



26th ICID Congress & 77th International Executive Council (IEC) Meeting

2nd ICID TF-WEWM International Workshop on

Women in Water Governance and Management:

*From Participation to Meaningful Leadership –
A Showcase of Local to Global Best Practices*

Call for Papers

Rethinking Water Governance: Empowering Women for a Water-Secure Future Organized by the ICID Task Force on Women Empowerment in Water Management (TF-WEWM), this workshop places women's creative, technical, and strategic capacities at the center of global water stewardship. We explore meaningful impact through three core pillars:

- 1. Strategic Governance & Institutional Leadership:** Advancing women from technical roles to high-level decision-making; building robust cooperation networks; and leveraging water diplomacy to accelerate the SDGs.
- 2. Climate Resilience & WEF E Nexus:** Integrating traditional water knowledge with Nature-Based Solutions (NbS); driving innovative governance in the Water-Energy-Food-Ecosystem (WEFE) Nexus; and fostering joint leadership for climate adaptation and resource optimization
- 3. Sustainable Economy & Digital Justice:**Unlocking green finance and micro-credits for women-led initiatives; and utilizing AI and smart technologies to bridge the digital divide, breaking the "glass ceiling" in water management

Objectives

- To showcase successful global experiences in transitioning women from technical roles to high-level strategic leadership.
- To facilitate institutional transformation by integrating Gender-Responsive Water Governance and Nexus models.
- To bridge the gap between international policy and local implementation (Local to Global) through knowledge sharing and networking.
- To accelerate the achievement of SDGs by showcasing successful models in climate resilience, digital innovation, and green finance.

Scope

As the ICID Task Force on Women Empowerment in Water Management (TF-WEWM) enters its third year of activity, this workshop focuses on the urgent necessity of revisiting current governance practices to address the global water crisis. Building on the successful outcomes of the Kuala Lumpur sessions, this event aims to enhance the quality of decision-making by integrating women's creative insights into the heart of water stewardship. The scope moves beyond technical discourse to emphasize ****Meaningful Influence**** through

three strategic pillars: it first addresses ****Strategic Governance and Institutional Leadership****, showcasing the transition of women from traditional and technical roles to high-level decision-making while emphasizing the strengthening of cooperation networks at local, national, and international levels to enhance social and institutional resilience and utilizing soft skills such as "Water Diplomacy" to accelerate the achievement of the Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs). Furthermore, the workshop delves into ****Climate Resilience and WEFE Nexus**** from a management perspective, highlighting the vital role of integrating indigenous water culture and traditional knowledge with Nature-Based Solutions (NbS) to increase the resilience of watersheds, while presenting innovative models in Water-Energy-Food-Ecosystem (WEFE) Nexus management to demonstrate how the joint leadership of women and men leads to resource optimization and climate adaptation in both small and large-scale farming. Finally, this scope bridges the intersection of ****Sustainable Economy and Digital Justice****, exploring economic empowerment through Green Finance, micro-credits, and international donor engagement, alongside leveraging Artificial Intelligence and smart technologies as essential tools to break the "glass ceiling," ensuring that digital innovation serves as a catalyst for bridging the gender gap in global water management; this comprehensive approach ensures that the workshop acts as a driver for economic growth, environmental sustainability, and a water-secure future for all.

TARGET AUDIENCE

- **Emerging Leaders:** Women transitioning from technical roles to high-level strategic leadership in water governance.
- **Policy Makers & Delegates:** Representatives from ICID TF-WEWM, international organizations (e.g., FAO, IWA), and partner agencies focused on gender-responsive governance.
- **Researchers & Practitioners:** Experts in climate resilience, the WEFE Nexus, Nature-Based Solutions (NbS), and indigenous water knowledge.
- **Entrepreneurs & Innovators:** Women leading water initiatives, green finance, micro-credits, and applying AI/smart technologies in agriculture and water management.

Schedule for submission of Abstracts/Full Papers:

- Submission of abstracts (max. 600 words) : 15 June 2026
- Notification of Acceptance : 30 June 2026
- Full paper submission (max. 10 pages) : 01 August 2026

All submissions will be peer-reviewed by the ICID TF-WEWM expert panel.

Please send your submission to: Dr. Narges Zohrabi, Chairperson, TF-WEWM at nargeszohrabi@gmail.com; wewm.icid@gmail.com, with a copy to icid@icid.org

Registration & Travel Information

All speakers and participants must complete the official registration for the 26th ICID International Congress.

Full registration details, accommodation options, and travel guidance are available on the official congress website: <https://icidcongress2026.org/registration/>

Please visit www.icid-ciid.org and www.icid-ciid.org/wbody/TF-WEW for more information.

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