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 (YWP) can play a major role in this process. In addition, the Forum will create an open platform for YWP 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 YWP 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 YWP 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
AGENDA

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.iwacnectplus.org
www.worldwatercongress.org
ywp@iwahq.org
Get 20% off IWA Membership with code IWAYWP24 - exp. 31 Dec 2024
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.

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

SUNDAY, 11 AUGUST

Opening Ceremony 16:00-18:00 HALL 1
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
Technical Session Cross-Sectorial Governance 15:30-17:00 ROOM 715B
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 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
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
Get 20% off IWA Membership with code IWAYWP24 - exp. 31 Dec 2024
ywp@iwahq.org
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

**Workshop**
Water Security for Future Generations

13:30-15:00  ROOM 718A

**Workshop**
Positioning Water Scarcity At Centre Of Climate Change

15:30-17:00  ROOM 718B

**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

---

www.iwaconnectplus.org

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

ywp@iwahq.org

www.worldwatercongress.org
Wednesday, 14 August

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!

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

YWPs 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.

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.

Emerging Water Leaders Forum

Technical Session
Collaboration, Capacity Building and Communication

Emerging Water Leaders Forum
10:30-17:00 ROOM 801A

Workshop
13:30-15:00 ROOM 716A

YWP Scavenger Hunt
10:00-17:00 ALL VENUE

Grundfos Challenge Room
13:00-15:30 ROOM 810

YWPs go to the Beach!
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**

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Time</th>
<th>Room</th>
<th>Session Details</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>10:30-12:00</td>
<td>ROOM 717A</td>
<td><strong>Workshop</strong> An Accountability Framework Proposal for Realistic Youth Engagement In SDG 6</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>10:30-12:00</td>
<td>ROOM 713</td>
<td><strong>Workshop</strong> Redesigning Mentorship for Cross-generational (#crossgen) Collaborations</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>13:30-15:00</td>
<td>ROOM 701A</td>
<td><strong>Workshop</strong> Achieving UN Water Ministers Conference Goals</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>13:00-15:30</td>
<td>ROOM 810</td>
<td><strong>Grundfos Challenge Room</strong> 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.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>15:15-16:45</td>
<td>ROOM 801A</td>
<td><strong>Closing Ceremony</strong></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>13:00-15:30</td>
<td>TBC</td>
<td><strong>Gala Dinner</strong> (limited spaces &amp; tickets required)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>10:00-17:00</td>
<td>ALL VENUE</td>
<td><strong>YWP Scavenger Hunt</strong> You will have 3 days (from 12-15 August) to complete as many tasks as you can &amp; upload your pictures and answers. Instructions for the scavenger hunt will be sent to everyone who signs up at the IWA YWP Canada booth.</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

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

**www.worldwatercongress.org**

**ywp@iwahq.org**

**www.iwaconnectplus.org**