

### GWPINACTION ANNUAL REPORT 2024

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### Key headline results



### Approximately 140 million EUR

of water-related investments can be linked to GWP's work



### 58 water governance improvements

influenced by GWP activities



### 16 policies, plans and strategies

at national, regional and river basin levels



### 11 transboundary river basin agreements

and management frameworks

### Reflecting on a year of progress



#### Pablo Bereciartua GWP Chair

In 2024, the Global Water Partnership proved that effective governance – when paired with trusted partnerships and long-term vision – can convert systemic water challenges into investable opportunities. Across an increasingly fragmented and uncertain world, GWP offers

something unique and rare: a trusted Integovernmmental Organisation, the Global Water Partnership Organisation (GWPO) with a track-record of over two decades, and a global network of partners, the Global Water Partnership (GWP), comprising over 2,800 partners from 180 countries. It is a global platform grounded in legitimacy, operational in over 80 countries, and delivering measurable change through country leadership and multilateral cooperation. At a time when global multilateralism and international cooperation are facing geopolitical shifts, GWP is gaining ground – not by expanding bureaucracy, but by deepening its ability to mobilise investment, influence reform, and convene credible actors across sectors.

The GWP Network is unlike any other – bridging regions, governments, and communities, while upholding a consistent commitment to inclusion and impact. In 2024, this network not only delivered high-quality outcomes in water governance and finance, but also strengthened the foundations of trust and collaboration that underpin sustainable development. From river basins in Africa to legislative reforms in Central Asia, GWP provided the connective tissue between ambition and execution. This is not an organisation that reacts. This is an organisation that leads.

#### Setting a new global standard

In 2025 and beyond, GWP enters a new phase – one that redefines what it means to be a global water platform in an era of climate disruption and fiscal pressure. The Global Transformation Agenda on Water Investments adopted by our Steering Committee is not just structural. It is strategic.

By establishing a decentralised GWPO with four Technical Hubs across Africa, Asia-Pacific, Latin America and the Caribbean, and Europe, reinforcing regional GWP leadership, and launching a Global Outlook Council on Water Investments, GWP is elevating water to where it belongs: the top of the global agenda. As Chair, I am particularly proud that this transformation is rooted in a clear theory of change, informed by what works, and supported by the trust of partners – from governments and regional blocs to climate funds and development banks. We are aligning our governance with purpose: to unlock finance, drive reform, and accelerate action where it matters most.

To our partners, I offer this message: GWP is grateful for your continued support – our partnership with you is delivering results. What we need now is to scale those results. To turn projects into pipelines. Lessons into systems. Commitments into capital. This is our moment to act. And GWP is ready to lead with you.



#### Abdoulaye Sene Chair of GWP Regional Chairs

Across every region, 2024 was a year of tangible progress. GWP helped mobilise critical funding, supported countries in shaping bold water policies and investment plans, and strengthened transboundary

cooperation – from the Buzi and Volta basins to the Drin and Alazani-Iori. Our active participation in the 10th World Water Forum – including leading the subregional process in Southeast Asia and coordinating the regional process in Central America – exemplified our commitment to inclusive and regionally grounded collaboration.



#### Jaehyang So Technical Committee Chair

In 2024, the Technical Committee focused on strengthening GWP's role as a platform for learning and innovation. We launched a global Al Lab to explore how artificial intelligence can support

water governance, and continued our online dialogue series on emerging issues – from the use of big data to the evolving role of integrated water resources management (IWRM). The IWRM Action Hub also expanded, with new features and communities of practice now connecting water professionals across 169 countries. These efforts reflect our commitment to building knowledge that informs action, grounded in collaboration across the GWP Network.



Alex Simalabwi CEO of GWPO, Executive Secretary of GWP

### Turning Global Water Challenges into Investment Opportunities

In 2024, GWP translated ambition into measurable results – demonstrating once again that it is not only a trusted intergovernmental organisation with a credible global network of partners, but a catalytic driver of investment and impact. Against a backdrop of deepening water insecurity and fiscal constraints, GWP directly influenced over €140 million in new investments, facilitated 58 concrete governance reforms, and helped unlock \$6.2 million in catalytic Green Climate Fund financing for 15 countries under the multi-country programme with the African Union. These are not abstract numbers. They represent action: a new legal code in Kazakhstan placing integrated water resources management (IWRM) at the core of national law; a historic agreement between Malawi, Mozambique, and Tanzania for cooperative river basin management; Somalia securing \$94.9 million for climate-resilient agriculture; and Sri Lanka validating a \$49 billion strategy for climate-smart growth. From the Caribbean's Al-powered irrigation systems to the Mediterranean's public–private flood resilience projects, GWP delivered real solutions for real people.

We have strengthened global influence through technical leadership. Our frameworks informed the Green Climate Fund (GCF) Water Project Design Guidelines, and the Drought Resilience +10 Conference, co-convened with the World Meteorological Organization (WMO), drew 1,000 delegates from 123 countries to forge a new global direction for drought policy. With Sustainable Development Goal (SDG) 6.5.1 implementation lagging, GWP led UN-supported efforts to accelerate IWRM – engaging 169 countries through our Action Hub and SDG 6 IWRM Support Programme.

#### Looking ahead: 2025 and beyond

2025 is the last year of our current strategy. As we prepare for the launch of our new strategy for 2026–2030, the Global Transformation Agenda on Water Investments – launched in February 2025 by the GWP Steering Committee – represents a watershed moment in our institutional journey. This agenda sets in motion GWP's repositioning as a globally networked, regionally empowered, investment-focused intergovernmental platform, with a decentralised model now under way. Four new GWPO Technical Hubs in Africa, Asia-Pacific, Latin America and the Caribbean, and Europe will serve as engines of delivery – unlocking water investments, scaling innovations, and enhancing regional impact.

Our ambition is to mobilise \$500 million in project finance for GWP partners by 2030, and to leverage \$15 billion in water investments globally – working closely with G20 countries, multilateral development banks, climate funds, and private sector allies. Steering this vision is the the Global Outlook Council on Water Investments, jointly established with WMO, as a high-level body of current and former Heads of State, global philanthropists, and business leaders committed to putting water at the centre of global development, peace, and climate resilience. This is not reform for its own sake. It is reform to match the scale of the challenge – and to offer the global community a credible, connected, and ambitious partner on water. Our track record in 2024 proves we are up to the task. What lies ahead will require even more courage, more innovation, and more collaboration. To our donors, partners, and country stakeholders: thank you for standing with us. We now invite you to co-create the future – not only of GWP, but of a world where water unlocks opportunity, security, and sustainability for all.

# HOW WE ACHIEVE IMPACT

# Advancing water solutions for the SDGs



In a world of diverse water challenges and competing water uses, there is a sharply rising need for cross-sectoral coordination towards Sustainable Development Goal (SDG) target 6.5 – implementing integrated water resources management (IWRM) at all levels. GWP remains committed to promoting this approach, supporting countries in accelerating IWRM implementation and securing financing, which in turn makes integrated progress possible towards all other water-related targets.

At the current rate of progress, however, the world will not achieve sustainable water management until at least 2049. This was the conclusion of a <u>mid-term report</u> launched at World Water Week on the latest monitoring cycle for SDG indicator 6.5.1 – the global status of IWRM. Published by <u>UN-Water</u> and <u>UNEP</u>, with contributions from GWP, the key report also shows that the dramatic shortfall in progress is largely a result of financial constraints – a primary focus of GWP's work in 2024.

GWP continued its leadership and support as it coordinated the <u>SDG 6 IWRM Support Programme</u> in partnership with UNEP, the custodian agency for SDG indicator 6.5.1, <u>Cap-Net</u> and the <u>UNEP-DHI</u> Centre. Meanwhile, the <u>Global Water Leadership in a Changing Climate (GWL) programme</u> was another key mechanism for advancing SDG 6 in 2024 – the programme's final year of implementation for GWP. Working alongside <u>UNICEF</u>, <u>SWA</u>, and <u>JMP</u>, with funding from the UK's <u>FCDO</u>, GWP focused on seven countries, bringing together policymakers from two sectors – water resources, and water and sanitation – to facilitate a coordinated and climate-resilient response to water challenges.

#### Key achievements:

- ✓ Water and finance plans: In the final year of the GWL programme, the governments of Nepal, Palestine, Rwanda, Tanzania, and Uganda finalised water and climate response strategies and finance plans addressing water and climate bottlenecks building on stakeholder consultations held by GWP. Malawi and the Central African Republic also concluded most of their work towards strategy and plan launches in early 2025. Results achieved in all seven GWL countries are presented in an Outcomes Brief published in 2024.
- ✓ Global leadership: As Co-Coordinator of the <u>UN-Water Innovation Task Force</u>, GWP contributed to designing innovative new ways to accelerate progress towards SDG 6. The Task Force held seven meetings in 2024, including a learning event that focused on learning from failure in water innovation.
- ✓ Valuing water in Tanzania: GWP supported Tanzania's Ministry of Water and the Wami Ruvu Basin Water Board in developing a publication on valuing water in Tanzania. The publication assesses the value of water in economic terms in three of the most important sectors agriculture, manufacturing, and mining and makes a compelling case for future increases in public investment in water.

# Building climate resilience for water security



GWP's work on climate and water continues to provide a bridge between global processes and country-level investment in climate change adaptation through water; this led to several major funding developments in 2024. Specifically, GWP supports governments

of low- and middle-income countries to develop climate-resilient water investment programmes, enabling them to access catalytic funds from the <u>Green Climate Fund</u> (GCF), the <u>Adaptation Fund</u>, the <u>Global Environment Facility</u>, the <u>NDC Partnership</u>, and others to build their climate-resilient water investment pipelines. In 2024, GWP supported 13 countries in Africa, Asia, Eastern Europe, and Latin America to access climate finance, while supporting 22 countries to strengthen their water and climate investment planning through accessed finance.

GWP expertise commands high-level influence. For example, in 2024, the GWP-UNICEF WASH Climate Resilient Development Strategic Framework heavily informed the GCF's Water Project Design Guidelines (Parts 1, 2, and 3), leading to significant upscaling of GWP objectives. Likewise, the United Nations Convention to Combat Desertification (UNCCD), during its COP16 in 2024 in Riyadh, Saudia Arabia, adopted a decision requesting GWP and the World Meteorological Organization (WMO), as well as their shared Integrated Drought Management Programme to integrate aridity into drought monitoring and early warning systems to strengthen policy and practice in supported countries.

In partnership with WMO, GWP also organised a major international event – the <u>Drought Resilience +10 Conference</u>. This conference was a follow-up to the first High-level Meeting on National Drought Policies in 2013 organised by WMO, UNCCD and the Food and Agriculture Organization (FAO) to promote the development and implementation of national drought policies worldwide. In 2024, nearly 1,000 experts, policymakers, and practitioners from 123 countries gathered in Geneva, Switzerland to reflect on a decade of practice in drought preparedness, response, and adaptation, and to explore new ways to increase resilience.

#### Key achievements:

- ❷ Boosting climate-resilient water investments: A major development in 2024 was GCF approval of the GWP-supported African Union Multi-Country Programme to Accelerate Water and Climate Resilience Investments. With a catalytic USD6.2 million to be implemented in 15 African countries, this project mainly focuses on the development of national climate-resilient water investment programmes. Elsewhere, the GCF approved a USD800,000 climate-readiness project for Montenegro which will strengthen technical and institutional capacity in the water sector to design and access finance for inclusive water investments that build climate resilience.
- ✔ Funding leverage: In 2024, GWP successfully concluded implementation of its first set of projects under the GCF Readiness and Preparatory Support Programme in Zambia, Somalia, Eswatini, and the Central African Republic. Additionally, Somalia's first GCF Country Programme, developed by the Federal Government of Somalia with GWP support, leveraged significant new GCF funding of USD94.9 million for climate-resilient agriculture, implemented by FAO. This project aims to benefit 2.1 million people in rural Somalia.

- ☑ Blended finance progress: Under the African Union's AIP, GWP continued to support the Southern African Development Community (SADC) and the Development Bank of Southern Africa in designing a blended finance facility for water investments that will fund water-related projects informed by strengthened climate information systems across 13 countries in the SADC region, seeking USD55 million in concessional finance from the GCF and equivalent co-financing from public and private sources. This design and investment preparation work is financed through a USD1.5 million GCF Project Preparation Facility grant, and is advancing in technical collaboration with the UN Capital Development Fund. Together with the newly launched International Blended Water Investment and Knowledge Facility, the AIP's initiatives aim to support the aggregation of projects and funding sources, promote new sources of finance, and use grant funding to de-risk investments.
- Nationally Determined Contributions (NDCs) implementation: GWP continued to support fast-tracking of the implementation of NDCs in Peru, Paraguay, Chile, and El Salvador with funding from the NDC Partnership. A new project for Panama was secured in 2024. (See regional stories)

# Facilitating transboundary water cooperation



GWP continues to play a central role in supporting cooperation in the transboundary management of water resources – essential for reducing conflict and driving sustainable action.

In 2024, GWP support included training on water policy and law, development of implementation plans, and stakeholder engagement. Crucially, GWP also worked with

national governments and regional organisations to mobilise finance from the <u>Global Environment Facility</u> (GEF) and the <u>Adaptation Fund</u> for transboundary projects in Africa, Latin America, and Asia.

As one of the founding members of the <u>Transboundary Water Cooperation Coalition</u>, established in 2023, GWP contributed to developing Terms of Reference and Rules of Procedure to operationalise the Coalition.

#### Key achievements:

- ✓ Joint river basin cooperation: Malawi, Mozambique, and Tanzania signed a historic Memorandum of Understanding (MoU) for joint management and development of the Ruvuma/Rovuma River Basin, which spans the three countries. Under the signed MoU, the three SADC member states will collaborate to promote the equitable and sustainable management of shared water resources, strengthen institutional capacity, and enhance research efforts in integrated basin development. The agreement also prioritises improved monitoring of water quality and quantity, and the sharing of data and environmental impact assessments.
- ✓ Implementing action in the Drin Basin: Implementation began of a USD7.1 million project funded by the GEF focused on implementing the Strategic Action Programme of the Drin Basin, enhancing transboundary cooperation and integrated natural resources management in the Central and Eastern European basin.
- ✓ Water law capacity building: GWP co-organised Pan-Africa Water Governance and International Water Law Training in partnership with UNECE, the GEF's International Waters Learning Exchange and Resource Network (IW:LEARN), and others. This 2024 workshop served as a key entry point for countries aiming to comply with transboundary water conventions.
- Clean and healthy ocean: GWP is an implementing partner of the GEF Clean and Healthy Ocean Integrated Program, coordinated by FAO and implemented with ADB, EBRD, CAF, and IOC UNESCO. The programme addresses nutrient pollution and marine hypoxia. GWP is responsible for developing the Source-to-Sea governance assessments in the Bay of Bengal and the Caribbean, and for establishing communities of practice on nature-based wastewater treatment, Source-to-Sea, and nutrient management in agrifood systems. Initiated in 2024, this work will continue over the next five years.
- Manual for transboundary projects: As an expert body at the forefront of mobilising finance for water cooperation, GWP is contributing to the incorporation of Water-Energy-Food-Ecosystems Nexus considerations in the GEF manual on transboundary diagnostic analysis and strategic action programmes. This important resource is designed for government managers and practitioners supporting the implementation of transboundary projects.

### Mainstreaming gender equality



Across its Network, GWP's work focuses on incorporating gender equality into the water governance processes being influenced, and into the design and implementation of its programmes.

In the last few years, many of these efforts have been carried out through the Water, Climate, Development and Gender Investments Programme (AIP WACDEP-G), funded by ADA, or have drawn on the knowledge and tools emerging from AIP-WACDEP-G, as part of GWP's closely associated Green Climate Fund (GCF) Readiness Programme and other climate-related processes. This ensures that the mobilisation of knowledge and expertise on the integration of gender-transformative approaches into water and climate planning and investment – fostered through AIP-WACDEP-G – is contributing to a broader range of governance processes and initiatives, and vice versa.

#### Key achievements:

- ✓ Gender-responsive green growth: Sri Lanka's <u>Climate-Smart Green Growth Strategy & Investment Plan</u>, developed under the GCF Readiness Programme implemented by GWP, integrated gender in the formulation of potential pathways towards the country's 2050 vision of climate-smart green growth. Validated in 2024, this strategy is supported by a dedicated climate-smart green growth indicator that captures gender equality.

documents. In Chile, this led to gender-responsive climate change action plans as well as mining and transport sector mitigation and adaptation plans. In Paraguay, the collaboration generated water indicators that emphasise equal opportunities across genders.

- ✔ Gender balance in Somalia's climate finance governance: Under the leadership of the Somalia Ministry of Environment and Climate Change, gender integration was given a prominent position in both the detailed workplan development and the implementation of the GCF Readiness Project, with GWP serving as delivery partner (2022–2024). The Inter-Ministerial Technical Committee and Sectoral Working Groups established under the project ensured balanced representation of women and men, with the Ministry of Women and Human Rights Development actively engaged across all committees. Gender aspects were also integrated into job descriptions within the GCF National Designated Authority. To ensure sustainability and advance gender-transformative climate action, the Project Steering Committee added three deliverables to the project: a Gender Assessment, a Gender Action Plan, and a Gender Policy Brief.
- Safeguarding and equality in drought resilience: GWP continued to support the Buzi, Pungwe, and Save Watercourses Commission (BUPUSACOM), enabling it to integrate gender safeguarding and equality during the implementation of pilot projects on drought resilience in Mozambique and Zimbabwe in the context of a GEF-funded project.
- Community and knowledge exchange: The Community of Practice on Gender and Integrated Water Resources Management, hosted on the IWRM Action Hub and maintained by GWP in collaboration with Cap-Net, continued to grow in 2024. GWP and Cap-Net also created a third edition of their Gender and IWRM course, available on the Cap-Net Virtual Campus.

# Mobilising youth for water management



Involving today's youth in water stewardship is critical for future success. Throughout 2024 GWP continued to support governments and institutions in engaging young people in consultations, competitions, internships, and international exchange schemes. Through these mechanisms, GWP recognises young people's vital role in creating a water-secure world and driving progress towards SDG target 6.5 – implementing integrated water resources management at all levels.

#### Key achievements:

- ✓ Youth empowered in climate lawmaking: GWP supported the Government of Honduras in engaging young people in the development of the country's Climate Change Law by inviting young professionals from service providers in the water and sanitation sectors, to take part in stakeholder consultations.
- ✔ Engagement through climate internships and exchange: In China, GWP collaborated with the Guangxi University for Nationalities on a two-month internship and exchange programme with the Belt and Road Working Committee to promote the sustainable management of water resources.
- ✓ Youth leadership in transboundary water governance: As part of the EU-funded DanuRELY project, GWP organised the <u>Danube Youth Leadership Stakeholders Roundtable</u>, bringing together youth and experts to tackle water challenges. Youth leaders co-designed strategies for inclusive governance and innovation across the Danube Basin.

✓ Innovation challenge for South Asian youth: In Sri Lanka, the South Asia Youth Water Challenge took place for the second time in 2024. In partnership with Brandix Apparel Ltd, GWP supported this initiative by coordinating implementation of the winning innovation – an automated water quality monitoring system for rainwater harvesting and wastewater management – in three locations.

### Working with the private sector



In line with its <u>2020–2025 strategy</u>, GWP continues to work closely with the private sector to mobilise investment, partnerships, and innovations to realise Sustainable Development Goal (SDG) 6, the Paris Agreement, and effective transboundary management of water resources.

GWP's results related to the private sector have increasingly been in the area of climate-related processes, especially those under the Green Climate Fund (GCF) Readiness Programme, as well as GWP's agenda to assist countries and advance technical water solutions to achieve SDG 6 implementation.

#### Key achievements:

- ✓ Leadership for water data innovation: A global public-private roundtable on improving data for water management, sponsored by Heidelberg Materials and convened by GWP, brought together representatives of 20 global companies, international organisations, and stewardship networks to come up with a shared understanding of bottlenecks and pathways to collectively overcome them.
- ✔ Private sector engagement through climate strategy: Within the framework of the GCF Readiness Programme, the Central African Republic validated its Private Sector Engagement Strategy and Action Plan, creating a pathway to attract private sector investments by leveraging concessional international climate finance. Private sector engagement is also a critical component of the African Union Multi-Country Programme to Accelerate Water and Climate Resilience Investments, approved by the GCF in 2024.
- Collective action for water solutions: In a pioneering collaboration with a host of international bodies and multinational corporations, GWP co-authored a 'thought leadership' publication on collective action on water stewardship, published in 2024. This document lays out a framework for developing corporate strategies aimed at reducing water risks and, as an unbranded publication, presents a united front on shared water solutions.



# REGIONAL IMPACT

#### How we measure results

To realise the vision of a water secure world, GWP supports countries to advance the governance and management of water resources for sustainable and equitable development. This work is guided by the principles of integrated water resources management and is fully aligned with measuring progress towards SDG 6, indicator 6.5.1: degree of implementation of IWRM. The work is applicable to all water-related SDGs and their targets, and structured according to the following chain of results.

Firstly, activities are implemented with the aim of influencing targeted stakeholders, such as national governments, regional economic development bodies, river basin organisations, and community-based organisations. Some of these actors are then instrumental in the development of key water governance outcomes. A new water policy, a national adaptation plan, a transboundary management agreement, an investment plan or strategy, strengthened legislation, a regional planning framework, and institutional reform are examples of such outcomes.

The implementation of these water governance outcomes leads to socio-economic benefits among the target populations through increased investment in appropriate infrastructure, empowerment of vulnerable groups, and more sustainable use of resources.

To achieve such outcome- and impact-level results, GWP organises its work around three dimensions, as outlined in the 2020–2025 Strategy:

An operational dimension:

Catalysing change in policies and practice

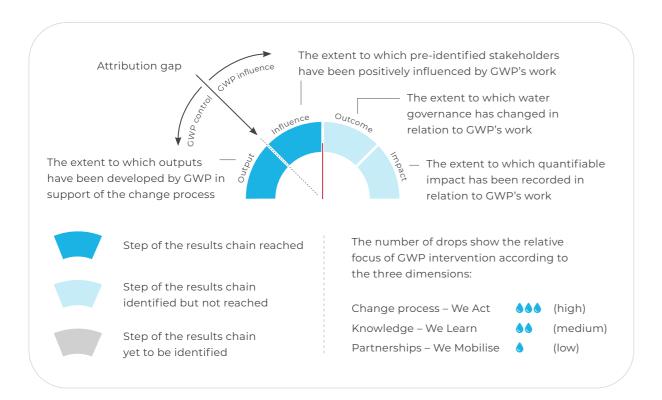
A knowledge dimension:
Generating and communicating

knowledge

A partnering dimension:
Strengthening partnerships

Some of the stories in this report describe initiatives that are at the initial stage of development, where higher-level results have yet to materialise. Others reflect contributions to processes, often supported over a number of years, that can be linked to tangible impact on the ground. The graphics applied to each story (and explained below) indicate the point along the GWP results chain (output > influence > outcome > impact) that had been reached at the end of 2024. The graphics also illustrate how GWP's work was roughly distributed across the three dimensions (We Act, We Learn, We Mobilise) to achieve the results.

For more information: Our results, influence, impact, and theory of change.



### Caribbean

### Grenada communities strengthen water access through partnership project

Leaky pipes are a thing of the past in the Mt. Granby and Mt. Nesbit communities of St. John's, Grenada, following refurbishment of their <u>community water system</u>. In 2024, approximately 150 households gained more secure water access thanks to the Mt. Granby Community Water Improvement Project.

Funded by the Global Environment Facility–Small Grants Programme (GEF-SGP), the project received vital <u>co-financing</u> and <u>implementation</u> support from GWP-Caribbean (GWP-C), which helped build community capacity to manage and maintain the system, ensuring it functions effectively and sustainably. Through collaboration, critical repairs were made to the system's infrastructure, increasing water abstraction and reducing losses, thereby improving the community's access to safe, reliable water, enhancing daily life, and benefiting local agriculture, health outcomes, and overall quality of life.

"The water project has been very good for us," said Stephanie Bascombe, a local resident. "I know that it will be beneficial to everyone here."

Gregory Delsol, from the GEF-SGP National Steering Committee, added: "We were happy to collaborate with GWP-C and this community to ensure the project was completed and improved lives in both communities."

By strengthening infrastructure and local ownership, GWP-C helped deliver a model for community-based water governance that brings both resilience and opportunity to rural Grenada.



### Al technology piloted to tackle agricultural water scarcity in Grenada



Piloting innovative irrigation technology in Grenada

Responding to worsening droughts and water scarcity in Grenada, in 2024 GWP-Caribbean (GWP-C) <u>piloted innovative irrigation technology</u> underpinned by artificial intelligence (AI) to improve water efficiency in the agriculture sector.

The pilot introduced IRRIGOPTIMAL, a smart irrigation system using soil moisture sensors to guide water use. Installed at two locations – the government's Mirabeau Propagation Station and a private farm in St. David – the system helps ensure crops receive only the water they need.

Through training sessions with farmers, students, and community members, GWP-C raised awareness of how AI and precision technology can be applied to everyday agricultural practices. The pilot also strengthened collaboration between the government and farming networks, laying the groundwork for possible scale-up.

Local stakeholders highlighted the initiative's relevance and potential for long-term water sustainability.

"This sensor will guide our irrigation process and improve yields," said Nigel Gibbs, Supervisor at the Mirabeau Propagation Station.

"I'm very happy to see the young farmers we have emerging know that this type of technology can really help us in the agriculture sector," added Evans Goodings, President of the North East Farmers Organisation.

By combining innovation with practical field application, GWP-C is helping demonstrate how advanced technology, partnerships, and local capacity can come together to tackle water scarcity in climate-vulnerable regions.



#### Central Africa

### Central African Republic adopts gender and social inclusion tool to unlock climate finance

National Designated Authority (NDA) of the Central African Republic (CAR) has adopted a new Gender and Social Inclusion Assessment Framework, developed through a GWP-implemented Green Climate Fund Readiness (GCF) project. Including gender and social inclusion in climate project proposals is key to ensuring that water- and climate-resilient investments address the needs of the entire population. Gender considerations are also a priority



Stakeholder practical workshop on the Gender Assessment Framework for climate projects in the Central African Republic

for the GCF, making the framework an essential step toward unlocking climate finance for inclusive, sustainable development.

GWP Central Africa coordinated national consultations and brought together local and international experts to create the new tool, which enables the NDA and stakeholders to verify gender and social inclusion in project proposals. Since then, the framework has already been used to strengthen two GCF concept notes.

Crucially, the NDA demonstrated strong ownership, requesting GWP to provide additional training in using the assessment tool for personnel from institutions across the climate sector. As a result, the framework is now positioned to become a standard element in climate project design and evaluation.

By embedding gender considerations into national climate finance processes, GWP Central Africa has helped strengthen CAR's ability to access funding for inclusive, resilient development, and attract additional investment – and is supporting similar efforts across the region.



# Central African Republic launches national response strategy for climate-resilient water management

In December 2024, the Government of the Central African Republic launched its first-ever National Response Strategy for Climate-resilient Water Resource Management – marking a milestone in national water governance and building on its revision of the country's Environmental Code, which was finalised following a GWP-led stakeholder consultation process in the same year.



Launch of the National Response Strategy in Bangui, Central African Republic

The strategy was developed through a one-year, government-supported and GWP-facilitated process under the Global Water Leadership (GWL) programme funded by the UK Foreign, Commonwealth and Development Office. Several of the solutions identified in the strategy will be incorporated into an upcoming national investment plan.

For the Central African Republic, the development process was the first of its kind – a fully stakeholder-led effort involving the identification of key governance and technical barriers to climate-resilient integrated water resources management, the co-creation of practical solutions, and budgeting and validation. Four formal working groups, recognised by the Ministry of Water, addressed issues such as the weak enforcement of water policies, lack of a water monitoring system, poor allocation of human resources, and misalignment of national budgets.

After the GWL programme ended in March 2024, the Ministry of Water mobilised domestic resources to organise a national strategy launch in December – demonstrating strong ownership and political will. During a roundtable with development partners, multiple organisations – including GWP – expressed interest in supporting the strategy's implementation.

The new Response Strategy and revised Environmental Code reflect the Central African Republic's growing commitment to cross-sectoral, climate-resilient water governance. "The government is committed to promoting joint solutions to the challenges of climate-resilient water management," said Sylvain Guebanda, Director of Cabinet, Ministry of Water Resources.



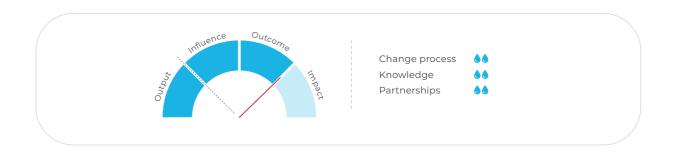
### Chad validates roadmap to implement Water Convention

In April 2024, the Government of Chad validated its first <u>national strategy and implementation plan</u> for the United Nations Economic Commission for Europe (UNECE) Water Convention, nearly seven years after becoming the first African country to accede to the Water Convention in 2018.

This strategy was developed through a consultative process led by the Ministry of Water Resources, with support from UNECE, l'Agence Française de Développement, and other partners. The process culminated in a national workshop in N'Djamena, attended by more than 60 stakeholders including the Lake Chad Basin Commission, UNESCO, UNECE, civil society organisations, and representatives from the Ministry of Water Resources. GWP Central Africa contributed to the consultation and identified entry points for implementation – including future collaboration through the African Union Multi-Country Green Climate Fund Readiness Programme and alignment of strategic priorities with GWP-led activities. The Country Water Partnership for Chad was also a member of the committee that reviewed the final implementation plan.

The national strategy identifies institutional barriers and outlines priority actions for putting the Water Convention into practice in Chad. While implementation is just beginning, Chad's new approach marks a critical first step towards operationalising the country's commitments under the Water Convention, and improving transboundary water cooperation in Central Africa.

Chad's Minister of Water and Sanitation, Passale Kanabe Marcellin, affirmed the catalytic role of the Water Convention: "This document could be used to facilitate the mobilisation of technical and financial resources needed to foster the management of shared water resources."



#### Central America

### Improved monitoring of water-use efficiency in El Salvador

A lack of reliable data and fragmentation of institutions responsible for generating water-related information is hampering the ability of Latin American countries to monitor their progress towards Sustainable Development Goal (SDG) target 6.4 (improved water-use efficiency). In



Participants in the SDG 6.4 workshop in El Salvador

response, GWP Central America played a key role in supporting a Food and Agriculture Organization (FAO) initiative to strengthen the capacity of countries across the region to calculate, monitor, report, and analyse data on SDG indicators 6.4.1 (water-use efficiency) and 6.4.2 (water stress) – a critical step in advancing integrated water governance and data-driven decision-making.

To support the initiative, GWP Central America produced knowledge products on indicators 6.4.1 and 6.4.2 to help countries measure and monitor their water use and align data across the water, climate, and agriculture sectors.

El Salvador was one of two countries to receive in-person training, and one of the results was the establishment of a cross-institutional commission to gather, consolidate, and submit the AQUASTAT questionnaire – FAO's tool for gathering information about countries' water resources – as the basis for the country's reporting on SDG 6.4. This ensured the integration of indicators 6.4.1 and 6.4.2 into El Salvador's 2025 Voluntary National Report to the United Nations.

The commission represents a milestone in El Salvador's efforts to improve integrated monitoring of the SDGs, including their water-use efficiency indicators (SDG 6.4) and other water-related SDGs.



### Panama plans for resilient marine coastal ecosystems



Workshop in the province of Veraguas in Panama

Bordered by both the Pacific and Atlantic Oceans, Panama relies heavily on its marine and coastal zones – not only for biodiversity, but also for activities such as fisheries, tourism, and shipping. However, climate change presents a significant threat to these zones, putting at risk ecosystems including coral reefs, seagrasses, and mangroves, as well as infrastructure, coastal communities, and vital economic sectors.

Panama has therefore launched a Climate Change Adaptation Plan for the Coastal Marine Sector, an important step to strengthen climate resilience. The country's Ministry of Environment led the plan's development process, which began in 2024, with financial support from the NDC Partnership Action Fund and GWP Central America as the implementing partner.

To support preparation of the plan, GWP Central America facilitated a multistakeholder planning process to reflect the distinct needs of Panama's coastal regions and sectors. The result is a national policy that identifies key risks, priorities, and actions to strengthen coastal marine ecosystem resilience and community adaptation capacity.

The Coastal Marine Adaptation Plan contains a series of actions that will guide government institutions and local actors in protecting marine ecosystems and ensuring that the coastal economy can thrive under changing climate conditions. It also sets a precedent for sector adaptation plans, which will be an integral part of the National Adaptation Plan that Panama is currently preparing.



### Tariffs and funds incentivise local water governance in El Salvador

Faced with deforestation, ecosystem degradation, and unsustainable development in the Sucio, San Juan, and Tempisque river basins, El Salvador is promoting the use of economic instruments to strengthen local governance and climate resilience. Water tariffs and funds will be used by water utilities and other local actors to implement actions for basin management and generate



Basin-level workshop to identify best economic instruments for water management

resources to help farmers adopt more sustainable land and water practices. They will also fund conservation efforts and awareness-raising activities in local communities.

Through a participatory process, GWP Central America has supported the country's Ministry of Environment and Natural Resources (MARN) in identifying appropriate economic instruments. In 2024, GWP facilitated workshops with multiple stakeholders in the rivers' micro-basins to validate the water tariffs and funds as instruments to generate revenues for water management, considering local context and capacities. GWP also trained MARN personnel, who will assist local actors, like water utilities, in the implementation of the water tariffs and funds, as well as facilitating the interinstitutional coordination with other relevant mandated institutions.

As part of the NDC PAF project, GWP supported MARN in the preparation of two funding proposals, one of which was submitted to the Green Climate Fund (GCF) Readiness Programme with GWP as delivery partner and approved in April 2024. Both proposals build on the results obtained through the NDC PAF project and include the development of financial schemes to support water climate resilience in El Salvador.

"We are confident that these mechanisms contribute to achieving the NDCs and Sustainable Development Goals related to sustainable water management," said Sol María Muñoz of the Ministry of Environment.



### Central and Eastern Europe

# From reactive to proactive: setting the stage for drought resilience across the Danube River Basin



A transformation in approaches to addressing drought risk across the Danube region is under way following the 2024 adoption of the International Commission for the Protection of the Danube River's (ICPDR's) Overview Report on Droughts and Low Water Levels in the Danube River Basin.

Building on years of work, this report marks a significant step towards a shared understanding of drought impacts, policy gaps, and monitoring systems. Co-authored by GWP Central and Eastern Europe (CEE), it presents coordinated, basin-wide recommendations for future action – supporting the transition from a reactive, emergency-based response to a more proactive and strategic drought management approach.

This milestone was made possible through close collaboration between the ICPDR Secretariat, the Drought Management Centre for Southeastern Europe, and GWP CEE. GWP CEE contributed its expertise by promoting the Integrated Drought Management Programme (IDMP) approach, addressing areas such as climate adaptation and national water policy and helping lay the groundwork for more coordinated, long-term drought management.

The report draws on over a decade of GWP and World Meteorological Organization experience with IDMP in the region. Through national dialogues, regional workshops, and capacity-building activities, IDMP has supported the development of national drought management frameworks – and established the knowledge base, relationships, and momentum necessary to inform the *Overview Report* and its shared recommendations.



### Stakeholder engagement strengthens water retention planning in European farmlands



Participants in an OPTAIN MARG workshop engage in discussions on small water retention measures and their impact on agricultural water management. Photo: OPTAIN project / GWP CEE

Local knowledge is shaping small water retention solutions for drought and water quality management through the EU-funded Optimal Strategies to Retain Water and Nutrients (OPTAIN) project. By bringing together scientists and local stakeholders, the project promotes nature-based solutions tailored to regional agricultural landscapes.

In 2024, GWP Central and Eastern Europe (CEE) supported stakeholder engagement in six countries – Czech Republic, Hungary, Latvia, Lithuania, Poland, and Slovenia – by facilitating Multi-Actor Reference Groups (MARGs), where participants reviewed findings and co-developed practical, locally adapted measures.

Through MARG workshops held in four case study areas, farmers, municipalities, research institutions, and water agencies reviewed modelling results for Natural/Small Water Retention Measures. They assessed projected impacts on runoff, erosion, and water quality – and provided feedback to improve practical implementation.

GWP CEE plays a key role in harmonising the multistakeholder approach, creating methodologies for the MARG workshops to ensure the input is actionable and grounded in local realities.

The process helps align technical modelling with community needs and will inform final recommendations that support EU goals on climate adaptation, sustainable agriculture, and water management.



#### Today's young people, tomorrow's water leaders



Participants in the DanuRELY project workshop in November 2024, gathered to discuss youth engagement and water resilience across the Danube region. Photo: GWP CEE

GWP Central and Eastern Europe (CEE) is empowering young people across the Danube region to build water-secure and resilient societies through its leadership of the DanuRELY project, launched in 2024.

The project is funded by the Interreg Danube Programme and delivered in partnership with the Water Research Institute of Slovakia, Ludovika University in Hungary, and the University of Belgrade in Serbia. It is aligned with the EU Strategy for the Danube Region and supported by the International Commission for the Protection of the Danube River and the Sava Commission. It paves the way to a resilient future by enhancing the skills of young people in building resilience, creating platforms for meaningful participation, and fostering cross-generation cooperation in water management.

In November 2024, GWP CEE facilitated the project's first workshop, bringing together more than 30 young professionals and experts from 11 Danube countries to share their experiences, learn from their peers, and build connections. The project also includes a series of thematic webinars and a comprehensive mapping of youth needs in the water sector to better tailor capacity-building activities and engagement opportunities.

The insights and outcomes from DanuRELY will inform the design of future initiatives and fundraising efforts aimed at sustaining and expanding youth engagement in water governance across the region.



### Central Asia and Caucasus

### Kazakhstan embeds integrated water resources management in new water code

In a landmark step toward strengthening water governance, Kazakhstan submitted a new Water Code to Parliament in November 2024 – its first major update since 2003. Developed in the face of growing climate pressures and outdated legal frameworks under a previous code, the new code places integrated water resources management (IWRM) at the heart of national water planning, and provides for stimulation of investment and research in the country's water sector.

The GWP Country Water Partnership of Kazakhstan played a leading role in the expert working group that shaped the reform – which was approved in March 2025. This 15-member group brought together professionals from government, industry, agriculture, public utilities, and the environmental sector, and proposed more than 700 changes.

Key updates include new administrative and economic incentives for water-saving technologies, stricter measures for protecting groundwater, enhanced standards on access to drinking water, and stronger enforcement mechanisms. A major breakthrough is the introduction of a national General Plan for IWRM, along with basin-level planning frameworks.

As reported by the Minister of Water Resources and Irrigation, Nurzhan Nurzhigitov, the new code also incorporates the concept of 'water security' – to protect Kazakhstan's population and economy from the risks of water shortages and pollution of water bodies.

GWP Kazakhstan provided technical leadership and sectoral coordination for these developments, helping to ensure that the new code reflects both practical realities and global IWRM principles – and lays a strong foundation for climate-resilient water management in Central Asia.



### Mongolia strengthens water governance with new association and legal reform



National consultation in Mongolia. Photo by Davaa Basandorj

In a pivotal step towards improved water governance, in December 2024 Mongolia established the Mongolian Joint Association for Water Professionals – bringing together water professionals from different sectors to develop a unified approach to water management. This represents a break from the longstanding situation of different ministries involved in water-related issues, each with its own approach, which has made it difficult to find appropriate solutions to problems.

The Association's establishment followed sustained engagement by the GWP Country Water Partnership of Mongolia, which worked closely with the Ministry of Environment to address governance fragmentation. In April 2024, a <u>national consultation</u> involving more than 30 water sector stakeholders produced recommendations for strengthening coordinated water management – including the creation of the Association, which was quickly achieved.

By convening stakeholders and advancing coordinated solutions, GWP Mongolia has supported long-term legal and policy reform for more sustainable, integrated management of water resources. Along with the new Association, this has helped create national momentum for modernising the country's legal framework for water management. In late 2024, an Updated Draft Water Law was submitted to the President's Office. The President subsequently recognised water governance as a strategic national priority for government and civil society, and the law was submitted to Parliament in March 2025.



### Georgia accelerates river basin planning with update to Alazani-Iori plan

To meet the requirements of Georgia's new Water Resources Management Law – which mandates approval of all river basin management plans by 2026 – the Government of Georgia took a major step in 2024 by initiating an update of the Alazani-Iori River Basin Management Plan. Updating this plan marks a shift towards more integrated and legally aligned water management, directly in line with Sustainable Development Goal (SDG) target 6.5.1 on integrated water resources management.

The process was launched through strategic discussions between the GWP Country Water Partnership of Georgia and the country's Ministry of Environmental Protection and Agriculture. GWP is supporting the process with both technical and financial assistance, while the Ministry ensures strong institutional backing.

The Country Water Partnership and the Ministry both recognised that the previous draft plan no longer reflected environmental conditions or governance realities. This view was reinforced during a national consultation on SDG 6.5.1 co-organised by GWP and the Ministry in 2023. The revised plan will, therefore, incorporate up-to-date environmental data and action legally required under both the country's own water law and the European Union's Water Framework Directive.

In revising the basin plan, GWP and the Ministry engaged local communities, municipalities, non-governmental organisations, and academic institutions. Once finalised, the plan is expected to directly benefit more than 314,000 people in the basin area, enhance irrigation efficiency and rural development, and support transboundary cooperation. It will also provide a model for updating other river basin plans, and signals Georgia's readiness for future water investments.



### China

### Youth innovators drive water and climate solutions in China and beyond

Community-based water systems, air-to-water generation, and digital tools for water efficiency were among the diverse ideas submitted by more than 100 young innovators participating in GWP China's Innovators in Change programme last year.

Launched collaboratively with UNICEF China, the programme also used workshops



The Dushanbe group. Photo: Tina Tan, HurRain Nano Tech

and mentoring to engage with youth across the country to co-develop holistic and practical solutions to water and climate challenges. Several participants were invited to share their solutions on the international stage at the United Nations Water Conference in Dushanbe, Tajikistan.

"It was an honour to participate in the conference in Tajikistan and present our air water generation project," said Tina Tan, Vice President of HurRain NanoTech (Beijing) Co., Ltd. "What impressed me most was the opportunity to interact with young innovators from all over the world."

The programme created new links between youth, public institutions, and private sector actors – and offers a replicable model for integrating youth-led innovation into national and global water dialogues. <u>Five standout case studies</u> submitted by the young innovators are showcased on the GWP IWRM Action Hub.



### China integrates water into low-carbon transition through new national platform

As China accelerates its shift to a low-carbon economy, a key governance gap is being addressed: the need to integrate water resources management into national climate and energy planning.

In 2024, GWP China supported this process by co-establishing the Professional Committee of River Basin Carbon Neutrality with Beijing Normal University – a first-of-its-kind platform linking water governance to China's carbon neutrality goals.

The inception of the platform in May 2024 brought together more



The Professional Committee of River Basin Neutrality Conference. Photo: Beijing Normal University

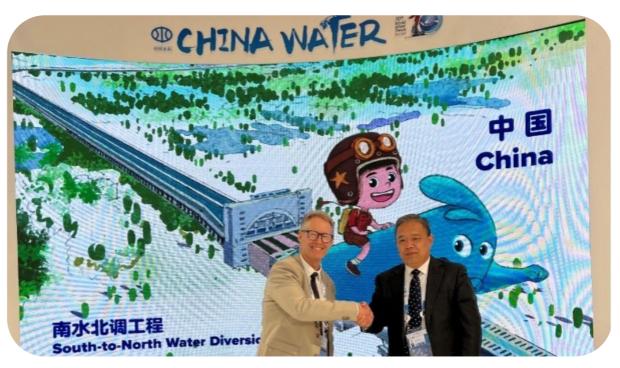
than 100 experts from research and non-governmental organisations to align policy, science, and practice across sectors. In September, a second high-level conference in Shanxi Province deepened this collaboration, drawing over 400 experts to share innovations on watershed carbon cycling, eco-hydrology, and low-carbon pollution control.

"We are facing the challenges posed by climate change and resource scarcity," said Prof. You Jinjun, Senior Engineer at the China Institute of Water Resources and Hydropower Research (IWHR) and GWP China Technical Committee member. "This demands clean, efficient energy and science-based water management strategies."

Through its convening power and technical leadership, GWP China is helping embed water governance into China's broader efforts towards low-carbon development and climate resilience – setting the stage for more integrated, science-based, and sustainable approaches.



### Commitment to cooperation on water resources communication



The MoU was signed by Alan AtKisson, then Executive Secretary of GWP, and Wang Houjun, Director of the Publicity and Education Centre (PEC) of China's Ministry of Water Resources, during the 10th World Water Forum in Bali, Indonesia.

A collaborative framework to jointly promote communication, education, and cultural exchanges in the field of water resources has been established with the agreement of a Memorandum of Understanding (MoU) between GWP and the Publicity and Education Center (PEC) of the China Ministry of Water Resources.

The MoU, which was signed during the 10th World Water Forum in Bali, Indonesia, in May 2024, also promotes the exploration of new models of international cooperation in water education and cultural communication, the communication of ideas for water development in China that could benefit other countries, and the sharing of water-related stories across China and the Asia-Pacific region.

The MoU is a sign of committed cooperation between GWP and PEC in the area of water resources education and cultural communication, and will strengthen international communication about water development and water culture.



#### Eastern Africa

### Pan-African training on water governance and law

At the end of 2024, Uganda hosted the 7th Pan Africa Water Governance and International Water Law Training in Entebbe. Over 30 water practitioners from across Africa – including representatives from governments, basin organisations, non-governmental organisations, academia, and financial institutions – gathered to enhance their understanding of international water law and governance. Along with building capacity, the objective was to foster partnerships for improved practices in transboundary law and agreements. The training focused on the enduring role of the 1992 Water Convention, and included simulated treaty negotiations and a field visit to Jinja, the source of the Nile, to tour a hydroelectric dam.

The training was organised by the United Nations Economic Commission for Europe (UNECE) – the <u>Secretariat for the Water Convention</u> – GWP, and numerous other Ugandan and international partners. Uganda's commitment to transboundary water cooperation, demonstrated through its hosting of the Nile Basin Initiative Secretariat and its intention to accede to the Water Convention, provided a conducive environment.

The event deepened many practitioners' understanding of international water law principles, and gave them opportunities to explore tools like GWP's <a href="IWRM Toolbox">IWRM Toolbox</a> and UNECE's <a href="Practical Guide">Practical Guide</a> for developing transboundary arrangements, treaties, conventions, and memoranda of understanding.

"The training provided us with practical tools and knowledge to enhance transboundary water cooperation in our region," a participant from the Nile Basin Initiative concluded.



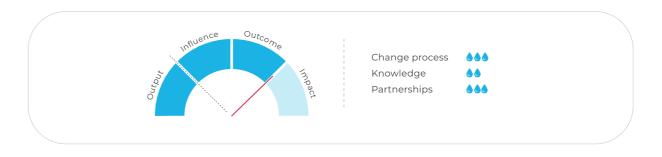
### Rwanda addresses bottlenecks to climateresilient water management

Rwanda has developed a Response Strategy and Finance Plan to tackle four major bottlenecks that have hindered climate-resilient water resources management in the country: limited technical capacity, flood risks, low community awareness, and catchment degradation. Together the Response Strategy and Finance Plan provide a costed, stakeholder-driven roadmap to prioritise actions and mobilise resources – with the aim of transforming previously fragmented efforts into coordinated national impact.

This achievement has built on earlier work under the Global Water Leadership (GWL) Programme, which facilitated a multi-stakeholder process in 2022 and 2023 and convened four thematic working groups to co-develop strategic actions. The robust, evidence-based Response Strategy and Finance Plan were launched in Kigali in March 2024. Both documents integrate technical and local insights from the long-running collaborative process.

"One of the biggest lessons was the value of stakeholder engagement," said working group leader Honoré Ndayishimiye, an advisor at the Rwanda Water Resources Board. "This process took time – but the quality and ownership of the final product are worth it."

GWP Eastern Africa played roles throughout in technical backstopping and coordination, while enabling the Rwanda Country Water Partnership to lead country-level engagement. GWP Eastern Africa ensured quality assurance, provided logistical and financial management support, and helped anchor the process within national development frameworks.



### Somalia gears up for climate finance with national policymaking



As one of the most vulnerable countries to climate change, Somalia is intensifying adaptation and mitigation efforts

In 2024, Somalia's Inter-Ministerial Technical Steering Committee (IMTSC) on climate change officially endorsed the National Climate Finance Policy, a milestone in the country's effort to raise climate finance. This policy establishes a guiding framework to enhance Somalia's ability to access, manage, and track climate finance effectively and transparently.

Spearheading the drafting of the policy was the Ministry of Environment and Climate Change, which, as the National Designated Authority (NDA) on climate, has received extensive staff capacity building from GWP. As implementer of the Green Climate Fund (GCF) Readiness project for Somalia, GWP has supported both the NDA and the establishment of the IMTSC.

Now, the approved finance policy has created a clear, accountable structure for climate finance coordination, with an emphasis on strengthened institutional systems, efficient disbursement, improved tracking, and transparent reporting. The policy is thus a major step towards climate finance for Somalia – which became a reality following the approval of a USD 94.9 million Country Programme by the GCF in 2024.



### Mediterranean

### Building resilience against extreme weather events in Greece

In September 2023, storm Daniel brought unprecedented rainfall to Greece, claiming 17 lives and causing billions of euros worth of damage. One year later, GWP Mediterranean and the Municipality of Trikala implemented the Resilient Thessaly project, with funding from The Coca-Cola Foundation. The first public-private synergy completed after the catastrophic floods, this included installation of a 340-metre rainwater



Installation of a rainwater drainage pipeline

drainage pipeline for one of the most flood-prone and densely populated areas of Trikala. The pipeline was designed in close collaboration with the Municipal Water Supply and Sewage Company of Trikala, supporting the city's broader flood protection strategy. GWP Mediterranean also conducted environmental education in Trikala's schools to promote sound water use, and raised awareness on climate change adaptation.

Carlos Pagoaga, President of The Coca-Cola Foundation, noted, "The completion of this flood control project in collaboration with GWP-Med and the Municipality of Trikala represents an important step in protecting the area from the effects of extreme weather events, while also strengthening the resilience of the local community."

Trikala Mayor Nikos Sakkas emphasised, "Our joint efforts provided clear evidence of how local governments and the private sector can contribute to addressing aspects of the climate crisis."

GWP Mediterranean has been working with private, as well as public, entities for more than 16 years in designing, managing and implementing projects within its Technical Solutions agenda on water efficiency and water replenishment throughout the Mediterranean.



### Smart irrigation benefits a community and a wetland in Tunisia



Applying innovative technology

Tunisia has faced severe drought in recent years, linked to climate change and compounded by competition across different water uses. In the governorate of Bizerte, home to the precious wetland Ghar El Melh, community well-being and water security are closely interlinked.

GWP Mediterranean collaborated with the Tunisian Ministry of Agriculture, Hydraulic Resources & Fisheries and the Bizerte Regional Commissary for Agricultural Development to address climate change impacts with a <u>customised smart agriculture intervention</u>. Funding came from Malta's Office of the Deputy Prime Minister and Ministry for Foreign Affairs and Tourism, and the Global Environment Facility and United Nations Environment Programme's MedProgramme.

Smart, renewable energy-powered irrigation systems resulted in a 31 percent rise in agricultural water productivity. The project also produced policy recommendations, informed by ongoing national efforts, and built a collaborative action plan to scale up smart irrigation, renewable energy, and the Water–Energy–Food–Ecosystems Nexus approach in Tunisia. The innovative implementation provides a practical solution for promoting sustainable agricultural practices in rural Tunisia and elsewhere.

Manuel Sapiano, CEO of Malta's Energy & Water Agency, stated, "We have a solution which works, which is replicable and scalable to address other regions and countries in the Mediterranean."



### Partnering for water efficiency in a stressed coastal town



Left to right: Rashad Alfarajat, Project Engineer, Crown Holdings; Prof. Michael Scoullos, Chair, GWP-Med; Jennifer Bogs, Director - Global Sustainability, Crown Holdings; Andreas Vergotis, Korinthos Plant Manager, Crown; Nikos Stavrelis, Korinthos Mayor; Dimitris Papageorgiou, CEO of Korinthos Municipal Water Authority.

Like many Mediterranean coastal towns, Korinthos, a bustling business and tourist centre in Greece, is facing water stress and water quality challenges. To help alleviate these pressures, GWP Mediterranean and the Korinthos Municipality implemented a water conservation project saving 26 million litres of water annually by <u>upgrading the main water treatment plant</u>. The project was funded by beverage can manufacturer Crown, which operates a local plant.

The project focused on reducing water waste through advanced filtration and reclamation. By reusing 92 percent of the water previously discharged during filter cleaning, the upgraded water treatment plant saves enough water to meet the average needs of an extra 100 households in Korinthos.

Mayor Nikos Stavrelis stated, "This initiative not only addresses current water needs but also prepares us for future challenges by embracing modern, efficient water management practices."

John Rost, Senior Vice President of Crown, said, "Bolstering the local supply of safe water is not only a smart business decision for our organisation in terms of preserving our strong global presence, but it is also simply the right thing to do to protect the health of the vibrant community and environment in Korinthos. We are pleased to join forces with GWP-Med to take accountability for improving the water system in the area."



#### South America

### Peru formalises national methodology for assessing climate risk in water planning

In a major step towards climate-resilient water governance, Peru has finalised and validated its first national Guide for the Analysis and Estimation of Climate Change Risk in Hydrographic Basins. The guide provides public institutions with a standardised, technically sound, and participatory methodology for assessing climate risks – such as reduced water availability, floods, and mass movements – within water planning and management.

Coordinated by Peru's National Water Authority (ANA), the guide contributes to the country's climate adaptation efforts by supporting implementation of its Nationally Determined Contributions and offers a shared framework for climate-informed decision-making. Intended to be accessible to users regardless of their technical background, it also serves as an educational tool for building institutional capacity, and as an aid to developing basin-scale climate risk assessments to inform Water Resources Management Plans and other governance instruments.

With more than 30 specialists from key ministries and technical bodies involved in developing the final content of the guide, GWP South America helped shape the consultation process, engaging stakeholders across sectors and promoting interinstitutional dialogue to ensure a coherent approach, shared ownership and long-term uptake.

By validating the guide, Peru has laid the foundation for more consistent, climate-informed water decision-making across its watersheds.



### Paraguay strengthens climate governance with national system to track mitigation progress



National workshop in Paraguay

Paraguay has enhanced its climate transparency and accountability by establishing key elements of a national Measurement, Reporting, and Verification (MRV) system – a foundational step for tracking progress under its sectoral mitigation plans and updated Nationally Determined Contributions. The system equips Paraguay to report more systematically on its climate commitments, including through its Biennial Transparency Report to the United Nations Framework Convention on Climate Change (UNFCCC).

The MRV framework, developed in 2024 through a participatory process, includes a matrix of mitigation indicators and proposes institutional arrangements to support implementation. A notable innovation is the integration of a gender perspective, with gender-sensitive indicators and strategic recommendations embedded into the system – advancing more inclusive and socially just climate action.

Led by Paraguay's National Directorate for Climate Change, the process involved 18 bilateral meetings and a national workshop with over 40 representatives from government, civil society, and the private sector. GWP South America played a key facilitation and technical advisory role, coordinating intersectoral dialogue, guiding stakeholder engagement, and helping design a framework aligned with national capacities.

By fostering consensus and building institutional ownership, GWP's support contributed to a shared national vision for monitoring climate mitigation actions – laying the groundwork for transparent, effective, and equitable climate governance in Paraguay.



### La Libertad boosts local climate resilience with regional strategy update



Workshop led by the Regional Government of La Libertad

Peru's La Libertad region achieved an important step towards climate resilience in 2024, updating its Regional Climate Change Strategy (ERCC) to more effectively address the region's vulnerabilities. The revised strategy integrates conclusions emerging from regional climate risk and barrier analysis, greenhouse gas emissions assessment, and priority adaptation and mitigation measures – aligning the region's climate resilience efforts with national guidelines and ensuring compliance with its climate commitments.

The update was informed by a participatory process led by the Regional Government of La Libertad supported by the Ministry of the Environment. Four technical workshops and additional meetings with regional technical teams and groups fostered institutional commitment and multisectoral collaboration.

GWP South America supported the drafting and validation of the strategy, guiding the technical content and coordinating the workshops. By synthesising diverse inputs, addressing stakeholders' feedback, and promoting alignment with national policies, GWP helped ensure the strategy was transparent and inclusive.

With an updated ERCC in place, La Libertad has strengthened its institutional capacity to tackle climate change challenges at the regional level – a step forward for locally owned, climate-resilient development.



#### South Asia

### Sri Lanka crafts a climate-smart green growth strategy and investment plan

Sri Lanka validated its <u>Climate-Smart Green</u> <u>Growth Strategy and Investment Plan</u> in 2024, paving the way for USD 49 billion in climate-smart investments by 2050 across sectors including energy, urban planning, agriculture, and trade and industry. The strategy sets a national vision for sustainable, low-carbon development while building resilience to climate change impacts.

To create the strategy and associated investment plan, GWP South Asia facilitated a year-long participatory process under Sri Lanka's second Green Climate Fund Readiness Project. It coordinated stakeholder consultations that ensured broad ownership, alignment with national priorities, and integration of existing policies.



The strategy was officially handed over to the Secretary of the Ministry of Environment, Sri Lanka, Mr K. R. Uduwawala by Mr Anura Sathurusinghe, the National Project Coordinator of the Readiness Project

GWP also provided key technical support, starting with a climate change analysis that identified water-related climate risks. It ensured the strategy process considered gender, as well, with the formulation of equitable pathways to reach Sri Lanka's 2050 vision – and supported by a dedicated gender indicator.

Throughout the year, numerous multi-stakeholder workshops and focus group discussions engaged public agencies, private sector actors, academia, and civil society in shaping the strategy's framework and priority investment areas. This process strengthened the capacity of Sri Lankan actors to access climate finance and laid the groundwork for a stronger climate project pipeline.

The strategy was formally launched by Sri Lanka's Ministry of Environment in early 2025, marking the successful close of the Readiness Project. Its launch signals a shift towards climate-smart green growth at the heart of Sri Lanka's development agenda – embedding climate resilience and sustainability into national policy and investment decisions.



### Cooperating on water storage across five countries



Discussion on water storage in Bhutan

Bangladesh, Bhutan, India, Nepal, and Pakistan each have their own significant water storage infrastructure, but they share a need for integrated planning that serves their mutual water security goals. The project <u>Built Water Storage in South Asia</u> brought together 30 technical staff from the five national governments in 2024 to address that need.

The project was guided by the International Water Management Institute and GWP South Asia with US State Department funding. In particular, the Country Water Partnerships of Bangladesh and Bhutan led the activities in these two countries.

In close collaboration with national ministries, the project identified water storage gaps in the five countries and options to fill them. It then developed tools and approaches to map and investigate the seasonal dynamics and trends in different types of water storage.

<u>Regular workshops</u> with the participating technical staff served to simultaneously build capacity, trust, and cooperation. The workshops strengthened national capacities and promoted action-oriented recommendations for policies and strategies that enhance water security through better planning and management of water storage. They also facilitated regional cooperation through improved cross-border dialogue among the countries in South Asia to address gaps in water storage needs.



### Village Water Management Committees confront climate variability



Climate adaptation planning exercise by Village Water Committee members in village Sultanwadi, May 2024.

Five villages in Maharashtra, India are responding to increasing climate variability with guidance from newly formed Village Water Management Committees, which include local youth trained as water technologists. India's Country Water Partnership has worked with Grass-Roots Action for Social Participation (GRASP) since 2022 to enable this community-led response.

In 2024, climate adaptation plans prepared by each committee were approved by its Gram Sabha – the village-level administration – while farmers' groups agreed on seasonal crop plans for their village. Many individual farmers received support to adopt drought-ready measures like induced recharge of irrigation wells, farm ponds, drip irrigation, and climate-smart agricultural practices.

GWP India's partner GRASP will carry on with the initiative and will strengthen the water governance of these rural villages with the support of the Village Water Management Committees and with the consent of Gram Sabhas. The skills of the local committees will be refreshed regularly, and those members will act as the agents of change to increase the resilience of smallholder farmers against climate variability – where that goal is best achieved through participatory groundwater management.



#### Southeast Asia

### Cambodia and Lao PDR adopt national drought management and IWRM action plans

<u>Cambodia</u> and <u>Lao PDR</u> advanced their efforts towards climate-resilient water management by developing national action plans for drought management and integrated water resources management (IWRM). The shift from reactive crisis response to proactive planning equips both countries in the face of worsening droughts.

The collaborative process was supported by GWP, GWP Southeast Asia, the World Meteorological Organization (WMO), the United Nations Office for Disaster Risk Reduction, and the World Bank through the Climate Risk and Early Warning Systems (CREWS) initiative. The project, implemented jointly with the Ministry of Water Resources and Meteorology in Cambodia, the Ministry of Natural Resources and Environment in Lao PDR and the Cambodia and Lao PDR Country Water Partnerships, aims to build on ongoing initiatives in the region and strengthen the capacity of both countries to deliver hydrometeorological early action and response services to vulnerable populations.

Milestones achieved included the formation of national working groups, conducting baseline assessments, building capacity on integrated drought management. The project culminated in 2025 with the formal launch of national action plans on drought management and IWRM by the governments of both Cambodia and Lao PDR.

"Through IWRM planning, I've learned how to develop an action plan. It's not an easy task and requires involvement from various sectors. When it comes to drought, it's not only the responsibility of the government; private sectors also need to be involved," said Bounteum Sysouphanthavong, Deputy Director General of the Department of Meteorology and Hydrology, Lao PDR.

"We are currently studying and investing in understanding drought," said Dr Seth Vannareth, Cambodia's Permanent Representative to the WMO. "We aim to contribute to my country by supporting national development through improved laws, assessments, and measures for the government."



### Advancing Malaysia's water sector transformation roadmap



Capacity-building workshop in Sabah

Malaysia is embedding integrated water resources management (IWRM) principles into the core of its water governance and development frameworks with targeted capacity building for government officials, non-governmental organisations, academics, and private sector actors. Initiated in 2020, Malaysia's <a href="Water 2040 Roadmap">Water 2040 Roadmap</a> aims to accelerate transformation of the country's water sector, moving away from fragmented water management towards managing water as a catalyst for economic growth, climate resilience, and sustainable development.

<u>Surveys on the Sustainable Development Goals</u> in 2017 and 2020 motivated the new initiative, as these highlighted gaps in IWRM awareness and capacity in Malaysia. With stronger institutional knowledge, the country is better positioning itself to deliver on Goal 6 and build resilience to floods and droughts.

GWP supported the process through the Country Water Partnership Malaysia. It worked alongside the Ministry of Natural Resources, Environment and Climate Change, the Ministry of Energy Transition and Water Transformation, the Academy of Sciences Malaysia, and universities to support the Water 2040 Roadmap through the design and delivery of IWRM training.

Two national capacity-building workshops held in Sabah and Perlis equipped participants from the public and private sectors, non-governmental and community-based organisations, and academia with the knowledge and skills to embed IWRM into policies and planning. Through interactive modules on disaster risk reduction, river basin management, and cross-sectoral collaboration, stakeholders developed a shared understanding of IWRM. With this understanding, coordinated action can drive Malaysia's transformative agenda.



#### Southern Africa

### Transboundary action for the Buzi, Pungwe, and Save (BUPUSA) basins

Mozambique and Zimbabwe's BUPUSA basins are experiencing a governance transformation following the <u>Strategic Action Programme (SAP)</u> endorsed by both governments <u>in 2024</u>. This cooperation is the result of an <u>inclusive project</u> executed by GWP Southern Africa, having been implemented by the International Union for Conservation of Nature, and funded by the Global Environment Facility.



Hon. Dr. Anxious Jongwe Masuka, Minister of Lands, Agriculture, Fisheries, Water and Rural Development. Photo credit: GEF-BUPUSA Project

The SAP built on a <u>transboundary</u> <u>diagnostic analysis</u> and consultations across governments, water authorities, communities, and the new BUPUSA Commission. GWP Southern Africa provided technical assistance and facilitated dialogue, ensuring the SAP integrated climate, biodiversity, and livelihoods.

Taking action of its own, the project assisted nine basin communities to establish solarised boreholes and vegetable gardens. It equipped hydrometric stations to provide real-time flood data, and enhanced biodiversity protection in the <u>Pungwe</u>, where wetlands and forests are <u>under threat</u>. It also leveraged USD10 million in additional financing from development partners and governments.

"It was difficult for us to allow our children, especially girls, to go fetch water," said a basin resident in Machaze, Mozambique. "And by so doing, as women, we had to do double work. After the installation of the solarised water equipment, we can now spend more time doing household chores and generate income from the vegetables grown using the water."



### Zambia launches ambitious water resource mobilisation strategy

Zambia has launched a <u>consolidated</u> resource <u>mobilisation</u> strategy for two ambitious undertakings: its National Adaptation Plan and Water Investment Programme. These efforts, aligned with the African Union's <u>Water Investment Action Plan</u>, will accelerate the mobilisation of resources for the delivery of water, sanitation, irrigation, and hydropower in Zambia.

GWP Southern Africa supported Zambia with technical expertise in developing the new strategy to mobilise USD3.4 billion a year by 2030. International climate funds are targeted to contribute 65 percent of this, with the remainder split between domestic sources, such as dedicated taxes, and other international sources, including philanthropic funds.



Hon. Collins Nzovu, Minister of Water Development and Sanitation (centre) and other officials in the Water sector showcase an implementation roadmap and a consolidated resource mobilisation strategy to raise US\$ 3.4 billion per year by 2030 to realise its National Adaptation Plan and Zambia Water Investment Programme

The strategy's roadmap "provides a clear path for mobilising resources necessary to achieve water security and climate adaptation, resulting in better access to water and sanitation, enhanced ecosystem protection, and increased private sector involvement among others," said Hon. Collins Nzovu, Minister of Water Development and Sanitation, at the launch in Lusaka.

The resource mobilisation strategy has been developed within the context of the African Union's Africa Water Investment Programme (AU-AIP), for which GWP Southern Africa is both Secretariat and a delivery partner. GWP Southern Africa is also supporting the African Union Commission with implementing the AU-AIP Green Climate Fund Multi-Country Readiness Support Project, inaugurated at COP29 to assist member states in developing water investment programmes. Zambia has already succeeded in securing a Multi-Country Readiness Support grant, among other funds, as it begins its new strategy.



### Malawi and Tanzania strengthen water governance under the Global Water Leadership programme

The ministries of water in Malawi and Tanzania have developed response strategies to tackle their most critical water sector challenges.

Tanzania <u>launched</u> its <u>response</u> <u>strategies</u> in March 2024, focusing on improving water resources management to address the country's pressing water security challenges.

Malawi also <u>finalised its response</u> <u>strategies in 2024 and has since launched</u> <u>these alongside a revised National Water Policy.</u> Together the strategies and policy will facilitate Malawi's progress toward its national water targets and climate resilience goals.



Hon. Abida Mia, Malawi's Minister of Water and Sanitation (2nd from left) and water and development community officials showcase the country's response strategy and other documents launched during an event in Lilongwe in April 2025

Both countries developed the strategies under the Global Water Leadership (GWL) programme with funding from the UK Foreign, Commonwealth and Development Office. GWP provided technical support, working with the water ministries, local and international organisations and civil society groups, and with UNICEF in Malawi. The process was characterised by evidence-based assessments, sector-wide consultations, and strong political commitment, culminating in the endorsement of the strategies by the countries' Water, Sanitation, and Hygiene Sector Working Groups.

GWL Malawi Coordinator Deborah Muheka remarked, "We are happy to have supported the government to develop the strategies which will result in better-served and more climate-resilient communities."

GWL Tanzania Coordinator Asha Mercy Msoka stated, "The response strategies contain action plans of specific tasks and activities designed to achieve defined goals and objectives, serving as an effective and efficient roadmap for project or strategy implementation."



#### West Africa

### West Africa puts IWRM best practices on the global stage



Session coordinated by GWP West Africa during the 10th World Water Forum in Bali, Indonesia

The eight countries of the West African Economic and Monetary Union (WAEMU) have come together to advance water security and climate resilience by sharing their most successful practices in integrated water resources management (IWRM). Coordinated by GWP West Africa, the collaboration built regional momentum for scaling effective IWRM and aligning actors around water governance.

It drew on the results of a <u>regional forum</u> held in late 2023, where 90 participants from the WAEMU countries identified outstanding IWRM practices together. Six initiatives – from national and provincial water agencies, a river basin authority, and a Country Water Partnership – were selected to share with these actors' counterparts around the region and the world, through future events and an IWRM good practice manual for WAEMU.

The case studies received a global stage at the 10th World Water Forum in Bali, Indonesia, in May 2024, where a <u>high-level regional delegation</u> presented <u>the collaboration</u>, <u>the practices</u>, <u>and the experiences</u>. After supporting the delegation to Bali, GWP West Africa oversaw the development and approval of the new manual, which will share the selected practices in detail with WAEMU practitioners.

By strengthening peer learning and visibility of homegrown solutions, the initiative has laid the groundwork for scaling IWRM practices that contribute directly to water security and resilience across West Africa.



### Community-driven risk management in the Volta Basin



Local workshop in Burkina Faso, April 2024, on tools, strategies and other provisions for integrated flood and drought risk management to build resilience in the Volta Basin

The Volta Basin has made a significant leap towards more climate-resilient communities with the adoption of a <u>framework for effective community involvement</u> in integrated flood and drought risk management. The framework builds on the achievements of the <u>Volta Flood and Drought Management project</u>, which between 2019 and 2023 created the early warning system VoltAlarm and a basin-wide risk management strategy. To make a difference at the local level, these needed communities on board.

The framework for community involvement was developed in 2024 through a partnership led by the Volta Basin Authority, supported by GWP West Africa, and the World Meteorological Organization with funding from the Adaptation Fund. This was a participatory process spanning 23 local, national, and regional workshops, which engaged hundreds of stakeholders from six countries across the Volta Basin. GWP West Africa facilitated the process by mobilising these many stakeholders, documenting best practices, and co-leading the design of the framework.

The final document defines three priority action areas: strengthening community knowledge; ensuring meaningful participation of local institutions; and building local capacity for preparedness, response, and recovery. By putting communities at the heart of risk governance, it is helping turn the new VoltAlarm system and high-level risk management strategy into actionable, locally owned solutions – advancing both disaster preparedness and long-term climate resilience in the Volta Basin.





# ADVANCING WATER KNOWLEDGE

# Update from the GWP Technical Committee

The <u>GWP Technical Committee</u> is the knowledge engine of the GWP Network, working collaboratively to foster learning and advocacy on integrated water resources management (IWRM), and to support capacity building and implementation throughout GWP's country and regional networks.

In a key development in 2024, the Technical Committee launched a dedicated global AI Lab to explore the potential of artificial intelligence in accelerating water security. Following discussion with interested stakeholders and potential partners, the committee formulated a three-part concept for the new AI Lab:

A new Community of Practice on AI and Water Governance.

A webinar series to discuss key topics selected by the main partners in the Al Lab. A new 'lab' to test and develop Al solutions for water governance issues in GWP regions and countries.

A roundtable discussion of the <u>role of AI in solving the global water crisis</u>, led by Jaehyang So, Chair of the TEC, was a highlight of GWP's 2024 Network Meeting of Partners, which brought together almost 300 members of the GWP Network from 91 countries.

Also in 2024, the TEC convened four new online dialogues with the GWP Network, continuing its series – originally launched in 2023 – exploring emerging global trends in which GWP could lead on developing and disseminating knowledge and building partnerships and capacity. Topics discussed included the use of <u>Al and big data in water governance</u>, and a debate on the concept versus the implementation of IWRM.



### **IWRM Action Hub**

As a global knowledge and learning platform, the <u>IWRM Action Hub</u> connects water professionals and decision-makers, fostering collaboration and building learning alliances in water management.

In 2024, the total number of registered users of the hub rose to more than 3,600 from 169 countries with the increase driven in part by the launch of new GWP Communities of Practice (CoPs) and by significant interest in the IWRM tools available on the hub. The most popular tool – <u>Behaviour Change Communication</u> – was viewed more than 13,000 times in 2024.

Two new features were added to the hub in 2024, complementing existing tools and resources:

- A <u>Platforms Catalogue</u> a dynamic repository of more than 62 cutting-edge toolkits, databases, and decision support systems to advance sustainable, inclusive, and resilient water management;
- 'One-click' access to a comprehensive overview of a country's water-related laws, policies, and plans following integration of data from the Food and Agriculture Organization's <u>AQUALEX</u> database (an online repository of national laws, regulations, and policies on food, agriculture, and natural resources management) into the hub's country profiles.

Through the IWRM Action Hub, GWP manages, hosts, or co-hosts <u>16 active CoPs</u>, each offering water professionals an engaging way to learn and exchange knowledge and skills. In 2024:

- ✓ Four new regional communities from the North Mediterranean, Africa, Central and Eastern Europe, and Asia joined the United Nations Convention to Combat Desertification Community of Learning and Practice on Drought Management, complementing the existing global community and the regional community for Latin America and the Caribbean.
- ▼ The <u>WEFE4MED Community</u>, a CoP to support the adoption of a Water-Energy-Food-Ecosystems Nexus approach in the Mediterranean, was formally launched. A total of 23 demonstrator initiatives have been published, showcasing on-the-ground efforts that have adopted a WEFE Nexus approach to address the climatic and environmental challenges in the region.

### GWP and Cap-Net collaboration

The close relationship between Cap-Net (which is administratively managed by GWPO) and the wider GWP Network continued in 2024 with partnership working to develop capacity and promote peer-to-peer learning on gender inclusion in integrated water resources management (IWRM).

Collaborative activities in 2024 included:

Revising the online <u>Gender and</u>
<u>IWRM course</u>, making the third
edition of the course available on
the Cap-Net virtual campus.

Ongoing joint moderation of the GWP-Cap-Net <u>Community</u> of <u>Practice on Gender and</u> <u>Water Resources Management</u> on the IWRM Action Hub, with membership of the CoP continuing to grow in 2024.

## GETTO KNOW GWP

### Vision and mission

Our vision is for a water secure world.

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

Our unique value: as a network of networks, we ensure the 'voices of water' influence local, national, regional, and global development priorities. GWP instigates systems change through its unique combination of social capital, shared values, credibility as a neutral convener, bottom-up orientation, and expertise.

### Who's who

The GWP Network operates across 180 countries. Our vision and mission are achieved in partnership with more than 2,800 Partners spread across 13 independently managed GWP Regional Water Partnerships and 77 Country Water Partnerships.

#### Country Water Partnerships

GWP currently has <u>77 accredited Country Water Partnerships</u> that provide a neutral, multi-stakeholder platform for facilitating improvements in the way water resources are managed.

#### Regional Water Partnerships

The GWP Network comprises 13 Regional Water Partnerships. A Regional Water Partnership is comprised of all GWP Partners in a region.

#### GWP Technical Committee

The <u>GWP Technical Committee</u> consists of internationally recognised professionals selected for their experience in different disciplines relating to integrated water resources management.

#### Sponsoring Partners

The <u>Sponsoring Partners</u> are the nation states and international organisations that formed the Global Water Partnership Organisation (by signing and formally approving, through parliamentary or other similar actions, a Memorandum of Understanding in 2002).

#### Steering Committee

The <u>GWP Steering Committee</u> is equivalent to a Board of Directors, overseeing all GWPO and network operations and reviewing annual reports for final approval by the Sponsoring Partners.

#### Global Secretariat

The Global Water Partnership Organisation (GWPO) is an Intergovernmental Organisation (IGO) that supports the Global Water Partnership (the network) in advancing water governance and mobilising climate-resilient investments. The Global Secretariat is currently hosted by the Government of Sweden.

#### **Partners**

The Global Water Partnership is the combination of an intergovernmental organisation (GWPO) and a broad, multistakeholder action network. The entire GWP Network is dedicated to working with countries towards the equitable, sustainable, and efficient management of water resources. As a long-time advocate for Integrated Water Resources Management (IWRM) – a process that promotes the coordinated development and management of water, land, and related resources to maximise economic and social welfare equitably without compromising the sustainability of vital ecosystems – GWP draws on implementation experience at the local, national and regional levels and makes links across its network as well as to global development agendas.

The GWP Network is open to all organisations that recognise the principles of IWRM endorsed by the Network. That Network includes states, government institutions at all levels, non-governmental organisations, academic and research institutions, private companies, and service providers in the public sector. GWP's diverse and inclusive Network is a platform for policy dialogue and bottom-up development of action plans and programmes, providing a voice for communities on water management.

At the end of 2024, the Network comprised 13 Regional Water Partnerships, 77 Country Water Partnerships, and over 2,800 Partners.



See all GWP Partners at our website at Partner Search.

#### GWP Partners by region and countries

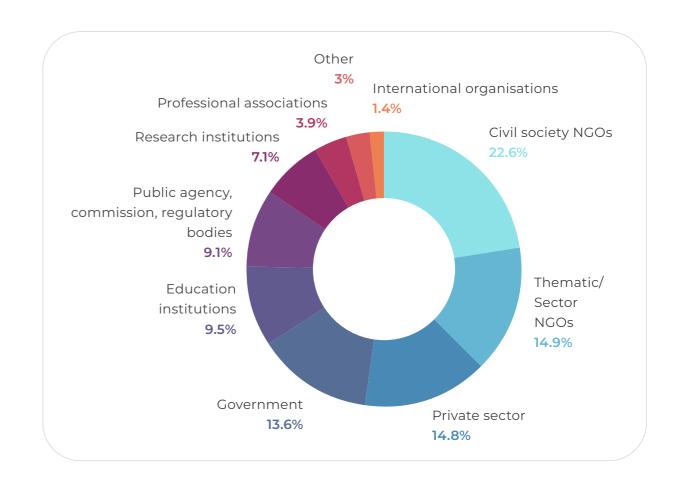
GWP REGIONS	COUNTRIES	PARTNERS
Caribbean	27	122
Caucasus and Central Asia	8	136
Central Africa	7	184
Central America	6	155
Central and Eastern Europe	13	174
China	1	71
Eastern Africa	11	312
Global	34	272
Mediterranean	19	99
South America	10	258
South Asia	7	359
Southeast Asia	10	235
Southern Africa	13	275
West Africa	14	202
Total	180	2854

#### New GWP Partners in 2024

COUNTRY	ORGANISATION NAME	COUNTRY	ORGANISATION NAME
Austria	Initiative Schwendermarkt / Radio Schwendermarkt	Haiti	Solidarité d'Entraide et de Liaison Protestante Unie d'Haiti
Cameroon	Action for Sustainable Development and Environmental Protection for Communities	Honduras	World Vision Honduras
Cameroon	Action for the Protection of the Environment and Biodiversity	India	Hydrotec Solutions Private Limited
Cameroon	Action pour le Respect et la Protection de l'Environnement	India	Samavit Vikas Private Limited
Cameroon	Ajemalebu Self Help	Indonesia	Agro Eco Veda PT
Cameroon	Association Internationale des Étudiants en Sciences Économiques et Commerciales	Indonesia	PT. Wateroam Technologies Indonesia
Cameroon	Centre d'étude de réalisation en environnement, eau et assainissement	Indonesia	Resilience Development Initiative
Cameroon	Cercle des amis ingénieurs	Lesotho	National University of Lesotho Water Institute
Cameroon	Community Echoe Responder	Lesotho	THIRST
Cameroon	ERuDeF University Institute of Applied Biodiversity Sciences	Malaysia	River Engineering and Urban Drainage Research Centre
Cameroon	Human Rights And Forest Brain Africa	Mexico	Consejo de Cuenca del Río Santiago
Cameroon	Meg Wah (My Earth)	Republic of Korea	SC Solution Global Co., Ltd
Cameroon	Neoadvans Light	Trinidad and Tobago	I.G. Training and Consultancy Ltd
Cameroon	Secours et actions locales pour l'éducation et la mobilisation communautaire	United Kingdom	6-4-3 Impact Ventures Limited
Cameroon	Support Humanity Cameroon	United States	Dabre Family Services International Inc
Chad	Initiative Villageoise Eau et de développement	United States	H2FLO
Chad	Les Zones et les Actions de Lutes	United States	Moses West Foundation/ Atmostpheric Water Generation
Chad	Water for Chad	United States	Tulane University Institute on Water Resources Law and Policy
Eswatini	Globe Care Foundation		Yemen
Germany	International Centre for Water Resources and Global Change	Yemen	Hemmat Shabab Foundation for Development

### GWP Partners by type

CATEGORY IN AR	TOTALS
Civil society NGOs	646
Thematic/Sector NGOs	425
Private sector	422
Government	388
Education institutions	271
Public agency, commission, regulatory bodies	261
Research institutions	204
Professional associations	112
Other	85
International Organisations	40
Total	2,854



### Financial Report 2024

The complete audited accounts are available at GWP's website: <u>Annual and Financial</u> Reports

#### Income through GWPO

In 2024, 22 Financing Partners provided funds through the GWP Organisation (GWPO): Austria, China, Cyprus Institute, DHI/UNEP, European Union, FAO, FCDO, Green Climate Fund, GRIPS, Heidelberg, Malta, NDC, Netherlands, Sweden, UCAR, UNCCD, UNDP, UNESCO, WMO, US Dept of State, and World Resources Institute. They contributed a total of €7.7 million, of which €7.2 million was for designated activities, including about €0.6 million for Cap-Net (2023: 27 partners, €12.5 million, of which €7.0 million restricted, including about €0.8 million for Cap-Net)

#### Locally raised income

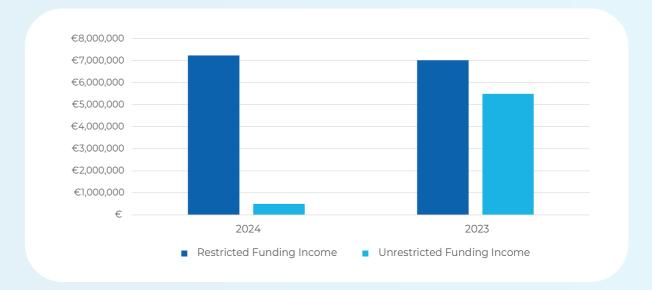
The regions and countries are encouraged to raise their own funds. During 2024, €9.2 million (€6.3 million in 2023) was raised by the regions/countries. In some cases, locally raised funding might be labelled as globally raised because GWPO signed the agreement with the donor, but it was the region or country which secured the funding.

For example, the Drin Project, funded by UNDP, is a project initiated by GWP Mediterranean.

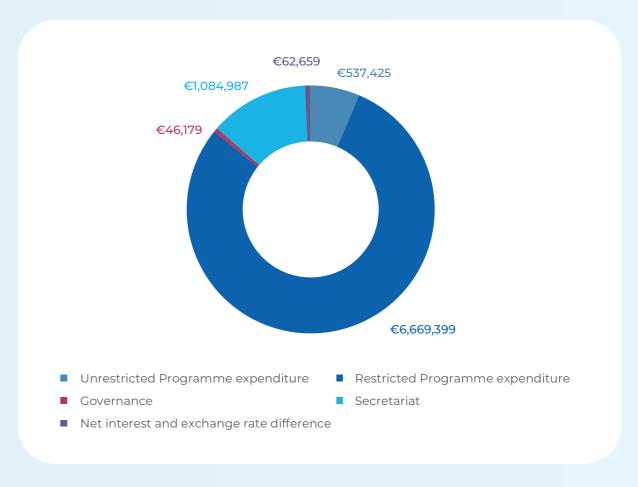
#### In-kind contributions

The income reported in the Annual Financial Report does not include funds provided in kind from governments, organisations, or individuals. Nevertheless, in-kind contributions are gratefully recognised as a substantial source of funding. GWPO received in 2024 in-kind contributions of approx. €1.7 million from different sources.

#### Restricted and Unrestricted Funding 2024 and 2023



#### Expenditure 2024



### Acknowledgements

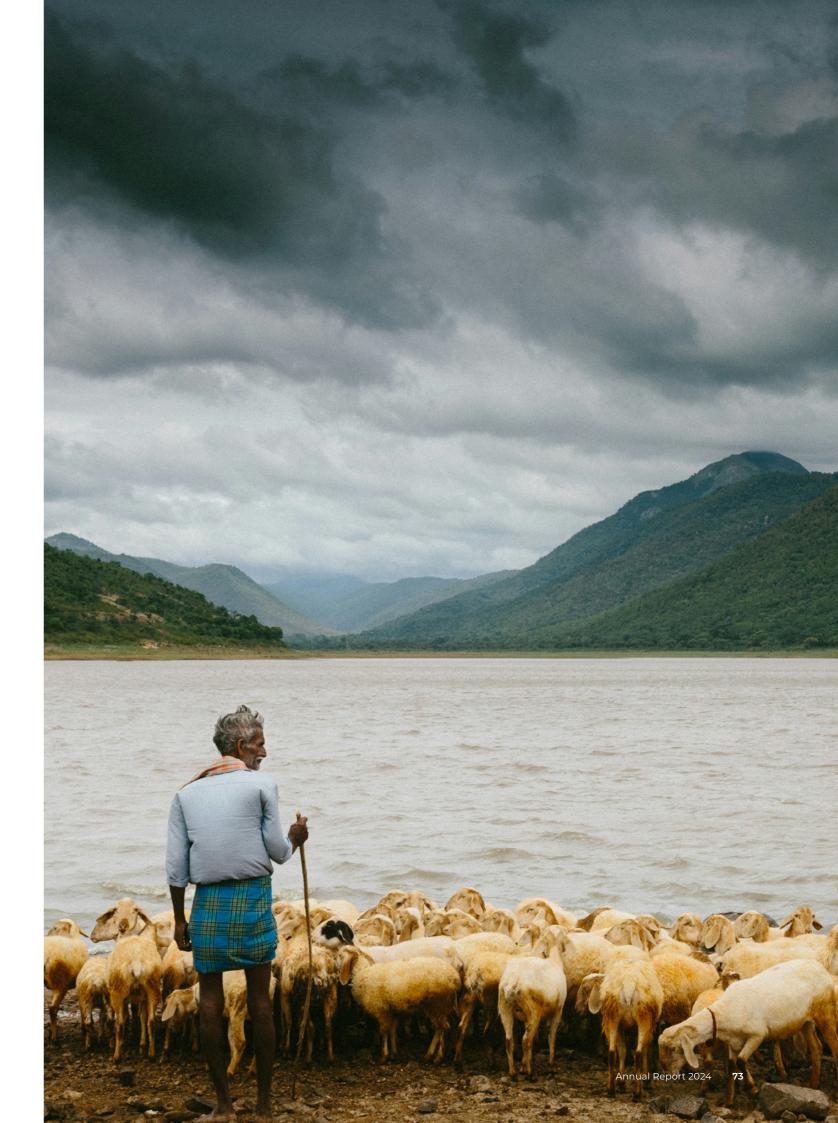
This year's annual report presents snapshots of our key achievements, partnerships and events, and includes stories that illustrate how our work advances global and national water security objectives and partnerships. Here is the link to our complete <u>GWP Annual Progress Review for 2024</u>.

GWP is grateful to the Partners whose financial and in-kind contributions help implement our strategy and programmes. GWP wishes to thank all those who have contributed to this annual report.

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The Global Water Partnership (GWP) is a global action network advancing water governance and climate-resilient investments for a sustainable and equitable future.