



**YOUNG WATER  
PROFESSIONALS  
CANADA\***

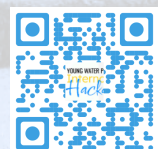
# **3<sup>rd</sup> IWA YWP Canada Conference 2025**

## **YOUNG WATER PROFESSIONALS International Hackathon**

### **Participant Guide**

### **June 2025**

**HYBRID**



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# Common Terms

IWA      The International Water Association  
YWP      Young Water Professionals

## The Conference

An in-person event gathering of passionate and enthusiastic young water professionals (under age 35) across the globe.

Hosted by and for young professionals and students, this conference will also help YWPs build skills and their professional network via technical sessions, poster competitions, workshops & networking sessions.

Where?      Edmonton, AB  
When?      June 18 to 20, 2025  
Mode?      In-person and Online

Learn more at:

<https://iwa-ywp.ca/3rd-iwa-ywp-canada-conference/>

### Supporters



CAWQ  
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# The Hackathon

An international hackathon that aims to bring IWA YWP Chapters together to solve a global water challenge.

## Eligibility

You are eligible if:

- ☒ You are an IWA-branded YWP Country Chapter
- ☒ You have what it takes to solve global water issues

## The Insight

Water is the  
cornerstone of life,  
connecting people,  
communities, and  
ecosystems in countless  
ways

”

The theme "*Bridging Communities, Shaping the Future of Water Together*" emphasizes the collaborative power needed to tackle the pressing water challenges of our time. Global trends such as climate change, urban expansion, and inequitable resource distribution have exacerbated the water crisis worldwide. Scientists warn that most people will experience climate change through its impacts on water—whether through droughts, floods, or contamination. Overuse, pollution, and the uneven distribution of water resources have strained both natural systems and human settlements.

Regions that were once water-rich are now experiencing shortages, while water-scarce areas face increasingly severe droughts. Conversely, some communities endure frequent floods, threatening their safety, infrastructure, and livelihoods. These challenges go beyond regional boundaries, underscoring the interconnected nature of water systems. The ripple effects of water scarcity, pollution, and climate variability are already manifesting as migration, economic instability, and social inequities. A report by the United Nations predicts that by 2050, one in every four people will live in areas affected by chronic water shortages. This stark reality calls for immediate and innovative action.

As a Young Water Professionals Chapter, composed of experts across diverse fields, this hackathon challenges you to create sustainable solutions to address these challenges within your region. The goal is to harness innovation and collaboration to design impactful strategies that strengthen community resilience and ensure water security for future generations.

# The Instructions

## Step 1

**Prepare a two-page maximum solution plan for your idea.** The solution should address the following:

### Problem Statement

Using the insight above, clearly define a water-related problem within your region that requires a collaborative approach. Frame the issue with relevant context, data, and its impact on communities and ecosystems.

### Solution

Propose an innovative solution that addresses the identified challenge. Highlight the novelty of your approach, which may include new technology, implementation model, or scaling strategy. Detail the required resources (financial, technical, human), and explain how they will be mobilized. Discuss how the solution ensures sustainability, considering social, environmental, and economic factors.

### Impact

Outline the expected outcomes and benefits of your solution for the community and environment. Explain

how your solution aligns with Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs) and describe how success will be measured. Identify any potential risks and outline strategies to mitigate them.

## Step 2

Prepare a 5-minute presentation summarizing your problem, solution, and anticipated impact. Ensure your pitch is engaging, clear, and persuasive for the finals at the International YWP Hackathon.

## Step 3

Rehearse and get ready to deliver! Make sure to observe the timelines and the rubrics.

## The Timeline

### January 31, 2025

Deadline for signing up for the Hackathon. Register your Chapter at ([Link](#))

**<https://forms.gle/sHsiD1zHMED3ozsW8>**

### February 5, 2025

Onboarding meeting for registered IWA YWP Country Chapters for the Hackathon.

February 10, 2025

Deadline for submission of the 2-page solution plan

February 15, 2025

Announcement of 5 IWA YWP Chapter finalists who will pitch at the Hackathon Finals (Hybrid).

May 31, 2025

Deadline for submission of pitch slides by Chapter finalists for Hackathon finals.

June 20, 2025

Hackathon Finals (Hybrid)

## The Grading

Written submissions will be judged out of 80, based on the first three criteria. Pitches delivered during the conference will be judged out of 100, based on all 4 criteria.

Criteria	Points
<b>Problem statement</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li><input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Clearly identifies the water-climate problem in the region</li><li><input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Provides relevant background information and context</li></ul>	10



<p><b>Solution</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li><input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Describes the solution in detail and explains how it works</li> <li><input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Demonstrates innovation and originality in the solution or its implementation or scaling up</li> <li><input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Identifies the resources needed for the solution and how they will be obtained and managed</li> <li><input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Addresses the sustainability of the solution in terms of environmental, social and economic aspects</li> </ul>	40
<p><b>Impact</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li><input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Describes how the solution will benefit the target population and stakeholders</li> <li><input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Provides evidence or indicators to measure the effectiveness and outcomes of the solution</li> <li><input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Discusses the potential challenges or risks of the solution and how they will be mitigated or overcome</li> </ul>	30
<p><b>Presentation</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li><input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Uses clear and concise language and follows the format and length requirements</li> <li><input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Organizes the information logically and coherently</li> <li><input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Supports the claims and arguments with credible sources and citations</li> <li><input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Engages the audience's attention and interest with a compelling introduction and conclusion</li> </ul>	20
Total	100

## The Prizes

**First Position:** Two-year IWA membership and Certificate of Recognition for each representative of the winning Chapter (2 Representatives per YWP Chapter)

**Second Position:** One-year IWA membership and Certificate of Recognition for each representative of the Chapter (2 Representatives)

**Third Position:** One-year IWA membership and Certificate of Recognition for each representative of the Chapter (2 Representatives)

All participating Country Chapters shall receive a Certificate of Participation and Recognition respectively.

## The Hackathon Committee

Jacob Amengor

Co-Lead Programs Committee

Frances Amoye, PhD

Hackathon Committee Member

Wylie Pietsch

Hackathon Committee Member

Please feel free to reach out to us at any time via [jacobamengor@gmail.com](mailto:jacobamengor@gmail.com) if you have any questions, need further clarification, or require additional information. We'd be happy to assist you.