

Ozwater'19 International program summary

The Australian Water Association has just completed its most successful Ozwater program ever drawing a combined total of 4,724 (including delegates, exhibitor staff, and trade visitors). Of those who attended, the event had a significant international representation during the week which included:

- 101 international delegates representing 28 countries
- 42 international exhibitors representing 11 countries
- Delegation of 29 water professionals from Vietnam
- Delegation of 14 water professionals from Cambodia
- Delegation of 11 water professionals from Indonesia
- Delegation of 16 Young Water Professionals from across the Indo-Pacific



Through support from the Australian Government, Australian Water Partnership and ANZ Bank, the Association ran specific activities during the week to further the relationship between the Australian water sector and developing countries across the Indo-Pacific.

The week provided international delegates with the opportunity to learn from Australia's approach to sustainable water management and take back key ideas for implementing new technological innovations that improve access to safe drinking water and wastewater collection.

The key activities which the AWA facilitated during the week included:

Vietnam - Australia Urban Water Utility Improvement Program (WUIP)

The AWA and Vietnam Water Supply and Sewerage Association with the support of the AWP have coordinated this program for the past 3 years which concluded at Ozwater'19 with a workshop and award ceremony including the 11 participating utilities presenting on the outcomes from the program. Each utility presented on the improved capacity of the utilities to delivery improved water services for over 10,681,765 customers across Vietnam including:

- Son La Water Company – Cairns Regional Council Water & Waste
- Saigon Water Corporation – Seqwater
- Binh Duong Water Company – Wannon Water / Westernport Water
- Phu Tho Water Company – Coliban Water
- Hue Water Company – Western Australia Water Corporation

“A highlight for the AWP was hearing the productive, trusting and longstanding working relationships established between the six Australian and five Vietnam water utilities”, said AWP CEO Nick Schofield. We heard of improvements made in many areas including:

- Management of water supply and wastewater assets.
- Water quality delivered to customers.
- Technology innovations and service efficiencies.
- Non-revenue water.
- Customer and community engagement.
- Human Resources development and governance.

“It was an honour to present the awards to each of the utilities in partnership with the Vietnam Ambassador to Australia, his Excellency, Mr Nam”, said Professor Schofield.

The AWP and DFAT are now supporting AWA to facilitate a new WUIP connecting three Australian utilities with three Vietnam rural water utilities. The AWA are soon to call for expressions of interest from Australian water utilities to participate in the program and are now preparing for the Australian delegation to Vietwater’19 – Vietnams largest water conference and exhibition. Interested utilities in the WUIP and delegates interested in Vietwater’19 held in November are encouraged to contact Paul Smith at psmith@awa.asn.au. Further information on Vietwater’19 can be accessed [here](#).

[Closing workshop slides](#)



Photo 1: Australian and Vietnam utilities with the AWP CEO, AWA President and Vietnam Ambassador to Australia receiving their awards at Ozwater’19.

Indonesia - Australia Water Utility Improvement Program

Building on the success of the Vietnam WUIP program, the AWP is supporting the AWA and the peak Water Association of Indonesia (PERPAMSI) to deliver a new WUIP between three Indonesia and three Australian utilities. This program kicked off at Ozwater’19 that brought together the six participating utilities including

- Yarra Valley Water with PDAM Kabupaten Gianyar
- South Gippsland Water with PD PAL Jaya (Jakarta)
- Unitywater with PDAM Surabaya

“It was a pleasure to meet the participating utilities, witness the signing of WUIP agreements and hear of their enthusiasm in sharing knowledge to support improved services for over 5 million customers across Indonesia”, said Simon Tilleard.

The utilities are now developing their actions plans which will be launched at the upcoming 8th [Indonesia Water and Wastewater Exhibition and Forum](#) (IWWEF) in Jakarta. Please contact Robbie Goedecke, AWA International Projects Officer, at RGoedecke@awa.asn.au, if you are interested in joining the Australian delegation to IWEFF. Further information on IWEFF can be accessed [here](#).

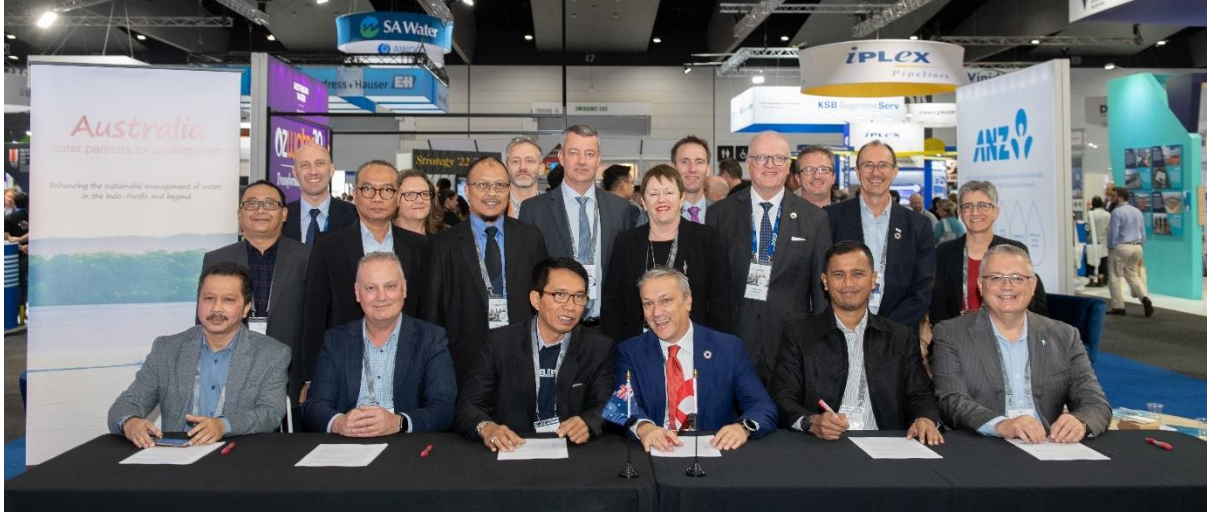


Photo 2: signing of the WUIP Agreements between the participating utilities at Ozwater’19

[Indonesia Australia Workshop slides](#)

Activities to support the development of Cambodia’s water sector

The AWA, with the support from the Australian Government through the 3i Program has recently commenced a program to connect the Cambodian and Australian water sectors through:

- Implementation of the Water Utility Improvement Program between South East Water and Cambodian water utilities
- Increasing access to safe drinking water through demonstrating technology innovations
- Growing the platform for Cambodia-Australia enterprise partnerships
- Strengthening the capacity of the Cambodian Water Supply and Sewerage Association (CWA)

On behalf of the Cambodian Government and Cambodian delegation attending Ozwater’19, including water ministries, water utilities, CWA and private sector companies, I wish to express our thanks to the Australian Government for the opportunity to learn from Australia, said His Excellency Mr Bunna, Head of Ministry of Industry and Handicraft.

“The 3i program is a major priority for DFAT in Cambodia and an important element of our bilateral relationship. It’s great to see that AWA is playing an important part in that,” said Peter O’Connor/ DFAT.

The AWA are now preparing for the Australian delegation to Cambodia Water during the last week of October 2019 in a combined delegation with Vietwater’19. Please contact Paul Smith at

psmith@awa.asn.au if you are interested in joining the program. Further information on the delegation to Cambodia Water can be accessed at: [Cambodia](#)



Photo 3: Cambodian delegation touring South East Water during their visit to Ozwater'19

Facilitating the Indo-Pacific Young Water Professional network

The AWA, with support from the AWP facilitated a program for 16 Young Water Professionals from across the Indo-Pacific to Ozwater'19 to participate in the Ozwater'19 YWP Program and to connect with the Australian YWP network and counterparts in the Australian Water Sector.

"It was a pleasure to meet our future Water Leaders from across the Indo-Pacific and to hear of their experience at Ozwater'19". We are proud to be able to contribute to supporting the next generation of water leadership in our region," Peter O'Connor, DFAT.

The AWA are seeking to build on the Australian and Indo-Pacific YWP networks to enhance the opportunities for collaboration and knowledge sharing. Please contact [Robbie Goedecke](#), AWA's International Projects Officer if you are interested in getting involved.



Photo 4: Indo-Pacific YWPs at Ozwater

The Association are now preparing the delivery of three outbound missions to [Indonesia](#), [Cambodia](#) in [Vietnam](#) later this year. If you are interested in participating or would like to find out more information, please contact [Robbie Goedecke](#), AWA 's International Project Officer.

Thank you to our sponsors and partners:



Australian Government

**THE
AUSTRALIAN
WATER
PARTNERSHIP**

**Australian
Aid**

