

XVIII World Water Congress

Water for All:

Harmony between Humans and Nature

11-15 September 2023 GUOCE, Beijing, China



National Stadium (Bird's Nest) | Beijing

Contact Us

The XVIII World Water Congress Secretariat 2-1 Liupukang Beixiaojie, Xicheng District, Beijing, China
☎ +86(0)10-63206657, +86(0)10-63206656
✉ WWC18th@163.com, contact@worldwatercongress.cn

IWRA Executive Office 21, rue de Madrid 75008 Paris, France
☎ +33-6-44-20-57-53 ✉ congress@iwra.org 🌐 www.iwra.org

🌐 www.worldwatercongress.com [f](#) /WWCongress [t](#) @WWCongress [i](#) @worldwatercongress



Hosted by



International Water Resources Association (IWRA)



Ministry of Water Resources of the People's Republic of China (MWR)

Organised by

General Institute of Water Resources and Hydropower Planning and Design, MWR

China National Committee of IWRA

WELCOME MESSAGE



Li Guoying

Minister
Ministry of Water Resources of
the People's Republic of China

It gives me great honour that the XVIII World Water Congress will be held in Beijing. On behalf of the Ministry of Water Resources of the People's Republic of China, the co-host of the Congress, I wish to extend a sincere welcome to leading experts, researchers, decision-makers, and professionals from all over the world to participate in the Congress, exchanging experiences and sharing achievements regarding a wide range of topics related to water.

Water is the essence of the earth, the foundation of humanity and the source of civilisation. With rapid population growth and economic and social development, issues regarding water resources have become increasingly prominent. At present, a large population in the world lives in water-scarce areas or even has no access to clean drinking water. The increasing effects arising from global climate change and the frequent occurrence of extreme weather events such as floods, droughts, and other natural disasters have posed severe challenges to global water security. In response to these problems, the United Nations has called for global action to share advanced development concepts and technologies in the field of water

resources and to take energy-saving, environmental protection, and eco-friendly comprehensive measures to achieve the water-related goals of the UN 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development.

The Chinese nation has an outstanding heritage of water management, echoing through the 5000 years of Chinese civilisation. From the Emperor Yu's combat against the floods, the Dujiangyan Irrigation System and the Beijing-Hangzhou Grand Canal, to the Three Gorges Reservoir and the South-to-North Water Diversion Project, all of them have demonstrated the wisdom of the Chinese nation in flood control, water conservation, and utilisation from ancient to modern times. In the face of global water security challenges, China adheres to the new development philosophy of innovation, coordination, green, open, and sharing. We thoroughly implement the water governance philosophy of "prioritising water conservation, balancing spatial distribution, taking systematic approaches, and giving full play to the roles of both government and market", and integrate this approach in the mitigation of floods and droughts disasters, optimisation of water resources allocation, protection of ecosystems and improvement of water environment. In this way, China has safeguarded the water use for nearly 20% of the world's population with 6% of the world's freshwater resources, making a great contribution to the realisation of the 2030 UN Sustainable Development Goals and the vision of jointly building a community with a shared future for mankind.

The XVIII World Water Congress is under the theme of "Water for All: Harmony between Humans and Nature". We cordially welcome you to join us at the XVIII World Water Congress, to have dialogues on better scientific policies and solutions, and to contribute to an exciting and inspiring water event.

I look forward to seeing you in Beijing !



Li Yuanyuan

President of International
Water Resources Association

On behalf of the International Water Resources Association (IWRA), I am delighted to invite you to attend IWRA's XVIII World Water Congress in Beijing, China, from September 11-15, 2023.

IWRA is an international and professional network of multi-disciplinary, multi-sectorial experts on water resources. The core of IWRA is to conduct cutting-edge research, promote capacity-building and steer science-based solutions, bridge the science-policy interface to agree on water and development agendas and strategies, and advocate for progress. IWRA celebrated its 50th anniversary in 2021 and has accomplished remarkable achievements over the past five decades, but we still have a lot of work ahead of us. We will continue to build on and expand other vehicles in keeping with the needs and possibilities of the future, including online congresses, master classes, webinars, policy briefs, and task forces, as well as collaboration with key partners.

Most importantly, we will continue to promote the World Water Congress as a key activity.

The World Water Congress is a well-established and globally recognised event in the water sector worldwide. Since 1973, this influential event has been successfully held 17 times and has become one of the most respected and anticipated world water events. It aims to provide a platform for highlighting and addressing global water science and management issues and networking with the international water communities. The overarching theme of the XVIII Congress is "Water for All: Harmony between Humans and Nature". Based on that, the International Scientific Committee (ISC), consisting of 53 professionals, representatives, and active members, has proposed 6 sub-themes and 44 topics.

IWRA, together with the Chinese government, the co-host of the XVIII Congress, is inviting and welcoming various high-level experts and researchers to address key international water management issues at the interface of science and policy. We also devote ourselves to facilitating bilateral and multilateral cooperation and enhancing constructive dynamic knowledge sharing in the water sector.

I am pleased to announce that the XVIII World Water Congress will be convened in Beijing in 2023. Based on a friendly, trustworthy, and collaborative spirit, the XVIII Congress will promote cohesion and openness, and encourage dialogue, diversity, mutual respect, and equity. As the President of IWRA, I cordially express my appreciation for your support and active participation.

I look forward to seeing you in 2023 at the XVIII World Water Congress in Beijing!

THE XVIII WORLD WATER CONGRESS

The XVIII World Water Congress will take place in Beijing, China, from 11 to 15 September 2023. With the theme of "Water for All: Harmony between Humans and Nature", the XVIII World Water Congress will facilitate knowledge and experience sharing, focusing on investigating the relationship between water, humans and nature, identifying and reconciling all water-related factors in a coordinated manner, and making and implementing water management strategies and policies using systematic approaches.

Congress Overview

Title	IWRA's XVIII World Water Congress
Theme	Water for All: Harmony between Humans and Nature
Date	11-15 September 2023
Venue	GUOCE, Beijing, China
Scale	More than 1,000 water experts and professionals from all over the world
Hosted by	International Water Resources Association (IWRA) Ministry of Water Resources of the People's Republic of China (MWR)
Organised by	General Institute of Water Resources and Hydropower Planning and Design, MWR China National Committee of IWRA
Programme	<p>Sessions: High-Level Plenary Sessions, Regular Sessions, Special Sessions, Side Events and Posters.</p> <p>Official Events: Opening and Closing Ceremonies, IWRA Awards Ceremony, Gala Dinner, and Welcome Reception etc.</p> <p>Exhibitions: The exhibition of scientific and technological achievements in water resources, including advanced water science and technology achievements, water management experience, the latest water related instruments and equipment, unique products and producing technology and process.</p> <p>Technical Field Trip: Visit the relevant water conservancy projects in China.</p>

CONGRESS THEME AND SUB-THEMES

Theme

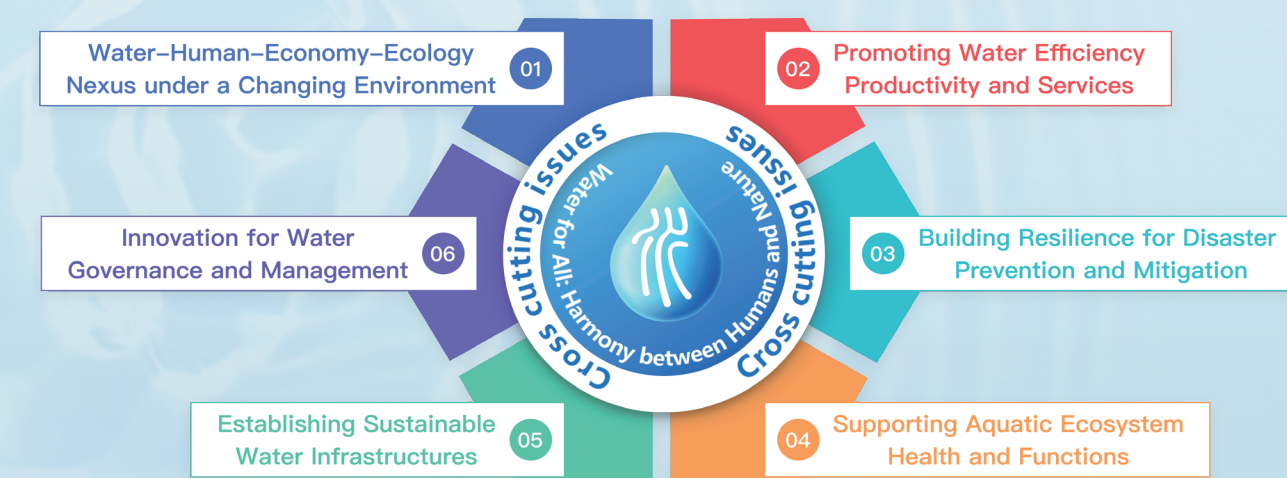
Water for All: Harmony between Humans and Nature

Water is for all, including humans and nature. As a precious natural resource, water plays a vital role in meeting human needs, preserving the environment and developing our countries. With the theme of "Water for All: Harmony between Humans and Nature", the XVIII World Water Congress aims to promote coordination and balance between the water needs of humans and nature and facilitate knowledge and experience sharing in the field of water.



The Kunming Lake in the Summer Palace

Sub-themes



View more details of the sub-themes through [the official website](#).

CALL FOR ABSTRACTS

The organisers of the XVIII World Water Congress welcome abstracts for oral and poster presentations at the XVIII World Water Congress, which will be presented during the main congress programme. Experts, academics, policymakers, water professionals, private and public sector practitioners, and civil society stakeholders, from all disciplines and perspectives, who wish to share their work and experiences during the Congress are invited to submit an abstract. Abstracts can only be submitted on-line through [the official Congress website](#).

Abstract must be prepared in English and should be closely relevant to the Congress theme and topics. Abstract cannot include graphs, charts, diagrams, images, references, or citations. An abstract should be around **300–400 words** and should contain the following parts:

- A The purpose of the work
- B The key issue(s) or problem(s) addressed
- C The methodology or approach used
- D The results or conclusions derived from the research/project/practices

KEY DATES

 **16 September 2022**  **31 December 2022**  **28 February 2023**

- Call for Abstracts, Special Sessions and Side Events Opens
- Submission Deadline of Abstracts, Special Sessions, and Side Events
- Acceptance Notification of Abstracts, Special Sessions, and Side Events

Visit the XVIII World Water Congress website (www.worldwatercongress.com) for more detailed information.

CALL FOR SPECIAL SESSIONS

Special Session proposals are welcome from organisations or groups that wish to run a session or workshop that presents their work on subjects related to the sub-themes of this Congress. The format can vary from panel discussions to workshops. Innovation is welcome. These sessions are part of the main programme and open to all Congress attendees. There is no charge to hold a special session, but all speakers should be registered, and any additional expenses beyond the provision of the room and standard audio-visual equipment will be managed by the session organisers. Special session proposals can only be submitted online through [the official Congress website](#).

Submission Guidelines

A Special Session Proposal must be prepared in English and should clearly describe the proposed programme in 300–700 words and cannot include graphs, charts, diagrams, images, abbreviations, references or citations, and should include:

- A Title, a short description of the session's topic and alignment with the Congress theme and the specified sub-theme(s)
- B Name of the lead and partner organisation(s)
- C Objectives, justifications, and projected outcomes of the session
- D How the session will be organised
- E A list of preliminary presenters and the title of their presentation proposals (indicating those who have already committed)
- F A description of financial and other resources that could be committed to realising the session

CALL FOR SIDE EVENTS



A side event is a conference, workshop, or meeting, independently organised and funded by the applying organisation(s), which may be formally associated with the Congress for mutual interests and benefits. It should have a theme or purpose that is connected to the Congress theme, and take place immediately prior to, during, or following the main Congress programme.

The organisers of the XVIII World Water Congress welcome proposals for side events to take place in conjunction with the Congress. All relevant governmental, non-governmental, and inter-governmental organisations, as well as private sector organisations, who wish to organise a side event or provide support and services to the side events, please submit your proposal to side@worldwatercongress.com.

Individuals need to register for the Congress prior to submitting an abstract or a special session proposal. All the valid participants and presenters must be fully registered for the Congress and pay the registration fees.

INTERNATIONAL SCIENTIFIC COMMITTEE (ISC)

Honorary Chairs

	Patrick Lavarde Co-chair of the International Steering Committee of 9th World Water Forum; Past President of IWRA		Zhang Jianyun Professor of Nanjing Hydraulic Research Institute; Academician of Chinese Academy of Engineering
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Co-chairs

	Renée Martin-Nagle Treasurer of IWRA; President of A Ripple Effect; Special Counsel of Eckert Seamans; Visiting Scholar of Environmental Law Institute		Shi Qiuchi Bureau Member of World Water Council (2019-2022); Chair of Water Security Task Force of World Water Council (2019-2022); Former Director of International Centre for Economic and Technical Cooperation and Exchange, MWR, China
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Vice Chairs (Surnames in Alphabetical Order for Each Group)

	Rabi H. Mohtar Professor of Texas A&M University; Fellow of American Society of Agricultural and Biological Engineers; Adjunct Professor of American University of Beirut and Purdue University; Senior International non-resident Fellow of OCP, Morocco; Governor of World Water Council; Vice President of IWRA		Wang Jianhua Vice President of China Institute of Water Resources and Hydropower Research; Vice President of the China National Committee of IWRA
	Cecilia Tortajada Professor in Practice of Environmental Innovation, University of Glasgow; Past President of IWRA		Wang Zhongjing Professor of Tsinghua University; Vice President of Ningxia University; Vice President of the China National Committee of IWRA
	Huang Yan Vice Chief Engineer of Changjiang Water Resources Commission		Yoonjin Kim Asia Pacific Regional Manager of the World Water Council
	Guillermo Donoso Full Professor at the Water Law and Economics Center of the Pontificia Universidad Católica de Chile		Jia Shaofeng Professor of the Institute of Geographic Science and Natural Resources Research, Chinese Academy of Sciences; Vice President of the China National Committee of IWRA; IWRA Fellow Member

Members (Surnames in Alphabetical Order)

Hassan Tolba Aboelnga Arab Netwrok for Sustainable Development at League of Arab States	Egypt	Ojasvee Arora National University of Singapore	Thailand	Julie Clark-Brown University of Strathclyde, Scotland	UK
Aurélien Dumont UNESCO	France	Ali Fares Prairie View A&M University, US	USA	Fang Yu China Agricultural University	China
Alberto Garrido Universidad Politécnica de Madrid, Spain	Spain	Malcolm J. Gander US Department of Defense	USA	Geng Xiaojun General Institute of Water Resources and Hydropower Planning and Design, MWR	China
Huang Guohe University of Regina	China	Hou Jie General Institute of Water Resources and Hydropower Planning and Design, MWR	China	Hu Litang Beijing Normal University	China
Hu Qingyi Changjiang Water Resources Commission, MWR	China	Rasha Hassan University of Barcelona, Spain	Syria	Jia Yangwen China Institute of Water Resources and Hydropower Research	China

Elcin Kentel Middle East Technical University	Turkey	M. Dinesh Kumar Institute for Resource Analysis and Policy, Hyderabad	India	Chrysi Laspidou University of Thessaly, Greece	Greece
Long Di Tsinghua University	China	Li Jianhua Tongji University	China	Seungho Lee Korea University	Korea
James E. Nickum IWRA	US/Japan	Nidhi Nagabhatla United Nations University	India	Shen Dajun Renmin University of China	China
Sun Dongya China Institute of Water Resources and Hydropower Research	China	Raya Stephan Water International, IWRA	France/Lebanon	Rosario Sanchez Texas A&M University, US	Mexico/USA
Virender K. Sharma Texas A&M University, US	USA	Tang Qihong Institute of Geographic Sciences and Natural Resources Research, CAS	China	Tian Ying General Institute of Water Resources and Hydropower Planning and Design, MWR	China
Felipe Vásquez-Lavín Universidad del Desarrollo, Chile	Chile	Navarun Varma National University of Singapore	India	Wang Yu Southern University of Science and Technology	China
Xu Mengzhen Tsinghua University	China	Stefanos Xenarios Nazarbayev University, Greece	Greece	Yu Lili General Institute of Water Resources and Hydropower Planning and Design, MWR	China
Adriana Zuniga-Teran University of Arizona, US	Mexico	Zhang Conglin Institutes of Science and Development, Chinese Academy of Sciences	China	Dinara Ziganshina Scientific Information Center of Interstate Commission for Water Coordination in Central Asia	Uzbekistan
Zhu Lei Ningxia University	China	Zuo Qiting Zhengzhou University	China	Zha Yuanyuan Wuhan University	China
Zhu Yonghui Changjiang Water Resources Commission, MWR	China	Zhao Zhongnan General Institute of Water Resources and Hydropower Planning and Design, MWR	China		

NATIONAL ORGANISING COMMITTEE (NOC)

Chair

Yang Derui Director General of Water Resources Management Department, MWR, China
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Vice Chairs

Shen Fengsheng President of the General Institute of Water Resources and Hydropower Planning and Design, MWR, China	Li Xiaolin Deputy Director General of General Office, MWR, China	Du Bingzhao Deputy Director General of Water Resources Management Department, MWR, China; Vice President of the China National Committee of IWRA
Yan Yong Deputy Counsel of National Office of Water Conservation, MWR, China; Vice President of the China National Committee of IWRA	Li Ge Deputy Director General of International Cooperation, Science and Technology Department, MWR, China	

Executive Vice Chair

Li Yuanyuan Vice President of the General Institute of Water Resources and Hydropower Planning and Design, MWR, China; President of IWRA; President of the China National Committee of IWRA

INTERNATIONAL WATER RESOURCES ASSOCIATION (IWRA)

International Water Resources Association (IWRA) is a non-profit, non-governmental, international member-based Association established in 1971. It 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.

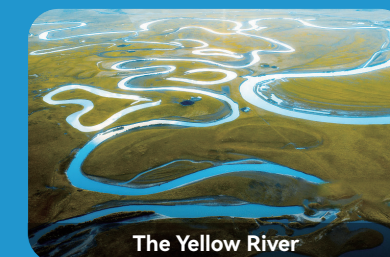
History of the World Water Congress



HOST COUNTRY AND CITY

People's Republic of China

The People's Republic of China is in the eastern part of the Asian continent, on the western Pacific rim. China abounds in rivers and lakes. Water resources are unevenly distributed in space and time, and floods and droughts occur frequently in China. From ancient times, Chinese people have already explored the practice of the philosophy of harmonious coexistence between man and nature. The water conservancy infrastructure and management system were built and established successively since the founding of the People's Republic of China, especially after the reform and opening up, which has ensured water security and laid the foundation for the reform and opening up and sustainable development in China.

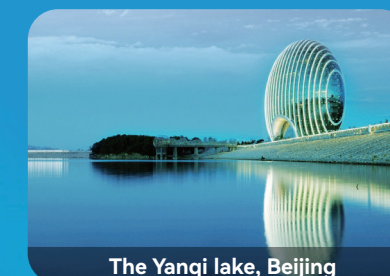


The Yellow River

Beijing

Beijing is the capital of the People's Republic of China. It is the political, cultural, international communication, scientific and technological innovation centre of the country. As a world-famous ancient capital and a modern international city, Beijing is the world's first dual Olympic city and hosts 7 UNESCO World Heritage Sites. Nestled on the north of the North China Plain, Beijing has a higher northwest part and a lower southeast part, and a temperate, semi-humid continental climate, characterised by short springs and autumns, hot and rainy summers, and cold and dry winters.

For thousands of years, water has been indispensable in Beijing's development and thriving. Beijing is the destination of the ancient Beijing-Hangzhou Grand Canal and the middle route of the modern South-to-North Water Diversion Project.



The Yanqi lake, Beijing



The Beijing Hangzhou Grand Canal

The Yangtze River