



Global Water Partnership-Caribbean

HANDBOOK

Our Vision

Our vision is for a water secure Caribbean.

Our Mission

The mission of the Global Water Partnership-Caribbean (GWP-C) is to support Caribbean countries in the sustainable development and management of their water resources at all levels.

Who We Are

GWP-C was founded in June 2004 and is 1 of 13 Regional Water Partnerships of the Global Water Partnership (GWP). It is part of a network of over 2000 partners worldwide all working to foster an Integrated Water Resources Management (IWRM) approach at the community, national and regional levels.

What is IWRM?

Integrated Water Resources Management (IWRM) is a process which promotes the coordinated development and management of water, land and related resources in order to maximise economic and social welfare in an equitable manner without compromising the sustainability of vital ecosystems and the environment. IWRM therefore takes into consideration that different uses of water are dependent on each other.

IWRM and its Relations to Sub-Sectors



Our Key Objectives

- To promote Integrated Water Resource Management (IWRM) as the approach to water resources management in the Caribbean region and to obtain national commitment towards IWRM implementation.
- To improve water governance in the Caribbean through the promotion, enhancement and effective implementation of legislation, policies and programmes on IWRM.
- To align the Caribbean region with global water initiatives in order to capitalise on international experiences and opportunities for regional capacity building in IWRM.
- To promote public participation in the management of water resources through capacity building and information sharing at the regional, national, and particularly the community level.
- To establish proactive alliances in water resources management that are representative, gender sensitive, and participatory at the community, country, and regional levels.

How We Work

Partners are the basis on which the GWP-C network is constructed and operates. GWP-C therefore works with its partners to promote and strengthen interaction and cooperation at all levels and across different sectors to sustain IWRM in the Caribbean region.

To do this, GWP-C works through its Partners which include government ministries; public and private water management or water services agencies; private sector companies; water user associations; non-governmental organisations (NGOs); community based organisations (CBOs); research and educational institutions; training organisations; youth organisations; consultancy organisations; funding organisations; among other entities.



Our Partners

GWP-C has over 70 partners spanning the English, Spanish, French and Dutch Caribbean and also has partners in North America.

These partner organisations are based in the following countries: Anguilla, Antigua, Aruba, The Bahamas, Barbados, British Virgin Islands, Cuba, The Commonwealth of Dominica, Dominican Republic, Grenada, Guyana, Haiti, Jamaica, Martinique, Montserrat, The Commonwealth of Puerto Rico, St. Kitts, St. Lucia, St. Vincent, Suriname, Trinidad and Tobago, United States Virgin Islands, United States of America and Canada.



Benefits of Partners

Becoming a GWP-C Partner is an invaluable opportunity and membership is open to any organisation that has an interest in water sustainability.

Here are some of the benefits of membership:

- As GWP-C is a regional arm of the Global Water Partnership (GWP), global support, expertise and experiences are made available to member countries.
- It improves communication by promoting information sharing, broad awareness of resource availability and networking with other GWP regions facing similar challenges.
- It will mobilise and provide resources to members to carry out Integrated Water Resources Management (IWRM) programmes.
- The partnership network has influence at national and regional policy discussions and other fora.
- It provides co-ordination between various groups and institutions within the region in order to prevent the duplication of efforts and to streamline the use of limited resources.
- It provides opportunities for collaboration and decision-making among other benefits.

Key Responsibilities of Partners

A Partner of the GWP-C is expected to play a role in the following:

- Providing support in any form to facilitate the successful implementation of policies and programmes of the GWP-C.
- Co-ordinating relevant activities with those of other concerned organisations to help in establishing Country Water Partnerships at the national level and to coordinate their approaches to Integrated Water Resources Management (IWRM).
- Providing technical expertise and knowledge in facilitating activities of GWP-C.
- Providing inputs for the development and implementation of strategic and annual work programmes and budgets.
- Maintaining regular contact with the GWP-C Secretariat regarding matters relating to the GWP-C and attending and voting at the Annual General Assembly.
- Represent GWP-C at meetings, workshops and other fora as required.

Note: A Country Water Partnership (CWP) is a body that is made up of the GWP Partners in a country.

Global Guidance

As 1 of 13 Regional Water Partnerships of the Global Water Partnership (GWP), GWP-C's work and activities are guided by the GWP global strategy.

This strategy provides the strategic direction to the entire GWP network but acknowledges that it is not feasible to set detailed indicators for regions. Each Regional Water Partnership has the autonomy to develop its own regional strategy, specific to the characteristics and priorities of the region.



The 13 Regional Water Partnerships of the Global Water Partnership (GWP) are:

1. GWP Caribbean
2. GWP Southern Africa
3. GWP South Asia
4. GWP South America
5. GWP Eastern Africa
6. GWP China
7. GWP Central America
8. GWP Mediterranean
9. GWP Southeast Asia
10. GWP West Africa
11. GWP Central Africa
12. GWP Central Asia and Caucasus
13. GWP Central and Eastern Europe

Our Activities

Convening Power

Since 2005, GWP-C co-convenes an Annual High Level Session (HLS) for Caribbean Ministers with responsibility for water resources management in order to build political support for Integrated Water Resources Management (IWRM) at the national and regional level.

Advocacy

GWP-C engages in and develops activities aimed at building awareness on the implementation of IWRM in the Caribbean.

Capacity Building

GWP-C provides training and technical expertise in some of the following areas:

- Climate Change and the Implication for Water Resources
- Water and Sanitation Policies
- Water-Use Efficiency in the Agriculture and Tourism Sectors
- Development of IWRM Policies and Roadmaps



Our Governance Structure



The Statutes

The Statutes of the GWP-C regulate the functions and organisation of the Partnership. The GWP-C is structured as follows:

The General Assembly

The General Assembly is made up of all GWP-C's partners. The partners meet once a year at the Annual General Meeting (AGM) to make decisions on the organisation's work plan and other business, to vote on resolutions and elect partners to the Steering Committee. The General Assembly is the highest decision-making body of the GWP-C.

The Steering Committee

The GWP-C Steering Committee (SC) facilitates the development, implementation and administration of the organisation's programmes, governance, financial and other aspects essential to attaining the objectives of the Partnership.

The SC is made up of 9 elected partners appointed by the General Assembly. These 9 elected partners include the Chair and the Vice-Chair who are democratically elected from among members of the SC.

The Chair of the GWP-C presides over Steering Committee Meetings and the Meeting of the General Assembly. The Chair is largely responsible for ensuring that SC decisions are implemented and also oversees the work of the GWP-C Secretariat. Essentially, the Chair is seen as the custodian of the Statutes/Constitution of the GWP-C.

In addition to the 9 elected members of the SC, the GWP-C Network Officer based at the Global Water Partnership (GWP) headquarters in Stockholm, and the GWP-C Host Institution representative, serve as ex-officio members of the SC.

Steering Committee members are elected by the General Assembly taking into account principles of equitable representation of gender; language, expertise in Integrated Water Resources Management (IWRM); community participation and other areas of relevance.

The term of office of SC members is 3 years and the Committee usually meets in person twice a year.

Key Roles and Responsibilities of SC Members

A member of the GWP-C Steering Committee (SC) is expected to:

- Provide policy and strategic direction to the Partnership.
- Oversee the implementation of the policies and principles of the GWP-C.
- Review the GWP-C draft work programme and budget.
- Help to mobilise resources for the work programme.
- Oversee and review the implementation of the approved work programme and budget and make appropriate recommendations to the General Assembly.
- Assist the General Assembly and Secretariat on all substantive matters including cooperation with affiliates and network partners.
- Propose the admittance of new Partners.
- Delegate its powers to sub-committees and advisory committees that it may establish as it deems fit.
- Appoint, direct and monitor the work of a Technical Committee, to undertake publications and provide other scientific and professional advice for such term as may be agreed by the Steering Committee.
- Do all things necessary to promote the objectives and functions of the GWP-C.

The Secretariat

The GWP-C Secretariat is responsible for the day-to-day technical, financial and administrative affairs of GWP-C. The Secretariat is made up of a Regional Coordinator (RC), Communications Officer and an Administrative Officer (a secondment).

The Regional Coordinator (RC) heads the Secretariat and is the Chief Executive Officer of the GWP-C. The RC is the *ex officio* Secretary of the GWP-C General Assembly and Steering Committee and performs such other functions as are entrusted by the Partnership.

Key Responsibilities of the Secretariat

In managing the operations of the Partnership, the GWP-C Secretariat is responsible for:

- Preparing work programmes and budgets.
- Preparing annual reports on the work and finances of the Partnership.
- Organising and preparing documents needed for statutory meetings of the GWP-C.
- Facilitating project development, co-ordination and management.
- Providing general support to the direction of the GWP-C.
- Maintaining contact with partners and keeping them informed on the work of the Partnership.

- Maintaining contact with the GWP Organisation in Stockholm; other GWP Regional Water Partnerships; strategic allies and other national, regional and global organisations.
- Mobilising resources for the implementation of the work programme.

Main Reports of the GWP-C Secretariat:

- ◆ GWP-C Monthly Reports
- ◆ GWP-C Quarterly Financial Reports
- ◆ GWP-C Annual Implementation Plan
- ◆ GWP-C Annual Work Plan and Budget
- ◆ GWP-C Annual Progress Review Report
- ◆ GWP-C Annual Audit Report
- ◆ GWP-C Annual Report
- ◆ GWP-C Six-Month Monitoring Report
- ◆ GWP-C Meeting Reports (Steering Committee, Annual General Meeting, High Level Session)
- ◆ GWP-C Workshop Reports
- ◆ GWP-C Newsletter

The Host Institution

The GWP-C Secretariat is headquartered in Trinidad where it is hosted by its partner, the National Institute of Higher Education Research, Science and Technology (NIHERST). The Steering Committee (SC) selects the GWP-C Host Institution from applicants which may be partners.

The Host Institution (HI) provides office accommodation, office equipment and materials, and support services for such period as it remains the Host Institution. The HI is accountable for the finances of the GWP-C and maintains the accounts. The HI is the GWP-C signatory on all financial and legal matters.

Frequently Asked Questions About GWP-C

What is GWP-C?

Global Water Partnership-Caribbean (GWP-C) is 1 of 13 regional arms of the Global Water Partnership (GWP) Organisation based in Stockholm, Sweden; a network of over 2000 partners across the globe all working together to build a water secure world.

To do this, GWP-C works to support Caribbean countries in the management of their water resources by advocating for the implementation of an Integrated Water Resources Management (IWRM) approach at all levels.

What is IWRM?

Integrated Water Resources Management (IWRM) is a process which promotes the coordinated development and management of water, land and related resources in order to maximise economic and social welfare in an equitable manner without compromising the sustainability of vital ecosystems and the environment.

Why is IWRM important?

IWRM helps to protect the world's environment, foster economic growth and sustainable agricultural development, promote democratic participation in governance, and improve human health. Worldwide, water policy and management are beginning to reflect the fundamentally interconnected nature of hydrological resources, and IWRM is emerging as an accepted alternative to the sector-by-sector, top-down management style that has dominated in the past.

Who can become a GWP-C Partner?

Any entity with an interest in water sustainability can become a partner of the GWP-C.

How do you apply to become a GWP-C Partner?

A GWP-C partnership application can be downloaded from the GWP-C website www.gwp-caribbean.org. The application needs to be accurately and thoroughly filled out and submitted to the GWP-C Secretariat. The application once correctly filled out is sent to the GWP-C Steering Committee for preliminary approval and then the application is forwarded to the Executive Secretary of the Global Water Partnership (GWP) Organisation who gives final approval. Once approved, the applicant is notified by both GWP-C and the global organisation.

April | 2013



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