



Wetskills Water Challenges

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Wetskills Water Challenges - An innovative approach of real-life learning and networking

The Wetskills Water Challenge is a two-weeks pressure-cooker programme for students and young professionals with a passion for water from all over the world. They meet in a country and work in transdisciplinary and transcultural teams at water-related topics. The main challenge: *develop as a team your own innovative and out-of-the-box solution for water challenges in a changing world.* The study cases are provided and formed by study case owners, companies and organisation with a dedicated challenge in a local situation. These concepts are presented during the formal event through an ice-breaking and energizing session, when the cooperation between the Dutch water sector and the partner-country is showed and positioned. It provides a floor to integrate generations, water challenges, disciplines and cultures.

Wetskills focus at real-life challenges, strongly linked to the sector. The so-called case owners are smaller and larger companies, governments, knowledge institutes and NGOs or a consortium of more than one organisation from the water sector of The Netherlands and/or partner-country. The organisation formulates the study case for one of the Wetskills teams. The study cases describe a water-related challenge, based on the regional challenges of the country where the Wetskills is held. The team is challenged to find an out-of-the-box and applicable solution for the case owner and present it at the formal water-related event.

This networking and knowledge exchange event has been organised in more than ten countries all over the world. Since 2010, Wetskills attracted 500 participants from more than 100 international universities and organisations in one of the 25 events: Asia (China, Taiwan, Indonesia and India), North Africa & Middle East (Iran, Oman, Morocco, Egypt and Israel), Sub-Saharan Africa (South Africa & Mozambique), Europe (Romania, United Kingdom & the Netherlands) and North America (United States & Canada).

In short

- + Transdisciplinary and transcultural cooperation in practice
- + Integration of students and Young Water Professionals
- + Real-life challenges provided and supported by the sector partners
- + Informal and energizing ice-breaker during a larger formal event
- + Positive PR for the organising partners and involved organisations
- + Link between universities and working field
- + Follow-up activities and business (under the name WetsNext)
- + Proven concept in more than ten different countries worldwide

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