



Water Scarcity & Drought Summit

Building resilience to drought and scarcity requires global leadership. Join this unprecedented opportunity to act on water scarcity and drought at the world's first multi-stakeholder [Water Scarcity & Drought Summit 2016](#).

The World Economic Forum ranks the water crisis as the top global risk facing societies, economies and businesses over the next decade. Four billion people throughout Africa, Asia and Latin America are affected daily by severe water scarcity and drought. The chronic problem of water scarcity impairs people, cities, industries, agriculture and the environment.

Historically, public and private sectors have responded to water scarcity and drought by expanding storage infrastructure and by increasing water supply. Water scarcity and drought management needs to go beyond infrastructure and technologies and include water demand-management, effective water allocation policies and incentives. It is about building systems resilient to water scarcity and drought and managing demand *and* improving supply.

The Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs) and the Paris Agreement renew commitment to acting on water scarcity and drought for the benefit of humanity and sustainable business. We need to learn from one another and share best practices more globally.

The Water Scarcity & Drought Summit will:

- Facilitate and strengthen cooperation and partnership to increase exchange of knowledge and experience.
- Mobilize and accelerate necessary public and private investments to upgrade existing, and strengthen existing water institutions and infrastructure.
- Support policy, regulation and institutions that create resilient water systems and prevent drought.
- Redefine the role of business facing this public issue by establishing portfolios of technologies and approaches to reduce water use, reuse water and replenish ecosystems.

[The International Water Association](#) and [the Australian Water Partnership](#) will engage and challenge 200 leaders from the private and the public sector including ministers, business leaders, scientists and civil society on new ways of collaboration between countries, industries and sectors to address water scarcity and drought.

The Summit will launch the world's first public-private action-oriented initiative solely dedicated to water scarcity and drought.

Join us at the Summit and be part of building a new global action agenda to diminish water scarcity and drought.

"We need leadership and decisive action to tackle global water scarcity and drought"

Ger Bergkamp, Executive Director,
International Water Association