Member of European Water Association (EWA), International Solid Waste Association (ISWA) and





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Wetskills Water Challenges workshop with the partnership of





Online venue: <u>ÖKOINDUSTRIA 2021</u> Date: 30 April, 2021 14:00 - 15:40

The Dutch founded Wetskills Water Challenge has been regularly organized since 2010, for university students and young water management professionals with various scientific backgrounds. The goal of the international teams is to develop answers for water-related challenges during the 1-2 week long competition.

In the last decade, more than 700 students and young professionals, from about 150 universities and organizations, from all around the world, took part in one of the 44 Wetskills Water Challenges from Asia through the Middle East, North Africa, Europe and the United States to Latin America.

The Wetskills Water Challenge was organized for the first time in Hungary in 2019, its final was held at the Budapest Water Summit. This year this challenge arrives again in Hungary, the two-week long think tank will last from Aug. 22 to Sept. 3., 2021. The theme of this event will be "Liveable Rivers in a Green Economy" this year. Among the three stops of the autumn tour, this will be the first, before the Danish and Romanian competitions.

The aim of the workshop was to herald the competition at the closing day of the ÖKOINDUSTRIA2021, on 30 April. The visitors got information about the history and goals of the Wetskills Water Challenges, the national supporters, professional organizations and could hear an inspiring speech from **Ap Verheggen**, the Dutch ambassador of the Wetskills. He is a great example that the dreams, supported by strong professional calling, can come true. In 2010 a solar panel covered whale statue gave the idea for a machine, where - put in very simple terms - the air is converted to water. After several years of research, planning, engineering and testing the machine is ready and can produce up to 30 liters of clean water daily.

(more info: https://sunglacier.nl)

After the talk, with the moderation of **Johan Oost** and **Eszter Nagy** the former competitors, with the winning team of the last Hungarian event, joined online, and shared their experience with the visitors and gave a brief description about their present tasks. In addition, the pitch talks from the former event were shared again.

The program this year is also based on creativity and cooperation, with the participation of young students and professionals from the fields of nature sciences, engineering, economy, social- and political sciences, politics and management.

Application is open till July 15, at: https://wetskills.com/wetskills-hungary-2021-registration/