

# Annual Meeting of the IAHR Working Group on the Sustainable Development Goals

Granada, Spain, Tuesday 21 June 2022  
Palacio de Congresos de Granada, Sala de Juntas

## Participants in person

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## Participants via zoom

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## Agenda

1. Review of past WG activities
2. Update on UN Water activities
3. New activities
4. Working Group organization

### 1. Review of past activities of the Working Group (WG)

- Last year the WG held its annual meeting via zoom on 29 June 2022
- The last two years the WG contributed to the UN World Water Development Reports (WWDR). This included the WWDR2021, whose theme was “Valuing Water”, and WWDR2022 whose theme was “Groundwater”.
- The WG is now in the process of contributing to the WWDR2023, whose theme is “Accelerating Change: Partnerships and Cooperation”. –This work is still ongoing.

## 2. Update on UN Water activities

- IAHR participates in the semi-annual meetings of the UN Water program. IAHR is a UN Water partner. The most recent UN Water meeting was held on April 7-8, 2022 in Geneva. The notes from this meeting were distributed to the members of the WG and will be posted on the website of the WG.
- The United Nations is organizing a major conference at its Headquarters in New York from 22 to 24 March 2023. The purpose of this conference is the Midterm Comprehensive Review of the Implementation of the Objectives of the International Decade for Action t “Water for Sustainable Development”, 2018–2028. This is considered a major event, the first such conference since the 1977 UN Water Conference in Mar del Plata, Argentina. The 39th IAHR World Congress in Granada, is considered as part of the [roadmap to the 2023 Water Conference](#).

## 3. New Activities of the WG

- Preparation of a special issue of Hydrolink on the Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs) to be published at the time of the [2023 UN Water Conference](#). We will invite all IAHR Technical Committees to contribute articles to this issue. Effort will be made to emphasize that IAHR’s work is relevant to many other SDGs, besides SDG6. Several ideas were discussed which included the desire to emphasize the following:
  - Transboundary issues
  - The role of water for peace (SDG16)
  - Sustainable cities and communities (SDG11)
- The WG agreed to work to organize one or two sessions at next year’s 40<sup>th</sup> IAHR World Congress in Vienna on 21-25 August, 2023. Some of the presentations at the SDG sessions in Vienna could be based on articles in the SDG issue of Hydrolink to be published in March 2023.
  - Action: Write to the Local Organizing Committee of the Vienna Congress to request two sessions on the SDGs.

## 4. Working Group organization

- Leadership rotation
  - There was a discussion electing a new Chair of the WG. All present in the meeting were asked if anybody would be interested in serving as Chair. Earlier, Elpida Kolokytha had expressed interest in serving in this position. Since there were no other expressions of interest it was decided unanimously that Elpida would be the next Chair.
- Communications. Currently the Chair distributes to the members of the WG any material of information relevant to the SDGs, especially that received from the UN Water program. All agreed that we should continue doing so.
- WG website. It was discussed to update the website with more recently material and with the names of the new members of the WG. All participant in this meeting will be considered members of the WG on the SDGs.