

AFRICA REGIONAL STORIES

Transforming Africa's water investment outlook

Population growth, urbanisation, and the impacts of climate change are contributing to the imperative to develop Africa's water infrastructure. The African Development Bank estimates that investment of US\$164 billion is required annually to meet the vision of water security for all by 2025. However, current investment is lagging behind the continent's economic and social needs, with the actual figure only around \$10–19 billion per year.

The Continental Africa Water Investment Programme will address this gap by leveraging finance for sustainable water supply and sanitation, while also supporting business development, job creation, gender equality, and climate resilience. The goal is to mobilise US\$30 billion in investments by 2030 across Africa, while creating 5 million jobs. The programme was formally adopted by all African Union heads of state in February 2020. GWP is providing technical backstopping for programme activities through the Africa Coordination Unit.

The three main parts of the programme are:

- ◆ **Transboundary investment support:** to accelerate project preparation, financing, and implementation. In 2020, GWP support resulted in a fivefold increase in transboundary water projects being shortlisted in the Programme for Infrastructure Development in Africa (PIDA) priority action plan.
- ◆ **Climate and gender:** to mobilise partnerships and implement gender-transformative investment. In 2020, GWP initiated activities in five pilot countries and five transboundary basins, conducting consultations to inform the overall approach.
- ◆ **SDG water investment:** to catalyse leadership support for coordinated climate-resilient water investment, inclusive growth, and job creation.

GWP helped to develop the investment scorecard, which will be introduced as a tool to mobilise the high-level political leadership required to achieve the programme objectives. It will also monitor countries' progress in delivering essential water services and attracting further investment to water infrastructure.

AFRICA INVESTMENT PROGRAMME



Programme targets by 2030

US\$ 30 billion

leveraged towards climate-resilient water and sanitation investments

250 million

people benefit from resilient water investments and economic opportunities

1 million

direct jobs created through investments in climate-resilient water and sanitation

4 million

indirect jobs for the vulnerable, youth, and women

AIP impacts will not be delivered by GWP alone. AIP partners have committed to contribute collectively to the achievement of these impacts by 2030.

Programme partners



African Union Development Agency



Programme for Infrastructure Development in Africa



African Development Bank



Africa Water Facility



African Ministers' Council on Water



Infrastructure Consortium for Africa



Global Water Partnership

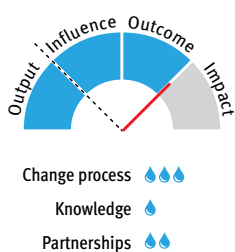
More information: www.aipwater.org

Central Africa

National water and sanitation policies in Central African Republic and Republic of the Congo



With access to the Congo river and inland wetlands and lakes, Central Africa is relatively well endowed with freshwater supplies. However, these resources are unevenly distributed and generally undeveloped, with rapid population growth and climate change creating an urgent need for improved water governance and management planning. GWP supported the development of a regional water policy in 2009, and this provided a framework to help governments to develop their national policies.



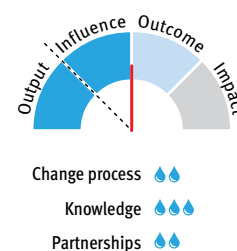
In November 2020, the Government of the Central African Republic approved a national water and sanitation policy, following a multi-stakeholder process supported by GWP Central Africa, the Economic Community of Central

African States (ECCAS), and the United Nations Children's Fund (UNICEF). The process followed on from the development of an Africa regional report for monitoring IWRM implementation led by the African Ministers' Council on Water that was launched at the end of 2018. The elaboration process for the national water policy provided a roadmap for the water and sanitation review process and ensured the key stakeholders had a common understanding of both the key activities and their roles and responsibilities. The new policy will improve awareness of the principal water-related issues and foster greater coherence in public and private investment. It will generate action towards more integrated and sustainable management of critical water resources in the country, as well as addressing climate change impacts.

GWP Central Africa in collaboration with UNICEF also supported the Government of the Republic of the Congo in developing a draft national water and sanitation policy as part of the country's SDG 6 achievement programme. Stakeholders gathered in November 2020 for a two-day consultation workshop, where they discussed and approved the draft policy document. The participants included representatives from GWP Congo, the Ministry of Energy and Water, non-governmental organisations, civil society, the private sector, and academia. The document has been submitted to the government for formal adoption.

Stakeholder engagement in transboundary cooperation in Cameroon and Republic of the Congo

GWP is supporting several countries in Central Africa in the monitoring and reporting process on SDG indicators 6.5.1 on IWRM and 6.5.2 on transboundary water cooperation. To assess progress made on transboundary cooperation, GWP Cameroon worked with the United Nations Educational, Scientific and Cultural Organization (UNESCO) and the Cameroon Ministry of Water Resources and Energy to organise a two-day multi-stakeholder consultation workshop in September 2020. Twenty stakeholders from various government ministries met with members of civil society organisations to develop the capacity of the participants on the monitoring process, approve the national SDG 6 questionnaire, and brainstorm how to promote further cooperation on water resources governance and management.



The Republic of the Congo took a major step forward in boosting cooperation on transboundary rivers, lakes, and aquifers by hosting a validation workshop for the national report on SDG indicator 6.5.2. The event was organised by GWP Congo, the Ministry of Energy and Water Resources, and the UNESCO country office, with the number of participants restricted to 20 due to the need to respect COVID-19 safety measures.



SDG 6.5.2 training session in Cameroon



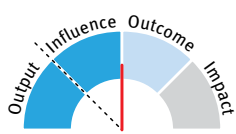
National SDG 6.5.2 workshop in the Republic of the Congo

Eastern Africa

Reducing the negative impacts of climate change in Somalia and Sudan



Somalia and Sudan have both signed up to the Paris Agreement on climate change by committing to reduce their greenhouse gas emissions through assessment of their Nationally Determined Contributions (NDCs). In 2020, GWP facilitated efforts in both countries to assess carbon emissions from the different sectors and establish baselines. Due to COVID-19, many activities were

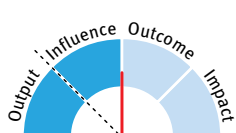


- Change process
- Knowledge
- Partnerships

conducted online, with some implementation schedules affected by reduced mobility. However, key lessons were captured from experiences in both countries, with national experts engaged to enhance national capacity for documentation and knowledge sharing.

Enhancing the resilience of communities and ecosystems in Uganda

Located in central Uganda, the Katonga catchment area includes several lakes, rivers, and wetlands. These important ecosystems are extremely vulnerable to the effects of climate change, which in recent years has delivered more intense and erratic rainfall, and frequent periods of drought. In 2020, the Adaptation Fund committed US\$2.25 million for a project to enhance the resilience of communities and protect fragile ecosystems in the Katonga catchment. The project will increase food and water security by promoting investment in appropriate water storage solutions. It will also improve community livelihoods by establishing nature-based enterprises. Further activities will help stakeholders learn about and share knowledge on adaptation to



- Change process
- Knowledge
- Partnerships

climate change. Based on its extensive experience in building partnerships for water resources management and climate resilience, GWP will support the Ministry of Water and Environment in the implementation of the capacity building and knowledge management components of the project.



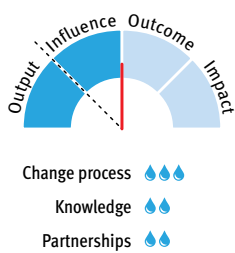
Addressing a women's group in Kenya

Southern Africa

US\$2 million for national climate adaptation planning in Zambia

In 2020, following several years of collaborative activities, the Green Climate Fund (GCF) awarded over US\$2 million to the Government of Zambia to develop its National Adaptation Plan. This is one of several GCF initiatives designed to build resilience to climate change in the country. GWP, as a designated GCF delivery partner, will support the implementation of the project through GWP Southern Africa, working directly with the Ministry of Lands and Natural Resources. The work will strengthen systems for integrating climate change adaptation into major planning and budgeting processes, and prioritise adaptation actions that are linked to financing strategies.

“The support is timely as the government is in the process of preparing a legal framework to address climate change in the country, as well as revising its NDCs for submission under the Paris Agreement,” said Jean Kapata, Minister of



Lands and Natural Resources. The funding will also help Zambia to secure the funding needed to implement the NDC strategy and build a low-carbon, climate-resilient economy.

Alex Simalabwi, GWP Southern Africa Executive Secretary and

Global Head for Climate Resilience, said: “The funding is great news for the country. It comes at a time when Zambia is experiencing unprecedented climate risks, with droughts having recently devastated parts of the country, while more recently, floods are destroying roads, bridges, and public infrastructure in the midst of an unprecedented global COVID-19 crisis.”

SADC ministers agree to coordinate planning on water, energy, and food security

The Southern African Development Community (SADC) Water-Energy-Food Nexus Governance Framework was formally adopted by the SADC ministers responsible for energy and water in October 2020. Developed with technical assistance from GWP Southern Africa, the framework will guide coordination among the three sectors at the policy- and decision-making levels. The ‘nexus’ approach highlights the interdependencies in achieving security of water, energy, and food, while ensuring sustainable resource use. GWP Southern Africa will coordinate implementation of the next phase, which supports dialogue among ministers and other key stakeholders.

At the online meeting of ministers, Her Excellency Dr Stergomena Lawrence Tax, SADC Executive Secretary, stressed the importance of coordination in these sectors to advance regional integration in efforts to reduce poverty and promote socioeconomic development, environmental protection, peace, and stability.



“The support is timely as the government is in the process of preparing a legal framework to address climate change.”

Jean Kapata, Minister of Lands and Natural Resources, Zambia

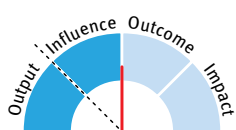
Zambezi River, Zambia

West Africa

Additional funding for youth projects in West Africa



Working to promote youth voices has been one of the main focus areas of GWP West Africa over the past ten years. In continuation of its support for these efforts, the Government of Quebec, Canada has committed nearly CA\$0.5 million in funding for a second phase of the



- Change process
- Knowledge
- Partnerships

#tonfuturtonclimat (Your Future Your Climate) project. The first phase ran for three years from 2017 and supported projects to promote water security and build adaptation to climate change. These projects were run for and by youth associations

in Benin, Burkina Faso, and Togo. The second phase will allow youth to continue building their capacity as entrepreneurs in sustainable employment and business development.

Water integrity action plans for municipalities in Benin

Promoting integrity and fighting corruption in water management has important benefits for human dignity, health, and equitable access to resources. It also supports economic growth and investment. With funding from the Netherlands, GWP Benin is working to improve transparency and accountability in the water and sanitation sector by organising advocacy and technical support to key decision-makers at the municipal level. Training has also been offered to members of local drinking water associations. Sixty-three of the country's



- Change process
- Knowledge
- Partnerships

77 municipalities have now taken part in these activities. In 2020, this knowledge was put into practice, with five municipalities implementing integrity action plans for water supply and sanitation. The direct benefits for citizens included reductions in the cost

of drinking water and repairs to broken infrastructure. In addition to raising awareness among decision-makers, the plans have provided a platform for citizen feedback and scrutiny.

Implementing IWRM in Niger

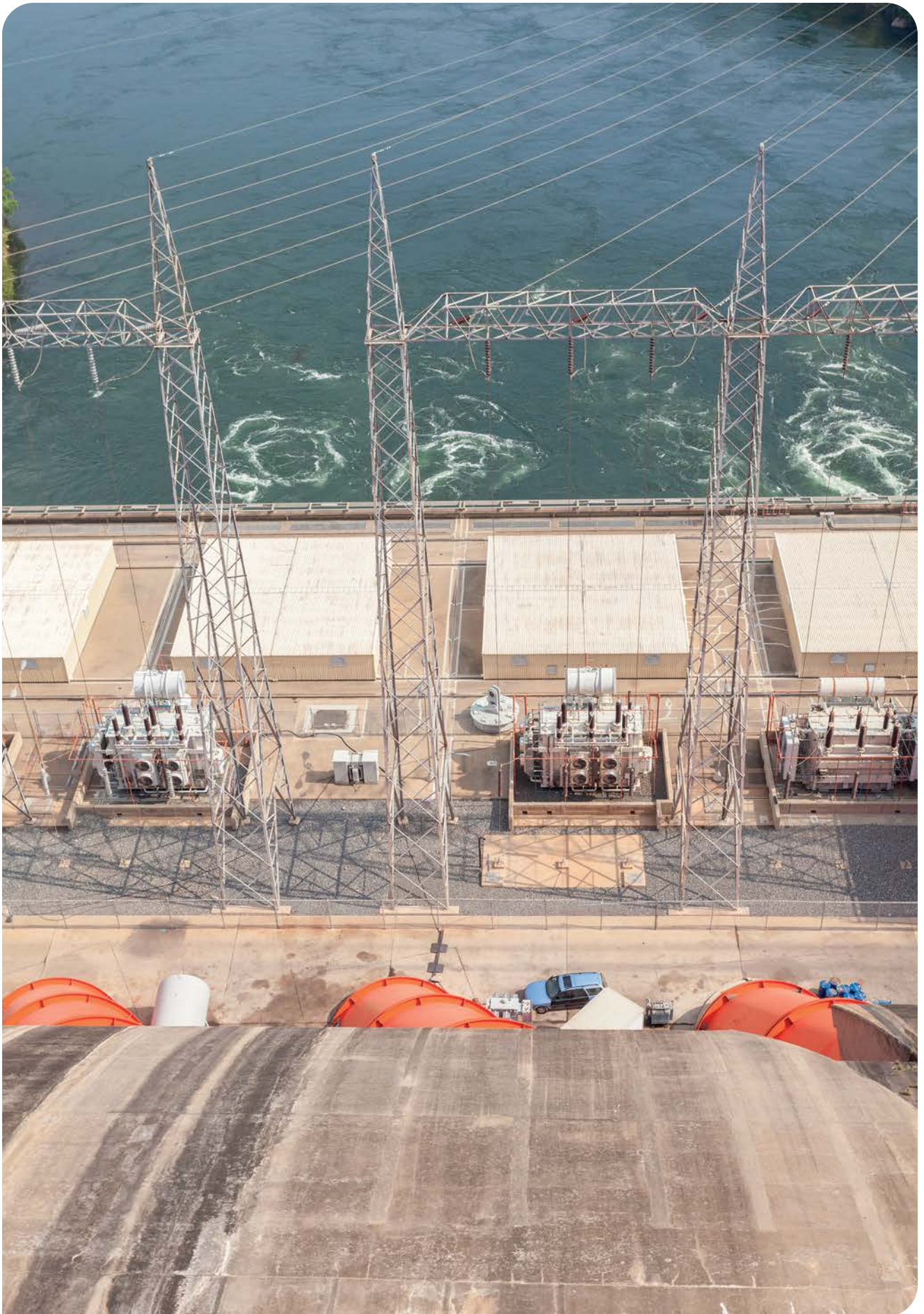
The European Union has committed €1 million to GWP West Africa to support green economic growth and poverty reduction in Niger's part of the Mékrou river basin, contributing to the implementation of Niger's National IWRM Action Plan. The funding supports the second phase of the project entitled Water for Growth and Poverty Reduction in the Mékrou Transboundary Basin, which began in 2014. In the second phase, a development and management plan for the national portion of the transboundary basin of the Mékrou river in Niger will be formulated. This will be aligned with the master plan for water development and management in the whole transboundary basin, which is shared by Benin, Burkina Faso, and Niger. Local interventions will also be implemented. The project will bring together all water-related sectors, including agriculture, environment, transport, infrastructure, planning, finance, and security, while inviting equal participation in decision-making from all stakeholders, including women, youth, and the private sector.



- Change process
- Knowledge
- Partnerships



Irrigation in Niger



Akosombo Hydroelectric Power Station on the Volta River supplies energy to almost the whole of Ghana and half of Togo, West Africa