



WATERSHED

WORLD WATER DAY  THE VATICAN



WHAT IS WATERSHED?

Watershed is that rare moment in human history, when people, ideas, and values align and unite to achieve something remarkable. On Wednesday, 22 March, World Water Day 2017, Pope Francis will inspire a global conversation that will help shift how the world values and understands its single most precious resource: water. **WATERSHED** will be launched on World Water Day immediately following a Papal Audience on Piazza San Pietro at 10:30am CET. **WATERSHED** will be the first in a series of programmes and activities slated for the next five years.

Following the General Audience with Pope Francis, an exceptional amalgam of people from every walk of life and every corner of the globe will initiate an extraordinary exchange of ideas around the global water crisis. Experiences will be shared, opinions formed, and solutions presented. The objective is to align global perception with the immediate reality of water being the trigger for unrest and instability, as well as an opportunity for resolution and collaboration.

WATERSHED's line-up of inspirational speakers, scientists, youth, and business leaders will be live-streamed from the Vatican, with the globally connected audience invited to digitally share stories of their struggles, their hopes, and their fears about the world's water supplies, and bring new voices, content, stories, art, media, and workable solutions to light.

WATERSHED will consist of four main efforts:

1. A dynamic, interactive convening of men and women with a stake in the global water crisis, immediately following the Papal Audience.
2. A global participation from the public — sharing compelling stories about their water values and participating in a live broadcast of the events and activities.
3. An expert workshop bringing together different perspectives and objectives concerning water issues.
4. An unforgettable sensory and virtual reality experience inside "The Miracle Molecule." A larger-than-life model of an H₂O molecule that brings water risks to life. Launching in Rome for the week beginning 20 March, it will become a travelling experience to educate the world.

REPLENISHING WATER VALUES FOR A THIRSTY WORLD

WHO

An unprecedented coalition including:

- Co-hosts:
 - The Vatican's Pontifical Council for Culture
 - The Club of Rome
- Lead Collaborators:
 - Circle of Blue
 - The Value Web
- Collaboration and Synchronization with:
 - The joint UN/World Bank High Level Panel on Water
 - The World Economic Forum Global Future Council on the Environment
- Confirmed Speakers include:
 - Dr. Benedito Braga, President, World Water Council
 - Dr. Peter Gleick, President Emeritus and Chief Scientist, Pacific Institute
 - Santiago Kovadloff, Writer, Poet, Philosopher
 - Gunter Pauli, Entrepreneur and Author, "The Blue Economy"
 - Dr. Ian Goldin, Oxford University Professor of Globalisation and Development and a Senior Fellow at the Oxford Martin School, Professorial Fellow at the University's Balliol College
 - Dr. Kathryn D. Sullivan, Former Under Secretary of Commerce for Oceans & Atmosphere, NOAA Administrator, and former Astronaut
 - Anders Wijkman, Co-President, The Club of Rome; former Assistant Secretary-General of the United Nations and Policy Director of UNDP

They will be joined by 400 thought leaders from around the world, including, policy makers, academics and students, artists, and business leaders as well as men and women from the most at-risk populations.

WHEN

WATERSHED will be live-streamed from The Vatican on World Water Day, 22 March 2017, and its ripple effect will be felt through ongoing events and gatherings, such as World Water Week in August; The High Level Panel on Water in September; the World Water Forum in Brazil, March 2018; and lasting engagement with students through curricula.

REPLENISHING WATER VALUES FOR A THIRSTY WORLD



WHERE

Vatican City, Rome. Auditorium Augustinianum

WHY

We live a world of profound risks that are becoming realities, and The World Economic Forum Risk Report highlights water as one of greatest global threats today and into the future. Water intersects nearly every other risk, and virtually every industry faces sweeping transformation because of it.

Global demand for fresh water — mainly from agriculture, industry, and expanding cities — is growing so fast that, by 2030, supplies will be scarce enough to threaten economic development, political stability, and public health in significantly more situations than today.

The world's capacity to respond to these water security risks is in doubt, as existing institutions and policies at almost all levels remain siloed and ill-equipped to accommodate informed debates. Co-operative responses to water scarcity are needed.

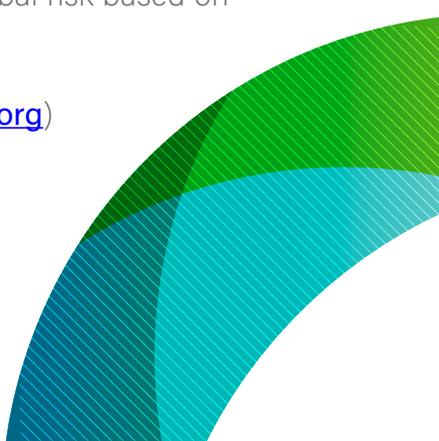
The global water dialogue is one that should be top-of-mind for everyone, and the siloes of information and effort broken down to make this a collaborative and open source approach to solving the problem.

Positive action increases exponentially when new connections unite untapped sources of individual and social genius based around shared values.

GENERAL WATER FACTS

- Agriculture is the biggest user and consumer of water worldwide. ([FAO](#))
- Globally, 69% of the water taken from rivers, lakes, and aquifers is used to grow food. Another 19% goes to industrial production, and 12% is used for city water services. ([FAO](#))
- 1.6 billion people currently live in countries and regions with absolute water scarcity. That number is expected to rise to 2.8 billion people by 2025. ([World Bank](#))
- The World Economic Forum ranked the water crisis as the No. 1 global risk based on impact to society (as a measure of devastation). ([WEF](#))
- Every 90 seconds a child dies from a water-related disease. ([Water.org](#))

REPLENISHING WATER VALUES FOR A THIRSTY WORLD



- Water scarcity and pollution are leading to economic and political instability.
- Water shortages, whether stemming from droughts, mismanagement, or pollution, can disrupt the production of energy and goods. In 2015, the World Economic Forum identified water as the number one threat to business and society. ([WEF](#))
- 2.4 billion people - 1 in 3 - lack access to a toilet. ([Water.org](#))
- The amount of safe water could drop by 40 percent in 15 years if people do not change the way they use water. ([International Business Times](#))
- Women and children spend 125 million hours collecting fresh water every day. Individual women and children spend as many as six hours collecting fresh water daily. ([Water.org](#))