



WATER WEEK 20-26 MARCH 2022

What if we could benefit more from our water systems by protecting them?

Prospects for humanity

With a growing world population, and our increasing impact on water sources and marine systems, what are our future prospects for making sure we can benefit from our water systems while protecting their health?

FOCUS	WORLD MAJLIS TOPIC	DESCRIPTION	DATE
PEOPLE	Jockeying for Water Managing and sharing a shrinking resource	By 2025, an estimated 1.8 billion people will live in areas plagued by water scarcity, with two-thirds of the world's population living in water-stressed regions. What are the consequences of not having access to water? How do we decide who gets priority access to the world's shrinking "waterhole"? How do we price our most valuable resource while also ensuring access to it as a human right? What innovations may create new sources of potable water?	Sunday 20th March '22
PLANET	Living Oceans Reversing our impact on marine ecosystems	Land-based pollution (agricultural pollution, the discharge of nutrients, pesticides and untreated waste, including plastic waste) accounts for around %80 of marine pollution worldwide. How can we stop the contamination of marine habitats with human debris? How do we turn the tide of marine pollution that ultimately hurts us worst of all? How can we clean the oceans and marine ecosystem we have been polluting for decades?	Monday 21st March '22
INNOVATION	Deep Blue: The (Other) Final Frontier Undiscovered wonders of the oceans <i>Co-curated with Portugal</i>	For several decades, humans have focused on outer space as the final frontier for exploration, when less than 5% of sea floors have been mapped. What opportunities might marine exploration of the remaining 95% present to human kind in terms of economic and resource opportunities? Can we derive greater benefit from the oceans without further disturbing their balance?	Tuesday 22nd March '22
WOMEN	A Thirst for Equality Addressing the challenges in accessing water resources	In developing countries, the job of collecting water falls mostly on women and girls. It is a time-consuming and arduous task; as UNICEF states, "For women, the opportunity costs of collecting water are high." How can we underline women's central role in water, sanitation, and hygiene (WASH) and ensure that the responsibility for water collection is shared more equitably? How can we encourage women's participation in water management and water security? How can we promote women's leadership in water governance and the blue economy?	Thursday 24th March '22