



The Asia Pacific Region continues to develop at a tremendous rate with high economic growth, rapid urbanization, technological advancement, and associated social transformation. Water is fundamental to sustaining Asia's progress and inclusive prosperity yet is facing serious challenges for its sustainable management and efficient and reliable delivery of services along with climate change and disaster risk concerns. The "Asia Water Forum (AWF) 2018 – Information, Innovation and Technology" will provide a venue and platform to share knowledge and experiences on state of the art advancements to help ensure a water-secure Asia Pacific Region. The AWF will bring together over 300 participants including government officials from ADB developing member countries (DMCs), water and development professionals, industry and water association representatives, private sector and vendors, and civil society to discuss and demonstrate the latest technologies and innovations, including policy and management reforms, and their applications in the water sector. The goal is to increase the awareness and knowledge of water practitioners and decision makers and identify strategies to adopt and scale-up innovation and technology throughout the region.

The AWF Program. The AWF will include high-level plenary sessions, panel discussions, and parallel sessions to increase variety and deliver greater knowledge exchange. Onsite or video demonstrations are expected to enhance participants' experiences. Case studies that demonstrate innovation, applied technology and improved information approaches will ensure understanding on how persistent challenges across the sector have been solved. The AWF will be centered around the following activities:



The AWF sessions will also address the cross-cutting themes of (i) inclusiveness; (ii) finance and transactions; (iii) governance, management, and sustainability; (iv) resilience; and (vi) water–food–energy security nexus, efficiency, and performance.

The increased knowledge and application of international best practices on innovation and technology in the following areas among many others will improve water management, delivery of services, and water security:

- digital solutions including IT support systems and big data, remote sensing, light detection and ranging (LIDAR), remote control and smart water systems;
- water accounting and productivity, solar-powered pumps, and mobile phone applications;
- advanced technologies for water and wastewater treatment, trenchless network laying, leak detection, decentralized sanitation;
- modeling and forecasting for climate risks, flooding and disaster, and other water management concerns; and
- private sector partnerships, asset management, contracting modalities, financial technology (fintech), and the policy environment.

The program is being prepared, however, we urge you to get involved and participate, and you will be updated as the program develops.

WE INVITE YOU TO REGISTER NOW

- to make a presentation in the concurrent sessions that demonstrate technological, information, and innovation advances through projects and case studies;
- to make a presentation and/or demonstration in concurrent sessions for a technology or innovation with which your company has been involved developing and applying to advance the water sector;
- to exhibit at the AWF trade fair where vendors and organizations can occupy a booth to discuss and demonstrate technologies and innovations with AWF participants. There is no cost to exhibit if accepted; and
- to exchange ideas, network and forge partnerships with AWF participants; be exposed to the latest technologies, case studies, and knowledge products on water; and seek solutions to water sector problems.

FOR MORE INFORMATION AND REGISTRATION

Email AWF Secretariat 2018: awf2018@adb.org

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<https://bit.ly/2HqRTYH>



THE WATER CHALLENGE

- The region is home to half of the world's poorest people and is facing rapid urbanization with a predicted 22 megacities by 2030.
- Water demand is projected to increase by about 55% in the region by 2050.
- The agriculture sector will need to produce nearly twice the amount of food competing for diminishing water resources.
- Up to 3.4 billion people could be living in water-stressed areas of Asia by 2050.