

The World's Largest Congress Linking Water Researchers and Policy Practitioners



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**New Theme Added!**

A stylized graphic featuring a white boat with a curved hull, a pagoda-like structure, and a tower with a spire, set against a background of red and blue geometric shapes with a dotted pattern.

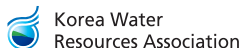
# IWRA's XVII WORLD WATER CONGRESS

**Foundations for Global Water Security and Resilience:**  
Knowledge, Technology and Policy

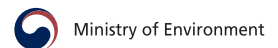
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the Date

**12-16 September 2021 | EXCO, Daegu, Korea**

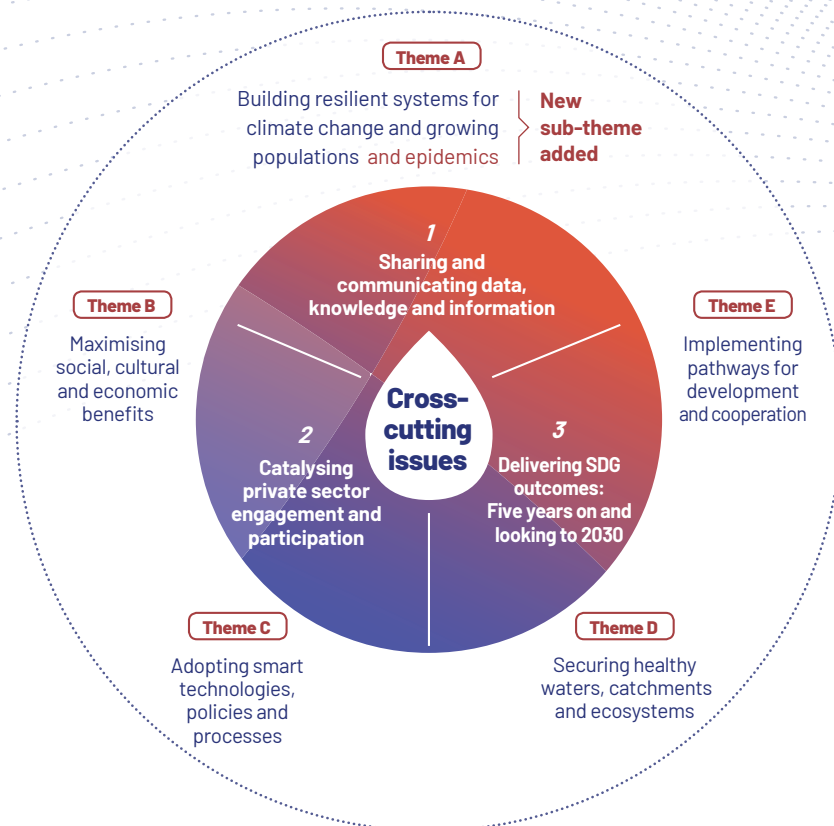
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# Congress Themes and Issues for the XVII Congress in 2021



## 🔹 Cross-cutting Issues

- 1 Sharing and communicating data, knowledge and information**
  - Education & capacity-building: meeting the needs of developing countries
  - ICT platforms & apps: new initiatives & approaches to information sharing
  - Bridging science & policy: reflections on the Cancun Declaration from the XVI World Water Congress
- 2 Catalysing private sector engagement and participation**
  - Water risks: improving water use & quality at sites & in supply chains
  - Financing needs: making the water sector more attractive for investors
  - Local participation: emerging roles & opportunities for small & large business
- 3 Delivering SDG outcomes: Five years on and looking to 2030**
  - Progress on implementation: national, regional & thematic perspectives
  - Predictions for 2030: best case, likely & worst-case scenarios
  - Technology & knowledge needs: availability, affordability & sustainability

## 🔹 Sub-Themes

- Theme A Building resilient systems for climate change & growing populations**
  - Balancing critical water needs: the people-food-energy-environment nexus
  - Managing water scarcity: supply-side & demand-side options
  - Reducing disaster risks: improving preparedness & resilience
  - Water sanitation & health: deepening inclusion, access & service
  - Financing resilience: challenges, opportunities & risks
  - **(NEW) Responding to a crisis: lessons learned from the COVID-19 pandemic**
- Theme B Maximising social, cultural & economic benefits**
  - Valuing water: perspectives from grass-roots to governments
  - Water allocation & governance: balancing equity, legal & economic needs
  - Access & authority: empowering youth women & other disadvantaged groups
  - Cultural water: traditional & indigenous values in water policy, planning and law
  - Community participation: local programmes improving water access & quality
- Theme C Adopting smart technologies, policies & processes**
  - Water-smart cities: re-thinking the urban water cycle from site to basin scale
  - Smart water & ICT: applications for developing and developed countries
  - Water & food: improving efficiency, productivity and nutritional outcomes
  - Appropriate technologies: low-cost innovations from concept to business plan
  - Smarter water: latest advances in education, research & development
- Theme D Securing healthy waters, catchments & ecosystems**
  - Basins & catchments: implementing IWRM from source to sea
  - Rivers & wetlands: ecological and engineering approaches to rehabilitation
  - Environmental water: innovations and outcomes in policy, law and practice
  - Improving water quality: new economic, legal, regulatory & technical approaches
  - Climate change & ecosystems: repairing impacts & preventing damage
- Theme E Implementing pathways for development & cooperation**
  - Managing trans-boundary waters: advances, regressions & prospects
  - Water & migration: understanding and mitigating key drivers & risks
  - Water governance: reflections on progress in policy, law & institutional reform
  - River basin organisations: case studies highlighting successes & challenges
  - Grass-roots action: collaboration in local government & civil society programmes