



INTERNET ARTICLE

UNESCO and DWS launch Citizen Science for Water Photo Story competition.

30 September 2024

The South African National Committee (SANC) for UNESCO Intergovernmental Hydrological Programme (IHP), led by Department of Water and Sanitation (DWS) launched a Citizen Science for Water Photo Story Competition on 27 September 2024 in Pretoria.

The competition is aimed at raising awareness on the intertwined relationship between water and the various dimensions of culture, value, education and the natural sciences, in the past and present.

It is also aimed at activating youth involvement in communicating matters of water action in creative ways; contribute to joint actions in the water action agenda; and to demonstrate how citizens, communities and education could effectively support the sustainable use and management of water.

The phrase “A picture is worth a thousand words”, has more truth and power to it now more than ever in communicating matters on water action. The competition is aimed to elevate inspiring stories on citizen science for water by touching upon people’s emotional connection to water and inspiring them to take positive action.

Participants are urged to explore five themes to tell their story which are: Water & Citizen Science; Water & Partnerships; Water & Education; Water & Culture; and Water & Communities.

The competition is very easy to enter, step 1 – you choose your theme, step 2 – you take photographs, step 3 – you capture your photo story in 200 – 500 words, step 4 – you submit the photo story entry and agree to the submission rules and photo license agreement by 28 February 2025.

The competition is free to enter, and participants must be 18 years or older. The deadline for submission is 28 February 2025, 23:00 South African Time. The winners will be officially announced in March 2025 and receive an award from DWS and South African National Committee for IHP and recognition and visibility through IHP channels and initiatives both locally and internationally.

The top fifteen winning pieces will be exhibited in June 2025 during the launch of the Photo Story Book. Creative, and passionate individuals on water matters are encouraged to enter the competition.

SANC members include DWS, Water Research Commission (WRC), Department of Science and Innovation (DSI), University of South Africa (UNISA), Department of Forestry, Fisheries and the Environment (DFFE), amongst others.



water & sanitation

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