

7th IAHR AFRICA CONGRESS

WATER RESILIENCE AND INNOVATION

DECEMBER

8-11, 2026

KIGALI - RWANDA



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AFRICA
CONGRESS
8-11 DEC 2026
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Organized by:



International Association
for Hydro-Environment
Engineering and Research

Hosted by
Spain Water and IWHR, China

LOCAL PARTNERS & HOSTS



WELCOME MESSAGE

Dear Friends and Colleagues,

We are delighted to welcome you to the 7th Africa Congress of the International Association for Hydro-Environment Engineering and Research (IAHR), taking place in Kigali, Rwanda, from 8th to 11th December 2026.

This congress is a flagship gathering for hydro-environment professionals across Africa and beyond, offering an exceptional opportunity for collaboration, innovation, and knowledge exchange. Under the compelling theme “Water Resilience and Innovation,” the congress will explore the urgent and complex challenges facing water and environment on the continent—while celebrating African solutions and global insights.

Our program includes a rich array of keynote speeches, paper presentations, interactive workshops, and technical visits to some of Rwanda’s landmark water projects. With carefully curated sessions across six core sub-themes, we aim to foster inclusive dialogue on water supply technologies and services, sanitation technologies and services, integrated water management and planning, urban resilience in African cities, flood and drought management, and wetlands and critical ecosystems management.

We are honored to bring together a diverse community of thought leaders, researchers, practitioners, young professionals, and decision-makers. Special initiatives will ensure that emerging voices—particularly Africa’s next generation of water leaders—are supported and heard.

As hosts, we are committed to creating a dynamic and high-quality event that reflects both the scientific excellence and the warm hospitality for which Kigali is known. But the true value of this congress lies in your engagement—your ideas, your experiences, and your contributions.

Now more than ever, our collective action is needed to ensure sustainable, climate-resilient water futures for all. Let us seize this moment to learn, connect, and shape the future together.

Murakaza neza i Kigali — Welcome to Rwanda!

CONGRESS CHAIR



Prof. Ignace GATARE

Principal of College of Science and Technology / University of Rwanda

CO-CHAIRS



Prof. Omar MUNYANEZA

CEO of Water and Sanitation Corporation Group Ltd



Prof. Philippe Goubesville

President, IAHR



Prof. Moez Louati

Africa Division Chair, IAHR

INTRODUCTION

Established in 1935, the International Association for Hydro-Environment Engineering and Research (IAHR) is a global, independent organization comprising engineers and water specialists dedicated to the field of hydro-environmental sciences. Its scope encompasses river hydraulics, water resource development, eco-hydraulics, ice engineering, and hydroinformatics. IAHR actively promotes research and practical applications aimed at advancing sustainable development and optimizing water resource management. The organization engages its members through working groups, research initiatives, conferences, workshops, and publications, while also collaborating with international programs and other water-related organizations.

About IAHR Africa Division

The IAHR Africa Division aims to strengthen IAHR's presence on the continent by connecting African professionals, institutions, and universities to global networks. Its vision is to address Africa's diverse water challenges through collaboration, innovation, and knowledge exchange. Recent milestones include the launch of an Africa Online Summer School, free memberships for African professionals, and regional dialogues on water security and professional development. The 2024 IAHR Africa Congress was held in Morocco, and the next is planned for Kigali in 2026.



ABOUT THE HOSTS

The event is to be hosted through a collaboration of Water Partnership Rwanda, the University of Rwanda/ College of Science and Technology, the Rwanda Young Water Professional with the support of key government agencies namely the Water and Sanitation Corporation (WASAC) Group, the Rwanda Water Resources Board the Rwanda Environmental Management Authority, and various partner organizations operating in the fields of water and environment.



**UNIVERSITY OF RWANDA
COLLEGE OF SCIENCE AND TECHNOLOGY**

The University of Rwanda is the country's largest public university, offering multidisciplinary education and research focused on national development priorities. Since its formation in 2013, UR has become a regional leader in innovation, science, and technology, with strong international partnerships and a commitment to community engagement and sustainability.



WATER PARTNERSHIP RWANDA

Water Partnership Rwanda is a community benefit organization accredited to the Global Water Partnership (GWP). It aims to be a leading water think tank, promoting sustainable development through research, capacity building, and innovative approaches to the water-energy-food nexus and climate resilience.



RWANDA YOUNG WATER PROFESSIONAL

RYWP is a youth-led NGO empowering young professionals in the water sector through knowledge sharing, innovation, and leadership development. Its work spans water resources, sanitation, environmental management, and climate change resilience—bridging science and community action to shape Rwanda's water future.

CONGRESS THEME

Water Resilience & Innovation

SUB-THEMES

- Water supply technologies and services
- Sanitation technologies and services
- Integrated water management and planning
- Urban resilience in African cities
- Flood and drought management
- Wetlands and critical ecosystems management

REGISTRATION FEES

International & General Participants (USD)

Registration fees	Early registration (D-90 days)	Standard registration (D-30 days)	On-site registration
IAHR Member	450	600	750
Non - IAHR Member	500	650	800
Student - IAHR member	200	350	400
Student Non-IAHR Member	250	400	550

Special Rates for African Students & Experts (USD)

Registration fees	Early registration (D-90 days)	Standard registration (D-30 days)	On-site registration
IAHR Member	225	300	375
Non - IAHR Member	250	325	400
Student - IAHR member	100	175	250
Student Non-IAHR Member	125	200	275



7th
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**WATER RESILIENCE
& INNOVATION**



LOCAL ORGANIZING COMMITTEE



François X. Tetero

*GWPRW
Chair*



**Dr. Hussein
Bizimana**

*UR-CST
Co-Chair*



**Mugwaneza
I. Benigne**

*RYWP
Co-Chair*



**Dr. Abaho
Gershome**

*UR-CST
Co-Chair*



Davis Bugingo

*RWB
Member*



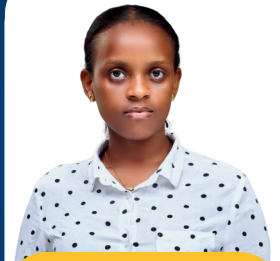
Francine Mbateye

*WASAC
Member*



**Tuyikunde
G. Divine**

*RYWP
Budget*



Alice Mutoni

*RYWP
Member*



Patrick Tuyishime

*RYWP
Communication*



Rita Nishimwe

*RYWP
Communication*



Rutayisire A. Jenny

*RYWP
Logistics*



Umwali K. Alvine

*RYWP
Logistics*



PROGRAMME OVERVIEW

SUB - THEMES

SUB-THEME 1: WATER SUPPLY TECHNOLOGIES AND SERVICES	SUB-THEME 2: SANITATION TECHNOLOGIES AND SERVICES	SUB-THEME 3: INTEGRATED WATER MANAGEMENT AND PLANNING	SUB-THEME 4: URBAN RESILIENCE IN AFRICAN CITIES	SUB-THEME 5: FLOOD AND DROUGHT MANAGEMENT	SUB-THEME 6: WETLANDS AND CRITICAL ECOSYSTEMS MANAGEMENT
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TUESDAY 08 DECEMBER		DAILY SCHEDULE (WEDSDAY – FRIDAY)			
09:00 – 15:00	SHORTCOURSES/WORKSHOPS	KEYNOTE PLENARY 09:00 – 10:00		SESSION 2 14:00 – 15:30 (Not Thursday & Friday)	
16:00 – 17:30	OPENING CEREMONY	COFFEE BREAK 10:00 – 10:30		COFFEE BREAK 15:30 – 16:00 (Not Thursday & Friday)	
17:30 – 18:00	TOAST – EXHIBITION OPENING	SESSION 1 10:30 – 13:00		SESSION 3 16:00 – 17:00 (Not Thursday & Friday)	
18:00 – 20:00	WELCOME RECEPTION	LUNCH 13:00 – 14:00			
WEDNESDAY 09 DECEMBER					
KEYNOTE PLENARY					
09:00 – 10:00					
SESSION 1 10:30 – 13:00	PARALLEL SESSIONS	PARALLEL SESSIONS	PARALLEL SESSIONS	PARALLEL SESSIONS	PARALLEL SESSIONS
SPECIAL SESSIONS					
SESSION 2 14:00 – 15:30	PARALLEL SESSIONS	PARALLEL SESSIONS	PARALLEL SESSIONS	PARALLEL SESSIONS	PARALLEL SESSIONS
SESSION 3 16:00 – 17:00	PARALLEL SESSIONS	PARALLEL SESSIONS	PARALLEL SESSIONS	PARALLEL SESSIONS	PARALLEL SESSIONS
EVENING					
THURSDAY 10 DECEMBER					
KEYNOTE PLENARY					
09:00 – 10:00					
SESSION 1 10:00 – 13:00	PALLEL SESSIONS	PARALLEL SESSIONS	PARALLEL SESSIONS	PARALLEL SESSIONS	PARALLEL SESSIONS
SPECIAL SESSIONS					
14:00 – 17:00	VISIT TRIPS (NYANDUGU ECO PARK, NZOVE WATER TREATMENT PLANT*, MUHAZI DYKES, KIGALI CENTRALIZED SEWERAGE SYSTEM)				
EVENING	GALA DINNER				
FRIDAY 11 DECEMBER					
09:00 – 09:45	KEYNOTE PLENARY				
SESSION 1 10:30 – 13:00	PARALLEL SESSIONS	PARALLEL SESSIONS	PARALLEL SESSIONS	PARALLEL SESSIONS	PARALLEL SESSIONS
SPECIAL SESSIONS					
14:00 – 15:00	CLOSING CEREMONY				





Discover **RWANDA** The Land of a Thousand Hills

WHY RWANDA?

Rwanda has established itself as the hub for hybrid meetings and conventions in Africa. Moreover, Rwanda is perceived as the leading African destination for first class incentives and events. Also, being one of the leading MICE destinations in Africa, Rwanda national airline flies to over 30 destinations and the network is growing. Major airlines that fly to Kigali international airport include KLM, Qatar, Emirates, Ethiopian airline and Kenyan airlines. All these advantages make Rwanda an ideal destination for the IAHR 2026 Africa Congress.

Kigali is easy to move around. In fact, transport in Kigali has improved massively in recent years. High quality roads, decent traffic management, robust public transport, and the introduction of ride hailing apps making easier than most major cities in Africa. The city of Kigali has restored urban wetland / Ecotourism Parks that can be considered in organizing the pre or post congress technical tours, to explore restored ecosystems, including a fig forest of native species, rehabilitated streams, and ponds for flood alleviation of the wetland and the reed-bed for pollution abatement of the wetland.



Beyond the Venue

Maximize your visit to Rwanda by exploring its natural wonders and cultural heritage:

- **Akagera National Park:** Enjoy a thrilling Big Five safari, 2.5 hours from Kigali.
- **Lake Kivu:** Kayak, take boat trips, or relax at lakeside resorts.
- **Bisoke Crater Lake Hike:** Trek to the crater lake in Volcanoes National Park.
- **Gishwati-Mukura Biosphere Reserve:** Discover a UNESCO biodiversity treasure.
- **Gorilla Trekking:** Meet mountain gorillas in Volcanoes National Park.
- **Nyungwe National Park:** Explore ancient rainforests and observe over 300 bird species.

Seamless Visa Process

Rwanda provides a fully digital e-Visa system for conferences, valid for up to 30 days. Nationals from **African Union, Commonwealth, and La Francophonie countries** can access Visa on Arrival.

Accommodation

Kigali has hotel capacity to host over 5,000 guests, offering options from luxury to budget. Top-tier hotels that are not far from the venue include:

- Radisson Blu Hotel
- Kigali Marriott Hotel
- Four Points by Sheraton
- Mille Collines Hotel
- Kigali Serena Hotel
- Numerous boutique hotels, guesthouses, and serviced apartments





河海大学
HOHAI UNIVERSITY

HOHAI–AFRICA STUDENT PAPER COMPETITION AWARD

The Hohai–Africa Student Paper Competition Award recognizes outstanding papers by undergraduate and postgraduate students, based on both written and oral presentations at the IAHR Africa Congress 2026.

This prestigious award celebrates innovation, scientific excellence, and relevance to Africa’s water and climate challenges.

Open to students presenting original work aligned with the congress themes. Winners receive official recognition and a certificate of excellence proudly supported by Hohai University and the IAHR Africa Division.

COMPETITION AWARD	
1st Prize	1500\$
2 nd Prize	1000\$
3 rd Prize	500\$

CONTACT US

For any inquiries related to the 7th IAHR Africa Congress 2026, we welcome you to reach out through our official channels.

Email :

contact@iahr-af2026.com

Website :

www.iahr-af2026.com

Stay connected and informed through our website, where we will regularly post updates on the program, speakers, logistics, and important deadlines.