



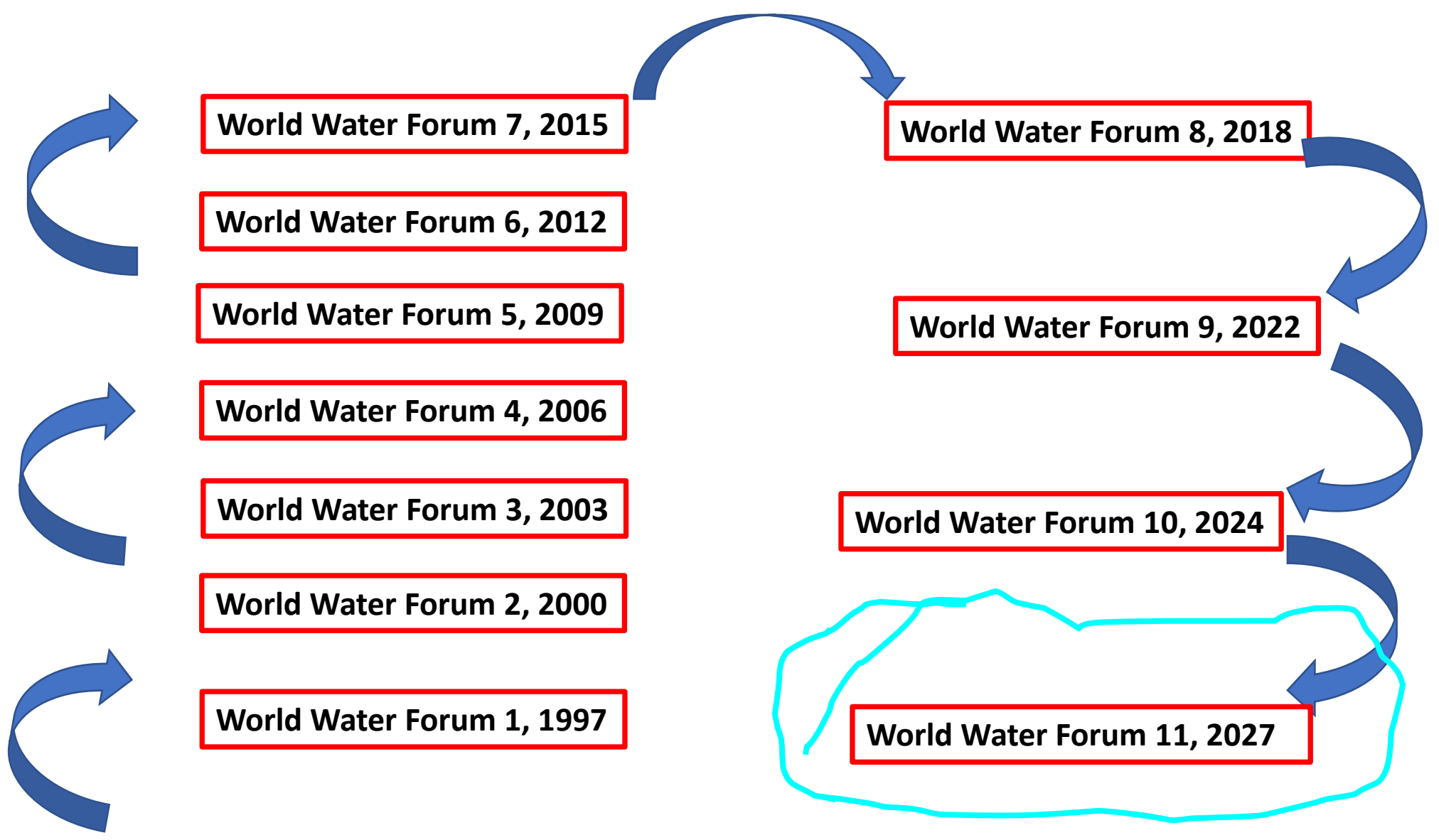
Water for Peace under Climate Change in Myanmar (2024-2025) Seminar Series
*Organized by Myanmar Water Academy, Federation of Myanmar Engineering Societies
and Myanmar Green Building Society*

Transformative Water-Learning Partnership Consortium -
အသွင်ပြောင်း ရေပညာ မိတ်ဘက်အဖွဲ့

“Introduction to World Water Fora”
“ကမ္ဘာ့ရေဖိုရမ်များ မိတ်ဆက်”

Date: 13 Jun 2024
Time: 7:00pm - 9:00pm
Venue: ZOOM

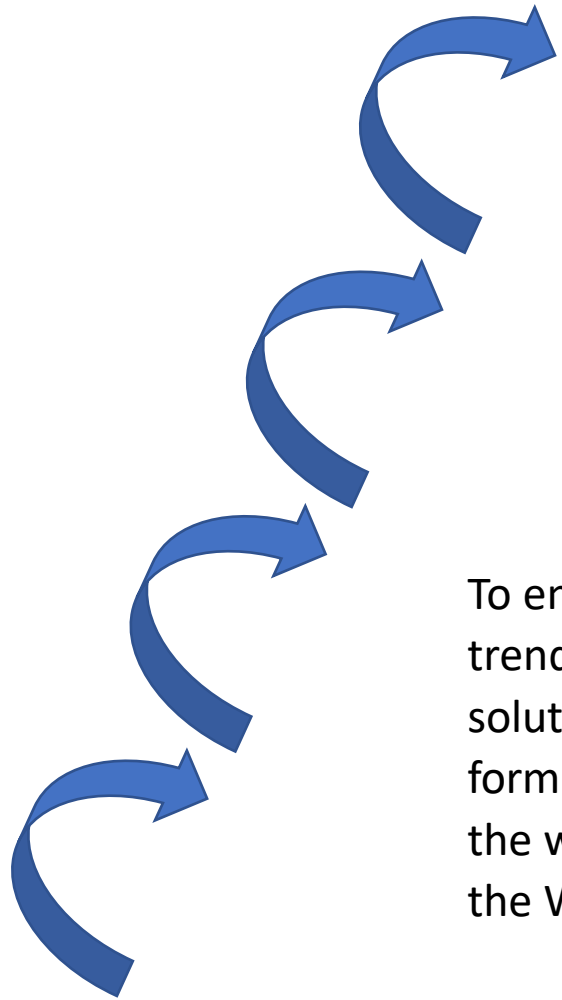
Presented by Prof. Dr. Khin Ni Ni Thein
Founder and Chair
Myanmar Water Academy
G100 Ecocivilisation Myanmar Country Chair



The 1977 UN Water Conference was a landmark event in the history of global water management. Mar del Plata, Argentina

WHY?

To encourage the development of such positive international trends, to support the deepening of discussions towards the solution of international water issues in the 21st century, to formulate concrete proposals and to bring their importance to the world's attention, the World Water Forum was proposed by the WWC.



Background Information

- This seminar focuses on the capacity development of Myanmar water engineers and water professionals from various disciplines, who are water-leaders in the making.
- Therefore, it can be categorized as an advanced seminar and next step is the Master Class Seminar.
- After the completion of this year-long seminar series, there will be the Master Class Seminars for the top achievers.
- Water can contribute to peace by motivating cooperation and diplomacy – but how do we do it is a big question.
- That is why we need to study about the World Water Fora and related significant topics!
- The seminar speaker Prof. Dr. Khin Ni Ni Thein was involved in the global water events since 1994 and took part in the World Water Forum 2 in 2000 until World Water Forum 10 in Bali except the World Water Forum 9. Therefore she has first-hand experience in engaging, contributing, shaping, organizing, speaking, and convening the sessions in the World Water Fora (2000-Present). This seminar series will lay a much-needed **“Transformative Water-learning-platform”** for Myanmar Water Professionals across the country by three organizations: the Myanmar Water Academy, the Federation of Myanmar Engineering Societies, and the Myanmar Green Building Society.
- In the history of the World Water Fora, series of world water forums 1 to 10 plus the significant global water-related conference that predate the World Water Fora, the United Nations Water Conference held in Mar del Plata, Argentina in 1977, is a notable event.

***Please note:** Certificate of achievement recognized and signed by the “Transformative Water-Learning Partnership” will be awarded **only to those** who submit the assignment after each seminar!

The Topics

The following topics will be explained and discussed:-

1. A brief overview of the importance of water resources;
2. Introduction to the concept of the World Water Fora;
3. The evolution and Importance of the World Water Fora;
4. Impact and future of the World Water Fora;
5. From crisis to collaboration: how the World Water Fora shape our Water Future;
6. Water Wisdom: Inside the World Water Fora's battle for our most precious resource;
7. Turning the Tide: the World Water Fora's Role in Global Water Sustainability;
8. Flowing Together: Exploring the Success; and
9. Challenges of the World Water Fora and Water on the World Stage.

A brief overview of the importance of water resources

<https://learnenglish.britishcouncil.org/general-english/magazine-zone/world-water-day>

Brief History

International interest in water issues has grown rapidly over the last few years. In response to this heightened interest, the Brundtland Commission (The World Commission on Environment and Development), proposed "sustainable development" to the world in 1987, and identified water as a key issue amongst global environmental concerns in its report "**Our Common Future**".

At the Water and Environment Conference held in Dublin in 1992, discussions of water and environmental issues were extensive.

Later that year, at the Earth Summit (United Nations Conference on Environment and Development) in Rio de Janeiro, Brazil, the importance of securing freshwater resources was advocated. This attention in the 1990s to water issues was tempered by the global realisation by experts that international co-operation on water issues was proving inadequate to the task of responding to disasters including frequent droughts and resultant desertification, large-scale floods and the pollution of both surface and underground water. There was also global realisation that the world's limited water resources were being badly managed, and that a mechanism was needed particularly to bring together professionals from all water-related disciplines and, in addition, to gather all water resource stakeholders.

Two international organizations were established in 1996. The first was the **World Water Council (WWC)**, an international think-tank for water issues, established through the initiative of water specialists, the academic community and international organizations. The second was the **Global Water Partnership (GWP)**, an organization created with the joint support of a number of international funding organizations, with a mandate to support integrated water resource management in developing countries.

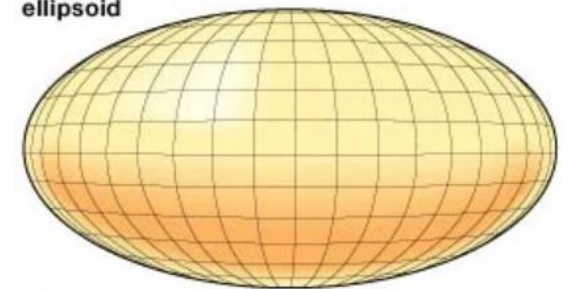
Introduction to the concept of the World Water Forum

World Water Forums were held in Asia, Africam Europe and South America on the rotational basis

- **world map**, graphical representation, using projection, that depicts Earth's exterior on a flat surface. World maps usually show political features, such as country borders, and physical features. World maps can also be used to present data on average temperature, soil type, rainfall distribution, and much else.
- Because Earth is an ellipsoid, a world map, which presents Earth in two dimensions, is necessarily a distorted representation. (A globe, which is a model of Earth, eliminates distortion by presenting a map of the world on the surface of a sphere.) World maps have evolved over time to manage these distortions through a variety of transformations, known as projections, which became more important as world maps gradually included everything on Earth. Early world maps did not include the entirety of Earth's surface as we know it today, as no single polity or culture had explored all regions. This limited knowledge meant that one all-encompassing world map was not possible until relatively recently.
- Source: <https://www.britannica.com/science/world-map>



ellipsoid



Globe, based on the cartographic work of Guillaume Delisle, made in 1765; in the Collection of the Minnesota Historical Society, St. Paul, Minnesota.



Aims

- Raise awareness with decision makers and the public at large on water issues and, subsequently, to generate action;
- Contribute to improving access to water supply and sanitation (1990s) and report on progress towards meeting the Millennium Development Goals (2000-2015, and SDGs (2016-2030));
- Provide opportunities to progressively develop shared visions on challenging water issues, to develop new partnerships and to pave the way for cooperation and action among a wide diversity of organisations and individuals;
- Encourage greater media attention for water issues, challenges, and solutions

Location	Year	Approximate Total Number of Attendees (including Fair and Expo)	Theme
Bali, Indonesia	2024	7,334	"Water for Shared Prosperity"
Dakar, Senegal	2022	TBA	"Water Security for Peace and Development"
Brasilia, Brazil	2018	120,000	"Sharing water"
Daegu–Gyeongbuk, South Korea	2015	← 30,000 entries	"Water for our Future"
Marseille, France	2012	approx. 35,000 entries	"Solutions for Water"
Istanbul, Turkey	2009	over 30,000	"Bridging Divides for Water"
Mexico City, Mexico	2006	27,500	"Local Actions for a Global Challenge"
Kyoto, Japan	2003	250,000	"A Forum with a Difference"
The Hague, Netherlands	2000	39,100	"From Vision to Action"
Marrakesh, Morocco	1997	500	"Vision for Water, Life and the Environment"

The World Water Forum

- The World Water Forum is a major global event that focuses on water issues, organized by the World Water Council. Each forum has specific themes and outcomes.
- From WWF 1 to 5, each forum has played a crucial role in shaping global water policies and practices, emphasizing the importance of sustainable management, cooperation, and innovative solutions to address the world's water challenges.
- From WWF 6 to 10, each forum has contributed significantly to global water discourse, highlighting the need for international cooperation, innovation, and sustainable management of water resources.

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|                                               | Year | Location               | Key Themes                           | Major Outcomes                 |
|-----------------------------------------------|------|------------------------|--------------------------------------|--------------------------------|
| <b>Important years and periods</b>            | 1997 | Marrakech, Morocco     | Water and Sustainable Development    | Marrakech Declaration          |
| 1977 - Mar Del Plata, Argentina               | 2000 | The Hague, Netherlands | Water Security in the 21st Century   | The Hague Declaration          |
| 1979 – First WWF                              | 2003 | Kyoto, Japan           | Water and Cultural Diversity         | Kyoto Declaration              |
| 2000 – Y2K                                    | 2006 | Mexico City, Mexico    | Local Actions for a Global Challenge | Mexico City Declaration        |
| 2015 – <i>end of MDGs, transition to SDGs</i> | 2009 | Istanbul, Turkey       | Bridging Divides for Water           | Istanbul Declaration           |
| 2030 - Completion of SDGs                     | 2012 | Marseille, France      | Time for Solutions                   | Marseille Framework for Action |

The 1977 UN Water Conference was a landmark event in the history of global water management. Mar del Plata, Argentina

# The difference between the World Water Day and the World Water Forum (WWD vs WWF)

World Water Day (annual event) is designated by the United Nations - <https://www.un.org/en/>  
World Water Forum (every 3 years) is led by the World Water Council - <https://www.worldwatercouncil.org/en>

The first World Water Day was celebrated in **1993**. It was first proposed at the United Nations (UN) conference on environment and development in Rio de Janeiro in 1992 and has been celebrated annually on 22 March since then. Every year the UN releases its **World Water Development Report** on or around this date.

## Year by year, themes of World Water Day

- **World Water Day 2024 Theme: Water for Peace**
- **World Water Day 2023 Theme: Accelerating Change**
- **World Water Day 2022 Theme: Groundwater: Making the Invisible Visible**
- **World Water Day 2021 Theme: Valuing Water**
- **World Water Day 2020 Theme: Water and Climate Change**
- **World Water Day 2019 Theme: Leaving No One Behind**
- **World Water Day 2018 Theme: Nature for Water**

# The evolution and Importance of the World Water Fora

# The World Water Forum 1 - Marrakech, Morocco, 1997

## \*\*Main Themes:\*\*

- - Vision for water, life, and the environment in the 21st century

## \*\*Major Outcomes:\*\*

- - Establishment of the World Water Council
- - Emphasis on the creation of a shared vision for water management in the 21st century
- - Initial discussions on integrated water resources management (IWRM)

# The World Water Forum 2 – The Hague, Netherlands, 2000

## \*\*Main Themes:\*\*

- - Water Security in the 21st century
- - Water for people
- - Water for food
- - Water and nature
- - Risk management (floods, droughts, and pollution)

## \*\*Major Outcomes:\*\*

- - Introduction of the World Water Vision document
- - Greater emphasis on the need for water security and sustainability
- - Focus on the need for international cooperation and governance in water management
- - 'Framework for Action' to implement the Vision.
- - Gender emphasis in IWRM

# The World Water Forum 3 – Kyoto, Japan, 2003

## \*\*Main Themes:\*\*

- - Implementation of integrated water resources management (IWRM)
- - Water and climate
- - Water supply and sanitation
- - Water for food and rural development
- - Management of water-related risks
- - Governance

## \*\*Major Outcomes:\*\*

- - Launch of the "World Water Actions" report, highlighting global water initiatives
- - Increased focus on sustainable water management practices
- - Reinforcement of the need for effective governance in water resources management



## 3rd World Water Forum

### *"Kyoto, Shiga and Osaka, Japan, March 2003"*

- The 3rd World Water Forum took the debate a step further also within the context of the new commitments of meeting the goals set forth at the Millennium Summit of the United Nations in New York (2000), the International Freshwater Conference in Bonn (2001) and the World Summit on Sustainable Development in Johannesburg (2002).
- The large number of participants ensured that a variety of stakeholders and opinions were represented aiming at accepting differences and finding a common way forward.
- Civil society proposed the idea “Water is a Human Right”. Text appeared in the footnote!

# The World Water Forum 4 – Mexico City, Mexico, 2006

- - **\*\*Main Themes:\*\***
- - Local actions for a global challenge
- - Water supply and sanitation for all
- - Managing water resources in a sustainable manner
- - Risk management
- - Water for food and the environment
- - Ensuring water quality

## **\*\*Major Outcomes:\*\***

- - Emphasis on the importance of local actions and solutions to address global water challenges
- - Discussion on the role of communities in water management
- - Recognition of the need for better water quality monitoring and management

# The World Water Forum 5 – Istanbul, Turkey, 2009

## **\*\*Main Themes:\*\***

- - Bridging divides for water
- - Global changes and risk management
- - Advancing human development and the MDGs (Millennium Development Goals)
- - Managing and protecting water resources
- - Governance and management
- - Finance

## **\*\*Major Outcomes:\*\***

- - Focus on bridging the gaps between different stakeholders in water management
- - Promotion of sustainable development goals (SDGs) related to water
- - Calls for increased financial investment in water infrastructure and technology
- - Greater attention to the impact of global changes such as climate change on water resources

# The World Water Forum 6 – Marseille, France, 2012

- **Main Themes:**

- Guaranteeing water for all and the right to water
- Contributing to economic development
- Keeping the planet blue
- Promoting conditions for success

- **Major Outcomes:**

- Emphasis on the need for concrete solutions and commitments
- Launch of the "Solutions for Water" platform, a database of best practices and solutions
- Increased focus on the human right to water and sanitation

# The World Water Forum 7 – Dague, South Korea, 2015

- **Main Themes:**

- Water for our future
- Water security and sustainable economic development
- Water for people: ensuring water supply and sanitation for all
- Water for nature: harmonizing humans and nature
- Implementing IWRM (Integrated Water Resources Management)
- Enhancing water governance

- **Major Outcomes:**

- Greater emphasis on technology and innovation in water management
- Promotion of the concept of water security
- Call for international cooperation to address water challenges

# The World Water Forum 8 – Brasilia, Brazil

- **Main Themes:**

- Climate
- People
- Development
- Urban
- Ecosystems
- Financing

The “8th World Water Forum Highlights” publication reflects the breadth of impact and outcomes of the event. While it showcases the novel statements, innovative ideas, joint commitments and collective efforts that resulted, it also provides a strong impetus and inspiration for the next triannual process, which will culminate in the 9th World Water Forum in Dakar, Senegal.

- **Major Outcomes:**

- Launch of the "World Water Data Initiative" to improve water data collection and sharing

<https://www.worldwatercouncil.org/en/publications/8th-world-water-forum-highlights>

# The World Water Forum 9 – Dakar, Senegal, 2022

**Main Theme: *Water Security for Peace and Development***

The 9th World Water Forum focused on four priorities:-

- 1) water security and sanitation;
- 2) cooperation;
- 3) water for rural development;
- 4) means and tools for implementation of reforms in water and sanitation.

Additionally, the Forum convened a Summit of Heads of States and major international institutions, to advance the political agenda on water and sanitation at the midpoint of the 2030 agenda on implementing the water and sanitation targets and Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs).



**Major Outcome: Dakar action plan for basins**

Basin Organizations' Segment on Water Security on day4 was the first time on the program of the World Water Forum, dedicated to the management of water resources by basin approach

Source: <https://www.worldbank.org/en/events/2022/02/16/9th-world-water-forum>

# The World Water Forum 10 – Bali, Indonesia, 2024

- **Main Themes:**

- Water for Shared Prosperity
- Water for Climate Resilience
- Water for Nature and People
- Water for Inclusive Development

- **Major Outcomes:**

- This forum is upcoming, so specific outcomes are yet to be fully realized
- Expected focus on the balance between economic development and environmental sustainability
- Anticipation of discussions on climate change adaptation and water-related disaster risk reduction



Under the theme “**Water for Shared Prosperity**”, the 10th World Water Forum in Bali aims to serve as a global platform dedicated to exploring inclusive and innovative solutions for critical water-related issues, particularly in accelerating the achievement of Sustainable Development Goals 2030.



# Upcoming World Water Forum 11 – Riyadh, Saudi Arabia, 2027

**Main Theme: "Action for a Better Future."**

The decision was made during the 86th meeting of the Board of Governors of the World Water Council, in Istanbul, on **February 17, 2024.**



| <b>Year</b> | <b>Location</b>        | <b>Key Themes</b>                    | <b>Major Outcomes</b>          |
|-------------|------------------------|--------------------------------------|--------------------------------|
| 1997        | Marrakech, Morocco     | Water and Sustainable Development    | Marrakech Declaration          |
| 2000        | The Hague, Netherlands | Water Security in the 21st Century   | The Hague Declaration          |
| 2003        | Kyoto, Japan           | Water and Cultural Diversity         | Kyoto Declaration              |
| 2006        | Mexico City, Mexico    | Local Actions for a Global Challenge | Mexico City Declaration        |
| 2009        | Istanbul, Turkey       | Bridging Divides for Water           | Istanbul Declaration           |
| 2012        | Marseille, France      | Time for Solutions                   | Marseille Framework for Action |

# Impact and future of the World Water Fora

# The United Nations Water-related Decades influenced by the World Water Fora

## 1. International Drinking Water Supply and Sanitation Decade (1981-1990)

- Focus: To provide safe drinking water and adequate sanitation to people worldwide.
- Aim: To improve public health and living conditions, particularly in developing countries.

## 2. International Decade for Action, "Water for Life" (2005-2015)

- Focus: To promote efforts to fulfill international commitments made on water and water-related issues by 2015.
- Aim: To place a greater emphasis on the importance of water in sustainable development, focusing on water scarcity, sanitation, and sustainable management of water resources.

## 3. International Decade for Action, "Water for Sustainable Development" (2018-2028)

- Focus: To further improve cooperation, partnership, and capacity development in response to water-related challenges.
- Aim: To support the achievement of water-related Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs), especially SDG 6, which aims to ensure availability and sustainable management of water and sanitation for all.

Each of these decades has aimed to address various aspects of water management and sanitation, reflecting the evolving understanding and priorities regarding global water challenges.

**\*\*As of now, there have been two major United Nations Water Conferences!**

# United Nations 2023 Water Conference, March 22-24, 2023, New York, United States

## **Key Outcomes**

- Focused on the midterm review of the International Decade for Action, "Water for Sustainable Development" (2018-2028).
- Emphasized accelerated action and partnerships to achieve water-related goals and targets, particularly those outlined in the Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs).

These conferences have played significant roles in shaping global water policy and fostering international cooperation on water issues.

Special Water Sessions alongside the United Nations General Assembly (UNGA) are high-level meetings and events focused on water issues, held in conjunction with the annual sessions of the UNGA. These sessions aim to draw attention to critical water challenges, promote international cooperation, and advance global water-related goals, particularly those outlined in the Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs). Here are some notable Special Water Sessions held alongside the UNGA.

# The United Nations Water-related Decades influenced by the World Water Fora

- The first ever United Nations Decade for Water (1981-1990): "**International Drinking Water Supply and Sanitation Decade**" (WatSan)
- This initiative aimed to promote efforts to provide safe drinking water and adequate sanitation to people around the world, with a focus on improving public health and living conditions, especially in developing countries.
- The decade brought significant attention to the challenges related to *water supply and sanitation*, laying the groundwork for future international efforts in this critical area.
- Evolution (1977 – 2000)
- From WatSan to WASH



# High Level Water Panels

# Impacts contd.

- Preparation for the 2nd World Water Forum, including the creation of the World Water Vision, consisted of a number of lead-up international conferences, complimented by extensive worldwide internet discussions of water issues involving more than 15,000 people of the world.
- 5,700 people genuinely concerned about water gathered from all over the world for active discussion of water issues and the World Water Vision was presented.
- A Ministerial Conference, with the participation of 114 ministers and officials from 130 countries, was held to coincide with the Forum and adopted the Declaration of The Hague.
- Meanwhile, the GWP conceived a Framework for Action that delineates a strategy for the realization of the World Water Vision by 2025 and prioritizes actions to that end. Framework for Action was presented at the 2nd World Water Forum as well.
- The 2nd World Water Forum brought together many of the world's government and multilateral water investment and management organisations, and many private companies.



# The achievements

1. From crisis to collaboration: how the World Water Fora shape our Water Future;
2. Water Wisdom: Inside the World Water Fora's battle for our most precious resource;
3. Turning the Tide: the World Water Fora's Role in Global Water Sustainability;
4. Flowing Together: Exploring the Success; and

# Challenges of the future World Water Fora and Water on the World Stage

# To do list on the world stage! (not exhausted)

The World Water Forum, held every three years since 1997, is a week-long event that brings together participants from politics, international institutions, academia, civil society and the private sector to make water security and accessibility a priority on the **world stage**.

- The **efficacy of water use** across all sectors should be drastically improved, and the supply and withdrawal of freshwater (GW included) should be sustainable to address the water shortage, thus significantly lowering the number of people affected by it.
- Implementation of **multi-level water resources management** that includes transboundary cooperation.
- **Water-related ecosystems** such as rivers, wetlands, aquifers, forests, mountains, and lakes must be protected. (HOW is always a big issue)
- Water harvesting, desalination, water efficiency, wastewater treatment, recycling, and reuse technologies are some of the water sanitation-related activities that should be expanding through international collaboration and **capacity-building support** to developing countries.
- Encourage the **efforts of local communities** to enhance water and sanitation management.

# To do list on the world stage! (not exhausted) Contd.

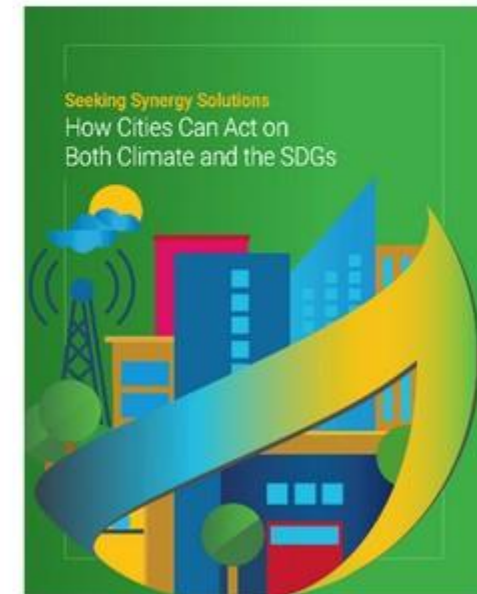
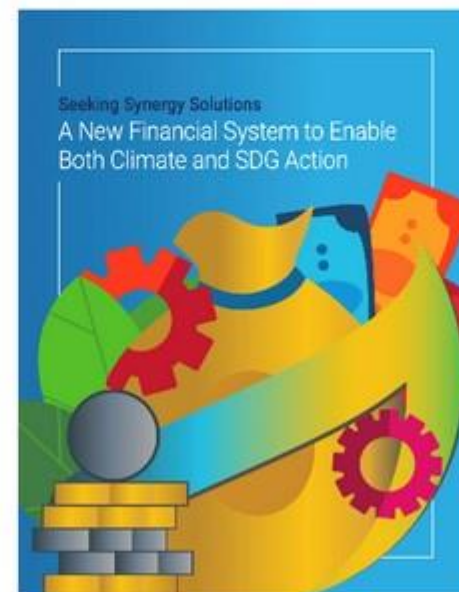
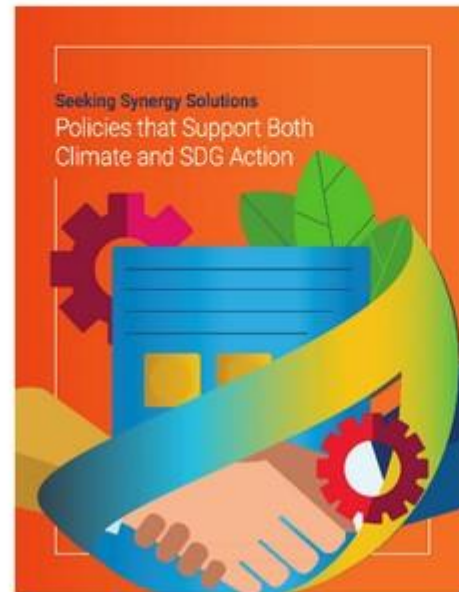
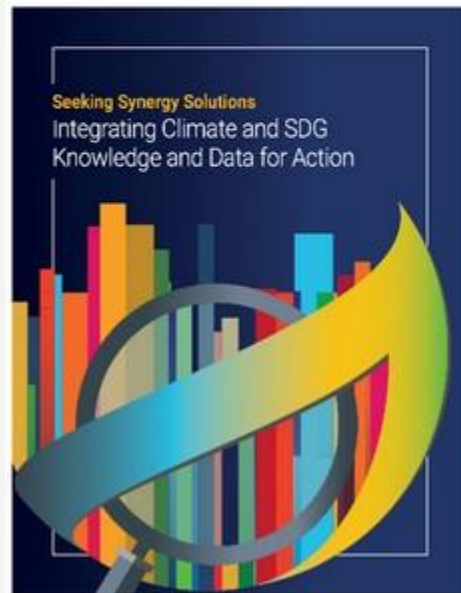
- To achieve equitable access to affordable and clean water globally.
- To achieve equitable and adequate access to sanitation and hygiene services
- End the practice of defecating in the open
- Special attention to the sanitation requirements of women and girls and those in vulnerable situations
- To improve the quality of water in freshwater bodies
- To adopt the New Water Management/ Governance Paradigm (3 ply approach)
- Quality of the water should be improved by
  - (i) Minimizing pollution
  - (ii) Reducing the careless release of industrial waste
  - (ii) Reducing the percentage of untreated water flowing into natural water bodies
  - (iv) Increasing recycling and safe reuse of water

# Climate and SDG Synergy Expert Group Thematic Reports

- **Climate and SDG Synergy Expert Group Thematic Reports have been launched at the sixtieth session of the UNFCCC Subsidiary Body (SB60) in Bonn ( )**



**Climate and SDG Synergy Expert Group Thematic Reports have been launched at the sixtieth session of the UNFCCC Subsidiary Body (SB60) in Bonn**



# Fifth Global Conference on Strengthening Synergies between the Paris Agreement and the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development

## 5-6 September 2024 | R o de Janeiro, Brazil

- Brazil's role as a host: bridging climate and development agendas.
- **The Fifth Global Conference on Climate and SDG Synergies**, convened annually by **UN DESA** and the **UNFCCC**, will be held on 5-6 September 2024, hosted by the Government of Brazil at **the Museum of the Future** in Rio de Janeiro. This conference forms part of the co-conveners' capacity development initiatives, aiming to assist **Member States** and **practitioners** in developing effective policy and action plans through the sharing of knowledge and best practices.
- The conference's timing is particularly significant, aligning with a two-week series of G20-related events and preceding **COP29 and COP30**. Brazil's role as host underscores its vital contribution to **bridging climate and development agendas**. Representatives of Member States, UN agencies, and other stakeholders are encouraged to register for the conference once registration opens. The full programme, including a list of speakers, will be announced shortly.



# A need for New Water Management/ Governance Paradigm

## HUMAN & FRESHWATER ECOSYSTEMS HEALTH



Damaged sanitation discharges into communities and freshwater ecosystems.

Exposure in drinking-water, irrigation and recreational water.

Larger, more widespread and more deadly outbreaks of Cholera and Dengue globally.

Eutrophication, toxic cyano-



WORLD ECONOMIC FORUM

Join us Sign in

UN WATER

**22 MARCH**  
**WORLD WATER DAY**

2024 Water for Peace



- 1. <https://youtu.be/s1yN1DqX6Zc> Leveraging water for Peace
- 2. <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=s3yVCoAwreM&t=38s> (Water for Peace: extinguishing the fire of war and conflict | Dr. Ahmed Abukhater | TEDxBoulder)
- 3. <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=ecHNTGkTvpo>
- World Water Day: Water can be a tool for peace when communities, countries cooperate, says UN
- <https://wwfint.awsassets.panda.org/downloads/worldwaterforumhistorymx.pdf>

# Questions for CPD hour/each seminar and “Whole Course Completion Certificate Applicants”

1. What is the difference between World Water Day and World Water Forum?
2. What are the Themes of the World Water Forum 1 to 10?
3. Why do we need to celebrate world water day and world water forum?
4. How can you contribute in the water conservation at home?
5. What do you want do to improve the Myanmar Water Sector situation?

Answer question 1 to 5 for obtaining the CDP hour credit.

6. What is your personality? Do you think big or focus on small steps?
7. Do the Internet research, download the book “Turning the Tide” and copy one paragraph of which you like most.

(Answer all questions to obtain the completion certificate)



# Myanmar Delegation Consisted of Gov., NGO, and Private Sector representatives

Photos from 8<sup>th</sup> WWF, Brazil



# Thank You for your time and attention

Thanks for Joining!

