



Water Matters for India Young Water Professional Training



'Water Matters for India - the India Young Water Professional' training program is an innovative professional training course that is led by Western Sydney University and Indian Institute of Technology, Guwahati on behalf in the Australia India Water Centre (AIWC). The program is a collaboration between Australian Water Partnership and the National Hydrology Project (NHP), Ministry of Jal Shakti in India under the ambit of MOU between Australia and India in the field of Water Resources Management

The program includes online interactive lectures, workshop, coaching and project-based learning. Participants will have opportunities to research a real-life 'Situation Understanding and Improvement Project (SUIP)' while internalising trans disciplinary and sustainable water management concepts and approaches, dealing with complexity, communicating with clients, and leading and conducting a case study from start to finish. The training will also prepare YWPs to deliver UN SDG goals and incorporate gender and diversity approach for managing water in their work place.

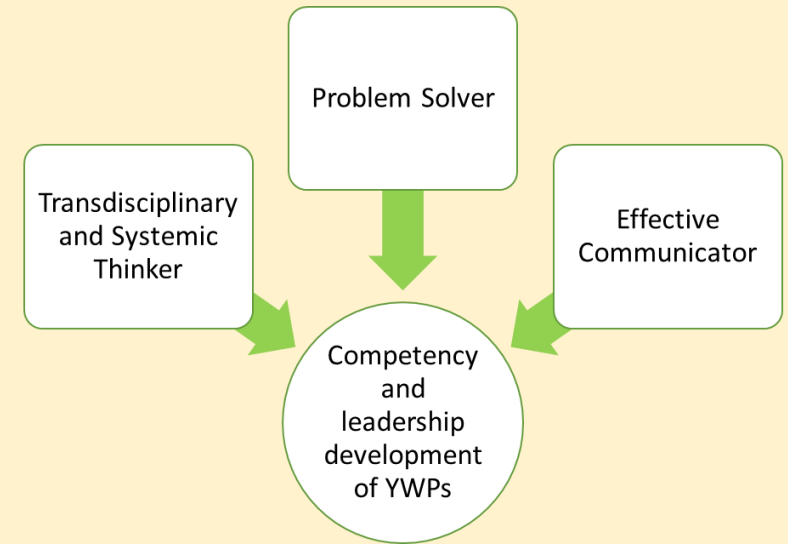
By undertaking the program, participants will learn and interact with lead researchers and experts in the field from Australia and India. Throughout the program, participants will receive expert supervision and mentoring that will assist them in developing leadership skills and competencies at all stages of the program, from selection of project topic and client, to the final reporting of findings in the 'Sustainable Water Futures Conclave'.

It is expected that solutions, or recommendations, being proposed by participants, will be adopted, or considered, by the client to have real-life impacts.



> Key Elements of the YWP Training Program

The YWP training program is designed to be experiential training and learning, with emphasis on 'learning by doing'. For this reason, the training will be 10-20% for on-line lectures, 20% for coaching and 60-70% project-based learning supported by the AIWC team. Delivery of the course is through a range of modes with focus on engaged learning: (i) On-line lectures, (ii) On-line and in-country workshops, (iii) Situation Understanding and Improvement project (SUIP), (iv) On-line group discussion and facilitation; (v) Laboratory and field activities in the SUIP (COVID dependent?); and (vi) Mentoring.



The Situation Understanding and Improvement Project

The Situation Understanding and Improvement Project (SUIP) is the 'engine room' of this training program, and YWPs will devote a significant part of their effort and time (up to 70%) to develop their competencies and leadership qualities. Participants will work on a 10-month long group project (2 persons/group) and select a SUIP topic (e.g., How do we achieve effective community engagement in groundwater management?) that is relevant to the Ministry of Jal Shakti (MoJS), the National Hydrology Project (NHP) or their own workplace to understand and develop solutions to a complex water management situation. They will need to have a client for their project - most likely MoJS, NHP or relevant Department who has the interest/stake in the SUIP and can implement the project findings. The competency and leadership development through SUIP will be supported through a series of on-line lectures on relevant topics, coaching, mentoring and some hands-on activities.



Duration and required learning efforts

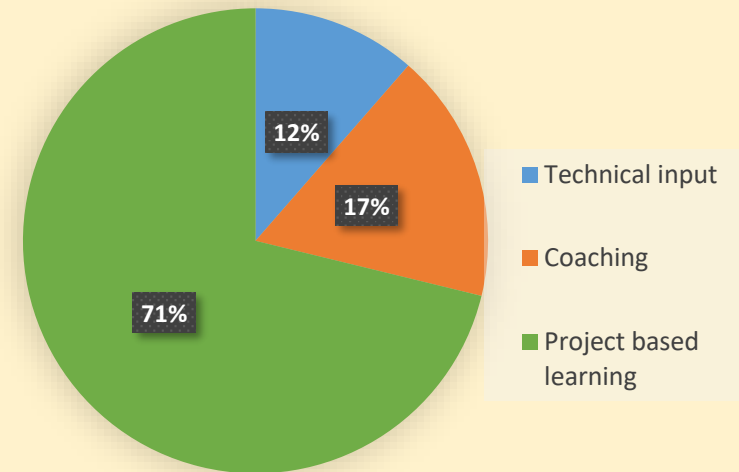
- The duration of the program is 10-12 months.
- The Programme would be broadly in virtual mode except domestic field visits and expected to comprise of lectures and tutorial 6 days a month.
- Since the participants shall be working on research a real-life 'Situation Understanding and Improvement Project, significant efforts are required to be put forth by candidates themselves.
- The Programme is intended to commence w.e.f. Nov. 2021.

> Intended Program Learning Outcomes and Competency Development

Upon successful completion of the program, participants will be able to:

- Understand transdisciplinary aspects of water management in targeted areas based on their learning needs as well as those required in their workplace.
- Critique the complexities of sustainable water management challenge by adopting a systematic approach.
- Design and conduct a real-world project to improve a water resource situation using evidence and resources in an ethical manner.
- Communicate effectively and succinctly to a range of diverse stakeholders.
- Appraise gender equity, diversity and social inclusion in the water sector.
- Report findings, or make recommendations, to improve a water resource situation.
- Critically reflect and improve on own professional practice and leadership skills in promoting optimal outcomes in water sector.

Time allocation in YWP training



> The YWP Water Conclave

The YWP Water Conclave with the culmination of the training program where YWPs will reflect on their learning experience and development through the training program. Participants will professionally present their SUIP to their peers, Government Departments and industry partners, giving and receiving feedback and building on this experience to improve the Final SUIP report and the outcomes.

> Supervision and Mentoring

The training resource team will provide small and personalized SUIP supervision and mentoring throughout the training program. The resource team will help YWPs to develop skills and competencies at all stages from selection of project topic and client, to the final presentation of findings towards the end of their training period. There will also be a peer-to-peer learning component.

> Online lectures

Experts in the water resources management will deliver online, interactive lectures and will produce a short pre-recorded overview videos and recommend readings on selected topics with emphasis on concepts and practical applications. The resources will be made available for participants via Open Learning portal. Participants are required to complete learning tasks prior to the live section for optimal learning experience.

During the 1 hr live session, the expert will deliver a 20-30 min presentation followed by interactive activities with participants.



> Learning and Training schedule at glance

	Topics	Program activities	Coaching activities	Assessments	
Nov, 2021	- Overview and introductions - Systemic approaches to water sustainability	Program launch	Coaching circle 1		Learning Portfolio
Dec, 2021	- Water Governance and Policy; Project Management essentials	Workshop1	Coaching circle 2 & 3		Learning Portfolio
Jan, 2022	- Water for Agriculture; Professional practices for successful leaders	SUIP Proposal Seminar	Coaching circle 4 & 5	Proposal	Learning Portfolio
Feb, 2022	- Groundwater Sustainability; Data collection and analysis	Workshop 2	Coaching circle 6 & 7		Learning Portfolio
Mar, 2022	- Water in Urban Landscapes; Presenting with impact - Cost benefit analysis		Coaching circle 8		Learning Portfolio
April, 2022	- Water in Urban Landscapes (continued) - Communication strategies	SUIP progress seminar	Coaching circle 9 & 10	Presentation	Learning Portfolio
May, 2022	- Water use efficiency - Understanding different values in stakeholder consultations	Workshop 3	Coaching circle 11 & 12		Learning Portfolio
Jun, 2022	- Water, energy and food nexus; and 'Doubling the Farm Income; Water and Society 1 WASH; Community Participation; Gender and Socio-cultural aspects; Water for every home mission	Workshop 4	Coaching circle 13 & 14		Learning Portfolio
Jul, 2022	- River health; Water informatics - GIS and remote sensing		Coaching circle 15 & 16		Learning Portfolio
Aug, 2022	- Climate change; Managing Droughts and Floods - Negotiation and Conflict Management	Workshop 5	Coaching circle 17 & 18		Learning Portfolio
Sept, 2022	- Technologies that Could Transform Water Management (including WQM, WQT applications) - Evaluation		Coaching circle 19 & 20		Learning Portfolio
Oct, 2022	- Water for sustainable futures	YWP Water Conclave		Final report	