

## Water security for world security



World Water Council President Loic Fauchon speaks at the high-level panel on water during the opening of UNESCO's International Water Conference, Paris, 13 May 2019

UNESCO headquarters, Paris, 13 May – World Water Council President Loic Fauchon revealed the Council's four overarching priorities for the coming years at UNESCO's International Water Conference "Leveraging Intersectorality for Sustainable Water Security and Peace".

The priorities are complementary to the Council's triennial strategy and will steer the organization's activities throughout the next two years.

- 1) **Storing water today for future needs:** For water security to become a reality, the availability of the water resource must be increased by building storage space, developing desalination and encouraging water reuse. Digital innovation is key in managing demand and optimizing water consumption.
- 2) **Five finger alliance:** Water is essential to almost all human activities from food to energy production, health to education. An intersectoral and horizontal approach in water management is crucial and the Council's network of Universities for Water in Beirut is a first step in the right direction.
- 3) **Water is politics.** The World Water Council must engage in active hydro-diplomacy through the prisms of knowledge, finance and governance.
- 4) **Senegal, Africa, capital of water:** The 9<sup>th</sup> World Water Forum, which will be held in Dakar, Senegal, in 2021 will be key in providing visible and concrete answers to global water challenges.

Echoing the theme of the conference, President Fauchon said "*Technical solutions exist. We must now convince national governments, parliamentarians, and local authorities to adopt an intersectoral and horizontal approach in managing this precious resource*".

To reinforce the messages, the World Water Council released a new video "[What are you doing for water?](#)" highlighting its priorities and calling upon decision makers for their active involvement.



***About the World Water Council***

*The World Water Council (WWC) is an international multi-stakeholder platform organization, co-organizer of the World Water Forum, whose mission is to mobilize action on critical water issues at all levels, including the highest decision-making level, by engaging people in debate and challenging conventional thinking on water security. The Council focuses on the political dimensions of water security, adaptation and sustainability. For more information: [www.worldwatercouncil.org](http://www.worldwatercouncil.org) @wwatercouncil*

***About the World Water Forum***

*The World Water Forum is the world's largest event on water. Organized every three years with a host country, the Forum provides a unique platform where the water community and key decision makers can collaborate and make long-term progress on global water challenges. The Forum brings together participants from all levels and areas, including politics, multilateral institutions, academia, civil society and the private sector, among others. The 8<sup>th</sup> edition of the Forum was held in 2018 in Brazil and gathered more than 10,000 participants under the theme "Sharing Water". The next edition will take place in Dakar, Senegal, in March 2021. [www.worldwatercouncil.org/world-water-forum](http://www.worldwatercouncil.org/world-water-forum)*

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