



Issue No. 13 | August 2022

Nexus Regional Dialogues Programme Newsletter



Water-Energy-Food Security Nexus

A service by the Nexus Regional Dialogues Programme

Dear reader,

Summer is coming to an end! While many have been on holiday getting some well-deserved rest and recuperation, the Nexus activities have been going strong – as we all know, sustainability doesn't sleep!

The past few months have been filled with exciting accomplishments and activities to further mainstream the Water-Energy-Food (WEF) Nexus approach! In this edition, we proudly highlight the multiple policy dialogues carried out across all five regions of the Nexus Regional Dialogues (NRD) team. Moreover, the NRD team hosted a webinar, organised by the Food and Agriculture Organisation (FAO), on WEF Nexus governance, bringing together both, science and practice - seeing inputs from IDOS and GIZ Jordan. In-keeping with events, we also want to steer your attention to the upcoming highlight event of the month of August: the Stockholm World Water Week! One of the three sessions in which Nexus team will participate sees the **Frexus team** offer examples from the ground on how local sub-Saharan communities can strengthen their climate resilience and security situation through the Water-Energy-Food Security Nexus.

As per our last edition, we have continued our Nexus Interview Series, this time you will get to know Maria Ana Rodriguez, Head of Project for the Nexus team; Ludmilla Kiktenko, Regional Coordinator for the NRD project in Central Asia and Desire Sengoga, Regional Advisor to the Integrated Management of Water Resources of Lake Kivu and Ruzizi River.

These are only some of the highlights of the last few months, so have a closer look at our feature to learn more!

Happy reading!

Your Nexus Team

1. GLOBAL NEWS

2. NEWS FROM THE PROJECTS

- » NRD - Central Asia
- » NRD - Latin America and the Caribbean
- » NRD - MENA | Middle East and North Africa
- » NRD - Niger Basin
- » NRD - Southern Africa
- » Support to the Integrated Management of Water Resources of Lake Kivu and the Ruzizi River
- » The Frexus Project

3. NEXUS FACTS, TOOLS AND PUBLICATIONS

4. UPCOMING EVENTS AND APPLICATIONS

Global News

Scaling up WEF Nexus solutions

The Nexus Regional Dialogues (NRD) Programme had the pleasure to host an online dialogue event, organised by the FAO, bringing together experts on conducting research on WEF Nexus governance and very practical experience on cross-sectoral cooperation.

Centred around the thematic question “How can cross-sectoral coordination and decision making successfully be integrated in governance structures?” this webinar saw input from Ines Dombrowsky from IDOS, and Haneen Sad’eh from GIZ Jordan - highlighting connections and intersections among the disciplines – a true Nexus spirit.



Read our review or watch a replay on our youtube channel (also available in French)

[Read Review](#)



Promoting water tenure for food security, climate resilience and equity

The hybrid workshop led by the FAO, sought to highlight concepts of water tenure and offered a platform to exchange case studies and experiences and develop the next steps for the water tenure concept.

The issue of power imbalances was a reoccurring theme, which further highlights the need for a

participatory approach to ensure equitable allocation and the necessity of working within existing systems such as basin authorities or watershed groups to strengthen outreach.



Want to learn more about water tenure? Watch a full replay of the webinar in English here or read the full review.

[Read Review](#)



The WEF Nexus perspective of Maria Ana Rodriguez

Head of the Nexus Team

The interview series aims to provide a better picture of the people within the Nexus team and their perspectives on *Water-Energy-Food Nexus* challenges and opportunities. In this episode, we invite you to get to know Maria Ana Rodriguez, Head of the Nexus Component.



An important pre-condition for successful inter-sectoral planning requires that public officers in one sector understand their dependency and interrelation to other sectors.

- Maria Ana Rodriguez

[Read Full Interview](#)



The Nexus team is composed of three key projects:

1) **The Nexus Regional Dialogues Programme:** Building on the results of Phase I, the NRD Phase II aims to institutionalise the WEF Nexus approach in national and regional governance structures and investment decisions and to engage the public and private investors for WEF Nexus projects. The Programme is implemented in Central Asia, Latin America and the Caribbean, Middle East and Northern Africa, the Niger Basin and Southern Africa in cooperation with regional partner organisations.

2) **Support to the Integrated Management of Water Resources of Lake Kivu and the Ruzizi River Project:** The aim of the project is to support the river basin organization ABAKIR (Autorité du Bassin du Lac Kivu et de la Rivière Ruzizi/ Rusizi) to improve the hydrological and operational management of Lake Kivu and the Ruzizi/Rusizi River. ABAKIR is mandated by its three member states: Burundi, the DRC and Rwanda.

3) **Frexus: Improving security and climate resilience in a fragile context through the Water-Energy-Food Nexus:** The project operates in Mali, Niger and Chad and aims to support the peaceful resolution of social tensions and conflicts between population groups that are caused or exacerbated by climate change in fragile areas.



Nexus Regional Dialogue in Central Asia

Water and energy infrastructure development in Tajikistan

The third intersectoral working group on the implementation of the demonstration project in the Republic of Tajikistan was conducted in seeing national experts present key findings and results from the studies focusing on digitalisation and investment opportunities. Representatives of the Advanced Metering Infrastructure (AMI) and the Ministry of Water and Energy Resources (MEWR) acknowledged the relevance of the implemented works to the state policy and outlined further plans and investment opportunities to push forward the results of the demonstration project, which can also be supported by potential investors.



[Read more](#)



What does the WEF Nexus mean to Ludmilla Kiktenko?

Regional Coordinator - Central Asia

In this episode, we invite you to get to know Ludmilla Kiktenko, Regional Coordinator of the Nexus Regional Dialogues Programme in Central Asia, and the Manager of Environmental Management Programme of the Regional Environmental Centre for Central Asia (CAREC). She offers her perspective on the WEF Nexus by answering the following:

- 1) What does the WEF Nexus approach mean to you and how would you describe it in your own words?
- 2) What are the main Nexus challenges in Central Asia?
- 3) What is the most promising approach for implementing/mainstreaming WEF Nexus in Central Asia? And why?



[Read Full Interview](#)



Nexus Regional Dialogue in Latin America and the Caribbean

WEF Nexus initiative for territorial planning

A policy dialogue to spark exchange.

The Latin America and Caribbean region has significant water, energy, and food resources but they are unevenly distributed geographically. Ensuring resource security of the 646 million regional inhabitants requires balancing competing demands on resources while also protecting vulnerable ecosystems. This policy dialogue explored joint learning and the application of the WEF Nexus within land-use and watershed management. The exchange gave ground to fruitful discussions on how to strengthen territorial planning and integrated resource management in the region.

The policy dialogue was co-organised by the NRD for Latin America and the Caribbean, the Instituto Nacional de Tecnología Agropecuaria en Argentina (INTA) and the Ministerio de Agricultura, Ganadería y Pesca de Argentina.



The entire recording of the session is available in Spanish [here](#) or read the review article in English or Spanish.

[Read More](#)



Nexus Regional Dialogue in MENA

A WEF Nexus Training of Trainers in Dandara, Egypt

Becoming a WEF Nexus ambassador

A three-day Training of Trainers (ToT) workshop took place in Dandara, Upper Egypt at the beginning of August, seeing 16 young graduates learned about the WEF Nexus and the impact of climate change on the water, energy and agricultural sectors. The theoretical part of the training drew from the [Nexus Training Material](#) which aims to inspire the implementation of the WEF Nexus approach worldwide! As part of the training they visited the local WEF Nexus demonstration project, a farming model constructed by Gebal.



These 16 young students are on the path to becoming WEF Nexus ambassadors

[Read More](#)



WEF Nexus and Urban Resilience in the MENA Region

Policy dialogues in Tunisia and Lebanon

The Royal Scientific Society of Jordan (RSS), on behalf of the Nexus Regional Dialogues Programme in MENA, organized two dialogue events in Tunisia and Lebanon from June to July aimed at empowering local governance structures to lead integrated climate actions at community level. The events brought together target municipalities from the Minaret II Initiative as well as representatives from national authorities related to the WEF sectors as well as environment (NDCs). Each dialogue event concluded with a workshop on access to finance addressing the current barriers and challenges many municipalities face to leverage sufficient funding for implementation. A third dialogue event is planned in Jordan in September.



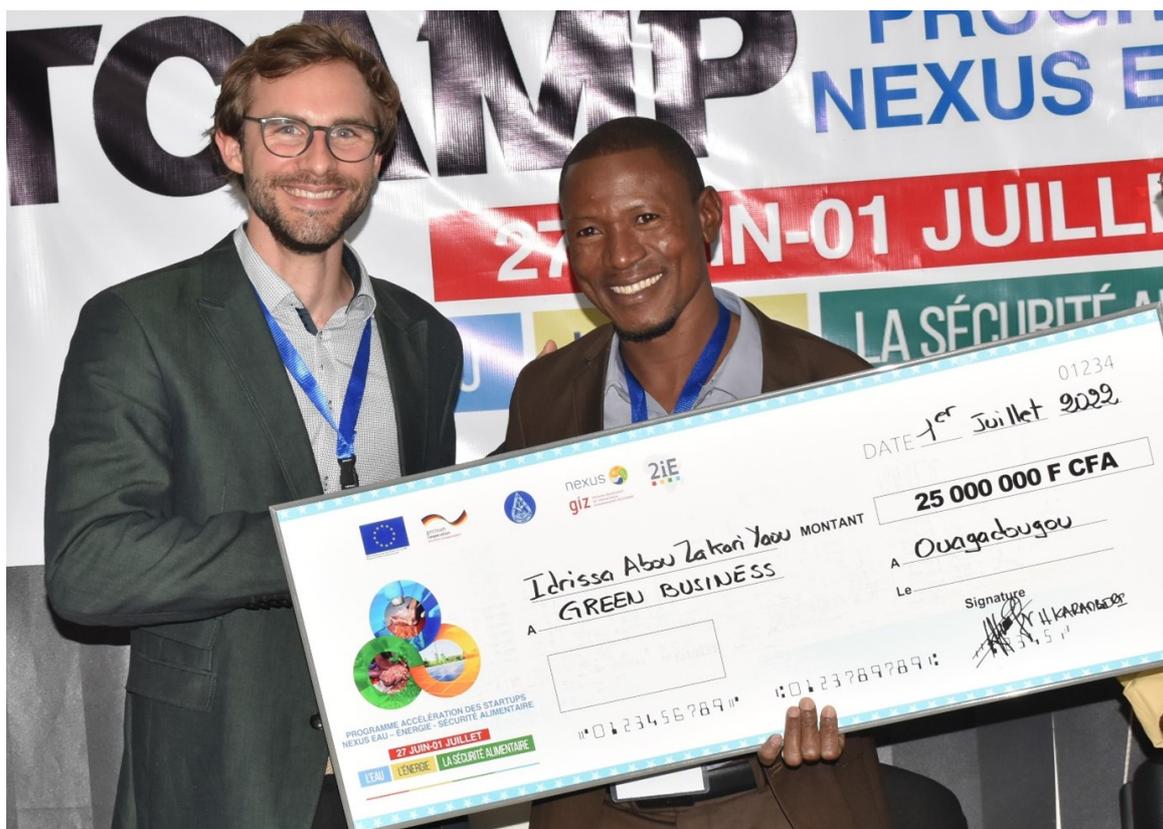
Participants of the Nexus Policy Dialogue held in Tunisia discussing the concepts of urban resilience and the WEF Nexus

[Read Review](#)

WEF Nexus Start-ups accelerator bootcamp in the Niger Basin

From a total of 160 applicants, 12 innovative young WEF Nexus start-ups took part in a week-long bootcamp co-organised by the NRD Niger Basin and the Institut International d'Ingénierie de l'Eau et de l'Environnement (2iE). The contestants participated in several workshops about how to build a successful business model and enter into the market, typical investment criteria and requirements, and on how to create an impactful pitch to possible investors.

The intensive bootcamp event included the Nexus Game, which allowed the entrepreneurs to better understand the conceptual interlinkages between the water, energy and food security sectors.



The first place went to Zakari Idrissa representing Niger – winning a seed funding of 25,000,000 CFA. His start-up “Green Business” uses water hyacinth to produce green biochar and organic fertilisers which contributes to tackling deforestation and improves soil water retention capacity.

[Read More](#)

Nine National Dialogues conducted in the Niger Basin

The Nexus Regional Dialogue of the Niger Basin in partnership with the Niger Basin Authority, has completed nine consecutive national dialogues over the space of four months. The dialogues focused on the potential and benefits of adopting a WEF Nexus approach towards planned intersectoral projects – with a strong focus on infrastructure. The national dialogues are all leading to the regional dialogue to be held in September, geared towards the official endorsement of Nexus Guidelines (or the Nexus Directive).



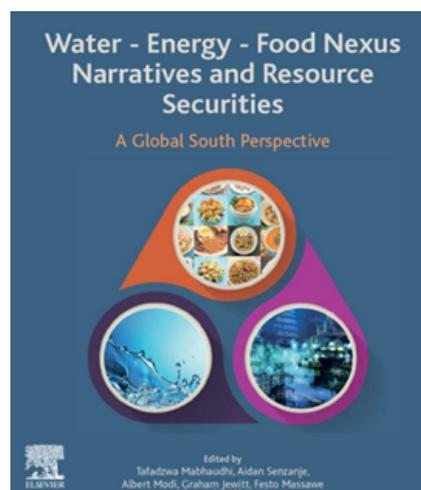
A summative article will soon be published on the NRP (and shared on our social channels) recapping the nine events to include the main discussion points and exchange.



Nexus Regional Dialogue in Southern Africa

A case study of the Southern African Development Community

The Nexus Regional Dialogue of Southern Africa – implemented by the Global Water Partnership – contributed a chapter in the recently published: “Water–Energy–Food Nexus Narratives and Resource Securities: A Global South Perspective”. The chapter highlights how the Southern African Development Community (SADC) region has adopted the WEF Nexus approach and applied it to develop a regional conceptual framework with specific focus to (1) guide the application of the WEF Nexus Governance Framework in Member States and (2) develop a tool for prioritising regional projects based on the WEF Nexus.



[View Chapter](#)



A WEF Nexus Dialogue in Zimbabwe

The dialogue, organised by the Southern Africa Development Community (SADC) and the WEF Nexus Regional Dialogue Project, drew participants from the WEF ministries and related departments like climate change, the FAO, Non-Governmental Organisations and members of academia. Participants engaged in group discussions that led to the identification of some priority WEF Nexus national investment projects, challenges and opportunities for implementing WEF projects in Zimbabwe.



[Read More](#)



Support to the Integrated Management of Water Resources of Lake Kivu and the Ruzizi River Project

Transboundary water resources management

Lake Kivu and Rusizi / Ruzizi River Basin

A two-day workshop hosted by ABAKIR, the Lake Kivu and Rusizi / Ruzizi River Basin Authority was convened to establish a common understanding on the current status of transboundary water resources management (TBWM) in the Basin to lay the foundation for successful cooperation among the three riparian countries. It resulted in the commitment to harmonise legal, regulatory and policy frameworks for TBWM in the Basin. A full review of the workshop is available in [English](#) and [French](#).



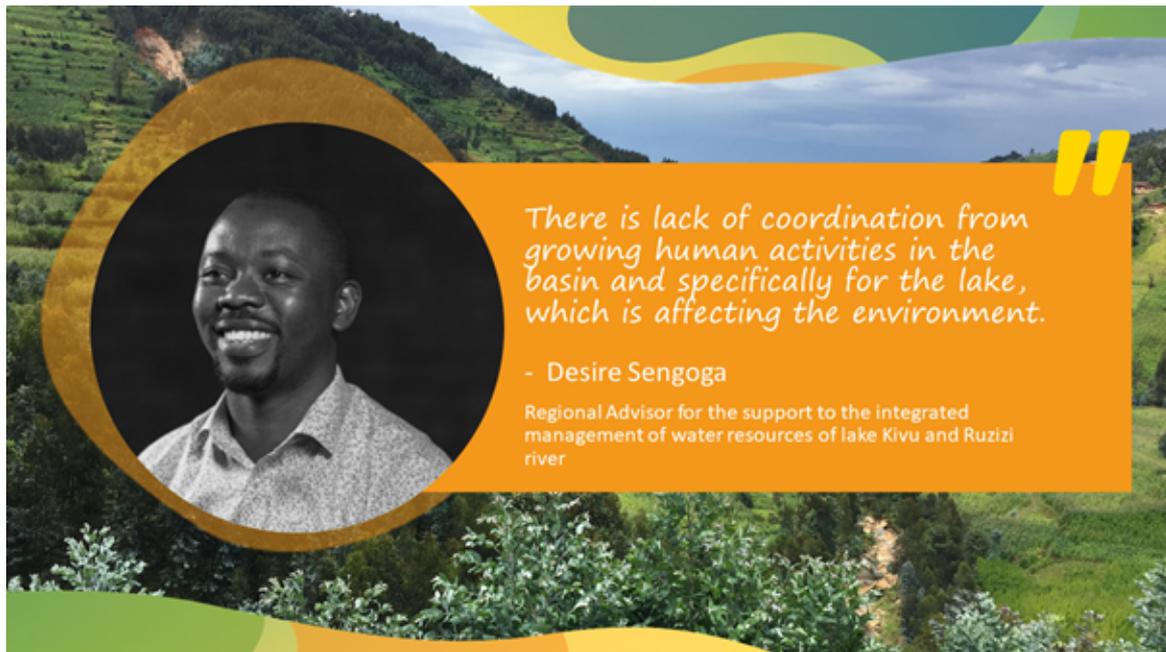
[Read Review](#)



A WEF Nexus perspective from the Lake Kivu and Ruzizi River

Desire Sengoga, Regional Advisor

In this episode, we invited Desire Sengoga, Regional Advisor to the project: Support to the Integrated Management of Water Resources of Lake Kivu and the Ruzizi River to offer his very own perspective on the WEF Nexus and some of the challenges within the region.



[Read Full Interview](#)



The Frexus Project: Improving security and climate resilience in a fragile context through the Water-Energy-Food Nexus

An exchange between the Niger Basin Authority and the Lake Chad Basin Commission

In the framework of the Frexus project, an exchange between the Niger Basin Authority (NBA) and the Lake Chad Basin Commission (LCBC) was facilitated from 28 – 29.06.2022 in N’Djamena, Chad. Representatives from the NBA, LCBC, the Frexus project and consultants came together to exchange on the role of basin organisations in the context of the management of natural resources and peace and security.





A validation workshop conducted in Mali on the Systemic Conflict Analysis study

As part of the implementation of the Frexus project, a systemic analysis of the conflicts in certain areas of the Niger Delta was carried out by taking stock of existing knowledge on conflicts and peaceful processes as well as their dynamics in the communes of Bellen, Konna and Soboundoun (in the regions of Ségou, Mopti and Timbuktu, respectively). To validate the study, a one-day workshop was organized to verify and supplement the results of the analysis with nationals and governance actors in the study areas. A full review of the workshop is available in French.



[Read Full Study \(in French\)](#)

[Read More About the Workshop \(in French\)](#)



Addressing climate-related security risks in fragile contexts

The case of Chad

A workshop in Mao, Chad brought together stakeholders to review the results of three analytical studies commissioned by the Frexus project: a climate risk assessment, a conflict analysis, and a baseline study. Participants were invited to validate whether the results reflect the perception of the local community as well as to provide feedback and recommendations. This workshop concluded the diagnostic phase of the Frexus project, which will now continue with the development and implementation of an action plan.



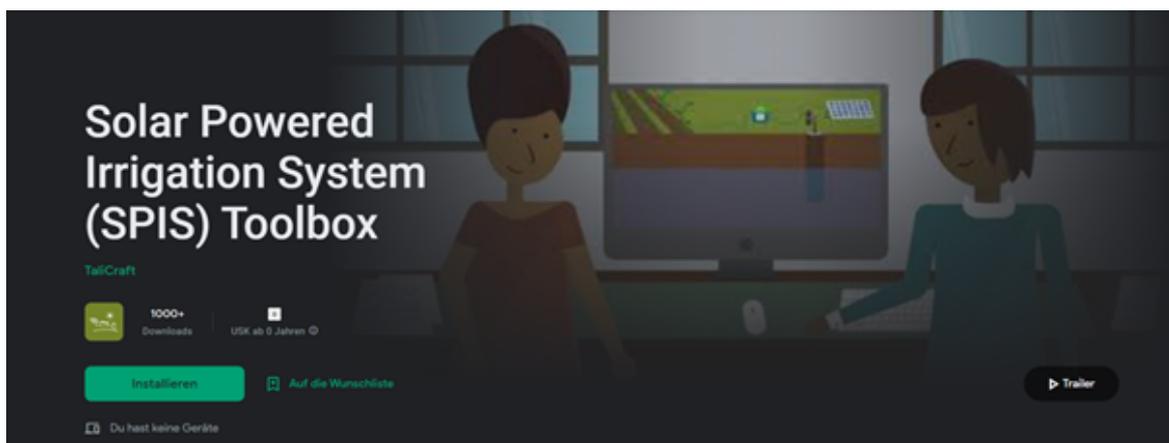
Participants present during the validation workshop.



Nexus Facts, News and Publications

Solar Powered Irrigation System (SPIS) Toolbox App

To facilitate access to information and guidance on how to implement SPIS systems on farm level, the project [Water, Energy for Food \(WE4F, previously the Powered Agriculture project\)](#) - with support of donors and implementing agencies - launched an [App based toolbox](#) designed to enable advisors, service providers, and practitioners in the field of solar irrigation to provide a broad hands-on guidance to end-users, policymakers, and financiers.



[Discover app](#)

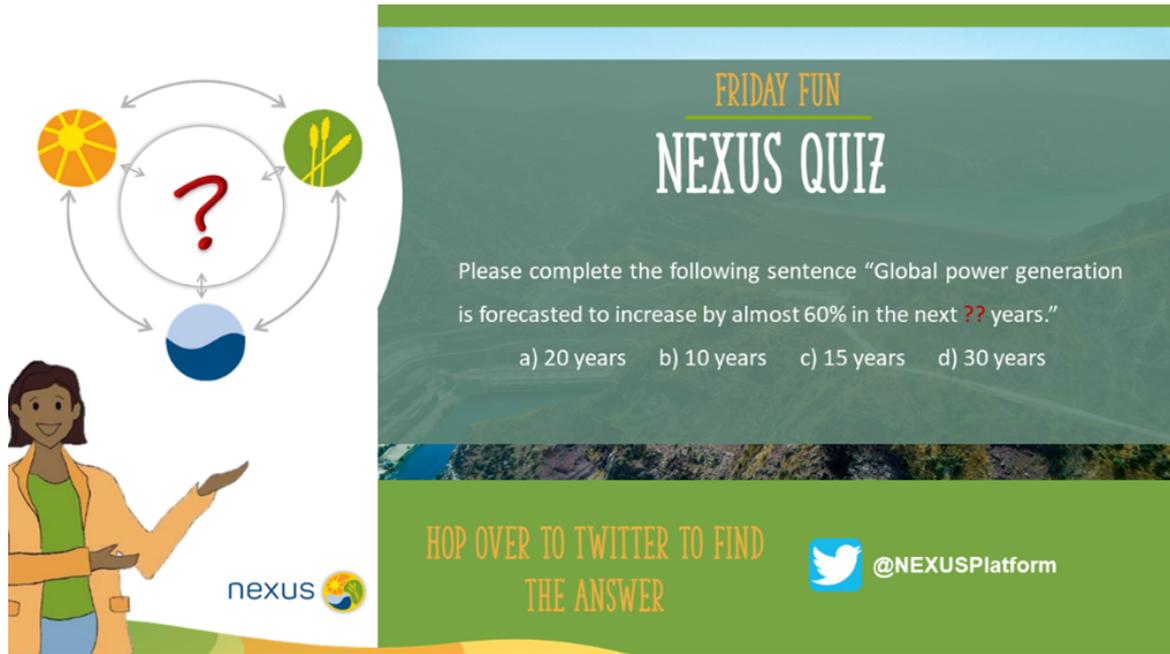


Friday Fun - Learn some Nexus facts

Become a WEF Nexus expert

Join us on [twitter](#) and challenge your Nexus Knowledge in our weekly round of questions posted every Friday. To prepare for the quiz, we recommend reading through our [WEF Nexus Training Material](#) or reading through our various [resources](#).

#LifeLongLearning



The graphic is a promotional banner for a 'Friday Fun Nexus Quiz'. On the left, a woman in an orange jacket points towards a circular diagram. The diagram features a central red question mark, a sun icon, a water drop icon, and a fork and knife icon, all connected by arrows in a clockwise cycle. Below the diagram is the 'nexus' logo with a globe icon. The main text on the right reads 'FRIDAY FUN NEXUS QUIZ' in white and orange. Below this, it asks to complete a sentence: 'Global power generation is forecasted to increase by almost 60% in the next ?? years.' with four multiple-choice options: a) 20 years, b) 10 years, c) 15 years, and d) 30 years. At the bottom, it says 'HOP OVER TO TWITTER TO FIND THE ANSWER' and includes the Twitter logo and the handle '@NEXUSPlatform'.

[Follow us on Twitter](#)



Upcoming Events and Applications

Stockholm World Water Week 2022: Seeing the Unseen: The Value of Water

Don't miss out on these sessions, adding a WEF Nexus lens to discussions:

- 24.08.2022 |18:30 -19:50 CEST| Improving security and climate resilience with participatory processes
- 29.08.2022 |16:00-17:30 CEST| Investing in the future: a paradigm shift in LAC
- 30.08.2022 | 09:00-10:30 CEST| The value of transboundary cooperation: addressing global changes jointly



World Water Week

23 AUG - 1 SEP 2022

Seeing the Unseen: The Value of Water



World Water Congress & Exhibition. Water for smart livable cities

The International Water Association invites water professionals and organisations to Copenhagen for their five-day World Water Congress and Exhibition - including presentations on latest trends and solutions to build water back better, an introduction to Nordic water challenges and solutions and technical site visits will be centered around the topic of “Water for smart liveable cities”.

Shaping Our Water Future

IWA World Water Congress & Exhibition

Water for smart liveable cities

11-15 September 2022 | Bella Center | COPENHAGEN, DENMARK

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Dear reader,

That's it, you are all caught up on Nexus news, thank you for taking the time to read through this newsletter! Stay tuned for the next issue, **N°14 to be published in October 2022.**

Be sure to follow our social media channels ([twitter](#), [facebook](#), [youtube](#)) for real time updates from the projects!

Your Nexus Team

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