



SUB-THEME SYNTHESIS SESSION DESCRIPTION FORM

10TH WORLD WATER FORUM

Please complete this form no later than **5th of April 2024**.

Session Code and Title (e.g. Sub-Theme 1 Synthesis Session):

Sub-Theme 2 Synthesis Session Water for Nature and Humans

Session Description (300 words):

Sub-theme 2 (Water for Nature and for Humans) connects ecosystem health, water security and human health through the relationship between ecosystems and the water cycle, through the power of nature based solutions to support water security, through the science of water quality and public health investments, and the concrete examples of inclusive participatory governance that respects the rights of people to the access to clean water, sanitation and hygiene.

Throughout the preparatory process the several key themes emerged: One Health, resilience, systems thinking, capacity strengthening, equity and inclusion, governance and finance. Each of the Topics in this Sub-theme:

- examined the evidence base,
- illustrated the business case for action,
- provided successful examples of what is working in local contexts,
- explored the key 'un-locks' in governance, capacity sharing and financing.

The results are clear: much of the linkages and systems thinking have been proven; exciting case examples illustrate the contours of 'how-to'; exciting initiatives have been launched to address access to water and sanitation, water quality and health monitoring, ecosystems conservation; new technologies and financing mechanisms are now available to scale results.

Even with clear proven results, uptake and adoption is lagging. In this synthesis session we will hear up-to-the-moment results from the practitioner sessions and direct our attention to the final, crucial conversation. What are the messages and what now? How do we move forward better, faster, together?

Key messages (3 maximum)

The One-Health Concept unifies human health, water, and nature; this holistic view drives us to better outcomes for both people and nature if we embrace the following precepts :

Respect Nature and the Human Rights of People- This includes respect for nature as a fundamental asset for water security, as the point of connection between ecosystems and to each other; therefore, any water policy or project should include a variety of actors and also have an eye for the impacts on the natural environment for better planetary, environmental, and human health. It also includes the right of people to access water, hygiene and sanitation as a basic human right.

Achieve One-Health Through Water and Ecosystem Resilience: Systems thinking is required to plan for future risk and resilience. We need to learn from pandemics to boost water-centric public health strategies, by reinforcing defenses and ensuring agile, nature-inclusive responses for future emergencies. Much of this system knowledge is developed and proven to work in ecosystem-based adaptation and integrated resource management examples. Adoption is lagging and requires knowledge sharing and exchange among peers, private sector, policy and decision-makers.



Capacity sharing is a tangible way to help achieve better outcomes.

Accelerate Responses through Capacity Strengthening- The Forum has brought together practitioners that have shared successful solutions, with strong evidence regarding benefits built from local and culturally appropriate solutions. Much of this system knowledge is developed and proven to work. Adoption is lagging and requires knowledge sharing and exchange among peers, private sector, policy and decision makers. As practitioners, our obligation to serve front-line communities means we must accelerate the sharing of solutions, facilitate local co-creation and commit to long term and impactful capacity- sharing. Accelerating response can be achieved through strengthening capacity.

Concrete outcomes (5 maximum)

1. High-level panel held to discuss current commitments and upcoming initiatives along with plans of implementation and scaling progress. To include:
 - Natural Capital Fund and Nature Finance Initiative from the ADB
 - Nature for Water Facility and Ground Outcomes Fund from TNC
 - Call for enabling policy and lending for NBS for water
 - Call to join the Freshwater Challenge ahead of One Water Summit in New York
 - Announcement of World Lake Day (to be confirmed)
2. Call to join the Mangrove Breakthrough, a global movement to accelerate critical biodiversity and climate targets globally to contribute to or receive sustainable financing. The goal of the Mangrove Breakthrough is to connect to the Community of Action and jointly ensure successful interventions that build on the best available science, best practices and lessons learnt to avoid fragmentation.
3. Enabled countries to manage water quality effectively across different levels, emphasizing the importance of robust data and analytical tools for precise water quality assessments supporting the UN Framework established by GEMS. Additionally, armed participants with practical strategies and enhanced knowledge on the crucial role of wastewater surveillance in public health leading to advance disease detection capabilities and strengthen global health security in a new partnership with the water sector. Support the development of a comprehensive global system for wastewater surveillance to innovate public health monitoring, i.e. Global Consortium for Wastewater and Environmental Surveillance for Public Health (GLOWACON).
4. Elevated proven solutions, built with awareness of local context and system complexity and interactions, highlighting the consistent need around capacity strengthening, replication and the development of a platform to share knowledge, data, and tools to improve system level actions.

Detailed Session plan :

ESTIMATED TIMING	ITEM DESCRIPTION / ROLE	SPEAKERS	SPEAKERS STATUS (OK OR TBC)
10 minutes	Welcoming Opening description of Sub-theme 2	Andrea Erickson- Quiroz	OK
10 minutes	Keynote on the concepts of One-Health, Resilience and Capacity Sharing	Pres Fauchon, WWC	Invited, TBC
5 minutes +2 transition	Topic 2a	Topic Coordinator	OK
5 minutes +2 transition	Topic 2b	Topic Coordinator	OK



5 minutes +2 transition	Topic 2c	Topic Coordinator	OK
5 minutes +2 transition	Topic 2d	Topic Coordinator	OK
5 minutes +2 transition	Topic 2e	Topic Coordinator	OK
20 minutes	Discussion of next steps, and Closing	Moderator AEQ	OK