GWP IN ACTION
2021 ANNUAL REPORT

KEY RESULTS

49 key governance outcomes influenced by GWP activities

20 new local, national, and regional river basin policies, plans, strategies

5 investment plans, strategies, and budget commitments

5 river basin agreements and management frameworks

40 learning exchanges

30 knowledge products produced to address stakeholder needs for better water management

200 million euros worth of investments (approximately) can be linked to GWP’s work since 2020

Our strategy emphasises WE LEARN, WE MOBILISE, WE ACT. During 2021, we developed a new GWP Toolbox, one of the world’s first free online repositories on integrated water resources management. Also, GWP was a major player in sessions at the first-ever Water Pavilion at COP26. And we wrapped up our highly successful Water ChangeMakers initiative, which included 350 entries from all over the world.

Our Annual Network Meeting highlighted the strength of our partner relationships. Titled ‘Leading Change and Innovation through our Partners’, the event was attended virtually by more than 470 participants, from 73 countries. It involved a celebration of our 25th anniversary — a milestone that would not have been possible without the support of our donors.

We have been building capacity through the GWP Strengthening Regional Operations and Network Growth programme. Financial support was made available to strengthen the financial and administration capacity of Country Water Partnerships, support resource mobilisation, and encourage knowledge exchange. Regional task forces have been set up to explore issues around partnership sustainability and institutional constraints.

Howard Bamsey, GWP Chair
Darío Soto-Abril, GWP Executive Secretary
Trevor Thompson, GWP Chair of Regional Chair

FINANCE

INCOME THROUGH GWPO

€11.5 million
in income provided by 16 Financing Partners through Global Water Partnership Organisation

LOCALLY RAISED INCOME

€4.3 million
raised by the Regional and Country Water Partnerships — 40% more than in 2020

IN-KIND CONTRIBUTIONS

€2.6 million
reported by the Regional and Country Water Partnerships

VIEW THE FULL DIGITAL REPORT HERE: gwp.org/annualreport2021/
Our vision is for a water secure world.

Our mission is to advance governance and management of water resources for sustainable and equitable development.

SELECTED HIGHLIGHTS

Water solutions for the SDGs

GWP focused on increasing the impact of the SDG 6 IWRM Support Programme. 2021 saw the preparation and launch of a global report on the status of SDG 6.5.1, highlighting that the world needs to at least double its current rate of progress towards IWRM implementation to reach the 2030 goal.

Climate resilience through water

GWP-supported applications worth more than US$2 million were approved to access the Green Climate Fund Readiness and Preparatory Support Programme. In February 2021, African Union Heads of State adopted the Continental Africa Water Investment Programme. GWP achievements in the climate and water space are documented in ‘Mobilising Change: 10 years of climate resilient water investments’.

Transboundary water cooperation

Five regional organisations and more than 10 transboundary water management institutions were supported by GWP. The Massive Open Online Course on transboundary freshwater security, which was launched in 2020, continued to expand in 2021 – attracting over 2,300 participants from 150 countries. The course is rolling out more language versions to reach a larger audience.

Contributing to gender equality

GWP published a report titled ‘Advancing towards gender mainstreaming in water resources management’. The report presents the key findings of a study which analysed the results of a survey on SDG 6.5.1 completed by 172 countries. It showed that gender-related questions were the least advanced among all aspects of IWRM. It highlights common gaps and provides recommendations.

Mobilising youth for water management

GWP launched the Water Academy for Youth (W.A.Y.) giving young professionals the opportunity to realise their potential by becoming influencers and leaders. Another key platform is the Youth for Water and Climate (YWC), which launched two events in 2021: the YWC Programme for Youth leaders in Climate and Water, and a call for projects for the 2nd Global Youth Take Action.

Redevelopment of the GWP IWRM Toolbox

Drawing on extensive research of its users, the GWP Toolbox IWRM Action Hub was redeveloped in 2021. The long-term goal is for the Toolbox to become a leading knowledge-sharing platform that brings together water professionals in designing and implementing IWRM action towards a water secure world.

Wrapping up the Water ChangeMakers

The journey of our Water ChangeMaker Awards 2020 came to an end both at the Climate Adaptation Summit in January and at COP26 in November 2021. The initiative received more than 350 entries. Change stories from the 78 semi-finalists are featured on the Water ChangeMaker Awards website.

Partners

At the end of 2021, the Network had 13 Regional Water Partnerships, 74 Country Water Partnerships, and 3,449 Partners located in 183 countries.