THE WORLD WATER QUALITY ALLIANCE NEWSLETTER

July 2023

The World Water Quality Alliance is convened by the United Nations Environment Programme and supported by the Swiss Confederation. It proudly presents its monthly newsletter, YEMAYA, named after the ancient African goddess of the ocean and motherhood. She is associated with fertility, femininity, protection, healing, and childbirth. Her domains are symbolized as water creatures: the seas, rivers, and lakes. She is honoured and revered in the African diaspora, particularly in Cuba, Haiti, Brazil, and the United States.

We, the World Water Quality Alliance Coordination Team, welcome articles about water quality. Tell us about your experiences. Describe the challenges you and your people face. Talk to our global community; talk to people from around the World. Send your articles to wwqa-coordination@un.org.

IN THIS ISSUE

Focus on Capacity Development: at the Heart of Solutions to Worldwide Water Quality

Introduction

Water, the lifeblood of our planet, sustains all forms of life. According to available data, large parts of the world have growing issues with ambient water quality (water quality in rivers, lakes and groundwaters, for example). When actively monitored, the quality of many ambient waters and the health of aquatic ecosystems are demonstrably at risk or in decline due to human activities. This is no surprise to WWQA members, of course, driving the formation of this global alliance around water quality in 2019. We are also painfully aware that the world will unlikely meet many Sustainable Development Goal 6 targets by 2030. This is of fundamental concern since many of the other 16 SDGs need to be more achievable with access to clean and healthy water supplies.

Capacity Development: part of a multifaceted approach to improving global ambient water quality

There is no 'silver bullet' solution to water quality problems: neither technological innovation (e.g. in wastewater treatment technology or monitoring capabilities) nor legal frameworks and standards, for example, offer complete solutions. Instead, ambient water quality issues should be considered multi-faceted problems, with answers at the nexus of a complex blend of legal, scientific, technical, resource

and social considerations. The roles of societal awareness in general and professional education and training around water quality should be considered, and how sustained efforts here can translate into institutional, political and financial support for solutions.

When it comes to water, much of the world's aquatic ecosystems are still under or unmonitored. Without monitoring, we do not have a clear and complete picture of one of our most vital collective natural resources. Active tracking is indispensable for identifying pollution sources, assessing water quality standards, and implementing targeted interventions. Evidence-based allocation of finite resources, swift identification and remediation of problems, effective surveillance of polluters, and appropriate legal action is all beyond reach without active monitoring. There is a limited pool of expertise in this area, and deepening the collection of qualified professional knowledge in water quality monitoring is critical in solving the world's water quality problems.

Capacity Development and the UNEP GEMS/Water Programme

Cultivating a global pool of skilled professionals with the necessary expertise to monitor and analyze water quality data effectively requires sustained investment in specialized training programs, workshops, and courses. With appropriate institutional support, these professionals can then employ the sophisticated techniques and state-of-the-art equipment often necessary to track emerging threats to water quality and ensure adherence to rigorous protocols necessary to enforce quality standards. Equally, broader education is crucial to fostering a deeper understanding of our environment and instilling a sense of responsibility towards protecting water resources. Environmentally conscious citizens who will advocate for sustainable water management practices arise from integrating topics like water quality into school curricula and promoting broad-scale environmental education.

UNEP's Global Environmental Monitoring System for Freshwaters (GEMS/Water) has been devoted to monitoring global water quality for the past fifty years*. Early in this programme, it was recognized that sustained training and education are essential and pivotal aspects of a capacity development strategy around water quality monitoring and, therefore, should be at the core of a robust global monitoring programme. The current capacity development arm of the GEMS water – the UNEP GEMS/Water Capacity Development Centre (CDC) hosted at University College Cork in Ireland since 2015 – provides* online and in-person training *in all aspects of water quality monitoring at many different levels of expertise. These range from free-to-all, downloadable handbooks to* open-access courses hosted on UNEP's eLearning Platform, professional development courses *and postgraduate diplomas, to an MSc in Freshwater Quality Monitoring. Hundreds of individuals and organizations from nearly 120 countries worldwide have participated in capacity development activities. CDC-trained experts hold critical positions in the global water sector, designing monitoring programmes, managing river basins, and training new cohorts of water quality professionals. Some of their* stories can be found here*.*

1 - Examples of participation in UNEP GEMS/Water Capacity development centre training: (clockwise from top left) Fiji (2022); CDC professional development student Maria Jose Arias Builes in the Amazon (2023); water professionals take a sample from a reservoir in Lesotho; CDC alum Ntiea Letsapo examines biota for indicators of water quality; and CDC students discuss sampling techniques in Cork (2019). Image credit - UNEP GEMS/Water Capacity development centre

---

From the Centre to the Consortium: the WWQA and the Capacity Development

In tandem with training and education, capacity development also involves strengthening institutional frameworks and fostering collaboration among diverse stakeholders. Robust institutions are essential for effective water quality monitoring, policy formulation, and regulation enforcement. Governments, regulatory bodies, and water management agencies must prioritise capacity development initiatives to ensure they have skilled personnel and adequate resources for their mandates. Furthermore, fostering networks and partnerships between governments, research institutions, civil society organisations, and the private sector promotes knowledge sharing, technological advancements, and data exchange. Collaboration ensures that expertise and resources are shared, avoiding duplication of efforts and maximising the impact of water quality monitoring initiatives.

The work of centres like the UNEP GEMS/Water CDC notwithstanding, a global effort to meet the demand for appropriate and practical training and education around water quality requires concerted international collaboration that considers differing social and ecological contexts. Reaching effective solutions to a global problem like water quality requires a global alliance capable of exerting influence at a worldwide scale. It requires a globally distributed group of like-minded organizations interested in expanding and coordinating capacity development around water quality: to enter the WWQA and the remit of the Capacity Development Consortium workstream of the Alliance.

To go some way towards meeting these objectives, the UNEP GEMS/Water CDC has recently launched a pilot platform *that connects providers of water quality training products to learners around the world. With further development, this platform will be the nucleus of the WWQA's capacity development workstream efforts, making the necessary global alliance of water quality organizations and advocates a*

reality. Further, a forthcoming meeting of WWQA partners in Latin America and the Caribbean seeks to develop collaboration around translating English-language materials into Spanish and Portuguese.

We need your help! Do you know how you or your organization can get involved?

Through collaboration, knowledge sharing, and the establishment of robust institutional frameworks, it is possible to pave the way for sustainable water management practices and ensure the availability of clean and safe water for generations to come.

*The UNEP GEMS/Water CDC and the WWQA need your help! Are you or your organisation involved in capacity development on water quality around the globe – or are you seeking training and education resources on water quality monitoring? If so, we want to hear from you. Please contact the UNEP GEMS/Water CDC directly (*gemscdcadmin@ucc.ie*) or through the WWQA coordination team (*wwqa-coordination@un.org*). We would be delighted to hear from you if you are interested in taking part in one of the existing training and education courses, discussing the development of new courses with us through the WWQA Capacity Development Consortium, or promoting current practices of training and education initiatives in your organisation through the capacity development consortium.*

Article contribution by Dr Timothy Sullivan and Dr David Fouser - UNEP GEMS/Water CDC

The Ecosystem Workstream of the WWQA

The WWQA Ecosystems Workstream was established in 2021 to support the larger objective of the World Water Quality Alliance. It operates at the interface between private and public bodies, providing access to global scale data, evidence and expertise necessary to catalyse ample scale ecosystem protection and restoration. The WWQA Ecosystem Workstream initially focuses on lakes and a long-term ambition to support restoration strategies combining socio-economic and biophysical evidence to drive the transition from heavily polluting activities towards those that relieve stress on the aquatic environment while releasing economic growth. The Workstream has set an agenda for action, fostering new partnerships targeting large-scale and transboundary programmes and delivering evidence to support the delivery of existing and emerging policies and initiatives for the protection of lakes and reservoirs. It will help provide the UNEP Decade on Ecosystem Restoration and the development and transposition of other emerging directives, for example, the European New Green Deal.

By coordinating a Global Community of Practice, the Ecosystems Workstream supports the development of sustainability-based large–scale and transboundary ecosystem management of lakes and their catchments. The initial work programme of the workstream in 2021-2022 included the following:

- *Convene the WWQA Ecosystems Membership and review and synthesise their experiences on the challenges and benefits of lake restoration;*

- *Enhance coordination of action in the area of lake restoration and mobilization of policymakers;*

- *Raise awareness across sectors of the benefits of effective sustainability-based restoration of freshwater ecosystems.*

The key activities undertaken so far included:

1) Establishing a Terms of Reference (TOR) and convening a WWQA Ecosystems Membership consisting of a network of practitioners responsible for improving the water quality of the world's lakes;

2) Convening a special session entitled "Investing for change through the World Water Quality Alliance" at the Stockholm World Water Week (SWWW) 2021;

3) Conducting a Global Survey in several languages on the factors necessary for lake restoration and identifying essential case studies.

4) Collating experiences of the WWQA Ecosystems Membership and its networks in its approaches for lake restoration; and using the outputs of the previous activities to:

5) Prepare and launched a White paper on global lake restoration and the factors necessary for its hindrance or success.

The Workstream activities were supported by a core "steering group" of practitioners from IHE Delft Institute for Water Education (Netherlands), Centre for Ecology and Hydrology (CEH, UK), Wageningen University and Research (WUR, Netherlands); European Commission Joint Research Centre (EC- JRC); Bowburn Consultancy (UK); The Norwegian Institute of Water Research (NIVA), and colleagues from UNEP. The momentum of the WWQA Ecosystems Workstream has been maintained by fortnightly intervals and a series of presentations at the online global conference of the Society of Ecological Restoration (SER), in-person presentations and discussion groups promoting WWQA at the triennial meeting to the Society of International Limnology (SIL), with submission of subsequent article promoting the WWQA for their newsletter; and participation in a working group of SER, FAO and IUCN on critical principles needed for Ecological Restoration. A duplicated follow-up symposium, coordinated with SER for a special session at Stockholm Water Week 2021 (covering two extreme time zones to enable participation from the western and eastern hemispheres) was held online on May 13th, 2022, at 08.00 UTC and 14.00 UTC. The key output of the first phase of the work was a White Paper on Embedding lakes into the global sustainability agenda, launched at the UN Water Conference in March 2022 . Expansion of the reach of the WWQA Ecosystems Workstream has been through the promotion of the Global

Freshwater Macroinvertebrate Sampling Protocols (GLOSAM) *with a focus on biotic assessment of freshwaters.*

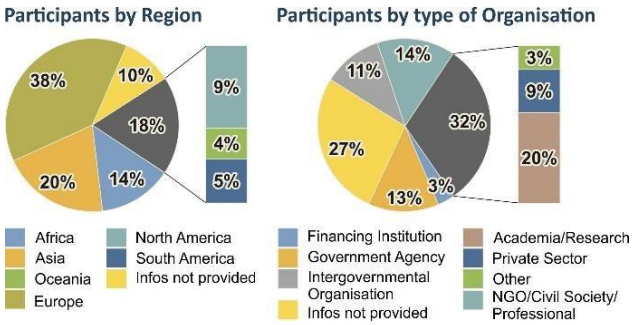
WWQA Ecosystem Workstream at the World Water Week in Stockholm 2021

The WWQA Ecosystems Workstream hosted two sessions at the 2021 SIWI World Water Week. The 'Investing for Change through the World Water Quality Alliance' was held on 24th August 2021 and 26th August 2021. The session was awarded the SIWI Gold Standard for Diversity. The session was the first step in establishing a Global Community of Practice, with 254 registrations (Fig. 1) and contributions from active restoration programmes in Chile, North America, Europe, New Zealand, India, and Africa. Links to parallel sessions: https://youtu.be/4jwrlPEU6w0 *and* https://youtu.be/UKTGdqk65Ak.

The SIWI 2021 sessions developed Top 5 Actions required to transform lake management in the coming years:

---

1. *Restoration must embrace both ecological and social benefits.*
2. *National institutional capacities must be enhanced to accelerate uptake and implementation.*
3. *New partnerships must be fostered to integrate policies and sectoral interests better.*
4. *Monitoring, assessment, and future scenario projections must be embedded within restoration investments to underpin long-term evidence-based decision-making.*
5. *Enabling conditions must be created to de-risk and enhance investment in sustainable lake management, with an active role in new public-private partnerships.*



2 - Figure 1 Analytics of participation in sessions hosted by WWQA Ecosystems Workstream at the 2021 SIWI World Water Week. Image credit - Ecosystem workstream

---

WWQA Ecosystem Workstream at SIL 2022 in Berlin

The WWQA Ecosystems Workstream organised a special session at the centenary anniversary Congress of the Society of International Limnology (SIL) conference in Berlin in 2022. The session 'Sustainable Freshwater Management in the 21st Century' took place on August 9th 2022, hosting 24 oral contributions from 12 countries.

Global Survey of Lake Restoration in Practice

WWQA Ecosystems, through UNEP and JRC, conducted a Global Survey of Lake Restoration in Practice collating experiences of the lake restoration practitioner community, attracting 179 questionnaire returns with coverage from 64 countries. Preliminary analyses indicate that many pressures are pervasive, but that nutrients and climate change are perceived to be most important globally (Fig. 2). General messages to date include that:

- *poor understanding of pressures and their effects are perceived to be one of the most important reasons behind failure in lake restoration,*
- *most restoration programmes do not consider future climate change in their long-term planning, and,*
- *novel pressures will call for new approaches to lake restoration, both in setting restoration targets and devising restoration strategies.*

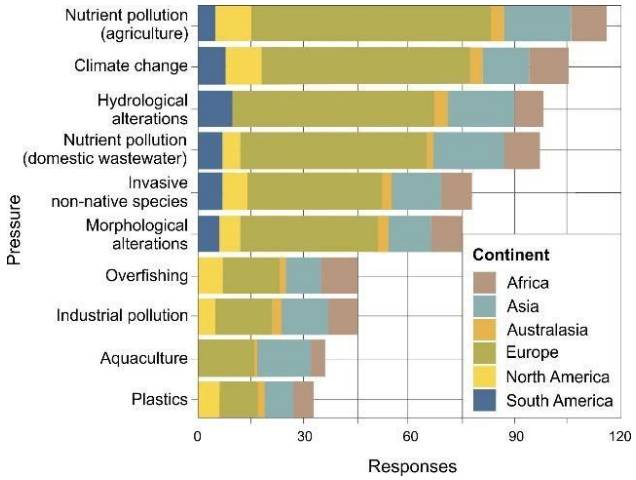
This survey aims to compile experiences gained from the accurate restoration of lakes to identify the leading causes for the failure/success of lake restoration and to draw recommendations for future initiatives. The survey is available in 5 languages and is still open to receive answers. To access the study, please visit the website at this address: https://forms.office.com/r/uFnKsxLT5M

The survey analysis was disseminated in the scientific literature to a broader audience and served as input for a White Paper to identify critical issues and implement actions for better coordination to protect and restore water quality in lakes.

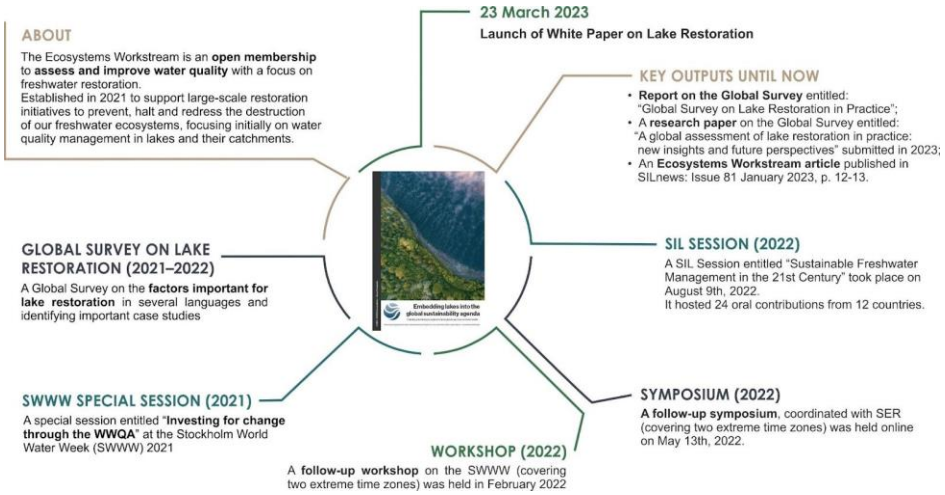
The Global Community of Practice identified the following supporting activities to be delivered by WWQA Ecosystems:

- *Building collaborations and sharing data to inform more effective ecosystem-based management*
- *Fostering new partnerships to deliver better integration of policies and sectoral interests, and*

- *Creating enabling conditions for effective, sustainable freshwater management investments with an active role in the private sector.*



3 - Figure 2 Responses from the lake management practitioner community indicate multiple pressures' global importance. Only responses indicating 'moderate' or 'severe' impacts of pressures are listed. Image credit - Ecosystem workstream



4 - Image credit - Ecosystem workstream

Upcoming Activities

The objective of the workstream in the next phase will build on the successes of the first phase, turning the focus to outreach and communication. This will be achieved by:

---

1. *Targeted advocacy with relevant policymakers based on insights from White Paper;*

2. *Creating adequate communication support within the WWQA through impact orientation of the workstreams;*

3. *Awareness raising of the social and economic benefits of ecosystem restoration across public and private sectors; and*

4. *Develop a media awareness campaign for selected broader audiences through targeted low-cost marketing strategies and social media influencers.*

The upcoming activities will support the United Nations Environment Assembly (UNEA) resolutions 3/10 on "Addressing water pollution to protect and restore water-related ecosystems" (UNEP/EA.3/Res.10); 5/2 on "Sustainable nitrogen management" (UNEP/EA.5/Res.2); 5/4 on "Sustainable Lake Management" (UNEP/EA.5/Res.4); 5/5 on "Nature-based solutions for supporting sustainable development". This will be done in collaboration with other WWQA Workstreams to realise the active cooperation between the WWQA Workstreams.

Promoting ecosystem restoration and awareness will be done in collaboration with 'social media influencers and in-house support by the IHE Delft Communications team investigating effective techniques for outreach and testing these within the WWQA.

Article contribution by the World Water Quality Alliance (WWQA) Ecosystems Workstream. If you would like to join the workstream please send an e-mail to wwqa-coordination@un.org.

A Look at Water Quality through the Lens of Water Scarcity

The urgent global issue of water constraints significantly impacts water quality. The problems encountered by communities worldwide are exacerbated as the supply of clean, safe water decreases, and the quality of the remaining water sources degrades. The complex relationship between water quality and scarcity, highlighting the problems it raises and considering various remedies for managing water resources sustainably, is discussed in this article.

Water scarcity and quality are closely related since the lack of water resources directly impacts their quality. When supplies of water are limited, demand increases, overusing existing resources and placing unnecessary strain on them. As a result, inadequate wastewater treatment, improper chemical disposal, and agricultural runoff, among other issues, make water bodies vulnerable to contamination. Furthermore, the intensification of water scarcity exacerbates pollution issues caused by industrial activities. Inadequate water supplies can reduce sewage dilution capacities, producing higher pollutant concentrations in water bodies. Additionally, because of water shortage, there may be an increase in contaminants or naturally occurring compounds that are harmful to human health due to the reliance on alternate sources like groundwater.

The effects of diminished water quality from scarcity are severe, especially for human health. Communities are more likely to contract waterborne illnesses, including cholera, typhoid fever, and

diarrhoea, if they do not have adequate access to clean and safe water. Lack of water and poor water quality have adverse effects on the environment. Reduced water availability causes habitat degradation and biodiversity loss, which affects ecosystems. Fish populations and other aquatic organisms suffer when rivers and streams don't have enough water flowing through them, disrupting marine ecosystems. Additionally, the presence of toxins in water sources has a severe impact on flora and fauna, causing ecosystems to be destroyed and the delicate balance of nature to be disturbed.

Addressing the complex challenges arising from water quality and scarcity necessitates a comprehensive and multifaceted approach:

---

1. *Implementing sustainable water management techniques is crucial for integrated water resource management. This includes emphasizing sustainable water use across sectors, maximising water allocation efficiency, minimizing leakage losses, and encouraging water conservation measures.*

2. *Enhanced Wastewater Treatment: Strengthening wastewater treatment infrastructure is vital to prevent pollution and protect water sources. Investing in advanced treatment technologies, expanding treatment capacities, and enforcing stringent regulations can ensure the safe discharge of effluents or their reuse in non-potable applications.*

3. *Pollution Prevention: Protecting the quality of the water requires addressing pollution at its source. Water resources can be protected and pollution reduced by implementing and enforcing efficient legislation, encouraging sustainable agricultural methods, and encouraging ethical industrial waste management.*

4. *Water Conservation and Reuse: Promoting water conservation practices and advocating for the reuse of treated wastewater helps alleviate the strain on scarce water supplies. Innovative techniques such as rainwater harvesting, greywater reuse, and the adoption of water-efficient technologies can contribute to sustainable water use.*

In conclusion, urgent attention and focused efforts are required due to the complex relationship between water quality and scarcity. The need to protect the remaining supplies and preserve their quality becomes more critical as water resources diminish. Societies can work to ensure clean and safe water for both the present and future generations by adopting sustainable water management methods, improving wastewater treatment, reducing pollution, and promoting water conservation. Water is not just an essential resource but also a fundamental right that supports human well-being and maintains the delicate balance of our planet, making the challenge enormous but the stakes much higher.

Article contribution by Tharwh Qoutish - Certified Water Quality consultant for Jordan from Jordan Engineering Association and member of the Social Engagement Platform workstream.

The July Interview - *Odwa Ntsika Mtembu* Founder of World Merit South Africa, Programme Manager for Wetskills Foundation, Young Climate & Water Professional

What aspects of water, such as quality, availability, or management, are you most passionate about?

Governance. Water governance is critical to ensuring everyone has reliable and affordable access to clean water daily. It anchors the who, what, when and how parts of water use and management. Through my research, community work etc., I have come across many challenges or cases that require much more improved practices governing the community. As a result of my continued passion for contributing towards sustainable water management strategies, my current work and research are also focused on inclusive governance, ensuring we have a much more inclusive and transformed sector.

5 - Image provided by Odwa Ntsika Mtembu Founder of World Merit South Africa, Programme Manager for Wetskills Foundation, Young Climate & Water Professional

Looking ahead, what are your future expectations regarding achieving water-related SDGs, and what actions should be prioritized?

We are in the decade of water action, and following the recent UN 2023 Water Conference, many commitments were made to addressing different issues. While each community has other priorities due to various socio-economic issues, politics and more urgency in some areas already experiencing severe degradation concerning environmental services, inclusive decision-making and youth leadership should be prioritised and made a norm- not an exception. Through this, we will have policymakers and decision makers that can also look at more minor scale differences in water management that address inequalities, gender, poverty, and inclusion of marginalised groups. People view water differently in terms of its value and use, and the only way we can ensure we develop feasible and sustainable practices,

enabled by an environment of knowledge sharing/exchange, promote collaboration and implementation of the source-to-sea approach: we need inclusive decision making, policy formulation and transformed research. Only then can we see more sustainable funding, job creation, impact-driven study and more at the local level (small scale and watershed), nationally, regionally, and globally.

Can you discuss any success stories or notable impacts resulting from World Merit South Africa's efforts in achieving SDG 6?

World Merit South Africa has engaged in various activities and initiatives aimed at accelerating the attainment of SDG 6. We achieved this through information sharing through school and community discussions, raising water and environmental awareness through community river and beach clean-ups, and hiking/walking. And collaborative impact creation in local and international conferences, forums and platforms.

All our SDG 6 related activities are through Ubizolwethu Water Initiative (UWI) as one-half of the programmes of our Environmental Initiatives led by Ms Chubile Ngwenya (Environmental Advocate), Mrs Mbali Sibiya (Advocate for Sustainable Development) and Mr Luvuyo Mdepha (Director of External Talent & Training). Our successful activities include (not limited to);

---

1. *Hike for Water and Bucket Water Challenge in partnership with Operation Water, which focuses on raising awareness and education on water scarcity in our communities which we have currently hosted in at least four provinces*

2. *River and beach clean-ups address the issue of pollution and water quality and now include inland cleanups through Green Youth Prints to address the issue of pollution from the source.*

3. *We have conducted workshops in communities (schools, orphanage homes and community centres etc.) on water scarcity, how to save water, invasive species, the value of water and its role and significance in sanitation and hygiene (including menstruation).*

Finally, we have contributed to the global water campaign and paper on "Future of Inclusive and Transformed Water Research" and conducted workshops and training (locally to globally) to share our knowledge and lessons on inclusive and transformed water sector, entrepreneurial skills and innovative entrepreneurial solutions for the industry.

Having impacted over 15,000 people through our local community projects since 2017, we recently shared our knowledge and experiences at the 2023 UN Water Conference through various side events in

collaboration with other stakeholders locally, regionally and globally such as the South Africa Youth Parliament for Water, Umgeni Water, African Youth Parliament for Water, CE Envirosol Ltd, WWQA and more. Following our engagements, we made commitments toward the Water Action Agenda:

---

1. *In partnership with Wavemakers United: Contribute towards educating 1 million youngsters on WASH by 2023. A process we already started since the launch of World Merit SA will now be accelerated in collaboration with various stakeholders in the public sector and private locally, regionally and globally.*

2. *South African Wavemakers Chapter: launched in May 2023, we successfully launched the chapter as one of the commitments made, and the work to use sports, creativity and layman's language to educate and create awareness about SDG 6 (including water footprint) has officially started.*

3. *Adopting an innovative idea: Team Oceanic (one of the global top 5 teams for the UN-Water Challenge). As a South African team that made it to the top 5 of the UN-Water Challenge, we signed an agreement with other local stakeholders to adopt the idea and assist with advancing it, sourcing funding, implementation and more through the South Africa Wavemakers Chapter. Team Oceanic is focusing on addressing the issue of plastic pollution in our oceans.*

We look forward to more collaborations (local to global) for our community projects and continuing to contribute to discussions, research etc., on issues related to SDG 6 and other SDG 6 as we tackle/integrate the goals.

Inspiring the next generation to become passionate about water quality is essential. What advice would you give young people interested in pursuing a career in this field, and how can they get involved in organizations like the World Water Quality Alliance?

The water sector is vast, with technical to non-technical opportunities for all of us to contribute towards SDG 6, especially on water quality issues and solutions. As an individual, you need to fully understand one or two things that will motivate you to conduct your research, do the groundwork, draft policies, make decision and engage with various stakeholders, during and after getting your degree or equivalent. A career path in this field is enjoyable, with many opportunities for innovation and creativity. Still, one must ensure their professional development includes voluntary experiences or contributions to various local to global platforms that promote collaboration, sharing knowledge, and more, such as the WWQA. While we all have our different work conducted at the grassroot level through various organisations, including academia, etc., it is essential to always provide our local perspectives with global insight, and the WWQA offers such a platform for everyone and helps magnify our local impact through the regional water

forums. We are the leaders of today and tomorrow, and there is no better time than through your academic journey to already look into crafting your career field with professionals already working (formalised or equivalent) in the area, still studying or both.

THE WWQA BULLETIN BOARD

Innovation Workshop on Water Quality Monitoring and Assessment

---

The Innovation Workshop on Water Quality Monitoring & Assessment, organized by World Meteorological Organization (WMO), United Nations Environment Programme (UNEP), United Nations Educational, Scientific and Cultural Organization (UNESCO) and World Water Quality Alliance (WWQA), co-organized with and supported by the European Commission's Joint Research Centre (JRC) and in partnership with the International Atomic Energy Agency (IAEA) and the United Nations Institute for Training and Research (UNITAR), will take place from 27 to 29 September 2023 at the JRC in Petten (the Netherlands).

The 3-day workshop will be a unique experience in pulling collective intelligence to innovate on water quality monitoring and assessment challenges, and to look ahead on how to build momentum and support to go further down the road together.

Please visit this website for more information: https://hydrohub.wmo.int/en/news-events/call-participation-innovation-workshop-water-quality-monitoring-assessment

The Application form can be accessed here: https://www.surveymonkey.com/r/FGJX9K9

Training Communities in Nairobi!

By equipping the Nairobi River Citizen Science group with the necessary tools and expertise, the World Water Quality Alliance fosters both local capacity-building and community engagement, bringing everyone closer to ensuring clean and sustainable water resources for all.

To read the full article, please click here. (Article contribution by Vivianne Kiriinya - WWQA Coordination Team)

6 - Image credit: Anham Salyani

7 - Image credit: Anham Salyani

Haunted Waters!

Artists Nonhuman Nonsense *and scientist Caterina Cacciatori (EU JRC) are collecting stories, memories and material evidence from all over the world about bodies of water that are "haunted" by chemical contamination. With the support of the European Commission, they are working on the sci-art project "*Haunted Waters*", to raise awareness about water contamination. They are now in search of people who have stories to share about polluted water, as well as, contaminated water samples. The contributions will be incorporated into an art-science exhibition in Brussels.*

Please share your story here: https://nonhuman-nonsense.com/hauntedwaters

No stories are too big or too small!

If you like to talk with the artists, please write to hello@nonhuman-nonsense.com

---

In the August Issue of YEMAYA

- ***SDG 6 Water Action Agenda Special Event***
- ***WWQA at the World Water Week***
- ***The August Interview – Ruth Spencer, Co-chair of the Social Engagement Platform, Member of the Advisory Board of the UN Decade on Ecosystem Restoration-2023-2025 and Chair, Marine Ecosystems Protected Areas (MEPA) Trust***

Please follow our social media handles at:

Facebook*: https://www.facebook.com/profile*

Twitter*: https://twitter.com/UN_WWQA*

LinkedIn*: https://www.linkedin.com/company/wwqa/*

*Unless otherwise indicated, all contributions are by the WWQA coordination team.

YEMAYA welcomes articles, opinions and audio-visual material related to the issue of water quality. Please send any contribution to wwqa-coordination@un.org with a short 100-word biography, the name of your organisation and a phone number where you can be contacted.