

2021 DANUBE WATER CONFERENCE

Building a Resilient and Water Secure Danube Region

18 - 20 October 2021

Format: Virtual



supported by:

 Federal Ministry
Republic of Austria
Finance

Target Audience

National institutions (ministries, regulators); national water and municipal associations, local government and utilities from the Danube region; representatives from regional utility (IAWD) and municipality (NALAS) associations; representatives from regulatory agency platforms; representatives from river basin organizations; representatives from the EU, UNECE, GIZ, SDC, the World Bank and other bilateral donors and IFIs; Young Water Professionals; academia; private companies; NGOs, and others.

Context and objective

Water touches every aspect of development and is linked to nearly every Sustainable Development Goal (SDG). It drives economic growth, supports healthy ecosystems, and is essential and fundamental for life itself. However, remaining gaps in safe access to water supply and sanitation, changes in demography, more water-intensive patterns of social and economic growth, increasing rainfall variability, and pollution coupled with the impacts of climate change, as well as the Covid-19 pandemic are combining in many places to make water one of the greatest risks to economic progress, environmental protection and sustainable development not only globally but also in the Danube Region.

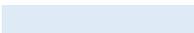
In that context, the Danube Water Program, a partnership program between the World Bank and the International Association of Water Service Companies in the Danube River Catchment Area (IAWD), has extended its scope of activities, addressing issues related to “Water Security,” including water services delivery, water resources management and water-related risk mitigation in the context of socio-economic development, climate change, and implementation efforts for the water-related EU Acquis Communautaire.

Given the continuous insecure situation due to the Covid-19 pandemic, the Danube Water Conference, which is the flagship event in the frame of the Danube Water Program, will be held virtually. The Conference will provide an international forum with the objective to share lessons learned and to discuss approaches on how to build a resilient and water secure Danube Region. The event will continue to focus on the water services sector, while also expanding the scope to the broader water management agenda with experts and representatives from the region and beyond.

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Monday 18 th October	11:00–12:30	<i>Meet the Exhibitors/Network with Peers</i>	
	12:30-13:30	Danube Water Conference: Opening Session	
	13:30-14:00	<i>Meet the Exhibitors/Network with Peers</i>	
	14:00-15:15	Taking the pulse – A Water Security Diagnostics for the Danube Region	Roundtable: Explore the D-LeaP tools for efficient water services
	15:15-15:45	<i>Meet the Exhibitors/Network with Peers</i>	
	15:45-17:00	Droughts and climate change – An increasing threat, is the Danube Region prepared?	Roundtable: How the UMT supports you to become a Utility of the Future
Tuesday 19 th October	11:00–12:30	<i>Meet the Exhibitors/Network with Peers</i>	
	12:30-13:45	Innovative technologies for Water Security	Roundtable: Building the Voice of the Danube Community of Practice
	13:45-14:15	<i>Meet the Exhibitors/Network with Peers</i>	
	14:15-15:30	Smart Utility Management for resilient water service provision	Roundtable: Transboundary water cooperation – progress and emerging challenges
	15:30-16:00	<i>Meet the Exhibitors/Network with Peers</i>	
	16:00-17:00	Ask me Anything: Everything you wanted to know about water	Working Group: Stakeholder consultations – Water Security Diagnostics
Wednesday 20 th October	11:00–12:30	<i>Meet the Exhibitors/Network with Peers</i>	
	12:30-13:45	Fostering an innovation culture to support utility modernization	Roundtable: Integrating Green and Gray Infrastructure for Water Security and Climate Resilience
	13:45-14:15	<i>Meet the Exhibitors/Network with Peers</i>	
	14:15-15:30	Cooperation as key to sustainable water services	Roundtable: Second year of COVID-19 crisis - impacts and mitigation measures in the WSS sector
	15:30-16:00	<i>Meet the Exhibitors/Network with Peers</i>	
	16:00-17:00	Danube Water Conference: Closing Session	

	Main session
	Roundtable/Working Group

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