Sharing water and sustainability were the highlights at the World Water Week opening ceremony on August 28th, in Stockholm, Sweden. The event began on Sunday (27th) and ends on September 1st. These topics are considered essential to ensure long-term water availability in the world and, because of that, they are part of the themes to be discussed at the 8th World Water Forum in Brasília, in 2018.

“The choice of the themes for the Forum couldn’t be more right”, assesses the 8th Forum executive director, Ricardo Andrade.

The President of the United Nations General Assembly, Peter Thomson, called the world’s climate and water resources the “fundament of our existence”, and said that “without proper stewardship of that fundament, the 2030 Sustainable Development Agenda obviously goes nowhere. Because without the fundament we can’t exist”.

The winner of the 2017 Stockholm Water Prize, professor Stephen McCaffrey, a pioneer in International Water Law, called attention to the need to create legal milestones to promote and ensure the sharing of transboundary water. The professor enhanced, however, that “this doesn’t mean to create equal rights, but equality of rights”.

The World Water Week is an annual event held in Stockholm that gathers about three thousand people from over 130 countries. To Ricardo Andrade, this meeting represents an important preparatory milestone for the 8th World Water Forum, to be held in Brasilia, in March 2018.

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Companies confirm participation in the 8th Forum

About 100 representatives of companies and institutions interested in participating in the world’s largest water event attended the commercial launch of the 8th World Water Forum this Wednesday (16th) in São Paulo. The event was broadcast live on the Internet to enable people from other countries to watch the launch, during which companies and institutions were explained how to participate.

As of this moment, in addition to sponsorship quotes, companies may purchase booths at the Expo and Fair, spaces for institutional and commercial exposure with strong interaction with the public, which is estimated to be about 40 thousand people. During the launch, more than 2 thousand square meters were sold, exceeding the organizers’ expectations. Considering reservations, about 40% of the total area for exhibitors have been occupied.

“Together we make water a global priority, enhances the World Water Council. The Forum permeates the society, it must keep it informed”, states Rodrigo Cordeiro, event director at MCI-Brasil, company responsible for commercializing the event spaces and that is part of the joint venture responsible for the Forum organization, along with Dream Factory.

The 8th Forum will be held in Brasília between March 18th and 23rd, 2018. Is a privileged space to exchange experiences, analyze issues and seek solutions related to conscious water use around the world. Read more

For additional information on companies’ participation in the Forum, contact comercial@worldwaterforum8.org or +55 11 94342-8175.

Organizing committee discusses Forum activities

The National Organizing Committee of the 8th World Water Forum held one more meeting on August 17th in São Paulo. The Committee is the instance that coordinates the country’s efforts with all aspects of the 8th Forum and follows up on the activities of the Secretariat, responsible for the event organization.

Rodrigo Cordeiro, event director at MCI-Brasil, presented the outcomes of the Forum’s commercial launch, held on August 16th. “The commercialization of spaces exceeded our expectations. With only 45 days working, we have already reserved about 40% of the Expo spaces”, he enhanced.

Cordeiro also presented the commercial projection plan and the fundraising expectations. MCI-Brasil is the company responsible for commercializing the event spaces and is part of the joint venture responsible for the Forum organization, along with Dream Factory.

The National Organizing Committee is composed by the Brazilian Water Agency (ANA), the Federal District’s Water, Energy and Sanitation Regulatory Agency (Adasa) and the Brazilian Association of Infrastructure and Basic Industries (Abdib). Read more
Widening the access to basic sanitation, reducing waste through efficient water use, and protecting and reviving river basins were the main highlights during the regional workshops that discussed water resource management challenges throughout Brazil. The meetings were held between August 14th and 24th in Recife (Pernambuco), Belém (Pará), São Paulo (state of São Paulo) and Porto Alegre (Rio Grande do Sul).

The goal of the workshops was to collect inputs to the Brazil Report, drafted by the Brazilian Committee for the International Hydrological Programme (Cobraphis). The suggestions received will be reviewed and consolidated in a new document version that will be forwarded by Cobraphi by the end of August to UNESCO’s International Hydrological Programme for Latin America and the Caribbean (IHP-LAC), South America Sub-Regional Coordinator of the 8th World Water Forum.

Ney Maranhão, president of Cobraphi and director at the Brazilian Water Agency (ANA), emphasized the workshops have received inputs that had not been included in the report draft yet. “We’d like the report to bring a very Brazilian view of the Latin American water resource scenario, that’s why it’s important to hear people and institutions that act in all five regions in the country”, he stated. Read more

Mayors Hemispheric Summit, in Pachuca, Mexico

The 8th World Water Forum was presented this Thursday (24th) during the 11th Mayors Hemispheric Summit, in Pachuca, Hidalgo, Mexico. The event was one of the most important Latin American municipal meetings and gathered representatives and international municipal conference expert members.

Paulo Salles, director-president of the Federal District’s Water, Energy and Sanitation Regulatory Agency (Adasa), co-organizer of the 8th World Water Forum, made a presentation about the Forum and reminded that one of the three commitments Brazil made to host the world’s largest water meeting is to bring Latin American countries closer.

“Indeed, many interactions have been made with several Latin American countries and organizations, which has contributed to the general participation of our continent and more strongly to world water efforts”, he observed. “Our participation in the Mayors Hemispheric Summit reinforces our commitment to bring the continent to the ongoing water debate in Forum preparatory activities”, completed Salles, who is also the vice-chair of the International Steering Committee.

The event was organized by the Latin American Federation of Cities, Municipalities and Associations of Local Governments (FLACMA), in partnership with all existing municipal associations in the continent. Read more

*With information from Adasa-DF
International cooperation is the key for sustainable development. In South America, where one third of the water available in the planet is located, this debate has a strategic character and was the theme of a preparatory event of the 8th World Water Forum held between August 16th and 18th, in Montevideo, Uruguay. At this event, representatives of 11 South American countries determined the priority issues to improve water and management sharing in the region, such as the need to manage extreme climate change events and to improve knowledge on water resources.

The meeting gives sequence to the thematic workshop project proposed by ANA, in partnership with the Brazilian Cooperation Agency (ABC), from the Brazilian Ministry of Foreign Affairs. This project focuses on discussing the international water resource cooperation and is one of the 8th World Water Forum preparatory activities. The next will be held in Santo Domingo, capital of the Dominican Republic, between September 12th and 15th. The theme will be discussed within the context of Central America and the Caribbean. Read more

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**Kyoto World Water Grand Prize**

Applications will be accepted only between 1st August and 29st September 2017. This prestigious prize aims to find and develop outstanding grass-roots activities related to water issues around the world. Presented every three years in conjunction with the World Water Forum, the Prize will be awarded at the 8th World Water Forum that will take place in Brasília, Brazil, 18 to 23 March 2018. The winner will be granted an award of 18,000 USD. Read more

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*This newsletter is an official publication of the 8th World Water Forum Secretariat.*