ONEWATER
EUROMEDITERRANEAN
WATER FORUM
ROME 29.09-02.10.2026

Past, Present and Future of Global Water Assessments
25 years of UNESCO World Water Assessment Programme

UNESCO WWAP

Euro-Mediterranean Water Forum 2026 · 29 September – 2 October · La Nuvola, Rome

KEY INFORMATION

Date	29 September 2026
Time	11:30 -12:00
Room	Atlante
Format	Presentation
Language(s)	English

SUMMARY

As UNESCO World Water Assessment Programme (UNESCO WWAP) celebrates 25 years of work at the service of Member States and water communities worldwide, this event will retrace the trajectory of global water assessments during the last quarter-century and the foreseen needs and opportunities for the upcoming decades. It will also focus on the development of the United Nations World Water Development Report series (UN WWDRs), produced by UNESCO-WWAP on behalf of UN-Water through a multi-agency collaborative process, and elaborate on its fundamental role in the international water discourse in the context of major global processes, in particular the Millennium Development Goals (MDGs), the Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs), and post-Agenda 2030 processes. It will discuss how the UN WWDRs has become a global reference to policy and decision-makers, and how to reinforce its key support to policy makers.

AGENDA & SPEAKERS

Time	Speaker Name & Title	Organization	Role / Topic
11:30	Alessandro Leto, Focal Point	Intergovernmental Hydrological Programme (UNESCO IHP), Italy	Speaker / Enhancing global water knowledge for strengthened decision-making
11:30	Sofjan Jaupaj, Minister of Environment	Ministry of Environment, Albania	Speaker / Enhancing global water knowledge for strengthened decision-making

Time	Speaker Name & Title	Organization	Role / Topic
11:30	Alvaro Lario, Chairperson of UN-Water and President of IFAD	UN-Water / IFAD	Speaker / Enhancing global water knowledge for strengthened decision-making
11:30	Retno Marsudi, UN Secretary-General's Special Envoy on Water	Special Envoy on Water	Speaker / Enhancing global water knowledge for strengthened decision-making
11:50	Miguel Doria, Coordinator	UNESCO WWAP	Speaker / Water assessments: past, present and future

OBJECTIVES

Objective 1 — Review the evolution and achievements of the UNESCO World Water Assessment Programme (WWAP), highlighting its contributions to the understanding and assessment of global freshwater resources and its role in shaping the international water agenda.

Objective 2 — Examine the development and impact of the United Nations World Water Development Report (UN WWDR) series as a flagship outcome of WWAP, with particular attention to its evolution as a comprehensive source of evidence and analysis on freshwater resources and water-related challenges.

Objective 3 — Strengthening WWAP's role in supporting Member States and policy-makers, particularly through the provision, analysis and dissemination of reliable evidence and knowledge for global water resources assessment and informed decision-making.

Objective 4 — Discuss the future strategic direction of WWAP and the UN WWDR series, ensuring that their expertise, knowledge products and assessment functions remain relevant and responsive to the changing global water landscape.