

Celebration of World Water Day 2021 – Valuing Water

22 MARCH 2021 - WORLD WATER DAY - GLOBAL OBSERVANCE



On 22 March 2021, World Water Day will be celebrated in an online event. The [World Water Day](#) celebrates water and raises awareness of the global water crisis, and a core focus of the observance is to support the achievement of Sustainable Development Goal (SDG) 6: water and sanitation for all by 2030.

The theme of World Water Day 2021 is valuing water. The value of water is about much more than its price – water has enormous and complex value for our households, food, culture, health, education, economics, and the integrity of our natural environment. If we overlook any of these values, we risk mismanaging this finite, irreplaceable resource. SDG 6 is to ensure water and sanitation for all. Without a comprehensive understanding of water's true, multidimensional value, we will be unable to safeguard this critical resource for the benefit of everyone.

On the day itself, the [United Nations World Water Development Report](#) is also released, focusing on the same topic as the campaign and recommending policy direction to decision makers.

[Drafted agenda for the World Water Day 2021 – Valuing Water:](#)

13:00 – 13:40 (CST) High-Level Opening Ceremony

Master of Ceremony **Ms. Sasha Koo-Oshima**, Deputy Director, Land and Water Division, FAO

Welcoming address by **Mr. QU Dongyu**, Director-General, FAO

Opening address by **Ms. Audrey Azoulay**, Director-General of UNESCO

Opening address by **Mr. Gilbert F. Houngbo**, Chair, UN-Water and President of IFAD

[Message from Special Guests](#)

H.E. Mr. Macky Sall, President, Republic of Senegal

His Holiness Pope Francis

H.E. Mr. Mario Draghi, Prime Minister of the Republic of Italy

H.E. Mr. Sirojiddin Muhiddin, Minister of Foreign Affairs of Tajikistan

H.E. Ms. Sigrid Kaag, Minister for Foreign Trade and Development Cooperation, The Kingdom of Netherlands

H.E. Mr. Jonathan Malagón González, Minister of Housing, Cities and Territory of the Republic of Colombia

13:40 – 13:50 Presentation of the UN World Water Development Report 2021

Ms. Michela Miletto, Coordinator and Director, UNESCO WWAP

13:50 – 14:25 Interactive discussion – what does water mean to you?

Moderator **Mr. Neil Dhot**, Executive Director, Aquafed (UK)

Ms. Rasha Hassan, Governance Coordinator, Water Youth Network (Syria)

Mr. Mohammed Hammie Rajab, Journalist and Facilitator of Change, Media for Community Empowerment (Civil Society Organisation) (Tanzania)

Keynote listener **Mr. Pedro Arrojo-Agudo**, UN Special Rapporteur on the human rights to safe drinking water and sanitation (Spain)

14:25 – 14:30 Announcement of the winner of the Stockholm Water Prize

Mr. Torgny Holmgren, Executive Director, SIWI (Sweden)

14:30 Closing of the celebration

Register for the World Water Day 2021 event [here](#).

- Download the [Save the date](#).
- [World Water Day](#) website.

For more information visit: <http://www.fao.org/land-water/events/world-water-day-2021/en/>