

### THE WORLD WATER QUALITY ALLIANCE NEWSLETTER

### June 2024

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 <a href="www.wwga-coordination@un.org">wwga-coordination@un.org</a>.

### **IN THIS ISSUE**

- The World Water Quality Alliance at the 10th World Water Forum in Bali
- Harmony Flows: Green Somali Initiative's Water Peacekeeping and Land Restoration Efforts

- The June Interview: Ms Inge Retnowati, Director for Inland Waters and Mangrove Rehabilitation at Indonesia's Ministry of Environment and Forestry
  - Guidelines for the assessment of GROUNDWATER QUALITY
- Inspiring Environmental Action: A Spoken Word Video by Adenike Akinsemolu
  - The WWQA BULLETIN BOARD
  - Call for Applications and Nominations for the Earthna Prize
  - Request for inputs from members: RESOURCES to inform best practices in designing water-related citizen/community science programs
    - Women in Water Diplomacy Network
      - Job Openings

## The World Water Quality Alliance at the 10th World Water Forum in Bali



#### WWQA at the 10th World Water Forum

The World Water Quality Alliance (WWQA) actively participated at the 10th World Water Forum with approximately 60,000 participants gathering at the Nusa Dua Convention Centre in Bali, Indonesia, from May 18 to 25, 2024. The WWQA made significant contributions to a number of sessions, representing work undertaken by our workstreams.

Below are some key messages linking from our interventions at the sessions at which the WWQA participated at:

### Linking Ocean & Freshwater Policies for a Thriving Blue Economy

Harmonized Monitoring: Harmonized monitoring is essential to identify plastic hotspots and evaluate prevention and reduction measures through the implementation of the UNEP guidelines "Monitoring Plastics in Rivers and Lakes: Guidelines for the Harmonization of Methodologies".

Investing in Research: To end plastic pollution, we must invest in fundamental research to understand the transport of plastics from land to rivers, rivers to estuaries, and estuaries to the sea. This research must be translated into actionable policies and needs to involve citizens.

## Methods and tools for measuring and improving Smart Water Management Capabilities / VITO WaterClimateHub

WWQA delivered a keynote speech focused on embracing citizen science as a form of 'smart technology' for water quality monitoring.

Enhanced Data Availability: Citizen science-generated data increases availability with higher spatial and temporal resolution and can complement in-situ data collection.

Community Participation: Citizen science enables greater participation of local communities in water resource management and enhances public education and awareness regarding water-related issues.

Through its citizen science workstream, WWQA has empowered communities to better track their water quality. Lessons from this initiative will be summarized in an upcoming policy and technical brief—stay tuned!

#### **Special Session 11: Sustainable Lake Management**

Interdisciplinary Collaboration: Freshwater quality in lakes impacts various sectors, and UNEP's efforts include global environmental monitoring, freshwater ecosystem interventions, and wastewater management.

Taking Action on Lakes: The Sustainable Lake Management Resolution adopted at the 5th session of the United Nations Environment Assembly (UNEA) calls for protecting, conserving, and restoring lakes through stakeholder collaboration. UNEP supports this through the Lakes Portal and capacity-building initiatives as well as the great work from all the members of the WWQA Ecosystems workstream who have developed the White Paper 'Embedding Lakes into the Global Sustainability Agenda'.

### Integrating Indigenous and Local Knowledge held by UNESCO

Indigenous Knowledge: The recent UNEA resolution adopted at the 6th session of UNEA in March 2024 entitled "Effective and inclusive solutions for strengthening water policies to achieve sustainable development in the context of climate change, biodiversity loss and pollution" highlights the importance of incorporating traditional and Indigenous knowledge in water management and leveraging Indigenous and traditional knowledge, such as tank cascade systems, and adopting agroecological and other innovative approaches. It calls for creating frameworks that enable the respectful integration of ILK with formal scientific knowledge.

Call for action: The resolution calls upon member states and members of specialized agencies and invites relevant international organizations and relevant stakeholders to take into account indigenous and traditional knowledge and approaches, but also requests UNEP in collaboration with UN system entities and other stakeholders to promote dialogue and collaboration on water-related traditional, local and Indigenous knowledge.

### **UNEP Side Event: Global Processes for a Water-Secure World**

Global water processes: Discussions on enhancing water resource management in alignment with SDG6, emphasizing innovative financing, social engagement, and local and indigenous knowledge integration and showcasing the various partners, work and angles that UNEP is working with and continuing UNEA resolutions when it comes to water quality.

Collaborative efforts: Various global initiatives and UNEA resolutions over the last years link with and support water management.

### **Closing Ceremony Highlights**

Key outcomes included adopting Indonesia's proposal for World Lakes Day, establishing a Centre of Excellence on Water and Climate Resilience, and promoting integrated water resource management on small islands, aligning with the United Nations Water Action Agenda. The forum united stakeholders from various sectors and emphasized the role of young leaders, awarding the "Bali Youth Water Prize" and congratulating Kyoto World Water Grand Prize winner Iffah Rachmi.

Eric Tardieu, Vice President of the World Water Council, urged continued cooperation for sustainable water management. The 11th World Water Forum will be held in Saudi Arabia in 2027.

Harmony Flows: Green Somali Initiative's Water Peacekeeping and Land Restoration Efforts.



In the arid landscapes of Somalia, where water is as precious as peace, the Green Somali Initiative (GSI) has emerged as a beacon of hope. Highlighted by the theme for World Environment Day 2024, GSI works on combating land degradation, desertification, and drought. Their commitment to improving water management and energy transition is pivotal in fostering communal harmony in a land where water scarcity could easily brew conflict.

Recognizing water as the foundation of peace and sustainability, GSI works to ensure equitable access to clean water through projects like Climate-Resilient Water and Sanitation Infrastructure for Awdal Communities. This project addresses the lack of clean water and sanitation facilities in Somalia's Lughaya District, promoting sustainable land use and restoring degraded ecosystems. It prioritizes waste management, including treatment facility construction and community-based practices. Environmental degradation and cyclical droughts have decreased stream water volumes, forcing pastoralists to travel long distances for water. This increases vulnerability for low-income people, including Internationally Displaced Persons (IDPs), returnees, and urban destitute populations. By implementing innovative water harvesting techniques like rainwater catchment systems and rehabilitating ancient wells, GSI has brought relief to areas where water scarcity once created tension. Community involvement in water management committees has turned potential conflict into cooperation.

Water quality is a cornerstone of GSI's work. In Somalia, waterborne diseases are a leading cause of illness, exacerbated by drought and poor water infrastructure. GSI's water projects have improved health and trust within communities, as clean water flows from shared resources. The Climate-Resilient Water and Sanitation project has promoted sustainable land use practices and ecosystem restoration, improving water quality and availability, as well as biodiversity conservation. This benefits the environment and helps the community become more resilient to the effects of climate change. Education campaigns on water conservation and hygiene practices have further united communities in a common cause, transcending clan lines and creating a shared sense of purpose.

GSI's initiatives extend beyond immediate water needs to embrace broader environmental restoration efforts. By integrating renewable energy into water systems, GSI ensures sustainability. Solar-powered water pumps and biogas plants are just a few examples of how GSI is marrying technology with tradition, securing a future where energy aids in water provision and peace. These efforts are crucial in restoring degraded lands and combating desertification, which are essential for drought resilience.

In Mogadishu, improved sanitation facilities have led to a healthier, more peaceful urban environment. In Hargeisa, sustainable agriculture practices, such as crop diversification and the use of drought-resistant crop varieties, have increased food security, reduced competition over resources, and enhanced land restoration efforts. Promoting renewable energy sources such as solar and wind power, as well as improving energy efficiency in buildings and other infrastructure, can help further mitigate climate change.

GSI's reforestation projects are particularly noteworthy. By planting dates and coconut trees along the beach to prevent sandstorms and restore vegetation in degraded areas, GSI combats desertification while enhancing biodiversity and soil health. These restored landscapes are more resilient to drought and support sustainable livelihoods for local communities by providing dates and coconuts, boosting food supply, and empowering the community economically. Additionally, GSI promotes community-based adaptation and disaster risk reduction initiatives, improving access to financial services and other resources that can assist communities in dealing with the effects of climate change.

As GSI continues its vital work, the message is clear: when communities have access to clean, sustainable water sources, and when the land is restored and resilient, they survive and thrive together in peace. This is the vision that GSI is turning into reality, one drop at a time, for a greener, more harmonious Somalia. Through its efforts in land restoration, desertification prevention, and drought resilience, GSI is nurturing the environment and cultivating a culture of peace and cooperation.

Article contribution from Mustafa Abdo - Green Somali Initiative



1 - <u>Training of Agropastoral and Extension Agent in Sustainable Livestock Value Chain</u>



2 - Capacity Building on Climate-smart Agriculture in Somalia



3 - Capacity Building Training to Women Farmers on Climate Risk Management

### Ms Inge Retnowati, Director for Inland Waters and Mangrove Rehabilitation at Indonesia's Ministry of Environment and Forestry

Can you tell us a bit about your journey in environmental conservation and what led you to your current role as Director for Inland Waters and Mangrove Rehabilitation at Indonesia's Ministry of Environment and Forestry?

My undergraduate study was at the Bogor Agricultural University (IPB) in Bogor, West Java, where I Majored in Agricultural Economics. During my time in college, I joined Lawalata, a student group for Nature Enthusiasts. Through various group activities, I developed a deep appreciation for the Environment and learned the importance of empathy towards it.

I pursued my master's degree in public policy at the University of Indonesia, Jakarta, from 2003 to 2005. After graduating in 1992, I Joined the National Agency for Environmental Impact Management (BAPEDAL or EIMA), a government Institution Under the Ministry of Environment. I was accepted in 1993 in the Water Pollution Control Section, where our team organized the Clean River Program. This included monitoring and compliance with the water quality standards and conducting inspections to address environmental cases.

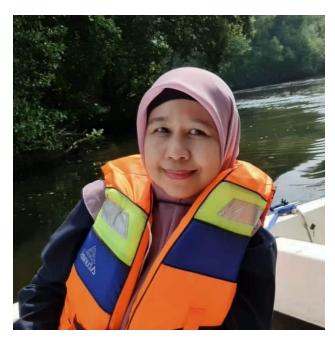
In 2000, BAPEDAL merged with the Ministry of Environment. By 2001, I became the Head of the Lake Degradation Control Section. Over the following years, I worked in various sections, focusing on environmental governance, carrying capacity, and impact assessment for sectoral and regional policies, including development plans and spatial planning.

In 2014, the Ministry of Environment merged with the Ministry of Forestry to become the Ministry of Environment and Forestry. This merger expanded my experience to include watershed management, forest and land rehabilitation, soil and water conservation, and mangrove rehabilitation. In 2018, I was appointed Deputy Director for Inland Water Degradation Control. After a 28-year career, in 2022, I became Director of Inland Waters and Mangrove Rehabilitation at the Directorate General of Watershed Management and Forest Rehabilitation.

From 2000 to 2023, I attended numerous international meetings, including the World Lake Conference, the World Water Forum, the UN Environment Assembly (UNEA), the COP of UNFCCC, and the ASEAN meeting. I also participated in training courses on Water Quality Management, Watershed Management, Water Pollution Control, and lake, Urban, and Forest Management in several countries between 1994 and 2010.

My directorate, under the Directorate General of Watershed Management and Forest Rehabilitation, is responsible for rehabilitating the lake catchment areas and other inland water ecosystems to combat land degradation and other environmental issues. We prepare relevant policies and coordinate with various work units and ministries to manage these ecosystems in an integrated basin or watershed approach, focusing on aspects such as water quality.

One of my significant experiences was contributing to the resolution of Sustainable Lake Management and participating in negotiations leading to its successful adoption at UNEA-5 in 2022. This was a key milestone in international cooperation and diplomacy concerning water-related ecosystems.



4 - Photo provided by Ms Inge Retnowati, Director for Inland Waters and Mangrove Rehabilitation at Indonesia's Ministry of Environment and Forestry

The recent 10th session of the World Water Forum was hosted by the Republic of Indonesia, and there was an impressive attendance of tens of thousands. The World Water Forum brought together global leaders and experts to discuss pressing water issues. What were your key reflections from the Forum, and what was your major takeaway regarding water quality?

At the 10th World Water Forum, I participated as an Indonesian Session Coordinator for Sustainable Lake Management. I was also involved in drafting the concept note of Indonesia's initiative on World Lake Day. This effort was a collaboration with representatives from other Indonesian ministries, led by the Indonesia National Organizing Committee, which includes several relevant Ministries, institutions, and experts.

I hope the Indonesia initiative on World Lake Day, accepted at the 10th World Water Forum, processes successfully and becomes a global observance to highlight the importance of the lake ecosystem and the role of all stakeholders.

My key reflections from the Forum are that it provides a significant opportunity for participants to meet and share insights, even within Indonesia. The conservation and restoration of lakes and other freshwater ecosystems require collective understanding and shared efforts from all key parties.

Managing lakes and other freshwater ecosystems involves several critical environmental indicators, especially water quantity, water quality, and biodiversity. Water quality, in particular, is a vital concern for many stakeholders. The water quality of freshwater ecosystems, including lakes, is influenced by numerous factors, both natural and human-induced. Once degraded, restoring water quality requires significant time, energy, and funds, and it is often challenging to return to original conditions. Without proactive measures, the condition will continue to deteriorate. Conservation and restoration of lakes are

essential because lakes, as lentic water bodies, have limited self-purification capacity; pollutants accumulate, worsening aquatic life.

My major takeaway regarding water quality is the need for awareness and efforts from various stakeholders, particularly at the leadership level, not just the technical level. Concrete concern and action from all parties are crucial to controlling pollution and preventing further environmental degradation of freshwater ecosystems.

The theme of this year's <u>World Environment Day</u> is "Land restoration, desertification and drought resilience", which all relate to water and water quality. How is Indonesia marking this occasion, and what specific initiatives are being undertaken in these thematics?

Lake and other freshwater ecosystem management is part of integrated watershed management, which needs to be implemented using a landscape-based approach. What happens in the water catchment area greatly affects the water body, including erosion, sedimentation, and pollution.

In the Ministry of Environment and Forestry of the Republic of Indonesia, there is a specific work unit to handle water pollution: the Directorate of Water Pollution Control at the Directorate General of Environmental Pollution and Degradation Control, where my colleagues actively implement the effort. According to the technical guidelines of water quality management, water pollution is assessed based on monitoring results and the water quality standards. These are then analyzed to determine the pollution sources, necessary treatment, compliance, and law enforcement. We also issue the Water Quality Index, which is a part of the Environmental Index and is based on voluntary reports of water quality from each region in Indonesia.

Indonesia is marking the occasion of World Environment Day through several significant events. One such event prepared by the Directorate General of Watershed Management and Forest Rehabilitation, especially the Directorate of Forest Tree Seed Management, involves launching a large-scale nursery center in East Kalimantan near the new capital of Nusantara. This reflects Indonesia's readiness to undertake large-scale forest and land rehabilitation to combat land degradation, reduce disaster risks such as floods and landslides, promote afforestation and reforestation, ensure biodiversity, and mitigate climate change through the Forest and Other Land Use (FOLU) sector. Climate change adaptation efforts include rehabilitating the catchment area to reduce impacts on lakes and other freshwater ecosystems as water sources and living environments.

The Ministry of Environment and Forestry of the Republic of Indonesia also organizes an event and series of activities for the public called the LIKE (lingkungan = environment, iklim = climate, kehutanan = forestry, and energi = energy) Festival. This festival not only celebrates the day but also raises awareness about enhancing capacity, contributing to and implementing ecosystem preservation, conservation, restoration, and sustainable management. This includes controlling land degradation and environmental pollution, improving environmentally friendly use of land, water, and other natural resources, promoting a circular economy and renewable energy, and increasing the benefits of biodiversity, such as bioprospecting.



5 - Photo provided by Ms Inge Retnowati, Director for Inland Waters and Mangrove Rehabilitation at Indonesia's Ministry of Environment and Forestry

The Source-to-sea approach is crucial for maintaining water quality. Could you elaborate on some of the main challenges when it comes to inland waters and mangroves and the work in the Republic of Indonesia and how this can support overall water quality inland and healthy oceans at the end of the source-to-sea continuum?

Terrestrial ecosystems and coastal ecosystems are closely related, especially in terms of river flow and water runoff, with the coast being an inseparable part of and downstream from the watershed. Therefore, sediment and pollutants carried by river flows and runoff will reach downstream, meaning that the activities on land can impact the coast, even the sea.

From another perspective, this relationship also ties to the socioeconomic conditions of the communities and regions. These communities are encouraged to consider environmental sustainability, including noticing and controlling potential impact on the environment in their business and development activities.

One indicator of the health of the mangrove ecosystem is water quality, which significantly influences the sustainability of the mangrove ecosystem, including its associated flora and fauna. In contrast, mangrove ecosystems are home to very high biodiversity. Mangrove ecosystems, which are home to high biodiversity, provide several important benefits, such as controlling sea waves and abrasion, storing carbon with a capacity of 3 to 5 times greater than terrestrial forests both above and below ground, and supporting the livelihoods of the local communities. Consequently, mangrove ecosystems play a crucial role in climate change mitigation and adaptation. Their degradation reduces or eliminates these benefits and can even lead to disasters.

The condition of mangrove ecosystems in coastal areas can indicate the health of terrestrial and marine ecosystems. This is often observed through trends in mangrove land cover and can be measured by

water quality. This concern is reflected in policy development and is stipulated in Indonesia's environmental protection and management laws and regulations.

One of the main challenges in managing inland waters and mangroves is that activities or land use often prioritize economic aspects without considering ecological impacts. Effective conservation and restoration of these ecosystems go beyond planting trees or prohibiting pollution. It requires public understanding, legal certainty, socioeconomic benefits, capacity building, alignment with regional planning, continuous monitoring and evaluation, and strong leadership.

Addressing these issues requires collaboration and synergy among related ministries and other parties, including enterprises, universities, non-governmental organizations, and local communities. This is not just the role of a single work unit or ministry.

# Community involvement is crucial for environmental conservation. How do you engage local communities and stakeholders in your projects to ensure sustainable outcomes?

In terms of mangrove ecosystem protection and management, we develop schemes for the local community involvement in conservation or rehabilitation programs, providing socio-economic benefits through social forestry, village business development, and field school. We maintain a list of community champions and their activities, and we develop communication and capacity enhancement programs for the local community, youth, and women.

For other stakeholders, we have a scheme of environmental partnerships to support conservation or rehabilitation efforts. This includes community empowerment by enhancing their capacity and facilitating the promotion and infrastructure needed for environmentally friendly socio-economic benefits.

These approaches have been applied in forest, mangrove, and peatland management and will be expanded to lake management in Indonesia through a specific Lake Restoration program.

# Finally, What keeps you motivated in your work, and what advice would you give to young professionals who are passionate about improving water quality and the environment?

I am motivated to contribute my best in this endeavour because of the value and benefits we can gain in the future. To young professionals, I would encourage you to learn about the environment around you and continually develop your capacity to offer your best thoughts and efforts. This will not only improve your well-being but also help preserve the environment for the future of human life.



6 - Photo provided by Ms Inge Retnowati, Director for Inland Waters and Mangrove Rehabilitation at Indonesia's Ministry of Environment and Forestry

### **Guidelines for the assessment of GROUNDWATER QUALITY**



"The sustainable management of water resources and the provision of safe water and sanitation are essential drivers of economic development and offer substantial support for the health and education sectors. The United Nations Sustainable Development Goal 6 (SDG6) stresses the need for clean water and sanitation for all. Groundwater holds significant importance among the various natural resources that people depend upon for drinking water and sanitation and should therefore be regularly monitored and assessed to ensure its availability and cleanness. The SDG indicator 6.3.2 reports on the proportion of water bodies (groundwater, rivers, and lakes) with good ambient water quality. However, in 2017 and 2020, groundwaters were the water body type least reported by the United Nations Environment Programme (UNEP)(GEMS/Water, 2020), highlighting the need for increased focus and efforts in ensuring the monitoring and reporting of this vital resource (Misstear et al., 2023).

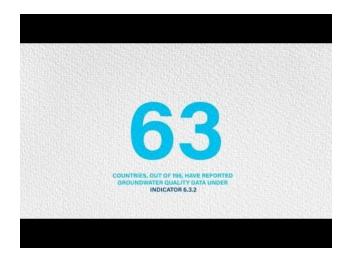
The assessment of groundwater quality is a complex task, even more than the same endeavor for surface water, due to groundwater's hidden nature, three-dimensional distribution, and long residence times, among others. Additionally, data and information necessary to produce a groundwater quality assessment are often lacking or highly dispersed (Misstear et al., 2023). On a global scale, the overall quality of groundwater is evaluated using different tools and approaches. The absence of standard guidelines for groundwater quality assessment has hindered large-scale assessments and cross-geographic comparisons.

To address the above challenges, the Friends of Groundwater (FoG) workstream of the WWQA took the initiative of proposing standardized guidelines for regional and national groundwater quality assessment. An initial draft of the guidelines was delivered by the FoG workstream in 2022. In 2023, the developed guidelines were further improved, updated and tested using groundwater data from four case studies covering different continents and groundwater data contexts: Uganda, Chile, Sweden, and South Korea. The document presented here is a reviewed and improved version of the guidelines, incorporating the outcomes of the case studies.

The primary objective of the guidelines is to advocate and facilitate global-scale groundwater quality assessment, aligning with one of the key goals of the WWQA. The guidelines provide a structured methodology to make effective use of the available groundwater quality data for global assessments. They have been developed to align with the SDG indicator 6.3.2, which emphasizes three fundamental core parameters - pH, electrical conductivity, and nitrate. Furthermore, these guidelines complement the SDG indicator 6.3.2 by introducing a methodology that incorporates additional general and site-specific water quality parameters relevant for the level-2 assessment. The main audiences of the guidelines include a wide range of international and national stakeholders and policymakers (e.g. national water authorities), by providing invaluable information for decision-making, policy development, and collaborative efforts to protect and improve global and regional groundwater quality. It's important to emphasize that these guidelines represent an initial step toward large-scale evaluations of groundwater quality. They are intended to encourage and promote the monitoring and assessment of groundwater quality and support the generation of useful information for decision-making based on monitoring data. As such, the developed guidelines complement, rather than replace, the comprehensive hydrogeochemical analysis conducted by local specialists."

### Read the full guidelines here

Watch an introduction to the importance of knowing groundwater quality and how to use the guidelines.



7 - Importance of knowing your Groundwater quality



8 - Introduction to the Groundwater quality guidelines

# Inspiring Environmental Action: A Spoken Word Video by Adenike Akinsemolu



9 - In this inspiring video, Adenike emphasizes the significant impact of everyday activities such as recycling, tree planting, and water conservation—actions that resonate deeply with the goals of the World Water Quality Alliance. This video is designed to inspire and ignite a collective movement towards healing our Earth.

Given the alignment of our missions, we kindly request your support in sharing this video across your extensive networks. Doing so can enhance our outreach and inspire more individuals to join the #GenerationRestoration movement.

### The WWQA BULLETIN BOARD

### **Call for Applications and Nominations for the Eathna Prize**

Call for nominations for the Earthna Prize 2025 | Earthna, which will close at the end of June.

The prize is an initiative aimed at celebrating and supporting projects, actors, and systems working towards preserving, integrating, adapting, and adopting ancestral knowledge and cultural heritage in addressing contemporary environmental challenges. It has four focus areas: water resources management, food security, sustainable tourism, and land stewardship.

For more information, click here

## Request for inputs from members: RESOURCES to inform best practices in designing water-related citizen/community science programs

Dear WWQA colleagues,

We're reaching out on behalf of IHE Delft and Dickinson College-ALLARM to connect with you on our mutual interest in promoting best practices for leveraging citizen/community science in natural resource management, specifically water resources.

We are currently compiling guidelines for practitioners and researchers on effective approaches for designing water-related citizen/community science initiatives: for achieving intended goals, for recruiting diverse audiences, and for sustaining participation over time.

To that end, we would like to ask for your input regarding relevant resources to inform best practices in designing water-related citizen/community science programs, such as academic or grey literature, reviews, evaluation reports, organizational resources, project deliverables and/or case studies in which you have participated or are aware of. We will be sure to cite and acknowledge your contributions.

Please send links/DOI or attachments to <u>u.wehn@un-ihe.org</u>. Resources received **by 21 July 2024** will be included in our analysis.

### Women in Water Diplomacy Network: Second Global Network Forum

The Women in Water Diplomacy Network, initiated in 2017, aims to improve gender equality in high-level water and climate decision-making in transboundary basins. The network was developed in the Nile Basin and later adapted and replicated in other basins and regions through the Network's global strategy, 'A Path Forward for Women, Water, Peace and Security.' The 2024 Global Network Forum in Vienna was designed to take stock of the Network's developments and priorities, fostering basin and inter-basin exchange and joint learning and collectively marking International Women's Day 2024 under the theme 'Invest in women to accelerate change.

Beyond the immediate knowledge exchange and joint learning outcomes, the Global Network Forum fostered an ever-broadening sense of group identity across the Women in Water Diplomacy Network. The rare opportunity to spend concerted time together listening, building trust, and finding common ground was highly valued by all Forum participants.

For more information, click <u>here</u>.

### **Job Openings**

https://careers.un.org/jobSearchDescription/236083?language=en

This post is located in UNEP's Ecosystems Division UNEP in Nairobi, Kenya under the supervision of the Head of the Global Environment Facility Biodiversity and Land Degradation Unit. A minimum of seven (7) years of progressively responsible experience in biodiversity issues in developing countries/countries in transition is required. Experience with conceptualizing and developing projects and programmes in the ecosystems and biodiversity field is desirable. Experience working with the Global Environment Facility is desirable. 2 years or more of experience in data analytics or related area is desirable.

Deadline: Jun 24, 2024

### **WWQA Membership Application Form**

The WWQA coordination team has set up a WWQA Membership Application Form to keep our growing membership organized.

We kindly request all members to fill out the form:)

https://forms.office.com/e/BeF5iRuaP3

### In the July Issue of YEMAYA

World Youth Skills Day

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

Visit our website at: www.wwqa.info



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

YEMAYA is a publication of the World Water Quality Alliance. The World Water Quality Alliance is convened by the United Nations Environment Programme and supported by the Swiss Confederation. All rights are reserved. For further information about the World Water Quality Alliance see the website <a href="https://www.wwqa.info">www.wwqa.info</a> or contact the WWQA Coordination Team at <a href="https://wwqa-coordination@un.org">wwqa-coordination@un.org</a>

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