

2026 DANUBE WATER FORUM

From Vision to Action: Building a Water Resilient Danube Region

Dear colleagues and friends of the Danube Water Program,

You are cordially invited to save the date for the **2026 Danube Water Forum**, taking place **20–22 May 2026 in Sofia, Bulgaria**. This year's Forum will be hosted at the Regional Centre for Contemporary Art – Toplocentrala and organized back-to-back with several key events, including business meetings, the UBP Danube Hub annual workshop, and a Young Water Professionals pre-event.

The Forum is organized by IAWD under the Danube Water Program, jointly run by IAWD and the World Bank and co-funded by the Austrian Government. Our hosts for 2026 are IAWD members, the Bulgarian Water Association (BWA) and Sofia Water.

Under the theme **“From Vision to Action: Building a Water-Resilient Danube Region”**, the Forum will convene more than 150 stakeholders to examine the EU Water Resilience Strategy and its practical implications for water and wastewater utilities across the region. A dedicated spotlight on the state of the sector in the host country will highlight progress and compare developments with neighboring countries. The program will also explore key technical topics—such as smart asset management, water-efficiency measures, and resource-conscious wastewater treatment—showcasing how innovation strengthens daily operations and long-term sustainability. The event will conclude with a focus on the human dimension of resilience, including workforce development, utility partnerships, and empowered leadership to drive reliable, future-ready water services.

Similar to previous years, the conference organizers encourage the submission of poster presentations. For full details on the Call for Posters, please refer to the attached document or visit the [Event's page](#).

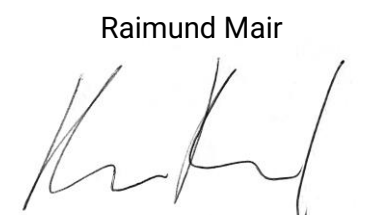
The conference language will be English, with simultaneous interpretation into Bulgarian. Comprehensive logistical information and the “How to Register” guide will be shared in mid-March, when official registration opens.

We look forward to welcoming you to the 2026 Danube Water Forum!

Sincerely,



Walter Kling
President



Raimund Mair
Danube Water Program Leader



Ivan Ivanov
President

International Association of Water
Service Companies in the Danube
Region (IAWD)

The World Bank

Bulgarian Water Association
(BWA)

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