

Program Guide



WEF
**Circular Water
Economy Summit**
shaping the business of water



All events for the CWE Summit will be held at the [Renaissance Nashville](#) hotel.

PROGRAM

Tuesday, July 18, 2023

Pre-Summit Resource Recovery Deep Dive

1:00pm – 4:00pm | 5 Points Meeting Room

Seeking additional engagement opportunities at the Summit? WEF has added two deep dive discussions to the pre-summit programming for those seeking to expand your knowledge on the opportunities and challenges that surround product quality and market making for recovered resources.

1:00pm Maximizing Recovery Opportunities
Explore research, processes, and real-world examples that focus on product quality through avoidance of nonrenewable materials in production and downstream contamination of valuable recovered resources. Contact Maile Lono-Batura, mlono-batura@wef.org, if you'd like to attend.

2:15pm Break

2:30pm Market Making for Recovered Resources with AquaMinerals
Learn about the opportunities available to utilities seeking to embody the resource recovery center model. Created nearly 30 years ago to solve a 'waste problem', AquaMinerals soon realized these resources were not a waste, nor a problem. Learn how AquaMinerals helped to pioneer circularity and build demand and revenue for recovered resources. Contact Barry Liner, bliner@wef.org, if you'd like to attend.

Evening Welcome Reception

5:00pm – 6:30pm | Grand Ballroom Foyer

To kick off the inaugural CWE Summit, join us for a welcome reception with sustainability executives, decision-makers, and thought leaders from companies and municipalities that are successfully turning waste streams into value streams.

Day 1: Wednesday, July 19, 2023

8:00am – 6:30pm

Session 1: Industrial Water Use: Future State vs. Current Reality

8:00am – Noon | Grand Ballroom 2

Many businesses want to move toward a more sustainable approach to water use. To make this transition, decision-makers need to recognize how the circular water economy is already taking shape. We also need to understand how this transformation will affect our businesses, our communities, and the environment.

7:00-8:00am Breakfast buffet available in Grand Ballroom 1

8:00am Welcome to the Circular Water Economy Summit

Ifetayo Venner, Arcadis, WEF President
Emilio Tenuta, Ecolab

8:15am Breaking the Plastic Wave with Purposeful Brands

Candice Lawton, rePurpose Global

8:35am Recovering Resource: AquaMinerals Shows it Can be Done; How Did They Do It?

Olaf van der Kolk, AquaMinerals

8:55am A Retailer's Perspective on Circular Water

Toni McCrory, Walmart

9:15am Facilitated Panel of three speakers

Candice Lawton, rePurpose Global
Olaf van der Kolk, AquaMinerals
Toni McCrory, Walmart
Facilitated by Emilio Tenuta, Ecolab

10-10:30am Networking Break in the Foyer

10:30am Facilitated Panel – Municipal Effluent Reuse

Alan Burghart, CHS
Anthony Giovannone, Google
Facilitated by Lucy Pugh, AECOM

11:30-noon WEF Innovators' Showcase

As a special addition to the Circular Water Economy Summit program, a few innovative startups have been selected based on their award-winning Circular Water Economy related technologies including the 2023 Fast Company World Changing Idea Award, Imagine H2O Accelerator, BlueTech Forum Blue Truffle Award, Consumer Electronics Show, and more. Brief overviews will be provided to ensure that attendees get the opportunity to talk directly with the innovators.

The showcase features the following:

Epic Cleantec (Fast Company World Changing Idea Winner 2023, Imagine H2O Accelerator 2020)

- **Aquacycl** (Imagine H2O Accelerator 2018)
- **Infinite Cooling** (Imagine H2O Accelerator 2019)
- **Alnwater** (Imagine H2O Accelerator 2023, UNLEASH Plus 2021)

- **GWT** (Imagine H2O Accelerator 2021)
Facilitated by Corey Williams, Smart Cover, WEF Board of Trustees
and Nihdi Menon, Imagine H2O

Noon – 1:00pm **Lunch served in Grand Ballroom 1**

Session 2: Making the Business Case for a Circular Water Economy

1:15pm – 5:00pm | Grand Ballroom 2

Responsible businesses have progressed from solely focusing on the bottom line to considering the triple-bottom line of sustainability. Many companies are making an intentional shift to integrating a circular water economy into the business-as-usual model.

How did we get here? What were the drivers? What are the risks? What's next? And what do businesses need to consider as they prepare for the next 10 years? Hear from professionals who have made water circularity a central part of their business.

1:15pm **Session Welcome**

Jamie Eichenberger, HDR, WEF Immediate Past President
Emilio Tenuta, Ecolab

1:35pm **PepsiCo pep+ Circular Water Goals, Tactics, & Results in Beverage Manufacturing**

Michael Waitek, PepsiCo

1:55pm **Accelerating the Water Reuse Revolution in Real Estate**

Aaron Tartakovsky, Epic Cleantec

2:15pm **Facilitated Panel – Beverage Industry Environmental Roundtable**

Andy Battjes, Brown-Forman
Matthew Blandford, Beam Suntory
Facilitated by Erica Pann, Antea Group

3:15-3:45pm **Networking Break in the Foyer**

3:45-5:00pm **World Café / Small Group Roundtable Discussions**

3:45pm **Seating and Getting Acquainted with Table Members**

3:50pm **Welcome and Introduction to the World Café**

3:55pm **Topic 1 Discussion**

Use Cases: Sharing CWE success stories across the represented industries

4:20pm **Table Swap**

4:30pm **Topic 2 Discussion**

Contaminants: How are industries addressing contaminants in water systems? What is promising and where do we need to continue to improve?

4:55pm **Closing Comments**

Small Group Roundtable Facilitators:

Austin Alexander, Xylem	Michael O'Neill, DOE,
Omer Bab, Embassy of Israel to the US	Environment and Climate Action
Katie Bruegge, KimHEC	(Victorian Government - Australia)
Patrick Campbell, Ramboll	Mark Philbrick, Dept of Energy, US
Prabhu Chandrasekeran, Arcadis	Lucy Pugh, AECOM
Gabriel Evans, US Water Alliance	Olaf van der Kolk, AquaMinerals
Jeff Guild, Blue Tech Research	Daniel Sampson, HDR
Heather Jennings, Huma	Robert Simm, Stantec
Kristen Jenkins, Brown and Caldwell	Karri Ving, Brown and Caldwell
Danette Kinaszczuk, Collier County Florida	Bob Charles Weinschrott, Hazen
Toni McCrory, Walmart	and Sawyer

5:00 – 6:30pm **Networking Reception in the Foyer**

Day 2: Thursday, July 20, 2023

8:00am – 3:30pm

Session 3: Circular Water Systems: Real-World Examples

8:00am – 11:45am | Grand Ballroom 2

Mission-driven initiatives require aligning goals, people, and available resources. Our speakers will share how their companies reimagined operational water sustainability, developing and deploying the innovations necessary for responsible water management. Panels will dig deeper into how this plays out in the field and discuss the critical role of funding.

7:00-8:00am *Breakfast buffet available Grand Ballroom 1*

8:00am Session Welcome

Shellie Chard, Oklahoma Department of Environmental Quality, WEF Board of Trustees

Rob Simm, Stantec

8:15am Water – The Biggest Issue We Face Today

Kevin Butt, Toyota Motor North America

8:35am Facilitated Panel – Israeli Tech Perspective on Water Supply, Reuse, and Agriculture as Part of CWE

Tomer Efrat, IDE Water Assets

Itamar Nadav, Netafim Agronomy

Ari Veltman, WFI Group

Facilitated by Omer Bab, Israeli Embassy to US

9:30am Facilitated Panel – Funding Water Circularity

Arthine Cossey van Duyne, WaterFunder, LLC

Brian Cullen, VICO Infrastructure Company, LLC

Andy Kingman, Cambrian Innovation

Zach Gallagher, Natural Systems Utilities

Facilitated by Caleb Powers, Ember Infrastructure

10:30-11:00am Networking Break in the Foyer

11:00am Facilitated Panel – Challenges and Case Studies in Pulp and Paper Wastewater Treatment

George Patrick, Arcadis

John Michael Corn, AquAeTer, Inc.

Facilitated by Chris Luetzgen, The Alliance for Pulp & Paper Technology Innovation

11:45am Session Adjourns for Lunch

Noon – 1:00pm Lunch served in Grand Ballroom 1

Session 4: A Framework for Resource Recovery
1:15pm – 3:30pm | Grand Ballroom 2

It can be extremely challenging to move from a linear systems approach to a circular one. Progressing from an emphasis on finite resources requires critical analysis and a realistic perspective. This final session concentrates on resource recovery and the actions necessary to redefine norms around circular water systems.

- 1:15pm** **Welcome and Introductions**
Aimee Killeen, Providence Engineering and Environmental Group, LLC, WEF
President Elect
Rob Simm, Stantec
- 1:35pm** **Developing an Organics Circular Economy in NYC**
Jane Gajwani, NYC DEP
- 1:55pm** **Facilitated Panel – Drivers for Water Circularity Targets**
Sarah O'Sell, GE Digital
Susan Herman, Black & Veatch
Facilitated by Matthew Howard, The Water Council
- 2:30pm** **Roundtable Follow up and Call to Action**
Austin Alexander, Xylem
- 3:00pm** **Final Thoughts / Where We Go from Here**
Ifetayo Venner, Arcadis, WEF President
Aimee Killeen, Providence Engineering and Environmental Group, LLC, WEF
President Elect
Jamie Eichenberger, HDR, WEF Immediate Past President
Facilitated by Rob Simm, Stantec
- 3:30pm** **Summit Adjourns**

ADVISORY COMMITTEE

- | | |
|---|------------------------------------|
| Brian Arntsen, Veolia | Brian Moore, Arcadis |
| Omer Bab, Israeli Embassy to the US | Mark Philbrick, DOE AMO |
| Rob Eddy, Resource Innovation Institute | Caleb Powers, Ember Infrastructure |
| Ralph Exton, Grundfos | Lucy Pugh, AECOM |
| Jeff Guild, BlueTech Research | Darcy Sachs, Carollo |
| Matt Howard, The Water Council | Daniel Sampson, HDR |
| Heather Jennings, Probiotic Solutions | Rob Simm, Stantec |
| Bob Kimball, WSP | Karri Ving, Brown & Caldwell |
| Adrienne Lee, BASF | Jeff Weido, Xylem |
| Chris Luettgen, Georgia Tech | Megan Yoo Schneider, Accenture |
| Toni McCrory, Walmart Sustainability | |

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We would like to thank the following sponsoring companies for their contributions to the conference and program.



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CODE OF CONDUCT

WEF is committed to providing a professional, safe, and welcoming environment during its in-person and virtual events for all water professionals and their guests. WEF expects all attendees, exhibitors, speakers, sponsors, media, and other participants to uphold our commitment to diversity and inclusion by helping us provide a positive conference environment for everyone.

As a conference participant you agree to the following:

- To treat all individuals with respect and create a collegial, inclusive, and professional environment.
- To value a diversity of views and opinions by communicating openly with respect for others.
- Not to verbally abuse any individual or to discriminate, harass, or intimidate on the basis of gender, race, gender identity and expression, sexual orientation, physical or mental disability, physical appearance, age, religion, national origin, veteran status, citizenship, or professional rank.

Anyone requested to stop unacceptable behavior is expected to comply immediately. WEF management may take any action deemed necessary and appropriate, including removal from the event (and any remaining portions thereof) without warning and without refund of registration fee.

Additionally, if you are a WEF Member, you agree to uphold the WEF Member Code of Conduct while attending WEF Events.

Reporting Concerns

To report a Code of Conduct violation, you may email WEF Executive Director, at executivedirector@wef.org.

For the complete Code of Conduct, please visit <https://www.weftec.org/about/about-weftec/code-of-conduct/>.

THANK YOU FOR YOUR PARTICIPATION!

Life Free of Water Challenges

WEF Strategic Plan

Our Mission

Inspiring the water community in pursuit of human and environmental well-being

Our Vision

Life free of water challenges

Our Three-Year Outcome Statement

Amplify the stories of water to grow, strengthen, and diversify the water community



Our Strategic Goals

Goal 1

Attract and develop a diverse and passionate water workforce

Goal 1 Strategies

1. Raise public awareness about the importance of water and the water workforce
2. Reduce barriers to workforce entry and retention
3. Provide extraordinary opportunities for connection, growth, and education
4. Cultivate strategic partnerships

Goal 2

Cultivate a purpose-driven community to sustainably solve water challenges for all

Goal 2 Strategies

1. Drive connection and collaboration for the development of innovative solutions
2. Deliver best-in-class member experience
3. Creatively develop and deliver content and programming

Goal 3

Lead the transformation to the Circular Water Economy

Goal 3 Strategies

1. Convene stakeholders to craft WEF's Circular Water Economy framework and best practices
2. Proliferate WEF's Circular Water Economy framework and best practices
3. Champion adoption of Circular Water Economy
4. Eliminate barriers to Circular Water Economy adoption

Our Core Values



Lead boldly with purpose and agility



Focus on our customers through empathy and service



Collaborate for collective impact



Integrate Diversity, Equity, and Inclusion in all we do