



**AUDA - NEPAD**  
AFRICAN UNION DEVELOPMENT AGENCY



AFRICAN DEVELOPMENT BANK GROUP  
GROUPE DE LA BANQUE AFRICAINE  
DE DEVELOPPEMENT



**African Water Facility**  
Facilité africaine de l'eau  
Mobilising Resources for Water in Africa  
Mobiliser des ressources pour l'eau en Afrique



# AIP CONTINENTAL AFRICA WATER INVESTMENT PROGRAMME



## Water, Climate, Development, and Gender Investments - AIP WACDEP-G

In February 2021 during the 34th Ordinary Session Assembly of the African Union, African Heads of State and Government adopted the Continental Africa Water Investment Program (AIP), as part of the second phase of the Africa Union Development Agency's Programme for Infrastructure Development in Africa Priority Action Plan (PIDA PAP2, 2021-2030). The Water, Climate, Development, and Gender Investments (AIP WACDEP-G) is one of the support programmes of the AIP.

The goal of the AIP WACDEP-G is to ensure that the preparation, development, design, governance, and management of ongoing and new climate resilient water infrastructure investments, institutions, and job creation interventions strategically advance gender equality. The overall objective is to transform gender inequalities at scale by promoting gender-transformative planning, decision-making and institutional development for climate resilient water investments in Africa.

Gender inequalities in accessing productive assets and resources are often linked to access to water and disproportionately increase the burden of climate change in many African societies on women and girls.

At the same time, infrastructure development across the continent is struggling to keep up with the necessary pace required to support Africa's growing economy, address gender inequality and meet the socio-economic needs of the population. Unless gender equality is targeted at the systemic level, investments in water infrastructure on the continent will significantly exacerbate gender inequalities.

## AIP WACDEP-G 2020-2025 in brief

- ▶ Implemented in **18 countries and 5 river basins** across Africa
- ▶ **Gender-transformative structures** for climate resilient water investments and jobs put in place and implemented
- ▶ **Climate vulnerability inequalities** are addressed
- ▶ **3.6 million people** to benefit over 6 years
- ▶ **Gender-transformative planning and design** enabled
- ▶ **AIP Water Investment Scorecard** operationalised
- ▶ **USD1 billion** in gender equal and climate resilient investments from government and private sources influenced
- ▶ Embedded gender inequalities in accessing services and resource control addressed at the **local level**

# AIP WACDEP-G Components

## 01 CATALYSE gender transformative change in power relations and institutional structures for implementation of climate-resilient water investments, policies, plans and jobs

**WORK PACKAGE 1:** Mobilise political commitment for gender-transformative action and establish shared vision

**WORK PACKAGE 2:** Support institutional and societal level change to remove systemic barriers and power imbalances

**WORK PACKAGE 3:** Develop business case for institutional change in decision making about and finance of water investments

## 02 MOBILISE partnerships and build motivation, capabilities and opportunities for transforming structurally embedded unequal power relations

**WORK PACKAGE 4:** Map practices, social norms and regulations governing access to and control of assets/services

**WORK PACKAGE 5:** Increase women's agency, decision making power, choices and/or access to information

**WORK PACKAGE 6:** Develop gender-transformative water investment index, knowledge and analytics for inclusive water governance and capabilities

## 03 ACCELERATE agile learning from implementation of local pilots addressing practical needs and climate-induced vulnerabilities of marginalised groups

**WORK PACKAGE 7:** Undertake social and gender analyses to assess opportunities, risks and impact of interventions on vulnerable groups disaggregated by gender, age and socio-economic class

**WORK PACKAGE 8:** Accelerate preparation and implementation of local projects through learning, enhancing access to water investments, infrastructure, information, and control of resources

**WORK PACKAGE 9:** Establish gender responsive M&E systems, ensure experiential learning programme coordination



Water is a connecting thread between gender equality, climate adaptation, resilience, and other dimensions of development. To support Africa's Agenda 2063 and global commitments under Agenda 2030 and the Paris Climate Agreement - decisions on planning, on institution building and on investments that relate to water resources must take a transformative approach towards gender inequalities. In most African countries, there is now a unique opportunity to design and shape institutional and infrastructure investments in a way that they will transform the gender dimensions of development.



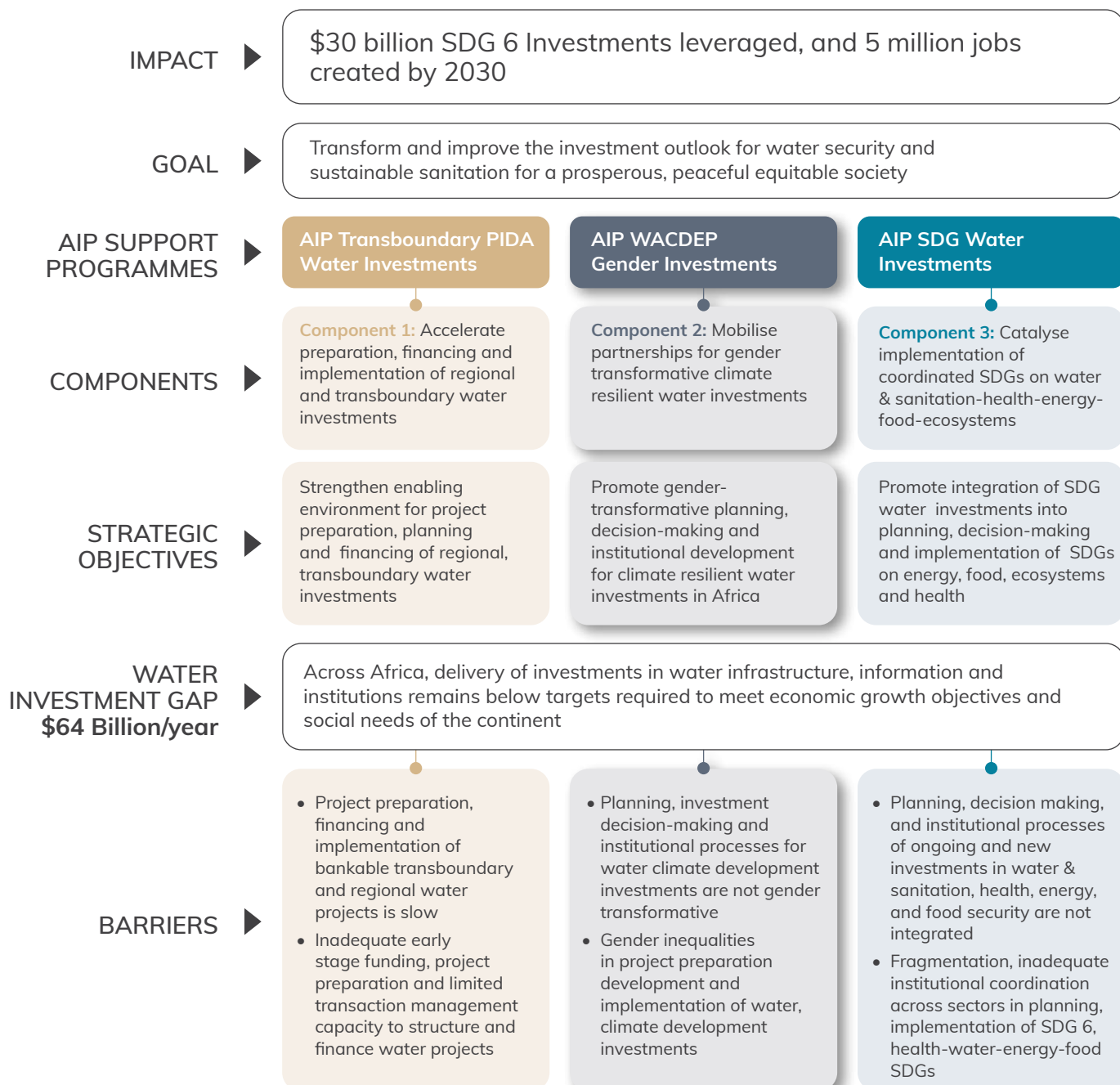
## Expected Benefits

- Water infrastructure investments increasingly focused on gender equality and the broader Sustainable Development Goal (SDG) agenda and Paris agreement
- Multiple objectives achieved through focus on gender, climate change, water governance and jobs
- Stakeholders understand how to incorporate a gender transformative approach in design & program
- Improved livelihoods for climate-vulnerable populations (including women and other marginalised groups) through provision of water services

AIP WACDEP-G is implemented by Africa Governments, Africa Union Development Agency-NEPAD and the Africa Ministers' Council on Water (AMCOW), Regional Economic Communities, River Basin Organisations, Regional Water Partnerships, Country Water Partnerships, women organisations, International Water Management Institute (IWMI), UN WOMEN, Global Water Partnership and others.

The programme is implemented with technical support and backstopping from the AIP Secretariat hosted by Global Water Partnership Africa Coordination Unit.

## AIP Theory of Change



## Contact information



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# The AIP at a glance

<b>Scope</b>	Africa: At least 18 Countries and 5 River Basins
<b>Duration</b>	2020-2030
<b>Goal</b>	To transform and improve the investment outlook for water security and sustainable sanitation for a prosperous, peaceful, and equitable society
<b>Overall Objective</b>	The objective is to enhance job creation through gender sensitive investments in water security, sustainable sanitation, industrialisation, and climate resilient development.
<b>Impact</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• \$30 billion leveraged by 2030 towards climate resilient water and sanitation related investments</li> <li>• 250 million people benefit from resilient water investments and economic opportunities</li> <li>• 4 million indirect jobs for vulnerable, poor youth, women and girls</li> <li>• 1 million direct jobs created through climate resilient water and sustainable sanitation</li> </ul>
<b>Targeted Outcomes</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Regional, national water investment programmes developed and under implementation</li> <li>• African Union governance framework for water- health-energy-food-ecosystem nexus adopted</li> <li>• AIP Water Investment Scorecard developed and operationalised</li> <li>• Business cases for water investments and profile of water in economy strengthened</li> <li>• Job Creation Toolkit developed and operationalised by the African Union Development Agency</li> <li>• Gender transformative investments in water, climate, and development developed and integrated in national development and Covid-19 economic recovery plans</li> <li>• Bankable water projects prepared, and finance leveraged at transboundary and national level</li> <li>• Delivery of critical water infrastructure accelerated, addressing the water-health-energy-food-ecosystems nexus and meeting the needs of water dependent growth sectors and the poor</li> </ul>
<b>AIP Support Programs and strategic objectives</b>	<b>AIP Transboundary PIDA water investments</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Accelerate project preparation, finance and implementation of regional, transboundary water investments</li> </ul>
	<b>AIP Water Climate Development and Gender (AIP WACDEP-G)</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Mobilise partnerships and implement gender-transformative investments in water climate development</li> </ul>
	<b>AIP SDG Water Investments</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Catalyse commitment and leadership for coordinated climate resilient SDG water investment toward inclusive growth, jobs and Industrialisation</li> </ul>
	<b>High Level International Panel for Climate Resilient Water Investments in Africa</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Mobilise high level political commitment and leadership for water investments, peace and security</li> </ul>
<b>Activities</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Establish a high-level international leadership Panel and mobilise political commitment for climate resilient, gender transformative water investments aligned with SDGs on water, energy, food, health and Covid-19 economic recovery plans</li> <li>• Develop regional, national climate resilient water security investment programmes to improve the investment outlook for water and sanitation as key inputs to employment creation and inclusive growth</li> <li>• Develop business cases for investments in SDG 6 and undertake economic analysis to determine the real value of proposed investments and their related costs and benefits</li> <li>• Support countries to integrate water security, gender transformative climate resilience investments in development planning and budgets</li> <li>• Develop an AIP Water Investment Scorecard to assist countries benchmark progress in water investments</li> <li>• Develop partnerships, capabilities, knowledge for improved governance and coordination of gender transformative SDG 6 investments with related targets on energy, food and health</li> <li>• Provide transaction management advisory services and technical assistance in early stage preparation of bankable water projects at regional, transboundary and national level</li> <li>• Provide transaction management advisory services and technical assistance in early stage preparation of bankable PIDA transboundary water and hydropower projects</li> <li>• Promote regional integrated regional corridor approach in planning and implementation of transboundary water projects</li> <li>• Convene annual water investment summit, mobilise finance for bankable projects</li> </ul>
<b>Management, coordination and implementing partners</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• GWP (executing), AUDA-NEPAD, African Development Bank, Development Bank Southern Africa, African Ministers' Council on Water, Africa Water Facility, The Infrastructure Consortium for Africa, UNDP, other partners</li> <li>• Governments, Regional Economic Communities (RECs), River Basin Organisations (RBOs)</li> </ul>
<b>Funding and Budget</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• \$75 million: GWP Finance Partners (Austria, SIDA, SDC, EU) Green Climate Fund, Global Environment Facility, Adaptation Fund, Development Bank Southern Africa, national governments and other donors</li> </ul>