



Wetskills-Oman 2019

Media Advisory

Wetskills Oman 2019 on Water-Energy-Food Nexus

Wetskills Oman 2019 kicks off

From 15 to 25 March 2019 the Wetskills Water Challenge will take place in Oman for the second time in this country. During two weeks 25 students and young water professionals from Oman, Gulf Region and The Netherlands will work in international teams on challenging water cases. Their goal: finding innovative solutions for current water challenges. The Sultan Qaboos University (SQU) in Muscat is hosting the event.

This Wetskills event will be dedicated to the 'Water-Energy-Food Nexus'. This is also the central theme of the WorldExpo Dubai 2020, where Wetskills Foundation is aiming to organize a Wetskills Water Challenge as well. Wetskills is committed to create an international community of young talents and supporting partners, to make the next Wetskills events in the Gulf Region up to the one in Dubai 2020 a success.

Wetskills team and partners

The Sultan Qaboos University is the host-partner in Oman. Wetskills Foundation is organizing the event, in collaboration with the case owners, The Embassy of The Kingdom of The Netherlands and Omani partners MEDRC, PDO, Haya Water and Oman Water Society.

Members of the Wetskills team for Oman 2019 are Ahmed Al-Busaidi (Program Manager), Nynke Schaap (Program Officer), Rick Hogeboom (Program Manager) and Johan Oost (Managing Director).

Wetskills Cases

Challenging cases and questions were submitted:

- Modular wastewater treatment units for water quality improvement: How could Vergygo technology contribute to improve water quality in parts of Oman?
- Case by Waterschapsbedrijf Limburg (WBL, The Netherlands)
- Groundwater resources management for future water resilience: How could Oman create a framework for an effective and sustainable groundwater resources management, to protect the natural resources and provide industry and citizens with reliable water sources?
- Case by PDO Oman
- Converting sludge to (renewable) energy: How could Haya Water create a practical model for effective renewable energy technologies, utilizing sludge and thus minimizing the dependence on electricity?
- Case by Haya Water (Oman)
- Economic Water Productivity for a sustainable export of Oman: How could water footprint of main agricultural and industrial export products lead to less use of water resources during production?
- Case by Oman Water Society (Oman) & Water Footprint Implementation (The Netherlands)
- Droughts are everyone's challenge: How could the water & drought management (in both The Netherlands and Oman) become more efficient, incl. stakeholders allocation and public participation?
- Case by Dutch Water Authorities

Meet us in Oman: Program of Wetskills-Oman 2019

The program (15-25 March 2019) will contain workshops, team building, field trips to cases and water areas, meetings and discussions with people in the field, and water-related and cultural visits in and outside Muscat, wetlands from Haya Water and PDO Museum.



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The press and interested public can meet the participants and the event.

- BrainHurricane event: a vibrant speed date session with the participants and local experts from various organizations in Oman. This will be organized at the SQU on Sunday 17 March (14.00-17.00).
- Final presentations with pitches and posters, with public and the jury, will be organized at the SQU on 24 March 2019 (15.00-16.30).
- The Awarding Ceremony will be on 25 March 2019 (09.30), during the Opening Ceremony of the World Water Day Celebration 2019.

Practical Information Wetskills Oman 2019

Date: 15 - 25 March 2019

Venue: Sultan Qaboos University in Muscat, Oman

Details: [Wetskills Oman 2019](#) (program, case details and more)

Website: www.wetskills.com

Twitter: @Wetskills, #Wetskills

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Wetskills formula: international & out of the box

Wetskills (www.wetskills.com) is an independent Dutch foundation that organizes Water Challenges around the world. Overall goal: finding innovative solutions for current and pressing water challenges. While doing this, students and young professionals are learning in a unique way about international water challenges and intercultural cooperation.

Since 2010, about 35 events have been organized in twenty countries, organized in Asia (China, South Korea, Taiwan, Kyrgyzstan, The Philippines, Indonesia and India), North Africa & Middle East (Oman, Morocco, Iran, Israel and Egypt), Sub-Saharan Africa (South Africa & Mozambique), Europe (Romania, United Kingdom & The Netherlands), North America (United States & Canada) and Latin America (Colombia).

More than 650 students and young water professionals from many different countries participated in one of the Wetskills Challenges. They came up with creative solutions, working together in international teams. Various Wetskills solutions have already been applied, or are further developed in larger WetsNext projects.

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