The Utility Leaders Forum (ULF) is a unique opportunity for those tasked with managing utilities to exchange views, network and to access the insights of prominent water utility leaders in a setting that is by utility leaders for utility leaders.

Over the course of two days, the Forum will bring together some of the world's most prominent water utility leaders with the most impactful case studies to share experiences and knowledge. Curated by an international committee of experienced utility practitioners, the forum is structured to facilitate an open and interactive dialogue around some of the most critical issues facing utilities. Active delegate participation will be key.

At the end of day one, participants will be invited to attend a networking reception. The forum will culminate with a boat cruise for utility representatives.

**Sessions at the Utility Leaders Forum 2024**

**Building Water Security and Resilience**
Water scarcity is not a new phenomenon for large parts of the world. For many decades, utilities have adapted successfully with access only to minimal water resources. At the same time, climate change and an increasing population have brought a paradigm shift in recent years. Wetter areas, where there has never been a water scarcity problem for nearly a century, are now faced with the need to change to alternative sources. Many of the utilities in these areas have no experience in how to treat these sources and how to integrate them into their existing system. Globally, there are many successful examples of how these utilities have adapted and this session will focus on these valuable lessons.

**Utility breakthroughs on climate adaptation**
As our climate is changing, water utilities are faced with the challenges of too little water, too much water, deteriorating water quality, and the impact of coastal erosion on assets. There is no simple solution as often there are serious infrastructure barriers in the urban environment. These challenges require the utility to work with multiple stakeholders outside the utility ecosystem. This session will focus on how utilities are adapting to these challenges and delivering wider nature, biodiversity and societal benefits along the way.

**Utilities working to improve the circular economy**
The circular economy is a socio-economic paradigm to which the world must adapt to fulfil the ambitions of achieving global climate goals. It requires a green transformation of our society – one in which the water sector plays a big role through increased reuse and market creation for products and recycling of waste, materials and wastewater. Ambitious water and wastewater utilities worldwide have set goals to become climate and energy neutral, which will require targeted work encompassing scope 1, 2 and 3 emissions. This session will also include a facilitated discussion with the participants about what is required for utilities to contribute their part to a circular economy and real green transition.

There will be a final interactive closing session that will allow all attendees to exchange experiences and ideas.
# Utility Leaders Forum Agenda

**Tuesday, 13 August 2024**

**13:30 - 13:45 - Opening of Utility Leaders Forum**
Jonathan Clement, Chair ULF  
Tom Mollenkopf, IWA President  
William Fernandes, Director, Water Treatment and Supply, City of Toronto

**13:45 – 15:00**
**SESSION 1 - Utilities working to improve the Circular Economy**
Chairs: Helle Katrine Andersen, DANVA and Joe Jacangelo, President, AWWA  
Igniting talks:
- Bernard Koh, Assistant Chief Executive, PUB Singapore  
- Dines Thornberg, Head of Development, BIOFOS Copenhagen  
- Lou Gironimo, General Manager, Toronto Water, Canada  
Panel discussion with audience facilitated by the Chairs

**15:30 – 17:00**
**SESSION 2 - Building Water Security and Resilience**
Chairs: Adam Lovell, ED, Water Services Association of Australia and Jonathan Clement, Chair ULF  
Igniting talks:
- Doeke Schippers, Director CTO Vitens, Netherlands  
- John Kmiec, Managing Director, Tucson Water, USA  
- Pat McCafferty, Managing Director, Yarra Valley Water, Australia  
Panel discussion with audience facilitated by the Chairs

**Wednesday, 14 August 2024**

**13:30 – 15:00**
**SESSION 3 - Utility breakthroughs on Climate Adaptation**
Chairs: Simon Parsons, Director of Environment, Scottish Water and Peter Nicol, Canada  
Igniting talks:
- Alex Plant, CEO, Scottish Water  
- Iman Hashemi, President & CEO, Ontario Clean Water Agency, Canada  
- Debashree Mukherjee IAS, Secretary of the Ministry of Jal Shakti (Water), India  
Panel discussion with audience facilitated by the Chairs

**15:30 – 17:00**
**Final Closing Discussion with Review Panel**
Chairs: Jonathan Clement, Chair ULF and Nancy Kodousek, Co-chair  
Short Reactions:  
- Sangeeta Chopra, Director of Innovations, Process Optimization and Technical Services, OCWA Canada  
- Jennifer Crosby, Director, Project Management Office, Metro Vancouver, Canada  
- Vicki Campbell, Director, Water Treatment Plants, EPCOR Canada  
- Tom Mollenkopf, Chairman, Gippsland Water, Australia  
- Nerina di Lorenzo, Managing Director, Melbourne Water, Australia  
- Daniel Duchniak, General Manager, Waukesha Water Utility, USA  
- Rob van Dongen, Managing Director, Brabant Water, Netherlands  
- Chris Rockey, Head of Water Quality, Southwest Water, England  
Interactive session with audience

Networking Dinner

[Register for the forum online](https://docs.google.com/forms/d/e/1FAIpQLScOohOr5uydWT-Lc7DlyIoacPcrHHeAApNN5taF9sS8LFWtg/viewform)

[https://iwa-network.org/events/utility-leaders-forum-2024/](https://iwa-network.org/events/utility-leaders-forum-2024/)