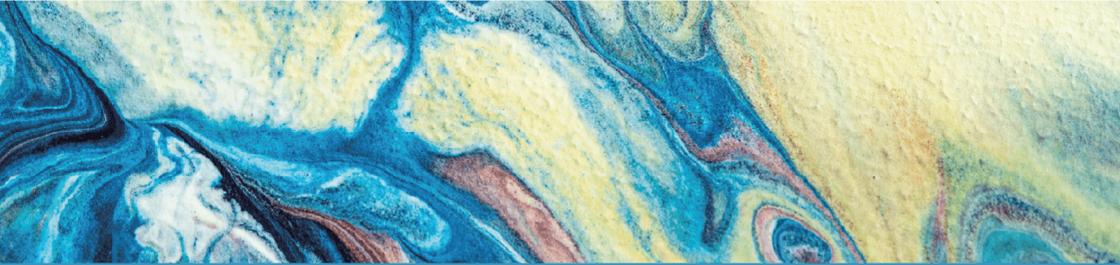




# 5<sup>th</sup> ISTANBUL INTERNATIONAL WATER FORUM

Istanbul, TÜRKİYE | 5-6 May 2026

## “Strengthening Water Resilience: Innovation to Action”



[www.iusf.org](http://www.iusf.org)



The Istanbul International Water Forum (IIWF) is one of the leading international platforms focusing on the sustainable management of water, aiming to enhance knowledge sharing while developing solutions to global, regional and national water-related challenges and fostering cooperation.

Held every three years, one year prior to each World Water Forum, IIWF is hosted by Türkiye and contributes strategically to the global water agenda by bringing together the international water community in Istanbul and creating impact at a global scale.

The forum brings together academics, public institutions, international organizations, civil society organizations and private sector representatives, providing a unique space for knowledge exchange, partnership building and policy development.

# 01 | ABOUT

ISTANBUL INTERNATIONAL WATER FORUMS





**2009** **1<sup>st</sup> Istanbul Water Forum**  
 The 1<sup>st</sup> Istanbul Water Forum was organized as a preparatory meeting one month prior to the 5<sup>th</sup> World Water Forum.

**2011** **2<sup>nd</sup> Istanbul International Water Forum**  
**Main Theme:** An Istanbul Perspective on Regional Water Problems and Search for Solutions

**2014** **3<sup>rd</sup> Istanbul International Water Forum**  
**Main Theme:** Water Security and Legal Aspects of Water

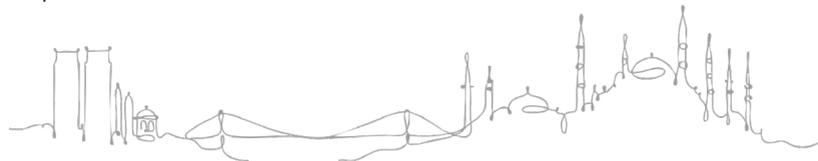
**2017** **4<sup>th</sup> Istanbul International Water Forum**  
**Main Theme:** Water and Peace

# 02 | IIWF

from Past to Present

Since its establishment, IIWF has played a pioneering role in advancing global dialogue on sustainable water management by bringing together experts, institutions and communities from different countries.

Past forums form the foundation of today's actions and continue to inspire the future.



In an era of accelerating climate change, water scarcity, and growing socio-economic challenges, the world faces an urgent call to strengthen water resilience. Increasing pressures on water resources are forcing us to rethink how we value this strategic resource. The **5<sup>th</sup> Istanbul International Water Forum**, organized under the theme “Strengthening Water Resilience: Innovation to Action”, will address the pressing global water challenges and explore ways to transform knowledge and innovation into practical solutions, focusing on dialogue, technology, finance, agriculture, health, and the interlinkages across sectors. The Forum will serve as a high-level platform to share experiences, best practices, and innovative approaches towards achieving water resilience and water efficiency.

Building on Türkiye’s vision to promote water dialogue and sustainable water management, the Forum emphasizes the importance of bridging science, policy, and implementation to achieve water resilience that supports life, health, and development. Bringing together high-level representatives, decision makers, academicians, scientists, experts, and practitioners from around the world with a multidisciplinary perspective, the Forum will highlight the vision to transform innovation into practice and cooperation into shared progress.

Istanbul, where continents meet and civilizations have long been shaped by water, provides an inspiring setting for this global dialogue. For centuries, the city has served as a meeting point between cultures, ideas, and trade routes, a place where water has not only sustained life but also connected peoples and histories.

Today, Istanbul continues to reflect this bridging spirit, linking innovation with policy, science with diplomacy, and local action with global vision. Istanbul stands as a powerful reminder that cooperation, solidarity, and shared resilience are built through connection, across sectors, borders, and generations.



03

5<sup>th</sup> ISTANBUL  
INTERNATIONAL WATER FORUM

## 5<sup>th</sup> ISTANBUL INTERNATIONAL WATER FORUM

# MAIN THEME

## “Strengthening Water Resilience: Innovation to Action”

The Forum will be structured around four interlinked **sub-themes** that together reflect a holistic vision of water resilience.



**Water Dialogue for Resilience** will focus on enhancing cooperation, inclusivity, and capacity development on the path toward the UN 2026 Water Conference.



**Finance Mobilization and Innovation for Climate-Resilient Water Management** will explore new financing models, technology-driven approaches, and circular pathways to support climate-adaptive and efficient water management.



**One Water, One Health: Integrated Management of Risks** will focus on a holistic approach for health, wastewater, WASH, and preparedness to water related disasters.



**Beyond Trade-offs: Advancing the Water-Energy-Food-Ecosystem Nexus** will highlight integrated management strategies and sustainable resource management approaches that address the interlinkages among different sectors.

The 5<sup>th</sup> Istanbul International Water Forum also aims to provide substantial contributions to other international water related events, particularly the UN 2026 Water Conference, the 11<sup>th</sup> World Water Forum in 2027 and the IWRA XX World Water Congress to be hosted in Istanbul in 2027. The outcomes of the 5<sup>th</sup> IIWF will also contribute to the UNFCCC COP31 to be held in Antalya, Türkiye in 2026 and 2027 IWRA 20<sup>th</sup> World Water Congress to be held in Istanbul.

Join us in  
**ISTANBUL**



**5<sup>th</sup> ISTANBUL  
INTERNATIONAL WATER FORUM**

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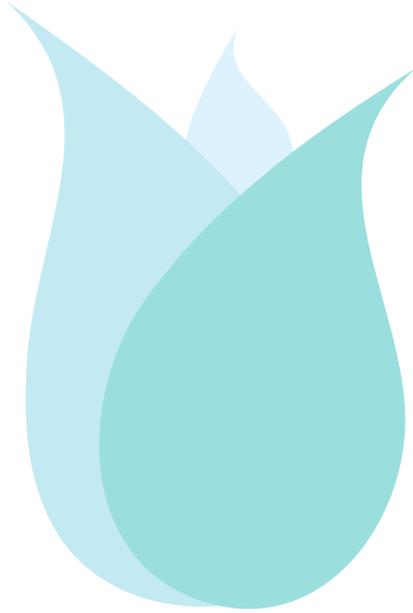
**Istanbul Lutfi Kirdar International Convention and Exhibition Centre (ICEC)** is a fully integrated convention and exhibition facility designed to meet the technical and operational requirements of large-scale international congresses and multi-track events.

Strategically located within Istanbul's Congress Valley, the venue offers immediate access to approximately 10,000 hotel rooms and comprehensive urban transportation networks, ensuring efficient participant flow and logistics management.

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