

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

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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

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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

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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](http://www.groundwater-summit.org)

[info@groundwater-summit.org](mailto:info@groundwater-summit.org)

**Venue**

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

# PROGRAMME DETAILS

	Tuesday 6 December	Wednesday 7 December	Thursday 8 December	
09:00-09:30	Side Events	Opening Ceremony	Regional Dialogues	
09:30-10:00			Coffee Break	Transboundary Aquifers
10:00-10:30				
10:30-11:00		Groundwater and Acceleration Instruments for SDG6 <b>Capacity Development</b>	Coffee Break	
11:00-11:30		Groundwater and Acceleration Instruments for SDG6 <b>Finance</b>	Groundwater: Focus on Africa	
11:30-12:00		Lunch	Lunch	
12:00-12:30				
12:30-13:00				
13:00-13:30		Groundwater and Acceleration Instruments for SDG6 <b>Governance</b>	Strengthening Interface Science-policy Practice	
13:30-14:00		Groundwater and Acceleration Instruments for SDG6 <b>Data and Information</b>	Groundwater Youth Forum	
14:00 - 14:30		Groundwater and Acceleration Instruments for SDG6 <b>Innovation</b>	Closing Ceremony	
14:30 - 15:00				
15:00 - 15:30		Wrap up		
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

UN-Water members and partners can organize side events of 90 minutes on 6 December. A call for expressions of interest is available at the website.