

SUMMARY OF SURVEY RESULTS

Survey of UK Water Sector Membership Organisations

November 2020

This survey was undertaken using resources from the Water Industry Forum and Arup



Introduction

The need for this survey came from a number of conversations between representatives of various membership organisations across the UK water sector, in particular a discussion between Arup’s Global Water Leader, Mark Fletcher and Lila Thompson, the Chief Executive of British Water, around a potential call to action.

The challenge of ‘can we work together better across the UK water sector?’ was then shared with the Leadership Council of the UK Water Partnership. Richard Benyon (Chair of the UK Water Partnership and former Minister), welcomed the challenge and lent his support towards trying to catalyse some action around this.

The Department for International Trade (DIT) has also been engaging on the potential for more international activity across the water sector from UK companies, and would welcome any ideas for improving the global market profile of the UK water sector compared to other countries (eg Australia, USA, Netherlands, Germany, Switzerland, Israel, France, Canada).

Recognising the above needs, this survey was undertaken using resources from the Water Industry Forum and Arup.

The survey was intended to be a wholly transparent process with all responses shared with all contributing organisations. The intention was to consider whether:

- there is any overlap or any gaps between organisations
- the way membership organisations work with each other could be improved for the benefit of both those organisations and
- for the people who work across the UK water sector or overseas in the wider global water market.

RESPONDENT MEMBERSHIP ORGANISATIONS

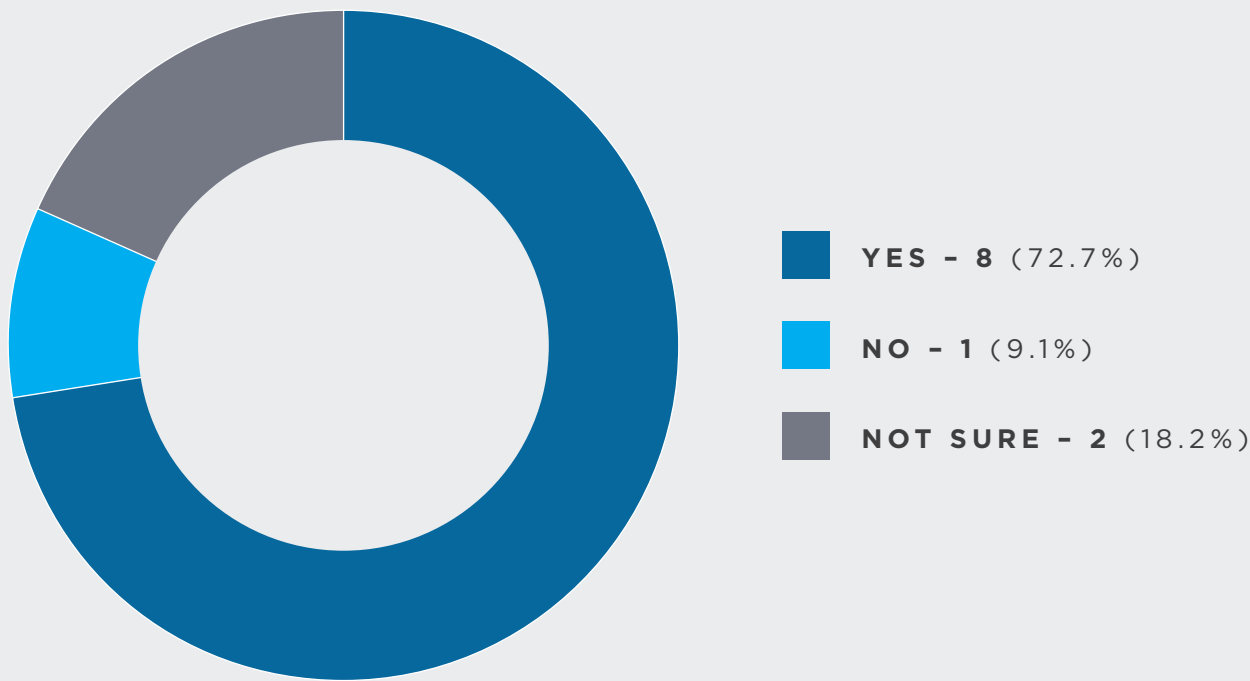
- [Association of Drainage Authorities](#)
- [British Dam Society](#)
- [British Hydrological Society](#)
- [British Water](#)
- [Future Water Association](#)
- [Institute of Water](#)
- [Sensors for Water Interest Group](#)
- [The Anaerobic Digestion and Bioresources Association](#)
- [The UK Water Partnership](#)
- [UK Water Industry Research](#)
- [Water Industry Forum](#)

KEY FINDINGS

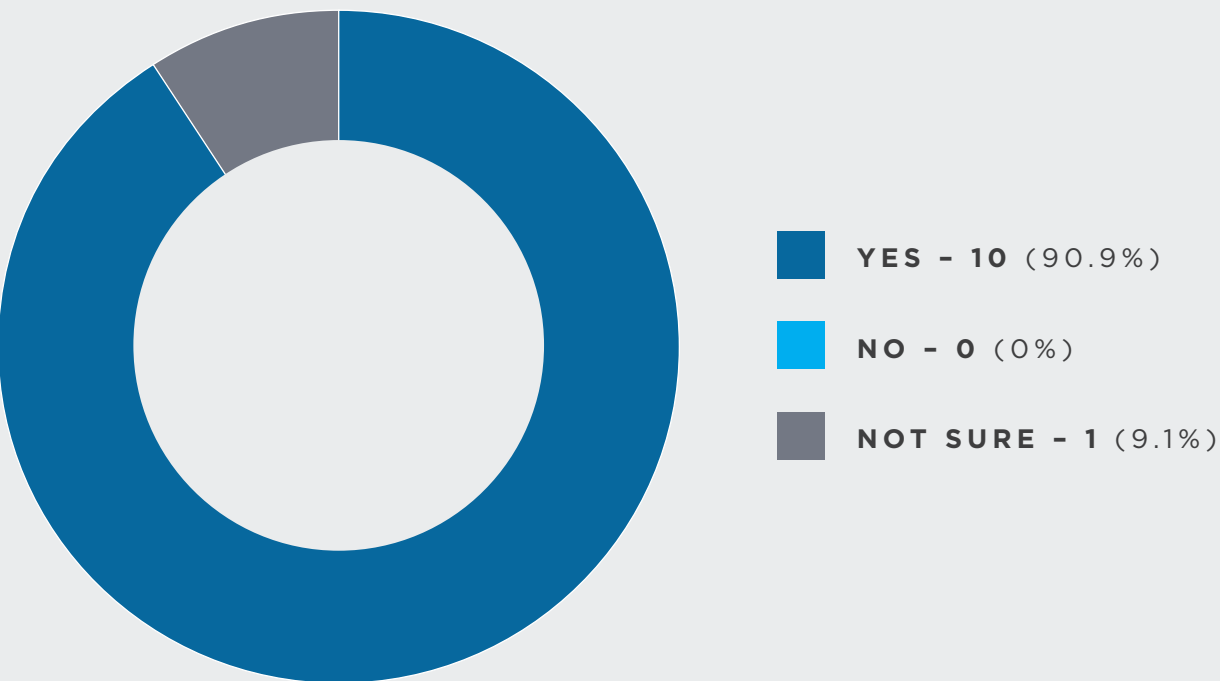
1. The majority of respondents believe that there is overlap between the various membership organisations operating in the UK water sector
2. Some respondents also believe that there are gaps in the existing coverage of the various UK membership organisations
3. The great majority of respondents think that greater collaboration and/or a ‘coming together’ of UK water membership organisations would be beneficial with improved funding, more impactful lobbying, less overlapping initiatives and rationalisation of events being cited as benefits.
4. All respondents who expressed a view would like to see a more integrated and coherent UK presence internationally
5. Most respondents were happy for details of how they described their organisations to be openly shared as a ‘guide’ to UK water sector membership organisations.

Respondents' Views

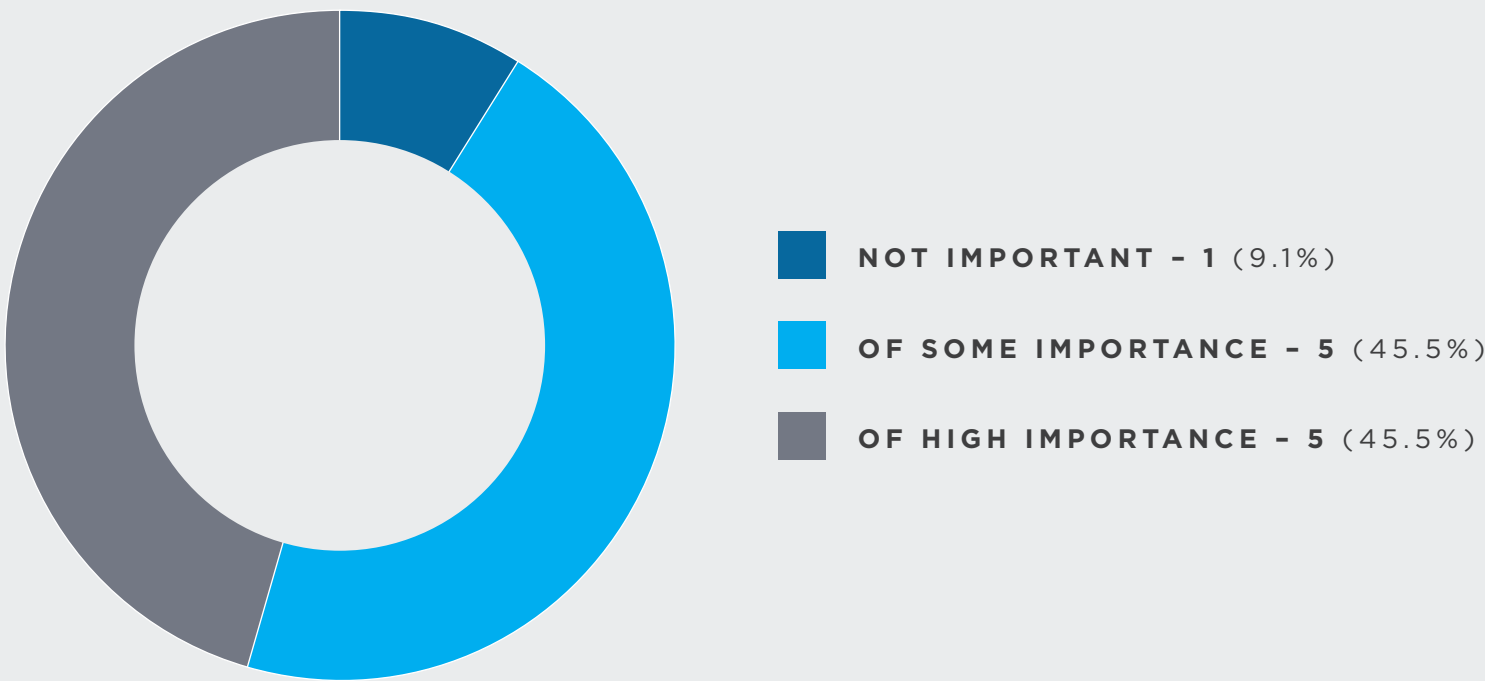
Do respondents believe there is overlap between various UK membership organisations in the UK water sector?



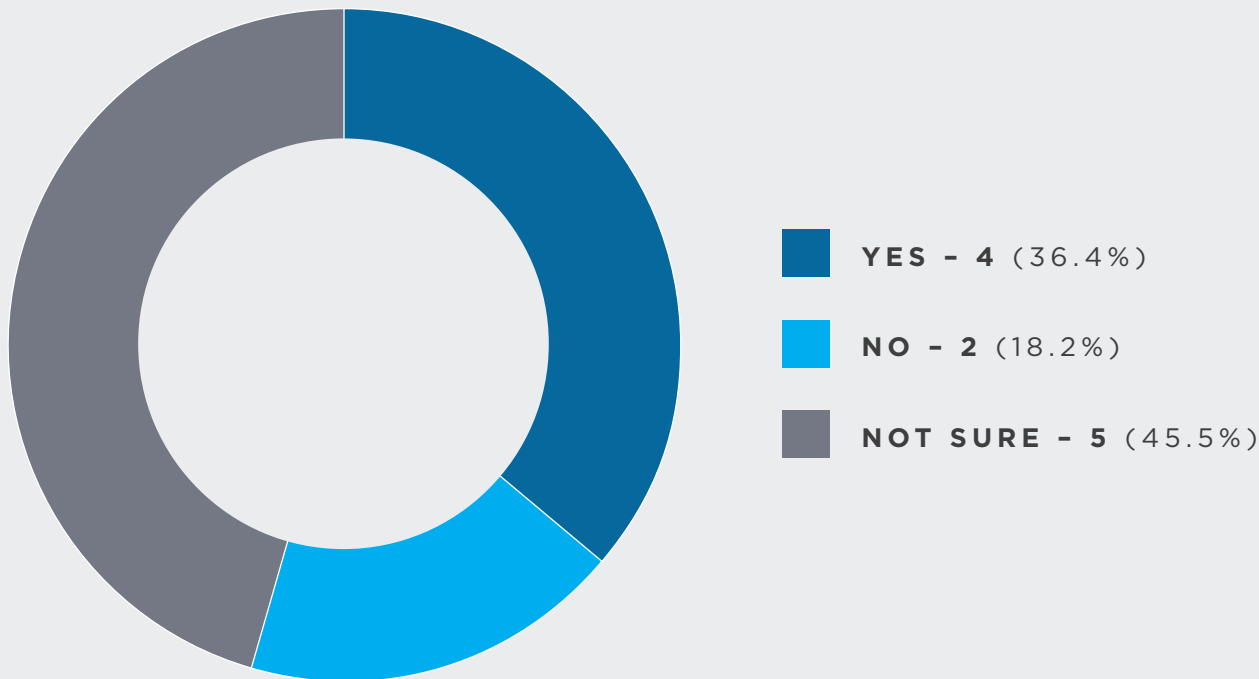
Could respondent organisations improve how they work together and therefore improve their collective value to their members and the impact on the UK water sector?



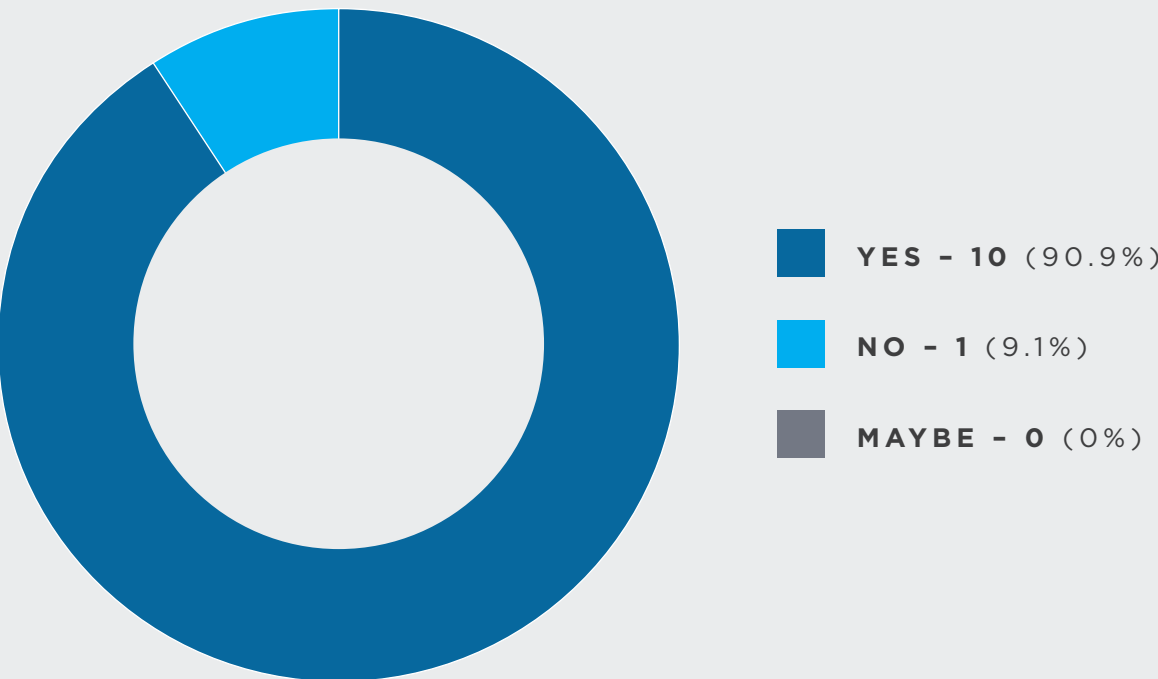
How important is international engagement to respondents either commercially or in terms of skills and professional development?



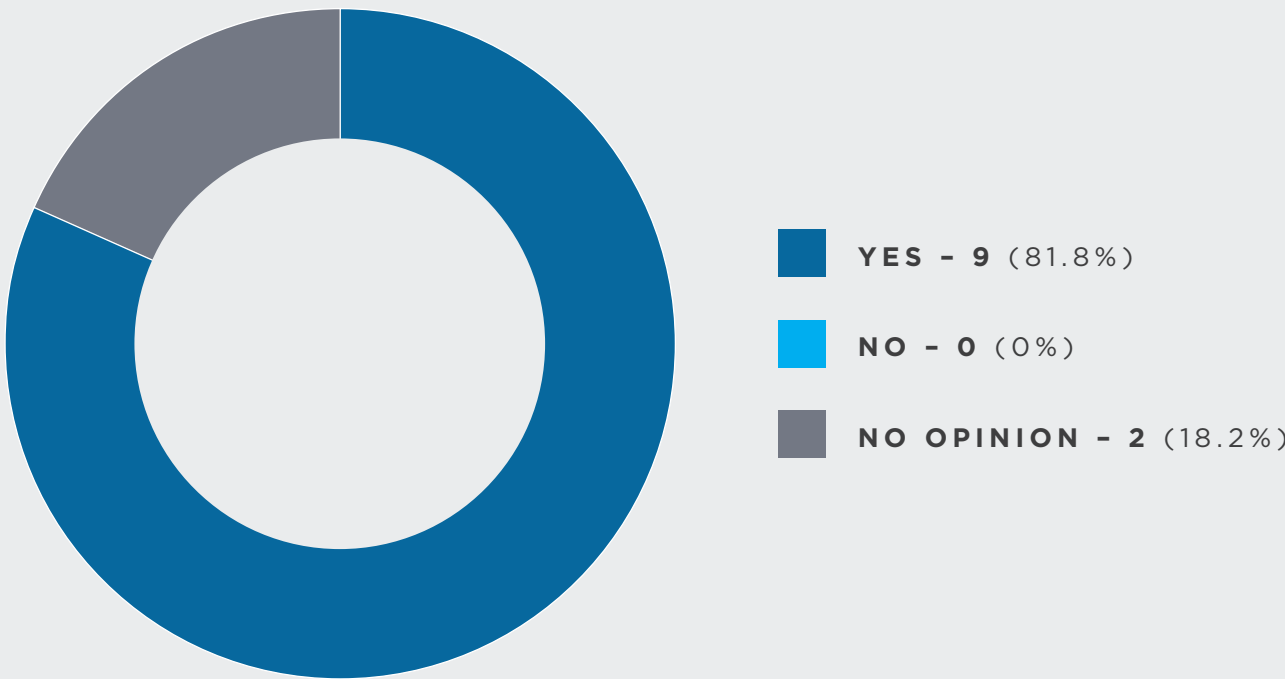
Do respondents believe there are gaps in the coverage of the various UK membership organisations in the UK water sector?



Would respondents be willing to take part in discussions to see how the above might be achieved?



Would respondents like to see a more integrated and coherent UK presence internationally?



How the respondents described their organisations

	Primary aim of respondent organisation	The three things that respondents believe their members value most			% of respondent organisation membership based in the UK	Respondent organisation member type
Association of Drainage Authorities	Membership organisation for drainage, water level and flood risk management authorities in the UK	Champion and campaign	Guidance, advice and support	Informing the public about members' work	98%	Mainly organisations
British Dam Society	See our website. Learning and promoting the next generation of dam engineers	Learning from dam projects and related research	Being part of a technical community with shared values/aims	Opportunity to hear about international work and initiatives (global perspective)	98%	Mainly individuals
British Hydrological Society	BHS provides interest, scholarship and good practice in scientific and applied aspects of hydrology, and fosters the involvement of its members in national and international activities. Activities include meetings and networking to benefit professionals at all levels	Networking	Professional meetings tailored to specific aspects of hydrological science and practice	Help for new entrants to the profession	98%	All individuals
British Water	Support and represent our members. To promote best practice.	Information	Networking	Representation	95%	Mainly organisations
Future Water Association	Working towards a connected, skilled, innovative & engaged water sector	'Currency of information' - getting industry intelligence	Enabling members to connect and collaborate - through meetings with water companies, regulators and with other members	Championing issues of real concern to members - such as skills challenge, take up of innovation, cyber security etc	95%	Mainly organisations
Institute of Water	To be the career partner of choice for the water sector, enabling members to reach their full potential to drive the water sector forward	Inclusive culture	Learning & Networking opportunities	Professional Registration	100%	Mainly individuals
Sensors for Water Interest Group	A not for profit, knowledge-exchange and networking group. We run workshops on Water Sensor and measurement related topics	Technical presentation	Networking between users, suppliers, consultants and academics	Open discussion of monitoring issues	95%	Mainly organisations
The Anaerobic Digestion and Bioresources Association;	To promote the value of the AD industry and facilitate delivering that value	Industry promotion	Policy development/engagement	Addressing issues	35%	All organisations
The UK Water Partnership	To support water research excellence, promote collaborative innovation, and drive internal and export growth in the UK economy	Actionable thought leadership	Public-private forum and networking	Collaborative research and innovation	100%	All organisations
UK Water Industry Research	To deliver research and innovation to the UK water sector, aligned with one voice opportunities	financial leverage	research reports that benefit the whole sector	coming together around specific short, medium and long term challenges (networking)	100%	All organisations
Water Industry Forum	To tackle the many challenges facing the UK water sector through facilitated collaborative working. We do this by providing a forum that is both neutral an independent. This allows us to bring together and engage a wide range of stakeholders to focus on the specific challenge	The time and energy devoted by WIF to understand and then address the specific water challenges identified by its partners	WIF's neutrality and independence (ie. no axe to grind) enables WIF to engage with and convene the key players around these challenges	The ability to call upon a broad range of stakeholders from its wider membership to help find solutions to these challenges	100%	All organisations

Membership make-up of respondent organisations

	Water Utilities	Water Retailers	Water Industry Regulators and Agencies	Government Departments and Devolved Governments	Local and Regional Government Bodies	Suppliers of Goods and Services **	Publicly Funded Research & Higher Education Organisations	Training & Professional Development Providers	NGOs, Third Sector & Campaigning Organisations	Trade Associations	Charities	Water event organisers & providers	Media	Other
Association of Drainage Authorities	✓		✓	✓	✓	✓								
British Dam Society	✓		✓	✓			✓	✓						
British Hydrological Society	✓		✓		✓		✓	✓						
British Water	✓			✓		✓	✓	✓		✓	✓	✓	✓	✓
Future Water Association	✓					✓	✓	✓	✓		✓	✓	✓	
Institute of Water	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓				
Sensors for Water Interest Group	✓	✓	✓	✓		✓	✓	✓	✓		✓			
The Anaerobic Digestion and Bioresources Association	✓					✓	✓	✓					✓	
The UK Water Partnership	✓		✓	✓		✓	✓			✓		✓	✓	✓
UK Water Industry Research	✓													
Water Industry Forum	✓		✓	✓		✓	✓	✓	✓					

Organisation Summaries



Association of Drainage Authorities

Established in 1937, the Association of Drainage Authorities (ADA) is the membership organisation for drainage, water level and flood risk management authorities throughout the UK. Today ADA represents over 230 members nationally, including internal drainage boards, regional flood & coastal committees, local authorities and national agencies, as well Associate Members who are contractors, consultants and suppliers to the industry. ADA's purpose is to champion and campaign for the sustainable delivery of water level management, offering guidance, advice and support to members across the UK, and informing the public about members' essential work.

www.ada.org.uk



British Dam Society

The British Dam Society is an Associated Society of the Institution of Civil Engineers. It consists of more than 600 individual and more than 30 corporate members. It is open to anyone wanting to share experience or knowledge of all aspects of dams and reservoirs. BDS exists to advance the education of the public and the profession in technical subjects relating to planning, design, construction, maintenance, operation, safety, environmental and social issues related to dams. The BDS hosts numerous technical meetings, seminars and a biennial Conference and forms the UK Committee of International Commission on Large Dams (ICOLD).

britishdams.org



British Hydrological Society

The British Hydrological Society (BHS) provides interest, scholarship and good practice in scientific and applied aspects of hydrology, and fosters the involvement of its members in national and international activities. Activities include meetings and networking to benefit professionals at all levels.

www.hydrology.org.uk



British Water

We represent the interests of our members to key stakeholders, connect them to contacts to raise their profile, help them grow their business and promote best practice in the water and wastewater industry.

www.britishwater.co.uk



Future Water Association

Future Water (FW) is a modern, innovative, dynamic organisation that inspires, supports and leads the water supply chain. FW's vision is to be the hub for transformation and innovation across the water sector, aligning with our mission to create a connected, skilled, innovative and fully engaged water sector. FW aims to encourage creativity across the sector and in particular the supply chain community to develop innovative ideas and new ways of thinking to shape the future. FW's objectives are:

- Informing, Influencing Government, Regulators & Industry
- Enabling Members to connect & collaborate
- Driving Innovation & Education
- Promote the water sector as a career opportunity

www.futurewaterassociation.com



Institute of Water

The Institute of Water is the only professional body that exclusively supports the careers of anyone working in the UK water industry. Our Objectives are to:

- Engage and inspire individuals
- Partner with employers on professional development
- Collaborate with others to gain an external perspective which adds value

Our Members come from water companies, suppliers, contractors, consultants, regulators and academia. Membership is open to anyone with an interest in the water sector, from any discipline and at any stage in their career. We also welcome 'Company Affiliates' – organisations working in and around the water sector.

www.instituteofwater.org.uk



Sensors for Water Interest Group

The Sensors for Water Interest Group (SWIG) is a not for profit, information, ideas-exchange, and networking group with a diverse UK-wide membership. SWIG focuses on the use of sensor and associated technologies for measurement and control in water and wastewater treatment processes and infrastructure, and in natural environments and waters.

Our networking activities include a varied programme of technical workshops covering all aspects of water sensing, which offer a cost-effective means of keeping up-to-date with sensor developments, new technologies and regulations. Invited speakers and enthusiastic audiences are able to debate issues of measurement and control in water and wastewater.

www.SWIG.org.uk



The Anaerobic Digestion and Bioresources Association

The Anaerobic Digestion and Bioresources Association (ADBA) was established in September 2009 in order to represent the anaerobic digestion and bioresources industry. In 2014 ADBA widened its remit to include emerging technologies and products from the bioeconomy. To reflect this, the Association's name changed from "The Anaerobic Digestion and Biogas Association" to "The Anaerobic Digestion and Bioresources Association". Through lobbying activities, meetings with government officials, working groups, high profile industry events, educational material and more, ADBA aims to facilitate the industry's growth, helping the UK meet its renewable energy targets and pave the way for a carbon-free future.

adbioresources.org



The UK Water Partnership

The partnership was established to provide a strategic vision for the development and growth of the UK water industry. It brings together a diverse sector in a single coherent alliance, promoting mutual understanding, cooperation and co-ordination. We support research excellence, promote collaborative innovation and drive economic growth in the UK water economy. Our core aims are:

- Identify key strategic water challenges and establish pathways and funding mechanisms
- Create national partnerships with the UK Governments, their agencies, businesses and the research community to address these challenges
- Provide a platform to identify and promote overseas our water services, research and technologies.

www.theukwaterpartnership.org



UK Water Industry Research

UK Water Industry Research (UKWIR) is responsible for facilitating the shaping of the water industry's research agenda, developing the research programme, procuring and managing the research and disseminating the findings. UKWIR's ambition is to create a platform for research and innovation that meets the challenges of the water industry, involving key stakeholders to deliver real outcomes and benefits to the sector. UKWIR's members (the water companies of the UK and Ireland) benefit from collaboration on research projects of common interest and elimination of duplication in research, enabling them to get more value for their investment.

ukwir.org



Water Industry Forum

The Water Industry Forum launched in 2012 to meet the need for an independent, not-for-profit stakeholder forum for the whole of the UK water sector. Our membership comprises around 600 organisations including government, regulators, regional water companies, contractors, consultants, manufacturers, research organisations, third sector organisations and investors. Our primary aim is to tackle the many challenges facing the UK water sector through facilitated collaborative working. We do this by providing a forum that is both neutral and independent. This allows us to bring together and engage a wide range of stakeholders to focus on the specific challenges identified by our partners.

www.waterindustryforum.com

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