



Wetskills Water Challenges

Introduction and track record

An innovative approach to 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 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, where local and international professionals are presented. 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 local and/or international water sector. 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

The main challenge: As a team develop your own innovative and out-of-the-box solution for water challenges in a changing world.

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 partners and involved organisations
- + Link between universities and working field
- + Follow-up activities and business (under WetsNext)

This networking and knowledge exchange event has been organised in more than twenty countries all over the world. Since 2010, Wetskills attracted 650+ participants from more than 150 international universities and organisations in one of the 33 events.

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The Wetskills Foundation organized the following Wetskills Water Challenges since 2010, listed by country & month & the water-related event for the Wetskills finals:

1. China (June 2010) - World Expo in Shanghai
2. Morocco (October 2010) - Celebration of 400-year Economic Relations
3. The Netherlands (November 2011) - Amsterdam International Water Week
4. Indonesia (November 2011) - Delta Summit in Jakarta
5. Oman (January 2012) - Visit of the Dutch Royal Family to Oman
6. South Africa (May 2012) - WISA Conference in Cape Town
7. Egypt (November 2012) - Bilateral Meeting of Egyptian and Dutch Experts
8. Romania (June 2013) - ExpoApa Water Exhibition and Conferences in Bucharest
9. Mozambique (September 2013) - Launch of PLAMA, national Water Platform
10. The Netherlands (November 2013) - Industrial Leader Forum at the AIWW
11. Israel (December 2013) - Water Seminar during visit Dutch Prime Minister Rutte
12. South Africa (May 2014) - WISA Conference in Nelspruit
13. Canada (June 2014) - Canadian Water Summit in Toronto
14. Romania (June 2015) - ExpoApa Water Exhibition and Conferences in Bucharest
15. United States (June 2015) - Milwaukee Water Summit
16. The Netherlands (November 2015) - Amsterdam International Water Week
17. India (December 2015) - Envirotech Asia in Ahmedabad & Gandhinagar
18. The Philippines (April 2016) - IWASTI: Flood Free Manilla Seminar
19. South Africa (May 2012) - WISA Conference in Durban
20. United States (June 2016) - Workshop Boston's metabolism
21. Taiwan (July 2016) - Water exhibition conference in Taipei
22. Iran (October 2016) - Trade mission Dutch Minister of I&M to Iran, Ms. Schultz van Haegen
23. India (January 2017) - Vibrant Gujarat in Ahmedabad & Gandhinagar
24. United Kingdom (April 2017) - YWP-UK conference in Bath
25. Romania (May 2017) - ExpoApa Water Exhibition and Conferences in Bucharest
26. Israel (September 2017) - WATEC Conference and Exhibition in Tel Aviv
27. The Netherlands (November 2017) - Amsterdam International Water Week
28. South Korea (February 2018) - Olympic Winter Games in Pyeongchang and Gangneung
29. Colombia (May-June 2018) - ACODAL Water conference and exhibition
30. China (May-June 2018) - Aquatech conference China in Shanghai
31. South Africa (June 2018) - WISA Conference in Cape Town
32. The Netherlands (September 2018) - European Water Technology Week in Leeuwarden
33. Kyrgyzstan (October 2018) - World Bank Seminar in Bishkek

Wetskills Water Challenges in preparation (Apply now!):

34. Oman (15-25 March 2019) - World Water Day Celebration in Muscat
35. India (20-31 May 2019) - WETLAB
36. China (2-14 June 2019) - Aquatech-China and 40 years friendship Shanghai & Rotterdam
37. Romania (3-14 June 2019) - Opening of Flood Proof Romania (Polder) testing facility
38. Bangladesh (July 2019) - Seminar CORE project (Dhaka & Sirajganj)
39. México (26 August-5 September 2019) - Aquatech-México 2019
40. South Korea (26 August-6 September 2019) - Korea International Water Week (Daegu)
41. The Netherlands (November 2019) - Amsterdam International Water Week

Potential Events in-the-pipeline for 2019: will follow

