



INDIA WATER FOUNDATION MONTHLY NEWSLETTER

JUNE 2026

Advancing Water Security through Climate Action,
Global Partnerships and Sustainable Development



High Level Policy Dialogue

on

“Cross-Sector Partnerships for Water security
in a Climate Resilient World”

(An official side event of the SB 64, UNFCCC)

Berlin Room, World Conference Center Bonn (WCCB), Bonn, Germany

Organized by

India Water Foundation

In Collaboration with

Center for International Climate Research & AKO Foundation



Tuesday, 16th June 2026



15:00–16:15 CEST



Bonn, Germany



Strengthening ESG, Sustainability and
Environmental Governance through
Multi-Stakeholder Engagement

JUNE 2026 HIGHLIGHTS



Official Side Event at
UNFCCC SB64, Bonn



Global Dialogue on Water Security
and Climate Resilience



Strengthening International
Partnerships with CICERO and
AKO Foundation



Advancing ESG and Sustainability
Governance



Contributions to Global Sustainable
Development Processes



Promoting Water-Centric Climate
Action and SDG Implementation

STAKEHOLDER INPUTS TO INFORM

GLOBAL SUSTAINABLE
DEVELOPMENT REPORT 2027

OPEN CALL SUMMARY REPORT

JUNE 2026



Stakeholder Contributions
Supporting the Global Sustainable
Development Report 2027



WATER



CLIMATE



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SDGs

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FROM THE EDITOR'S DESK



Dr. Arvind Kumar
President
India Water Foundation

Dear Readers,

The world today finds itself navigating one of the most consequential periods of the twenty-first century. Geopolitical tensions, economic uncertainties, climate extremes, and accelerating technological transformations are converging to reshape the global development landscape. As nations strive to balance growth, security, and sustainability, the imperative for cooperation, resilience, and peace has never been greater.

The first half of 2026 has been marked by significant global developments. Escalating tensions in energy-producing regions have renewed concerns over oil supply disruptions and market volatility, exposing the vulnerability of economies that remain heavily dependent on fossil fuels. The OECD has cautioned that prolonged geopolitical conflicts and energy disruptions could dampen global economic growth while fuelling inflationary pressures across regions. Simultaneously, global oil inventories have tightened, highlighting the need for a faster transition toward diversified and resilient energy systems.

Climate change continues to amplify these challenges. Scientists warn that emerging El Niño conditions could intensify heatwaves, droughts, floods, and water-related disasters across many regions in the coming months. The year 2025 witnessed continued growth in global energy demand, although encouragingly, renewable energy particularly solar photovoltaics accounted for the largest share of new energy supply growth for the first time in history. Yet the reality remains sobering: despite remarkable advances in clean energy deployment, greenhouse gas concentrations continue to rise, and the world remains off track in meeting the ambitions required to limit global warming.

Against this backdrop, international diplomacy has acquired renewed significance. The recent Quadrilateral Security Dialogue (QUAD) engagements, preparations for the forthcoming G7 Summit in June, and India's leadership of BRICS in 2026 reflect growing recognition that today's interconnected challenges require collaborative and inclusive solutions. Significantly, India has chosen "Building for Resilience, Innovation, Cooperation and Sustainability" as the theme of its BRICS Presidency, underscoring the central role of sustainable development in shaping the future global agenda.



For the environmental community, these developments reinforce an important lesson: climate security, water security, energy security, food security, and peace are no longer separate policy domains. They are deeply interdependent. Extreme heat affects water availability; water scarcity influences food production; energy insecurity impacts economic stability; and environmental degradation increasingly contributes to social and geopolitical risks. Addressing these challenges demands systems thinking, integrated governance, and a renewed commitment to multilateralism.

In this edition of the India Water Foundation Newsletter, we feature our participation in key global platforms, including engagements that promote the Climate–Water–Energy–Food–Biodiversity Nexus and support evidence-based pathways for achieving the Sustainable Development Goals. It showcases thought leadership on transforming water systems through science, technology, innovation, and cross-sector collaboration, while highlighting the growing recognition of water as a cornerstone of human security, climate adaptation, biodiversity conservation, and sustainable development.

Readers will also find insights from distinguished global leaders, updates on the India Water Foundation Annual Report 2025–2026, curated resources from the Knowledge Hub, and stories of grassroots innovation demonstrating how communities are restoring ecosystems, strengthening livelihoods, and building resilience in the face of climate uncertainty. As reflected throughout this issue, meaningful progress emerges when local action aligns with global ambition and when policy, science, finance, and community engagement work in concert.

At a time when the world is confronted by uncertainty, fragmentation, and environmental stress, this newsletter serves not merely as a record of activities but as a reminder of our collective responsibility. Sustainable development is ultimately a shared endeavour—one that requires courage, cooperation, innovation, and a steadfast commitment to peace with nature and among nations.

We hope this edition informs, inspires, and encourages all stakeholders to continue advancing integrated solutions for a resilient, water-secure, climate-resilient, and sustainable future.

The banner features logos for the United Nations Climate Change SB64 | BONN 2026, °CICERO, AKO FOUNDATION (with tagline "Hard Work, Harnessing Potentials"), and INDIA Water FOUNDATION. The text is centered and reads: "High Level Policy Dialogue on 'Cross-Sector Partnerships for Water security in a Climate Resilient World' (An official side event of the SB 64, UNFCCC) Berlin Room, World Conference Center Bonn (WCCB), Bonn, Germany Organized by India Water Foundation In Collaboration with Center for International Climate Research & AKO Foundation on Tuesday, 16th June 2026, 15:00–16:15 CEST".



AN EXCLUSIVE INTERVIEW WITH MS. DEEPALI KHANNA, SENIOR VICE PRESIDENT & HEAD OF ASIA, THE ROCKEFELLER FOUNDATION BY DR. ARVIND KUMAR, EDITOR, FOCUS GLOBAL REPORTER

In an exclusive interview Ms. Deepali Khanna, Senior Vice President & Head of Asia, The Rockefeller Foundation engages with Dr. Arvind Kumar, President, India Water Foundation and Editor, Focus Global Reporter, on the ideas that could redefine Asia's development trajectory in an era of climate disruption, energy transition, water stress, AI-driven governance, and growing inequality.

From community-led resilience and climate finance to the water–energy–food–health nexus, this is not merely an interview, it is a roadmap for how Asia can move from managing crises to building systemic resilience.

The future will not be shaped by isolated solutions. It will belong to those who can connect water with climate, energy with livelihoods, technology with equity, and local realities with global action.

Read the full interview and discover why Asia's next development leap will be determined not by the scale of its challenges, but by the boldness of its systems thinking.



[READ HERE](#)



STAKEHOLDER INPUTS SUMMARY REPORT PREPARED TO INFORM THE UNITED NATIONS GLOBAL SUSTAINABLE DEVELOPMENT REPORT 2027

From Policy Silos to Systems Thinking

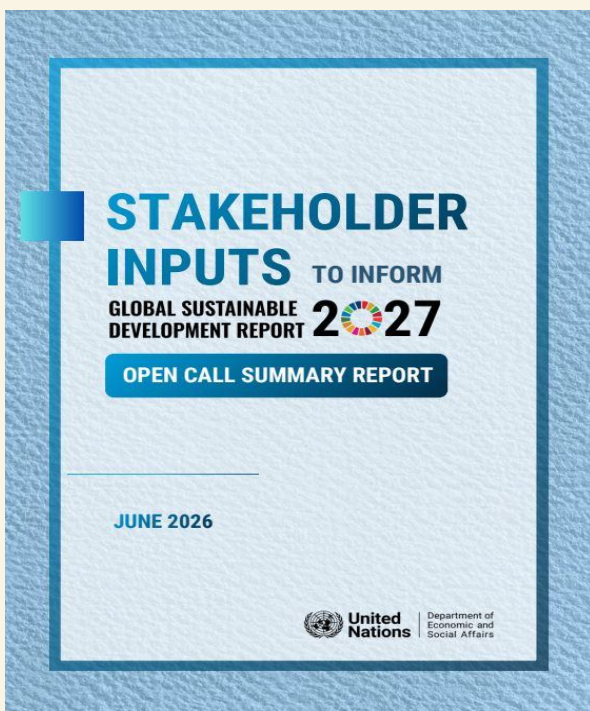
We are pleased to share that the India Water Foundation's submission has been featured in the Stakeholder Inputs Summary Report prepared to inform the United Nations Global Sustainable Development Report (GSDR) 2027.

Our recommendation highlights the urgent need to strengthen the Climate–Water–Energy–Food–Biodiversity Nexus through science-based pathways, integrated resource planning, and risk-informed decision-making. As climate extremes intensify and resource pressures grow, sustainable development can no longer be pursued through isolated sectoral approaches. Resilient futures demand interconnected solutions that secure water, food, energy, and ecosystems simultaneously.

The India Water Foundation's contribution, titled:

"Climate-Water-Energy Nexus: Science-Based Pathways for Resilient, Low-Carbon Resource Systems and Risk-Informed Planning" has been featured on Page 12 of the UN stakeholder summary report informing the work of the Independent Group of Scientists drafting the GSDR 2027.

This recognition reinforces the importance of nexus-based governance, nature-positive development, and evidence-driven policy frameworks for achieving the Sustainable Development Goals while remaining within planetary boundaries.



11TH ANNUAL MULTI-STAKEHOLDER FORUM ON SCIENCE, TECHNOLOGY AND INNOVATION FOR THE SUSTAINABLE DEVELOPMENT GOALS (STI FORUM)

India Water Foundation Advocates Transformative Water Governance at the 11th Annual STI Forum at the United Nations

The India Water Foundation participated in the 11th Annual Multi-Stakeholder Forum on Science, Technology and Innovation for the Sustainable Development Goals (STI Forum), held at the United Nations Headquarters in New York. The Forum serves as a global platform for governments, international organizations, scientists, innovators, civil society, and the private sector to explore how science, technology, and innovation can accelerate progress towards the Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs).

Representing the India Water Foundation, Dr. Arvind Kumar, President, delivered a statement titled “Transforming Water Systems with Science, Technology and Innovation.” The statement underscored the critical role of water as a foundational element of sustainable development and highlighted the urgent need for integrated, forward-looking approaches to water governance in an increasingly complex global landscape.

Addressing the Forum, Dr. Kumar emphasized that in an era characterized by climate uncertainty, geopolitical tensions, environmental degradation, and widening inequalities, water can no longer be viewed as an isolated sector. Rather, it is the vital link connecting climate resilience, food security, energy transition, biodiversity conservation, public health, economic prosperity, and human security.

The statement called for a paradigm shift towards transversality in water governance, recognizing the interconnected nature of global challenges and the need for coordinated action across sectors and stakeholders. It stressed the importance of leveraging scientific knowledge, technological innovation, digital solutions, and data-driven decision-making to build resilient and sustainable water systems capable of meeting present and future needs.

The participation of the India Water Foundation at the STI Forum reaffirmed its commitment to advancing science-based, innovation-driven, and partnership-oriented solutions for water security. It also reinforced the Foundation’s long-standing vision of promoting integrated water governance as a cornerstone for achieving the Sustainable Development Goals and building a resilient, sustainable, and water-secure future for all.

11th Multi-stakeholder Forum on Science, Technology and Innovation for the Sustainable Development Goals

Wed 06 May 2026, 10:00 am – Thu 07 May 2026, 6:00 pm

Conference Room 4, UN HQs, New York, USA
DESA and UN IATT

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BACKGROUND DOCUMENTATION **STATEMENTS** PROGRAMME SPEAKERS INTERSESSIONAL WORK INNOVATIONS PRE-FORUM BRIEFING

SIDE EVENTS PARTICIPATION OUTREACH

Member States

- Statement from Costa Rica
- Statement from Saint Kitts and Nevis

Stakeholders

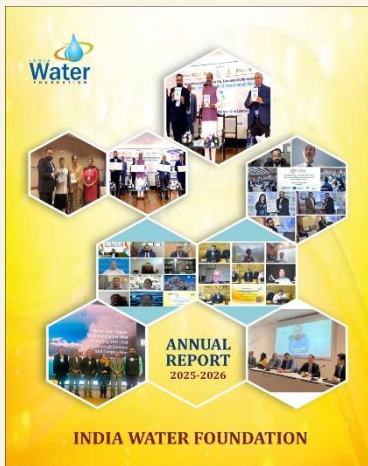
- Abdul Latif Jameel Water and Food Systems Lab (J-WAFS) at MIT
- Asian Indigenous International Network
- Blockchain Alliance International (BAI)
- Center for Gender Economics Initiative
- Children and Youth International
- Conference of NGOs in Consultative Relationship with the United Nations (CoNGO)
- Global Forum of Communities Discriminated on work and descent GFOD
- India Water Foundation



UNVEILING IWF ANNUAL REPORT 2025-26

The India Water Foundation Annual Report 2025–2026 reflects a year of impactful engagement, thought leadership, and collective action in advancing water security and sustainable development. Through high-level policy dialogues, international conferences, research initiatives, and strategic partnerships, the Foundation continued to champion water as a critical enabler of climate resilience, environmental sustainability, energy security, public health, and human development. The report chronicles key milestones achieved during the year and highlights the Foundation's efforts to promote integrated and science-based approaches to addressing complex water challenges.

Spanning global collaborations, stakeholder consultations, capacity-building programmes, and pioneering work on the Water–Energy–Environment Nexus, the report captures a journey dedicated to fostering innovative solutions for a rapidly changing world. It reflects the Foundation's commitment to bridging policy, science, and practice while strengthening partnerships across sectors and borders. As water increasingly emerges as a defining factor in sustainable development, the Annual Report 2025–2026 offers insights into the vision, initiatives, and achievements that are helping shape a more resilient and water-secure future.



FEATURED ARTICLES

WED, MAY 06, 2026 | UPDATED 10:11 IST

ANI
South Asia's Leading Multimedia News Agency

National Business Entertainment Sports World Health Tech Videos

India's development, Inclusion and Environmental Stewardship at UNHRC

ANI | Updated: Apr 02, 2026 18:21 IST

PNN

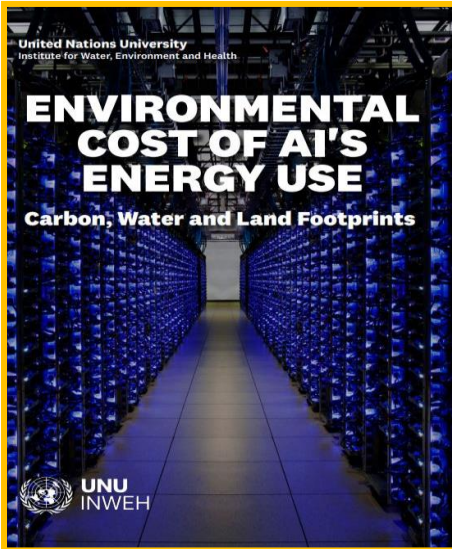
New Delhi (India), April 2: The 61st session of the United Nations Human Rights Council (UNHRC), held in Geneva from 23 February to 31 March 2026, took place against a backdrop of escalating global tensions, ongoing armed conflicts, and widening inequalities that continue to strain the international human rights framework. The session brought together representatives from over 100 countries, multilateral organizations, and civil society actors to deliberate on emerging and persistent human rights challenges.

This session was marked by a strong emphasis on the intersectionality of human rights with contemporary global issues. Key thematic priorities included disability rights, children's rights, minority protection and the integration of human rights

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- Updated: May 06, 2026 10:56 IST
Lords Mark Industries Ltd. Launches the World's First AI-Powered Integrated Dialysis Ecosystem in India
- Updated: May 06, 2026 10:51 IST
CGCI Onboards ISGF to Amplify AI/ML in Low-Carbon Buildings (Transition) Project Outreach, Accelerating India's Transition to Low-Carbon Buildings
- Updated: May 06, 2026 10:52 IST
Vedang Shilpi Summit: A Tribute to Service, Compassion, and Quiet Impact
- Updated: May 06, 2026 10:56 IST
Free announces strategic





The Environmental Cost of Artificial Intelligence: Carbon, Water, and Land Footprints

This report, *Environmental Cost of Artificial Intelligence: Carbon, Water and Land Footprints*, by the United Nations University Institute for Water, Environment and Health (UNU-INWEH) on its 30th anniversary, examines one of the most underexplored consequences of AI's rapid expansion: the environmental footprints of the energy required to power it. As artificial intelligence becomes embedded in economies, public services, research, communication, and everyday life, it depends on a growing physical infrastructure of data centers, advanced chips, cooling systems, electricity grids, water resources, land, and critical mineral supply chains. The report shows that AI is not only a digital technology, but also a material system with measurable environmental costs.

Importantly, To address these risks, the report calls for a responsible AI ecosystem grounded in transparency, efficiency by design, equity and environmental justice, lifecycle responsibility, global cooperation, and sustainable use. By making AI's carbon, water, and land footprints visible and comparable, the report provides a practical basis for integrating AI into energy, climate, water, and land-use planning, ensuring that innovation advances without shifting environmental costs onto vulnerable communities.

Financing for Sustainable Development Report 2026



FFD4 took place during a moment of crisis and uncertainty. In mid-2025, United Nations Member States convened in Sevilla, Spain, for the Fourth International Conference on Financing for Development (FFD4). The Conference was held amid a challenging global context: large and growing financing gaps for the Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs), a difficult macroeconomic environment with lingering effects of the pandemic, trade tensions, aid cuts and rising geopolitical tensions that increasingly put multilateralism under strain. The growing impacts of climate change, persistent inequality, and gaps and stresses in the international financial and debt architectures added to the headwinds for the development financing agenda. These initiatives complement the outcome document, often responding directly to commitments in the text, to advance tangible progress on investment, debt, and financial architecture reform.

SUCCESS STORIES



This Maharashtra Man Has Revived 350 Native Plant Species, Creating a Source of Income for Villagers

From drought-hit villages in Maharashtra to growing green livelihoods, 8 Naturals is restoring ecosystems by reviving native seed systems. With over 350 plant species and 6 lakh saplings, the initiative is reshaping rural life through ecology, income, and community empowerment.

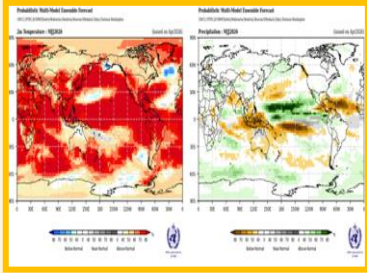
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Across India, Farmers Are Reviving Ancestral Rice Seeds As They Battle Floods, Droughts & Saline Soil

From Jharkhand's black rice fields to the cyclone-hit Sundarbans, farmers across India are reviving indigenous rice varieties valued for their nutrition, resilience, flavour, and deep connection to local food traditions.

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INVITATION TO JOIN DIRECT MEMBERSHIP

At the India Water Foundation (IWF), we're more than just a network—we're a movement. By becoming a member, you join hands with individuals, organizations, and institutions passionate about sustainability, environmental conservation, and driving meaningful change.

Why Join Us?

We're committed to creating opportunities for every member to make a real impact. Here's what we offer:

- **Shape Policies with Us:** Be part of advocacy efforts that influence sustainable development strategies.
- **Learn and Grow Together:** Attend our exclusive workshops and training programs, designed to keep you at the forefront of innovation.
- **Connect with Change-makers:** Collaborate with a global network of experts, innovators, and leaders.
- **Make a Grassroots Impact:** Help us drive community-led projects that promote resource efficiency and environmental resilience.
- **Be Recognized for Your Efforts:** Let us celebrate your contributions through awards, features, and event opportunities.

Who Can Join?

We welcome everyone who shares our vision, including: Companies, institutions, and organizations of all sizes, NGOs, government bodies, and Intergovernmental organizations
Individuals—from young professionals to retirees, who want to create positive change

Whether you're a policymaker, innovator, or community advocate, there's a place for you here!

JOIN NOW



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INVITATION TO JOIN SOCIAL OUTREACH MEMBERSHIP

Our Special JalMitra Social Outreach Membership

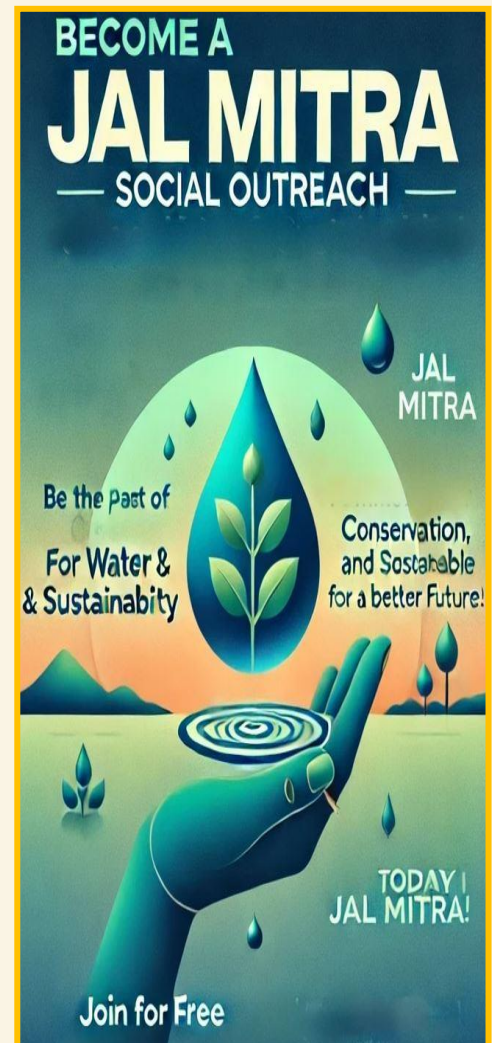
The JalMitra outreach program and encourages sustainable living practices by promoting sustainable conservation and restoration projects. The campaign fosters awareness and behavioural change at the grassroots level, enabling communities to adopt environmentally responsible lifestyles that reduce ecological footprints and contribute to national and global sustainability goals.

Anyone can join this collective effort and become a Jal Mitra free of cost.

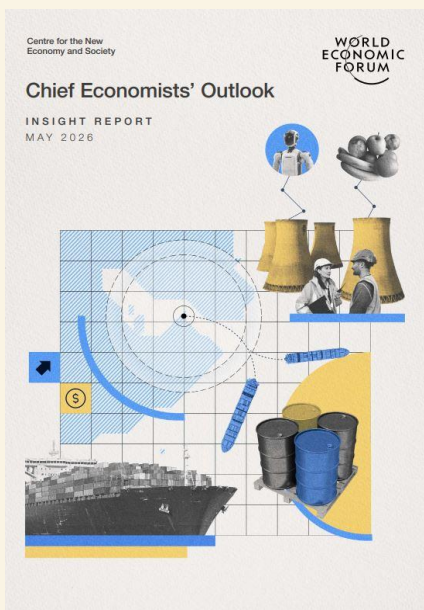
How to Join?

Take the first step today! Visit [Become an IWF Member](https://indiawaterfoundation.org/jal-mitra/) to apply and join this transformative movement. Together, let's shape a sustainable future!

<https://indiawaterfoundation.org/jal-mitra/>



KNOWLEDGE PRODUCTS



LEARNCAST



Job creation is the north star for the World Bank Group. But how can we go about it in a way that has a truly catalytic impact? Impact in the sense of generating large numbers of jobs in a sustained way. The answer is to build ecosystems, where all elements interact and support each other.

In this episode of The Development Podcast, we get into the nuts and bolts of building jobs ecosystems. We unpack AgriConnect, a new initiative to transform small-scale farming into an engine of sustainable growth, jobs, and food security, and we discuss how technical innovations including “small-AI” can help make this vision a reality.

Join us as we hear from: Ajay Banga, President, World Bank Group; Bosun Tijani, Minister of Communications, Innovation and Digital Economy, Nigeria; Bhaskar Chakravorti, Dean of Global Business, Fletcher School, Tufts University; Chege Kirundi, Chairman of Kenya Tea Development Agency (KTDA) Holdings Ltd ;Mufasa, poet, actor, writer and teaching artist from Kenya; Nidhi Pant, Co-founder of S4S Technologies; Rania Al-Mashat, Minister of Planning, Economic Development and International Cooperation, Egypt

UPCOMING EVENTS

- **16 June: High Level Policy Dialogue on Cross-Sector Partnerships for Water security in a Climate Resilient World.** Organised by India Water Foundation to co-create actionable pathways for cross-sector partnerships that advance water security in a climate-resilient world. Specifically, the Dialogue seeks to surface innovative models of multi-stakeholder and multi-level collaboration that deliver resilient water services, protect ecosystems and enhance climate adaptation and mitigation; to raise awareness of the multiple interconnecting pathways linking human influences on natural systems to changes in water availability; to identify governance, regulatory, and financing reforms such as shared-risk public–private arrangements and climate-resilient investment frameworks that can be scaled and replicated; and to align national and local partnership platforms with global commitments under SDGs, the Paris Agreement, regional water–climate frameworks, and upcoming COP30 water and climate agendas.
<https://indiawaterfoundation.org/high-level-policy-dialogue-on-cross-sector-partnerships-for-water-security-in-a-climate-resilient-world/>
- **8–18 June: UNFCCC June Climate Meetings (SB64).** Convened by the United Nations Framework Convention on Climate Change in Bonn, Germany, the 64th sessions of the Subsidiary Bodies (SB64) bring together governments, scientists, civil society, and international organizations to advance negotiations on climate adaptation, mitigation, finance, loss and damage, water resilience, and implementation pathways towards future COP decisions.
https://unfccc.int/sb64?utm_source=chatgpt.com
- **9–13 June: London Climate Action Week 2026 (LCAW).** Bringing together policymakers, businesses, financial institutions, researchers, and civil society, LCAW serves as one of the world's leading climate engagement platforms, focusing on climate finance, adaptation, sustainable cities, energy transition, water resilience, and nature-positive development. <https://www.londonclimateactionweek.org/>
- **17 June: World Day to Combat Desertification and Drought.** Organized under the auspices of the United Nations Convention to Combat Desertification (UNCCD), the observance highlights sustainable land management, drought resilience, water conservation, ecosystem restoration, and climate adaptation in vulnerable regions worldwide. <https://www.unccd.int/>

IWF e- newsletter is a monthly compilation of news items on IWF-related issues in the domain of Water, Agriculture, Climate Change, SDGs, inclusive development and Water Resources Management that might be of interest to the IWF fraternity. The information contained in the NEWSLETTER does not purport to be exhaustive and is taken "as it is" from external sources and is freely available on the internet. No evaluation on the part of the IWF Office is being made in terms of the authenticity of the information that it may contain. IWF Office makes no guarantee, either express or implied, as to the accuracy of the information published. Your valuable feedback on the usefulness of the bulletin is solicited at contact@indiawaterfoundation.org.

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