



International
Association of Water
Service Companies
in the Danube Region



**DANUBE
WATER
PROGRAM**

2026 DANUBE WATER FORUM

From Vision to Action: Building a Water Resilient Danube Region

Dear colleagues and friends of the Danube Water Program,

You are cordially invited to participate in the **2026 Danube Water Forum**, taking place on **20–22 May 2026 in Sofia, Bulgaria**. This year's Forum will be hosted at the [Regional Centre for Contemporary Art – Toplocentrala](#) and organized back-to-back with several key events, including business meetings, the UBP Danube Hub annual workshop, and a Young Water Professionals pre-event.

The Forum is organized by IAWD under the Danube Water Program, jointly run by IAWD and the World Bank and co-funded by the Austrian Government. Our hosts for 2026 are IAWD members, the Bulgarian Water Association (BWA) and Sofia Water.

Under the theme **“From Vision to Action: Building a Water-Resilient Danube Region”**, the Forum will convene more than 150 stakeholders to examine the EU Water Resilience Strategy and its practical implications for water and wastewater utilities across the region. A dedicated spotlight on the state of the sector in the host country will highlight progress and compare developments with neighboring countries. The program will also explore key technical topics - such as smart asset management, water-efficiency measures, and resource-conscious wastewater treatment - showcasing how innovation strengthens daily operations and long-term sustainability. The event will conclude with a focus on the human dimension of resilience, including workforce development, utility partnerships, and empowered leadership to drive reliable, future-ready water services.

Similar to previous years, the conference organizers encourage the submission of poster presentations. **The deadline for poster submission has been extended to 31 March**. For full details on the Call for Posters, please refer to the attached document or visit the [Event's page](#).

The conference language will be English with simultaneous translation into Bulgarian.

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Hosted by:

 **BWA** BULGARIAN
WATER
ASSOCIATION

Sofiyska Voda

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We are pleased to **offer you a three-days ticket at a rate of €350, with discounts available for members of IAWD and the Bulgarian Water Association (BWA)**. Registration fees cover participation in the two-days conference, as well as meals and social events (with a small complementary fee to be paid for the Conference Dinner). **Registration is open from March 16 to May 9**. Make sure to reserve your spot by completing the online registration on the [Event's page](#) as soon as possible.

While discounts for IAWD members will be applied automatically through the registration process, BWA members need to register via BWA to receive the discount (please visit [Danube Water Forum 2026 | Bulgarian Water Association](#)). **For registration via IAWD, please consult the "How to register guide" for further details.**

Participants will be **responsible for booking their own travel and accommodation**. Kindly note that the organisers **have not pre-booked any hotel rooms**, thus it is recommended to make your own accommodation arrangements in a timely manner. Further information about hotel recommendations and overall logistics can be found in the **"Logistical guidelines document."**

If you have any other queries, please do not hesitate to contact us at office@iawd.at.

We look forward to your confirmation and participation in the 2026 Danube Water Forum!

Sincerely,

Walter Kling



President

International Association of Water
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Raimund Mair



Danube Water Program Leader

The World Bank

Ivan Ivanov



President

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