



Statement
Youth Forum
8th World Water Forum
17-18 March 2018
Brasilia, Brazil

For the first time in the history of the World Water Forum, a youth forum was organized as part of the citizen's process to mobilize and coordinate the collective proposals and efforts of youth. The forum allowed them to identify their priorities and formulate a shared vision.

We, the youth, therefore recommend;

1. Youth and SDG 6

Redefining the value of water beyond its economic commodification to recognize its cultural heritage, medicinal, traditional and social value. This can be done by training and leadership programs for youth and finding mechanisms to integrate them in the formal education system in order to reach the youngest and most vulnerable in all regions.

2. Youth, Water and Innovation

Increasing seed funding opportunities to support youth-led initiatives for scientific and technologically-driven projects. These projects include the expansion of existing open online platforms in order to facilitate more interdisciplinary research, social innovation, networking and citizen reporting.

3. The importance of intergenerational cooperation

Creating legitimate spaces for the representation, inclusion and participation of young people and youth groups in the high level political, decision-making and organizational processes of the World Water Forums. This includes the institutionalization of the Youth Forum as part of all future World Water Forums by ensuring the necessary funding to support youth leadership, participation and equal representation of all regions for the preparatory, implementation and follow up processes of the Youth Forum. This approach will ensure continuity and smooth transition of youth leadership for all future Forums and provide new leadership experiences for youth by participating in the forum.

Additionally, it is equally important to ensure the representation of youth and incorporation of the statement in the World Water Forum processes and outcomes by including youth in all sessions to share the key youth priorities.

We acknowledge and are grateful for the support we received from the World Water Forum and partner organisations to successfully organize the youth forum. We know we can count on you for your continued support for future World Water Forums and the implementation of our Call for Action.

The Call for Action Youth Forum of the World Water Forum

We the participants of the first Youth Forum of the World Water Forum agree and commit to support each other in the implementation of the following actions:

1. The World Youth Parliament for Water commits to provide young people with the opportunities to access international platforms on water and to provide space for discussion amongst youth and between youth and other stakeholders to encourage youth engagement in the water sector.
2. The World Water Council Youth Delegates Program commits to work for the institutionalization of the Youth Satellite Events to be a part of the strategy of the World Water Forum to mobilize and involve youth in water governance and decision-making processes of the forum.
3. Water Youth Network commits to connecting young people and organizations to the high-level decision-making processes through meaningful interventions towards knowledge and data sharing, incubating ideas, identifying financial resources, developing partnerships within the water sector, across disciplines, and generations.
4. Central American Youth Network for Water commits to promote the involvement of youth in decision-making spaces in the water sector to strengthen the development of the Central American countries from a more holistic and innovative point of view without tarnishing our messages and efforts with our political and personal interests.
5. The Ame o Tucunduba commits to promote three youth water-related events in the Amazon region over the next three years.

We commit to report on our progress on these action in the next 9th World Water Forum in Senegal.

