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**Swiss Agency for Development
and Cooperation SDC**

Portfolio 2019

Global Programme Water



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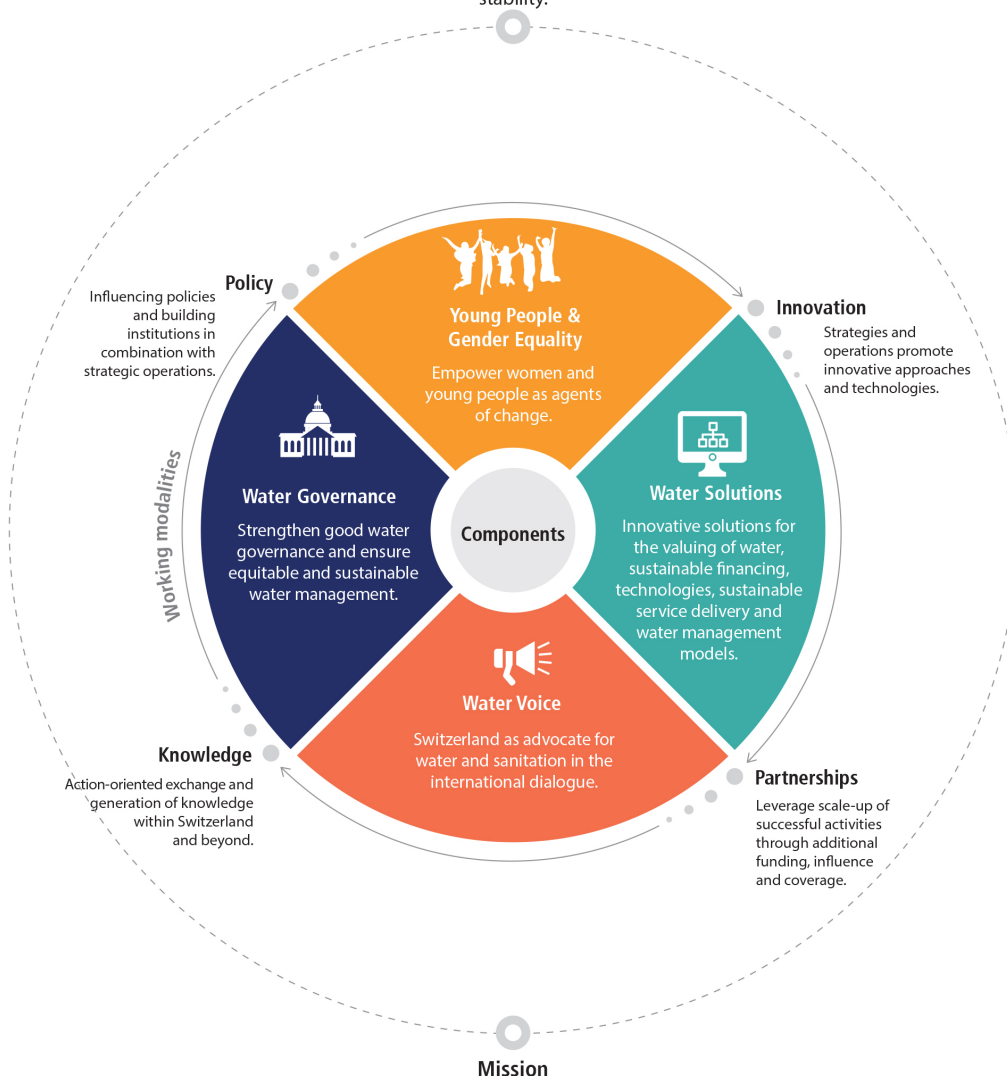
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About the Global Programme Water

Vision: A water-secure world

Where people have the capacity to safeguard sustainable access to adequate quantities of acceptable-quality water; have access to adequate and equitable sanitation in order to sustain livelihoods, human well-being and socio-economic development; ensure protection against waterborne diseases and water-related disasters; and preserve ecosystems in a climate of peace and political stability.



Water is at the core of sustainable development and the looming water crisis is of global concern. By focusing on equity and poverty alleviation, the Global Programme Water contributes to the reduction of global water-related risks and the realization of a water-secure world.

Switzerland has gained solid experience in the area of water management and is aware of its responsibility to share it to enhance prosperity and stability in the world. The Global Programme Water acts as a bridge builder, positioning water and sanitation on the international agenda, harnessing Swiss expertise to ensure availability and sustainable management of water and sanitation for all and to trigger policy changes on all levels. Through its projects, programmes and initiatives, it also enhances the implementation of innovative solutions and

the dissemination of knowledge in partnership with others.

Priorities in 2019

Water Pollution: 1st year of implementation of the programme aiming at improving the health and environment of populations exposed to water pollution by industrial activities. It supports industries along the supply chains of multinational companies in selected basins in understanding and addressing pollution-related risks by adopting a holistic water stewardship approach whilst tapping into Switzerland's experience in water quality and health.

The Blue Peace Movement enters a maturity phase with increased outreach and partnerships worldwide (e.g. Blue Peace Index, finance institutions,

youth, strategic partnership with Senegal) to link the three dimensions of sustainable development with the peace agenda.

A new innovative and systemic financing model for transboundary water cooperation is tested in one basin with riparian states.

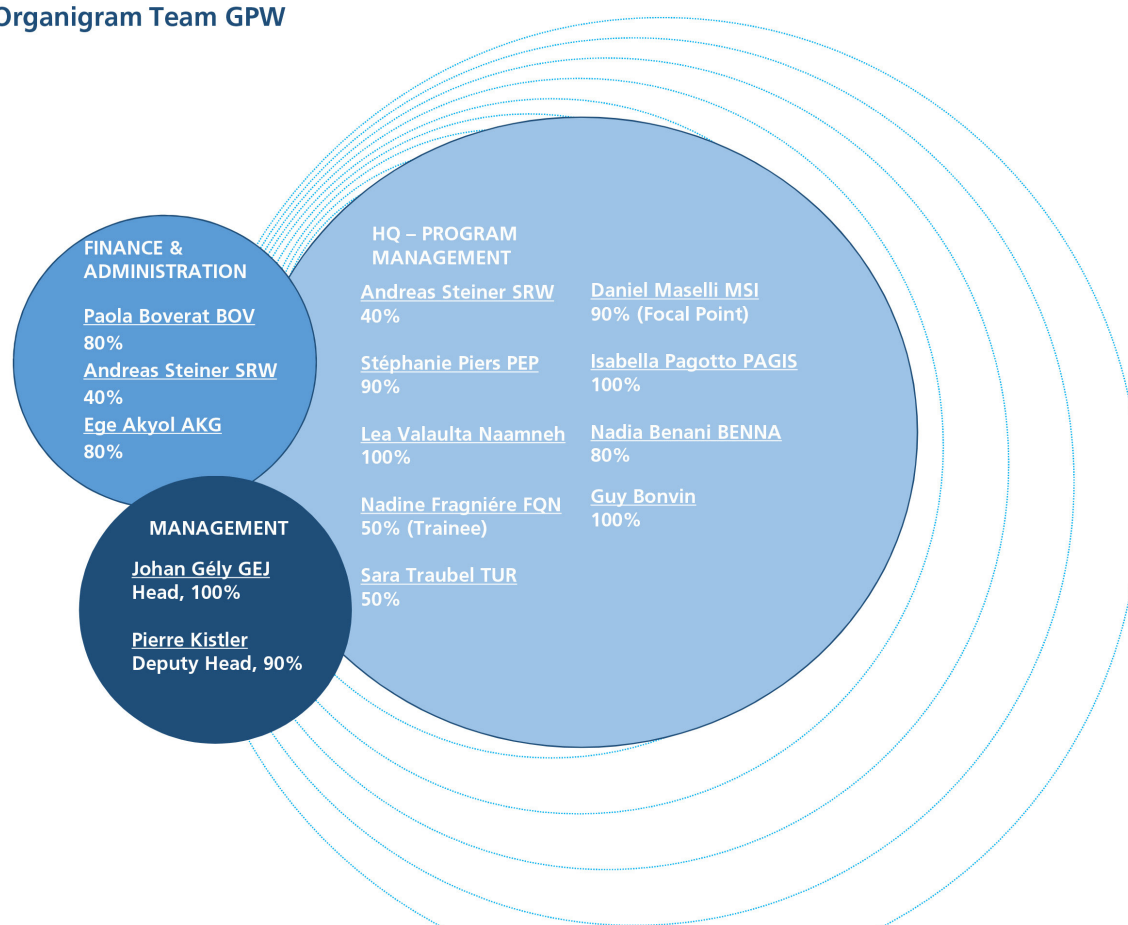
Sustainable financing and private engagement: consolidate proven models of water valuation through newly established initiatives in nature-based solutions and water stewardship. Further emerging concepts and funding schemes for water will meet new models for financing risk assessment resulting in uncharted territory of strategic financing.

WASH Global: a new programme will be launched to accelerate sustainable and inclusive access to water and sanitation for all through advocating, disseminating and applying (Swiss) knowledge, approaches and experiences on decentralized, rural service provision models and testing innovative social business models and private sector engagement.

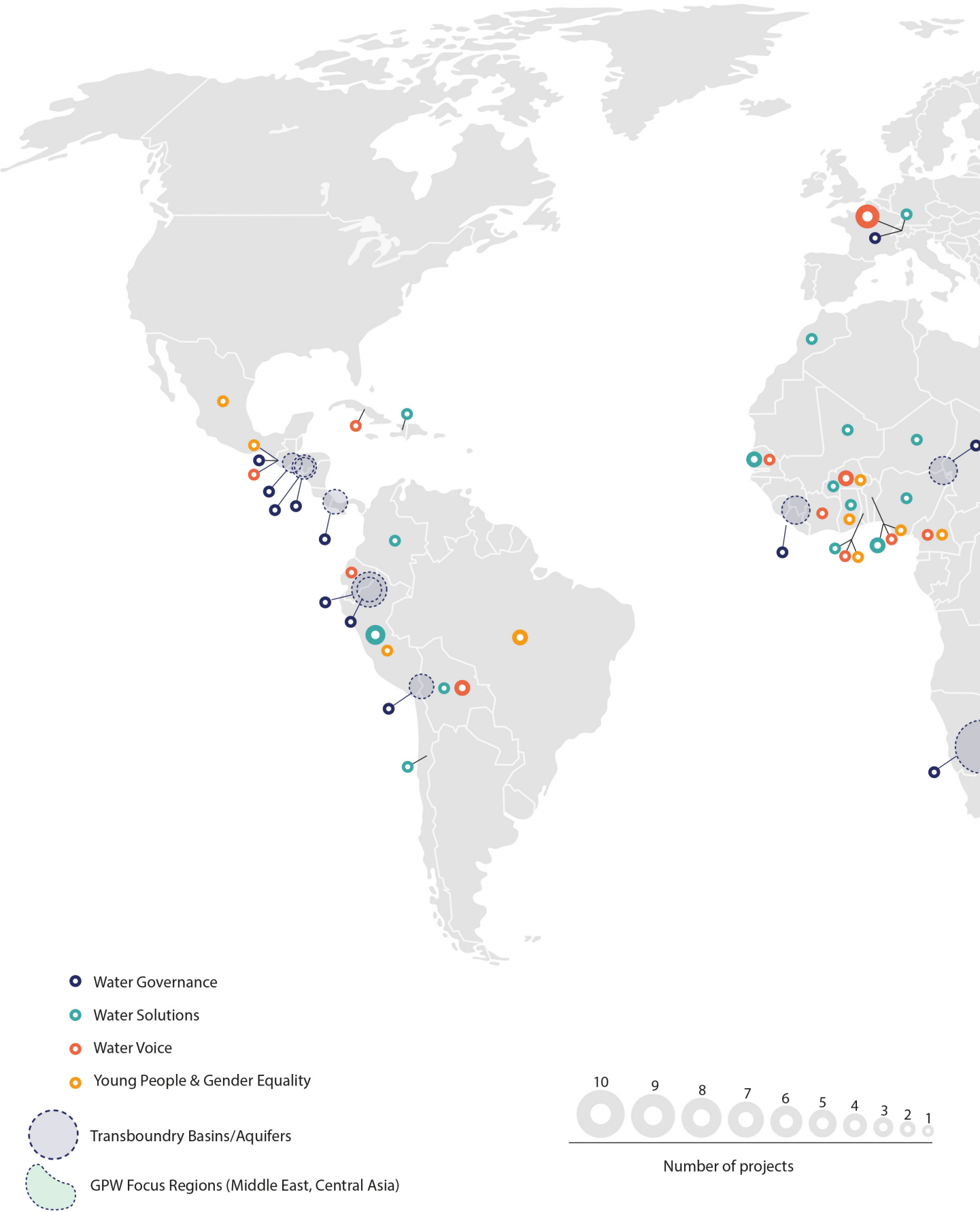
Gender Equality: after youth in 2018, gender equality in water and sanitation, including the health dimension, will be a new focus area in 2019 by working with key partners' agendas, showcasing of concrete actions supporting initiatives aimed at empowering women and networks advocating for a strong voice of women in the political sphere and in water-related decision-making processes.

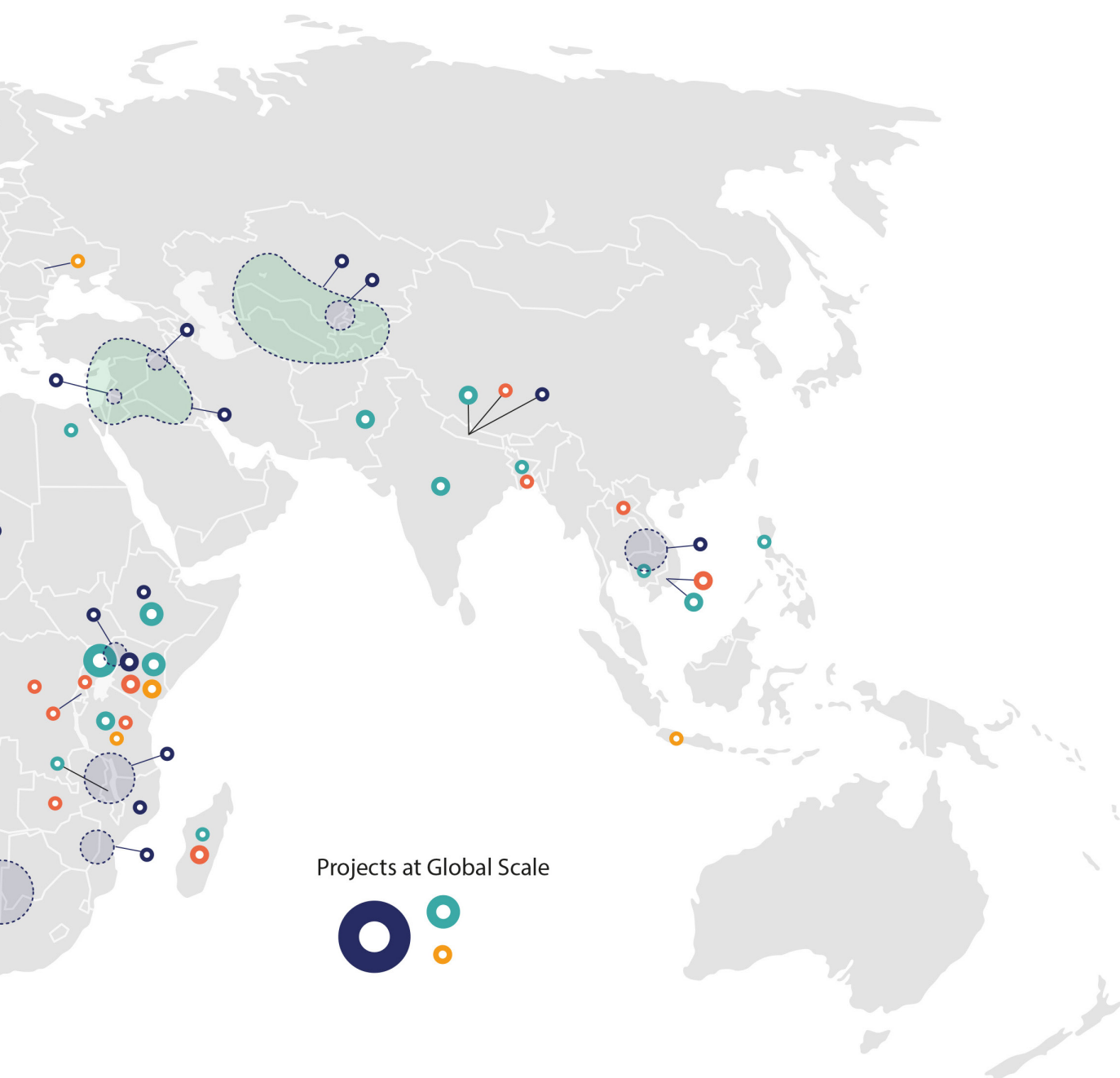
A strong water voice within and outside Switzerland: a strengthening of interlinkages with key Swiss water platforms will be encouraged to benefit from synergies and increase effectiveness and outreach within Switzerland and globally.

Organigram Team GPW



The Global Programme Water (GPW) in the World 2019





Water Governance

The GPW contributes to strengthening good water governance and its defining components on the global, regional and national levels, both in the public and private sectors. It ensures equitable and sustainable water management, while prioritising access to water supply, sanitation and hygiene.

Global Water Governance

- Support to UN-Water towards 2030
- Earth Security Group (ESG)
- Water Integrity Network (WIN)
- Global Water Partnership (GWP)
- Global Water Security & Sanitation Partnership (GWSP)

Water Diplomacy projects

- The Blue Peace Index
- Blue Peace Global
 - Developing the Geneva Water Hub
 - The Global High Level Panel on Water and Peace
- Blue Peace Central Asia
- Blue Peace Middle East Programme
 - Regional Platform for Water Cooperation
 - Media Lab
 - Communications and Media Training on Water
 - Improving shared water resources management in the Tigris river basin (Iraq, Turkey)
- Water Diplomacy & Governance in Key Transboundary Hot Spots
 - Building River Dialogue and Governance (BRIDGE)
 - Support to the UNECE Water Convention activities
 - Governance of Groundwater Resources in Transboundary Aquifers (GGRETA)

Evidence-base for Water Governance

- Integrated Monitoring Initiative for SDG 6 (JMP, GEMI and GLAAS)
- HydroHub - the Global Hydrometry Support Facility of WMO



SDC Contribution to UN-Water



Region
Global

Partners
31 UN Agencies as members and 38 partners outside the UN

Background information
With the adoption of the 2030 Agenda the water community needs to come firmly together to ensure availability and sustainable management of water and sanitation for all by 2030.

Project objectives
Strengthen the global water architecture to ensure the implementation and monitoring of the water related targets of the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development.

Beneficiaries
31 UN Members and 38 global Partners (Aqua-fed, IUCN, GWP, WWF, WWC, IWMI, etc.)

Costs
CHF 2,500,000

Duration
2016 - 2020

The support of SDC to UN-Water core coordination budget is strategic to bring a more effective, integrated and coordinated approach to support the implementation of the 2030 Agenda with regards to water and sanitation.

UN-Water is the entity that coordinates the work of the United Nations on water and sanitation. It was formally established in 2003, building on a long history of collaboration within the United Nations. UN-Water is comprised of 31 United Nations bodies that have a focus on, or interest in, water-related issues as Members and other 38 international organizations as Partners.

UN-Water fosters greater co-operation and information-sharing among its Members and Partners, focusing on all aspects of freshwater and sanitation, including surface and groundwater resources, the interface between freshwater and seawater and water-related disasters.

The coming years will be critical for Member States as well as the international community to start implement the many ambitious commitments that were made in 2015, including the Sendai Framework for Disaster Risk Reduction, the Addis Ababa Action Agenda, the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development, and the Paris agreement on climate change. Given the level of ambition of these commitments, the need for coordination and collaboration across sectors and regions is now greater than ever.

The previous years were particularly successful for UN-Water, where UN-Water Members and Partners rose to the challenge to 'deliver as one' as never before, to place water and sanitation high up on the international agenda. This momentum will be continued to help United Nations Member States implement their ambitious commitments, and to further ensure that it is fit for purpose, UN-Water has also gone through a major review of its internal structure and work modalities.



Currently, UN-Water's overarching focus is to, through its Members and Partners, support Member States as they start implementing the 2030 Agenda. UN-Water will do so through its three main lines of work, identified as areas where it best complements and adds value to the activities of its Members and Partners, by facilitating synergies and joint efforts:

1. Informing policy processes and addressing emerging issues (e.g. input to intergovernmental processes such as the Inter-Agency Expert Group on SDG Indicators, producing policy and analytical briefs, supporting the International Decade for Action "Water for Sustainable Development" 2018-2028)
2. Supporting monitoring and reporting on water and sanitation (e.g. providing the integrated monitoring of SDG 6 on water and sanitation, producing the World Water Development Reports, producing the SDG 6 Synthesis Reports)
3. Building knowledge and inspiring people to take action (e.g. organizing the global campaigns for World Water Day 22 March and for World Toilet Day 19 November)

Additional information:
www.unwater.org

Core Contribution to the Earth Security Group

A global framework to manage sustainability risks



Region
Global

Partner
Earth Security Partnerships

Background information

As pressures on water, food, energy and climate change become more inter-connected, cutting through the complexity with clear messages and strategic direction will be key for leaders in government and the private sector to work together on shared priorities.

Project objectives

To catalyse innovations in business and finance mechanisms that incentivise cooperation between different sectors and countries on water and inter-related themes of climate adaptation, ecosystem resilience and pro-poor development.

Beneficiaries

High-level decision-makers in the private sector, government and civil society; network of global stakeholders

Costs

CHF 1'560'000

Duration

10.2018 – 09.2021

Earth Security Partnerships (ESP) is a global platform providing the strategic foresight and facilitated collaborations to drive forward private sector partnerships for resilience and sustainable development. ESP provides the intelligence and develops opportunities for investors, companies and governments to form innovative partnerships that build the resilience of countries and regions.

ESP's goals:

- **Engage the private sector** with a set of evidence-based priorities that drive impact opportunities in developing countries.
- **Support developing countries** to develop clear priorities and innovative models of private sector collaboration.
- **Facilitate innovative partnerships** that help mainstream and accelerate the scaling up of high-impact business and finance mechanisms.

ESP's approach:

Strategic foresight: ESP uses a rigorous data-driven, SDG-based framework, which complements the research routinely carried out by governments, industry and financial institutions on sustainability, economic and political risks. This framework presents an integrated and visual assessment of a country's sustainability challenges and vulnerabilities and highlights specific opportunities where public-private partnerships can have an impact. The tool is used to engage senior decision-makers across business, government, and global development, to increase awareness and advocacy of converging resource pressures, create a more strategic understanding of priorities in the midst of complexity, and encourage better mutual understanding and collaboration between these sectors around impact opportunities.

Innovative private sector partnerships: ESP collaborates with partners at global and local levels that share a vision to mobilise private sector investment towards scaling up resilience models. ESP develops the strategic global analysis that businesses and investors need to align with countries' SDG and resilience goals. ESP creates partnerships with leading business and finance networks and platforms to catalyse innovative business and finance models. Current and prospective partners include the UN Capital Development Fund (UNCDF), the Global Impact Investing Network (GIIN), the Institutional Investors Group on Climate Change (IIGCC), among others.



Partnership Plan 2019 – 2021

Specific activities include:

- **Global Analysis:** The analysis, shared through an annual impact intelligence report, flags the inter-related global resilience gaps where investment must be mobilised. It features innovative business and finance models that advance adaptation and resilience goals and proposes promising private sector partnerships with potential for impact.
- **Engagement & Collaboration:** ESP provides a clearing house to broker partnerships, engaging a group of private sector champions and partners such as UNCDF. The process co-convenes a quarterly meeting of business and finance leaders to forge new partnerships and initiatives that support resilience models. ESP engages with country-based investor networks in selected vulnerable regions to build their capacity to adopt sustainable private sector blueprints and partnerships.
- **Outreach:** ESP promotes learning across the private sector to embed resilience as a key feature of sustainable business and finance and accelerate the scale up of impactful models. It mainstreams new evidence and knowledge to orient investment portfolios in support of climate resilience thought targeted outreach and communication efforts.

Key outputs of the planned phase:

- Annual global impact intelligence publications
- Engagement of private sector leaders through strategic quarterly convenings
- Global financing partnerships to scale up impactful business and finance models
- Communication and dissemination events with network partners and targeted media outreach

Additional information

<https://earthsecuritygroup.com/partnerships.html>

Water Integrity Network (WIN)

Promoting integrity and fighting corruption in the water sector



Region

Global / Guatemala, Kenya, Mozambique, Nepal

Partners

Water Integrity Network, HELVETAS Swiss Intercooperation, Caritas Switzerland, cewas

Background information

Water integrity and the fight against corruption allow for effective governance in the water sector. It is a prerequisite for the achievement of safe water and adequate sanitation for all.

Project objectives

- Water integrity is on the agenda of the global water sector
- Right holders are empowered
- Water integrity is a common principle and practice for Swiss-based organizations (and their partners)

Beneficiaries

Local communities and civil society, governments, partners of WIN (especially the Swiss-based)

Costs

CHF 2,983,000

Duration

08.2015 - 12.2019

The Water Integrity Network (WIN) combines global advocacy, regional networks and local action in order to promote increased transparency and integrity in the water sector. WIN's goal is for water integrity to become a common principle and practice in the water sector. WIN's work aims to empower right holders to claim better water management and equitable and sustained access to water and sanitation, and to hold duties bearers accountable. SDC supports WIN to actively advocate for better water governance and fight against corruption, and for the implementation of its global strategy, the Multi-Country Water Integrity Programme (MCWIP) and the development of a Learning & Leverage platform.

In the water and sanitation sector, corruption can be found at every point along the water delivery chain; from policy design and budget allocations to operations and billing systems. In developing countries, corruption is estimated to raise the price for connecting a household to a water network by as much as 30%. The lack of water and sanitation services for poor men and women is very much related to a lack of good governance and integrity.

WIN promotes integrity to fight corruption in the water sector. With SDC support, WIN raises awareness on integrity issues, develops stakeholder capacities, and supports practical action against malpractice. It promotes the use of tools to diagnose corruption and to improve governance in the water sector

The new WIN strategy 2017-2022 "Engaging with Partners for Change"

Under its new strategy, WIN will have impact by collaborating with and supporting organizations who can trigger measurable change within countries. By 2022, WIN aims to work with 10 strategic international partners who will actively strengthen water integrity through their programmes globally. WIN and its country partners will also execute in-country water integrity programmes to achieve measurable and significant improvements of water integrity.

Water Integrity Global Outlook 2016

On World Water Day 2016, WIN released the Water Integrity Global Outlook. The publication is a high-level, internationally recognized report on the state

of corruption in the water sector. It outlines good practices and includes examples of tools that make improvements achievable. Its key messages and recommendations are the basis of WIN's advocacy work (download at www.waterintegritynetwork.net/wigo).

Multi-Country Water Integrity Programme (MCWIP)

SDC supports the MCWIP since mid-2012 in Nepal, Mozambique, Kenya and Guatemala. In Nepal, WIN and Helvetas have already been successful in advocating for the inclusion of integrity in the Nepal Water Supply, Sanitation and Hygiene Sector Development Plan, a major milestone and proof that policy developments favouring integrity are possible and within reach. In Mozambique, transparency and accountability were enhanced in the allocation and spending of budgets for the water sector. In Kenya, the Integrity Management Toolbox supports water sector organizations in making integrity a part of their strategic plans and business models. In Guatemala, local authorities, water and sanitation commissions, and water users have been trained on current regulation.

New project phase (2015-2019)

SDC continues to support WIN in phase 3 through 2019. This phase is focused on:

- **WIN global strategy implementation:** Together with its partners and international, regional and national multi-sector actors, WIN aims to put water integrity on the agenda of the global water sector.
- **Continuation of water integrity initiatives in Guatemala, Kenya, Mozambique and Nepal:** WIN aims to strengthen capacities of governments to oversee and manage quality water services with integrity. It will also help communities and civil society advocate to improve WASH policies and demand better services.
- **Learning & Leverage:** WIN will support Swiss-based organizations and partners to mainstream water integrity in their approaches, with the required knowledge and capacities. It expects to do so in partnership with SDC and MCWIP implementing partners.

Additional information:

www.waterintegritynetwork.net

Towards effective Global Water Governance and implementing coherent action



Region
Global

Partners
Over 3,000 partner organisations in 183 countries

Background information

By 2030, over 40% of the world's population will be living in severely water-stressed river basins. The need to deal with these problems at an appropriate level and with the right partners is equally increasing.

Project objectives

Reaching a water-secure world, where water resources are managed sustainably and in an equitable way, with a particular focus on advancing water governance.

Beneficiaries

Water Users, Water Basin Organisations, Governments, Civil Society, Academic Sector etc.

Budget

CHF 2,000,000

Duration

11.2017 – 12.2020

The demand for enhancing water governance is to increase in the coming decades in a world where more than half of the global population will live in a water scarce world. Multi-stakeholder networks like the Global Water Partnership (GWP) are playing an increasingly important role in global water governance and are crucial to translate the agenda 2030 on water into action, provide knowledge and promote key concepts.

GWP's global strategy Towards 2020 stresses the need for innovative and multi-sectoral approaches to adequately address the manifold threats and opportunities relating to sustainable water resource management in the context of climate change, rapid urbanization, and growing inequalities.

The demand for enhancing water governance is to increase in the coming decades in a world where more than half of the global population will live in a water scarce world. In that context, GWP remains a key actor, equipped with the right advocacy tools combined with a performing and self-sustaining global network and innovative global flagship projects.

GWP adheres to fostering IWRM

The integrated approach to water resources management, Integrated Water Resources Management (IWRM), is today's prevalent conceptual framework to address the global water challenges. With its mandate to promote IWRM, GWP has ensured that the concept is nowadays widely accepted. GWP has not only shaped significantly the concept but contributed largely to its understanding and uptake on many different levels (local and community, basins, transboundary, national and international) through the delivery of several services and products by their network.

The network

GWP is a global action network with over 3,000 Partner organisations in 183 countries. The network has 86 Country and 13 Regional Water Partnerships. The network is open to all organisations involved in water resources management: developed and developing country government institutions, agencies of the United Nations, bi- and multi-lateral development banks, professional associations, research institutions, non-governmental organisations, and the private sector.

GWP will enter into collaboration with the private sector, in particular by reaching out to the private sector not only with the aim to access alternative

funding but also to enter into new types of partnerships – such as water stewardship- to gain strengths and relevance. On the other hand, the water stewardship landscape could benefit from a relevant civil society voice.

GWP's action network provides knowledge and builds capacity to improve water management at all levels: global, regional, national and local. The GWP networking approach provides a mechanism for coordinated action and adds value to the work of many other key development partners.

GWP together with its partners has influenced more than 100 water governance outcomes worldwide, covering areas such as water policy, national adaptation planning, transboundary management agreements, investment plans and strategies, legislative frameworks, regional planning frameworks and institutional reform.

Agenda 2030

GWP's ambition is to make water central in the implementation of the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development. SDG 6 provides a high level political commitment to an integrated approach to water security with Target 6.5 – “By 2030, implement integrated water resources management at all levels, including through transboundary cooperation as appropriate” – and SDG 17 affirms the role of multi-stakeholder partnerships.

Coherence with the strategic priorities of SDC Global Programme Water

It is a core contribution to GWP. SDC and GWP share the same vision for a water-secure world. The first component of SDC Global Water Programme strategy 2017-2020 focusses on water governance and aims at strengthening good water governance and its determining components on the global, regional and national levels, including both the public and the private sector, to secure equitable and sustainable water management. This is precisely the focus of GWP's vision, strategy and initiatives. The Component “Young People and Gender Equality” from SDC is well aligned with “the Youth Water and Climate Initiative-YWC” or the initiative for facilitating the wider development debates on the gender and water nexus.

Additional information:

www.gwp.org

Accelerating solutions to achieve SDG 6 by 2030



Region
Global

Partners

World Bank Global Water Practice, Sweden/SIDA, The Netherlands/DGIS, Australia/DFAT, UK/DFID, Rockefeller Foundation, Bill & Melinda Gates Foundation, Swiss State Secretariat of Economic Affairs/SECO, and Norway.

Background information

Most donor support for the water sector in many countries focuses on individual subsectors, and has not addressed the broader challenges of water as set out in SDG 6 for sustainable development to support households, agriculture, manufacturing, job creation, and the environment

Project objectives

Solve complex water and sanitation challenges by helping governments achieve Sustainable Development Goal 6 and other water-related SDGs through global knowledge and partnerships as well as country level support that leverages WBG financial instruments.

Beneficiaries

Governments, citizens, academic sector, civil society, private sector.

Costs

8 – 10 million. USD

Duration

2017 - 2021

The Global Water Goal SDG 6 requires an integrated approach to reflect a “Water writ large” agenda

Water touches nearly every aspect of development. It drives economic growth, supports healthy ecosystems and is fundamental for life. However, this critical resource can harm as well as help. Water-related hazards such as floods, storms, and droughts are responsible for 9 out of 10 natural disasters. Climate change is expected to increase this risk and place even greater stress on scarce water supplies. In addition, increasing global water pollution from various sources is another challenge which needs to be addressed. New challenges and new contexts require new responses. That is why the World Bank, together with its partners, has launched a new partnership for a water-secure world, the GWSP. Building on a nearly half-century of collaboration driven by the Water and Sanitation Program (WSP), the Water Partnership Program (WPP) and others, GWSP has consolidated the work and influence of those long-standing trust funds into one cohesive program. The GWSP aims to provide action equal to the ambition articulated within the Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs)

A Global Trust Fund to Advance Knowledge and Building Capacity at Scale around SDG 6

The Global Water Security and Sanitation Partnership (GWSP) of the World Bank Water Global Practice is a trust-fund based global partnership with the objective to address the water and sanitation challenge in an integrated manner, as set out in the global water goal (SDG 6). This support will advance innovative global knowledge production and exchange as well as build capacity through country-level support across regions with a focus on the population excluded the most from water investments and services (with a focus on women through a new gender strategy).

With its portfolio of water investments and water experts, the World Bank is uniquely positioned to lead these efforts, by developing and sharing global knowledge while also amplifying the impact of the World Bank Group financial instruments through technical assistance on the ground across regions, with a particular focus on Bangladesh, Benin, Bolivia, Egypt, Ethiopia, Haiti, Uganda, Vietnam and Pakistan.

The GWSP primarily focuses on advancing knowledge and building capacity. It supports client governments to achieve the water-related SDGs through the generation of innovative global knowledge and the provision of country-level support, while leveraging World Bank Group financial instruments and promoting global dialogue and advocacy with key partners and clients to increase reach and impact. This partnership provides new opportunities to test and scale-up innovations, build country capacity where needed and influence country demand and World Bank operations.

The Foundation of GWSP’s Mission: 5 priority themes have been identified where action is critically needed to achieve the SDGs for water:

Sustainability
Institutions
Financing
Inclusion
Resilience

Key outputs of the planned phase (partnership and based on complementary approaches SDC/SECO):

- Global Knowledge products and analytical tools,
- Technical Assistance and Capacity-building
- Leveraging knowledge and partnership at global and regional and country-level along the 5 priority themes in the areas of:
 1. Water Supply and Sanitation.
 2. Agricultural Water Management.
 3. Water Resources Management, Trans boundary Water Cooperation.
 4. Water, Poverty and Economy.
 5. Hydropower and Dams.

GWSP'S POTENTIAL TO INFLUENCE WORLD BANK LENDING



GWSP influence on global World Bank lending translates into lending projects in Africa (25), Middle East & North Africa (9), Europe & Central Asia (20), South Asia (8), East Asia (8), and Latin America and the Caribbean (24).

Additional information:

<http://www.worldbank.org/gwsp>

<http://www.worldbank.org/en/news/video/2018/07/05/priorities-to-achieve-a-water-secure-world>

The Blue Peace Index



Region
Global

Partners
The Economist Intelligence Unit (EIU)

Background information
The EIU Public Policy teams will develop the Blue Peace Index research programme to help understand and highlight the complexity of sustainable management of shared water resources and use this information to promote successful trans-boundary cooperation

Project objectives
The Blue Peace Index research programme will highlight the importance of a basin-level approach to cooperation among states and stakeholders for sustainable management of shared water resources.

Beneficiaries
The programme aims to provide a focal point for stakeholders active in Blue Peace initiatives and to engage with broader audience including: policy-makers, young people, NGOs and the private sector.

Costs
CHF 765'000

Duration
01.2019-31.12.2023

Water has a central role in achieving the UN 2030 Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs), but according to the World Bank, more than a billion people live in water-scarce regions, and as many as 3.5 billion people could face water scarcity by 2025. As a growing number of people and states experience rising or even permanent water stress - due to environmental, economic and social developments - increased competition over water can heighten tensions and even lead to open conflict within and among nations. The SDC has partnered with The Economist Intelligence Unit (EIU) to develop a Blue Peace Index to examine how countries around the world are managing their transboundary water resources to highlight challenges and available policy solutions, as well as to spur a public debate on the desirable goals and best practices for sustainable water management.

The heightened risks and political tensions over water resources, resulting from broad environmental, economic and societal changes, present not only challenges, but also opportunities to re-consider the approach to management of shared water resources. Water resources can in fact serve as a conduit for political stability and peace, if they are managed in a cooperative, sustainable and equitable manner. Nevertheless, understanding, designing and promoting mechanisms for collaborative and sustainable management of shared water resources is a complex task, as it requires consideration of numerous economic, environmental, social and political realities. It also relies on commitment and involvement of numerous stakeholders on sub-national, national and international levels. The SDC has engaged with the EIU to develop a Blue Peace Index as a part of a broader development of the Blue Peace movement. This movement will increase global awareness about the importance of transboundary water governance to broader international peace and prosperity.

The Blue Peace Index will explore the extent to which countries manage their shared water resources in a sustainable, equitable and collaborative manner at both national and basin level. In the first edition, it will cover 24 countries in 5 basins in five different regions, with a planned expansion of coverage in future editions.



The index framework is based on inputs from world-leading experts and is built around five pillars: (i) Policy and legal framework, (ii) Institutional arrangement and participation, (iii) Water management instruments, (iv) Infrastructure and financing and (v) Cooperation context. The index will be accompanied by a white paper including an analysis of the results and insights from experts, and is scheduled to be launched at the World Water Week 2019, in Stockholm in August. In this long-term engagement with the EIU, the launch of the index will be followed up by a promotion campaign and a series of tailored case studies and thematic reports.

Key outputs of the planned phase

- An interactive consolidated Blue Peace Index benchmarking model with supporting evidence and indicator scores.
- A Blue Peace Index white paper including an analysis of the results and insights from experts.
- A centralized Blue Peace digital hub to serve as a one-stop-shop to host outputs and information about various stakeholders active in the Blue Peace initiative.
- Launch of the index and the white paper at a discussion panel at the Stockholm World Water Week 2019.

Additional information:
<http://www.eiu.com/publicpolicy>

Developing the Geneva Water Hub



Region
Global

Partners

University of Geneva, UN actors and global actors from civil society, academia, river basin organisations, and the private sector.

Background information

The Hub will help scale up the Blue Peace approach to the global level, promoting dialogue between political, socio-economic and thematic actors.

Project target

Develop a hub of competence in hydro-politics to better understand and prevent water-related tensions between competing uses and between political entities.

Beneficiaries

Political, UN, academic, civil society and private sector actors that can influence the water, security and peace theme and implement concrete solutions at all levels.

Costs

CHF 5,615,500, plus contributions from partners

Duration

04.2017 – 03.2020

Water insecurity is increasingly a cause of social and political instability threatening peace and security at all levels. The Geneva Water Hub aims at better understanding and preventing water-related tensions between competing uses, between public and private actors, and between political entities and countries. The Hub will leverage resources available in international Geneva to develop the hydropolitics agenda. It will also offer a hydrodiplomacy platform providing facilitation, conciliation and mediation services.

Sustainable water resources management is a global challenge of the 21st century, and is more and more linked to insecurity at local, regional and global scale. This is illustrated by growing tensions around large dams, mining operations and various disputes over land and water.

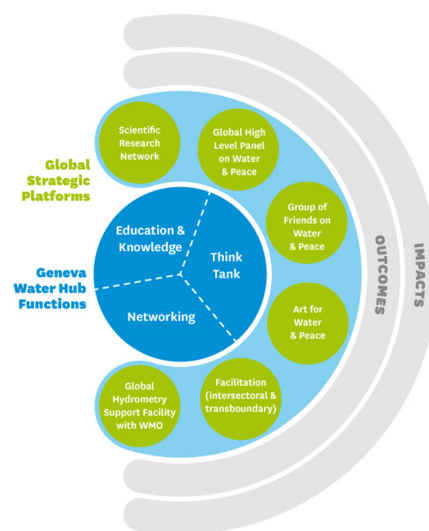
Despite the complexity of the challenges, water can become a theme for collaboration and can be transformed from a source of potential crisis into an instrument of peace. It is with this positive vision that Switzerland is engaged in global water issues in partnership with UN organizations, bilateral partners and NGOs, to help prevent water conflicts at an early stage and to promote water as an instrument of peace and cooperation.

Geneva forms the most active centre of multilateral diplomacy worldwide, and has become a recognized global centre of expertise in several areas that are highly relevant to hydro-politics and global water governance. In response to the wish expressed by many partners to federate the expertise available in Geneva, Switzerland is supporting, together with the University of Geneva, the establishment of a hub of competence in hydro-politics and hydrodiplomacy, to promote water cooperation and good governance.

The Geneva Water Hub aims at developing the hydro-politics agenda to help prevent water conflicts at intersectoral and transboundary levels at an early stage and to promote water as an instrument of peace and cooperation. It leverages resources available in international Geneva to develop the hydro-politics agenda. It also offers a hydrodiplomacy platform providing facilitation, conciliation and mediation services. The Geneva Water Hub has three main functions interacting to support different Strategic Platforms:

- The education and knowledge component is at the intersection of research and political action, for the prevention and management of water-related conflicts, and strategic analysis for evidence-based decision making. This platform is coordinated by the University of Geneva which is establishing a global scientific network focusing on the latest thinking and developments in this field.
- The think tank component acts as a hub of competence and understanding in hydro politics, connecting Geneva-based organisations and global think tanks, civil society, academia, public and private sector, to support the work of the global platforms that the Geneva Water Hub has been working with, such as the Global High Level Panel on Water and Peace, for which the Geneva Water Hub acts as the Secretariat.
- The networking component that aims at connecting and bringing together organizations and actors of international Geneva and beyond, to focus on the global theme of water, security and peace.

The Geneva Water Hub enables partnerships with international think tanks as well as with UN and non-UN institutions and agencies. The Geneva Water Hub is being gradually developed as a flexible, lean structure with the support of the Swiss Agency for Development and Cooperation (SDC), the University of Geneva and several global actors from civil society, academia, river basin organisations, and the private sector. Starting 2017, the Geneva Water Hub has become an affiliated centre of the University of Geneva.



Additional information
www.genevawaterhub.org

The Global High Level Panel for Water and Peace



Region
Global

Partners

Co-convening countries from all the world's regions; Geneva Water Hub; Strategic Foresight Group (India); other partners

Background information

The Swiss Government and the SFG have held consultations with more than 150 political leaders, diplomats and water experts that have shown the need for a high-level political debate on how to prevent water conflicts.

Project target

Develop a set of proposals aiming to strengthen global mechanisms to prevent and resolve water-related conflicts.

Beneficiaries

Political, UN, academic, civil society and private sector actors that can influence the water, security and peace theme.

Costs

CHF 1,570,000, plus contributions from partners

Duration

04.2017 – 03.2020

The Blue Peace initiative has supported the work of the Global High-Level Panel on Water and Peace. The panel officially launched in November 2015 presented the conclusion of its work compiled in a report called "A matter of survival" in September 2017. This set of proposal developed by the 15 co-convening countries aims at strengthening global mechanisms to prevent and resolve water-related tensions and conflicts, and facilitate the use of water for building peace. Switzerland is supporting the dissemination of the report and contributes to the implementation of the recommendations.

Sustainable water resources management is one of the global challenges of the 21st century. Water issues are a growing cause of social, economic and political instability, with significant impact on security and peace in the world. In its 2015 Global Risks report, the World Economic Forum ranked water as the top global risk.

For the last 6 years, the Swiss Government, together with other countries and in partnership with the Strategic Foresight Group (SFG), a global think tank based in Mumbai, has developed the "Blue Peace" framework for transforming water from a source of potential crisis into an instrument for peace.

The Global High Level Panel on Water and Peace was composed of 15 eminent persons coming from a variety of backgrounds and sectors, each nominated by one of the co-convening countries (Cambodia, Colombia, Costa Rica, Estonia, France, Ghana, Hungary, Jordan, Kazakhstan, Morocco, Oman, Senegal, Slovenia, Spain, and Switzerland). It was chaired by H.E. Danilo Türk, former President of the Republic of Slovenia. Launched in November 2015 in Geneva, the panel released its work in September 2017.

While the Panel has been functioning outside the formal structure of the United Nations, it worked in close cooperation with relevant stakeholders, including the UN represented in the Panel through UN-Water (as observer), taking into account already existing initiatives and organisations in the water sector. In addition, and for offering some political

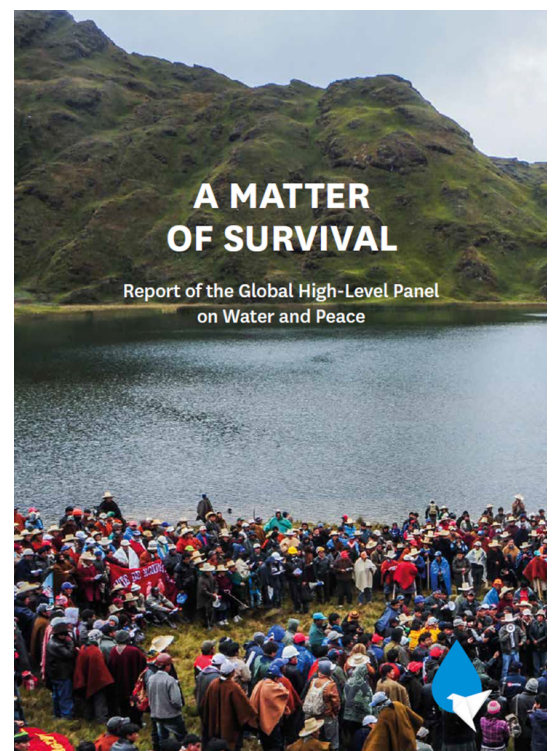
support to the work of the Panel, an informal 'Group of Friends' of Water and Peace has been created to encourage participation from additional countries. To this day, the Group of Friends has reunited up to 40 countries within the Permanent Missions to the UN in Geneva.

This independent panel was tasked to outline concrete recommendations to enable water to be an instrument of peace. These non-binding recommendations address policy issues at all levels (global, regional, national, and local) but do not make any country-specific recommendations. The report is currently widely disseminated to the UN community, the civil society, the private sector, academic actors and philanthropic associations. Switzerland is now supporting through strategic partners, such as the Strategic Foresight Group or the Geneva Water Hub, the implementation of the panels' recommendations.

Additional information

www.genevawaterhub.org (access to the report)

www.strategicforesight.com



Strengthening the Regional Institutional Framework for IWRM in Central Asia



Region
Central Asia

Partners

Five Central Asian countries (Kazakhstan, Kyrgyzstan, Tajikistan, Turkmenistan and Uzbekistan) and other development partners

Background information

In 2014, the first Conference on IWRM with delegations from the five countries took place in Basel. A follow-up conference was held in Astana, Kazakhstan, in June 2017.

Project target

Central Asia moves forward towards sustainable and equitable transboundary water management in a changing climate whereby the people in the region benefit from water security, peace, stability and sustainable development through increased resilience and intergovernmental dialogue.

Beneficiaries

Transboundary water management institutions, environmental bodies, young water professionals, water users, overall population.

Costs

CHF 6,000,000

Duration

09.2014 – 12.2020

In response to the explicit demand of the five Central Asian States, the Swiss Agency for Development and Cooperation aims to facilitate transboundary water resources cooperation through the establishment of a High Level Dialogue Platform, the promotion of sustainable water practices in transboundary water basins as well as capacity-building of a new generation of water professionals. This line of action is consistent with Switzerland's "Blue Peace" approach and already implemented elsewhere at a regional and global level.

The transboundary basins of Central Asia cover an extensive area and are home to about 60 million inhabitants. The water shared by the five riparian countries is fundamental for both their people and the economy they depend upon. Unsustainable water use, insufficient transnational cooperation and opposing national interests have contributed to a climate of distrust among the countries in the region. The current centralized transboundary water cooperation framework proved to be inefficient. A dialogue to shift from a national administrative approach to a transboundary hydrographic water management basis is therefore necessary. In this regard, the Central Asian countries are increasingly aware of the cost of unsustainable water management as well as the effect of climate change and its impact on the environment and their societies. Switzerland, recognised as a credible and neutral actor, is as such well placed to provide concomitantly quality expertise and honest brokerage without a hidden agenda in order to facilitate dialogue on transboundary water cooperation.

Through two Swiss-supported high-level events bringing together for the first time representatives from Foreign and Water Ministries and Parliaments (Basel I Conference in November 2014 and Astana Conference within the World Expo in June 2017) and the deployment of a Swiss Special Envoy for Water in Central Asia, the five countries clearly expressed the need for the establishment of an informal **High Level Dialogue Platform** in Central Asia to exchange on commonly-identified regional priorities, notably

on: 1) transparent sharing of hydrometeorology data and joint use of forecast modelling among riparian countries to prevent water-related disasters and adapt to climate change; 2) investment in and joint management of transboundary water infrastructure ; and 3) adoption of water quality standards and monitoring, and water efficiency interventions.

In parallel to the High Level Dialogue Platform, a **Programme of strategic actions** at operational and regional level is being developed in order to facilitate an evidence-based dialogue at the political level and to ensure an effective and sustainable transboundary water management. To this end, authorities in selected water basins will adopt and replicate smart water practices based on the three priority areas listed above, which were jointly agreed upon during the Basel I conference.

The third pillar of intervention consists of strengthening the role of the **next generation of professionals in the water sector**, the so-called Water Champions, to influence and benefit from negotiated solutions in regional water management and cooperation. Their knowledge and skills will be enhanced by means of youth-led workshops as well as online trainings and summer schools.



Additional information

www.eda.admin.ch/deza/en/home/countries/central-asia.html

Blue Peace Middle East Programme



Country / Region
Middle East

Main Partners

Turkish Water Institute (SUEN), Ministry of Agriculture and Water Resources (KRG/Iraq), Ministry of Water Resources (Iraq), Ce-was, University of East Anglia (UEA), Jordan University of Science and Technology (JUST), Media in Conflict and Transformation (MiCT), Media Academy Iraq.

Background information

The Middle East is the most water-scarce region in the world. This scarcity increasingly affects all aspects of life in the region, fuelling conflicts and impacting the sustainable development agenda.

Project objective

To enhance regional water cooperation, strengthening the basis for peace in the region.

Beneficiaries

Regional and local water institutions in member states, and ultimately water users across the region who will benefit from strengthened water cooperation, greater access to clean water and regional stability.

Costs&Duration

CHF 4,400,000
01.2019 – 12.2021

Contact

Global Programme Water
water@eda.admin.ch

Regional cooperation over water resources is today more important than ever in the water-scarce Middle East. The Blue Peace Middle East Initiative is the first regional platform to facilitate dialogue and exchange to improve water governance, and ultimately foster sustainable development and peace in the region.

The Middle East is the most water-scarce region in the world. By 2025 the region's renewable freshwater supply will have dropped to below a third of 1970 levels. Moreover, practically all rivers and aquifers straddle two or more countries – all of which claim their part. Other important challenges include the need for more sustainable water use, access to more reliable water services, and improved water governance for national and transboundary surface and groundwater resources.

However, in large parts of the Middle East, conflict or post-conflict conditions stand in the way of sustainable development. Water, and water scarcity, also play a role in many of these conflicts. In order to reduce the risk of water conflict in the region, there is a need for closer cooperation over water with a focus on benefit sharing, productive knowledge exchange and progressive policies and solutions.

The Blue Peace Middle East Initiative – a partnership between the Swiss Agency for Development and Cooperation (SDC) and the Mumbai-based Strategic Foresight Group (SFG) – was set up in 2011 to work towards regional recognition of water resources as a potential source of socioeconomic development and peace. Through a combination of political and technical dialogues, which were supported by concrete data collection, knowledge exchange and capacity building projects, the Blue Peace programme was the first – and to date only – effort in the region to foster regional exchange, understanding and conflict prevention.

Despite the increasing complexity of conflicts in the region, the Blue Peace Community, which is made up of around 200 scholars, practitioners and media, has developed a shared political vision, and created a space for political and technical dialogues on water cooperation.

In 2018, they decided to take this vision to the next level by transferring the management of the Blue Peace from SFG to a regional network of water institutes and stakeholders. As a result, the Blue Peace Initiative is today governed by collective leadership with representatives from Lebanon, Iraq, Iran, Jordan, Turkey and, to a limited degree, Syria. The Turkish Water Institute (SUEN) in Istanbul functions as the initiative's Coordination Office.

The project's overall goal is for water users, and particularly the most vulnerable populations, to have fair and sustainable access to water resources thanks to closer regional water cooperation, which in turn strengthens the basis for peace in the region.

Planned outcomes:

- The newly established and regional structure of the Blue Peace Middle East Initiative supports peace building, dialogue and collaboration activities among the countries, water institutions, decision makers and experts in the region.
- Transboundary water resources management in the Tigris Basin is improved through multilevel dialogue (Blue Peace Iraq-Turkey track), joint monitoring and data sharing.
- In the transboundary Yarmouk Basin, conditions for more equitable and sustainable use of the Yarmouk River are put in place.
- A thriving entrepreneurial ecosystem enables the initiation, development and implementation of innovative entrepreneurial solutions to ensure the availability and sustainable management of water and sanitation for the region.
- Objective, in-depth reporting on water issues in Middle Eastern media contributes to water cooperation and sustainable management in the region.

Blue Peace Middle East: Regional Platform for Water Cooperation



Region
Middle East

Partners
Turkish Water Institute
(SUEN)

Background information
The Blue Peace Middle East Initiative contributes to peace building by stimulating political and technical dialogues about water and supporting concrete regional projects, data sharing and capacity-building activities in Lebanon, Iraq, Iran, Jordan, Turkey and, to a limited extent, Syria. The initiative is regionally owned since 2019.

Beneficiaries
Regional and local water institutions, public organizations, agricultural units and water users

Costs
CHF 520,000

Duration
01.03.2019 – 31.12.2020

Contact
Global Programme Water
water@eda.admin.ch

In the Middle East, the dire situation of water resources demands stronger regional exchange and cooperation than ever before. Blue Peace Middle East Initiative is the only regional platform engaging six countries around water issues.

Since January 2019, the initiative is led by collective leadership representatives from Iraq, Jordan, Lebanon, Turkey, Iran, and, to a more limited degree, Syria. The Turkish Water Institute (SUEN) has been designated by concerned parties to function as the Coordination Office for the Blue Peace in the Middle East Initiative for two years 2019-2020. The aim of this project is to support the new structure of the Blue Peace Initiative, including the work of the Coordination Office, the Management Committee and the creation of a regional Policy Advisory Committee. Moreover, the regional network of water institutes and representatives will work jointly on the theme of water-use efficiency in agriculture in order to strengthen food security in the region by stimulating the knowledge exchange and capacity building, and enhancing dialogue among countries

The initiative's new three-tier structure comprises the following bodies:

- The top-tier Policy Advisory Committee is made up of influential regional political leaders and chaired by HRH Prince Hassan bin Talal of Jordan
- The second-tier Managing Committee works with support institutions to identify thematic areas of concern (TAC) and set priorities in the field of water resources management.
- On the third tier, the Coordination Office supports the Managing Committee in facilitating planned activities.



The Blue Peace Middle East Initiative was initially established in 2011 as part of a partnership between the Mumbai-based Strategic Foresight Group, the Swiss Development Cooperation (SDC) and the Swedish Development Cooperation (SIDA).

Under this new structure, the Blue Peace Initiative continues to develop peace-building and collaboration activities in the region and to create spaces for dialogue between countries, water institutions, decision makers and experts.

The TAC will be studied by nominated national experts depending on the theme (National Focal Points) and by Managing Committee Members. A regional working group will disseminate information on technologies and best practices for optimal agricultural water-use efficiency.

Additional information:
www.bluepeaceme.org
www.bluepeacemiddleeast.org
www.bluepeaceinitiative.org

Blue Peace Middle East: Media Lab



Country / Region

Iraq, Jordan, Lebanon

Main Partners

MiCT, cewas, Media Academy Iraq

Background information

Conflicts and poor governance have negatively affected water supply, sanitation and water management in the Middle East over the past decades.

Project objective

Better media coverage of water issues in the Middle East generates more audience interest, which in turn influences policy dialogue. In the long term, this contributes to sustainable water cooperation and management in the region.

Beneficiaries

Direct: trained journalists and communication professionals reporting on water topics in the Middle East

Indirect: decision makers, stakeholders in the water sector and the general public who consume the journalistic reports on water.

Costs&Duration

CHF 330,000

03.2019-12.2021

Contact

Global Programme Water
water@eda.admin.ch

Water and effective water management are both hard to find in the Middle East. Inaccurate and incomplete data, a lack of capacity in water monitoring and low awareness of water-related issues perpetuate the water crisis and drive conflicts in the region. To tackle these challenges, the Blue Peace Media Lab uses innovative approaches to sensitize media professionals to water-related challenges and foster constructive water reporting. The activities are bolstered by ongoing online communication, intended to encourage cross-border exchange. The project will increase awareness both among policy makers and water users, encouraging sustainability and result-oriented approaches to the crisis.

The Blue Peace Media Lab has been developed under the umbrella of the Blue Peace Initiative and aims to promote sustainability in water management and cooperation in the Middle East, with a particular focus on activities in Iraq, Jordan, Lebanon and Iran and, to a more limited degree, Syria. The assumption is that successful joint management of scarce water resources will promote dialogue and lasting peace in the region. Only an informed public can constructively influence policy dialogue on water-related issues. This is why the role of media professionals and journalists is crucial to foster grounded knowledge and information-sharing in the region.

As it enters its second two-year phase, the project aims to continue to be a driver of the aforementioned knowledge-sharing by promoting exchange between journalists and water experts such as members of the Blue Peace Community, providing in-depth training to journalists on water-related reporting, creating incentives for opinion-leaders to immerse themselves in the topic and nurturing water experts' skills in liaising with media. The goal is to promote constructive coverage of water issues in the Middle East, thus exercising a positive, solution-oriented influence on water governance in the region and beyond.



Planned outcomes:

Recognizing that water-related knowledge is still scarce and underdeveloped among both media professionals and the general public, a targeted capacity-building and exposure strategy has been developed. During six co-creation workshops, media professionals will be supported in identifying and implementing innovative reporting strategies, while consolidating their knowledge by introducing them to constructive solutions to a range of water-related issues. The workshops are designed to include not only sector-related training, but also a series of other opportunities for exposure, including field visits, access to high-level gatherings, and other sector events.

The second outcome focuses on supervising and encouraging production and successful dissemination of water-related journalistic pieces, thus ensuring that comprehensive, well-rounded final products reach and inform the public.

Lastly, to produce compelling stories in a short timeframe, media professionals need a large and reliable network of colleagues, experts, sources and protagonists. In this way, journalists (or a group of journalists) can shed light on complex topics and possible solutions. The project fosters such a network in the water space in the form of the Blue Peace Media Community, which hosts a series of national events as well as a regional gathering. Besides media professionals, key stakeholders and decision makers will be brought into these events, creating ample opportunity for exchange and learning.

Additional information:

mict-international.org

cewas.org

mediaacademy-iraq.org

Blue Peace Middle East: Innovating Water and Sanitation Solutions



Country / Region

Jordan, Lebanon, Iraq, Iran

Partners

Cewas Middle East, BORDA, Rotary, Berytech, GIZ and many other local institutions

Background information

The Middle East is facing an ongoing humanitarian crisis with millions of displaced persons, diminishing natural resources and mismanagement of water and waste as well as high youth unemployment across the region.

Project objective

Create and enhance a regional entrepreneurial ecosystem that enables the initiation and implementation of innovative solutions to ensure the availability and sustainable management of water and sanitation for all

Beneficiaries

Direct: Entrepreneurial ecosystem actors (from finance, business and academia), local water and sanitation entrepreneurs, WASH practitioners
Indirect: Refugees and host communities in the MENA region

Costs & Duration

CHF 1,665,788
01.2019 – 12.2021

Contact

Global Programme Water
water@eda.admin.ch

The Middle East is an increasingly water-scarce region. With the highest number of refugees per capita globally, it is also facing a rapidly changing economic and environmental landscape. In an effort to support innovation and sustainability around these challenges, cewas Middle East empowers young entrepreneurs initiating and implementing high-potential business ideas, enhances the entrepreneurship ecosystem and trains WASH practitioners to generate demand for more sustainable products and services.

No resource is more important than water. It directly affects peace and economic stability, and those linkages are highly visible in the Middle East, a region becoming more arid as climate change progresses. In terms of employment opportunities and the innovation economy, it is uncommon to think of the potential of the water sector. Water is dominated by the public sector and NGOs, with only marginal participation of the private sector.

In 2013, cewas Middle East was established to foster innovation and sustainability in the water and sanitation sector through the development and implementation of entrepreneurial approaches. Cewas Middle East is a branch of the Swiss NGO cewas, which founded the world's first dedicated water and sanitation start-up incubator for young innovators in 2011. By offering year-long training programmes, Cewas Middle East has supported over 60 start-ups across the region, and has developed a Sustainable Sanitation and Water Management (SSWM) curriculum to enhance knowledge among water and sanitation actors and generate demand in humanitarian and development markets.

During the current project phase 2019-2021, cewas Middle East continues to advance water and sanitation entrepreneurship on the following levels:

Based on its experience in specialised business development programmes, Cewas Middle East establishes now further mechanisms through which start-ups can initiate high-potential ideas, develop their sustainable businesses and bring them to the market. Upon identification of new start-ups, established companies and organisations, Cewas Middle East offers a year-long incubation programme as well as tailored business development trainings, individualised coaching, mentoring and access to finance. Cewas Middle East actively builds the com-



munity of entrepreneurs and facilitates professional network support through technical and business experts. By involving media experts, communication around role models and their change-making solutions supports awareness and demand creation.

To ensure entrepreneurs' efforts yield results, and to enhance the regional entrepreneurial ecosystem for SSWM, cewas Middle East works together with key stakeholders from the entrepreneurship sector, the financial sector and academia. Hereby, a particular focus is set on improving the following three ecosystem conditions: 1) Financial Support Systems, 2) Business Support Services & Intermediaries, 3) Young Talent Growth in SSWM.

SSWM Entrepreneurs highly depend on the capacity of the markets they operate in, which are mostly limited to NGOs and donors' efforts, or niche sectors of environmentally conscious consumers. Through short- and long-term trainings, innovation workshops and the provision of bilingual knowledge tools, Cewas Middle East capacitates practitioners and decision-makers to move from project-based to more sustainable water and sanitation interventions, considering market-based approaches that can mobilise environmental solutions adequately adapted to the cultural and local context, and supporting local economies.

Additional information:

Website: www.cewasmiddleeast.org

Website: www.cewas.org

Facebook: <https://www.facebook.com/cewasMiddleEast/>

LinkedIn: <https://www.linkedin.com/company/cewas-middle-east/>

Blue Peace Middle East: Improving Shared Water Management in the Tigris Basin (Iraq, Turkey)

Blue Peace



Country / Region
Iraq / Middle East

Partners

Ministry of Water Resources (Government of Iraq)
Ministry of Agriculture and Water Resources (Kurdish Regional Government)
OTT Hydromet

Project objective

- Strengthen Iraq's hydrological monitoring capacities in the triple-border region.
- Contribute to trans-boundary data harmonization and sharing between Iraq and Turkey.

Beneficiaries

Iraqi government experts tasked with network operation, hydrological analysis and reporting; Iraqi and Turkish representatives in the joint monitoring initiative.

In the long term, the project will benefit the general population in the Tigris region.

Costs

CHF 510,000

Duration

06.2019-6.2020

Contact

Global Programme Water
water@eda.admin.ch



Schweizerische Eidgenossenschaft
Confédération suisse
Confederazione Svizzera
Confederaziun svizra

Swiss Agency for Development
and Cooperation SDC

The Tigris River is an important lifeline for the Western Asia region. However, worsening water scarcity in the region have resulted in growing tensions over the river. In 2014, the 'Geneva Consensus' marked a breakthrough between Iraqi and Turkish representatives on the harmonization and sharing of hydrological information. This project will strengthen Iraq's hydrological monitoring capacities in the triple-border region and facilitate information exchange with Turkey.

The Tigris River is the second-largest river in Western Asia and an important lifeline for its riparian countries Iraq, Syria and Turkey. Along its course, it is fed by numerous tributaries that rise in Zagros Mountains, making Iran part of its basin as well. The once-abundant waters of the Tigris and Euphrates – the two great rivers of Mesopotamia – have been impacted by the mounting pressure on the resource, especially since Turkey launched large dam projects for irrigation and hydropower generation as part of its Southeastern Anatolia Project (GAP).

Lack of data and mutually acceptable baseline information have proven an obstacle to dialogue. In 2014, an important breakthrough in building consensus between Iraqi and Turkish representatives on the harmonization and sharing of hydrological information was achieved in the form of the so-called 'Geneva Consensus'. Building on this consensus. This initiative aims at strengthening Iraq's hydrological monitoring capacities. The process was facilitated by the Blue Peace Middle East Initiative, which promotes consensual collaborative solutions to foster sustainable water cooperation and strengthen the basis for peace in the region.

Iraq is currently suffering from the lack of properly functioning monitoring station at the triple border point (Turkey, Syria, Iraq) creating large gaps in the data records. It creates difficulties for the country to produce reliable inflow estimates on the Tigris River when entering Iraq, flowing from Turkey upstream, affecting its national water resources management and the transboundary dialogue.



The project will strengthen Iraq's capacity to collect, store, analyze and share hydrological data on the Tigris River and the wider basin. The specific focus lies on assessing cross-border flows in the triple-border region. Working jointly on these aspects will help to identify trends and impacts of ongoing and planned water management interventions, and to separate manmade impacts from broader climate-change effects. Reliable baseline information is also needed to prepare – and for Iraq to monitor – any future basin agreement between the riparian countries.

Planned outcome

- Establish a reliable water discharge and quality monitoring of the Tigris River and its tributaries.
- Enhance data management infrastructure.
- Build capacities of Iraqi experts in related thematic areas
- Preparing the ground for future data exchange between Iraq and Turkey

Additional information:

Geneva Consensus on the Tigris River:

https://www.strategicforesight.com/conference_pdf/47694Consensus%20On%20Tigris%20River_Revised%20Sep14.pdf

Building River Dialogue and Governance (BRIDGE) – Phase 4



Region
Global

Partners
IUCN

Background information

Transboundary water bodies create hydrological, social and economic interdependencies between societies. While incorporating a potential for competition and conflict, they also provide opportunities for cooperation.

Project objective

Poverty alleviation, nature conservation and economic growth are enhanced in target basins through sustainable management and governance of transboundary water resources

Beneficiaries

National government institutions and agencies, municipal and provincial level governments, basin organizations, local communities, businesses and civil society

Costs

CHF 5,370,000

Duration

01.2019 – 12.2021

The support to the BRIDGE initiative is part of a broader programme on Transboundary Waters Governance for Sustainable Development and Blue Peace bringing together partnerships with IUCN, UNESCO (transboundary aquifers) and the UNECE Transboundary Water Convention.

BRIDGE supports the capacities of stakeholders from local to transboundary levels in countries sharing river or lake basins to design and implement effective water management arrangements. It works on a shared vision, benefit-sharing principles and transparent and coherent institutional frameworks. BRIDGE is implemented in five regions through demonstration at basin-level, learning support, dialogue facilitation, leadership development, and the provision of advice and technical support.

With over 40% of the world's population living in 275 transboundary basins, cooperation over water management is essential for people's well-being, political stability and the sustainability of ecosystems. Today, the complexities of sharing water among States require innovation relative to traditional approaches to water governance, calling for improved water diplomacy across multiple levels.

The goal of BRIDGE is to improve secure and safe access to water, to reduce water-related conflicts, and to protect or restore water-related ecosystems target transboundary basins, through sustainable management and governance of water resources. It uses water diplomacy in order to increase the socio-economic, environmental and political benefits

derived from water. Cooperation among countries in the management of transboundary waters is a building block of international security and regional stability. Likewise, water management is also a local activity because clean, safe and dependable water is intrinsic to health, food security and economic opportunities. The costs of failing to manage water are often reflected in poverty, disease, loss of biodiversity, conflict and instability. The strategy of BRIDGE aims at catalysing sustainable water resources development, including progress on safe water supply and sanitation, sustainable watershed management and biodiversity conservation. The principle is to have demonstrations on the ground, combined with capacity and leadership development that are necessary to make cooperation a reality that catalyses change. It is necessary to use capacity development and learning as a vehicle and leaders as agents of change. Support facilities: provide advice on demand to governments and stakeholders on water governance.

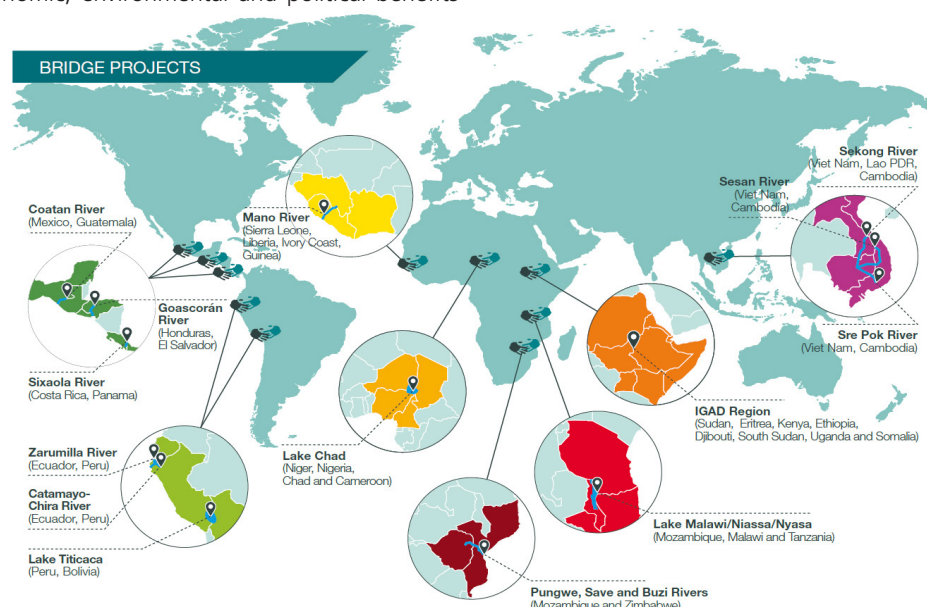
Based on these needs, phase 4 of BRIDGE operates in hot spots of five regions (Andes, Mesoamerica, East Asia, West and Central Africa, Southern Africa and Horn of Africa).

Additional information:

www.iucn.org/bridge

<http://waterlawandgovernance.org>

<http://3sbasin.org>



Support to water cooperation on the basis of the UNECE Water Convention



Region
Global

Partners

UNESCO, UNFCCC, FAO, WMO, other UN Regional Commissions, GEF, the Ramsar Convention, GWP, IUCN, INBO, WWF, OSCE, World Bank, AfDB, and many more

Background information

The intervention aims to promote transboundary water cooperation at both technical and political levels by touching upon different aspects of water management and use.

Project target

Transboundary waters worldwide are managed in cooperation between riparian countries, promoting sustainable development, peace and security.

Beneficiaries

Water authorities, decision-makers from other sectors, experts and decision-makers at various levels, NGOs and international organisations

Costs

CHF 1,650,000

Duration

2019 - 2021

The support to the Convention is part of a broader programme dedicated to Trans-boundary Waters Governance for Sustainable Development and Blue Peace, and brings together partnerships with IUCN, UNESCO (transboundary aquifers) and the Trans-boundary Water Convention.

The Swiss contribution will support sustainable development in transboundary basins by fostering transboundary water cooperation on the basis of the 1992 Convention on the Protection and Use of Transboundary Watercourses and International Lakes (Water Convention). This contribution will support the Programme of Work 2019 – 2021 of the Convention, in particular its pillars on capacity-building, development of policy guidance backed by pilot projects on the ground, and exchange of experience. As a result, it will strengthen the sustainable use of shared water resources globally, and promote water security, water diplomacy, respect for the rule of law and political stability.

The UNECE 1992 Water Convention is the only global legal and intergovernmental framework for transboundary water cooperation. Since the 1990s, the Convention has fostered the development of transboundary agreements, the establishment of joint institutions and the strengthening of cooperation in the UNECE region. In March 2016, it turned into a global framework open for accession by all UN Member States. More than 70 non-UNECE countries have already participated in the Convention's activities, and several have started the national accession process. In 2018, Senegal and Chad ratified the Convention and around 20 other countries have expressed their interest and intention to accede to the Convention.

Intervention strategy and components

The contribution aims to promote cooperation on transboundary waters at both technical and political levels. It represents a core contribution to the work under the Convention; thus, most activities will be co-funded by other donors.

While the contribution will support the entire programme of work 2019 – 2021 (as an institutional programmatic contribution), priority will be given to activities in the following areas:

1) Increasing awareness of and accession to the Convention, and supporting the application of its principles drawing on the benefits of cooperation

The Convention, its products and achievements, and transboundary water cooperation in general will be promoted by (a) increasing awareness of and political support for the Convention and transboundary water cooperation; (b) increasing accession to the Convention, and as appropriate to the United Nations Watercourses Convention, thereby promoting synergies between the two conventions; (c) highlighting the broad range of benefits that can be generated by cooperation and cooperative solutions; (d) supporting countries in developing or revising agreements or arrangements in transboundary basins.

2) Promoting an integrated and intersectoral approach to water management at all levels

On the basis of the methodology developed under the Convention in 2013-2015, nexus assessments based on intersectoral dialogues to enhance cooperation will be carried out in a number of basins, for example in the North-Western Sahara Aquifer System and in the Drina basin in South-Eastern Europe. The methodology will also be promoted for application by partners in other basins worldwide. A handbook will be developed, drawing from existing practices supporting equitable and sustainable water allocation for both surface and groundwater.

3) Adapting to climate change in transboundary basins (pilot projects)

Cooperation in the development of vulnerability assessments, adaptation and disaster risk reduction strategies and their implementation in transboundary basins will be promoted within projects implemented together with partners.

4) Facilitating financing of transboundary water cooperation

The facilitation of dialogues and the exchange of lessons learned on sustainable financing models regarding water cooperation (e.g. institutions, data/information management systems, infrastructure) will be supported. This will culminate in a Global Workshop on financing water cooperation from all sources in 2020 and a publication on the challenges, approaches and lessons learned, to be published in 2021. Efforts to further increase cooperation with financial institutions will be made.

Governance of Groundwater Resources in Transboundary Aquifers (GGRETA)



Region

Central Asia, Southern Africa, Central America

Partners

UNESCO-IHP, IUCN

Background information

decisions based on sound science, and to reach consensus on transboundary governance mechanisms.

Project target

Strengthen regional stability, cooperation and peace through the establishment of cooperative frameworks for transboundary groundwater governance in River Basin Organizations (RBOs), Regional Commissions (RCs) and selected aquifers systems in Africa, Central America and Central Asia.

Beneficiaries

Governments at local and national levels, regional organizations, major user groups, population.

Costs

CHF 1,880,000 (SDC)
CHF 1,000,000 (co-financing)

Duration

05.2019 – 12.2021

The support to this UNESCO-IHP project is part of a broader programme bringing together complementary partnerships, with IUCN working on transboundary surface water, UNESCO-IHP focusing on transboundary groundwater, and the 1992 UNECE Convention on the Protection and Use of Transboundary Watercourses and International Lakes providing a guiding global framework, altogether building an integrated approach to transboundary waters management.

Groundwater resources are being more and more solicited, among others because they are perceived as the last resort to mitigate climate change impacts, growing water scarcity and surface water pollution. However, these groundwater resources are often less regulated and monitored, being less visible and more difficult to assess. Despite the numerous services they provide for people, the economy and the ecosystems they rely on, groundwater resource management at national and regional level lack data, information, and adequate governance. The GGRETA project aims to address these issues to ensure the protection and sustainable use of groundwater resources through enhanced transboundary groundwater governance.

The project will work on reforming / updating legal, policy and institutional arrangements, strengthening capacities and implementing collective measures at national and regional level to develop sustainable management and governance of transboundary aquifers and associated ecosystems in Africa, Central America and Central Asia. The project includes four inter-linked outcomes:

- Strengthened of institutional and technical capacity on groundwater governance in River Basin Organisations and Regional Commissions, reinforced local stakeholders' participation and countries cooperation of the selected aquifers systems.
- Reinforced regional cooperation, partnerships, and networks, aiming at setting the base for transboundary aquifers regional strategies (special focus on Africa).
- Improved evidence-base and decision-making on transboundary groundwater resources quality protection and monitoring.
- Enhanced communication, public awareness, capacity and skills on transboundary aquifers and shared groundwater resources diplo

Beyond the first focus on improved groundwater governance, the project will aim to achieve a better and more systemic integration of groundwater resources into the water accounting of river basins, countries and regions, as part of a step-by-step approach to enable and foster a more holistic approach to transboundary waters cooperation. This new approach is addressing the sustainability challenges related to transboundary groundwater resources that many river basins are facing. It will help open up new development perspectives and opportunities for coping with the looming threats of climate variability and change, with the need for balancing surface water and groundwater water uses, preventing the risks of large scale groundwater quality degradation, and contribute to the achievement of the SDG 6, in particular indicator 6.5.2 of the Agenda 2030.

The project will:

- replicate and up-scale experiences and approaches applied in two transboundary aquifers (Stampriet in Africa, Ocotepeque-Citala in Central America) under the previous phase, to facilitate structured regional dialogue processes on groundwater resource governance regimes;
- catalyse multistate cooperation to balance conflicting water uses in transboundary surface/ groundwater in the basins;
- involve young experts and youth associations and operate to include transboundary groundwater resources management and governance items in the educational programmes;
- Consider innovative processes to enhance transboundary aquifer investments.

The project is linked to, and works in collaboration with, major international networks and strategic partners in the field of transboundary aquifers. The project closely cooperates with organisations and institutions engaged with UNESCO in the global effort to improve transboundary groundwater management, in particular the Global Environment Facility (GEF), the United Nations World Water Assessment Programme (UN WWAP), as well as regional Organisations and Economic Commissions.

Additional information: www.unesco.org/water

Development of a global framework for water and sanitation monitoring in the 2030 Agenda



Region
Global

Partner

WHO, UNICEF, UNEP, UN-Habitat, FAO, UNESCO, UNECE and WMO, operating under the umbrella of UN-Water

Background information

With the 2030 Agenda, the water sector has the opportunity to build a coherent monitoring framework that is covering the whole water cycle. This will contribute to improved integrated water resources management.

Project objectives

UN-Water with other custodian agencies will facilitate and support countries with their SDG6 monitoring mechanisms, thereby enabling them to collect and analyse high quality data in an integrated manner. This is in order to address the challenges associated with sustainable water and sanitation and build national ownership.

Beneficiaries

Policy- and decision-makers, and the general public

Costs

CHF 7,500,000

Duration

01.2019 – 12.2022

The establishment of SDG 6, Ensure availability and sustainable management of water and sanitation for all, reflects the increased attention on water and sanitation issues in the global political agenda. The 2030 Agenda recognises that social development and economic prosperity depend on the sustainable management of freshwater resources and ecosystems, which highlights the integrated nature of SDGs.

SDG 6 includes eight separate targets that aim to address the entire water cycle. These targets are global in nature and universally applicable, taking into account different national realities, capacities and levels of development, and respecting national policies and priorities. Each government has the primary responsibility for following up on and reviewing progress towards the SDGs and their targets at national, regional and global levels. It is important to encourage Member States to establish high quality, accessible, timely and reliable disaggregated data to measure progress.

The UN Water Integrated Monitoring Initiative for SDG 6 brings together eight United Nations agencies and comprises the following monitoring programmes:

JMP. The Joint Monitoring Programme for Water Supply, Sanitation and Hygiene tracks progress on drinking water, sanitation and hygiene (targets 6.1 and 6.2) and was established in 1990.

GEMI. Integrated Monitoring of Water and Sanitation-related SDG targets tracks progress on wastewater, water quality, water resources management and water-related ecosystems (targets 6.3-6.6), and was established in 2014.

GLAAS. UN-Water Global Analysis and Assessment of Sanitation and Drinking Water tracks finance, capacity and the enabling environment (targets 6.a and 6.b) and was established in 2008.



The first synthesis report on SDG 6 informed Member States during the High-level Political Forum on Sustainable Development in July 2018. This review includes data on the global baseline status of SDG 6, the current situation and trends at global and regional levels, and what needs to be done to achieve this goal by 2030.

The SDG 6 data analysis revealed that between 2000 and 2015, the population using basic drinking water service has increased by 8%, whereas the global population using basic sanitation service has increased of 9% over the same period.

project phase are the following:

- Countries are able to collect, analyse and report data on all SDG 6 global indicators.
- Policy- and decision-makers at all levels draw upon the interdependencies between the SDG 6 targets and maximise the benefits of water and sanitation monitoring data in a holistic manner.

Additional information:

JMP: <https://washdata.org/>

GLAAS:

www.who.int/water_sanitation_health/glaas

GEMI: www.unwater.org/gemi

Innovative Monitoring and Modeling

WMO HydroHub – the Global Hydrometry Support Facility



Region
Global

Partners
WMO, iMoMo consortium, BGW Management Advisory Group

Background information

Today, data on water remain scarce, fragmented and difficult to access and interpret. This hampers effective decision-making for integrated water resources management (IWRM), translating into water insecurity.

Project objective

To help expand a reliable and sustainable basis of hydro-meteorological data and information services in support of informed decision- and policy-making in water management at global, transboundary, national and local levels.

Beneficiaries

National hydromet services and local water users.

Costs

CHF 3,370,000, plus contributions from partners

Duration

05.2016-08.2020

Reliable hydro-meteorological observations and forecasts are critical to implement better water resources management practices and policies. The Global Hydrometry Support Facility (WMO HydroHub) makes its wide range of expertise – from science to technology and services – available as tailored services to WMO member states to support end-users' access to hydro-meteorological data and services from various economic sectors. These connections help increase the availability of hydro-meteorological data – catalysed by innovative technologies and approaches – to foster evidence-based policy- and decision-making in water resources management.

Many countries are unable to provide accurate, timely, and coherent information and forecasts that meet user needs. This increases societal vulnerability to natural hazards and inhibits socioeconomic growth, translating into water insecurity with measurable adverse impacts on communities, their livelihoods and ecosystems.

Poor data management can contribute to conflicts and inequitable access. The challenge is to provide hydrological information on a regular, sustainable and transparent basis to meet the growing need for development planning across a wide range of economic sectors, to secure life and property, and to foster water cooperation. A **data revolution** is needed to underpin the achievement of the Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs).

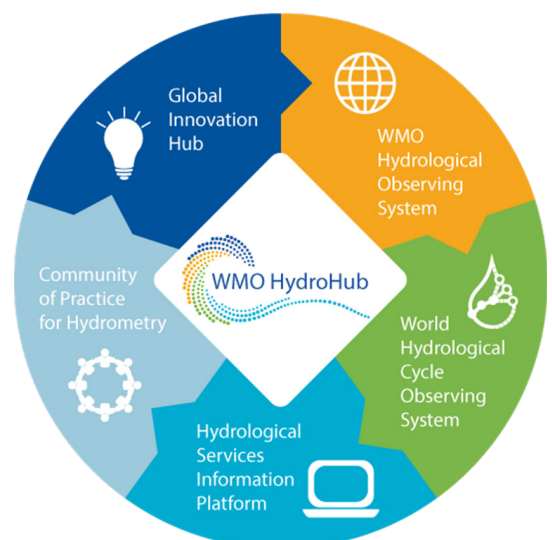
Suitable investments to strengthen national capacity to provide hydrological information services should be **driven and guided by the demand of users**. Recent technological advances open up **new perspectives through non-traditional, people-centered approaches**, which are at the core of the Innovative Monitoring and Modelling (iMoMo) initiative. The iMoMo initiative has been part of SDC's business incubation programme since 2012, and has contributed to significant policy advances at national and global level.

The overall goal of the project is **to help expand a reliable and sustainable basis of hydro-meteorological data and information to support informed decision- and policy-making in water management and conflict resolution at global, transboundary, national and local levels**. The

establishment of the WMO HydroHub (Global Hydrometry Support Facility), as well as the upscaling of existing and new iMoMo activities aim to achieve to following objectives:

- The HydroHub enhances and sustains efficient and innovative hydrological monitoring systems around the world, and facilitates free and open data sharing;
- The HydroHub fosters the use of hydro-meteorological data for evidence-based policy and decision-making in support of Integrated Water Resources Management and Disaster Risk Reduction, especially in transboundary settings;
- The HydroHub facilitates the modernisation and improvement of operational hydrology through uptake of innovative hydrometric technologies and services by National Meteorological and Hydrological Services;
- Local beneficiaries are engaged in innovative monitoring and modelling of hydromet data through a crowd-sensed approach to enhance the coverage and availability of hydromet data in six countries at transboundary, national, sub-catchment or local community levels.

To help achieve these objectives, the **WMO HydroHub** brings together the components depicted below under one single operational structure.



Additional information:
<https://hydrohub.wmo.int>
www.imomohub.org

Water Solutions

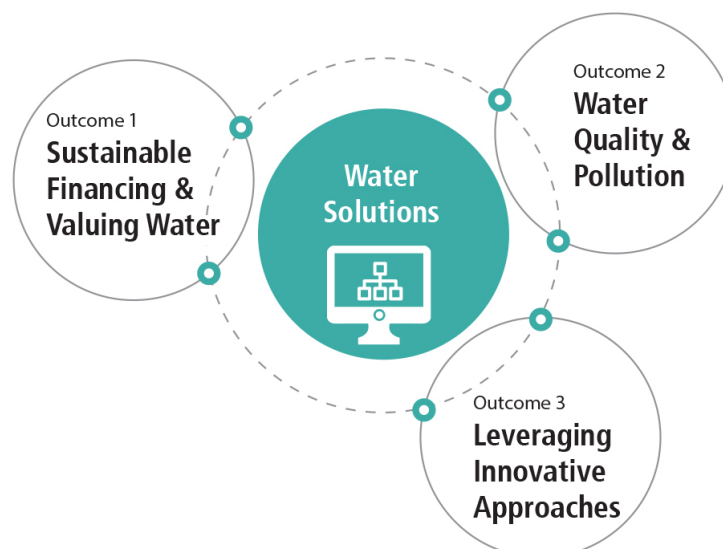
The GPW supports the acceleration of the implementation of SDG 6 by developing innovative solutions for the valuing of water, sustainable financing, technologies, sustainable service delivery and water management models.

Strategic Networks

- Water Supply and Sanitation Collaborative Council (WSSCC)
- Rural Water Supply Network (RWSN)
- Promoting Water Stewardship 2030

Projects

- Water, Behaviour Change and Environmental Sanitation (WABES)
- SuizAgua América Latina (Colombia)
- SuizAgua América Latina (Peru, Chile and Brazil)
- Resource Recovery and Safe Reuse: Improving the sanitation sector while promoting Resource Recovery and Safe Reuse in Kampala
- Strengthening Agricultural Water Efficiency and Productivity
- Vietnam to produce more coffee with less water



Collaboration to accelerate national sanitation and hygiene improvements



Region

Global, with a focus on Eastern & Western Africa, South and Southeast Asia

Partner

WSSCC

Background information

WSSCC was created in 1990 by the UN General Assembly.

Project objectives

- To convene partners and foster collaborative behaviours to become 16 million people open defecation free and to accelerate progress toward SDG target 6.2.
- To promote Menstrual Hygiene Management to empower girls to take control of their health, by improving policies and standards for schools, and making knowledge, services and materials available.
- To improve knowledge and skills of individuals and agencies working in sanitation and hygiene.

Beneficiaries

Individuals without access to sanitation and hygiene, marginalized groups, sector professionals.

Costs

CHF 12,000,000

Duration

2018 – 2020

The Water Supply and Sanitation Collaborative Council (WSSCC) is a multi-stakeholder membership and partnership organization that delivers results by working with national and local governments, civil society networks, communities, schools and local entrepreneurs. As a UN-hosted organization, WSSCC makes a positive difference in the lives of millions of vulnerable and marginalized people through improvements in their access to and use of sanitation and hygiene facilities and services, education and advocacy on issues like Menstrual Hygiene Management, and sector convening which accelerates progress toward Sustainable Development Goal (SDG) target 6.2.

Nearly 900 million people still defecate in the open and 4.5 billion lack access to safely managed sanitation. When a community gains access to sanitation – decent toilets and, clean water, when people use water and soap for washing hands – life improves by every measure. When girls have access to gender-separated toilets and facilities for managing their menstruating in privacy and with dignity, school enrolment rates go up and drop-out rates go down. When mothers and children are less exposed to faecal pathogens, their nutritional status improves and stunting rates of young children go down.

WSSCC works at **global, national and sub-national levels** through advocacy, learning and strategic partnerships on increasing national capacity, leveraging domestic resources and mobilizing civil society towards scaling-up and accelerating progress towards SDG target 6.2. WSSCC's work links directly to SDGs on gender equality, health, education, urbanization and climate change.

The Global Sanitation Fund (GSF) delivers since 2010 targeted investments for national sanitation and hygiene programmes in rural communities. The GSF is designed to contribute to universal access to sustainable and equitable sanitation and hygiene, working in line with national strategies and SDG 6.2. It supports country-led initiatives in 11 countries focusing on equality, reaching the most vulnerable and underserved, and addressing the particular needs of women and girls. GSF-supported programmes use collective behaviour change approaches like Community Led Total Sanitation (CLTS) to achieve large-scale sustainable results in a cost-effective manner. Through the GSF, WSSCC is targeting the last ten to fifteen per cent of the population that often fail to benefit from mainstream development programming and economic growth.



A young girl in Senegal uses WSSCC's MHM wheel to learn about her menstrual cycle, starting a journey which will empower her for life.

Menstrual Hygiene Management (MHM) – Informing young girls about menstruation, addressing taboos and misconceptions and empowering them enables girls to take charge of their life-long health, including their sexual and reproductive health. WSSCC programming focuses on schools, and on the wider community and networks of girls. Where needed WSSCC addresses stigma and taboos around menstruation at the highest level of government, and is working in strategic partnerships with global business to elevate the importance of hygiene through research, education and innovation. WSSCC also partners with UN Women on policy advocacy and direct technical programming.

Equality and Non-discrimination to Leave No One Behind – WSSCC gives a voice to marginalized groups at national and international levels, to highlight their challenges in public life to have access to disability sensitive toilets. WSSCC works with global partners on introducing adaptations to household and community toilets that facilitate access to differently abled people.

Facilitating national sector discussions and learning events – WSSCC convenes national and sub-national sector discussions on accelerating progress towards SDG 6.2 through its National Coordinators, its partner networks and its nearly 5,000 individual members in 150 countries.

Research and Rapid Action Learning – WSSCC conducts highly creative applied research in areas such as hand washing and hygiene behaviour change, slippage, institutional triggering, and MHM.

Additional information:

www.wsscc.org

Rural Water Supply Network (RWSN)

Promoting professionalism and innovation in rural water



Region
Global

Partners
Skat Found., World Bank, UNICEF, WaterAid, IRC, African Development Bank

Background information
663 million rural dwellers do not have access to a basic or safely managed water supply.

Project objectives

1. RWSN contributes to furthering the rural water supply sector globally in its scaling up of solutions to achieve SDG6.1 through improving access to knowledge and capacity development.
2. RWSN contributes to improvements of rural water supply at a national/sub-national levels.
3. RWSN membership is growing and engage rural water supply professionals, and organisations to achieve the networks goals and Vision.

Beneficiaries

Rural Water Users, Government Rural Water Departments, NGOs, private sector service providers, Academia and research

Costs

Total: CHF 2,500,000
SDC: CHF 750,000

Duration
2018-2020

The Rural Water Supply Network (RWSN) is a global professional network that connects people and organisations with each other and to the expertise and latest research and innovation. SDC supports RWSN to raise standards of professional competence, knowledge uptake and integrity to fulfil the vision of safe, sustainable rural water services for all. RWSN reinforces the strong Swiss track-record of research into action and scaling-up of proven solutions.

Vision

RWSN's vision is of a world in which all rural people have access to a sustainable and reliable water supply which can be effectively managed to provide sufficient, affordable and safe water within a reasonable distance of the home.

Mission

RWSN is a global network of professionals and practitioners working to raise standards of knowledge and evidence, technical and professional competence, practice and policy in rural water supply and so fulfil the vision of sustainable rural water services for all.

RWSN Themes (2018-2023 Strategy)

RWSN focuses activities on common challenges and opportunities faced by governments, civil society, non-governmental organisations and the private sector in low- and middle-income countries around the world, with particular emphasis on fragile states threatened by conflict, climate change and water resource challenges:

Leave No-one Behind – To develop practical responses to the SDG mandate to leave no-one behind, recognising that the causes of exclusion include physical, attitudinal and institutional barriers, and that realisation of human rights to water and sanitation for the most marginalised requires a focus on power relations.

Mapping & Monitoring – To share and promote successful models for evidence based decision-making to inform sustainable rural water services delivery (e.g. resource allocation, external support). In-country monitoring is in line with and contributes to SDG monitoring incorporating key rural water supply sustainability indicators.

Self-supply – The potential and limitations of Supported Self-supply as a service delivery approach for rural water supply is understood and recognized by government agencies, development partners, water users and other key actors. Supported Self-supply is applied where appropriate.

Sustainable Groundwater Development – Groundwater resources are professionally assessed, developed and managed for drinking water supply and other uses, so ensuring their long term quality and security.

Sustainable Services – Models and tools are developed, evaluated and disseminated for rural water supply services to be adequately financed, meet country norms and standards and to be managed by defined service providers with adequate support.

Cutting across these themes is an emphasis on providing support and networking opportunities to young professionals and early career researchers, safe (high quality) water, and research and technology knowledge brokering and scaling-up.

Through a dynamic mix of peer-reviewed guidance, online sharing and face-to-face events, RWSN supports member interests and raises topics that have the potential to lead to important systematic changes in how rural water services are delivered.

The network has over 10,000 members in 152 countries. Through RWSN, SDC and Swiss organisations are able to contribute to global debates and build valuable partnerships. The Secretariat is hosted by Skat Foundation, St. Gallen.

Additional information:
www.rural-water-supply.net

Multi-Stakeholder Action for achieving SDG 6



The CEO Water Mandate



Region
Global

Partners

Alliance for Water Stewardship (AWS).
Water Resources Group 2030 (WRG2030).
United Nations Global Compact / CEO Water Mandate (Pacific Institute).
WEF Water Initiative.

Background information

Increased competition among different water users results in overuse and pollution of surface water and over-abstraction of groundwater, which in turn creates public health risks.

Project objectives

Water resources are managed sustainably, in particular by responsible private sector stakeholders, through collective accountability and bottom-up efforts by all water users.

Beneficiaries

All water users: Citizens, academic sector, civil society. Countries / governments at national and sub-national level (policy makers and public authorities). Private sector

Costs

CHF 5,450,000

Duration

03.2018 – 12.2020

As water is a key resource for competing users, sustainable water management needs to be addressed in partnership with all, from the basin to the global level. In essence, Water Stewardship fosters responsible private engagement in water and thus contributes to reaching the targets of SDG 6.

This Water Stewardship programme promotes and institutionalises multi-stakeholder water dialogue by supporting several public-private-civil society partnership initiatives.

The Water Stewardship programme is implemented by four strategic partners. Each partner has its own niche and function in influencing change within the private sector and governments in their regulatory function. The programme allows for feedback loops between the local and the global level, and vice versa.

Alliance for Water Stewardship (AWS)

AWS is a global membership-based collaboration comprising leading businesses, NGOs, public sector agencies and academic institutes. The members unite behind the AWS mission, to “promote the responsible use of freshwater that is socially and economically beneficial and environmentally sustainable”. The AWS standard is a globally applicable framework for major water users to understand their water use and impacts, and to work collaboratively and transparently for sustainable water management within a catchment context. The AWS Standard is consistently recognised as global best practice in water stewardship.

Water Resources Group 2030 (WRG 2030)

WRG 2030 is a public-private-civil society partnership that helps government water officials and other water sector specialists accelerate reforms to ensure sustainable water resource management for the long-term development and economic growth of their country.

WRG 2030 is hosted by the Water Global Practice with the participation of the International Finance Corporation (World Bank Group), with strong linkages to the WEF and its meetings (including its meeting in Davos and regional meetings). At the global and local levels, WRG 2030 works with a diverse set of partners from the private and public sector that represent various multi-stakeholder perspectives, aiming to interface with a wide variety of critical

water programmes and initiatives. At the heart of the WRG 2030 are over 10 – 15 national Multi-Stakeholder Platforms (MSPs).

United Nations Global Compact / CEO Water Mandate (Pacific Institute)

The CEO Water Mandate is a special initiative of the UN Secretary-General and the UN Global Compact, implemented in partnership with the Pacific Institute. The CEO Water Mandate mobilises a critical mass of business leaders to address global water challenges through corporate water stewardship, in partnership with the United Nations, governments, civil society organizations, and other stakeholders. Endorsers of the CEO Water Mandate recognise that they can identify and reduce critical water risks to their businesses, seize water-related opportunities, and contribute to the Sustainable Development Goals. The CEO Water Mandate offers a unique platform to share best and emerging practices and to forge multi-stakeholder partnerships to address challenges related to water scarcity, water quality, water governance, and access to water and sanitation.

WEF Water Initiative

The primary goal of the Global Water Initiative is to re-energise the global dialogue around water security through innovative approaches and new champions. The new WEF Water Strategy focuses on new technologies and innovation for water with non-traditional actors from the technology sector to identify new models and approaches, as well as related opportunities and risks (e.g. for developing countries). In assembling a new group of thought leaders from across the public and private sectors and civil society, the Global Water Initiative will explore how new technologies and applications can accelerate progress and transform the global water and sanitation agenda.

Additional information:

AWS: <https://a4ws.org/>
WRG2030: <https://www.2030wrg.org/>
CEO Water Mandate: <https://ceowatermandate.org/>
WEF Water Initiative: <https://www.weforum.org/projects/global-water-initiative>

Water, Behaviour Change and Environmental Sanitation (WABES): Sustainable Solutions to Research, Knowledge and Professionalization



Region
Global

Partners
Eawag

Background information

At least 700 million people lack access to improved sources of drinking water and 2.5 billion do not use an improved sanitation facility. Disparities are high, with access being much lower in rural areas and in sub-Saharan Africa.

Project objectives

Generation and validation of new knowledge through applied research by addressing improved sustainable access to safe water, improved access to environmental sanitation, and providing expert knowledge and capacity building.

Beneficiaries

- Experts (practitioners), decision makers, and policy makers at local and national levels, and with international development agencies
- Local stakeholder groups
- Universities and students
- Local communities

Costs

Total: CHF 4,140,534
SDC: CHF 2,600,000

Duration

01.2018 – 12.2021

Equitable access to safe drinking water and sanitation facilities and services is a human right and a crucial stepping-stone towards better health, economic development and poverty reduction.

The four-year WABES project supports the applied research and capacity development projects of three applied research departments at the Swiss Federal Institute of Aquatic Science and Technology (Eawag).

Research Objectives

The project addresses the improvement of access to water, environmental sanitation and hygiene (WASH), especially for the rural poor and marginalized urban populations. WABES will generate and validate new knowledge on concepts and technologies by addressing improved sustainable access to safe water; improved access to environmental sanitation, and providing expert knowledge and capacity building for the WASH sector.

Eawag maintains a large network with more than 40 partner organizations in developing countries and works towards increasing their research capacity and professional expertise in the field of water supply and environmental sanitation.

Flagship research products

Building upon the achievements of the past research, this proposal will achieve three main outcomes with a great potential for high impact worldwide:

Outcome 1: Improved sustainable access to safe water for the marginalized and rural poor

This outcome will be achieved through:

- Assessing technical and management solutions for safe water in rural, urban and household settings, and evaluating their impact.
- Developing and expanding the geostatistical modelling tool of the Groundwater Assessment Platform (GAP) to test its effectiveness in modelling geogenic and anthropogenic contaminants in groundwater



© Eawag

Outcome 2: Improved access to environmental sanitation considering concepts of resource recovery and circular economy for the marginalized and poor

This outcome will be achieved through:

- Developing guidelines for dewatering of faecal sludge in dense urban areas in developing cities.
- Validating planning and programming solutions for small towns with a focus on faecal sludge management tools.
- Developing and validating solutions and guidelines for “zero-waste management” using integrated approaches with a focus on waste recycling solutions for schools, which can also support planning for zero waste villages.

Outcome 3: Expert knowledge & built capacity of students and practitioners in selected domains of the WASH sector

This outcome will be achieved through:

- Developing innovative educational methods to enhance environmental engineering and WASH education across the globe. This initiative builds on Eawag’s past experiences with Massive Open Online Courses (MOOCs) and will include the production and testing of embedded eLearning-components into curricula of universities and training centers in low- and middle-income countries.
- Developing and evaluating a toolbox of behavior change techniques that can promote effective habit development and psychological ownership related to water, sanitation, and hygiene behaviors.

Additional information:

www.eawag.ch / www.sandec.ch

Strategic partnerships for better water management



Country
Colombia

Partners

IDEAM Colombia, Rural Agricultural Planning Unit (Ministry of Agriculture), Centre of Science Technology, National Business Association, Partner companies, Cleaner Production Center, Quantis, Insitu, CEO Water Mandate (UN GC), Alianza BioCuenca, Good Stuff International

Background information

Businesses are increasingly aware of water risks; facing challenges related to inefficient water use, non-existing or deficient water treatment, water scarcity / climate variability and competition among water users.

Project targets

- Facilitate PPP to provide at least 20 convincing business cases
- 2 water policy instruments enriched (agriculture and water quality)
- 1 scheme for investment on ecosystem services established.
- Scaling corporate water stewardship in Latin America linked to the Pacific Alliance.

Target groups

Communities, public institutions, business associations, companies, water practitioners, citizens

Costs

CHF 2,000,000

Duration

01.2016 – 12.2020

Water management being one of the main challenges of the 21st century, the generation of knowledge to make decisions and collaboration between different sectors; are the axis of the present and future well-being of humanity. The initiative "El Agua Nos Une" articulates the work of public institutions, business associations and research organisations. It aims at: i) scaling corporate water stewardship in Colombia; ii) strengthening knowledge on water uses, particularly in the agricultural sector; iii) contributing to the national water quality and quantity monitoring program; iv) developing an investment scheme in ecosystem services; and; v) facilitating a community of practice on water footprint and corporate water management in Latin America.

Context

The OECD estimates that by 2030, nearly 4 billion people in the world - almost half of the population - will live under conditions of severe water stress. The Water Objective (SDG 6) of the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development calls for action and mobilization of the different sectors to face the global water crisis. In addition, the private sector is increasingly aware that weaknesses in integrated water resource management are a substantial risk to business. Therefore, committed alliances among different actors must promote good governance, equitable access to water and efficient water management. In this context, there is a need for recognized and standardized tools to lead water risk management at corporate and territorial levels.

Key results and insights from previous phases

- The water footprint went from being a little-known concept to a tool used by the private sector, public institutions, academia and research centers. The water footprint contributes as an indicator to evaluate, monitor and prioritize investments to reduce the direct and indirect impacts of water uses, within the production of goods and services.

- A productive Public Private Partnership experience with 11 multinational companies from diverse productive sectors.
- The partner companies invested about 2.5 Mio USD in the reduction and monitoring of the water footprint and in actions at the water basin.
- The water footprint was included, for the first time, in the National Water Study of (ENA), as IDEAM's renowned public policy instrument.
- Knowledge management and communication was achieved and supported international visibility and scaling up in the region (Peru and Chile).

Lines of action 2016-2020

- Lead business cases of corporate water stewardship, more than 30 partner companies. Partnership with ANDI, CNPML, Insitu and Quantis. It includes application the water footprint (ISO 14046), achievement of the value chain involvement and implementation of collective actions for better water management.
- Create and invigorate a community of practice in Latin America, reaching professionals and institutions from at least 10 countries.
- Knowledge development and business cases in Mexico, in coordination with public bodies and with the Life Cycle Analysis Center (CADIS), strengthening the relation with the Pacific Alliance.
- Development of stronger criteria for agricultural planning based on crop water requirements and water availability, along with the IDEAM, the agricultural sector UPRA – Ministry of Agriculture and CTA.
- Contribution to the design and implementation of the National Water Monitoring Program (quantity and quality) with IDEAM.
- Develop the investment scheme in ecosystem services „MiParamo“ for the conservation of the high mountain ecosystem and improve living conditions of the vulnerable population.

Scaling-up the Water Footprint Project for Peru, Chile and Brazil



Country/Region

Peru, Chile, Brazil

Partners

Peru: National Water Authority, Association of Industries, Universities / Chile: Agency for Climate Change and Sustainability, Directorate of Water, Chile University / Brazil: Federation of Sao Paulo industries, Universities

Background information

Water risks and the competition for water as a productive resource are increasing. Environmental authorities and companies are eager to understand the link and reduce the effects between human consumption and impacts on freshwater systems.

Project target

- Implement Blue Certificate (Peru), standardize WF indicators in Clean Production Agreements (Chile), position the WF concept (Brazil).
- Launch innovative information campaign for behavioural change towards a sustainable water culture.
- Promote partners' institutional leadership to contribute to a regional CoP.

Target groups

Environmental authorities, research institutions, companies, business associations.

Costs

Total: CHF 3,200,000

SDC: CHF 1,600,000

Duration

10.2016 – 01.2020

The project together with relevant stakeholders aims at developing and implementing the Water Footprint (WF) concept with a life Cycle Assessment approach in order to improve water management. These activities will be implemented in Peru, Chile and Brazil, focussing on 1) an operational system (WF) combined with an online information system; 2) agreements with watershed initiatives, applying WF and Corporate Water Stewardship principles; 3) an information campaign designed to increase water responsibility; and 4) knowledge exchanges and capacity building on WF to key partners.

Context

In September 2015, countries adopted the Sustainable Development Goals (SDG) to protect the planet, end poverty, and ensure prosperity for all as part of a new sustainable development agenda 2030. The water goal (SDG 6) emphasizes the urgency of addressing the global water crises and highlights the key role of the private sector in realizing a sustainable future for humanity.

In that sense, knowing that in Peru and Chile, countries where the competition for water as a key productive resource is increasing and conflicts over water are intensifying, the Swiss Cooperation in alliance with leading companies, research institutions and public institutions implemented the "SuizAgua Andina" project (2012 to 2015) in order to contribute to a better water resource management through the application of the WF concept at national and local level. Additionally, the companies participated in knowledge exchanges and the dissemination of project achievements.

Key results / insight from previous phases

- Positioning of the WF concept in the private sector, public institutions and academia in Peru, Chile and Brazil.
- Successful implementation of the WF concept in 10 multinational companies (5 in Peru, 5 in Chile).
- Investments by companies of 10 Mio USD (2013-2016) in WF reduction and watershed actions.
- Launch of a Blue Certificate by the Peruvian Water Authority.

The project, between 2016 and 2020, seeks to build upon the previous results and scale up (as in Brazil) by enhancing the use of the corporate water stewardship focus to raise awareness and reduce impacts of water from water uses in the production of goods and services.

Objectives and intervention lines 2016-2020

- An operational corporate WF framework enhances responsible and sustainable water use.
- Members of communities with vulnerable socio-economic conditions take part in collective watershed actions.
- Through innovative behavioural change campaigns, urban citizens adopt a more sustainable water culture.
- A dynamic community of practice assures robust results and further outreach.

Additional information:

www.cooperacionsuizaenperu.org.pe

Improving the sanitation sector while promoting Resource Recovery and Safe Reuse in Kampala



Region
Global

Partners
GIZ, Kampala Capital City Authority, Eawag, WHO

Background information

The results of the RR&R Project Phase 1 (2011-2015) found a potential for implementing certain RR&R businesses in Kampala. However, the legal and institutional framework is not strong enough.

Project objectives

- Implement economically viable RR&R business models while addressing public health and environmental implications.
- Strengthen legal and institutional frameworks for sanitation management through application of SSP in selected businesses and pilot areas.
- Develop communication and outreach strategy.

Beneficiaries

Entrepreneurs of small and medium RR&R enterprises, private faecal sludge emptiers, poor households without access to sanitation, public authorities

Costs

SDC: EUR 1,500,000
Total: EUR 3,000,000

Duration

06.2015 – 08.2019

About half of the world's population is predicted to live in water stressed areas by 2025. This scenario is further aggravated by the inadequate management of liquid and solid wastes in urban and peri-urban areas of low- and middle-income countries, leading to the disposal of untreated waste streams and associated human and environmental health risks. The recovery of water, nutrients and energy from sanitation systems is therefore an increasing priority for many governments.

Context and Rationale of the Project

Sanitation issues are some of the most significant development challenges for Uganda's capital city Kampala. Like many other capital cities in developing countries, Kampala is experiencing rapid population and economic growth. However, provision of key services including adequate sanitation services for the population has not been in tandem with these developments.

In Kampala, about 90% of the people rely on on-site sanitation solutions, which cannot be considered "improved" or "acceptable" in most cases. Pit-latrines are unlined, filled with solid waste and difficult to access for emptying services - ultimately leading to filled-up facilities that are either abandoned or directly emptied into the urban environment, which poses health and environmental risks for the city and its people.

Untreated industrial wastewater discharged directly into the environment, and insufficient solid waste management add to the fact that the city faces increasing challenges in safeguarding public health and protecting its natural resources.

The main reasons are weak institutional and legal frameworks and financial capacities for the sanitation sector, an unregulated private sector and a lack of alternatives to turn liquid and solid waste into value.

Intervention strategy and partners

It is against this backdrop that the *Reform of the Urban Water and Sanitation Sector (RUWASS)*, and the subsequent *Enhanced Water Security and Sanitation (ENWASS)* programmes implemented by GIZ in Uganda support the Kampala Capital City Authority and other key stakeholders under a co-funding agreement between the German Government (Federal Ministry for Economic Cooperation and Development, BMZ) and the Swiss Government (Swiss Agency for Development and Cooperation, SDC).



Open dumping of faecal sludge in Kampala

The main goal of this joint project is to improve the sanitation sector of Kampala while promoting alternatives to classic waste disposal. The reasoning behind this is that the amount of liquid and solid waste is going to increase once the framework conditions are strengthened. However, the capacities to deal with the waste are likely to remain the same. Hence, alternative solutions to recover and reuse nutrients, water and energy from waste are needed. The interventions will focus on three thematic areas:

1. Strengthening the legal and institutional framework for Faecal Sludge Management (FSM) as well as RR&R;
2. Coaching and training of actual RR&R business entrepreneurs and supporting the implementation of a number of economically viable RR&R business pilots;
3. Promoting the adaptation, implementation and use of WHO's concept of Sanitation Safety Planning (SSP) both on policy and private sector level;
4. Developing a communication and dissemination strategy to ensure uptake of experiences from Kampala to the national level to encourage replication in other towns of Uganda.

Expected Results

The expected results of the project are:

1. The legal and institutional framework for private sector engagement in Kampala's sanitation sector is strengthened;
2. Safe and financially sustainable RR&R business pilots are established in Kampala;
3. SSP is a standard planning and monitoring tool for the sanitation sector by local authorities and is put into practice by RR&R businesses;
4. The experience of piloting RR&R business models and improving FSM in Kampala is disseminated to the national and international level, to support scaling up and policy dialogue.

Additional information:

www.giz.de/en/worldwide/19263.html

www.susana.org/en/knowledge-hub/resources-and-publications/libra/details/2894

Saving water and improving livelihoods by enhancing agricultural water efficiency and productivity in Africa



Country/Region

Burkina Faso, Morocco, Uganda

Partner

Food and Agriculture Organisation (FAO), Agricultural Water Partnership for Africa

Background information

The agricultural sector is the largest user of water, accounting for 70% of global freshwater withdrawals. To avert a global water crisis, agriculture has to become more efficient, and produce more food with less water.

Project objectives

Agricultural water management is improved in target countries and knowledge is mainstreamed in policy and practice on the African and global level.

Beneficiaries

Smallholder farmers, extension agents, water use planners and decision-makers

Costs

CHF 3,850,000

Duration

12.2014 – 09.2019

Enhancing agricultural water efficiency and productivity is imperative to mitigate water scarcity and to increase food security and small-scale farmers' incomes in the developing world. This project, implemented through the FAO and the Agricultural Water Partnership for Africa, will establish evidence-based policy, good practice and investment in sustainable agricultural water management in Burkina Faso, Morocco, Uganda and globally by linking catalytic activities to national and regional policy processes.

Agricultural water management in Africa

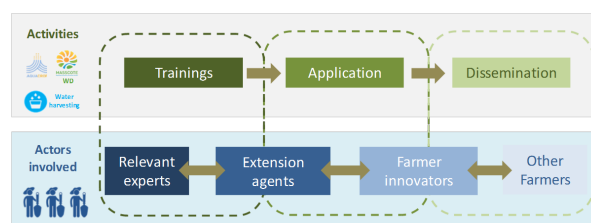
Africa is a rural continent where agriculture plays an important role in its social and economic development. Notwithstanding the importance of the sector, productivity levels are far from reaching their full potential. In rain-fed areas, reliance on irregular and unreliable rainfall is one of the major causes behind the low crop yields that characterise African agriculture. In irrigated areas, the lack of modern irrigation systems and the poor state of infrastructure lead to considerable water losses. This, coupled with inadequate farming management practices, has resulted in low water productivity and use efficiency in both irrigated and rainfed areas.

Improved Agriculture Water Management (AWM) can play a key role in increasing water use efficiency and productivity. For rain-fed agriculture, improved AWM practices include more efficient use of soil moisture, developing water harvesting capacity and using supplementary irrigation techniques. For irrigated agriculture, improved AWM aims at reducing water losses from drainage and non-productive evaporation. shown in the figure below:

Mainstreaming improved agricultural water management in policy and practice

The project aims at reducing hunger and poverty in three African countries (Burkina Faso, Morocco and Uganda) by focusing on the improvement of AWM and mainstreaming AWM in national frameworks and processes. The project is in line with the objectives of the Comprehensive African Agricultural Development Programme (CAADP) of promoting agricultural growth on the African continent and in particular with its Pillar 1, which aims to extend the area under sustainable land management and reliable water control systems.

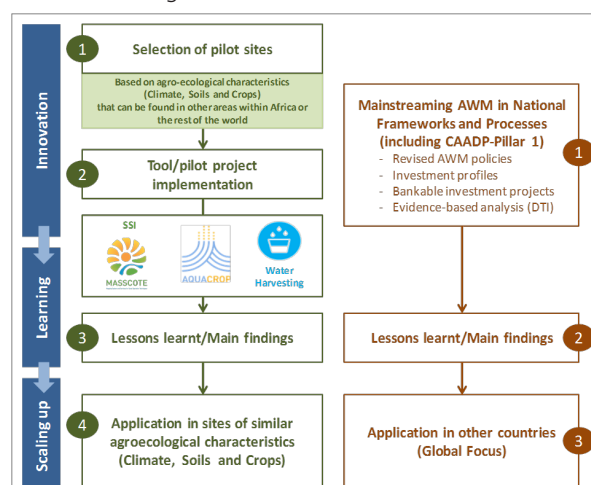
The intervention approach is to work closely with



relevant government officials, extension agents, research institutions and farmer representatives.

On the practice level, relevant experts and extension agents in related ministries as well as farmers' representatives are trained on the use of tools to enhance water productivity (AquaCrop), tools to improve the performance of small-scale irrigation systems (MASSCOTE) and methods to enhance water harvesting. The project features a case study approach to apply the tools and methods on pilot sites. Once successful improvements on crop water productivity, water irrigation efficiency and water harvesting are achieved, lessons learned and key results will be disseminated to reach a wide community of small-scale farmers.

On the policy level, national water audits are conducted. This detailed analysis of agricultural water use and other water uses gives countries a baseline to adapt water policies and improve water management plans. Findings of the case studies and the water audits will result into revised AWM policies and feed into the development of investment profiles and the formulation of bankable investment projects. This intervention and scaling-up strategy is shown in the figure below:



Additional information:

www.fao.org/nr/water/agwa

Vietnam to produce more coffee with less water

Towards a reduction of the blue water footprint in coffee production



Country

Vietnam, Central Highlands

Partners

Nestlé, Hanns R. Neumann Stiftung, Ministry of Agriculture & Rural Development & Provincial Departments, Neuchâtel University, International Water Management Institute IWMI, Hanoi University of Science

Background information

Coffee is one of the primary agricultural products traded in the world and is a commodity of outstanding significance for producing regions. Coffee production in Vietnam has a significant impact on water resources.

Project objectives

- Identify water scarcity hotspots and implement action plans
- Optimise water management on farm via weather forecasting system
- 50,000 farmers trained adopt good water management practices

Target groups

50,000 of the poorer and marginalised smallholder coffee farmers.

Costs

Total: CHF 940'000

SDC: CHF 510'000

Duration

01.2018 – 12.2019

Vietnam is the second largest coffee producer in the world and a leading robusta coffee exporter. The country has the world's highest coffee yields, which puts it in the centre of the global coffee market as demand keeps increasing. Coffee is the most important export product in terms of value for Vietnam; coffee production supports the rural livelihoods of over 2 million people, mainly in the Central Highlands. Export volumes peaked at circa 30 million bags in 2016, generating revenues of over USD 3 billion.

In order to make coffee farming an economically viable livelihood activity, water for irrigation is a precondition to achieve yields that average 2.4 million tonnes per ha. However, people living in the Central Highlands of Vietnam are increasingly facing challenges linked to droughts and extreme water shortages. These threaten agricultural production, which not only affects community life, but also weakens the local economy.

Aggravating this situation is the absence of systematic water resources monitoring, which makes it impossible to provide information on the condition of water resources, and recommend a course of action on water resources management for the region.

Against this background, the project "More coffee with less water – towards a reduction of the blue water footprint in coffee production" was designed and launched in July 2014. This is a partnership between Nestlé/Nescafé and the Swiss Agency for Development and Cooperation (SDC). The project goal is to ensure equitable and sufficient water availability for all water users in the Central Highlands, while improving livelihoods and protecting the environment by reducing the water used in coffee irrigation.

After an external project evaluation (August 2017), it was decided to orient the project's scope of action towards (i) policy formulation based on the lessons learnt in phase 1 of the project and (ii) scaling up project approaches.

The new project design incorporates three different strategies: (i) creating evidence, information and

practical guidance based on applied research (Outcome 1 & 2), (ii) proof of concept: capacity-building based on best practice irrigation management and Good Agricultural Practices (Outcome 3), and (iii) influencing (inter)national stakeholders to ensure policy debate on water use efficiency in coffee production (Outcome 4) and upscaling of impact in cooperation with other public and private partners as an exit strategy.

Phase 2 of the project will run from January 2018 until December 2019, targeting 15,000 farmer beneficiaries as well as national policy-makers at the Ministry of Agriculture and Rural Development, and public and private players in the coffee sector. For Outcome 4 a partnership with the Vietnam Coffee Coordination Board (VCCB) and Global Coffee Platform (GCP) was established.



Additional information:

More coffee less water - movie:

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=G0Bnu8lsbCM>

Water Voice

The GPW enables Switzerland and SDC to position themselves as influential players in the international dialogue on water and sanitation. It ensures that availability and sustainable management of water and sanitation are prioritised on international agendas.

Strategic Networks

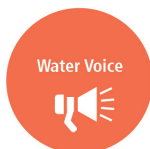
- The Swiss Water Partnership
- AGUASAN Workshops

Projects

- Swiss Bluetec Bridge: Financing Swiss innovation to benefit disadvantaged populations
- Solidarit'eau Suisse



The Swiss Water Partnership



Country

Switzerland

Partners

HELVETAS Swiss Intercooperation, Skat Consulting Ltd. (Secretariat), 70+ members

Background information

The SWP is a Swiss non-profit association founded in 2012, umbrella organisation for the main Swiss stakeholders working on global water challenges.

Project objectives

Bring together and stimulate Swiss know-how and expertise to contribute to improving living conditions in developing and transition countries through enhanced water security

Beneficiaries

Water decision- & policy-makers, water users, academic sector, civil society, private sector, etc. both in Switzerland and abroad.

Costs

CHF 870,000

Duration

01.2019 – 12.2021

Switzerland's privileged situation as Europe's water tower, and the fact that around 80% of its water footprint is affecting other countries, require the country to take responsibility to support others in achieving water security for their population and ecosystems. The Swiss Water Partnership (SWP) was launched in 2012 based on the initiative of the SDC, with the aim of contributing to solving global water challenges and position Switzerland at the forefront of the international water scene. The scale and urgency of the global water challenges call for the development of multi-stakeholder partnerships, which have the potential to create a leveraging effect.

The Swiss Water Partnership is a multi-stakeholder platform bringing together Swiss organisations from the academic sector, civil society, the public and private sectors, including youth, to join forces and find innovative solutions for water challenges in developing and transition countries. As an umbrella organisation for Switzerland's water stakeholders at the international level, the Swiss Water Partnership is a key complementary partner to SDC both in Switzerland and abroad, and carries the diversity of the Swiss voice. It aims at contributing to achieving the water-related SDG targets globally by:

- Leveraging partnerships: Facilitating partnerships among SWP members, in particular as a way to create synergies by putting together different actors with complementary know-how and expertise, to support Swiss actors to position themselves abroad, and potentially develop new partnerships & business opportunities ;
- Generating innovation: Stimulating the creation of innovative cross-sector solutions by and for its members, and promoting Swiss water innovations internationally ;
- Influencing policy and practice: Mobilising Swiss water actors to tackle global water issues, to participate in policy processes, particularly in relation to the monitoring and implementation of SDG 6, and promoting the operationalisation of the human rights to water and sanitation principles ;

- Managing knowledge: Positioning the platform as a dynamic learning platform, offering a space to learn from each other, exchange experience, develop new ideas and solutions building on the diversity of the SWP members' skills and experience.

Shared values

The SWP members have agreed upon the following shared values:

- **SOLIDARITY** - Supporting the less privileged in getting universal access to safe water, sanitation and hygiene and manage their water resources in an integrated and sustainable manner is at the core of SWP's activities.
- **INTEGRITY** - Water projects need to be managed under the principles of transparency, accountability and participation of the civil society, thereby ensuring ownership and sustainability.

Guiding principles

The activities of the platform are guided by the following principles: Non-partisan // Evidence-based // Information transparency.

The statutes form a binding document for all members to ensure the respect of these values and principles.

Specific Objectives

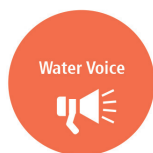
1. **PLATFORM DEVELOPMENT**
platform is only as dynamic and innovative as the sum of its members. The SWP therefore seeks to diversify its membership base, increasing the potential for disruptive dialogue, including non-traditional investment actors, youth, and private sector water users.
2. **YOUTH FOR WATER**
Shaping tomorrow's water future with today's youth, the SWP works at attracting and connecting youth and young professionals to the water sector, with the aim of engaging Swiss and eventually international youth to influence water-related debates.
3. **INNOVATIONS FOR SDG WATER**
Innovations enhancing the effectiveness of approaches to achieve water-related SDG targets are generated and/or tested, and shared through the SWP and its members.
4. **STRONG SWISS VOICE**
The SWP contributes to increasing visibility and recognition of the Swiss know-how, solutions and research on water, through better coordination of Swiss stakeholders at the international level



Additional information:

www.swisswaterpartnership.ch

A joint learning experience for strategy development and enhanced cooperation in the water sector



Region

Switzerland and international

Partners

seecon international gmbh

Background information

The annual AGUASAN workshops on water and sanitation are aligned with the goal of poverty reduction and explore synergies with other development sectors, whilst furthering the realisation of good governance and human rights principles and promoting gender-sensitive approaches.

Project objectives

Prepare the water and sanitation sector community to respond to, and eventually contribute to the achievement of the Water and Sanitation 2030 Agenda

Beneficiaries

International field staff, desk officers, policy makers, young professionals, researchers, consultants and other water and sanitation specialists

Costs

CHF 320,287

Duration

2019 - 2020

AGUASAN is a long-standing Swiss community of practice providing a knowledge platform and think-tank with a crucial role in shaping the response to water and sanitation issues in international cooperation. An annual workshop gathers international experts and provides a space for in-depth exchanges on relevant experiences and new topics. This allows the water and sanitation sector community to prepare to contribute to the achievement of the 2030 Agenda for sustainable development.

During the AGUASAN Workshops, water and sanitation specialists from all over the world gather for five days in Switzerland to collectively reflect on a cutting-edge topic in the water sector. They are the annual highlight of AGUASAN, a community of practice and a unique forum for in-depth exchanges on relevant experiences and for exploring new topics. Every other year, biannual international events take the AGUASAN Workshops to another country. In 2019, the 35th consecutive workshop in a series of globally renowned events, will take place and is dedicated to preparing the participants to shape the Water and Sanitation 2030 Agenda on a programmatic and policy level. For instance, the 2018 AGUASAN Workshop developed approaches and validated tools for leveraging data for better decision-making in the water and sanitation sector.

Throughout their 35 years of existence, the AGUASAN Workshops have had a high significance in the community for tackling challenges that go beyond technical issues to encompass sustainability issues (including social, institutional, economic and environmental aspects)

The driving forces behind the workshops are carefully selected themes and the face-to-face format allowing exchanges and opening up the community to experts from abroad,

particularly from developing countries, as well as a space for reflection and learning. In addition to providing explicit knowledge through case studies, the AGUASAN Workshops promote youth-led initiatives, ideas and projects by giving young professionals the opportunity to learn from the interactive learning formats that build on the expertise of the participants. Interactive workshop formats such as world cafés, innovation fairs and group works enable the participants to tap into a vast pool of expertise: participants learn from each other, make use of synergies, capitalise on their combined knowledge resources to jointly generate and validate new approaches and practical tools, and raise awareness of the diversity of aspects related to the water and sanitation Goal. This allowed AGUASAN workshops to produce relevant outcomes, including the following:

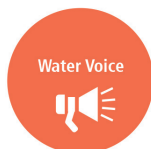
- The factsheet on Data-based decision-making processes for WASH
- The publication of “SDG 6 along the Water and Nutrient Cycles”
- The WatSan continuum for a dynamic interaction between emergency relief, rehabilitation and development work;
- The Blue Health Centres concept enriched with practical experiences and tools;
- The basis for the online toolkit on “Integrating the Human Right to Water & Sanitation in Development Practice”.

The AGUASAN Workshops are led by a steering committee consisting of members from the SDC, the Eawag Department of Sanitation, Water and Solid Waste for Development (Sandec), HELVETAS Swiss Intercooperation, the Swiss Resource Centre and Consultancies for Development (Skat) and seecon.

Additional information: www.aguasan.ch



Swiss Bluetec Bridge: Financing Swiss innovation to benefit disadvantaged populations



Region
Global

Partners

Strategos SA (project manager); cewas, Skat (project partners); Swiss start-ups and SMEs

Background information

3.4 billion people do not have access to safe drinking water and 2.4 billion lack access to affordable sanitation and hygiene services. New technologies rarely target the bottom base of the social pyramid.

Project objectives

Facilitating access to affordable water, sanitation and hygiene for the poorest population sections through financing innovative technologies and business models of Swiss start-ups and SMEs.

Target Groups

- Poor populations in rural areas and small towns in low & middle-income countries
- Local or regional operators & maintenance staff
- Financiers & private investors

Costs

Budget Phase 2:
CHF 2,355,000

Duration

05.2016 – 12.2019

The challenges involving water, sanitation and hygiene are creating opportunities for cutting-edge technological and business model innovation. The Swiss Bluetec Bridge funds innovative Swiss start-ups and SMEs that service poor populations on a commercially viable basis.

Switzerland subsidises technological innovation in the water sector, notably for fundamental and applied research, and the creation of prototypes. New private sources of finance investing in areas with high social, environmental and financial potential are now emerging. Despite this favourable environment, innovative projects often find it difficult to gain sufficient credibility to attract private investors. This is doubly true for technologies that target poor populations.

The Swiss Bluetec Bridge provides interest-free loans to start-ups and SMEs so that they can gain the expertise that will enable them to attract private funds.

Project portfolio

The companies that entered the Swiss Bluetec Bridge's competition all demonstrated a clear determination to benefit those at the base of the social pyramid and to respect the environment.

Swiss Fresh Water SA (SFW) – Safe drinking water in rural Senegal

SFW delivers a low-cost, easy to use, simple to maintain and energy efficient method for desalinating salty or brackish water. In early 2017, SFW was supplying over 120,000 persons daily through their water kiosks in Senegal.

Weconnex AG – Water Enterprise Development Nepal

Weconnex tested different business models with solar powered water purification units to treat arsenic-contaminated groundwater in rural Nepal. In early 2017, the company has installed 7 basic infrastructure hubs that provide clean water and other services in Chitwan and Nawalparasi.

NVTerra SA – Quality drinking water for Addah Village, Ivory Coast

NVTerra has delivered a pilot water treatment unit based on filtration and electrolysis in Addah village. The plant is treating insalubrious water from a well, to be sold at affordable prices through village fountains and ergonomic cans.

AquaNetto Group GmbH – Water kiosks for northern Kenya

Through the installation of water purification kiosks, Aquanetto intends to deliver clean water sustainably to improve the health and increase the overall standard of living of the population.

Swiss Intech Sarl – Pumpex for more efficient water supply

Swiss Intech's goal is to develop a market in the DR of Congo for its innovative solar pump through a network of local partners. The pump reduces water usage and fuel consumption, and the objective is to half the price of water supply.

ennos AG – sunlight pump for smallholder farmers

The vision of ennos is to supply a high quality product and make it accessible to and affordable for small-holder farmers, offering extensive support and after sales services to the customers to guarantee a productive use of the technology for many years.

Sterilux SA – Medical sterilisation for rural and small-sized hospitals

The company's goal is to commercialise a more affordable and water-saving device to sterilize medical instruments to reduce mortality and hospital-acquired infections, preventing infections and saving lives.

Fontes GmbH – African Fountain: water service delivery as social business

Fontes provides water service delivery where it is needed at the right quality, quantity and price in the DR of Congo, through taking over and operating existing schemes and a modular infrastructure.

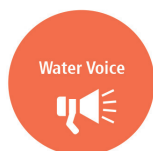
ECyTech GmbH – Affordable monitoring of multiple water quality indicators in rural Vietnam

The company commercialises a no-frills monitoring device to allow decentralised and frequent monitoring of water quality to improve the long term health and livelihood of rural communities in Vietnam.



Additional information
www.swissbluetecbridge.ch

Swiss communes improve access to water in countries of the South



Region
Global

Partners
BHP - Brugger and Partners

Background information
3 in 10 people lack access to safely managed drinking water services and 6 in 10 people lack access to safely managed sanitation facilities.

Project objectives
Increase public awareness in Switzerland of drinking water and sanitation challenges in poorer countries, resulting in contributions to projects that address the problem effectively.

Beneficiaries
People without or with limited access to improved drinking water and sanitation facilities

Costs
Total approximately CHF 3 million.
SDC: CHF 710,000 (the annual total cost amount to CHF 140,000)

Duration
2016 - 2019

Promote knowledge exchange and expertise among municipalities and water utilities. In developing countries, municipalities and water utilities can play a key role in mobilising know-how and additional finance for improved water supply and sanitation services through decentralised cooperation and solidarity mechanisms. By strengthening the platform solidarit’eau suisse, this project enables municipalities and other local authorities in Switzerland to consult a list of projects and, if they want to become more involved, make contact with partners abroad. This contributes to the acceleration of the implementation of the Human Right to Water and Sanitation.

Despite being recognised as a valid solution, decentralised solidarity mechanisms are not used on a large scale and perform well below their potential. solidarit’eau suisse is helping to remedy this situation. Swiss non-governmental organisations present their projects on the solidarit’eau suisse website so that partners interested in funding them can get an overall picture of the work being done, with ongoing updates. All the projects presented online have first been assessed through a quality assurance lens by independent experts. The NGOs responsible for implementing the projects cover all the administrative costs. This means that every franc invested by a solidarit’eau sponsor in Switzerland is spent directly to help the project beneficiaries.

Goals

- Leverage additional funds, capacity and know-how in the water and sanitation sector to contribute to the global achievement of the Sustainable Development Goal (SDG) 6 “Ensure availability and sustainable management of water and sanitation for all”.

- Focus on longer-term and alternative engagements of the participating municipalities and water utilities through the introduction of a set of measures:
 - Public-Public Partnerships between municipalities and water utilities in Switzerland and abroad.
 - Introduction of a secondment programme for water experts from Swiss water utilities
 - Introduction of a new label policy, with a label specifying the year of commitment and another label for engagement through an expert secondment
 - Exploring mechanisms of establishing a voluntary solidarity water cent on the water bill
- Promote synergies with other Swiss platforms (e.g. Swiss Water Partnership, Swiss Association of Water Works and Utilities etc.) to join forces towards the successful achievement of SDG 6, both in Switzerland and abroad.

Results from previous phases

Since its foundation in 2007, solidarit’eau suisse has raised almost CHF 7 million in contributions from over 195 municipalities and water utilities. This has allowed close to 1 million people to gain access to improved drinking water and sanitation services over the past 12 years.

Additional information:
www.solidariteausuisse.ch



Young People and Gender Equality

The GPW empowers women and young people as agents of change who exert influence on the availability and sustainable management of water and sanitation and benefit from it.

Strategic Networks

- International Secretariat for Water (ISW) – Solidarity Water Europe (SWE)

Projects

- Young Water Fellowship Programme



Committed to Civil Society and Young Water Leaders



Region
Global

Partners
International Secretariat
for Water (ISW) - Solidarity
Water Europe (SWE)

Background information

ISW-SWE envisions a world where everyone has access to a safe, sustainable source of water and sanitation. To achieve this, an innovative, multi-stakeholder approach is crucial.

Project objectives

An active and empowered civil society and youth for water and sanitation induce changes in policy-making, and contribute to sustainable and peaceful water governance for the benefit of all, in particular the disadvantaged.

Beneficiaries

Citizens, Youth, Disadvantaged populations, Civil society organizations, Institutional actors, Decision-makers (including private sector), Authorities at all levels.

Budget

CHF 1,900,000

Duration

01.2019 - 12.2023

The International Secretariat for Water (ISW) - Solidarity Water Europe (SWE) supports and empowers civil society and youth to be active, recognised and credible stakeholders in decision-making around water and sanitation. It is recognised for its holistic and participatory approach involving wide networks of partners, including numerous Swiss-based organisations. The SDC contribution aims to strengthen the strategic partnership with ISW-SWE in order to remain an efficient and innovative advocate for civil society and youth.

Citizens and young people are heavily and directly affected by the challenges our world is facing, and they have the most to lose when it comes to the prospect of a peaceful and sustainable future. However, effective civil society involvement, including youth engagement, is challenging because of the mindset of decision-makers, and institutions being more comfortable doing «business-as-usual». As the time for actions is pressing, it has never been more important to have a recognised and credible civil society - including youth - with strong outreach.

The overall goal of ISW-SWE is the following: An active and empowered civil society and youth for water and sanitation induce changes in policy-making, and contribute to sustainable and peaceful water governance for the benefit of all, in particular the disadvantaged.

The water challenges our world is facing compel ISW-SWE to **be engaged at all levels with a concerted effort from all stakeholders** to converge towards common objectives. Water must be put above all else while the preservation of the resource is a shared duty – for water, actions exceeding the policies of a country need to be taken. In that regard, civil society and youth have a crucial role to play.

ISW-SWE outcomes for 2019-2023

- Civil society and youth have increased their innovation capacity, knowledge and are empowered drivers of change.
- Local voices - including civil society and youth - are recognised, credible and have a strong, disruptive outreach in the water sector and beyond.
- Relevant decision-makers are influenced to integrate a holistic approach for sustainable & peaceful water governance.

- Vulnerable and disadvantaged populations have improved their living conditions through water-related field projects in their communities.

ISW-SWE intervention approach

To contribute to sustainable and peaceful water governance for the benefit of all, in particular the disadvantaged, ISW-SWE approaches rely on different strategies that adapt to the particular conditions in every region, in order to grasp the window of opportunity that allows the disruption of unsustainable policies and interventions.

ISW-SWE is empowering civil society and youth, **with a particular attention to those having the potential to contribute to making a change**, increasing the well-being of the most vulnerable people and influencing relevant decision-makers to integrate a holistic approach for sustainable and peaceful water governance. Through its interventions, ISW-SWE aims to work with people from diverse socio-economic backgrounds to ensure a balanced representation and give those groups the opportunity to meet and exchange.

The central characteristics of ISW-SWE interventions are: collaboration, consultations and partnerships while **working systematically with / through networks, coalitions and partners**.

Youth Movement for Water

In the spirit of the youth movement for water, the ISW-SWE youth strategy is based on strong and diverse partnerships, and is coordinated with other organisations actively engaging with young people in the water sector. ISW-SWE has strong collaborations with youth-led organizations and networks, which can involve providing operational or programmatic support, working together on activities or sharing information. ISW-SWE launched and supports the **World Youth Parliament for Water (WYPW)** and the **European Youth Parliament for Water (EYPW)**. This movement of passionate young people from 80+ countries effects change at all levels: from local communities, where they implement concrete actions, to the UN General Assembly, where they advocate for youth participation.

Additional information:
www.sie-isw.org

Young Water Fellowship Programme



Region
Global

Partners
Young Water Solutions

Background information
The YWF Programme builds capacities of young water entrepreneurs, and provides technical as well as financial support to implement their ideas. It also engages with stakeholders and decision-makers to exchange knowledge and create an enabling environment for young people in the water sector.

Project objectives
Young people are empowered and largely recognized as agents of change in the water sector, contributing to sustainable water resources management and universal access to safe and affordable water and sanitation services in vulnerable communities.

Beneficiaries
Young people (age 18-30) from low- and middle-income countries. Marginalised and poor in communities that benefit from improved services provided by the start-ups

Budget
CHF 650,000

Duration
05.2018 – 04.2021

Young people represent around half of the world's population, living mostly in developing countries. Their aspirations and achievements will obviously shape the future. Whereas young people are often primary victims of water-related challenges, they are not yet an integral part of efforts to develop adequate solutions. The Young Water Fellowship (YWF) Programme aims to tap into the innovative and disruptive potential of young people in order to address the most pressing water, sanitation and water resources management challenges in vulnerable communities.

Structural barriers in the water sector such as donors' and policy-makers distrust, cultural bias and administrative procedures generate constraints and lock the potential of many young people to develop adequate responses to water-related challenges and drive change within their communities and countries. However, it is essential to involve all stakeholders, including young people, to find equitable ways to share limited water resources among many competing demands. Considering the untapped innovative potential of young people and the large youth unemployment rate in developing countries, SDC supports the YWF Programme implemented by the international non-governmental organization Young Water Solutions. This programme aims to attract young people to the water sector, builds their capacities to develop context-specific start-ups, which respond to the local water-related challenges, and provides seed-funding for the initial stages of their businesses.

Through an annual global and one regional 4-week training programme, young people from low- and middle-income countries (LAMICs) will have the possibility to increase their knowledge about challenges and potential solutions in the areas of Integrated Water Resources Management (IWRM), Water, Sanitation & Hygiene (WASH) as well as the Human Rights to Water and Sanitation. They also acquire specific skills in business development and management. Once the business idea has been developed, the young entrepreneurs receive continuous coaching from experts to implement their start-ups and gain access to funding. The long-term objective of this programme is to generate employment opportunities for young people in LAMICs, reduce poverty and improve the water and sanitation conditions in vulnerable communities. The



lessons learned and concrete results obtained from the start-ups are used for knowledge exchange with relevant stakeholders engaged in the water sector and the social entrepreneurship ecosystem and nourish the policy dialogue at various levels, aiming to unlock the multiple barriers that young people face in the water sector.

Key outputs of the planned phase

- Global awareness campaign and call for applications for entrepreneurial water and sanitation initiatives that attract young people to the water sector;
- Provision of trainings and capacity building measures for young entrepreneurs in social business, IWRM, WASH and HRWS;
- Establishment of a seed-funding mechanism for financing start-ups;
- Ongoing coaching and mentorship mechanism for young entrepreneurs;
- Creation of synergies and knowledge exchange with organizations of the entrepreneurial ecosystem and other stakeholders in the water sector;
- Improved policies and programmes for young people in the water sector;
- Increased participation of young leadership in decision-making processes.

Additional information:
www.youngwatersolutions.org
<https://cewas.org/start-up-programme/start-up-prog/>

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