

**GLOBAL CENTER PROGRAM**

# LEADING THE FUTURE OF WATER

**WEFTEC.ORG**

**NEW ORLEANS, LA**

**CONFERENCE:** Oct. 5–9

**EXHIBITION:** Oct. 7–9

New Orleans Morial  
Convention Center

# WATER RESILIENCE

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With mounting pressure on resources and infrastructure driven by expanding urban economies and climate change, the need for sustainable water management has never been clearer. At WSP, we're helping clients and communities navigate complex challenges with Future Ready® solutions to manage and secure water resources for generations to come.

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# GLOBAL CENTER OPENING

Hall G

MONDAY, OCTOBER 7 | 10:00 AM - 10:30 AM

## Featured Presenters



### BRUNO PIGOTT

Acting Assistant Administrator  
U.S. Environmental Protection Agency  
Office of Water



### BART MERONEY

Executive Director of the Office of  
Manufacturing Industry and Analysis  
International Trade Administration  
U.S. Department of Commerce

## Global Center Opening

MONDAY, OCTOBER 7 | 10:00 AM - 10:30 AM



### MODERATOR

Aimee' Killeen | *President, Water Environment Federation (WEF)*

### SPEAKERS

Bruno Pigott | *Acting Assistant Administrator, U.S. Environmental Protection Agency Office of Water*

Bart Meroney | *Executive Director of the Office of Manufacturing, Industry and Analysis International Trade Administration, U.S. Department of Commerce*

WEF President, Aimee' Killeen will inaugurate the Global Center with a message from WEF followed by The Honorable Bruno Pigott, Acting Assistant Administrator, U.S. Environmental Protection Agency Office of Water and Bart Meroney, Executive Director of the Office of Manufacturing, Industry and Analysis International Trade Administration, U.S. Department of Commerce.

## Poetry – Foreshadowing Municipal Treatment Challenges Achieving the NEW PFAS MCLs: Lessons Learned From Thousands of Point of Entry Treatment (POET) Systems

MONDAY, OCTOBER 7 | 10:30 AM - 11:00 AM

### ORGANIZER

WSP

### SPEAKERS

Matthew Burns | *Senior Vice-President and Technical Fellow, WSP*

Per- and polyfluoroalkyl substances (PFAS) include soluble, toxic, and persistent contaminants that form large dilute plumes. These characteristics have resulted in large numbers of public and private drinking water wells with concentrations above the recently promulgated Safe Drinking Water Act (SDWA) maximum contaminant levels (MCLs) for several PFAS. Over the past decade, tens of thousands of POET systems have been installed to address elevated PFAS concentrations in private wells. These systems are usually installed in response to and funded by those determined to be potentially responsible for the causal environmental release by regulatory authorities. This presentation will address lessons learned from POET experience that are applicable to municipal drinking water treatment. Topics addressed will include PFAS leaching from both new and long-exposed plumbing/conveyance systems and resulting challenges associated with achieving treatment goals at the tap.

## Total Cost of Ownership – Long-Term Operations Cost Effectiveness

MONDAY, OCTOBER 7 | 11:00 AM - 12:00 PM

### ORGANIZER

Danish Water Technology Alliance

### MODERATOR

Ulrik Hansen Folkmann | *Senior Technical Advisor, Danish Water Technology Alliance*

### SPEAKERS

Per Henrik Nielsen | *Project Director, VCS Denmark*

Robert Montenegro | *Executive Vice President of Water Utility, Grundfos*

Joseph Halliday | *Global Water Industry Expert, Danfoss*

Michael Nissen | *CEO, NISSEN energy*

Andrew Sampson or Sara Cramer, P.E. | *Principal Engineer or Project Manager, Cincinnati Metropolitan Sewer District*

Frank Duran | *Vice President, Jacobs*

Total Cost of Ownership (TCO) assessments can be an important tool for identifying cost savings, deciding whether to upgrade or replace existing equipment, and evaluating alternatives when buying new equipment. When the total cost of purchasing, installing, operating, maintaining, and retiring an asset over the life-span of the asset are taken into account, utilities can achieve savings in the long run from lower operations costs, reduced downtime, longer asset lifespans and reduced waste. Inclusion of TCO assessments can facilitate procurement of innovative, efficient, quality assets with a higher initial procurement price, but long-term operations cost effectiveness. Often procurement decisions are still based on purchasing price alone. The Danish Energy Agency published guidelines for use of TCO in water sector procurement in 2017. By 2020, around 50% of Danish water and wastewater utilities included TCO considerations in procurement processes. Considering TCO requires a more comprehensive cost analysis and more data, but more than 50% of the Danish utilities using TCO say that they do not experience challenges related to the TCO assessments. The panel will discuss TCO in procurement, highlighting experiences from Danish and US utilities, consultants, and solution providers.

## Enabling Recycled Water Through the Use of Recycled Water Certificates

MONDAY, OCTOBER 7 | 12:00 PM - 1:00 PM

### ORGANIZER

Amazon Web Services (AWS)

### MODERATOR

Usman Khan | *AMER Water Strategy Lead, Amazon Web Services (AWS)*

### SPEAKERS

Ken Dahl | *CEO, Conexa*

Usman Khan | *AMER Water Strategy Lead, Amazon Web Services (AWS)*

Wendy Broley | *CTO, Brown and Caldwell*

Success and scale bring broad responsibility. We are motivated to enable the use of recycled water for non-potable purposes, particularly in industrial and agricultural sectors. Recycled water is not always readily available and is often in short supply. This workshop serves as a platform to explore and advance the concept of expanding recycled water use. Experts at the workshop will discuss the idea of enabling recycled water certificates to catalyze the growth of the recycled water supply chain. This initiative aims to give wastewater a second life, allowing water consumers interested in recycled water to invest in infrastructure expansion. This will increase the availability of recycled water resources for the entire system while minimizing the need for additional pipelines to deliver recycled water to individual facilities. The volume of recycled water used will be converted into water certificates.

## Hot News From Japan

MONDAY, OCTOBER 7 | 1:00 PM - 2:00 PM

### ORGANIZER

Japan Sewage Works Association (JSWA)

### SPEAKERS

Hirofumi Okahisa | *Director General, Japan Sewage Works Association (JSWA)*

Yosuke Matsumiya | *Director, International Programs, Japan Sewage Works Association (JSWA)*

Concessions will grow in the Japanese wastewater service market. Yosuke and Hirofumi will share the hot news from Japan, one being the new government policy on Public Private Partnerships for wastewater services. Last year, the government announced that utilities would need to start concessions if they want to continue receiving subsidies for sewer rehabilitation starting in 2027 or later. The policy is expected to transform the local utility industry. Another topic is the ongoing recovery work from the massive earthquake on January 1st. Unfortunately, Japan is accustomed to these recovery processes because of the number of disasters Japan has experienced. However, this year's quake brought a new challenge because of the remoteness of the disaster zones and we will share our recovery strategy.

## Mexican Market and Business Opportunities in the Water and Wastewater Industry

MONDAY, OCTOBER 7 | 2:00 PM - 3:00 PM

### ORGANIZER

The Commercial Service, U.S. Embassy, Mexico City, Mexico

### MODERATOR

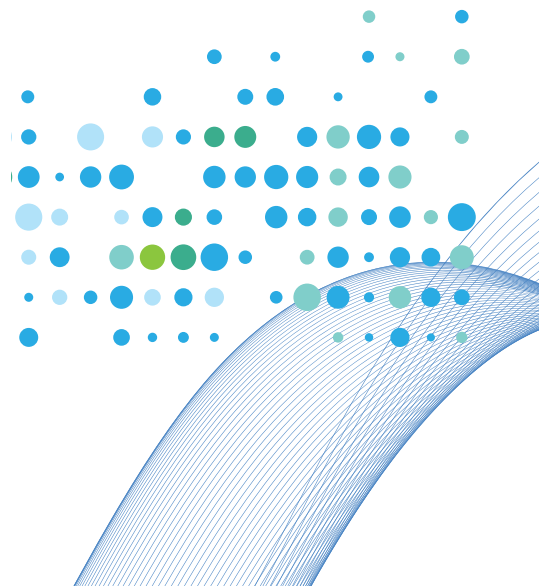
Francisco Ceron | *Senior Commercial Specialist, Commercial Service, U.S. Embassy Mexico City*

### SPEAKERS

Heriberto Ramirez | *Sanitation Director, Water and Sewage Services, City of Monterrey, Nuevo Leon, Mexico*

Carlos Andres Puente | *Director, Water, Energy, and Environmental Projects, BANOBRAS*

According to Mexico's National Water Commission (CONAGUA), Mexico has ten major rivers, more than 180 dams and 4820 small reservoirs: a total of 984 potable water treatment plants, 2,540 municipal wastewater treatment plants and 3,144 industrial wastewater treatment plants. CONAGUA officials and water authorities in major urban centers recognize that there is a need to upgrade the existing infrastructure that has been operating at 45 percent capacity over the last two years due to the lack of projects. CONAGUA's authorized budget for 2024 is \$4 billion, ten percent of which has been allocated to small projects to improve the existing infrastructure in major cities such as Monterrey, Guadalajara, Tijuana, Reynosa, Ciudad Juarez, Tampico, Veracruz, Villahermosa, Merida, Hermosillo, Morelia, and others. Sources in the private sector recently commented that major manufacturing companies are contemplating to invest over \$500 million in equipment and services for industrial wastewater treatment plants between 2023 and 2025 to meet new industrial effluent discharge standards.



## Wastewater Surveillance as an Efficient Tool for Monitoring Emerging Diseases: Health Impacts and Social Implications

MONDAY, OCTOBER 7 | 3:00 PM - 4:00 PM

### ORGANIZER

Hamad Bin Khalifa University, Qatar

### MODERATOR

Anna Mehrotra, PhD PE | *Director, Wastewater Surveillance Program, Water Environment Federation (WEF)*

### SPEAKERS

Dr. Khaled Ahmed Mahmoud | *Research Program Director, Hamad Bin Khalifa University*

Sungpyo Kim, PhD | *Professor, Korea University*

Jonathan Yoder, MPH, MSW | *Deputy Director, Division of Infectious Disease Readiness and Innovation, Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC)*

Nichole Fehrenbach, NPP | *Chief, Rapid Response Research and Surveillance Branch, Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC)*

Naoko Munakata, PE, PhD | *Project Engineer, Los Angeles County Sanitation Districts*

Carley Truyens, PE, MPH | *Senior Manager, Public Health, National Wastewater Surveillance System Program, Water Environment Federation (WEF)*

Jenny Sabater MS, MLS (ASCP) MB | *Wastewater Surveillance Manager, National Wastewater Surveillance System Program, Water Environment Federation (WEF)*

Wastewater-based epidemiology (WBE) is a non-invasive, cost-effective method for early detection and monitoring of infectious disease outbreaks. It provides insights into viral transmission dynamics in densely populated areas and can detect both symptomatic and asymptomatic carriers, offering a more accurate picture of infection rates than traditional clinical methods. WBE has been used effectively in countries like Japan and Qatar during major events to track infectious diseases. During the FIFA World Cup Qatar 2022™, Qatar employed WBE to monitor the spread of viruses such as SARS-CoV-2, human enterovirus, and poliovirus, while adhering to WHO guidelines on ethical public health surveillance. These guidelines emphasize respecting community privacy, ensuring transparency, and considering environmental impacts. WBE is now being expanded to monitor other pathogens, including antimicrobial-resistant (AMR) bacteria and respiratory viruses. By complementing clinical testing, WBE provides crucial, real-time insights for managing public health.

Dr. Mahmoud's presentation will be followed by a panel discussion including participants from Hamid Bin Khalifa University, Qatar, Korea University, the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC), Los Angeles County Sanitation Districts and the National Wastewater Surveillance System Program at the Water Environment Federation (WEF).

## Collaborative Delivery – Global Perspectives

MONDAY, OCTOBER 7 | 4:00 PM - 4:30 PM

### ORGANIZER

WSP

### MODERATOR

Brian Shell, P.E. | *Vice President, WSP USA*

### SPEAKERS

Craig Dawkins | *Head of Sales, Affinix*

Brock King | *Associate Director, Kiewit Development*

Elizabeth L. Cousins | *Partner, Nossaman*

Collaborative procurement is being utilized by owners around the world to deliver projects with greater schedule and budget reliability. It is an innovative approach but what does it mean to "on the ground" project delivery and operations? This panel will address global experiences in utilizing collaborative delivery from the Middle East, Australia, Canada, UK and the U.S. Topics will include:

- Forms of collaborative procurement ranging from design-build to construction management at risk to public private partnerships/ design-build-finance-operate-maintain
- Successes globally in implementing collaborative delivery on wastewater projects including distinctions in implementation abroad vs. in US
- Panelists' view on best practices for contract administration and management of collaborative delivery contracts

**GLOBAL CENTER RECEPTION**

MONDAY, OCTOBER 7 | 4:30 PM-5:30 PM

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## Thinking Big About Small Systems

TUESDAY, OCTOBER 8 | 9:00 AM - 10:00 AM

### ORGANIZER

WSP

### MODERATOR

Joshua Palmer | *Senior Vice-President, WSP USA*

### SPEAKERS

Joshua Palmer | *Senior Vice-President, WSP USA*

Stephen Rupar | *Senior Vice President - East Region Drinking Water Practice Leader, WSP USA*

In the United States, a significant portion (about 83%) of community water systems cater to small populations of 50,000 or fewer. These systems are vital for providing safe, reliable water to citizens, but they often operate with limited resources. Adhering to increasingly stringent regulations and compliance standards is a major challenge for these systems. The introduction of new national regulations, such as the proposed EPA Per- and Polyfluoroalkyl Substances (PFAS) regulations and revisions to the Lead and Copper Rule, brings additional complexities. These challenges often require multidisciplinary approaches, which larger systems are typically more equipped to handle. A promising strategy to enhance compliance and service quality is the aggregation of multiple smaller systems within a single project framework. This approach can foster innovation, enhance efficiency, and lead to substantial improvements in compliance. WSP USA has developed specialized teams, processes, and technologies to manage these complex, multi-system projects effectively. The company has gathered valuable insights, client experiences, and best practices, which will be shared in the presentation. The presentation will demonstrate the benefits of adopting a 'Think Big' approach for small water systems, highlighting how programmatic thinking can drive significant improvements in these critical water infrastructure elements.

## Water Positive: Strategies and Innovations for Sustainable Water Management

TUESDAY, OCTOBER 8 | 10:00 AM - 11:00 AM

### ORGANIZER

Desalytics

### MODERATOR

Walid Khoury | *CEO, Desalytics*

### SPEAKERS

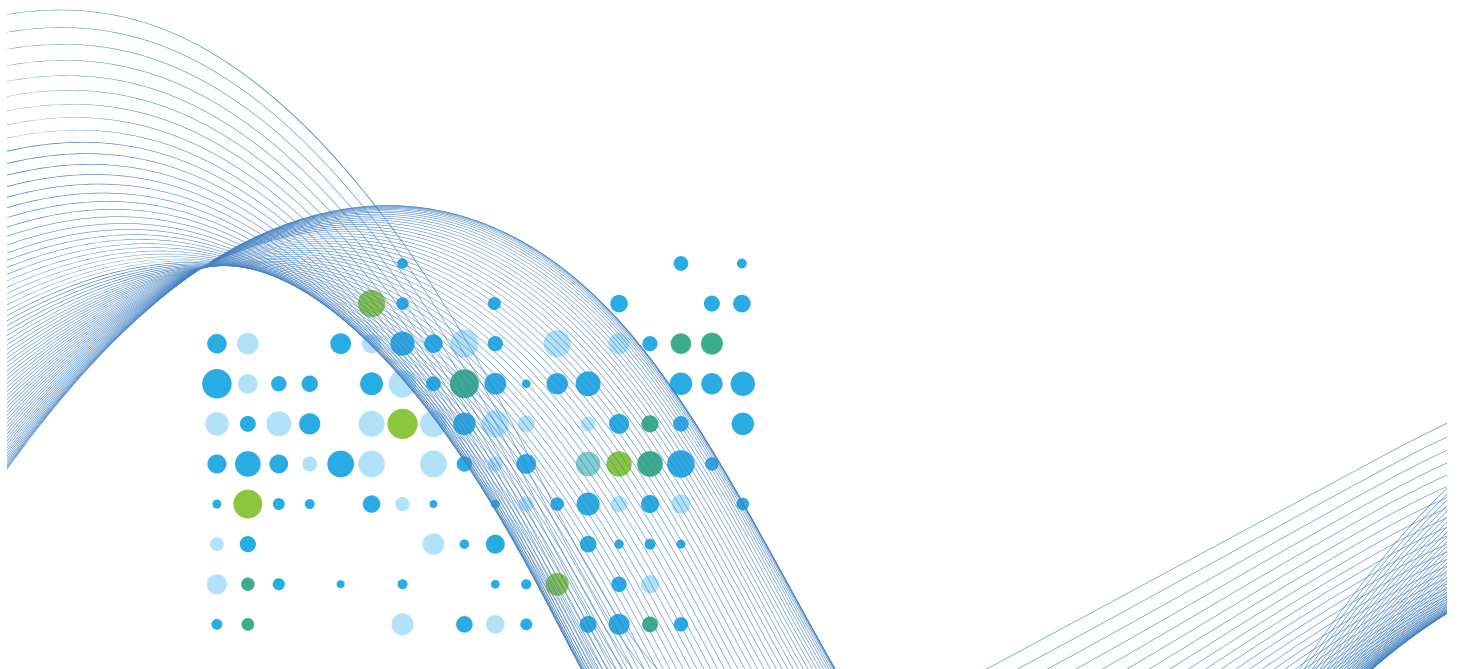
Alejandro Sturniolo | *Founder, The Water Positive Think Tank*

Mohannad Malki | *CEO, American Water Chemicals (AWS)*

Beau Schilz | *Senior Manager, AWS Water*

Juan Miguel Pinto | *Senior Director, Energy Recovery Inc.*

Understand the Water Positive concept, its potential and how to apply it to their operations. In the face of growing global water challenges, the concept of becoming 'Water Positive' has emerged as a crucial goal for sustainable development. This panel brings together leading experts on the Water Positive Think Tank, and from diverse fields to discuss and explore innovative strategies, technologies, and policies to achieve Water Positive status. Our panelists will discuss water conservation, efficient usage, water recycling, and replenishment initiatives that mitigate the negative impacts on water resources and contribute positively to their restoration and augmentation.



## New Utility Leadership Challenges

TUESDAY, OCTOBER 8 | 11:00 AM - 12:00 PM

### ORGANIZER

U.S. Water Partnership (USWP)

### MODERATOR

Chris Rich | *Executive Director, U.S. Water Partnership (USWP)*

### SPEAKERS

Ifetayo Venner | *Immediate Past President, Water Environment Federation (WEF)*

Claudio Ternieden | *Executive Director, Water and Wastewater Equipment Manufacturers Association (WWEMA) (invited)*

Carlos Schauff | *Associação Brasileira de Engenharia Sanitária E Ambiental (ABES)*

ESG 2.0 requires new leadership competencies at the C-level and below to effectively engage a broad set of stakeholders in order to make progress on decarbonization goals, sustainable trading, responsible consumption, circular economic principles, workforce diversity, along with resilience & biz continuity assurance, all while leading teams composed of Z-gen and, in a few years, Alpha generation workers, with increasing reliance on A.I. decision making and operating tools. The panel intends to bring up, share, and discuss the main challenges faced by utilities leaders and HR managers in this unfolding landscape, and possible coping mechanisms. Are new competences for utilities leadership required? What should be HR managers priorities? Does the new environment equally affect commercial, engineering, operations, and back-office processes?

## Venturing for Water: Corporate Investments in Innovative and Sustainable Futures

TUESDAY, OCTOBER 8 | 12:00 PM - 1:00 PM

### ORGANIZER

Xylem

### MODERATOR

Max Storto | *Tech Scouting Manager, Xylem Innovation Labs, Xylem*

### SPEAKERS

Sivan Zamir | *Vice President, Early-Stage Innovation & Corporate Venture, Xylem*

Tom Ferguson | *Founder & Managing Partner, Burnt Island Ventures*

Dr. Boris Martin | *CEO, Engineers Without Borders (invited)*

Corporations like Xylem are taking the lead to help drive innovation and sustainability through expanding its venture funding strategies and collaborating with industry leaders to scale solutions for customers. From SDG 6 to SDG 9, water investment is leaving its mark globally. Join us as we dive into the latest trends in water investment during our session, where we explore the dynamic landscape of investment in water solutions. Learn how emerging trends such as increased focus on water scarcity, contamination mitigation, and decarbonization are reshaping investment priorities. From innovative technologies to sustainable infrastructure projects, we'll delve into the diverse opportunities driving investment in the water sector. Gain insights into the growing importance of ESG (Environmental, Social, and Governance) factors in water investment decisions and how they are influencing the market. Discover the evolving trends shaping water investment and the opportunities they present for stakeholders across industries, including industry leaders like Xylem and their partners Burnt Island Ventures and others. Water investment is so much more than funding, but how together we can move the needle towards increased water security, and innovation through collaboration!





## Dutch Innovations for US and Global Challenges – Get Inspired by Dutch Water Tech Solutions

TUESDAY, OCTOBER 8 | 1:00 PM – 2:00 PM

### ORGANIZER

Water Alliance

### MODERATOR

Harro Brons | *Manager Business Development, Water Alliance*

### SPEAKERS

Martin Tielbaard | *Paques Environmental Technologies*

Alfredo Crespo | *Berghof Membranes*

Robert Lems | *HoSt Bioenergy Systems*

John Hawkes | *Membrane Systems Europe*

Tonnie Telgenhof | *NEDAP*

Michiel Staatsen | *NX Filtration*

Ewout Riteco | *SOLiSENZ*

Erik Schut | *Azzuro*

Jeroen Dijkstra | *Aquastill*

Dutch water technology innovators will present their solutions on global and US water and sustainability challenges. Sharing state of the art innovations on for example anaerobic wastewater treatment, biogas treatment, re-use, direct nanofiltration membranes, tubular membranes, digestion and RNG systems, UV disinfection and sludge treatment optimization. US and Dutch partnerships strengthen R&D, innovation and doing business together; let's get connected on water tech innovation.

## Innovation for More Sustainable Water Treatment Systems

TUESDAY, OCTOBER 8 | 2:00 PM – 3:00 PM

### ORGANIZER

Catalan Water Partnership (CWP)

### MODERATOR

Xavier Amores | *Director, Catalan Water Partnership (CWP)*

### SPEAKERS

Aleix Aulestia | *Business Development Manager, FTR Wastewater Recycling and Reuse Specialists SL*

Guillem Sole | *Commercial Director, Derypol*

Ines Larrea | *CEO, CIMICO*

The increasing scarcity of water resources, coupled with ever more stringent water quality regulations, underscores the critical importance of advanced water treatment processes. To address this urgent situation, technologies implemented in treatment plants must evolve to become more efficient and sustainable. In this context, the Catalan Water Partnership (CWP) serves as a vital catalyst in Catalonia, spearheading efforts to discover solutions, technologies, and methodologies that ensure the future quality and quantity of water resources. The CWP brings together a diverse array of stakeholders across the entire water value chain, all dedicated to promoting the sustainable use of water. In this conference, three leading European companies will showcase cutting-edge, innovative technologies aimed at enhancing the efficiency of water resource management and treatment. Attendees will have the opportunity to engage directly with the speakers, posing questions and discussing the presented solutions. This session promises to be a pivotal platform for exchanging ideas and fostering advancements in sustainable water treatment technologies.

## Make Your Smart Water Technology Smarter with Insights From Korea

TUESDAY, OCTOBER 8 | 3:00 PM – 4:00 PM

### ORGANIZER

Korea Water Partnership (KWP)

### MODERATOR

Sungpyo Kim | *Professor, Korea University*

### SPEAKERS

Soyoun Lee | *Senior Manager, K-water*

Bryan Stubbs | *President, Cleveland Water Alliance (CWA)*

Kwangtae You | *CEO, UnU Inc.*

Discover the transformative power of Korean innovations in smart water technology. This session highlights cutting-edge advancements that are revolutionizing water management. Attendees will explore AI-powered water treatment plants, breakthrough monitoring technologies, a state-of-the-art Digital Transformation Platform using digital twin technology, and an AI-based integrated smart optimal operational solution for water and wastewater treatment plants. Learn how these innovations are being practically implemented to bring significant improvements and benefits to water infrastructure, offering a glimpse into the future of water management.



## Innovative Water Management in the Oil & Gas Industry Toward Circular Economy

TUESDAY, OCTOBER 8 | 4:00 PM - 4:30 PM

### ORGANIZER

ConocoPhillips Global Sustainability Center, Qatar

### SPEAKERS

Dr. Samer Adham | *Manager, ConocoPhillips Global Water Sustainability Center, Qatar Science & Technology Park Doha, Qatar*

Water touches most segments of the petroleum industry and thus cost-effective water management is a key part of oil & gas (O&G) industry operations. The water to be managed is either co-produced with hydrocarbons, generated as a by-product from O&G processing, and/or utilized to support production operations. While a majority of the water usually receives basic treatment before disposal and/or reinjection, there are multiple recent drivers for advanced treatment that should facilitate beneficial water reuse applications. Hence, a toolbox of fit for purpose treatment emerging technologies are needed for successful deployment. The presentation will provides an overview of the various innovative bench scale investigations which were (or currently being) conducted by ConocoPhillips GWSC to assess by-product water management while supporting circular economy in the O&G industry. The common outcome of the these studies indicates that while advanced technologies are currently available for water management, the development of innovative materials and/or processes will be critical to provide step change in performance of the deployed technologies.

## From Knowledge Exchange to Action – Clean Water Services Journey Through the WiSE Program

TUESDAY, OCTOBER 8 | 4:30 PM - 5:00 PM

### ORGANIZER

Clean Water Services (CWS)

### MODERATOR

Bianca Pinto | *Biosystems Engineer, ENV SP, Water Science and Engineering Center, Water Environment Federation*

### SPEAKERS

Jared Kinnear | *Recycled Water Program Manager, Clean Water Services*

Jack Liang | *Chief Business Operations Officer, Clean Water Services*

Challenges faced by utilities are not always unique to the utility but rather are governed by infrastructure conditions, operational strategies, regulations, and community support. In the effort to increase the connectivity between utilities and foster learning exchanges, WEF in partnership with U.S. Water Partnerships, Clean Water Services (Hillsboro, Oregon), and the utility from the capital city of Laos, Vientiane City Office of Management and Services (VCOMS), have identified a common solution, a Nature-based approach to solve similar challenges across the globe on how to treat stormwater and wastewater, while providing a green space for people and extended habitat for wildlife. During this session, Clean Water Services will provide their insights on participating in this program, the pilot project implementation journey, and the use-case of the technology selected to solve Vientiane's urban water challenges. This collaboration aims to foster learning exchanges and scalable solutions across diverse infrastructures and regulations worldwide.

## Building the Local and Global Water Workforce

WEDNESDAY, OCTOBER 9 | 9:00 AM - 10:00 AM

### ORGANIZER

The Water Council

### MODERATOR

Dean Amhaus | *President & CEO, The Water Council*

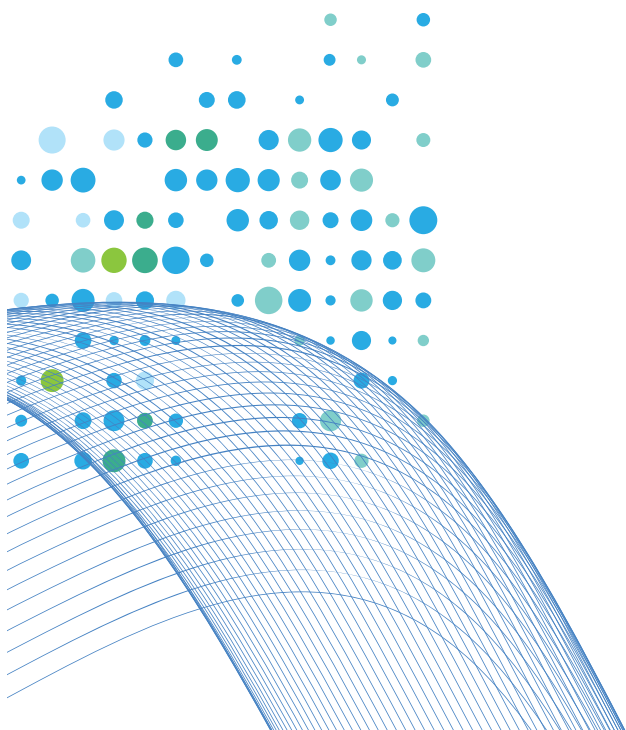
### SPEAKERS

Dean Amhaus | *President & CEO, The Water Council*

Karine Rougé | *CEO Municipal Water. Member of the Veolia Group Management Committee. Chairwoman of NAWC*

Sebastien Rigal | *CEO, Watura*

Join us for an informative panel conversation with The Water Council, Veolia and Watura to hear about our joint workforce initiatives, collaboration in the US and France and beyond and how we're jointly supporting the water workforce and the next generation of emerging water leaders. We'll also talk about how this relationship extends to the DoD and US Civil Affairs and our reservists.



## Piloting 101: How to Scale New Technologies in the Water Sector

WEDNESDAY, OCTOBER 9 | 10:00 AM - 11:00 AM

### ORGANIZER

Imagine H<sub>2</sub>O

### MODERATOR

Miguel Sibayan | *Program Associate, Imagine H<sub>2</sub>O*

### SPEAKERS

David Lloyd | *CEO & Co-Founder, FREDsense Technologies*

Martin Gross | *CEO & Founder, Gross-Wen Technologies*

Asim Bhalerao | *CEO, Fluid Analytics*

Eric Trerotola | *Sales Manager, Central, ASTERRA*

Attendees will hear from entrepreneurs about the pivotal role piloting plays in their path to commercialization and will learn about the challenges and opportunities as new technologies seek adoption. Moderated by Imagine H<sub>2</sub>O, this panel discussion invites entrepreneurs to share the critical role that piloting plays in commercializing new technologies. The session will explore the following key topics: collaborative partnerships, overcoming challenges, and real-world impact. By sharing case studies and real-world examples, the panelists will highlight how successful pilot projects have improved operational processes, enhanced environmental performance, and influenced industry standards, driving systemic change and shaping the future of water management.

## Managing Microplastics in Wastewater and Biosolids

WEDNESDAY, OCTOBER 9 | 11:00 AM - 11:30 AM

### ORGANIZER

Freese and Nichols, Inc.

### SPEAKERS

Viraj deSilva | *Sr. Treatment Process Leader, Freese and Nichols, Inc.*

The presence of microplastics (MPs) in wastewater and biosolids is an escalating concern due to their potential environmental and health impacts. Wastewater treatment plants (WWTPs) receive MPs from various sources, including industrial discharges, landfills, domestic wastewater, and stormwater runoff. During treatment, MPs that are not removed through settlement processes predominantly end up in biosolids. This presentation will explore potential treatment processes for MPs to mitigate their risk before the land application of biosolids. We will include a survey of global data on MP removal from several WWTPs and discuss advanced treatment technologies currently under development to address this issue effectively.

## Spain's Latest Cutting-edge Solutions for Smart Water Management

WEDNESDAY, OCTOBER 9 | 11:30 AM - 12:30 PM

### ORGANIZER

Trade Commission of Spain in Chicago

### MODERATOR

María Jesús Fernández | *Chief Trade Commissioner of Spain, Trade Commission of Spain in Chicago*

### SPEAKERS

Eva Arnaiz | *Country Manager USA, AQUALIA*

Pablo Calabuig | *VP Americas IDRICA/GoAigua*

Spain is within the world's top countries that are leading the digital transformation of the water sector. The panel will showcase the latest solutions developed by Spanish companies that are spearheading this transformation at home and abroad.

**WSP**

**WEF gratefully acknowledges WSP for its sponsoring of the Global Center.**

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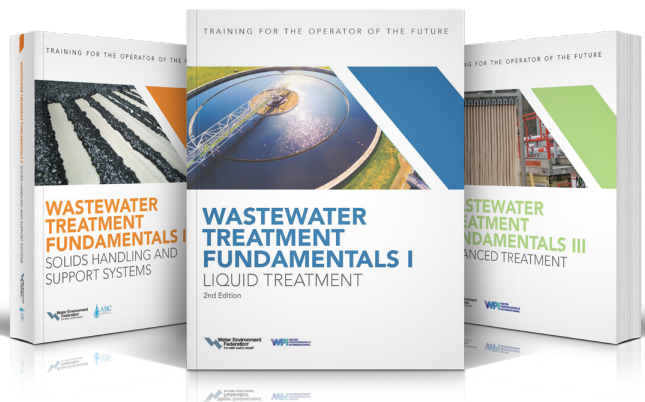
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