

## 42nd WEDC INTERNATIONAL CONFERENCE

7 – 10 September 2020

Equitable and Sustainable WASH Services:  
Celebrating our learning from failure and success

# CALL FOR PAPERS and other contributions

**We invite you to participate in the 42nd WEDC International Conference. The conference is a valued and respected platform for reflection, debate and exchange of knowledge and ideas that are rooted in practice.**

Our title this year recognises that we learn equally, if not more, from our mistakes than we do from our successes. The WEDC International Conference seeks to create a safe environment enabling an open and honest exchange and debate of experiences, to support rapid learning and sharing, which is critical for progress towards our global goals and aspirations. The open-access repository of conference papers will also help to support sharing of experiences beyond the event and into the future.

The conference comprises two days of presentations and discussions of peer reviewed content, and two days of tailored capacity development workshops.

Our programme structure incorporates a variety of innovative presentations and learning formats for effective networking and collective learning, which are relevant and accessible to all.

Typically attracting more than 400 participants from research, practice and policy communities across more than 40 countries, this is truly a unique international event.

We hope to see you in September in Loughborough!

# Our programme includes the following options for contributions

## Papers and discussion sessions

On Monday and Tuesday 7th and 8th September a variety of papers, grouped thematically, will be presented and discussed.

Papers may be direct accounts of projects or programmes that aim to share successes and failures of approaches and field experiences including lessons learnt, or they may introduce new knowledge developed with clear rigorous methodologies and analysis. The paper submission deadline is **27th March 2020**.

See guidance for authors and select the conference paper template from the website: [wedc.lu/42](http://wedc.lu/42).

Papers will usually be peer reviewed by **8th May**. We ask that authors send corrections not later than **29th May** to facilitate final acceptance by **mid June**.

## Espresso slots

A number of the discussion sessions are dedicated to mixed topic espresso slot presentations.

This innovative and popular format allows presenters to introduce a strict limit of four slides in five minutes, followed by discussion time. Please note that these slots are becoming increasingly popular, so early submission is advised to [J.Fisher1@lboro.ac.uk](mailto:J.Fisher1@lboro.ac.uk)

Slides are reviewed beforehand and will be included in the Conference Proceedings.

## Posters

Posters are summaries of relevant topics or projects, reviewed by the Editor. These will be prominently displayed during the conference, with time allocated for dedicated discussions. Posters can be submitted for review by the Editor up until end of **July 2020**. Please send your posters to [R.J.Shaw@lboro.ac.uk](mailto:R.J.Shaw@lboro.ac.uk) for review. Hard copies of accepted posters should

be handed in for display during registration. Poster preparation guidelines are available from the conference website.

## Side events

Side events are a 1.5 hours slot in the programme. International agencies, programmes or projects share results, introduce new approaches, or consult with the conference audience on emerging topics in the sector, using various formats.

We aim to include an exciting variety and balance of topics in our side event programme scheduled on Monday and Tuesday.

Side events are in high demand, so we ask conveners to download the proposal form from the conference website and apply for these by **27th March 2020** to [cvfab@lboro.ac.uk](mailto:cvfab@lboro.ac.uk).

## Exhibition

Exhibitors enjoy a unique and valuable opportunity to meet and interact with a global practitioner WASH audience, allowing them to see cutting edge developments, products, services and approaches, particularly during break times when delegates meet and mingle in the exhibition area.

Typically our delegates number around 400, from more than 40 countries, and include a diverse range of professionals and decision makers. Visit the website for further details and a booking form.

## Capacity development workshops

We invite partner organisations to submit proposals for capacity development workshops of half or a full day duration to take place on Wednesday 9th and Thursday 10th September.

The capacity development application form can also be found on the WEDC International Conference website.

Please make your applications by **27th March 2020**.

## Themes

You are invited to submit papers which specifically contribute to discussions within the following suggested themes:

1. Integrating disaster risk management into WASH interventions;
2. Achieving a smooth transition from emergency to development in provision of WASH services;
3. Climate change, weather extremes (e.g. floods and droughts) and water resources management, including but not limited to topics related to fundamental understanding, remote sensing, modelling and management strategies;
4. Rural water supply – reaching the last mile and achieving sustainability;
5. Utility innovations and evolution;
6. Programme management and institutional change, including financing mechanisms;
7. Gender, equity and the hardest to reach;
8. Sanitation, including household and peri urban approaches and faecal sludge management;
9. Innovations and advances in biowaste, wastewater treatment and waste to energy technologies including anaerobic digestion, composting, thermochemical processing, resource recovery and circular economy concepts; end-use applications;
10. The increasing role of the private sector, small and corporate;
11. Learning and knowledge sharing, including novel approaches to monitoring; and.
12. Urban water management

We encourage high quality submissions. The authors of selected submissions may be invited to submit extended papers for consideration in special issues of international journals. We hope that publication will fall within the 50th Anniversary of WEDC in 2021.

## Key dates

Deadline for initial paper submissions, side events and capacity development workshop proposals:

**27th March 2020**

Comments back to authors/side event conveners/proposers of capacity development workshops by:

**8th May 2020**

Deadline for re-submission of revised papers addressing review comments/side events/workshop proposals:

**29th May 2020**

Deadline for the receipt of poster pdfs:

**31st July 2020**

Exhibition space is limited and will be allocated on a first come, first served basis.

It is vital that the deadline dates for submissions are met to allow time for reviewers to assess the papers, to give authors opportunity to make corrections, and to ensure the inclusion of papers in the conference abstracts, electronic memory stick and the programme. Authors will be informed of the outcome of the final papers review by:

**mid June 2020.**

## Accepted papers

Accepted papers and posters to be presented at the conference will appear in the pre-prints. Afterwards, the Proceedings will be available for free download from the WEDC website.

### How to join the conference

Visit [wedc.lu/42](http://wedc.lu/42) to download the guidance for authors and the paper template and from there to the **My WEDC** portal to make sure you receive future postings about the forthcoming conference and manage your paper submissions and/or your participation.

## Provisional programme

Day	Morning	Afternoon	Evening
<b>Monday 7th September</b>	Registration / Paper and discussion sessions Side events		Networking night
<b>Tuesday 8th September</b>	Paper and discussion sessions Side events		Gala Dinner
<b>Wednesday 9th September</b>	Capacity Development Workshops		
<b>Thursday 10th September</b>	Capacity Development Workshops		

## Fees

International 'Early Bird'* and low- and middle-income country	Standard
4 days: £450	4 days: £520
3 days: £350	3 days: £400
1 day: £130	1 day: £150
* Before 1st July 2020	

## The unique features of the WEDC International Conference

- Our focus on sharing of practice and experiences actively encourages constructive dialogue and debate between researchers and practitioners.
- Conference sessions are facilitated by sector experts
- Our open access database of conference papers is a unique repository
- Our delegates are predominantly (more than 70 percent) from low- and middle-income countries

[Watch our conference video here.](#)



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