IWRA is a non-profit, non-governmental, international member-based Association established in 1971. Made up of an international network of multidisciplinary experts on water resources, IWRA provides a global, knowledge and research-based forum working at the interface of science and policy for the sustainable use and management of the world's water resources.
WHAT WE DO

MISSION
“To be a cross-disciplinary, membership-focused, international association that uses events, projects, publications, and research to facilitate and inspire dialogue, knowledge sharing, and science-based solutions for the sustainable management of water resources across all sectors, scales, and communities at the interface between science and policy.”

VISION
“To be the leading global platform and community of researchers, educators, policy-influencers, and managers addressing local to global water-related challenges, and improving water outcomes for all.”

VALUES
“IWRA’s culture is driven by respect, transparency, collaboration, and equal opportunity. We foster and value international cross-cultural and cross-disciplinary communication and working practices. We are non-political and care most about the sustainable management of water resources to ensure that they are adequately available for present and future generations and for the environment.”

IWRA organises and supports international water congresses and events related to advancing water resources knowledge, policy, and management around the world. Since 1973, IWRA has held a World Water Congress every three years in various locations around the world. The objective of the World Water Congress is to provide a meeting place to share experiences, promote discussion, and present new knowledge, research results, and new developments in the field of water sciences around the world.

Since 2020, our Online Conference has become one of our major activities and a definite sign of our brand. Organized with UNESCO and FAO as key partners, ‘Water, Food and Public Health in a Changing World’ (June 2021), and ‘Addressing Groundwater Resilience under Climate Change’ (October 2020) were the main themes of the previous two conferences. Learn more about them at: iwraonlineconference.org

GEORGOPHICAL CHAPTERS
IWRA actively promotes the exchange of knowledge on a global and regional scale. The importance of locally based knowledge and experience is emphasized in the exchange of this information at international networking events as well as through geographical chapters. 

These chapters further implement the mission of IWRA on a smaller scale to focus its activities and allow for regional networking among IWRA members.
CAPACITY BUILDING AT THE CORE OF IWRA EFFORTS

Water management and resources, like other areas, require constant updates, knowledge enhancement, and sharing. With that in mind, IWRA offers Master Classes and webinars conducted by reputable experts from around the world, touching on current world themes such as ecocide, water law, water cooperation, and transboundary waters among others. In the second half of 2021, and in cooperation with the Universities Partnership for Water Cooperation and Diplomacy, IWRA conducted a series of 10 Master Classes on Water Cooperation and Diplomacy, that convened over 1200 participants from more than 100 countries.

Each Master Class typically comprises a 90-minute public lecture, followed by a 60-minute skill-building workshop for IWRA members.

Learn more about IWRA Master Classes: www.iwra.org/master-classes

AWARDS

IWRA recognizes outstanding contributions to the field of global water management through four major awards:

Water Drop Award
Recognizes a student or early career professional, typically under the age of 35, who has made an innovative contribution to the water sector.

Crystal Drop Award
Awarded at each World Water Congress to an individual or organisation for their significant contribution to the improvement of the world’s water situation.

Ven Te Chow Memorial Award and Lecture
Honouring the first president of IWRA, the awardee is invited to give an outstanding lecture at the World Water Congress.

Water International Best Paper Award
Awarded annually to authors published in Water International, based on originality, innovation, technical quality, and contribution to the field.

www.iwra.org/awards

PUBLICATIONS & RESEARCH

WATER INTERNATIONAL

Water International is the official interdisciplinary peer-reviewed journal of IWRA, focused on linking scholarship with water management, policy, and governance.

IWRA UPDATE - NEWSLETTER

IWRA Update is the quarterly newsletter of the Association, providing the latest information pertaining to members. It contains news briefs about IWRA members, regional chapters’ activities, information on upcoming and recent events, calls for papers, and global water news.

BOOK SERIES

Water International contributes to the Routledge Special Issues as Books (SPIBs) Series. This series is based on thematic special issues of Water International and acts to spread new knowledge in water resources policy and governance to a broad and diverse audience.

POLICY BRIEFS

Policy Briefs are concise publications, with our “blue series” being based on thematic special issues of our journal Water International. Providing a synthesis of the critical facts and arguments, Policy Briefs allow interested readers to quickly gain an understanding of the most significant issues surrounding a specific topic. They provide high quality analysis and practical recommendations to aid policy-makers. A parallel “green series” of Policy Briefs is also published in association with key IWRA partners, also focusing on important water-related issues.

WEBINARS

Webinars are online seminars based on themes from special issues of Water International. They facilitate in-depth reviews of a water issue as well as debates between leading experts in the field.

If you are interested in contributing to IWRA’s publications or would like more information, please contact the IWRA Editorial Office: editor@iwra.org
Today, with the support of its members and partners, IWRA plays a critical role in ensuring sustainable water management throughout the world.

Sign-up online
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