

# Water and Development Congress & Exhibition 2015



## Call for Papers

**We are looking for contributions under the sub-themes below to present global best practice, applied research, policy developments and solutions to challenges faced by water professionals in low and middle income countries. We especially encourage presentations that focus on the dynamic interactions between water and urbanisation; water, food and energy; and water and climate change.**

### From Water Conflict to Cooperation and Development

Creating the institutional fabric to scale up local initiatives, achieving universal coverage of services and managing water resources sustainably (in its economic, social and environmental sense) is critical for progressive development. Every step of socio-economic development is likely to increase the demand for water and hence requires institutions to organise water distribution, manage conflicts over water and build consensus on the way water is allocated, used and preserved. However, each step also creates new opportunities, through economies of scale, new technology and a greater resource base for good governance. What are key success factors for scaling-up successful local water service initiatives? How to develop needed regulation and the regulatory authority for the water sector? Can water actors move beyond national and regional issues?

### Turning the Tide on Water Resources

Economic development is dependent on the wise management of resources. Serious floods and droughts can easily wipe out several percentages of annual GDP for a country. Skyrocketing insurance claims linked to water-related disasters undermine principles of risk sharing and investment policies in further developing the water, sanitation and wastewater infrastructure. Inefficient use of water, for example due to leakage, deprives others from a more beneficial use of water and increases costs of distribution and use. Depletion of groundwater is rapidly leading to irreversible situations threatening urban and rural areas alike. What are effective schemes of sustainable water resource management for farmers and industry to invest in? How to manage and control groundwater abstractions in large areas? How can cities connect to their hinterland and become a viable partner in investing in wise water management? How to tackle the rapidly growing pollution of national and local water ways?

### Rapid Urbanisation as Driver for Sustainability and Resilience

Urban areas in many developing and emerging economies are rapidly growing. This growth often outpaces the capacity of local governments to plan for and guide the development. As a result unplanned sprawling cities emerge with inadequate services and development, often in areas prone to disasters. How to turn urbanisation into a force for rapid expansion and improvement of water and waste water services? What are successful and scalable initiatives that can be replicated? What is the role of

city planners and developers in delivering water and sanitation services in future mega cities? Can we go beyond a focus on service delivery towards integrated urban water resources management?

### New Business Models for Water and Sanitation Services

Current models of water, sanitation and wastewater service delivery are inadequate for providing the billions of people who lack these services today. There is an urgent need to develop new business models that are likely to involve new technologies for delivery and other actors to provide the service. What are successful and replicable models for water and sanitation service delivery in slum areas? How to ensure new urban developments have quality services while treating wastewater to environmental and health standards? How to renovate and upgrade existing urban areas with a wide variety of water and sanitation demands? How to move beyond national goals and targets on water services coverage and achieve a progressive realisation of the human right to safe drinking water and sanitation nation-wide?

### Water & Cleantech as Opportunity for Growth and Development

Large amounts of wastewater and other bio-solid waste are left unused and often even hardly collected. The water, energy and materials embedded in the millions of tons of organic waste are in fact a great source of re-usable water, renewable energy and recoverable materials. In some developing and emerging economies this has not gone left unnoticed and pilot schemes to capture the energy and resources from waste water have been developed. Furthermore, Information and Communications Technologies (ICT) are revolutionising the water industry, for example in consumer relations or network operations. What is the potential for further developing wastewater – energy capture schemes in developing countries? How do the latest mobile APPS transform the water sector? How effective are decentralised wastewater – energy capture schemes?

### Growing Professional and Sector Wide Capacities

With increasing coverage and levels of services there is a need to develop the capacity of individual water professionals, organisations and the national water sector. Very few countries have invested in, or developed a deliberate strategy for developing their nation-wide water sector capacities. Also very few nations have developed curriculum and qualifications for different occupancies for water professionals. What are successful models to organise the water sector professionals at the national level? How to stimulate cooperation between research institutions / universities / vocational training institutes and water operators? Who is to lead on the development of standard list of qualifications for water professionals? What are successful training/ learning models for academic and vocational training?

## Presentation Formats

### Platform presentation

You will have 15 minutes to describe your work to an audience with genuine knowledge and interest in your field, followed by informed discussion - so you need a good level of spoken English.

### Poster presentation

Your poster will be displayed for three days on a wall area of approximately 80cm x 120cm. You'll also be in the running for the 'best poster award', which will be announced at the congress closing ceremony. Platform and poster presentations are of equal status - but your poster must do the 'talking' in this format. Your text and images must communicate key messages clearly.

## How are papers selected?

Your outline submission and the final full paper (if you are accepted as a presenter) must be in plain English and clearly define the objectives, status, methodology, findings and significance of the investigation or study.

Your submitted outline paper will be peer-reviewed by international experts. Presenter decisions will be announced in March 2015.

## What to submit

**Your initial submission must be in the form of an outline paper: two A4 pages of text (approximately 1,000 words) plus up to two additional pages of tables/figures. This must persuasively summarise your proposed presentation. It must be uploaded to our online submission system before 15 February 2015.**

Detailed guidance and templates are available at <http://www.iwa-network.org/WDCE2015>. If you prefer to present this work as a poster, please note this when you submit your proposal.

If your submission is accepted for a platform presentation, you will also have to submit a properly formatted full paper of between six and eight A4 pages (the maximum permissible length is 5000 words; each normal-sized figure or table counts as 350 words and must be incorporated within the 5000 word/eight-page limit) for inclusion in the congress preprints and which can be reviewed for publication.

You may submit as many outline papers as you want. However, no individual can present more than two platform papers—any further papers must be presented by one of the co-authors.

## Improving your paper

**Three fundamental questions determine whether a paper will be accepted onto the congress programme: Is the work novel? Is it correct and well presented? Is it interesting?**

To improve your chance of success, consider the following criteria.

### Audience

Does the subject matter fit the congress and session themes?  
How relevant is it for experts and non-experts?

### Originality

Is the work interesting and likely to prompt discussion at the congress? Your paper should describe breakthrough technology, new concepts, novel applications of established concepts, or improvements to existing theories (with new supporting data).

### Status of project

Is the work and its conclusions valid and correct? Your paper needs to establish that the work is well developed. If you can show concrete results that are well supported by data, your paper is more likely to be accepted.

### Technical content

Make sure that you state the objectives and scope of the project, as well as the conditions under which the data was obtained, and the general procedures or methodology you used.

### Benefits and significance

What are the benefits of the project? What is its significance for your local area, country or other countries in your region? How important is it to other researchers and professionals working in your field?

### Quality of presentation

Is your paper clearly set out and understandable? The programme committee and the expert reviewers believe that the quality of the outline paper is an indication of the quality of your final presentation. Prepare your outline with care, organise your material well, write clearly in plain English, prepare your graphics professionally, and make sure your information is accurate and up to date.

### Commercial

Papers that are commercial in nature will not be accepted for the scientific-technical programme as platform presentations or posters. However, this type of material is welcomed at the trade exhibition or perhaps in a business forum.

## Will papers be published?

Congress delegates will receive a full set of electronic preprints with the final programme, but a formal proceedings book will not be published. However, full papers accepted for the congress will be reviewed for publication in one of the IWA Publishing journals, including: Journal of Water Sanitation and Hygiene for Development. The final decision on publication, which may be subject to further revision of the paper, will be taken by the editors of the journal. If you do not wish your paper to be considered for publication in a journal, please make this clear when submitting your full paper.

## What do I need to pay?

Every presenter (platform and poster) is required to register as a paying delegate and attend the congress. If you're presenting, you are eligible for discounted registration fees. Presenters are responsible for their own travel and accommodation expenses. Presenters who do not register will be replaced.

You do not need to be a member of the IWA to present, but members receive larger discounts on registration fees and receive other membership benefits. Join by emailing [members@iwahq.org](mailto:members@iwahq.org), and see the benefits online.

## Key dates

### 15 February 2015

Final deadline for submission of outline papers (for platform and poster presentations).

### 31 March 2015

Presenters notified of acceptance/rejection.

### 30 July 2015

Deadline for accepted presenters to supply full papers for conference preprint, and register and pay to attend the congress.

## Programme Committee

### Tom Williams

*International Water Association, The Netherlands*

### Rifaat Abdelwahab

*Holding Company for Water and Wastewater, Egypt*

### Ghazi Abu Rumman

*ICT International, Jordan*

### Samir Bensaid

*ONEE, Morocco*

### Nayef K. Hammad

*GIZ, Jordan*

### Rose Kaggwa

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### Mustafa Nasreddin

*Arab Countries Water Utilities Association, Jordan*

### Ainun Nishat

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### Andreas Ulrich

*CIM-GIZ / CITET, Tunisia*

### Uta Wehn de Montalvo

*UNESCO-IHE, The Netherlands*

## Any questions?

Further details will be on the congress website, <http://www.iwa-network.org/WDCE2015> or email: [WDCE2015@iwahq.org](mailto:WDCE2015@iwahq.org)