



International Association
of Water Service Companies
in the Danube River
Catchment Area



**DANUBE
WATER
PROGRAM**

2024 DANUBE WATER FORUM

**Riding the wave: Water Sector Innovations for a new
Climate Reality**

29 - 30 May

Brasov, Romania

**Back-to-back with the IWA Board meeting as well as the UBP Danube Hub
Workshop on 28-29 May and Business Meetings on 29 May**



Supported by:

 **Federal Ministry
Republic of Austria
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The Danube Water Program

The Danube Water Program (DWP) implemented by the World Bank and IAWD supports smart policies, strong utilities and sustainable water and wastewater services in the Danube region by partnering with regional, national and local stakeholders, promoting an informed policy dialogue around the sector's challenges and strengthening the technical and managerial capacity of the sector's utilities and institutions.

Danube Water Conference and Danube Water Forum

Since its start, the Danube Water Program has been working on the establishment of an international network of water sector institutions and experts, becoming a well-known resource for vitally needed capacity building, knowledge sharing, analytical and advisory services. In that context, the bi-annual Danube Water Conference (DWC) and Danube Water Forum (DWF) have become signature events for the Program and the Danube region and rotate on a yearly basis. While the DWC is hosted in Vienna (Austria), the DWF is organised in the region with the support of a strong partner. Both events serve as an international platform convening sector professionals from the Danube region and beyond to discuss the latest challenges and opportunities in the Danube region water sector.

Target Audience

National institutions (ministries, regulators); national water and municipal associations, local government and utilities from the Danube region; representatives from regional utility (IAWD) and municipality (NALAS) associations; representatives from regulatory agency platforms; representatives from river basin organizations; representatives from the EU, UNECE, GIZ, SDC, the World Bank and other bilateral donors and IFIs; Young Water Professionals; academia; private companies; NGOs, and others.

Context and objective

Water and climate change are inextricably linked. Extreme weather events are making water more scarce, more unpredictable, more polluted or all three. These impacts throughout the water cycle threaten sustainable development, biodiversity, and people's access to water and sanitation. Water and wastewater utilities in the Danube region suffer from high energy costs, an aging workforce, a constant under investment into the sector, all while adapting to a new climate reality.

The Danube Water Conference will focus on the impact of a changing climate on the region's water sector with sessions exploring recent developments and their effects on utilities and highlighting best practice examples how to face them. The conference's objective is to foster cooperation and knowledge exchange to tackle the emerging challenges faced by the Danube region's water sector.

Event's overview and Agenda

Business Meetings	Tuesday 28 May			
	09:00 – 10:30	IWA Board Meeting <i>IWA Hotel</i>	UBP Danube Hub Workshop <i>Hotel Kronwell</i>	
	10:30 – 11:00	<i>Coffee Break</i>		
	11:00 – 12:30	IWA Board Meeting <i>IWA Hotel</i>	UBP Danube Hub Workshop <i>Hotel Kronwell</i>	
	12:30 – 13:30	<i>Lunch Break</i>		
	13:30 – 15:00	IWA Board Meeting <i>IWA Hotel</i>	UBP Danube Hub Workshop <i>Hotel Kronwell</i>	
	15:00 – 15:30	<i>Coffee Break</i>		
	15:30 – 17:00	IWA Board Meeting <i>IWA Hotel</i>	UBP Danube Hub Workshop <i>Hotel Kronwell</i>	
	18:30	Joint Dinner		
	Wednesday 29 May			
	09:00 – 12:00	IWA Board Meeting <i>IWA Hotel</i>	D-LeaP Committee Council Meeting <i>Hotel Kronwell</i>	UBP Danube Hub Workshop <i>Hotel Kronwell</i>
	12:00 – 13:00	<i>Lunch Break</i>		
	13:00 – 14:30	IAWD General Assembly <i>Hotel Kronwell</i>	Donors and IFI Roundtable <i>Hotel Kronwell</i>	Regulators Roundtable <i>Hotel Kronwell</i>

2024 Danube Water Forum

Wednesday, 29 May		
14:00	<i>DWF Registration</i>	
15:00 – 16:30	2024 DWF Opening Session	
16:30 – 18:00	Networking and Poster Session	
19:00	<i>Conference Dinner</i>	
Thursday 30 May		
08:00	<i>DWF Registration</i>	
09:00 – 10:30	Setting the Scene: The sector's challenges in a new climate reality	
10:30 – 11:15	<i>Networking Coffee in Lobby/Exhibition Area</i>	
11:15 – 12:15	Circling the drain – Trends in wastewater treatment, water reuse and circular economy (Pt. 1)	Be prepared - Proactive management of water resources in a changing climate
12:15 – 13:15	Circling the drain – Trends in wastewater treatment, water reuse and circular economy (Pt. 2)	Maximizing revenue, minimizing loss – Strategies for climate resilient water service delivery
13:15 – 14:00	<i>Lunch Break</i>	
14:00 – 14:45	<i>Networking Coffee in Lobby/Exhibition Area</i>	
14:45 – 15:45	Why work with water – Creative ways to engage and grow talent	Back to the future - New approaches and technologies for sustainable utility management
15:45 – 16:45	Walk the talk - Enhancing water services through effective communication	