementation of the SDGs. What policies and actions are needed to improve inclusive water governance and allow new types of investments that ensure fair and effective allocation and use of water?

Asymmetries of power between stakeholders and interest groups lead to competing demands that often reward power elite groups; so how do we ensure fairness? How do we break the barriers that foster inequities, including governance and financing barriers? How is “no-one left behind” translated into legal documents of the countries, and how do we harmonize laws and regulations for inclusive growth and development?

Water and inclusiveness also have an important trans-boundary dimension, and we need to reduce inequalities and enhance inclusiveness through cooperating around shared water bodies. In addressing all these aspects of good governance, how do we build partnerships – public, private, civil society, both within and outside the ‘water box’ – to promote inclusiveness?

How do we build capacity to secure inclusive and sustainable innovation?

In addition to improved governance, innovative technical and managerial solutions are required to ensure inclusive approaches to the SDG implementation and to reach those left behind. New technologies are needed to conserve and reuse water and ensure its efficient use, and new information and communication technologies are called for to generate knowledge and data for planning and monitoring access to water and sanitation. Can we leapfrog to new technologies that can ensure universal access to safe drinking water and sanitation, such as off-grid, decentralized and distributed systems, instead of traditional capital intensive centralized systems? How do innovative ideas, new technologies and knowledge reach the communities that need them most, specifically women who are often responsible for sustainable water practices? And how do we deal with norms and regulations that prevent the implementation of proper innovative technologies for reaching out to those who really need them?

It takes social and political will to invest in capacity development and institutional strengthening to secure inclusive and sustainable innovation and solutions. How do we develop the right policies and regulations, technologies, information and communication technologies, business models, partnerships, hard and soft investments, and financing and business models to do so? What is the special role of the private sector to develop innovation capacity?

At SIWI it is our hope that the Thematic Scope outlined above will provide inspiration for lively and forward-looking discussions during the 2019 World Water Week.

How will you engage in World Water Week in 2019?

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.

To apply, visit: <https://programme.worldwaterweek.org/engage>

Start here!

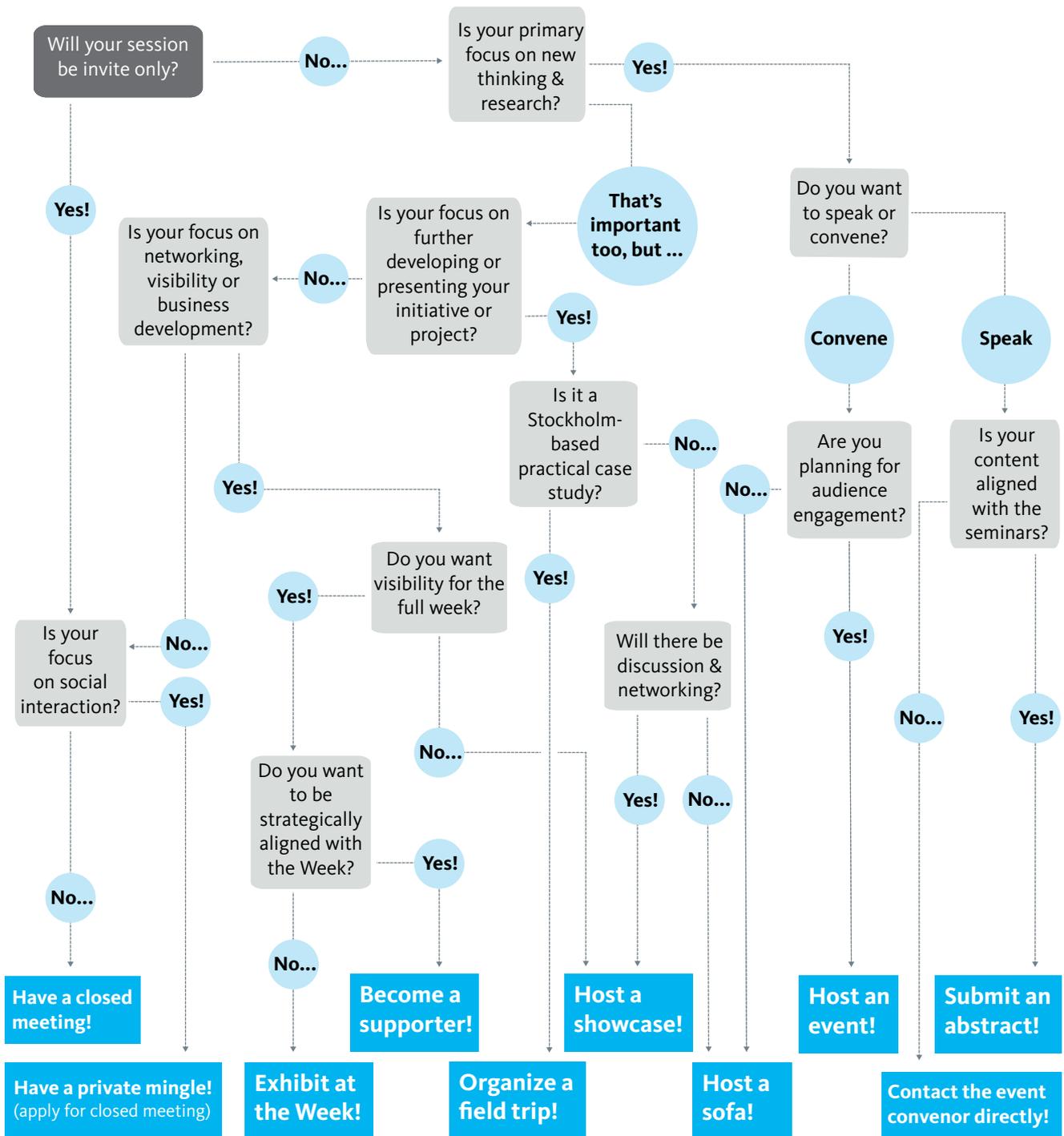




Photo: Mikael Ullén

Gold Standard



Inclusiveness is at the core of SIWI's work. In 2019, we encourage all sessions to pursue Gold Standard classification.

Criteria include:

Gender representation: At least 40% of presenters are female

Young professional representation: At least one presenter is 35 years or younger.

Innovative format: Event format encourages audience participation

See detailed list of criteria [here](#).

Photo: Thomas Henriksson

Seminars

The seminars are the scientific core of the Week. Nine seminars take place during the Week and their content is connected to the thematic scope. ([see page 6](#)).

Abstract submissions | Actors from all disciplines who wish to present their research at the seminars during World Water Week are welcome to submit abstracts. Abstracts can be submitted on any subject related to the issues being addressed by the seminars ([see page 14–18](#)). They are reviewed by the Scientific Programme Committee. Selection criteria includes versatile and dynamic content, innovation, and regional and sectoral diversity.

Additionally, all abstracts selected will be included in the Abstract Volume and published online.

Length: approximately 10 minutes

Price: View terms and conditions

Deadline: 20 January 2019

(All prices are excluding VAT)

Events

Events aim to advance knowledge and/or present new findings, and often include a discussion or an interaction with an audience. Topic proposals submitted by organizations are selected by SIWI. Once selected, event programmes are developed and managed by the organization(s) that submit the proposals (convenors).

SIWI welcomes proposals from all sectors and encourages collaboration with other organizations to help build partnerships and bring diverse perspectives to the Week.

Length: 90 minutes
Price: SEK 28 800*–36 000
Deadline: 20 January 2019
(*with maximum discount)

(All prices are excluding VAT)



Event discounts

Event convenors can apply to receive a 10% discount on the full event price when Gold Standard criteria are met. An additional 10% discount will be available to events that meet financial assistance criteria (more information).

Photo: Thomas Henriksson

Showcases



Photo: Thomas Henriksson

A showcase is a space for convenors to tell their water stories, promote different approaches and share their perspectives, initiatives, tools and projects. Convenors can invite perspective partners to a short presentation or hold a small networking event or launch.

Length: 45 or 90 minutes
Price: SEK 24 000 or 40 000
(extra fees will apply for external participants)
Deadline: 17 March 2019
(Applications open 1 February 2019)

(All prices are excluding VAT)

Field visits

Field visits are sessions held at unique locations close to Stockholm. They are a chance for local convenors to demonstrate practical case studies, initiatives, tools or projects

Length: 2–4 hours (incl. transport time)
Price: SEK 20 000
Deadline: 17 March 2019
(Applications open 1 February 2019)

(All prices are excluding VAT)



Photo: Lotta Samuelson



Photo: Thomas Henriksson

Sofa

The sofa is the window into the Week. A cross between a speakers corner and an interview studio, and broadcasted live beyond the walls of the Week, experts, decision-makers and leaders will be interviewed on a variety of water-related issues. Host a segment 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: 30 April 2019
(Applications open 15 March 2019)

(All prices are excluding VAT)

Exhibition

Develop or enhance your brand. Engage with water and development decision-makers and present your organization's water and environment-related work by exhibiting at the Week. Different sized spaces available.

Price: From SEK 23 000 and up
Deadline: 30 April 2019
(Applications open 15 March 2019)

(All prices are excluding VAT)



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: 1hr–full day
Price: SEK 2 000–20 000
Applications open in May 2019.

(All prices are excluding VAT)



Seminars 2019

Women and youth: Living apart together

Co-convenors: UN Women and the World Bank



Women and youth are two major groups affected by lack of access to safe water and sanitation. They are often excluded from participation or representation in decision making processes related to water issues at all levels. In the field of water gender in-

equalities determine how women and men are affected differently and how resources are developed and managed. Young people also face significant challenges of lack of recognition or voice at the table, which inhibit their potentially huge and innovative contributions to water solutions for all.

Women and youth empowerment processes as well as direct access to finance are necessary for strategic courses of action directed towards achieving the SDGs in an inclusive manner. Human-rights based and gender-responsive interventions that reduce inequalities and increase access to water and sanitation have the potential to dramatically improve the lives and livelihoods of youth and women worldwide – and to ensure that no one is left behind.

The main objective of the seminar is to contribute to the understanding of human rights-based and gender-responsive approaches to strengthen the voice and the active and meaningful participation of women and youth in water and sanitation. What are the mechanisms and approaches that can ensure women's and youth's sustainable access and use of water? How to engage with stakeholders at all levels to realize ownership and taking responsibility as a prerequisite of making change and accomplishing the water-related SDGs?

Water governance with and for all: Is it working?

Co-convenors Global Water Partnership, UNDP Water Governance Facility at SIWI and German Corporation for International Cooperation GmbH (tbc)



Water governance refers to the political, institutional, social, economic and administrative systems in place that influence water's use and management. The design and development of water governance arrangements is grounded in the conceptual understanding of

cultural, economic, moral, religious and ethical dimensions of allocations. Good multi-level water governance is a prerequisite for leaving no one behind. There is the link between poverty and access to water services and to the anticipation and mitigation of water related risks, including for sanitation and productive water uses. Enhanced access to water is one of the conditions to eliminate poverty with defined mechanisms of delivery to the poor. Pricing arrangements are rarely equitable and financing arrangements often discourage service provision. Drawing on experiences of good practices and failures, the seminar will focus on bench marking and hence calls for the submission of water governance cases from large and small; water abundant or scarce countries.

The seminar considers policy guidelines, institutional arrangements and reform pathways in countries at different stages of socio/economic development and with different forms of government within which water resources are managed. What are solutions to overcome the barriers fostering inequities, including governance, institutional and financing barriers? How IWRM can support the implementation of SDGs such as social/ethical considerations? Which approaches seem to work best? When water is scarce, how should access be shared? How can tensions between efficiency and equity be resolved? Examples that can provide evidence of good governance for achieving inclusive development are encouraged?

Sanitation for society, including all

Co-conveners: University of Leeds, Water Supply and Sanitation Collaborative Council, Slum/Shack Dwellers International and Office of the United Nations High Commissioner for Human Rights (tbc)



At an individual level, both the SDG target and the human right to sanitation imply that everyone must have access to sanitation which is safe, private, dignified, hygienic and affordable. At a societal level, improved sanitation is a public good that generates economic, health, environmental,

social and cultural benefits for society as a whole. There is a huge task ahead to ensure full sanitation coverage, safe management of excreta, and availability of handwashing facilities with soap and water in schools and health care facilities, in accordance with the human right and with the SDG target. All this must be done in both urban and rural settings, with their different sanitation problems and solutions. During the era of the MDGs the poor, children, elderly and ethnic minorities were the most neglected in sanitation service provision; now the concept of inclusiveness requires that they and any other disadvantaged groups be served in ways that protect health and dignity.

This seminar will discuss how to ensure that all members of society are included in achieving sanitation for all. Some possible questions follow. How is inclusiveness improved by particular stakeholder involvement methods, technologies, services, financing mechanisms etc? How do different actors (e.g. national and city governments, public or private sector service providers, and households) contribute to achieving sanitation for society, including all? How are the societal goals and benefits of sanitation made compatible with the individual goals and benefits? How does the legal responsibility to progressively realize the human right to sanitation correlate with the aim of including everybody?

Transforming societies to meet the SDGs: The role of finance

Co-conveners: World Water Council, CAF Development Bank of Latin America, Stockholm Sustainable Finance Centre at Stockholm Environment Institute and the Federal Ministry of Economic Cooperation and Development, Germany (tbc)



Far-reaching societal transformations are required to achieve the Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs), and finance for water play a vital role in under-pinning these transformation processes. According to estimates by the World Bank, investments need to

triple to reach the water-related SDGs, and traditional approaches will not get us there. Transforming business-as-usual by revaluing water is needed to improve social equity and distribution (e.g. women and youth), whilst at the same time increasing economic growth and protecting water related ecosystems. The High-Level Panel on Water identified the need for more clarity on allocating, valuing, pricing and trading water, and of the transparent incorporation of these values into decision-making. Institutional, regulatory and policy changes are required to enable the implementation of financial inclusion mechanisms in order to maximize social equity. Identifying shared responsibilities, co-benefits and win-win situations are important components in the process.

This seminar explores how finance can support an inclusive, sustainable transformation: how do we increase financial streams and make them more effective and equitable? How do we maximize and attract non-traditional sources of finance to support SDGs? How do we ensure that the process is inclusive and that we minimise the risk of bias towards certain groups or SDG goals? How do we account for social capital, multi-dimensional aspects for poverty and the risk for stranded assets? Lastly, what opportunities are provided by green finance and financial inclusion, what are potential bottle-necks and how do we overcome these?

Addressing migration through regional integration and water security for all

Co-conveners: Food and Agriculture Organization of the United Nations, Water Research Commission and Overseas Development Institute (tbc)



Regional economic integration can foster transboundary water management as well as energy and food security. It also attracts investments that address infrastructure deficits, accelerates participation in global and regional value chains, and stimulates economic growth. All are important entry points for sustainable development. However, environmental and social co-benefits are typically not as well quantified as economic growth. Inclusive development if undertaken correctly can potentially support all dimensions of sustainability, including coping with rising pressure on resources and population increases experienced in Africa and Asia. The latter pressures, coupled with the potential for economic failures increases the number of people seeking a better life, with international migration reshaping the socio-political, environmental and economic landscapes of 'departing' and 'receiving' countries. Departing countries shed skills and social cohesion, while recipients face increased competition for resources, jobs and social structures.

Regional economic integration can foster transboundary water management as well as energy and food security. It also attracts investments that address infrastructure deficits, accelerates participation in global and regional value chains, and stimulates economic growth. All are important entry points for sustainable development. However, environmental and social co-benefits are typically not as well quantified as economic growth. Inclusive development if undertaken correctly can potentially support all dimensions of sustainability, including coping with rising pressure on resources and population increases experienced in Africa and Asia. The latter pressures, coupled with the potential for economic failures increases the number of people seeking a better life, with international migration reshaping the socio-political, environmental and economic landscapes of 'departing' and 'receiving' countries. Departing countries shed skills and social cohesion, while recipients face increased competition for resources, jobs and social structures.

This seminar will explore how natural resources and water governance in a regional context promotes economic growth with environmental and social co-benefits. How does equitable access to shared resources enhance wider cooperation, peace and stability? Could transformations influence drivers of out-migration by increasing sustainable resource access and management? We invite discussions on the influence of globalisation on water management and security in the context of regionally integrated development. Participants should consider how shared benefits from water management, such as energy trades, tourism, and healthy rivers flowing across boundaries, support the SDGs, promote equitable resource access and reduce resource pressure and conflict.

Equity in climate change adaptation

Co-conveners: African Development Bank, Alliance for Global Water Adaptation, Asian Disaster Preparedness Centre and Women Engage for a Common Future



Impacts from climate change pose many challenges to water and sanitation development and management. This includes changing patterns of both supply and demand for water resources, affecting function and operations of existing water and sanitation infrastructure, increasing frequency of extreme weather events, and changing ecosystems and their functions. They also alter human migration patterns. Evidence shows that the poor and ethnic minorities are more vulnerable because they can be highly exposed to climate extremes and because their adaptive capacity is often lower. If poorly undertaken, adaptation processes can potentially exacerbate inequalities, causing maladaptation. Undue burden is often placed on women and youth, although these groups also play a key role in achieving successful adaptation. Equitable adaptive capacity building requires addressing not only climate-related risks but also socio-economic structural deficits. Successful adaptation must therefore address dilemmas of equality, many of which are most acute in vulnerable communities across the world.

Impacts from climate change pose many challenges to water and sanitation development and management. This includes changing patterns of both supply and demand for water resources, affecting function and operations of existing water and sanitation infrastructure, increasing frequency of extreme weather events, and changing ecosystems and their functions. They also alter human migration patterns. Evidence shows that the poor and ethnic minorities are more vulnerable because they can be highly exposed to climate extremes and because their adaptive capacity is often lower. If poorly undertaken, adaptation processes can potentially exacerbate inequalities, causing maladaptation. Undue burden is often placed on women and youth, although these groups also play a key role in achieving successful adaptation. Equitable adaptive capacity building requires addressing not only climate-related risks but also socio-economic structural deficits. Successful adaptation must therefore address dilemmas of equality, many of which are most acute in vulnerable communities across the world.

The objective of the seminar is to contribute to embedding equitable adaptation that reduces water related vulnerabilities. As overall accessibility to water and sanitation increases, we also need to increase resilience to climate change. The seminar will focus on identifying what are determinants that constrain or enhance adaptation and vulnerability reduction. How can adaptation strategies be more inclusive and enhance adaptive capacity for the most vulnerable? Can we deter climate migration by building resilience to climate change, increased variability and disasters? Are technical adaptation interventions adequately attuned to community needs? We will draw replicable lessons that do not leave anyone behind.

Entrepreneurship driving water impact for all

Co-conveners: Korean Ministry of Environment, Inter-American Development Bank and Global Water Entrepreneurship Pact



Global business leaders have been identifying “Water Crises” as a top 5 risk to their businesses in terms of global impact and likelihood, indicating a realization that unsustainable water use in developing, emerging and industrialised countries alike can negatively

affect water availability and quality for all users, including businesses. However, business could be part of the solution.

Public and private actors are coming together more often to discuss how to reduce or eliminate risks to public and eco-system health, and incremental losses for businesses. The role of policy-makers and international development agencies have been continuously moving towards catalysing private actors, funds and small and medium-sized businesses (SMEs) to contribute more fundamentally to sustainable development through promoting impact-driven, and inclusive solutions.

To achieve an equitable water sharing for all society sectors and for healthy ecosystems, an entrepreneurial sector could be empowered to create inclusive, community-based solutions.

The seminar will review successes and failures of existing catalytic support mechanisms for accelerating and promoting water and sanitation entrepreneurship in communities, and environmental leadership in businesses in high, middle and low-income countries, towards inclusive sustainable development. How do these initiatives combine financial solutions, innovation, and business modelling, in driving inclusive and sustainable growth? Why should government agencies promote water and sanitation entrepreneurship? What are the obstacles to and opportunities for growth acceleration? How can larger corporations and public-private partnerships contribute to SME development? What motivates investment in social entrepreneurship beyond technical application? And how does entrepreneurship empower water users?

Linking biodiversity with inclusive development to achieve the 2030 Agenda

Co-conveners: International Union for Conservation of Nature, International Water Management Institute, Biome Environmental Trust and Stockholm Resilience Centre (tbc)



The planet’s biodiversity is under threat and water-related ecosystems rapidly degrading. Healthy aquatic ecosystems are a prerequisite for securing many of the endangered species and life-sustaining systems. Joint efforts are needed on all levels, by all sectors.

The Biodiversity Convention and other international agreements that provide the regulatory framework must be implemented. Inclusive development is key for local communities, the wider society, national governments, international actors, and private sector actors to better understand the use and dependence on shared resources and complex systems such as environmental flows; and how holistic approaches to landscape regeneration can enhance water cycles. Local ecological knowledge and practices are vital for SDG achievement. Citizen science initiatives—through crowd-sourcing of data, ground-truthing and participatory monitoring—respond to the need for accelerated understanding of increasingly stressed freshwater ecosystems. Rainwater harvesting uses ancient wisdom and modern infrastructure to improve productive habitats, and increases the resilience of people and the planet.

This seminar will build further on the World Water Week 2018 seminar “Investing in freshwater ecosystems and biodiversity as a key development challenge” to achieve the 2030 Agenda. How can we promote discussion of inclusive pathways to sustain ecosystem services, halt biodiversity loss, and ensure fair and equitable sharing of resources that recognizes everyone’s human rights? How can strategic alliances, local ecological knowledge on water resources, people’s movements, and citizen science initiatives help overcome challenges? How should the water community link up with the outcomes of the Conference of the Parties of the Convention on Biological Diversity (held in November 2018)?

Innovations to reach those left behind: Including the last mile

Co-conveners: Inter-American Development Bank, Water Foundry and International Water Association (tbc)



Traditional approaches have yet to deliver universal access to water and sanitation. Progress to date has proven unequal and exclusive, perpetuating significant inequalities in access, cost and service quality. Traditional centralized infrastructure and financing,

business models and partnerships in many ways hinder the adoption of innovative strategies in the public utility sector such as digital applications, off-grid water generation, sludge management, or localized treatment. The result is a lack of inclusion of minorities and the poor in both developed and emerging economies leaving entire groups lagging-behind and vulnerable.

Innovation in technology, financing, partnerships, and business models have already proven to be cost effective. They also hold the promise of bridging the gap to deliver universal access improving access to safe drinking water, adequate sanitation, and improving the sustainable management of our water resources. Moreover, to identify and scale innovation in the sector we need “outsiders” from other industries and entrepreneurs to achieve SDG 6.

The seminar will showcase innovations designed and implemented to ensure inclusive solutions with a focus on marginalized areas in developed and emerging economies. How to mainstream innovation in service providers and the importance of developing and innovative organizational culture? How to compare and integrate innovations to ensure comprehensive solutions rather than piecemeal approaches? What criteria can be applied to compare and select different innovations designed to address similar problems? What type of incentives, business models, tools, and talent are required to foster innovations? This seminar will also tap into governance issues, public sector capacity, funding and financing, and the role of the young, women and marginalised groups to achieve inclusive, sustainable and resilient innovations.



Photo: Istock



Photo: Mikael Ullén

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 22 March, and awarded by the prize patron, H.M. King Carl XVI Gustaf of Sweden during World Water Week.

What: Stockholm Water Prize Award Ceremony and Royal Banquet

When: Wednesday, 28 August 2019

Time: 16:30

Stockholm Junior Water Prize

The Stockholm Junior Water Prize has, for 23 years, 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.

What: Stockholm Junior Water Prize Award Ceremony and Royal Dinner

When: Tuesday, 27 August 2019

Time: 18.00

World Water Week 2019



World Water Week



Media Partners

Key Collaborating Partners



Stockholm Water Prize



Thanks to: Grand Hôtel

Stockholm Junior Water Prize

Founding Global Sponsor



Supported by



Thanks to: Arlanda Express

Supported by:



Support World Water Week and the Prizes

Whether you are at the beginning of your water journey, an established actor in the water sector, or a sustainability thought-leader, we invite you to be part of the solution. If you would like to support World Water Week, please contact us at

www.worldwaterweek.org/support