

CS4Water

Conference 2027

Sponsorship Prospectus

Cape Town, South Africa

Emeris Newlands Campus

29 June to 1 July 2027

Advancing participation in citizen science for water

info@cs4water.net cs4water.net in CS4Water conference

The world's only conference on citizen science and water

The Citizen Science for Water (CS4Water) Conference is the world's only dedicated international conference at the intersection of citizen science and water. It exists to provide an international platform to accelerate and strengthen the establishment of citizen science as a permanent, credited, and adequately resourced part of how the world monitors, manages, and governs water. It brings researchers, practitioners, policymakers, decision-makers, community members, educators, and other stakeholders into one room to advance practical problem-solving alongside scientific exchange to secure resilient water futures for all.

The first edition in 2025

The inaugural edition, held in Delft, the Netherlands, from 3 to 5 June 2025, was co-organised by IHE Delft (chair), TU Delft (host, sponsor), Pulsaqua (coordinator), Earthwatch Europe, GroundTruth, and The WaterLab. Over three days it convened more than 150 participants from over 35 countries, representing more than 50 institutions across academia, government, civil society, and the private sector. Its standing was recognised through an invitation to the Conference Chair to present the conference synthesis at the 50th anniversary of the Intergovernmental Hydrological Programme (IHP) of the United Nations Educational, Scientific and Cultural Organization (UNESCO), held at UNESCO Headquarters in Paris in June 2025.

CS4Water 2027 will be the second edition and the first edition in Africa.



Cover Image: That Video Guy

Image: CS4Water Conference 2025

Cape Town 2027



CS4Water 2027 will run as a three-day, fully in-person conference from 29 June to 1 July 2027 at the Emeris Newlands Campus in Cape Town.

The conference will focus on addressing the growing need for elevating knowledge from the Global South, integrating citizen science into education, embracing digital innovation to enhance citizen science data systems, and increasing trust in citizen science within governance systems for policy adoption and enhancement.

Southern Africa and the wider continent hold strong current momentum on this focus, making Cape Town a perfect destination to gather, share, and drive progress, serving as a gateway for Global South participation.

Cape Town is also more than a venue; it is a living landscape of innovation in inclusive water management. The city's famous response to its Day Zero crisis is a globally relevant case study in urban water resilience, quality and quantity regulation, and participatory adaptive governance.

CS4Water 2027 will bring this thriving local and global community into one impactful conversation.

Image: Nicholas B. Pattinson

Conference themes

The conference spans various themes, delivered through plenary panels, paper and dialogue sessions, workshops, world cafés, poster sessions, special interactions, field excursions, and a networking dinner, in formats that protect discussion time rather than fill it with presentations.

8 themes

1. **Citizen science for water in the Global South**
2. **Water, digital innovation, and AI**
3. **Education and citizen science for water**
4. **The next generation of citizen science for water practitioners**
5. **Empowerment and traditional knowledge systems**
6. **Co-creating resilient landscapes and communities**
7. **Transformative changes in multi-level governance**
8. **Sustainable programme operation and funding solutions**

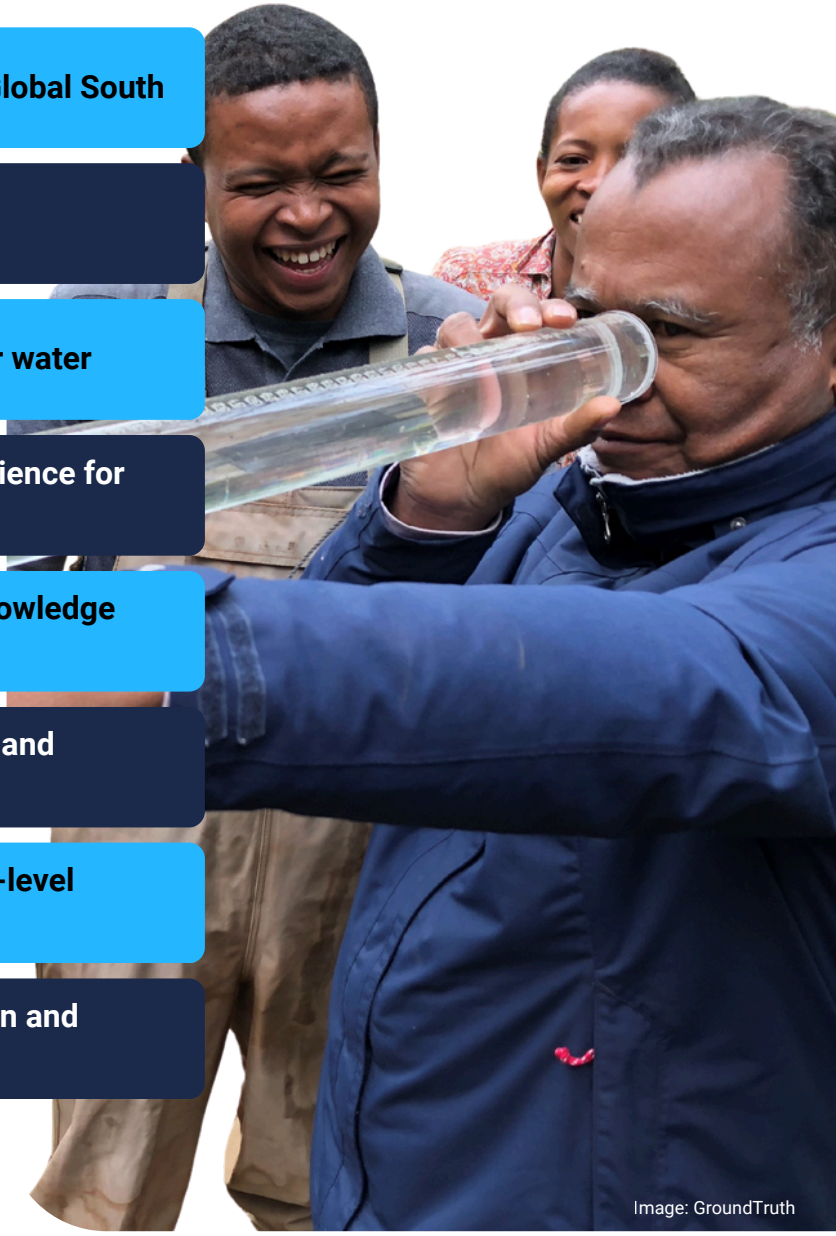


Image: GroundTruth

These themes serve five aims: advancing collaborative, North-South research with Global South practice at the centre; strengthening community and institutional agency in the water commons; accelerating practical solutions aligned to global goals; building lasting Global South capacity and networks; and championing open, ethical, and inclusive science.

Who you will reach

The 2025 edition drew participants from countries all over the world, and institutions including UNESCO, the United Nations Environment Programme (UNEP), World Water Quality Alliance (WWQA), and the European Commission, alongside multiple research universities, national government bodies, and grassroots citizen science initiatives.

150–200
delegates expected

>40%
international delegates

35+
countries in 2025

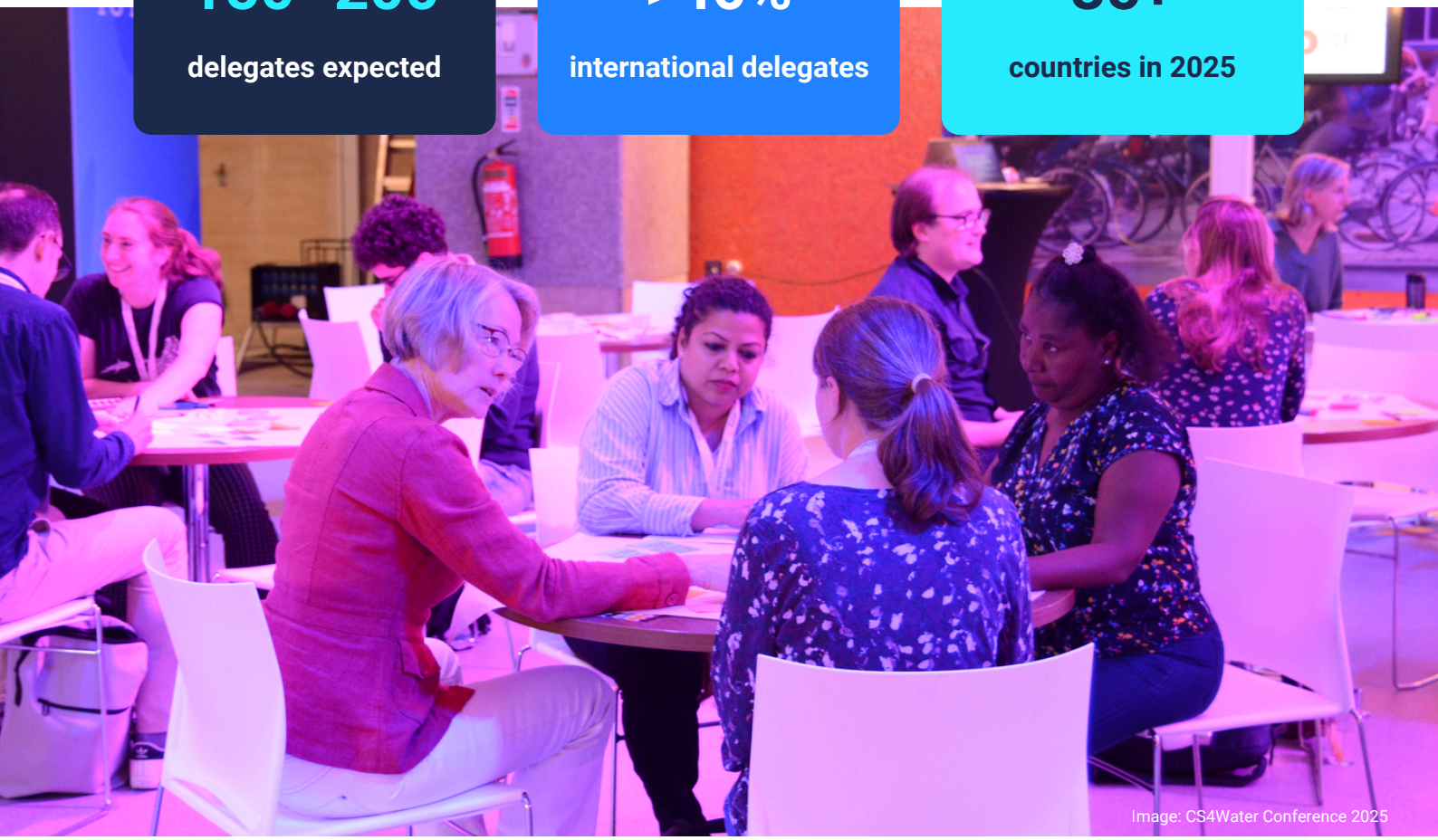


Image: CS4Water Conference 2025

The audience will cross the boundary between professional and citizen scientist: academic researchers, citizen science practitioners, policymakers, educators, technology developers, and community leaders, creating a concentrated, senior, and internationally distributed audience that is difficult to reach in one room anywhere else.

CS4Water 2027 will also align directly with multiple local and international mandates and goals, including Output 1.10 on citizen science of the ninth phase of IHP (IHP-IX), the Africa Water Vision and Policy 2063 (AWVP63), and the Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs) on water and community building, profiling commitment to international priorities.

Why sponsor CS4Water 2027

Sponsoring CS4Water 2027 offers direct engagement with an international audience working in all realms of citizen science for water, as well as a lasting association with a growing biennial conference.

Elevate your impact in global water stewardship



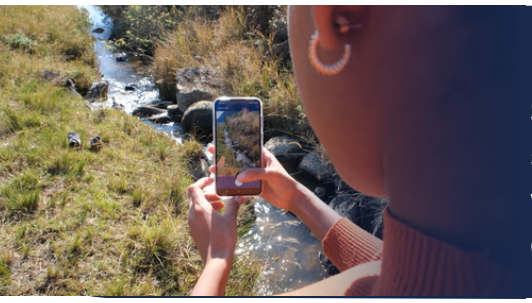
Global visibility

A pioneering conference uniting perspectives from the Global North and South around a shared focus on citizen science for water, at its first edition in Africa.



Strategic engagement

Direct engagement with scientists, non-governmental organisations, policymakers, and grassroots innovators working towards the SDGs, AWVP63, and others in a format built for conversation.



Meaningful impact

Support for a platform that empowers communities, builds scientific literacy, fosters collaboration, grows agency in the water commons, and advances practical solutions to the global freshwater crisis.



Enduring association

CS4Water is designed as a recurring biennial fixture, so relationships formed in Cape Town in 2027 will carry forward into subsequent editions and into the wider international water community.



Images: GroundTruth & CS4Water Conference 2025

Investing in water-secure futures

Every organisation and community depends on access to adequate quantities of good quality freshwater. Supporting CS4Water 2027 invests in the participatory governance that secures a resilient water future for all.

Shared dependency

Freshwater underpins every economy and community. Securing it takes collective action across catchments and across borders. Cape Town's Day Zero crisis showed how quickly shared water risk reaches everyone.

Rising expectations

Frameworks such as the Taskforce on Nature-related Financial Disclosures (TNFD) ask organisations to understand their dependencies on water and nature. Credible stewardship now extends beyond the fence line.

Trusted data, trusted governance

Citizen science extends monitoring to places official networks rarely reach, flags emerging problems early, and builds the trust between water users and institutions that participatory governance needs.

Shared goals

Your support puts water stewardship commitments into practice and aligns your organisation with Sustainable Development Goal 6 on water for all.

Freshwater risk is community risk, nature risk, and business risk. Investing in CS4Water 2027 invests in the science, people, ecosystems, data, and multi-level governance that will decide whether the water we all need is still there tomorrow.

Shared water, shared responsibility



Image: GroundTruth

Sponsorship packages

All amounts are given in euros. Contributions in other currencies are converted at the exchange rate applicable at the time of payment. South African VAT at 15% will be added where applicable.

Bronze Brook

€500

- Logo on the conference website sponsors page and in the conference programme
- Acknowledgement in one conference email or LinkedIn post
- Listing in the post-conference report

Silver Stream

€1,200

All Bronze Brook benefits, plus:

- One full registration ticket (excludes separately ticketed items, such as the networking dinner and field excursions)
- Logo on screen display during the conference and on the delegate mobile app
- One dedicated social media acknowledgement post

Resplendent River

From €2,000

All Silver Stream benefits, plus:

- One exhibition booth in the glass hall, facing the tea break area outside the main hall, for the full conference
- Verbal acknowledgement at the opening and closing ceremonies
- Priority, larger logo placement across multiple platforms, including website, on-screen displays, email communications, and the post-conference report
- Further options and details to be negotiated

Every sponsor receives the post-conference "conference in numbers" report and a sponsorship certificate within six weeks of the event. The certificate confirms your contribution for internal reporting, procurement, or corporate social investment (CSI) records. These packages suit companies and organisations seeking visibility and association; larger institutional partnerships are negotiated separately, please contact us to discuss.

Image: GroundTruth

Other ways to sponsor

Sponsors who would rather attach their support to something specific are welcome to do so. This can be additional to or separate from the Bronze Brook, Silver Stream, and Resplendent River tiers. Full details are confirmed in the sponsorship agreement once a contribution is agreed.

Ways to get involved

Networking dinner, from €450.
Recognition at the conference dinner, with named acknowledgement.

Delegate experience, from €250 each.
Your logo on one of the touchpoints every delegate uses across the three days: catering breaks in the tea break area, delegate bags, or lanyards.

Named award or prize, from €450.
Your name attached to one of the participant-voted conference prize categories, presented and acknowledged at the closing ceremony.

Field excursions, price dependent on excursion.
Naming on excursion materials for one excursion, with one complimentary place.

Participation support, from €100.
A contribution towards registration for Global South students and citizen science practitioners who would otherwise be unable to attend.

In-kind support and network amplification
Goods, services, or promotion of the conference through your networks. Contact us and we will find the right fit, with recognition scaled to value.

We are open to proposals beyond this list; if your organisation has an idea that fits your objectives better than anything set out here, contact us and we will build it with you.

Image: GroundTruth

Next steps

To discuss sponsorship of the CS4Water Conference 2027, or to propose a tailored partnership, please contact:

Conference Coordinator, CS4Water Conference 2027
Email: info@cs4water.net

Key dates

01 Sept 2026	30 Apr 2027	29 Jun 2027	1 Jul 2027
Sponsorship opportunities open	Sponsorship deadline	Conference opens	Conference closes

Sponsorship commitments are requested by 30 April 2027 to allow lead time for inclusion in printed materials, venue signage, and the delegate mobile application. Sponsorships agreed later remain welcome, with benefits applying where production timelines allow. On agreement, we issue a short sponsorship agreement setting out benefits, payment, and cancellation terms.

Secure your sponsorship early for maximised visibility across our website and pre-conference communications leading up to the conference.

The CS4Water 2027 Conference Organising Committee reserves the right to decline sponsorship where an association would conflict with the values of the conference, including its commitments to inclusion, open and fair science, and the integrity of community-led water monitoring.

Thank you for considering a partnership with CS4Water 2027

The CS4Water 2027 Conference Organising Committee

IHE DELFT Institute for Water Education under the auspices of UNESCO · GroundTruth environment & engineering · Emeris · PULSAQUA Creating the impulsive force on water, together · earthwatch EUROPE · CITIZEN SCIENCE ASSOCIATION FOR SOUTHERN AFRICA · unesco Intergovernmental Hydrological Programme

Co-organised by IHE Delft Institute for Water Education, GroundTruth, Emeris, Pulsaqua, Earthwatch Europe, the Citizen Science Association for Southern Africa (CSA_SA), University of the Western Cape (UWC), and the UNESCO Intergovernmental Hydrological Programme (IHP) with support from the Government of Flanders.

Supported by

Flanders State of the Art

CS4Water Conference 2027

Ready to reserve a tier?

Email us with your organisation name and the tier you are interested in, Bronze Brook, Silver Stream, Resplendent River, or a tailored package, and we will confirm availability and send the agreement.