



**WORLD SUSTAINABLE
DEVELOPMENT SUMMIT**
BEYOND 2015: PEOPLE, PLANET & PROGRESS



India-EU Water Forum

October 7, 2016 | 4.15 – 6.15 pm

Venue: Tamarind Hall, India Habitat Centre

Water, besides being an elixir of life, is an important factor for socio-economic development and for preserving the integrity of the natural environment. Nevertheless, water is one of the dynamic natural resources and it is important that water issues should not be deliberated in isolation. The Integrated Water Resources Management (IWRM) approach has been accepted globally as a strategy for efficient, equitable, and sustainable development, management of limited water resources, and dealing with demand and supply conflicts.

The Indian and European countries are facing the challenges of water issues and problems, for which collective initiatives have been initiated. The European Union had embraced the IWRM concept and tried to operationalise the same in their water sector plans by formulating the Water Framework Directive in 2000. Many developing countries like India are continuously facing challenges to implement IWRM and derive benefits in terms of improved water and livelihood security. The Indian government has made a pledge for putting in place a national water framework law and for protecting and preserving the socio-economic, spiritual, cultural, and religious value of its water bodies. The National Water Policy, 2012, is evidence of a common integrated approach for planning and managing water resources.

In continuation to developing partnership between India and EU, the Second India–EU Water Forum (IEWF) with participation from European Commission, EU Member States, Ministry of Water Resources River Development & Ganga Rejuvenation-Government of India, and the European businesses active in India’s water sector, is envisaged to be held at TERI’s World Sustainable Development Summit (WSDS) during October 5–8, 2016. The major objectives of this forum are (a) to formalise the India–EU Water Partnership; (b) to discuss EU approach to the water targets set under the SDGs; (c) to provide platform to EU businesses providing solutions for integrated water resources management in India; and (d) to discuss the priorities and actions to be undertaken under the Partnership during 2017.