

A CALL FOR VOLUNTEERS

THE WORLD WATER QUALITY ALLIANCE AND FIWARE4WATER



HOW TO BECOME
PART OF YOUR
LOCAL WATER FORUM



The World Water Quality Alliance was convened by the United Nations Environment Programme and is supported by the Swiss Confederation.

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What is the World Water Quality Alliance and Fiware4Water?

The World Water Quality Alliance brings people and organisations from around the World together to put ideas about water into action. Water is one of the greatest challenges of the 21st Century and everyone has a role to play in the future of our planet's most valuable natural resource. Fiware4Water is a project funded by the European Commission investigating the use of smart, water-related applications.

What is a Local Water Forum?

A Local Water Forum is a group of people from your village, town or city who want to participate in actions which will contribute to solving water-related problems. Everyone is welcome to join; young and old, local councillors, scientists, businesspeople, artists, nature-lovers and citizens who are concerned about the future of the planet and want to do something about it at a local level.

What qualifications do I need?

None whatsoever. Just a desire to help and to ensure that one day, everyone no matter where they live, will have access to clean water.



What does a Local Water Forum do?

Volunteers will meet together with members of the local council or local water company and representatives of Fiware4Water. They will be given an introduction to the water situation in the World and then asked about local water issues. Then they will create an idea for a local water plan.

What the plan is about depends a lot on where you live. Perhaps flooding is a major problem. Perhaps it's a lack of water at certain times of the year or perhaps the biggest problem your community faces is the pollution of water. You and the other volunteers will decide. The most important thing is that people are aware that, no matter where they live, they consume water from all around the World. So, a good first plan, for example, is a local campaign to raise awareness. How does this happen?

Step 1

Ideas submission & community discussion


- Submit your policy ideas
- Community feedback



Step 2

Idea refinement


- Idea re-submission based on the feedback received



Step 3

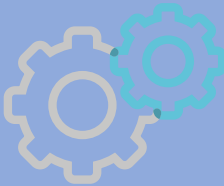
Community voting

- Every member of the group votes on as many ideas as he/she wants



Step 4

Making the plan a reality



Step 1 Idea Submission and Community Discussion

As a volunteer you will be invited to an initial meeting organised by the WWQA and Fiware4Water and the local contact (The Local Government, the Local Water Utility or an active Interest Group). Under normal circumstances this would take place at a venue in your village, town or city but due to COVID-19 the meeting will probably take place using one of the many digital platforms available such as ZOOM, WEBEX or TEAMS.

Once the Local Water Forum members have been registered and after an introduction to the water problems which exist in the World you will be asked to share your opinions regarding water at an international and a local level.

We are interested in listening and learning about your community's relationship with water, or maybe you are not aware of any water issues. You will be asked to think about ideas for a water policy in your village, town or city. The most common policy to begin with is the organisation of a citizen awareness campaign.

You will be given two weeks to think more about your ideas and share them via email with the other members of the Local Water Forum. Then you will present the idea to the Local Water Forum in a second meeting, where everyone will offer comments and suggestions to everyone else.

At all times, people from the Local Government, Fiware4Water and the WWQA will be available to give you support and technical advice, so you do not have to know anything about water or have previous experience. We want people who are willing to participate and share their views.

Step 2 Idea Refinement

In the second meeting, you will have the opportunity to listen to the other volunteers' comments and suggestions. Then you will be given more time to develop your idea.

Many volunteers from different sectors of local society like to team up with each other to work on one specific idea. So, businesspeople, scientists, shopkeepers, artists and local residents from all walks of life come together to produce ideas which will then be put into action. Other people prefer to work on their own idea. It's up to you. Remember that technical support and advice will be available for whenever you need it.

Step 3 Community Voting

In the third meeting, all the members of the Local Water Forum vote for what they think is the best idea for a citizen awareness campaign (or other action if that is what your Forum decides). The most voted idea is then adopted by the Local Council. You will have participated in the creation of a local plan.



Step 4 Making the plan a reality

So now your Local Water Forum has created a plan. Now the plan has to become a reality. With professional help from Fiware4Water and the WWQA, together with local government workers, scientists, local business, schools, colleges and cultural groups you will be invited to participate in the carrying out of the plan. There is no obligation. We understand that people have busy lives so you can participate as much as you want. It's up to you.

What would you do? The Local Water Forum can contribute to all stages of carrying out the plan. But there are some specific tasks we would especially like your Forum to do. In order to be able to do these tasks you will receive training from our experts.

- Firstly, you are now the supervisors of the plan. It is up to the council, researchers, etc. to carry out the plan but they have to report to you and tell you about the progress.**
- As a member of the Local Water Forum, you will be invited to become a spokesperson and tell other citizens in your community about the importance of your plan. You will be taught how to do this and how to work with the local press.**



- You will be invited to give your opinion on the results of the plan. You may then begin to think of new ideas and to suggest future actions.**



Jerusalem



Sabadell, Spain



Leicester, UK.

You will become a representative of your village, town or city within the World Water Quality Alliance. You will be invited to meet and explain your experiences with other Local Water Forums from around the World through what is called the Social Engagement Platform.

THE WORLD WATER QUALITY ALLIANCE



INTERESTED?

**MAKE A DIFFERENCE:
BECOME A MEMBER OF YOUR
LOCAL WATER FORUM**

For questions and concerns, call 0034 608545528

or email richard.elelman@eurecat.org

More information is available at <https://www.fiware4water.eu/> and

<https://communities.unep.org/display/WWQA>

