



United
Nations



Summit co-coordinated by:



UN-WATER SUMMIT ON GROUNDWATER 2022

7-8 December 2022

UNESCO HQ
Paris, France

PRE-SUMMIT SIDE EVENTS

6 December 2022



GROUNDWATER
SUMMIT 2022

UN-Water Summit on Groundwater



BACKGROUND

The UN-Water Summit on Groundwater will be the culminating event of the 2022 campaign “**Groundwater: making the invisible visible**”, implemented by the dedicated UN-Water Task Force, co-coordinated by UNESCO and the International Groundwater Resources Assessment Centre (IGRAC), on behalf of UN-Water. The main messages from the Summit will be conveyed to the United Nations 2023 Water Conference.

PURPOSE

The Summit will draw attention to the topic of groundwater at the highest international level, while also serving as a culminating event for the ‘Groundwater: Making invisible visible’ campaign that has run throughout 2022. The Summit will use as baseline the World Water Development Report 2022 (WWDR 2022) focused on Groundwater, and the SDG 6 Global Acceleration Framework as a guideline to define actions towards more responsible and sustainable use and protection of this vital natural resource. The summit will unify the statements from all major groundwater-related events into one, comprehensive groundwater message for the UN 2023 Water Conference.

VENUE

The UN-Water Summit on Groundwater will take place on 7-8 December 2022 at UNESCO HQ, Paris. Participation is foreseen in hybrid mode, both in presence and remotely. A Pre-Summit Day, devoted to side events, will take place on 6 December 2022.

English/French interpretation is foreseen. Registration is free of charge.

More information:

www.groundwater-summit.org

info@groundwater-summit.org

Venue

UNESCO HQ
7, Pl. de Fontenoy, 75007
Paris, France

PROGRAMME OVERVIEW

	Tuesday 6 December Pre-Summit Day	Wednesday 7 December High-level Plenary Sessions	Thursday 8 December High-level Plenary Sessions
09:00-09:30	Side Events	Opening Ceremony	Regional Dialogues
09:30-10:00			Transboundary Aquifers
10:00-10:30		Coffee Break	Coffee Break
10:30-11:00			Groundwater and Acceleration Instruments for SDG6 Data and Information
11:00-11:30		Groundwater and Acceleration Instruments for SDG6 Capacity development	Groundwater: Focus on Africa
11:30-12:00			Lunch
12:00-12:30		Lunch	Strengthening Interface Science-policy Practice
12:30-13:00			
13:00-13:30		Groundwater and Acceleration Instruments for SDG6 Innovation	Groundwater Youth Forum
13:30-14:00			Tea Break
14:00 - 14:30		Tea Break	Closing Ceremony
14:30 - 15:00			
15:00 - 15:30			
15:30 - 16:00			
16:00 - 16:30			
16:30 - 17:00			
17:00 - 17:30			
17:30 - 18:00			

PROGRAMME DETAILS

Opening session

Opening addresses

- UNESCO Director-General
- UN-Water Chair
- Highlights from WWDR 2022
- High-level statements (tbd)

SDG6 Accelerators Sessions

In 5 consecutive sessions, attention will be given to the links between groundwater and each accelerator of the SDG 6 Global Acceleration Framework:

- **Data and Information** (Co-ordinator: [WMO](#))
- **Capacity Development** (Co-ordinators: [UNESCO](#) – [UNDESA](#))
- **Innovation** (Co-ordinator: [IAH](#))
- **Governance** (Co-ordinators: [UNDP](#) – [SIWI](#) – [IWRA](#))
- **Finance** (Co-ordinator: [FAO](#))

Thematic Groundwater Sessions

- **Regional Dialogues** (Co-ordinator: [UN ESCWA](#))

This session will present the results of the regional dialogues conducted in 2022 as part of the Regional Preparatory Meetings of the UN 2023 Water Conference. Regional perspectives on the state of groundwater resources, challenges and actions required will be addressed in this session.

- **Transboundary Aquifers** (Co-ordinators: [UNESCO-IHP](#), [UNECE](#), [IGRAC](#))

With the aim of improving coordination at all levels, this session will present the main results of the monitoring of SDG 6 Indicator 6.5.2 on water

cooperation, success stories of Member States, and main messages from ISARM2021.

- **Groundwater: Focus on Africa** (Co-ordinator: [AMCOW](#))

Exploring and sustainably exploiting groundwater in Africa will be addressed in this session to ensure water security for future generations.

- **Strengthening Interface Science-policy Practice** (Co-ordinators: [UNESCO-IHP](#) + [IGRAC](#))

The “Groundwater Catalogue” is a tool aimed to enhancing the interface of science-policy practice. It will be launched during this session and will be available for online use.

- **Groundwater Youth Forum**
Representatives of different youth organizations, in collaboration with the Groundwater Youth Network, will discuss youth engagement in groundwater governance as essential for achieving water security and the achievement of SDG 6.

Closing session

The official closing will include the presentation of a joint UN-Water statement and high-level statements towards UN 2023 Water Conference.

Side events

Side events of 60-90 minutes will be held on 6 December. The list of selected submissions will be available on the Summit website soon.