

# Why We Do What We Do



The GWP is a network of diverse Partners united by their desire to manage the world's water resources sustainably – for people, economies and the environment. By joining GWP, Partners strengthen their own efforts and, at the same time, lend their strengths to the global effort.

Our multi-stakeholder partnership embodies a core GWP belief – that only when a broad range of stakeholders work together will the way we manage water change for the better. Ultimately, good water management is about good governance – water policies, laws, financing and institutions that are transparent, coherent and integrated across sectors. We have a much better chance of developing good governance when government, civil society and the private sector work together to solve water problems. This is the thrust of GWP strategic goal 4: to build a more effective network of Partners.

## Advocating

The starting point for an effective network is advocacy. GWP Partners – locally, regionally and globally – work to make water a top policy priority. GWP dialogues in Eastern Africa, for example, have helped put water on the infrastructure agenda alongside energy, transport and communications. GWP advocacy for an integrated approach to water management does not shy away from addressing the trade-offs between different water uses. Putting the issues firmly on the table means stakeholders can consider all perspectives when taking tough decisions about managing and using water sustainably. As a network with

many stakeholders from many sectors, GWP has a 'convening power' that makes dialogue possible and can help bring about changes to policies, laws and institutions.

## Building capacity

Advocacy alone is not enough. Decision makers, water professionals, and institutions must acquire the skills needed to manage water effectively. This is why another GWP core activity is to help build capacity. This can range from supporting specific courses on participatory approaches and gender awareness to workshops on financing and flood management.

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## A Water Secure World

The Global Water Partnership is an intergovernmental organisation of 13 Regional Water Partnerships, 80 Country Water Partnerships and more than 2,500 Partner organisations in 161 countries. The GWP network is committed to building a water secure world.

## Sharing knowledge

To build water management skills, the right people need to be able to get the right information in the right way at the right time. GWP technical papers tackle issues ranging from effective water governance to water efficiency. The GWP IWRM ToolBox ([www.gwptoolbox.org](http://www.gwptoolbox.org)) is an online knowledge centre for water management. GWP also draws on the expertise of Partners to link science and technology with policy and practice.

## Changing the way water is managed

Advocacy, capacity building and disseminating information reinforce knowledge sharing and communications, our third strategic goal. These activities, when successful, help change the way countries manage their water resources and advance strategic goal 1: to promote water as a key part of sustainable national development.

GWP advances strategic goal 2 (addressing critical development challenges) by focusing on putting water at the core of sustainable development: GWP helps decision makers gain a clearer understanding of the options for tackling challenges – climate change, energy production, food production and urbanisation – that threaten water security, a requirement for poverty reduction. Because water is the basis of human life and prosperity, investing in it is crucial. The GWP strategy captures the rationale of why we do what we do and how we create and deliver value to achieve our vision of a water secure world.

## GWP Strategy Overview

