

## International Day of Action for Rivers

### [International Day of Action for Rivers](#)

The **International Day of Action for Rivers** is a time to come together in solidarity with **rivers** and the communities that protect and defend them. By taking **action** on behalf of **rivers**, we affirm that we have the power to protect **rivers** and ensure that communities have access to clean, free-flowing water and the right to participate in decisions ...

### People, Water, Life

Join the 2025 International Day of Action for Rivers! On March 14, 2025, communities worldwide will come together for the 28th Day of Action for Rivers. We invite you to join us on this day of celebration to honor rivers, the communities that defend them, and their critical importance to sustaining all life on our planet.

### Take Action

The International Day of Action for Rivers is a day dedicated to solidarity -



## Our Rivers, our Future

### Join us for the 28th International Day of Action for Rivers on March 14, 2025



Event and photo by: Centre for Research and Advocacy (CRA) Manipur, Jupiter Yambem Centre, Imphal and the JAC

From providing fresh water and supporting biodiversity to regulating the climate and sustaining cultural traditions, healthy, free-flowing rivers have always been critical for people and the planet. But rivers worldwide are at risk—increasingly fragmented, polluted, and undermined by climate change and irresponsible development projects. When rivers are at risk, so too is our collective future.

Healthy rivers and access to clean water are fundamental

human rights that connect us all. The International Day of Action for Rivers is a time to come together in solidarity with rivers and the communities that protect and defend them. By taking action on behalf of rivers, we affirm that we have the power to protect rivers and ensure that communities have access to clean, free-flowing water and the right to participate in decisions directly affecting rivers, and ultimately, their lives.

The theme of this year's International Day of Action for Rivers is **Our Rivers, our Future**. Together we'll shine a spotlight on the role of rivers to support our planet's health and all life on Earth. We unite with communities worldwide who champion free-flowing rivers, protect water rights, and advocate for local voices in river management. Whether communities are working to remove dams, oppose water privatization, or have a say in riverine development, we rise together—because the future of every river shapes the future of our planet.

Civilizations grow around rivers; they are central to our lives and the survival of life on Earth. But despite their importance, freshwater ecosystems are the most threatened in the world. Freshwater species have seen an 83% decline since 1970 – twice the rate experienced within terrestrial or marine environments. They need our help. Speak out, defend, protect, restore, and be a river guardian.

### History

The International Day of Action Against Dams and For Rivers, Water and Life was adopted by the participants of the first International Meeting of People Affected by Dams, in March of 1997 in Curitiba, Brazil. Representatives from 20 countries decided that the International Day of Action would take place on March 14 – Brazil's Day of Action Against Large Dams. Our aim on this International Day of Action for Rivers is to raise our voices in unison against destructive water development projects, reclaim the health of our watersheds, and demand the equitable and sustainable management of our rivers.



National Day Today <https://nationaltoday.com › international-day-of-action-for-rivers>

[International Day of Action For Rivers - March 14, 2025](#)

The **International Day of Action For Rivers** is a **day** created by the **International Day of Rivers** to sensitize people about the importance of **rivers**. It brings people across the world together to talk about and save **rivers** by addressing the issues related to **river** management, **river** pollution, **river**

International Day of Action For Rivers, observed on March 14 every year, is a day that is dedicated to saving, celebrating, and creating awareness about the importance of rivers. Did you know that two million tons of sewage, industrial and agricultural waste are discharged into the world's water every day? Yes, it is the equivalent of the weight of the entire human population of 6.8 billion people! This is why it is our time to save our rivers for the good of humanity.

### **History of International Day of Action For Rivers**

The International Day of Action For Rivers is a day created by the International Day of Rivers to sensitize people about the importance of rivers. It brings people across the world together to talk about and save rivers by addressing the issues related to river management, river pollution, river conservation, etc.

The history of the origin of the International Day of Action For Rivers is an interesting one. In September 1995, several organizations, including International Rivers Network (I.R.N.), India's Save the Narmada Movement (N.B.A.), Chile's Biobio Action Group (GABB), and European Rivers Network (ERN) came together and conducted a preparatory meeting in Brazil. As a result, they formed an international Organizing Committee headed by Brazil's Movement of People Affected by Large Dams (MAB).

In March 1997, in Curitiba, Brazil, participants of the First International Meeting of People Affected by Dams adopted the International Day of Action Against Dams and For Rivers, Water and Life. Furthermore, they decided that the International Day of Action For Rivers will take place on March 14.

Every year there will be a theme for the International Day of Action For Rivers, and last year, in 2021, the theme was 'Rights of Rivers.' It demanded that rivers be declared a national asset and given legal rights to stop the rivers from becoming dumping sites for waste and sewages.

Environment enthusiasts conduct workshops, seminars, and activities to celebrate this day to raise awareness and spread the message. So, let's take a stand against the activities that harm the rivers and protect them at all costs.