

EMERGING WATER LEADERS FORUM | 14 AUGUST 2024

In an evolving landscape of water management and governance, unprecedented challenges are arising due to climate change, population growth, escalating resource demands, poverty, sanitation, and economic factors. These challenges require solutions that not only achieve sustainable water practices, but also enhance the optimisation, estimation, and management efficiency of water-related processes. The advancement of digital tools can serve as the cornerstone of innovation and development aimed at shaping our water future. By harnessing the capabilities of AI, water utilities and organisations can make data-driven decisions, streamline operations, reduce costs, and ensure sustainable management of this precious resource in the face of growing demand and environmental changes. At the same time, concerns about misinterpretation or misuse of data, ethical issues, and the digital divide pose significant hurdles and important issues to consider.

To tackle the complexities linked with digital tools (e.g., robust data management, cybersecurity, workforce development, financial considerations, etc.) the **6th Emerging Water Leaders Forum** (EWL Forum) will emphasise the pivotal contributions of both young and seasoned professionals in this digital era. These discussions will centre on how to effectively integrate AI and digital solutions into traditional water management practices to meet present and future water challenges, and how Young Water Professionals (YWPs) can play a major role in this process. In addition, the Forum will create an open platform for YWPs to connect globally and share professional experiences.

Objectives of the Forum

The theme of the 6th Emerging Water Leaders Forum will be **Harnessing Data and AI to Address and Solve Global Water Challenges**.

The Forum's theme and objectives are centred around creating an open platform for YWPs to connect globally, share professional experiences, and discuss the critical responsibility of addressing future water challenges by gathering insights and expertise on how to integrate AI into traditional water management.

Key Themes of the Forum

- **Leadership Development:** Young Water Professionals demonstrating leadership by driving collaboration, sharing knowledge, and advocating for safe water practices. Empowering young professionals to take ownership and responsibility for water-related issues by leveraging AI and data.
- **Sustainability and Resilience:** Developing and implementing innovative, climate-resilient solutions to ensure equitable access to water for all communities, while avoiding AI and data biases.
- **Innovation in Water Technologies:** Exploring cutting-edge technologies and solutions in water management (e.g. AI, IoT, blockchain, etc.), as well as skill gaps and career opportunities for young professionals in AI.

How to attend the Forum?

The 2024 edition will be held during the [IWA World Water Congress & Exhibition](#) in Toronto, Canada on Wednesday, 14 August 2024. The Forum is open to all YWPs registered and attending the [IWA World Water Congress & Exhibition](#).

No pre-registration is required, but you will be asked to check in through a QR code during the day of the Forum.



EMERGING WATER LEADERS FORUM

HARNESSING DATA AND AI TO ADDRESS AND SOLVE GLOBAL WATER CHALLENGES

WEDNESDAY, 14 AUGUST 2024

Format of the Forum

The event will consist of a mix of formats, including:

- 1. Panel Discussions:** In-depth discussions on key themes, featuring experts from academia, industry, international organisations and government.
- 2. Workshops:** Interactive sessions to develop practical skills and solutions.
- 3. Networking Sessions:** Opportunities for participants to connect with mentors and peers.
- 4. Roundtable Discussions:** Small group discussions focusing on specific challenges and solutions in the water sector.
- 5. Case Study Presentations:** Real-world examples of successful AI and data-driven water management and governance projects.

Expected Outcomes of the Forum

- In-Depth Knowledge:** Participants will gain a deeper understanding of the challenges and opportunities in the water sector, particularly in the context of AI and big data. Young professionals will acquire practical skills and tools related to AI, which are essential for addressing water-related issues.
- Policy Recommendations:** Development of policy recommendations to guide the integration of AI and data in water governance.
- Professional Networking:** Participants will have the opportunity to forge meaningful connections with peers, mentors, and potential collaborators.
- Develop Leadership Skills:** The event is designed to inspire YWPs to actively engage and contribute to efforts aimed at ensuring a sustainable and resilient water future. The program will focus on leadership development to nurture the necessary competencies for effective leadership in the water sector.
- Global Perspectives:** The event will attract participants from various regions, encouraging the sharing of perspectives and experiences to foster a comprehensive understanding of global water issues.



Programme Committee

- Cynthia Odili**, IWA YWP Nigeria Chapter, Nigeria
- Fahrudin Sidik**, Chung Yuan Christian University, Chinese Taipei
- Frances Amoye**, IWA YWP Canada Chapter/GHD, Canada
- Francisca Braga**, IWA YWP Denmark Chapter/Skanderborg Forsyning a/s, Denmark
- Hayat Raza**, IWA YWP Canada Chapter/Continental Carbon Group, Canada
- Irene Mas Martin**, IWA YWP USA Chapter/Grundfos, USA
- Jacob Kwasi Amengor**, IWA YWP Steering Committee/Ghana Water Limited, Ghana
- Leo Huang**, IWA YWP USA Chapter/Xylem, USA
- Mahmudul Hasan**, IWA YWP USA Chapter/ Baltimore City Department of Public Works, USA
- Mendy Zibuyile Shozi**, IWA YWP SA Chapter/BORSA South Africa, South Africa
- Rita Mishimwe**, IWA YWP Rwanda Chapter, Rwanda
- Ximena Quiroz**, IWA Peru Governing Member/SUNASS, Peru



EMERGING WATER LEADERS FORUM

HARNESSING DATA AND AI TO ADDRESS AND SOLVE GLOBAL WATER CHALLENGES

AGENDA

WEDNESDAY, 14 AUGUST 2024

09:45 - 10:30 Registration, Informal Networking & Challenge

10:30 - 10:50 Opening and Welcome Remarks

Jacob Amengor, IWA YWP Steering Committee Chair, Ghana
Kalanithy Vairavamoorthy, IWA Executive Director, United Kingdom

10:50 - 11:00 Chapter of the Year Initiative

Jacob Amengor, IWA YWP Steering Committee Chair, Ghana
Isabela Espindola, IWA Secretariat, Brazil

11:00 - 11:35 Updates from the IWA YWP Chapters

11:35 - 12:00 Keynote Plenary

Wim Audenaert, AM-Team, Belgium

12:00 - 13:00 Lunch Break

13:00 - 15:00 Panel Discussion "Is digitalisation creating career opportunities for YWP? if so, how?"

Jackie Fortin Flefil, Xylem, United States
Marina Batalini de Macedo, IWA Digital Water Steering Committee/IWA & Grundfos Youth Fellow, Brazil
Krisztian Mark Balla, Grundfos/IWA & Grundfos Youth Fellow, Denmark
Clifford Braimah, Ghana Water Limited, Ghana
Paul Chuo, Stantec, Chinese Taipei

15:00 - 15:30 Break

15:30 - 16:40 Workshop "Empowering Young Water Professionals for a Sustainable Digital Future"

1. Preparing for the Digital Age: Essential Skills and Experiences
2. Integrating Data and AI in the Water Sector: Identifying Disruptions and Innovations
3. Bridging Generational Gaps: Leveraging AI and Data for Collaborative Solutions
4. Evaluating AI and Data: Pros and Cons from a Young Professional's Perspective
5. Fostering Equity: Using AI and Data to Reduce Disparities Among Water Sector Stakeholders

16:40 - 17:00 Final Remarks

Chelsea Hayward, IWA YWP Steering Committee Chair, Australia



www.iwaconnectplus.org



ywp@iwahq.org



Get 20% off IWA Membership with code
IWAYWP24 - exp. 31 Dec 2024



www.worldwatercongress.org

FIND SOMEONE WHO...CHALLENGE

Could you find someone who matches each description and is attending the Emerging Water Leaders Forum? You will need to write their name in the box and can't add the same name more than 2 times. You will have until the end of the Forum to complete this table. The first person to cover the entire board will win a special prize. The challenge will only be valid during the day of the Forum and is only for YWPs attending the Forum.

Prepared a presentation last-minute	Is from an African country	Is/was part of the programme committee of the EWL Forum	Is/Was part of an IWA YWP Country Chapter	Attended at least 2 IWA EWL Forums
Attended a country IWA YWP Conference	Facilitates youth engagement in their work	Uses sustainable products	Is from the Asia-Pacific region	Is older than you
Is from the Latin America and Caribbean region	Attended at least 2 IWA WWCE	FREE SPACE!	Organised an event on youth and water	Learned about data and AI in school
Is younger than you	Is from North America	Is/Was an IWA & Grundfos Youth Fellow	Speak at least 3 languages	Has joined a youth-led organisation
Is/was part of the IWA YWP Steering Committee	Is attending the EWL Forum for the first time	Will give you a high-five	Is from Europe	Is/Was a chair or a Vice-Chair of an IWA YWP Country Chapter

YWP-RELATED SESSIONS AT THE CONGRESS

SUNDAY, 11 AUGUST

Opening Ceremony

16:00-18:00 HALL 1

Welcome Reception

18:30-20:00 EXHIBITION HALL

Exhibition Opening

16:00-18:00 EXHIBITION HALL

MONDAY, 12 AUGUST

Workshop:

Progress of Gender-Inclusive Leadership in the Water and Sanitation Sector

10:30-12:00 ROOM 701A

YWP Scavenger Hunt

You will have 3 days (from 12-15 August) to complete as many tasks as you can & upload your pictures and answers. Instructions for the scavenger hunt will be sent to everyone who signs up at the IWA YWP Canada booth.

10:00-17:00 ALL VENUE

Technical Session

Cross-Sectorial Governance

15:30-17:00 ROOM 715B

Grundfos Challenge Room

Each game is centered around an important topic relevant to our water future, to be solved. Participants can come in groups of 2-4 people or come individually and join other people who want to participate. Grundfos will donate CAD1000 to a local charity or NGO on behalf of the fastest team to solve the global water system.

13:00-15:30 ROOM 810

YWP Happy Hour

Meet the IWA & Grundfos Youth Fellows to learn more about what is next and their experience in the fellowship. Small panel of 15 min followed by animation, snacks, and drinks!

16:30-17:30 Grundfos Booth

YWP Social Night

The event will feature some light refreshments and carefully selected music which is sure to get everyone in a festive mood. We hope to see you there!

19:00-22:00 TBC



www.iwaconnectplus.org



ywp@iwahq.org



Get 20% off IWA Membership with code IWAYWP24 - exp. 31 Dec 2024



www.worldwatercongress.org

YWP-RELATED SESSIONS AT THE CONGRESS

TUESDAY, 13 AUGUST

Workshop

How Can Laurentian Great Lakes Youth-Inclusive Watershed Governance Improve Collaboration?

13:30-15:00 ROOM 716A

YWP Scavenger Hunt

You will have 3 days (from 12-15 August) to complete as many tasks as you can & upload your pictures and answers. Instructions for the scavenger hunt will be sent to everyone who signs up at the IWA YWP Canada booth.

10:00-17:00 ALL VENUE

Workshop

Water Security for Future Generations

13:30-15:00 ROOM 718A

Grundfos Challenge Room

Each game is centered around an important topic relevant to our water future. to be solved. Participants can come in groups of 2-4 people or come individually and join other people who want to participate. Grundfos will donate CAD1000 to a local charity or NGO on behalf of the fastest team to solve the global water system.

13:00-15:30 ROOM 810

Workshop

Positioning Water Scarcity At Centre Of Climate Change

15:30-17:00 ROOM 718B



www.iwaconnectplus.org



ywp@iwahq.org



Get 20% off IWA Membership with code
IWAYWP24 - exp. 31 Dec 2024



www.worldwatercongress.org

YWP-RELATED SESSIONS AT THE CONGRESS

WEDNESDAY, 14 AUGUST

Emerging Water Leaders Forum

10:30-17:00 ROOM 801A

Technical Session

Collaboration, Capacity Building and Communication

13:30-15:00 ROOM 714

Workshop

The Secret Lives Of Water Professionals: Exploring Water Careers In Academia, Consulting, Government And Utilities

13:30-15:00 ROOM 716A



YWP Scavenger Hunt

You will have 3 days (from 12-15 August) to complete as many tasks as you can & upload your pictures and answers. Instructions for the scavenger hunt will be sent to everyone who signs up at the IWA YWP Canada booth.

10:00-17:00 ALL VENUE

Grundfos Challenge Room

Each game is centered around an important topic relevant to our water future. to be solved. Participants can come in groups of 2-4 people or come individually and join other people who want to participate. Grundfos will donate CAD1000 to a local charity or NGO on behalf of the fastest team to solve the global water system.

13:00-15:30 ROOM 810

YWPs go to the Beach!

Meet at the IWA Stand to then travel together to Cherry Beach. Actual swimming will depend on beach water quality, but regardless of swimming, it'll be cool by the water!

18:00-20:30 CHERRY BEACH



www.iwaconnectplus.org



Get 20% off IWA Membership with code IWAYWP24 - exp. 31 Dec 2024



ywp@iwahq.org



www.worldwatercongress.org

YWP-RELATED SESSIONS AT THE CONGRESS

THURSDAY, 15 AUGUST

Workshop

10:30-12:00 ROOM 717A

An Accountability Framework Proposal for Realistic Youth Engagement In SDG 6

Workshop

10:30-12:00 ROOM 713

Redesigning Mentorship for Cross-generational (#crossgen) Collaborations

Workshop

13:30-15:00 ROOM 701A

Achieving UN Water Ministers Conference Goals

UK Pavillon

13:00-14:00 UK Pavillon

Young Water Professionals Lunchtime Reception (limited spaces - sign up at the UK Pavillon)

YWP Scavenger Hunt

10:00-17:00 ALL VENUE

You will have 3 days (from 12-15 August) to complete as many tasks as you can & upload your pictures and answers. Instructions for the scavenger hunt will be sent to everyone who signs up at the IWA YWP Canada booth.

Grundfos Challenge Room

13:00-15:30 ROOM 810

Each game is centered around an important topic relevant to our water future, to be solved. Participants can come in groups of 2-4 people or come individually and join other people who want to participate. Grundfos will donate CAD1000 to a local charity or NGO on behalf of the fastest team to solve the global water system.

Closing Ceremony

15:15-16:45 ROOM 801A

Gala Dinner

13:00-15:30 TBC

(limited spaces & tickets required)



www.iwaconnectplus.org



Get 20% off IWA Membership with code IWAYWP24 - exp. 31 Dec 2024



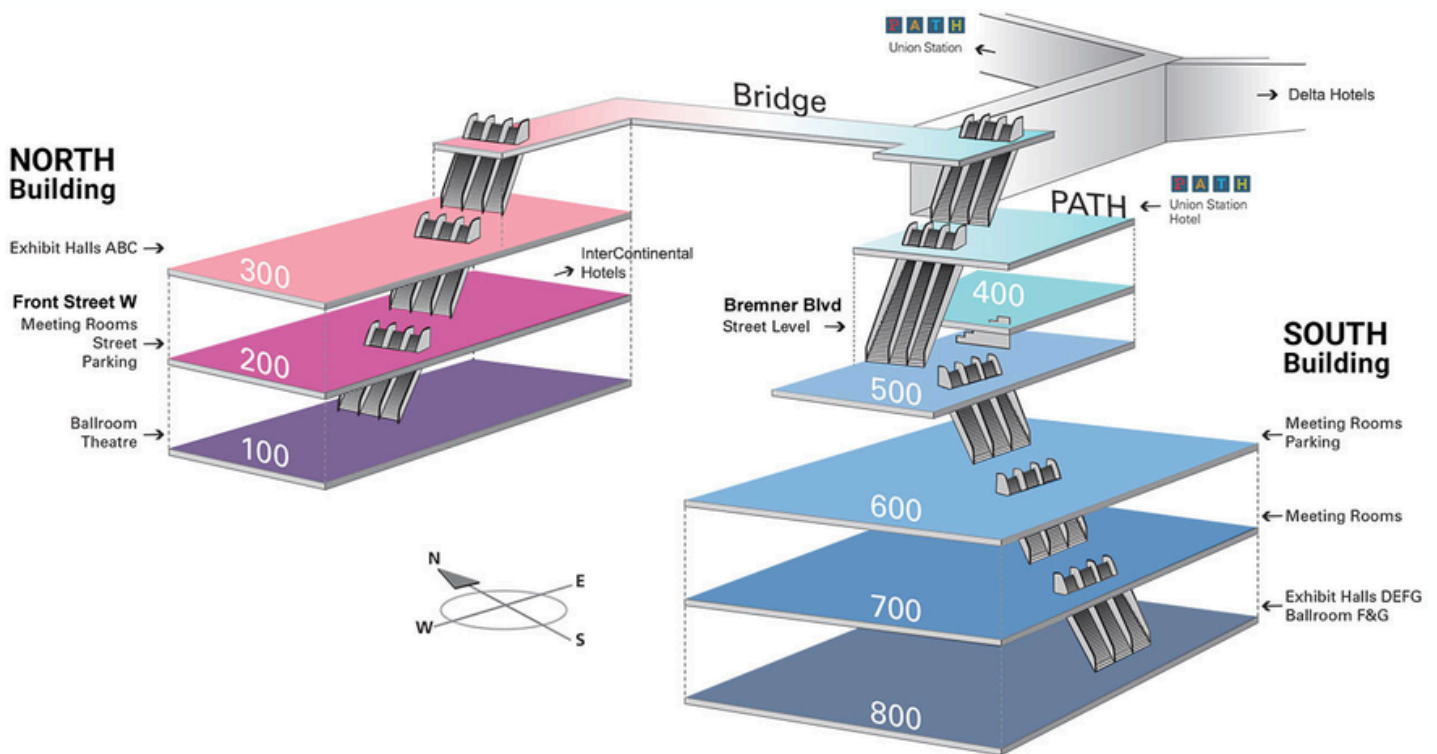
ywp@iwahq.org



www.worldwatercongress.org

RELEVANT INFORMATION

METRO TORONTO CONVENTION CENTRE



www.iwaconnectplus.org



ywp@iwahq.org



Get 20% off IWA Membership with code
IWAYWP24 - exp. 31 Dec 2024



www.worldwatercongress.org

RELEVANT INFORMATION

EXHIBITION FLOOR PLAN



Preliminary Floor plan
vMay24
no rights can be obtained



www.iwaconnectplus.org



ywp@iwahq.org



Get 20% off IWA Membership with code
IWAYWP24 - exp. 31 Dec 2024



www.worldwatercongress.org

RELEVANT INFORMATION

CONGRESS FLOOR PLAN

Level 800



Lower Simcoe Street

GLOSSARY OF SYMBOLS

	Washroom		Taxi pickup / drop
	Payphone		Bus pickup / drop
	Public Elevator		First Aid
	Escalator		Guest Services
	Freight Elevator		

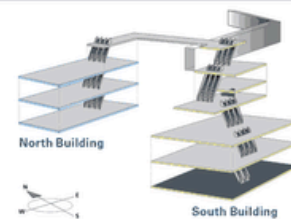
CAPACITY NUMBER INFORMATION

Theatre setup numbers include a head table.
 Classroom setup: 3 people per table (6' x 1.5')
 Banquet setup: 10 people per round table (66")
 * Capacities do not take into account space required for audio visual equipment and stage.

COLOUR CODING

	Meeting Space
	Pre-function Space
	Exhibit Space
	Show Offices
	Customs & Business Services

CURRENT LEVEL



www.iwaconnectplus.org



Get 20% off IWA Membership with code IWAYWP24 - exp. 31 Dec 2024



ywp@iwahq.org



www.worldwatercongress.org