



CALL FOR ABSTRACTS

IWA Nutrient Removal and Recovery Conference

17 - 21 May 2026, Delft The Netherlands

Email: info@NRR2026.com

www.NRR2026.com

WELCOME FROM THE CHAIRS

Dear Participants,

On behalf of the Organizing Committee, it is our great pleasure to welcome you to the IWA Nutrient Removal and Recovery Conference 2026: "From Curiosity-Driven Research to Disruptive Innovations".

As we navigate increasingly complex environmental and climate challenges, the need for visionary and transformative solutions in the water sector has never been more urgent. At the IWA Nutrient Removal and Recovery conference 2026, in Delft, we will highlight curiosity-driven research as the backbone of disruptive bio-technologies and emphasize the importance of accelerating the translation of fundamental discoveries into applications.

Our goal is to provide a platform for researchers and water professionals to share cutting-edge research, technologies, and innovations, and to explore new avenues that bridge science and practice for systemic change. Through a vibrant program of workshops, technical sessions, keynote lectures, and excursions, we will explore the future of nutrient management across scales—from microbial processes and modelling to full-scale implementation and policy.

We especially encourage contributions that challenge established paradigms and reflect on how visionary ideas can move from the lab to real-world impact. Looking forward to your active contributions and to five inspiring days of exchange, collaboration, and community.

Sincerely,
Michele Laurenzi,
Samarpita Roy (*co-chairs*)
Mark van Loosdrecht (*honorary chair*)



Conference hosted by
TU Delft, Haskoning

ABOUT THE CONFERENCE

The IWA Nutrient Removal and Recovery (NRR) Specialist Group warmly invites you to participate in the 2026 conference, "From Curiosity-Driven Research to Disruptive Innovations." Co-organized by TU Delft and Haskoning, the event continues our tradition of fostering a vibrant global community dedicated to advancing nutrient management in wastewater treatment systems.

We welcome researchers, practitioners, utility leaders, and technology developers to join us to share insights, challenge conventional thinking, and bridge the gap between scientific discovery and real-world application. As NRR evolves in response to increasing environmental pressures and new regulatory frameworks, such as the EU Urban Wastewater Directive 2024, this conference offers a platform to address emerging challenges and opportunities.

We also take this opportunity to honor the outstanding contributions of Professor Mark van Loosdrecht, whose work continues to shape the field and inspire future generations of water professionals worldwide.

We look forward to welcoming you to a dynamic and impactful dialogue in Delft!

Haydee De Clippeleir and
Jacek Mąkinia



CONFERENCE THEMES

Nitrogen, phosphorous and carbon

Bio-inspired removal and recovery solutions

Greenhouse gases and the broader footprint

Mechanisms and operational opportunities

Value-added products

Synergies for circularity and revalorization

Microbial ecology

From in depth characterization to rational engineering strategies

Mathematical modelling

Optimization and control, bridging mechanistic and AI perspectives

Novel technologies

Recovery in biosolid streams, phototrophic and electrochemical systems

Oligotrophic systems

Nutrients in drinking water, high quality effluents, and natural waters

(De)centralization opportunities

The urban and rural perspectives

Pilot/full-scale studies

Bringing knowledge to practice, engineering and societal challenges

KEY DATES

15 September 2025	Abstract submissions close
15 October 2025	Workshop submissions close
15 January 2026	Presenters notified
1 February 2026	Workshop acceptance notifications
15 February 2026	Deadline for workshop, paper, and poster presenters to register
31 March 2026	Early bird discount ends
17-21 May 2026	Conference Proceedings

CALL FOR PAPERS

Authors are invited to submit an extended abstract (1100 words) according to the IWA format before 15 September 2025. All abstract submissions will be managed through the Oxford Abstracts conference platform. The procedure for submission is available on the official conference website: <https://nrr2026.com/>. Before finalising and uploading your submission in the conference platform, please read the following guidelines.

Authors whose abstracts are selected will be invited to give an oral or poster presentation at the conference. The authors will be notified of acceptance latest by 15 January 2026. Your initial submission must be in the form of an extended abstract of maximum 1100 words including the following:

Abstract (max. 100 words)

Introduction (max. 150)

Materials and methods (max. 150)

Results and discussion (max. 400 words)

Conclusions (max. 300).

You are also allowed to upload a **maximum of 2 figures, 2 tables, and 5 references**. The document must clearly and persuasively summarise your proposed presentation. Your extended abstract must be in plain English and clearly define the objectives, status, methodology, findings and significance of the investigation or study.

Authors will also be asked to provide additional information, including author(s) details, designation of the presenting and corresponding author, confirmation of author approval, whether the author is a Young Water Professional, the preferred presentation format, and the theme under which the abstract is submitted. You can select if you would prefer

to be considered for oral or poster presentation. However, please note that the final assignment of presentation format depends on factors such as session capacity, review score, and our aim to create a well-balanced, coherent and diverse program. As a result, you may be invited to present in a different format. Please note that authors are expected to present a maximum of one oral presentation and/or one poster at the conference as presenting author, although an author may submit more than one submission as co-author.

Your submitted extended abstract will be peer reviewed by international experts according to the following four criteria, with each criterion scored on a 5-point scale:

- Clarity of Research Objective
- Contribution to Knowledge / Innovation in the Field
- Technical Soundness and Scientific Rigor
- Quality of Writing, Organization, and Figures (if any)

Program selections will be based on the scores and comments of those on the review panel. Full papers and extended abstracts will be published electronically in the conference proceedings that will be available prior to the start of the conference. After the conference, there will be opportunities for authors to submit full papers for further review and recommendation for publication in IWA Publishing Journals.

Authors who need to apply for a visa

For authors who need to apply for a visa to visit the Netherlands (click to see visa information [here](#)), please indicate it in the submission form. Upon confirmation of registration latest by 15th January 2026, you will receive invitation letters within 14 working days.

CALL FOR WORKSHOPS

Authors are invited to submit workshop proposals (max. 1100 words) before 15 October 2025.

The procedure for submission is available on the official conference website: <https://nrr2026.com/>

Each workshop will have a 2.5-hour duration and will take place on 17 May 2026. Workshop proposals should not exceed 1100 words, including text, figures, tables, and references. The following sections will need to be included: general workshop description; learning objectives; detailed description of schedule and planned interactive activities; expected speakers' names with brief justification, and presentation titles.

The workshops should be interactive sessions, different from the presentation sessions at the conference.

Additionally, we aim for workshops that are inclusive and diverse in terms of topic, facilitators, contributors and participation. The use of technology, such as Mentimeter, Miro, Mural, Padlet and the like is encouraged. The workshops proposals that are most attractive and of interest to the general NRR audience may be considered for the plenary programme.

Selection criteria include technical quality, relevance to the conference themes, significant and informative content. Workshop proposals that are deemed commercial in nature will not be accepted. Young Water Professionals are encouraged to submit workshop proposals. Upon acceptance, all workshop participants must register to the conference by 15 February 2026.



NRR2026

IWA Nutrient Removal and Recovery Conference

17-21 May 2026, Delft, The Netherlands

Email: info@NRR2026.com