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2019 Impact Report

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LIVE

From World Water Week's Director

Dear Friends!

Thanks to all of you who contributed to making World Water Week 2019 such a success. No matter what way you look at it, this year's World Water Week really stands out. It attracted a record number of 4,000 participants from 138 countries, who had more sessions than ever to choose from. At the same time, we experimented with new forms of content, from movie nights to innovative formats to create a learning experience.

Two things made this possible. Moving to a new venue was of course crucial to realizing our ambitions, since the spacious Tele2 Arena in Stockholm offers a new level of flexibility. Equally important was something that will not be allowed to change – that special World Water Week spirit, which enables participants to learn from one another.

This focus on inclusion is key to creating a successful conference, where everyone gets a chance to contribute. It is also the essence of successful water governance, which was explored in many sessions related to the theme of Water for society: Including all. There is an urgent need for improved management of water, and this is only possible if all experiences are taken into consideration.

For World Water Week to be relevant, we must ourselves reflect this diversity and for the past few years this is something we have worked hard to achieve. The Gold Standard, which encourages interaction and ensures a high number of young and female panelists, has received broad support. This year, 73 per cent of sessions adhered to the standard. Scholarships and partnerships make the week accessible to participants and journalists from low-income countries. A growing number of sessions are open to the public, either online or on site.

We are now beginning to see results. The gender gap is closing, with women making up more than 48 per cent of participants and 43 per cent of speakers. World Water Week is the conference of choice among young water professionals, who now represent one third of participants. We're an increasingly diverse conference, where the world's most prominent water experts mix with government officials, leading NGOs, the business sector, multilateral and international organizations, outstanding scientists and grassroot activists to share experiences and work on concrete solutions.

This is a true measure of success – that World Water Week can facilitate the rapid global spread of ideas and best practices at a time when we need to accelerate action. In 2019 we took great steps in that direction. Thank you for your contributions to creating lasting and meaningful change!

This impact report explores the impact of World Water Week in more detail and will help shape the years ahead. We will continue to develop pathways – and to evaluate them - for an increased engagement of under-represented groups in the water community.

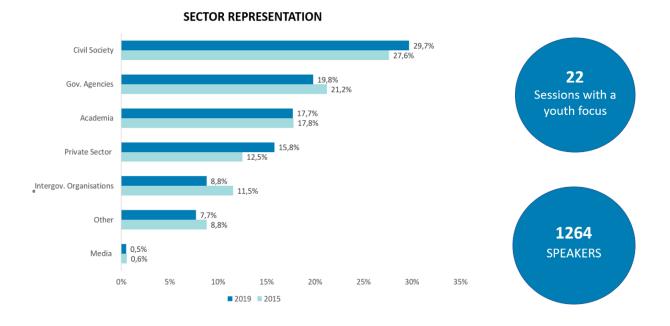
Muni

Gabriela Suhoschi

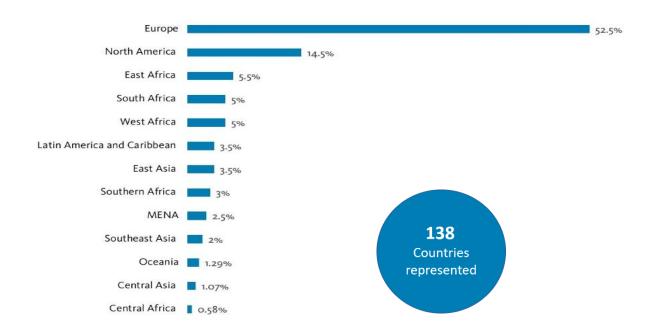
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Highlights



More than 80% of survey respondents said they would take one or more actions as a result of having attended World Water Week.

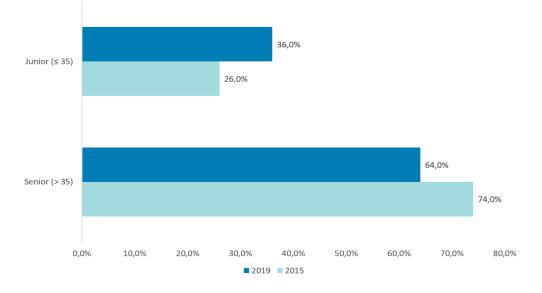


8 of 10 attendees said they would recommend World Water Week to someone in their network

Over 20,000 views of

World Water Week sessions via SIWI's Facebook

3,200 articles, blog posts, TV and radio features by journalists, published to over 80 countries.



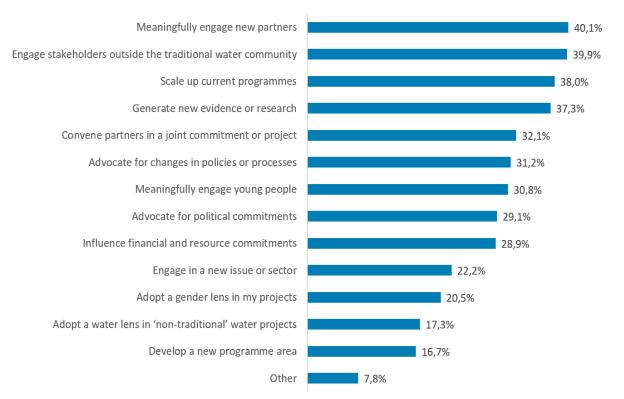
PARTICIPANTS - AGE REPRESENTATION

+4000 participants from 138 countries



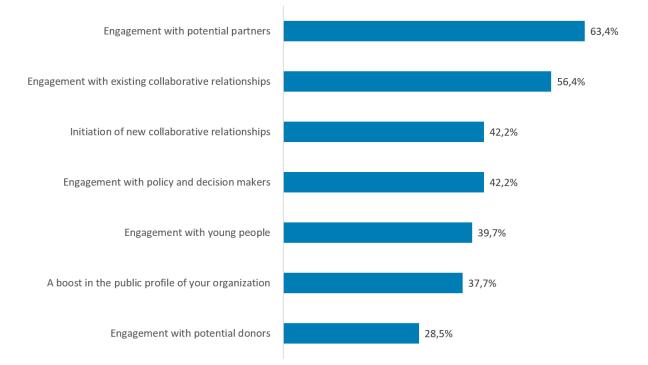
More than 82% of survey respondents said they would take one or more specific actions as a result of having attended World Water Week. The most common actions included engaging stakeholders outside the traditional water community, meaningfully engaging new partners, scaling up current programmes and generating new evidence and/or research.

This was followed by advocating for changes in policies or processes, convening partners in a joint commitment or project, and meaningfully engaging young people. Nearly 20% of respondents reported adopting a water lens in the strategy or operationalization of non-traditional water projects – an important growth area.



BEHAVIOURAL CHANGE – PARTICIPANTS PLAN TO:

SURVEY RESULTS - PARTICIPANTS BENEFITED FROM:



PARTICIPANT STORIES | just a selection!

"Since 2014, I have participated 4 times in WWW during each year I got many lessons and experience from the event which was helped me to improve our country program implementation and program review and scale-up. Bilateral discussion with different institutions also helped a lot in improving our country programs. Field visits conducted during the event also helped us to think differently in managing water resources and water supply."

"After my session many potential participants came to me exchange their business cards and wish to work and exchange detail information later. Now my networking keeps going with them."

"I will try to engage a university from my country to focus on one situation that was focused at the recent World Water Week with the purpose to contribute to the establishing of one work initiative."

"Found new impact investors and local creditors; established a partnership with an equipment supplier."

"My organisation will now develop a comprehensive WASH Programme. Something that we never used to do before. Issues of stunting of children will be addressed through this initiative."

"Successfully brought together NGOs and the relevant minister to scope and launch a coalition to draft a unified financing framework to underpin the national plan. Alignment was reached and commitment to collaborate on comprehensive guidance by the actors was committed to."

"I was able to start a conversation that I hope will lead to funding for a menstrual hygiene management (MHM) project in Kenya. WWWeek 2019 was indeed a perfect platform for my organization moving to the next level."

"Decided to include nature-based solutions in my NGO's strategy going forward."

"Able to meet and discuss key national priorities with leading decisions makers who attend the Week but who might otherwise be less accessible in country."

"As a regional convener, our presence always guarantees the needs and opportunities of our region."

"Found new impact investors and local creditors; established a partnership with an equipment supplier."

"I completely changed my way of thinking and seeing the world. I want to continue studying science and I want to be a scientist so I can carry out projects and help humanity."

"The partnership discussions we had with partners in the sector, have opened a new door for greater collaborations. Further, government was also in attendance, therefore agreed on several areas of collaboration that we need to implement in Kenya."

"I believe that the information we learned at World Water Week will improve our drought planning and outreach to impacted communities and indigenous populations."

"World Water Week helped form a community of liked-minded people on the topic of better incentives for utility improvements, and practical implementation concepts to translate those to action on the ground."

"From the sessions, and conversations I had, I would like to explore any possibilities of including more WASH elements in our company strategy."

"WWW in 2016 was the starting point for the Sustainable Services Initiative (SSI) from Welthungerhilfe, German Toilet Organisation, aguaconsult and Viva con Agua. The SSI aims to Systems Strengthening in the WASH sector and is integrated in the Agenda4Change."

"I came to the conference as a student, and I have learned a great deal about the possibilities for a future career within the water sector. I was initially a little discouraged because I thought my interests and skill set were not practical and could possibly limit future work opportunities. I am specifically interested in habitat restoration and its effects (positive and negative) on human communities, notably on social justice issues. But a session I attended on watershed restoration bringing success to WASH efforts gave me a new perspective on opportunities within this very niche! I seek to find more projects and opportunities that allow me to do this exact work."

"The African Sanitation Professionals Network had a soft launch at WWWeek. We have received incredible support from our sector colleagues and based on WWWeek are currently speaking with potential partners. We convened a networking reception, an African Mingle and a breakfast meeting during the Week."

Conference report card

	Rating 4+/5
Overall conference	72%
The theme "Water for Society – including all"	87%
Sessions	76%
Networking opportunities	84%
Exhibition	72%
Facilities	50%
Registration process	88%
Service on-site	79%
Support from the World Water Week team	91%
Online programme portal (for convenors)	80%
Opening plenary	83%
Closing plenary	76%
Website	66%
Community	65%
Арр	62%

PARTICIPANT TESTIMONIALS | overall conference

"Extraordinarily well organized and run. Very impressive."

"Given the size of the venue, it was logistically simple. Even requiring the use of headsets made it more intimate with the session participants at hand."

"Very nice meeting, i learn a lot and I met very important professionals for my job. Super nice SIWI staff/volunteers."

"I thought the headphone system would be a pain to manage but it actually went really well."

"The arena was great: people were able to go to sessions and walk by the exhibitors booth and the sofa and interact with people; also I liked the "tables" where people could sit together and get to know each other before sessions started. The water bottles were a great idea and had good quality."

"The event was excellent in its organisation and every effort had been made to make participants feel welcome."

"I felt that the open space on the floor was very conducive to networking and visiting different booths. Also, having everyone use headphones worked very well and avoided the problem of noise pollution and people shouting over one another."

"The quality of knowledge I got and the quality of presentations: Topics on Smart Water Management, Non-Sewered Sanitation, Container Based Sanitation, Innovation: Business Unusual, were amazing."

"The theme, sessions and diversity. It was amazing to assist such a grand event and meet people of different backgrounds united at one platform. Would love to be a part of it for the coming years too."

"It was good to see increased diversity and the inclusion of youth, indigenous and local community representatives, and persons with disabilities given heightened visibility during this year's conference, and I hope that the conference continues to improve in this area in future years, even when not tied to the overall theme."

"I liked the inclusiveness of the event and panels (gender, youth, etc). The engagement of private public and international sectors was also good, there was enough representation from every sector. I liked the use of headphones for the sessions."

"It was a new experience for me. I got to get out of my comfort zone and talk about an area I am passionate about. At the same time, I learnt a lot, networked with amazing people and got understand the numerous activities I can be involved in and make a difference in this world."

"The level of professional dialogue, opportunity to learn and exposure and access to potential programme and project sponsors."

Water for society- including all

The theme of World Water Week 2019 was *Water for Society: Including all*, seeking to draw attention to the fact that humanity's major challenges are interlinked and can only be solved through broad solutions. The escalating water crisis has increased focus on the importance of good water governance, to make sure that there is enough clean water for the many competing needs.

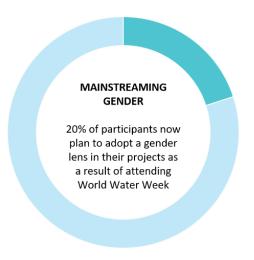
It is important that marginalized groups are not left behind and that they can influence decisionmaking. How this can be achieved was explored from various angles throughout the Week.

Many sessions were dedicated to sharing the knowledge of different groups, such as people living with disabilities, ethnic minorities, slum-dwellers, the young and the elderly. Other activities focused on how gender roles and power relations impact who gets what water, reminding participants that efficient water governance may require the challenging of traditional stereotypes.

We launched a special campaign to highlight our <u>code of conduct</u> this year to ensure that World Water Week is a safe space for all members of our global communities. We have also initiated a few programmes over the past years, such as the Gold Standard, to help increase participation by underrepresented groups, as both attendees and speakers at World Water Week.

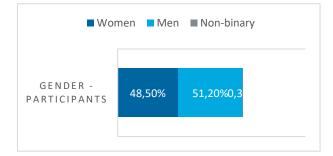
GOLD STANDARD |

Our <u>Gold Standard</u> for example is one of such initiatives. Since its inception in 2017, interest in hosting Gold Standard sessions has greatly increased from **10 per cent in 2017** to **73 per cent in 2019**. Our aim is for all World Water Week sessions fulfil the Gold Standard requirements by 2021 and for inclusive sessions to become the norm. We are therefore encouraged to see that other conferences have followed suit to make inclusion a cornerstone of their events.

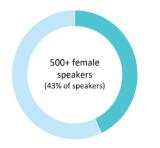


GENDER |

Acknowledging that a water wise world can only be achieved when the diverse experiences, needs and strengths that make up our global community are recognized, we strive to give men, women and members of gender minorities equal chances to both learn and influence decision making. For World Water Week, the issue of gender equality went beyond participation. Some **30 sessions featured gender** as part of their thematic focus.



#WATERWOMEN SPEAKER DIRECTORY



In addition to continuing the promotion of the Gold Standard and actively seeking out female speakers for the plenaries, we also introduced non-binary as a gender identification option in our registration system to better reflect gender dynamics. In 2019, we were proud to that nearly half of participants identified as non-binary or women.

Launched in 2018, the free directory is another way to support greater participation of women, eliminate gender disparities and lift women at the Conference. It is a ready-to-browse list of speakers that convenors can use when looking for brilliant #waterwomen. It currently counts 1302 entries.

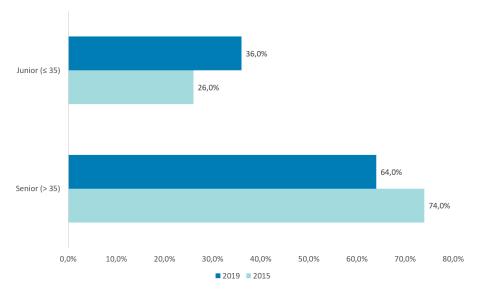
YOUTH EMPOWERMENT |

Being underrepresented often results in being overlooked. As the world's biggest annual water event, World Water Week is the ideal place not only to include perspectives from all stakeholders but also to amplify the voice of underrepresented groups.

In 1997, World Water Week introduced its first programme specially targeting young people aged 35 years or less: The Stockholm Junior Water Prize. Many more initiatives have since been launched, providing younger generations with additional opportunities to learn, make their voices heard and network. The share of young participants at the conference has increased by 38% between 2015 and 2019. The increased participation of young professionals resonates among participants as 40% reported to have benefited from engaging with young people and 31% even intend to meaningfully engage young people as a result of their participation at World Water Week. Nearly 8% of sessions focused on the issue of youth empowerment.

Participating at World Water Week can also lead to professional development and career opportunities for youth participants. For example, one of the assistants made a connection during one of the formal youth activities during the Week that led to an internship at the United Nations.

PARTICIPANTS - AGE REPRESENTATION



YOUNG SCIENTIFIC PROGRAMME COMMITTEE

The Young Scientific Programme Committee (YSPC) was one of the first formal tools World Water Week used to specifically harness the potential of young people at the conference. Their role is to develop the Week's seminar programme. Over the seven years of the programme, **59** young professionals have benefited from collaboration with and mentorship from top level scientists through this programme.

YOUNG PROFESSIONAL DAYS

Days during which everyone between 18-35 can attend World Water Week for free were introduced in 2013. Back then, we tailored some activities during one day to the interests of young professionals. In 2019, the Young Professional programme was extended from one to three days to offer more varied viewpoints to our young attendees. Free access during one of these three days also increased opportunities for youth participation.

In 2019, nearly 10% of participants were people under the age of 36 who benefited from a free day pass on one of the Young Professional Days.

JUNIOR RAPPORTEURS

The Week's junior rapporteurs are an instrumental part of the World Water Week reporting process. They capture, analyze and summarize the main themes coming from discussions held during the Week and draft the World Water Week Overarching Conclusions, together with senior rapporteurs. The programme offers a great opportunity for young professionals to network and develop their analytical skills under professional guidance.

YOUNG PROFESSIONAL SPEAKERS DIRECTORY

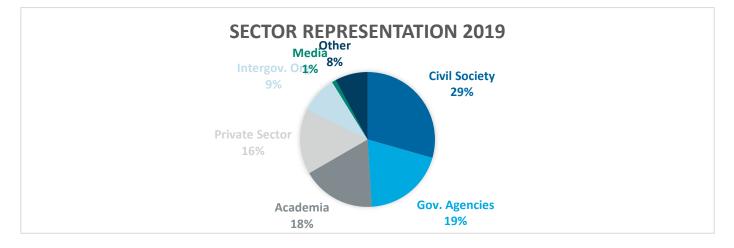
Launched in 2018, the directory is a ready-to-browse list that convenors can use when looking for brilliant speakers in the earlier stages of their career. The directory currently includes over 1100 young professionals.

Overall, 16% of all speakers at World Water Week were 35 years old or younger.

Participant highlights

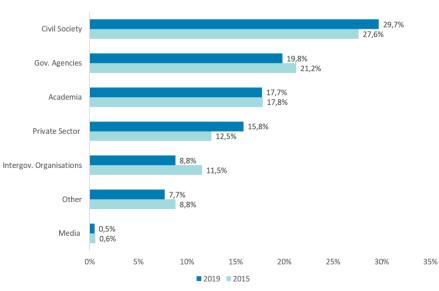
In 2019, just over 4000 people from 138 countries, across six continents, attended World Water Week - with a large portion from Europe. Nearly half (43%) of participants were attending for the first time!

Around 36% of participants were aged 35 or younger, and nearly half of participants identified as female (48.5%).



From a sector perspective, the Week continues to attract actors from public and private sectors.

Civil society continues to represent the largest group ("30% in 2019), with government agencies, academia and increasing, the private sector, following closely behind ("15-20% each). Private sector representation has increased by over 26% since 2015.



SECTOR REPRESENTATION

Over two-thirds (71%) of surveyed participants say their main objective for attending World Water Week is *to network*.

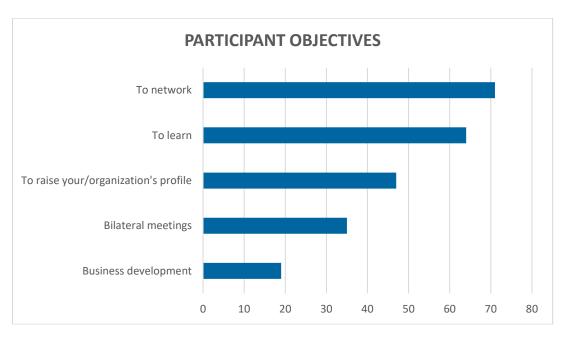
Nearly half (46%) also want to raise their organization's *profile*. We therefore strive to foster diversity and widen the audiences and opportunities for networking.

In 2019, 38% of surveyed participants believed that engaging in World Water Week helped them boost the public profile of their organization. In addition, 63% of respondents reported that they engaged with potential partners and 42% even initiated new collaborative relationships at the Week.

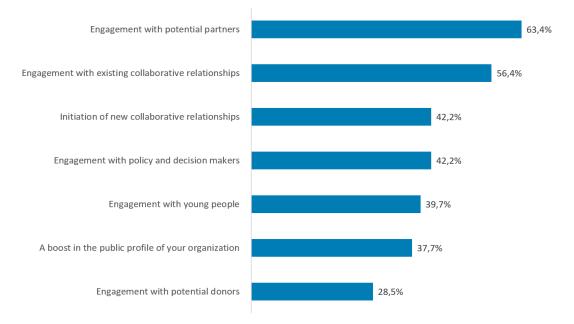
To help them turn these contacts into lasting relationships, we launched **the World Water Week Community** on <u>www.worldwaterweek.org</u> this year (thank you to the Government of the Netherlands for their support), allowing all registered participants to explore participating organizations and participants and better leverage the networking opportunities presented at the Week. Launched shortly before World Water Week in 2019, 2498 (62% of all participants) created a profile. We look forward to watching the newsfeed again in 2020!

Learning was the second most popular objective, with 64% of participants also coming to learn. In this context, diversity of topics, content format and viewpoints play are key to maintaining the conference's relevance for our wide range of participants.

On the content level, World Water Week featured 200 sessions in 2015 and to 277 in 2019. A big part of this increase has been via the introduction of Sofas and Showcases introduced to target online audiences and service slightly different session objectives, for example, to help simplify some of the discussions and also provide convenors with a platform to showcase their projects, partnerships and learnings.



SURVEY RESULTS - PARTICIPANTS BENEFITED FROM:



Programme overview

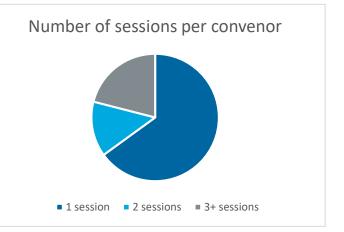
There were nearly 300 sessions featuring 1264 speakers in the programme this year, with several additional closed meetings, breakfasts and mingles.



CONVENORS

There was a significant jump in the number of convening organizations in 2019 (over 40%!). Over 20% convened 3 or more sessions.

Nearly 65% of surveyed convenors said they positioned their organization as a thought leader on the session topic as a result of convening the session at World Water Week.



Over 80% said it increased the visibility of their organization and its work, and **over 73%** credited convening a session with new leads for future collaboration.

Around 75% of convenors would likely apply to convene again. 80% would recommend other organizations become convenors.

PLENARIES |

The theme for World Water Week 2019, Water for Society – including all, was presented in the **Opening Plenary** on Monday 26 August. Distinguished speakers shared their insights and expertise from a professional perspective, but also from the heart.

Written by Andreas Karlsson | Originally appeared in Stockholm WaterFront Daily from World Water Week 2019

Few encouraging messages were conveyed during yesterday's opening ceremony, underlining the increasingly acute water situation in the world and what was described as an alarming inability to address it.

One of the overarching statements was that we no longer have an excuse not to act on pressing water and climate issues. Several speakers, including this year's Stockholm Water Prize laureate, Dr Jackie King, emphasised that there is no denying that we have the information, the know-how, the structures and the technology to bring about positive change. Yet, she said, there is no momentum in the struggle to fulfil SDG 6, something which must immediately change.

SIWI's Executive Director, Torgny Holmgren, opened the event with a similar statement, saying that even since last year's World Water Week, we have acquired important and alarming knowledge about the state of the world. "Compared to just a year ago, we now know that we have less time than we thought to tackle the climate crisis and the degradation of our environment.

New reports tell us that the world's glaciers and the Antarctic ice sheet are melting at a such faster rate than first anticipated." Many discussions during the event also circled around this year's theme of inclusiveness, with several statements suggesting that unequal distribution of water is a serious violation.

As testified by the award-winning Swedish photographer Paul Hansen, denying certain groups access to water is increasingly being used as a weapon around the world. "I have never met a hungry or thirsty soldier. In conflict zones all over the world, water and other vital resources are being withheld to suppress people. The lack of access is a very powerful weapon."

Speaking of his own role as a photojournalist in some of the world's most gruesome conflicts, he said that he truly believes in the importance of spreading the word and the impact of individual stories. "To bring about change, we must touch people's hearts. They must never be able to say, 'we didn't know'."

The **Closing Plenary** summarized and concluded the outcomes of the 2019 World Water Week. Keynote speakers and Key Collaborating Partners reflected on the theme and shared their take-home messages. The rapporteur team and the Scientific Programme Committee also presented their main findings from all sessions. Read the Overarching Conclusions <u>here</u>.

HIGH LEVEL MEETINGS

Several high-level meetings and discussions take place at World Water Week to help elevate crosssector discussions and facilitate planning around continued action. Some highlights include:

- High-level dialogue on building a resilient future through water organized by SIWI and The Resilience Shift.
- High-level panel on water diplomacy organized by SIWI.
- High-level panel on bringing together oceans and freshwater led by SIWI, with <u>partners</u>.
- SIWI Business Leaders' Breakfast organized by SIWI, the Government of the Netherlands and 2030 Water Resources Group.

Building a resilient future: Partnerships, cooperation top stocktaking event

The annual high-level dialogue at World Water Week, the so-called stocktaking event, focused on the need for wider partnerships to achieve SDG 6. Several speakers stressed the importance of public-private partnerships and transboundary cooperation on a broad scale.

Representing the host country for COP 25, Chile's ambassador to Sweden, Hernán Bascuñán Jiménez, stated that cross-sector discussions would be at the core of the upcoming climate conference in Santiago.

Watch the event <u>here</u>.

Pooling power for source-to-sea success

The urgency of successfully implementing practical steps to achieve SDG 6 and SDG 14 was the overriding message at the High-level Panel on Bringing Together Oceans and Freshwater, with emphasis on local, inclusive measures.

Read the session summary <u>here</u>.

Managing Water in Trying Times: Striving for Inclusive Water Diplomacy

There is a growing need for inclusive and forward-thinking water diplomacy, experts said at a High-Level Panel on Water Diplomacy organized by SIWI at the 2019 World Water Week. Drawing on experiences from Yemen, South Sudan, Lebanon and Central Asia, the speakers emphasized the importance of more inclusive processes.

Read the session summary <u>here</u>.

Business Leaders' Breakfast

As water increasingly becomes a recognized operational risk for some segments of the corporate sector, a growing number of companies are looking at how to improve water resilience as part of their efforts to reduce their overall exposure to climate change risk.

In light of this, Business Leaders' Breakfast, held during World Water Week 2019, arranged by Stockholm International Water Institute (SIWI) in cooperation with the Government of the Netherlands and 2030 Water Resources Group brought together high-level decision-makers from the public and private sectors and civil society to share priorities, experiences and best practice.

Aligning with the theme of World Water Week – "Water for Society: Including all" – the informal and interactive event sought to support environmentally and financially sound broad-based cooperation in water.

It enabled participants to explore practical examples of how private sector actors are stepping up efforts to build, scale, and finance, climate-resilient business models that contribute to inclusive and sustainable development for all.

This report provides an overview of the main themes discussed during the event. These include building resilience into operations and water use; opportunities for generating income through water-resilient business practices; and financing more robust, forward-thinking and adaptive approaches to resilience building.

A follow-up event will be held at World Water Week 2020 which will offer participants the opportunity to consider progress made on the conclusions of this report, as well as tackle issues that emerge in the intervening period.

Read the full report from the breakfast <u>here</u>.

PRIZES

Dr Jackie King received the 2019 **Stockholm Water Prize** Laureate for her game-changing contributions to global river management. Dr King and her colleagues created ecosystem models to demonstrate the ecological and social implications of damming and de-watering rivers. This has enabled objective assessment of the costs of water-resource developments that could emerge linked to benefits such as hydropower and irrigated crops.

Stockholm Water Prize honours women, men and organizations whose work contributes to the conservation and protection of water resources, and to the well-being of the planet and its inhabitants. 2019 Laureate, Dr Jackie King has helped influence and empower water communities. She has also helped to raise the profile of women in water, contributing to female nominations more than doubling in 2020.

Stockholm Junior Water Prize gathers imaginative young minds from all over the world, encouraging their continued interest in water and sustainability issues. The competition attracted thousands of entries from 35 countries (38 in 2020). H.R.H. Crown Princess Victoria of Sweden is Patron of the prize.

Macinley Butson from Australia won the international competition. Her project developed a new, novel and innovative ultraviolet sticker to accurately measure large UV exposures for solar disinfection of water. The SODIS sticker is capable of accurately measuring the solar UV exposure required to sanitize drinking water through two innovative products built together.

During World Water Week 2019 the national winners issued a joint statement to express their concern over the water-related climate effects they see in their respective countries, that was then forwarded into the UN General Assembly and COP 25:

We desperately need true public-minded leaders, both political and influencers, to embrace scientific thinking, not as an ideology, but as an effective platform to drive constructive discourse. We need increased use of data in scientific debates as it is environmental data that informs good decision-making. This can lead to decisive and fruitful government actions to avoid, adapt and succeed in tackling climate change. And our generation is the next generation of leaders.

Read the full statement here.

EXHIBITION

It was an exciting year for the World Water Week exhibition, with the move to the new venue. Nearly 80 organizations exhibited at the new venue in 2019. There were mingles, breakfasts, launches, a dancing dragon and mural. The Swedish Royal couple toured through the exhibition, making connections that informed a tour to India in late 2019.

There were also an amazing 125 volunteer assistants on-site to help support participants and logistics, such as technical support and the silent sessions. An amazing 93% of the exhibitors surveyed said they reduced the amount of printed material they brought to World Water Week and 95% of build materials used at the Week in 2019 were recyclable and/or rented, therefore reusable for future events.

Media and social media

World Water Week 2019 attracted journalists from all over the world. This year's media partners also made their mark. Thank you to News18 (India's largest news network), Reuters Breaking Views, Thomson Reuters Foundation, and Circle of Blue. Community partner Facebook also had great impact on-site with its social media training. This proved very popular and will develop in 2020.

+3,200 articles, blog posts, TV and radio features with a potential reach of nearly **1.6 billion** people.

They were produced in **13 languages**, reaching **over 80 countries** across 5 continents. Livestreamed sessions also had over **20,000 views**.



The **WaterFront Daily** is published daily during World Water Week to let participants and everyone interested learn more about the many activities and debates that are part of the Week. All issues can be found here. Read the 2019 edition <u>here</u>.

Conclusion

We, the water community, have said for years that the water goal is the foundation upon which all SDGs can be delivered. That without it, the others are not possible. Through the theme, Water for society: Including all, we were not only focused on issues pertaining to water, but also how to collectively achieve the overall 2030 Agenda. We put a special focus on marginalized and vulnerable groups to help ensure that no decision about them, is taken without them. Good water governance will be crucial at every step and will require us to critically examine existing social norms and power relations and better uphold values of transparency, accountability and participation.

Let's continue to venture beyond the familiar and engage with communities that we often talk "about", but not "with" – communities such as youth, indigenous peoples, and the technology sector. Business as usual will not be enough. We need to be innovative and disruptive in our approaches. We need to act now, and together.

Welcome back to Stockholm in August 2020!

SIWI IS A WATER INSTITUTE | and organizer of World Water Week

Our vision is a water wise world, where we recognize the value of water, and ensure that it is shared and allocated sustainably, equitably and efficiently, to meet everyone's basic needs. We leverage knowledge and our convening power to strengthen water governance for a just, prosperous, and sustainable future.

This is World Water Week

With a rich and unique history spanning 30 years, World Water Week has developed into the world's most influential movement focused on transforming global water challenges. Each year, World Water Week is built around a specific thematic scope.

Formulated by the Scientific Programme Committee it provides a framework for discourse and provides inspiration for the sessions highlighted throughout the Week. All seminar abstracts and session proposals are then selected by SIWI with the theme in mind. Senior and Junior Rapporteurs use the thematic scope as a reference point when reporting on the Week. The Rapporteur team findings are presented at the Closing Plenary and are subsequently published in the Overarching Conclusions, published in October.

World Water Week





