



2023

Annual Report



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About GWP Southern Africa and Africa Coordination

Global Water Partnership Southern Africa (GWPSA) offers practical support for sustainably managing water resources to 16 countries in the Southern African Development Community (SADC). The network manages activities and convenes stakeholders in this region and at pan-African level to address issues that have an impact on water security.

GWPSA hosts the coordination unit for all five Global Water Partnership (GWP) regions in Africa – Southern, Eastern, Western, Central, as well as North Africa and the Mediterranean. The Global Water Partnership Southern Africa and Africa Coordination (GWPSA-Africa) Secretariat coordinates pan-African GWP programmes in supporting Africa’s continental priorities.

GWPSA is one of 13 regional networks that make up GWP, an international network created in 1996 to foster the implementation of IWRM: the coordinated development and management of water, land, and related resources that maximise economic and social welfare without compromising the sustainability of ecosystems and the environment. Global Water Partnership has 86 country water partnerships, 13 regional water partnerships and more than 3,000 partner organisations in 183 countries.

GWPSA serves as the Secretariat for the Africa Water Investment Programme (AIP) at its Pretoria office, providing technical support to the African Union Commission (AUC) in the programme’s implementation. The AIP was formally adopted by the Assembly of African Union Heads of State during the 34th Ordinary Session on 7th February 2021 as part of the second phase of the AU Development Agency’s Programme for Infrastructure Development in Africa Priority Action Plan (PIDA-PAP 2).

Despite the critical role of water in economic growth and social development, investments in Africa’s water sector remain significantly below required levels. To bridge this gap, an additional US\$30 billion per year is needed by 2030 to meet the continent’s growing water security and sanitation demands. The AIP aims to mobilise these investments while creating at least 5 million jobs, contributing to climate resilience and sustainable development. Through strategic partnerships and coordinated action, the programme seeks to unlock transformative investments that will enhance water security and economic resilience across the continent.

The GWP Strategy 2020 – 2025 has three anchors: water solutions for Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs), climate-resilient development, and transboundary water cooperation. Global Water Partnership’s work also contributes to gender equality and promotes private sector engagement and youth participation in water resources management.

GWPSA is implementing the six-year GWP Strategy through two three-year work programmes. The second work programme, running from 2023 to 2025, was developed in a consultative process involving GWPSA’s Steering Committee.

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Commonly used acronyms

ACP	Intra African, Caribbean and Pacific
AIP	Continental Africa Water Investment Programme
AU	African Union
AUC	African Union Commission
BUPUSA	Buzi, Pungwe, and Save
BUPUSACOM	Buzi, Pungwe, and Save Watercourses Commission
CCARDESA	Centre for Coordination of Agricultural Research and Development for Southern Africa
EFlows	Environmental Flows
EU	European Union
FFEWS	Flood Forecasting and Early Warning System
GAF	Gender Action Framework
GCCA+	Global Climate Change Alliance Plus
GCF	Green Climate Fund
GEF	Global Environment Facility
GIZ	Deutsche Gesellschaft für Internationale Zusammenarbeit
GWL	Global Water Leadership in a Changing Climate programme
GWP	Global Water Partnership
GWPO	Global Water Partnership Organisation
GWPSA	Global Water Partnership Southern Africa
GWPSA-Africa	Global Water Partnership Southern Africa and Africa Coordination
IUCN	International Union for Conservation of Nature
IWRM	Integrated Water Resources Management
LIMCOM	Limpopo Watercourse Commission
MGEE	Ministry of Green Economy and Environment
NAP	National Action Plan
NAP	National Adaptation Plan
RBO	River Basin Organisation
SACREEE	SADC Centre for Renewable Energy and Energy Efficiency
SADC	Southern African Development Community
SAP	Strategic Action Programme
SDG	Sustainable Development Goal
SLM	sustainable land management
SWI	Shared Watercourse Institution
TDA	Transboundary Diagnostic Analysis
UN	United Nations
UNEP	UN Environment Programme
UNDP	United Nations Development Programme
WASH	Water, Sanitation, and Hygiene
WEF	Water, Energy, and Food

Message from the Chair: His Excellency Jakaya Kikwete



Data from two recent reports (1,2) demonstrate the magnitude of the funding gap that stands between us and a climate-resilient and water-secure Africa. The World Bank recently named Sub-Saharan Africa as having the world's largest funding gap in water.

It is estimated that an additional 30 billion US dollars per year must be invested into Africa's water sector by 2030 to achieve Sustainable Development Goal (SDG) 6. Meanwhile, in the latest Africa Outlook Report, the African Development Bank estimates that the continent needs around 2.8 trillion US dollars — or 250 billion US dollars a year— by 2030 to implement its climate action ambitions.

Most of us understand the moral imperative to ensure every African has access to safe water, sustainable sanitation, and reliable food supply in the face of rapid climate change. However, what we must also remember is that investing in Africa's water security is also an opportunity to realise the continent's social and economic development objectives, with gains in health, education, energy, food security, gender equality, and more. Water is a dealmaker for the Sustainable Development

Goals, as well as for the health and prosperity of Africa's people, the economy, and the natural environment.

During 2023, the African Union Commission, with support from the International High-Level Panel on Water Investments for Africa, of which I am Alternate Co-Chair, released two key documents identifying 9 sources of financing and funding that may be tapped to close the water investment gap. The high-level report, Africa's Rising Investment Tide, was released at the UN 2023 Water Conference in New York in March 2023.

The report outlines actionable pathways for countries to mobilize at least US\$30 billion annually by 2030, supporting the implementation of the AIP and closing the existing water investment gap in Africa. Closing the water investment gap in Africa will require unprecedented acceleration in the scale and pace of financing that reflects the water and climate emergency that the continent faces.

The three pathways propose how to unlock and scale an unprecedented pipeline of investable water projects through greater risk sharing between public and private finance:

- **Pathway 1.** Achieve more impactful water spending and financial leveraging
- **Pathway 2.** Mobilise Domestic Resources
- **Pathway 3.** Secure Global and Continental Investment and Finance

Notably, the report signalled an opportunity for a watershed investment partnership between African governments and institutional investors in Africa and abroad, outlining nine potential sources of finance for water and sanitation for an additional US30bn per year.

In December 2023, during COP28 in Dubai, United Arab Emirates, the African Union Commission and the High-Level Panel released the Africa Water Investment Action Plan, in support of the implementation of Africa's Rising Investment Tide.

The Investment Action Plan proposes five actions which will enable African countries to access new funding and finance from government budgets, institutional investors, banks, industry, climate funds, multilateral and development finance institutions, as well as to a lesser extent – official developmental assistance and philanthropy.

The five actions are:

1. Prioritise continental and country-level platforms that match funding sources to investment opportunities that are looking for finance;
2. Commit to the long-term strengthening of the enabling environment and bankability of service providers and projects;
3. Create a legal and regulatory environment that promotes water stewardship amongst commercial water users;
4. Enable African governments to access cheaper capital for water and sanitation; and
5. Strengthen data and information systems so we know if governments are making progress and where obstacles are located.

The plan states that African governments play a pivotal leadership role in influencing the enabling environment for the successful implementation of these proposed actions. African governments must forge closer institutional public-private partnerships that enable greater risk sharing between public and private finance.

Mind the Gap – Invest in Water, a campaign championed by the African Union Commission and supported by the High-Level Panel, as part of the AIP, was launched in September 2023 on the side-lines of the 78th United Nations General Assembly and 2023 SDG Summit in New York. African leaders have pledged to mobilise US\$30bn per year by 2030 to achieve water security and sustainable sanitation.

The goal of Mind the Gap – Invest in Water is to raise awareness, influence change, and ultimately – prompt mobilisation of investments across continental institutions and organisations. The campaign addresses systemic challenges, or gaps, that deter investors, including:

- **Governance Gap:** the need for robust national water policies, effective regulations, and strategies that are multi-sectoral, comprehensive, and gender transformative.
- **Finance Gap:** the need for credit-worthy water utilities and service providers; return on investment; risk mitigation strategies and public-private investment modalities.
- **Capacity and Data Gap:** the need for improved implementation capacity and quality of a portfolio of bankable (and less bankable) projects through increased partnerships with regional and national finance institutions

We are excited that African Heads of State and Government have already demonstrated the political will to implement the action points required to make their nations and the region water secure. At the inaugural Africa Climate Summit in Nairobi, Kenya, in September 2023 the leaders formally committed to support the implementation of the Continental Africa Water Investment Programme (AIP), as part of the African Leaders Nairobi Declaration on Climate Change. The leaders noted that extreme weather events and changes in water cycle patterns are making it more difficult to access safe drinking water, resulting in about 400 million people in Africa having no access to clean drinking water and 700 million without good sanitation.

Efforts to build a water-secure Africa by both African and global leaders are already being recognized. The four co-chairs of the International High-Level Panel on Water Investments for Africa each received the Presidential Global Changemakers Award, during the UN 2023 Water Conference, for demonstrating high-level political commitment and leadership for climate-resilient water security in Africa.

The four co-chairs awarded were H.E Macky Sall, President of the Republic of Senegal and Chair of the African Union, H.E Hage Geingob, President of Namibia, H.E Mark Rutte, Prime Minister of the Netherlands and H.E Jakaya Kikwete, Former President of the Republic of Tanzania.

H.E. Hakainde Hichilema, President of the Republic of Zambia and H.E. Dr Hussein Ali Mwinyi, President of Zanzibar and Chairman of the Revolutionary Council also received the award for local country leadership following the launch of the Zambia Water Investment Programme and the Zanzibar Water Investment Programme respectively. The governments of Tanzania and Botswana have followed efforts to develop national water investment programmes to be launched in 2024.

As we continue our collective efforts to secure adequate water resources for the continent, we must prioritize and accelerate investments to meet these ambitious targets.

The task may seem daunting but the cost of inaction is too high to sustain. African countries are currently losing up to 200 billion US dollars per year due to insufficient investments, coupled with impacts of climate change and inefficiencies.

We must act now, and we must act swiftly. Achieving water security and sustainable sanitation for all in Africa is possible by 2030 and is within our power.

Message from the Executive Secretary: Alex Simalabwi



In the dynamic field of water resources management, Global Water Partnership Southern Africa (GWPSA) has marked a year of remarkable achievements in implementing transformative water and climate-resilient programmes at both country and regional level. Through strategic collaborations with governments, regional bodies, and global organisations, GWPSA has become a frontrunner in promoting sustainable water management practices, addressing immediate challenges, and laying the foundation for a resilient water future.

Serving as the Secretariat of the International High-Level Panel on Water Investments for Africa, GWPSA has played a pivotal role in coordinating efforts to garner global political support and international engagement. This has been aimed at meeting the socioeconomic needs of the African continent, fulfilling Sustainable Development Goal (SDG) 6 water-related targets, and confronting climate change challenges. Notably, the High-Level Panel's launch of the Africa Water Investment Action Plan during COP28, in partnership with the African Union Commission (AUC), has outlined a road map for mobilising an additional US\$30 billion annually to ensure water security and sustainable sanitation on the continent.

The action plan supports the implementation of the High-Level Panel's landmark report, Africa's Rising Investment Tide, launched on World Water Day – 22 March 2023 – during the United Nations (UN) 2023 Water Conference in New York. The report delineates three pathways to secure the additional funds by 2030: achieving more impactful water spending and financial leveraging, mobilising domestic resources, and securing global and continental investment and finance. The Mind the Gap – Invest in Water campaign, supported by the AUC and the International High-Level Panel on Water Investments for Africa, saw African leaders pledging to mobilise US\$30 billion annually by 2030. This commitment aims to achieve water security and sustainable sanitation through institutional public-private partnerships, sector reform, and increased national budget allocations. The campaign, launched during the 78th UN General Assembly and 2023 SDG Summit in New York, has garnered significant support.

In recognition of their commitment and leadership in climate-resilient water security in Africa, six Heads of State received the Presidential Global Water Changemaker Award at the UN Water Conference.

These leaders, including co-chairs of the International High-Level Panel on Water Investments for Africa, have played instrumental roles in advancing water-related initiatives.

Global Water Partnership Southern Africa's collaboration with K-water and the World Bank resulted in the organisation leading the Water Changemaker Innovation Awards 2023. This global initiative showcased promising climate-resilient innovations with significant potential for scale, replication, and further investment. The awards were announced by H.E. Dr Mokgweetsi Masisi, President of Botswana and Chair of the Awards, during the COP28 conference in Dubai.

Global Water Partnership Southern Africa's impact extended to collaborations with regional players, such as the Southern African Development Community (SADC), where GWPSA implemented projects improving access to clean water and use of the Water, Energy, and Food (WEF) Nexus approach in Zambia, Malawi, Tanzania, and Botswana through the Global Climate Change Alliance Plus (GCCA+) programme funded by the European Union (EU).

Furthermore, through collaboration with SADC and funding from the Federal Ministry for Economic Cooperation and Development via the Deutsche Gesellschaft für Internationale Zusammenarbeit (GIZ), GWPSA installed 11 portable handwashing facilities, termed SADC Water, Sanitation, and Hygiene (WASH) Boxes, at border points in Zambia, Zimbabwe, Malawi, and the United Republic of Tanzania.

Global Water Partnership Southern Africa's contributions to transboundary water management were evident in the establishment and launch of the Buzi, Pungwe, and Save Watercourses Commission, overseeing the water resources in shared basins between Mozambique and Zimbabwe. The organisation also supported collaborative efforts in the sustainable development of the Limpopo River Basin with Botswana, Mozambique, South Africa, and Zimbabwe through a USD 6 million project funded by the Global Environment Facility (GEF).

Technical support from GWPSA facilitated the development and launch of the National Adaptation Plan (NAP) in Zambia, addressing climate change risks and vulnerabilities. Additionally, the organisation aided the Government of Eswatini in developing a Gender Action Framework with funding from the Green Climate Fund (GCF).

In December 2023, GWPSA was announced as an official GCF delivery partner, highlighting the organisation's sound financial and programme management.

As we reflect on the past year, this report underscores GWPSA's commitment to collaborative action, showcasing tangible accomplishments, innovative approaches, and the impactful contributions made to building a water-secure and climate-resilient region.



Strategic context

In 2023, the Global Water Partnership Southern Africa (GWPSA) made significant strides across multiple programmes, strengthening water security, climate resilience, and transboundary cooperation across the continent.

Through high-level engagements and strategic partnerships, GWPSA played a central role in mobilising investments and advancing policies to address Africa's pressing water challenges. The launch of the Africa Water Investment Action Plan at COP28 and the release of the Africa's Rising Investment Tide report during the UN 2023 Water Conference marked key milestones in driving sustainable financing for water and sanitation.

Transboundary water cooperation remained a cornerstone of GWPSA's work, with notable achievements in the Buzi, Pungwe, and Save (BUPUSA) river basins. The signing of key agreements between Mozambique and Zimbabwe led to the establishment of the BUPUSA Watercourses Commission, enhancing regional water governance. Additionally, efforts to improve flood forecasting, early warning systems, and drought resilience strengthened preparedness against climate-related disasters. The support extended to the Limpopo River Basin further demonstrated GWPSA's commitment to sustainable land and water management in transboundary systems.

Climate-resilient development gained momentum with the launch of Zambia's National Adaptation Plan and the development of financing strategies for climate

action in Eswatini. GWPSA's designation as an official Green Climate Fund (GCF) delivery partner underscored its growing role in mobilising resources for climate-resilient water investments across the Southern African Development Community (SADC) region. Community-level interventions, such as the Water-Energy-Food Nexus demonstration project in Malawi and Zambia, showcased tangible solutions for addressing water security challenges at the grassroots level.

Furthermore, GWPSA contributed to the achievement of Sustainable Development Goal (SDG) 6 through capacity-building and policy support. Collaboration with the UNEP-DHI Centre, UNDP Cap-Net, and SADC Secretariat facilitated integrated water resources management (IWRM) assessments in multiple countries, reinforcing data-driven decision-making. The deployment of WASH boxes at critical border posts in Zambia, Zimbabwe, Malawi, and Tanzania highlighted GWPSA's responsiveness to public health and sanitation needs in the wake of COVID-19.

As GWPSA continues its mission to strengthen water governance and climate resilience in Africa, the progress made in 2023 serves as a foundation for scaling impact and driving long-term water security solutions. The organisation remains committed to fostering collaboration, innovation, and investment to ensure sustainable water management for present and future generations.

This section showcases milestones across various thematic areas.



Outcomes 2023

Continental Africa Water Investment Programme

- The High-Level Panel on Water Investments for Africa launched the Africa Water Investment Action Plan during COP28, in partnership with the African Union Commission (AUC). The plan has outlined a road map for mobilising an additional USD 30 billion annually to ensure water security and sustainable sanitation on the continent.
- The High-Level Panel's landmark report, Africa's Rising Investment Tide, was launched on World Water Day on 22 March 2023 during the United Nations (UN) 2023 Water Conference in New York. The report delineates three pathways to secure additional funds by 2030: achieving more impactful water spending and financial leveraging, mobilising domestic resources, and securing global and continental investment and finance.
- The Mind the Gap – Invest in Water campaign, supported by the AUC and the International High-Level Panel on Water Investments for Africa, was launched during the 78th UN General Assembly and 2023 SDG Summit held in September in New York.
- Six Heads of State, including co-chairs of the International High-Level Panel on Water Investments for Africa, received the Presidential Global Water Changemaker Award at the UN Water Conference in New York in March 2023.
- African Heads of State and Government gathered for the inaugural Africa Climate Summit in Nairobi, Kenya, in September 2023, where they formally committed to supporting the implementation of the Continental Africa Water Investment Programme (AIP) as part of the African Leaders Nairobi Declaration on Climate Change.

Transboundary water cooperation

- GWPSA, under the GEF- BUPUSA project, supported the governments of Mozambique and Zimbabwe in the finalisation of the negotiations that led to the signing of the Save Water Sharing Agreement and the Buzi, Pungwe, and Save (BUPUSA) Establishment and Hosting Agreements. These, together with the Pungwe (2016) and Buzi (2019) Water Sharing Agreements, culminated in the establishment of the BUPUSA Watercourses Commission (BUPUSACOM) in May 2023.
- A Transboundary Diagnostic Analysis (TDA) for the BUPUSA basins was developed under the GEF-BUPUSA project with technical support from GWPSA. It is expected to inform the priorities for unlocking investments for reduction in environmental degradation, reduction in poverty, improved water

quality, green and grey infrastructure development, flood control, and improved water governance of the BUPUSA Basins. The TDA provides an understanding of transboundary waters problems and identifies potential preventive and remedial actions in the three basins.

- GWPSA continued supporting the government of Mozambique to increase preparedness for floods and droughts through the installation of hydrometeorological equipment within the BUPUSA basins to provide real-time measurements of water flow. This will inform Flood Forecasting and Early Warning Systems (FFEWS), thereby aiding decision-makers to alert the communities about natural disasters, particularly floods.
- As part of drought mitigation, the Global Environment Facility (GEF) - BUPUSA project, supported by GWPSA, began drought risk assessments and validation within the BUPUSA in 2023. The drought vulnerability studies will contribute to, among other things, strengthening water-related risk management and the empowerment of communities in their drought mitigation autonomy.
- With support from GWPSA, through the GEF-BUPUSA project, the governments of Mozambique and Zimbabwe commenced the development of a tri-basin atlas to help identify and provide compelling and credible evidence of the environmental changes in the BUPUSA ri-basin, including their causes and impacts.
- The governments of Mozambique and Zimbabwe, with support from GWPSA through the GEF-BUPUSA project, commissioned an Environmental Flows (EFlows) assessment in the Pungwe River Basin. The assessment was aimed at developing a shared understanding of the ecosystems and at informing local solutions for managing competing water uses in the shared basin.
- Through funding from GEF, GWPSA supported the governments of Mozambique and Zimbabwe to develop FFEWS. The Flood Forecasting and Early Warning Systems are set to increase preparedness for floods and droughts through interventions to improve flood forecasting and the development of early warning systems to reduce the impact of climate extremes.
- GWPSA, through the GEF-funded project in the Limpopo River Basin, is providing technical backstopping in addressing major environmental problems affecting the Limpopo River Basin system by promoting sustainable land management (SLM) in each of the basin's Member States. In 2023, the project identified one site each in the basin's four Member States for the implementation of SLM demonstration pilot projects.

Climate-resilient development

- The Government of Zambia launched its NAP in November 2023 in Lusaka, Zambia. The NAP was developed by the Government of Zambia through the Ministry of Green Economy and Environment (MGEE), in partnership with GWPSA as a delivery partner, which provided technical and project management support with financial support from the GCF.
- The Government of Zambia, supported by GWPSA, kick-started the process of developing a resource mobilisation strategy for climate-resilient low-carbon development in Zambia to enable the financing of climate adaptation actions in the National Adaptation Plan (NAP) and the Zambia Water Investment Programme.
- The Government of Eswatini kick-started the process of mobilising finance for the country to build climate resilience for the water sector. Through the Ministry of Natural Resources and Energy, the Department of Water Affairs, and the Ministry of Tourism and Environmental Affairs, with technical support from GWPSA, the government initiated a process of developing three water-related concept notes to be submitted under the Green Climate Fund (GCF).
- The Government of Eswatini, through the Ministry of Tourism and Environmental Affairs and in collaboration with the Ministry of Natural Resources and Energy through the Department of Water Affairs, has developed a financing strategy and road map for 30 prioritised water-related climate technologies for Eswatini. The strategy was developed with technical support from GWPSA. In June 2023, the GCF approved a grant to support preparations for a regional climate-resilient water investment programme in the Southern African Development Community (SADC) region. The regional programme is part of the AIP, and technical assistance will be provided by GWPSA.
- The Global Water Partnership Southern Africa was confirmed as an official GCF delivery partner in December 2023. This approval enables GWPSA to be a delivery partner that can support countries to access the GCF Readiness and Preparatory Support Programme.
- Global Water Partnership Southern Africa supported the SADC Secretariat in bringing water close to this community through the Water, Energy, and Food (WEF) Nexus Demonstration Project under the Intra African, Caribbean and Pacific (ACP) Global Climate Change Alliance Plus (GCCA+) programme funded by the European Union (EU) in the SADC region.
- The SADC Secretariat, through funding from the EU, supported a community in Dedza District in Malawi to establish a climate-resilient WEF Nexus project that would utilise water from Lake Malawi for the irrigation of various crops as well as for domestic use. The project was established through the GCCA+ programme implemented with technical support from GWPSA in partnership with the SADC Centre for Renewable Energy and Energy Efficiency (SACREEE) and the Centre for Coordination of Agricultural Research and Development for Southern Africa (CCARDESA).
- Water solutions for Sustainable Development Goals
- Global Water Partnership Southern Africa, in collaboration with the UNEP-DHI Centre on Water and Environment and the UN Development Programme (UNDP) Cap-Net, provided technical support to the governments of Botswana, Comoros, DRC, Lesotho, Mozambique, and Zambia in assessing SDG indicator 6.5.1, the degree of implementation of Integrated Water Resources Management (IWRM).
- Global Water Partnership Southern Africa, in collaboration with SADC Secretariat, implemented a climate-resilient Integrated Water Resources Management (IWRM) pilot project in the Wami/Ruvu Basin, in Tanzania, under the ACP GCCA+ programme. The project is aimed at helping communities living within the basin adapt to the adverse effects of climate change.
- Under the ACP GCCA+ programme funded by the EU and implemented by GWPSA on behalf of SADC, the Metsimotlhabe Community Trust in Botswana was empowered to begin to generate income from its horticultural produce through the implementation of a pilot project in the community.
- In February 2023, SADC, in collaboration with GWP-SA and the Deutsche Gesellschaft für Internationale Zusammenarbeit (GIZ), launched SADC Covid-19 Water, Sanitation, and Hygiene (WASH) Boxes at four border posts (Chirundu, Beitbridge, Nakonde/Tunduma, and Songwe/Kasumulu Borders) in Zambia, Zimbabwe, Malawi and Tanzania.
- In 2023, Malawi finalised the development of response strategies meant to address major challenges rocking the water and sanitation sector in the country. The strategies were developed with the guidance of the country's Ministry of Water and Sanitation, under the Global Water Leadership in a Changing Climate programme (GWL), which the GWP is implementing with funding from the Foreign, Commonwealth & Development Office.
- Under the GWL, which is being implemented in Tanzania by GWPSA, the government was supported to develop innovative strategies addressing these root causes of water and sanitation challenges in the country, marking a significant step towards sustainable water management.



Goal 1

We catalyse action and implementation

The actions of Global Water Partnership Southern Africa’s (GWPSA’s) multi-stakeholder partnerships support improved water governance so that communities and countries manage water for people’s health, economic development, and environmental sustainability.

Continental Africa Water Investment Programme (AIP)



H.E. Jakaya Mrisho Kikwete, former President of Tanzania and GWPSA-Africa Chair (Centre) with high level delegates showcasing the High Level Panel report

Africa's Rising Investment Tide report released at the United Nations Water Conference

The African Union Commission (AUC), with support from the International High-Level Panel on Water Investments for Africa, released the landmark Africa's Rising Investment Tide report on 22 March 2023 during the United Nations (UN) 2023 Water Conference in New York. The panel's report outlines three pathways to secure an additional USD 30 billion to achieve water security and sustainable sanitation in Africa by 2030:

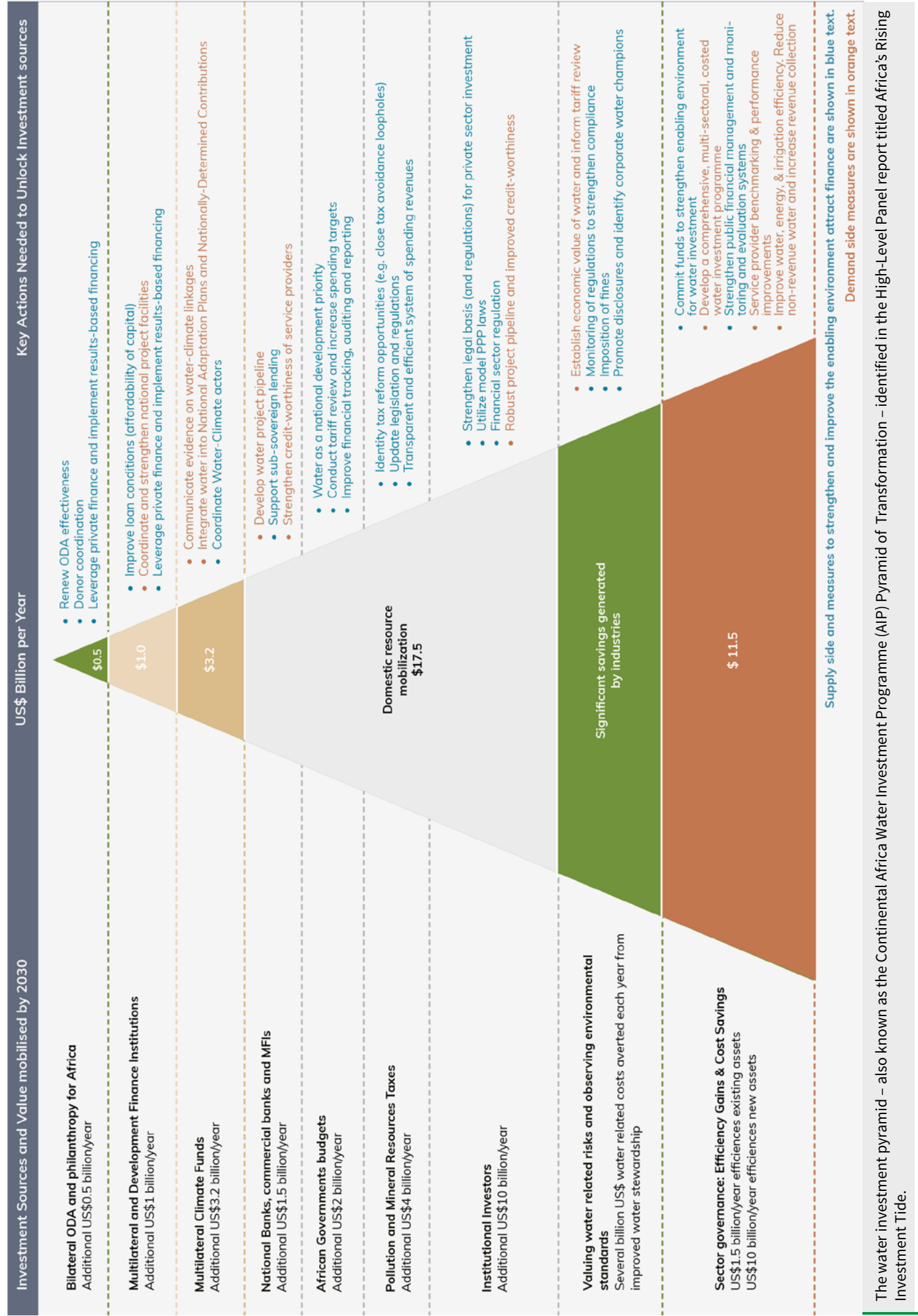
- **Pathway 1:** achieve more impactful water spending and financial leveraging
- **Pathway 2:** mobilise domestic resources
- **Pathway 3:** secure global and continental investment and finance.

Approximately USD 50 billion annually or USD 40 per African per year is required to achieve water security and sustainable sanitation in Africa by 2030. Currently, USD 10 billion to USD 19 billion is invested each year. The report signals an opportunity for a watershed investment partnership between African governments and institutional investors in Africa and abroad.

The report proposed a five-point action plan for Heads of State and governments, business and global leaders, to support the implementation of the three actionable pathways:

1. Establish cross-sectoral political leadership at the highest level, with commitment to substantially increase public budgets and investments for water security and sustainable sanitation
2. Track progress and enhance mutual accountability for results in the mobilisation of water investments and in peer-review mechanisms at all governance levels. Recommit to allocation of at least five percent of national budgets for the water and sanitation sector, and 0.5 percent of GDP per annum for sanitation and hygiene programmes
3. Mobilise new sources of funding and innovative finance by supporting matchmaking with a special focus on climate-resilient, blended public-private finance, and gender-transformative approaches
4. Strengthen institutional regulation for water investments, and create incentives and penalties for increased water efficiency across multiple industries to lead water stewardship efforts, biodiversity, and ecosystem protection
5. Use Official development assistance (ODA) to de-risk water investments and leverage larger funding streams.

The High-Level Panel and the report are registered Water Action Agenda commitments and will help deliver on the water actions in the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development. The High-Level Panel and the report are registered Water Action Agenda commitments and will help deliver on the water actions in the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development.





“The continent must create an enabling environment to mobilise domestic and international investments to meet the region’s ambitious vision of the US\$30 billion per year by 2030. This will require a combination of measures to strengthen the institutional regulation for water investments and valuing efficient water use across sectors and industries. International cooperation and the engagement of the development finance institutions will also be fundamental to de-risk water investments and leverage larger funding streams.”

Amina Mohammed,

**Deputy Secretary-General of the United Nations,
and Chair of the United Nations Sustainable
Development Group**

Africa Water Investment Action Plan launched at COP28

The AUC and International High-Level Panel on Water Investments for Africa launched the Africa Water Investment Action Plan on 2 December 2023, during COP28 in Dubai in the United Arab Emirates. The plan supports the implementation of the Africa’s Rising Investment Tide report and the AIP by outlining how African countries can mobilise the additional US\$30 billion per year they need to ensure water security and sustainable sanitation on the continent.

The action plan proposes five principal actions which will enable African countries to access new funding and finance from government budgets, institutional invest-

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The action plan proposes five principal actions which will enable African countries to access new funding and

finance from government budgets, institutional investors, banks, industry, climate funds, and multilateral and development finance institutions, as well as, to a lesser extent, official developmental assistance and philanthropy.

The five actions are:

1. Prioritise continental and country level platforms that match funding sources to investment opportunities that are looking for finance
2. Commit to the long-term strengthening of the enabling environment and bankability of service providers and projects
3. Create the legal and regulatory environment that promotes water stewardship among commercial water users
4. Enable African governments to access cheaper capital for water and sanitation
5. Strengthen data and information systems so we know if we are making progress and where our obstacles are located.

**Presidential Global Water Changemaker
Awards: four co-chairs of High-Level Panel
and national level presidents of Zambia and
Zanzibar receive Presidential Water
Changemaker Awards**

The four co-chairs of the International High-Level Panel on Water Investments for Africa were each awarded the Presidential Global Water Changemaker Award on 22 March 2024 during the UN 2023 Water Conference, for demonstrating high-level political commitment to and leadership for climate-resilient water security in Africa. The four co-chairs are H.E. Macky Sall, then President of the Republic of Senegal and Chair of the African Union (AU), H.E. Hage Geingob, then President of Namibia, H.E. Mark Rutte, then Prime Minister of the Netherlands, and H.E. Jakaya Kikwete, former President of the Republic of Tanzania.

H.E. Hakainde Hichilema, President of the Republic of Zambia, and H.E. Dr Hussein Ali Mwinyi, President of Zanzibar and Chairman of the Revolutionary Council, also received the award for local country leadership following the launch of the Zambia Water Investment Programme and the Zanzibar Water Investment Programme, respectively.

The awards were presented to the six leaders by H.E. Mokgweetsi Masisi, President of Botswana and Chair of the Changemakers Award 2023.

Mind the Gap launch at the 78th United Nations General Assembly



African leaders show the 'gap' during the campaign launch in the United Nations HQ

The AUC, with support from the International High-Level Panel on Water Investments for Africa, launched the Mind the Gap – Invest in Water campaign on 19 September 2023 on the sidelines of the 78th UN General Assembly and 2023 Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs) Summit in New York. African leaders pledged to mobilise US\$30 billion per year by 2030 to implement the AIP and achieve water security and sustainable sanitation on the continent through institutional public-private partnerships, sector reform, and higher national budget allocations.

Mind the Gap – Invest in Water will address systemic challenges, or gaps, that deter investors, including:

- Governance gap: the need for robust national water policies, effective regulations, and strategies that are multisectoral, comprehensive, and gender-transformative

- Finance gap: the need for creditworthy water utilities and service providers; return on investment; risk mitigation strategies, and public-private investment modalities
- Capacity: the need for improved implementation capacity and quality of a portfolio of bankable (and less bankable) projects through increased partnerships with regional and national finance institutions.

African Heads of State and Government commit to implementing the Continental Africa Water Investment Programme



Hon. Andrew Mitchell, Minister for Development for United Kingdom (right), Dr. Hani Sewlam, President of the African Ministers' Council on Water (centre), Hon. Mike Mposha, Minister of Water for Zambia (far left)

African Heads of State and Government gathered for the inaugural Africa Climate Summit in Nairobi, Kenya, from 4 to 6 September 2023, where they formally committed to supporting the implementation of the Continental Africa Water Investment Programme (AIP) as part of the African Leaders Nairobi Declaration on Climate Change. The leaders noted that extreme weather events and changes in water cycle patterns are making it more difficult to access safe drinking water, resulting in about 400 million people in Africa having no access to clean drinking water and 700 million being without good sanitation.

In addition, African ministers responsible for water, together with the International High-Level Panel on Water Investments, urged AU Member States to support AIP initiatives and to develop national water investment programmes to mobilise investments into climate-resilient water security and sustainable sanitation on the continent. This is part of the joint communiqué issued as a contribution towards the Nairobi Declaration.





Promoting transboundary water cooperation



Hon. Cecilia Chamutota, Mozambique's Deputy Minister for Water launches BUPUSACOM

Buzi, Pungwe, and Save Watercourses Commission launched to oversee the management of water resources within the shared basins

The Governments of Mozambique and Zimbabwe officially launched the Buzi, Pungwe, and Save Watercourses Commission on 19 July 2023 in Beira, Mozambique. The commission, which is the first tri-basin institution in the SADC region, has oversight of the planning, development, and management of the water resources within the Buzi, Pungwe, and Save (BUPUSA) river basins, which are exclusively shared by Mozambique and Zimbabwe.

The Buzi, Pungwe, and Save Watercourses Commission emanated from the signing of the Save Water Sharing Agreement, the BUPUSA Hosting Agreement, and the BUPUSA Establishment Agreement by Mozambique and Zimbabwe's Ministers of Water in Harare, Zimbabwe,

on 17 May 2023. This follows the signing of cooperation agreements for the Pungwe and Buzi rivers in 2016 and 2019, respectively.

The launch of the commission coincided with the launch of the commission's website, which communicates water and environment developments within the three basins as well as progress on the implementation of any projects within the basins.

Global Water Partnership Southern Africa supported the last phase of the negotiations for the Save Water Sharing Agreement and the BUPUSA Establishment and Hosting Agreements through the USD 6 million GEF-funded "Management of Competing Water Uses and Associated Ecosystems in Pungwe, Buzi, and Save Basins" project. The project is being implemented in the three basins by the International Union for Conservation of Nature (IUCN), with GWPSA as the regional executing partner supporting the two governments.



"The establishment of the commission will open doors for integrated development of the basins through transboundary projects while monitoring and advising the two Member States on the emerging transboundary water resources issues in the three basins."

Mr Messias Macie,
Mozambique's National Director
of Water Resources Management

Mozambique and Zimbabwe collaborate on the governance and sustainable management of the Save Shared Watercourse



In May 2023, the governments of Mozambique and Zimbabwe signed an Agreement on Cooperation on the Development, Management, and Sustainable Utilisation of the Water Resources of the Save Watercourse. The agreement was signed in Harare, Zimbabwe, by the ministers responsible for water and was witnessed by the presidents of the two countries. The negotiations that led to the finalisation and signing of the Save Water Sharing Agreement were financially supported by the GEF under the Management of Competing Water Uses and Associated Ecosystems in Pungwe, Buzi, and Save Basins project. The project is implemented by the IUCN and executed by GWPSA, which supports the two member states.

The Save Water Sharing Agreement will enhance cooperation between the two countries and the region. The agreement was the last of the three water-sharing agreements that the governments of Mozambique and Zimbabwe signed, following the successful negotiation and signing of the Pungwe and Buzi Basin Bilateral Agreements in 2016 and 2019, respectively.

The Save Agreement, together with the Buzi and Pungwe Cooperation Agreements and the BUPUSA Hosting and Establishment Agreements, was developed by the Mozambique and Zimbabwe governments with financial support from the GEF, the Deutsche Gesellschaft für Internationale Zusammenarbeit (GIZ) GmbH, the Swedish International Development Cooperation Agency, and the United States Agency for International Development's Resilient Waters Program.

Transboundary Diagnostics Analysis to unlock investments in the Buzi, Pungwe, and Save river basins

In a bid to understand transboundary waters problems, and to identify potential preventive and remedial actions in the Buzi, Pungwe, and Save river basins shared exclusively by Mozambique and Zimbabwe, a Trans-

boundary Diagnostic Analysis (TDA) was developed under the IUCN-GEF BUPUSA project being implemented within the basins by the IUCN, with GWPSA supporting the two governments as an executing agency.

The two countries share similar challenges within the three basins, among them changes in water flow regime, water quality deterioration, floods, droughts, land degradation, loss of biodiversity, reduced availability of water, and sedimentation.

The development of the TDA commenced in 2023 and is expected to be completed by July 2024. It will inform the Strategic Action Programme (SAP) and the National Action Plans (NAPs). The SAP consists of priority projects and investments to address the problems identified by the TDA at the transboundary level and is set to mobilise resources for water development, while the NAPs will address the gaps at the national level and provide interventions geared towards improving Integrated Water Resources Management (IWRM).

The TDA is set to outline the context that provides a basis for unlocking investments for infrastructure development, irrigation, and flood control, and managing and addressing some environmental concerns in the basins, while the SAP is expected to mobilise resources for water development.

The SAP and NAPs development process was launched in December 2023 and is due for completion by the end of 2024.

Addressing main environmental challenges and changes within the Buzi, Pungwe, and Save basins

The GEF-BUPUSA project is developing an atlas to help identify and provide compelling and credible evidence of the environmental changes in the BUPUSA ri-basin, their causes, and their impacts. This will guide the development of strategic actions and interventions that need to be implemented urgently to mitigate environmental degradation, restore degraded landscapes, protect natural resources, improve the availability of freshwater, and ensure more responsible use of the available natural resources to advance sustainable basin development in the three basins.

The atlas will also inform the planning of resilient infrastructure, including the identification of hot spots, key sites for mini-hydro development, water transfers for irrigation, as well as the baseline state, and the trends and outlooks of infrastructure to inform planning.

The complex environmental data will be packaged into

easy-to-understand but credible, science-based information using narratives, satellite images, photographs, statistics, and maps in a way that is easily understood and compelling for future decision-making. The atlas, which was finalised and approved by the two Member States, is set to be published in 2024.

Environmental Flows assessment to inform local solutions for managing competing water uses in the Pungwe River Basin.

The governments of Mozambique and Zimbabwe, with support from GWPSA through the GEF-BUPUSA project, commissioned an Environmental Flows (EFlows) assessment in the Pungwe River Basin to develop a shared understanding of the ecosystems, to inform local solutions for managing competing water uses, and to define 'objective flows' for key sites in the shared basin. The EFlows study was aimed at improving the water ecosystems of the BUPUSA basins for sustainable functions and services to people and nature, as well as

to have a preliminary understanding of the groundwater dynamics within the BUPUSA basins. The assessment established that the levels of water use in the basin were well below the annual average yield and that there is scope to develop the water resources of the basin without seriously compromising ecosystem functions and biodiversity. The assessment determined how different aspects of the socioeconomic and ecosystem context react to the basin's flows and levels of water utilisation. The study recommended that water-resource development in the Pungwe Water-Sharing Agreement be combined with investments in environmental protection and sustainable utilisation of natural resources.

The Pungwe River Basin is an important source of water for irrigation agriculture, and domestic and industrial use in the cities of Beira and Dondo in Mozambique and in Mutare in Zimbabwe. The Pungwe River is also used to generate electricity at several small hydropower plants in the Eastern Highlands in Zimbabwe.



“The results of the EFlows assessment will inform negotiations around clauses around transboundary water allocation and ecological flows in the Pungwe basin as provided by the Pungwe Water-Sharing Agreement.”

Mr Elisha Madamombe,
GEF-BUPUSA Regional Project Coordinator and Interim Executive Secretary
of the Buzi, Pungwe, and Save Watercourses Commission

Reducing drought vulnerability in the Buzi, Pungwe, and Save basins

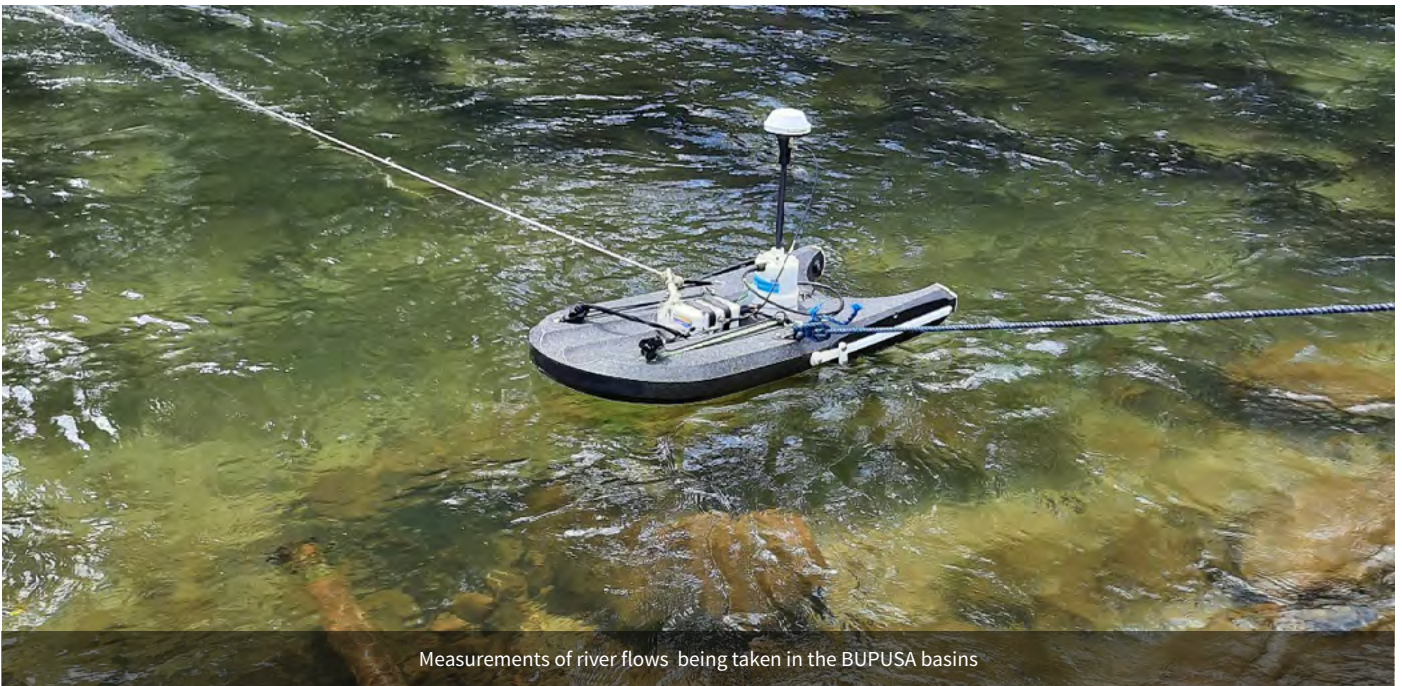
Populations in the BUPUSA basins have become highly vulnerable to climate hazards (floods, droughts, cyclones), the occurrence of which is likely to increase with climate change aggravation. The number of droughts in the two countries is on the increase (1982, 1986, 1990 – 1992, 1995, 2010 – 2011, 2015 – 2020, 2023). As part of drought mitigation efforts, the GEF-BUPUSA project began drought risk assessments and validation within the basins in Mozambique and Zimbabwe to map drought hot spots for possible interventions in hard-hit communities.

The drought vulnerability studies, which kick-started in 2023, will contribute to strengthening water-related risk

management through the reinforcement of monitoring systems, the development of real-time operational tools, and the empowerment of communities in their drought mitigation autonomy.

To date, data have been collected from experts and communities using key information interviews and focus group discussions, respectively. This is set to guide the mapping of drought hot spots for possible small-grant interventions in hard-hit communities. The data collection will complement the efforts to contribute to strengthening water-related risk management through the reinforcement of monitoring systems, the development of real-time operational tools, and the empowerment of communities in their drought mitigation autonomy.

Flood Forecasting and Early Warning Systems to improve disaster management in the Buzi, Pungwe, and Save river basins



Measurements of river flows being taken in the BUPUSA basins

The BUPUSA river basins are experiencing an increase in the frequency of extreme hydrometeorological events (floods and droughts). Global Water Partnership Southern Africa is supporting the governments of Mozambique and Zimbabwe to increase preparedness for floods and droughts through interventions to improve flood forecasting and the development of early warning systems to reduce the impact of climate extremes.

Through the GEF-funded Management of Competing Water Uses and Associated Ecosystems in Pungwe, Buzi, and Save Basins project, the governments of Mozambique and Zimbabwe are developing a Flood Forecasting and Early Warning System (FFEWS). The project is being implemented in the basins by the IUCN and is being executed by GWPSA.

In 2022 the project began installing hydrometeorological equipment in the form of flow-measuring sensors in the three river basins to promote sustainable flood and drought management. Installation work continued into 2023. The equipment provides real-time measurements of water flow, which inform a FFEWS, thereby aiding decision-makers to alert the communities about natural disasters, particularly floods. The installation is complemented by hands-on training for technicians in the installation, operation, and maintenance of the equipment to ensure the long-term sustainability of the initiative after installation and upon project completion.

Strengthening sustainable land management in the Limpopo River Basin



Land degradation is one of the major environmental problems affecting the Limpopo River Basin system, resulting in the reduction of ecosystem productivity, widespread poverty, and the poor health status of the basin population. To help address the challenge, the GEF-funded Integrated Transboundary River Basin Management for the Sustainable Development of the Limpopo River Basin project is promoting sustainable land management (SLM) in each of the basin's Member States. As the executing entity, GWPSA is providing technical backstopping to the project.

The project has identified four pilot sites for the implementation of SLM demonstration pilot projects. The main aim of implementing SLM activities at a pilot scale is to demonstrate on-the-ground SLM activities at a

local scale to reduce land degradation and sedimentation and improve land productivity at the pilot sites. The SLM pilot projects will also promote replication and upscaling through socioeconomic beneficiation opportunities inclusive of payment for ecosystem services models.

In Botswana, the pilot site is the Mogobane Dam in the Notwane sub-catchment area, while the Massingir Dam in the Lower Elefantas sub-catchment was identified in Mozambique; the Middle Olifants sub-catchment in South Africa and the Guyu-Chelesa irrigation scheme in the Shashe sub-catchment in Zimbabwe. These SLM activities will be conducted in close partnership with communities and private sector partners in the basin's Member States.





Climate resilience through Water, Climate, Development, and Gender Investments Support Programme



Green Climate Fund approves funding for regional water investment programme in southern Africa

In June 2023, the Green Climate Fund (GCF) approved a grant to support preparations for a regional climate-resilient water investment programme in the SADC region. The programme will address key barriers in the provision of reliable climate information and early warning systems, and implement paradigm-shifting pathways towards transformational, resilient water investments. The regional programme is part of the AIP, whose goal is to transform the investment outlook for climate-resilient water security and mobilise USD 30 billion a year to close the water investment gap estimated to be between USD 11 billion and USD 20 billion a year by 2030.

This will be achieved through:

- i. strengthening high-level political commitment and access to climate information and early warning systems
- ii. establishing robust hydroclimate services that are made widely available in the SADC region
- iii. promoting impact-based multi-hazard early warning systems and early action
- iv. developing and implementing climate-resilient and gender-transformative investments.

Funding from the GCF's Project Preparation Facility will support the development of an investment programme that aims to leverage at least USD 117 million, which is expected to benefit 140 million people in the SADC region. The GCF provided an initial project preparation grant of USD 1,5 million for the SADC regional water investment programme.

As the accredited entity to the GCF, the Development Bank of Southern Africa will administer the grant, and technical assistance will be provided by GWPSA.

Global Water Partnership Southern Africa confirmed as a Green Climate Fund delivery partner

Global Water Partnership Southern Africa was confirmed as an official GCF delivery partner in December 2023. This approval enables GWPSA to be a delivery partner that can support countries to access the GCF Readiness and Preparatory Support Programme. GWPSA will work closely with country National Designated Authorities to enhance country readiness for climate finance.

Activities to be implemented under the readiness programme include:

- i. capacity building of the National Designated Authorities, Direct Access Entities and other country stakeholders
- ii. enhancing strategic frameworks for low emissions and climate-resilient development
- iii. strengthening national adaptation planning
- iv. enhancing country pipelines for climate-resilient investment
- v. strengthening knowledge management on climate finance.

The appointment comes four years after the Global Water Partnership Organization (GWPO) became a GCF delivery partner at the UN Framework Convention on Climate Change COP25 climate change conference in Madrid and marks the first time that a regional water partnership has passed the GCF Financial Management Capacity Assessment.

Zambia launches National Adaptation Plan in bid to build the country's resilience to impacts of climate change

The Government of Zambia launched its NAP in November 2023 in Lusaka, Zambia. The NAP is a long-term strategic plan formulated to address identified risks and vulnerabilities in various sectors to enhance Zambia's resilience to the impacts of climate change. The NAP was developed by the Government of Zambia through the MGEE, in partnership with GWPSA as a delivery partner, which provided technical and project management support, with financial support from the GCF through the Readiness Support window. In early 2020, the GCF approved Zambia's proposal and granted the government a readiness grant to the tune of USD 2,1 million for the preparation of the NAP in a phased approach.

The NAP identifies opportunities for integrating prioritised adaptation actions into national, sectoral, and sub-national planning and budgeting processes. The NAP also clearly outlines indicators and responsible institutions that will enable tracking and reporting progress in the implementation of proposed adaptation actions. It is expected that the NAP will also enable Zambia to systematically advance the implementation of the aspirations of the Eighth National Development Plan and Zambia's nationally determined contributions. Zambia submitted its NAP to the United Nations

Framework Convention on Climate Change Secretariat in December 2023 as part of its commitment under the United Nations Framework Convention on Climate Change's Cancun Adaptation Framework, adopted at COP16 in 2010.

The first phase focused on developing an overarching NAP covering nine key sectors highly impacted by climate change, namely agriculture, fisheries, livestock, water, energy, tourism, wildlife, health infrastructure, and mining. The second phase will cost about USD 900,000 and will focus on developing the water sector.



“Climatic events affect everything from the agricultural field, roads, water supply, and education hence the development of the NAP for climate-resilience. We now need to mobilize resources for the successful implementation of the NAP.”

Hon. Eng. Collins Nzovu
Zambia's Minister of
Green Economy and Environment (MGEE)

Resource mobilisation strategy for climate-resilient low-carbon development in Zambia

The Government of Zambia, supported by GWPSA, is developing a resource mobilisation strategy for climate-resilient low-carbon development in Zambia to enable the financing of climate adaptation actions in the NAP and the Zambia Water Investment Programme. The strategy is being developed through consultations with various stakeholders. By the end of 2023 the resource mobilisation strategy for the NAP was near conclusion, with the remaining work concluded in the first quarter of 2024.

The formulation of the resource mobilisation strategy

for the NAP, the Zambia Water Investment Programme, and Implementation Road Map comes at a time when the Government of Zambia is also in the process of developing a medium- to long-term adaptation plan that has articulated priority adaptation actions for climate change in various sectors and geographic regions.

The strategy identified USD 34 billion as the financing gap for the Zambia NAP. In order to achieve this, the strategy proposes, among other key strategies, the creation of a multi-stakeholder platform that will spearhead resource mobilisation with dedicated personnel to ensure effective resource mobilisation and tracking of climate finance at national level.



In June 2023, SADC handed over the Katapazi WEF Nexus Demonstration Project to the Ministry of Agriculture to manage it on behalf of the community.

Zambia’s Katapazi Water, Energy, and Food Nexus Demonstration Project to help reduce the impacts of climate change

Katapazi village in Zambia’s Kazungula District is very vulnerable to the effects of climate change and has been affected by unusual weather events in the recent past, including floods, intense rainfall, high temperatures, and droughts. This has negatively affected food production in the area and has also resulted in the loss of livestock. Global Water Partnership Southern Africa has supported the SADC Secretariat in bringing water close to this community through the Water, Energy, and Food (WEF) Nexus Demonstration Project under the EU-funded Intra-ACP GCCA+ programme in the SADC region.

The programme has seen more than 800 people benefiting from two solar boreholes, which supply water for

domestic, livestock, and irrigation purposes. A total of 4 ha of land were supplied with water to produce cabbages, eggplants, tomatoes, and maize.

Prior to the project, GWPSA, the Centre for Coordination of Agricultural Research and Development for Southern Africa (CCARDESA), and the SADC Centre for Renewable Energy and Energy Efficiency (SACREEE) conducted a baseline study which established that male-headed households were more likely to engage in investable growing than female-headed households. It was also established that access to fresh water had long been a challenge for communities in the village and that women and girls would trek long distances to reach the closest water source. This study guided the project in promoting gender equality in agriculture, resulting in gender-balanced participation from the community.

“The project has made life easier, especially for the women and girls in Katapazi, because thanks to the two boreholes and four water tanks, women do not have to travel long distances to fetch water for their families. The project has also empowered us women to start our own gardens, where we grow a variety of vegetables that we sell in our community.”

Beatrice Siambele,
A member of the Katapazi community

Improving livelihoods through sustainable energy and water solutions in Malawi

The SADC Secretariat, through funding from the EU and with technical support from GWPSA in partnership with SACREEE and CCARDESA, supported a community in Dedza District in Malawi to establish a climate-resilient WEF Nexus project that would utilise water from Lake Malawi for the irrigation of various crops as well as for domestic use. The project was established through the GCCA+ programme.

Kamuyisa village in Dedza District is just a few metres from Lake Malawi, the fifth-largest freshwater lake in the world by volume, and yet the community could not produce enough food to last all year round. The community could not cultivate enough during the rainy season and did not have the infrastructure to collect water from the lake. A baseline study conducted at the start of the project found that there were no sanitation facilities in the village, as well as a lack of water treatment availability. The farmers from the village complained about the distance they had to walk to fetch water from the lake and the high cost of purchasing diesel, which is used to pump water from the lake. Additionally, they expressed concerns about the unclean energy generated by diesel.

The project installed a solar-powered system to support the irrigation of a variety of crops on the 4 hectare piece of land and for domestic use. Solar power is also being used for lighting at a nearby primary school, as well as for phone and laptop charging. As a by-product of the project, a school received renewable energy, which markedly improved learning conditions.

The project has also provided the farmers with various seeds, which they will use for two farming cycles. To ensure the sustainability of the project, the farmers joined an organisation called International Center for Tropical Agriculture (CIAT), which will continue to provide agricultural expertise and provide a market for the yields from the field. Furthermore, the farmers were trained on

how to operate the irrigation scheme and provided with a user manual.

Gender Action Framework for gender inclusivity in Eswatini

The Government of Eswatini, through the Ministry of Tourism and Environmental Affairs, and with support from GWPSA, developed a Gender Action Framework (GAF) to ensure gender inclusivity in the planning, design, development, and implementation of projects within the country.

The framework was informed by a detailed gender analysis, which was conducted to identify existing gaps, challenges, and opportunities for gender integration in water security sectors in Eswatini. The study was informed by a series of stakeholder consultation workshops, surveys, and dialogues with key stakeholders in the water security sectors in Eswatini.

These consultations further informed actions and activities to address the identified gaps and guide the integration of gender equality and women empowerment in climate change and water security programming through the development of this GAF.

The GAF provides a framework within which Eswatini will advance prioritised project ideas in a way that addresses gender-related concerns and proactively promotes gender equality. The GAF is structured into five priority areas adopted from the GCF Gender Action Plan. These priority areas are governance, competencies and capacity development, resource allocation, accessibility and budgeting, operational procedures, and knowledge generation and communications.

The Kingdom of Eswatini is exposed to climate change-induced hazards such as prolonged dry spells, droughts, floods, and rapidly altering mean temperatures.



Eswatini Government explores financing options for water-related climate technologies

The Government of Eswatini, through the Ministry of Tourism and Environmental Affairs in collaboration with the Ministry of Natural Resources and Energy through the Department of Water Affairs, developed a financing strategy and road map for 30 prioritised water-related climate technologies relative to Eswatini. The strategy, developed in 2023 with technical support from GWPSA, depicts prospective funding sources for the priority water-related climate technologies that will be used to support the adoption and diffusion of water-related adaptation technologies. This process will assist Eswatini in strengthening its capacity for climate resilience and adaptation.

The financing strategy takes broad and inclusive approaches to ensure that financing sources are identified throughout the innovation chain for technology development. This includes identification of financing sources for research and development, demonstration, deployment, and commercialisation for each of these water technologies. Through this strategy, Eswatini aims to move away from the traditional way of just procuring

to also invest in innovation to create jobs and allow young entrepreneurs to flourish. The idea is to influence government to direct funding for research and development, and to bring in venture capitalists to take ideas forward.

Global Water Partnership Southern Africa is supporting the government through the GCF-funded Readiness Project for Eswatini, which seeks to strengthen the capacity for prioritising and developing project ideas and concept notes to access climate finance. The process to develop this financing strategy was initiated through a reprioritisation of water-related climate change adaptation water technologies. A stakeholder-led process informed this review process and a total of 30 water technologies scored and rated by stakeholders from government, non-government organisations and civil society groups, were identified. These include water-saving toilets, drip irrigation, green urban spaces, multipurpose dams, advanced domestic wastewater treatment tanks, water allocation quotas, drought risk assessment and mapping, rooftop harvesting and runoff harvesting, and others. From the 30 technologies, 16 were identified for further interrogation on available financing opportunities, including guiding actions for accessing those opportunities.

“It is imperative that Eswatini implements water-related adaptation technologies that are appropriate and relevant for the Kingdom. The implementation of drought-resistant crop types, the promotion of water-efficient practices in industry and agriculture, the improvement of water governance and planning procedures, and other technological advancements are a few examples of these,”

Dr. Samkele Tfwala

Eswatini Government upscales engagement with private sector stakeholders for climate action

In a quest to advance climate resilience, the Eswatini Government developed a Private Sector Engagement Strategy and Road Map with technical support from Global Water Partnership Southern Africa. It is from this strategy that the Ministry of Tourism and Environmental Affairs envisaged the development of a road map to operationalise some of the strategy actions. Extensive consultations with the government, the private sector, academia, youth, and non-governmental organisations saw validation of the Private Sector Engagement Strategy and Road Map.

As the country's unpredictable weather patterns rise, the private sector has a crucial role to play in its response to climate change, mobilising green investments, and im-

plementing nationally determined contribution actions. With the right opportunities, private sector businesses including large companies, financial institutions, and micro, small and medium enterprises can play a critical role in climate action through greening their supply chains, supporting society through investing in climate-resilient innovative goods and services, and, most importantly, through the mobilisation of finances for climate action.

The road map outlines a sustainable mechanism for continued engagement with the private sector to enhance the role of the private sector in climate action for Eswatini. It speaks to access to climate data, an enabling environment for private sector engagement, capacity enhancement, access to climate finance, and recommendations to enhance the enabling environment for private sector engagement through a gender-inclusive and participatory process.

Resource mobilisation strategy for climate-resilient low-carbon development in Zambia

The Government of Zambia, supported by GWPSA, is developing a resource mobilisation strategy for climate-resilient low-carbon development in Zambia to enable the financing of climate adaptation actions in the NAP and the Zambia Water Investment Programme. The strategy is being developed through consultations with various stakeholders. By the end of 2023 the resource mobilisation strategy for the NAP was near conclusion, with the remaining work concluded in the first quarter of 2024.

The formulation of the resource mobilisation strategy for the NAP, the Zambia Water Investment Programme, and Implementation Road Map comes at a time when the Government of Zambia is also in the process of developing a medium- to long-term adaptation plan that has articulated priority adaptation actions for climate change in various sectors and geographic regions.

The strategy identified USD 34 billion as the financing gap for the Zambia NAP. In order to achieve this, the strategy proposes, among other key strategies, the creation of a multi-stakeholder platform that will spearhead resource mobilisation with dedicated personnel to ensure effective resource mobilisation and tracking of climate finance at national level.

The youth also tabled several recommendations to the Ministry of Water Development and Sanitation and stakeholders. These included a multisectoral approach to youth engagement, identification, and presentation of WASH opportunities to youths and creating awareness of the water sector.

The youth also urged the government to promote intergenerational dialogues between young WASH professionals and more experienced WASH professionals coupled with graduate training exchange programmes and other capacity-building programmes. They also said they would appreciate being engaged in all project programming while ensuring compliance with current systems that address gender equality and youth participation.

Eswatini Government upscales engagement with private sector stakeholders for climate action

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Scaling up innovative climate finance and technologies for a water-secure world

The Water Changemaker Innovation Awards were held in 2023 to recognise high-level commitment and leadership for climate-resilient water investments and to showcase the most promising climate-resilient innovations with the greatest potential for scale, replication, and further investment to support a water-secure world.

The awards were officially launched during the largest gathering on water in Asia, Asia International Water Week, in South Korea on 6 July 2023.

Selected winners were considered for four categories, namely the Inclusion Award, Scalability Award, Innovation Award, and the Chair's Innovation, Diversity, and Inclusion Recognition Award.

The Water Changemaker Innovation Awards 2023 contributed to GWP's climate resilience strategy (2020 – 2025) that aims to support more than 30 countries to access climate finance and influence investments of more than €1 billion for climate-resilient water management and infrastructure founded on robust, inclusive, and effective water governance systems. The Water Changemaker Innovation Awards 2023 were convened by the Continental Africa Water Investment Programme (AIP), K-water, the World Bank and GWP.



Water solutions for Sustainable Development Goals



Driving progress on Integrated Water Resources Management: insights from the 2023 data drive

Between 2017 and 2023, global performance in implementing IWRM increased from 49 percent to 57 percent. Under the guidance of the UN Environment Programme (UNEP), GWPSA, in collaboration with the UNEP-DHI Centre on Water and Environment and UNDP Cap-Net, provided technical support to the governments of Botswana, Comoros, DRC, Lesotho, Mozambique, and Zambia in assessing SDG indicator 6.5.1, the degree of implementation of IWRM. All six countries recorded an increase in their scores compared with the 2020 scores.

The work was part of the SDG 6 IWRM Support Programme, which assists governments in advancing water security by crafting and executing country-specific strategies for SDG indicator 6.5.1, focusing on IWRM implementation.

As part of efforts aiming to achieve SDG 6, in 2023 UN Member States took stock of their progress regarding the implementation of IWRM through SDG indicator 6.5.1. Given the pressing need to accelerate progress, the 2023 monitoring process highlighted both the challenges countries face, as well as the mechanisms through which some countries have progressed, as opportunities for cross-country learning.

Southern African Development Community promotes climate-resilient Integrated Water Resources Management in Tanzania



Cattle drinking trough in Tanzania

The Southern African Development Community (SADC), in collaboration with GWPSA, implemented a climate-resilient IWRM pilot project in the Wami/Ruvu Basin in Tanzania that was aimed at helping communities living within the basin adapt to the adverse effects of climate change.

The pilot project was facilitated by the Intra African, Caribbean and Pacific (ACP) GCCA+ programme under the SADC Secretariat and funded by the European Union (EU). The implementation of the Wami/Ruvu project was championed by Global Water Partnership (GWP) Tanzania under the technical guidance of GWPSA on behalf of the GCCA+ programme. The Wami/Ruvu communities experienced environmental degradation as a result of domestic animals drinking water within the river basin.

This project sought to provide a solar-powered borehole for the Maasai community and their livestock in the Ruvu Darajani village. Approximately 2,000 livestock and

5,000 residents have benefited from the water point, thus reducing siltation and pollution of the basin and improving the livelihoods of the targeted communities.

“The biggest challenge in these areas is the arbitrary grazing that leads cattle to drink water in the river and breaks down the riverbanks, leading to rivers filling with sand and mud, and losing direction, eventually causing flooding. This leads to a decrease in water quality, leading to increased water treatment costs. I urge you to do productive farming to increase livestock yields and reduce environmental damage to water sources to combat climate change.”

Honourable Jumaa Hamidu Aweso,
Minister of Water,
Government of the United Republic of Tanzania

Climate-smart agriculture project generating income for Metsimotlhabe Community Trust, Botswana



The Metsimotlhabe Community Trust in Botswana is generating income from its horticultural produce through support from the pilot project being implemented under the Intra-ACP GCCA+ programme funded by the EU and implemented by GWPSA on behalf of SADC.

The project has drilled a solar-powered borehole for drip irrigation and hydroponics (growing plants without soil and only using water and nutrients) for high-value horticultural production to supplement the livelihoods of more than 15,000 people, including vulnerable groups, women and young people in Metsimotlhabe

village. The Department of Water Affairs in Botswana will continue to provide technical support to the community.

Botswana is one of the countries suffering from the impacts of climate change and variability. Rain has become so unpredictable. In addition to the effects of climate change, the community has not been able to benefit from the use of the Metsimotlhabe River, as it continues to suffer from illegal sand mining. This project has therefore presented an opportunity for the community to learn climate-smart agriculture and improve their livelihoods.



Four border posts in the Southern African Development Community region benefit from Covid-19 WASH Boxes

In February 2023, SADC, in collaboration with GWPSA and GIZ, officially launched the SADC Covid-19 WASH Boxes which were installed at four border posts (Chirundu, Beitbridge, Nakonde/Tunduma and Songwe/Kasumu) in Zambia, Zimbabwe, Malawi and Tanzania.

The four border posts are some of the busiest land borders in the region, with official figures indicating that about 15,000 travellers cross Beitbridge border post daily. A notable challenge experienced at the borders during the Covid-19 pandemic was the increased need for improved water and sanitation services, as well as hygiene awareness to communicate the benefits of good hygiene practices at borders across the region.

The handwashing facilities are a sustainable solution to communicable diseases such as cholera, which is currently one of the major health challenges in Malawi. A total of 11 portable handwashing facilities have been installed at the border posts.

The overall operation and maintenance of the facilities will be done by the Zambia Revenue Authority, Zimbabwe Revenue Authority, Malawi Revenue Authority and Tanzania Revenue Authority on behalf of their respective governments.

“It is our hope that this is just the beginning, and that other WASH Boxes will be installed across all the other border crossings in Malawi, borrowing a leaf from what has begun here at Songwe border.”

Mrs Emma Mbalame,
Director of Water Supply,
Ministry of Water and Sanitation, Malawi

Development of water and sanitation sector response strategies for Malawi finalised

In 2023 Malawi finalised the development of response strategies meant to address major challenges rocking the water and sanitation sector in the country. The strategies were being developed with the guidance of the country’s Ministry of Water and Sanitation, under the Global Water Leadership in a Changing Climate programme (GWL), which GWP is implementing with funding from the Foreign, Commonwealth & Development Office.

The strategies seek to provide solutions to addressing three main barriers, namely inadequate financing and climate-resilient investments in the water and sanitation sector, lack of political will and weak coordination.

Taskforce membership was drawn from all the country’s regions and includes people from various backgrounds, including public, private, NGO, and academic, within the water and sanitation sector.

United front for climate-resilient water resources management of Tanzania

The Global Water Leadership in a Changing Climate Programme, which is being implemented in Tanzania by GWPSA, has brought together a range of the country’s sectors to forge a united front against water insecurity through regular dialogue and collaboration among stakeholders.

Through the working groups, Tanzania identified the following as the major bottlenecks to climate-resilient water resources management:

1. Inadequate funds to implement resilient water resources investments
2. Inefficient irrigation water uses and practices in the Ruvu Sub-basin;
3. Overlapping legal and regulatory mandates impacting intersectoral coordination.

The identification of critical bottlenecks in water management was a pivotal outcome of this collaboration. Supported by the GWL, the working groups conducted thorough root cause analyses, unveiling the core issues challenging Tanzania’s water resources. This process led to the development of innovative strategies addressing

these root causes, marking a significant step towards sustainable water management.

The response strategies also include a financial plan ensuring that the strategy is not only comprehensive in addressing issues but is also viable and sustainable from a financial perspective and makes actionable and

practical solutions for water security.

The Global Water Leadership in a Changing Climate Programme is a global initiative to support emerging leadership for improved water, sanitation and hygiene services, and climate resilience.

Dialogue identifies challenges and opportunities in youth participation in attaining Sustainable Development Goal 6



A significant gap exists in the youth within Zambia’s water sector in terms of skills and capacity. This was one of the challenges identified by the youth in Zambia during a youth dialogue on SDG 6 on Clean Water and Sanitation organised by GWP Zambia in July 2023. The Youth Dialogue was conducted under the AIP Water, Climate, Development, and Gender Investments support programme. The activity is part of GWP Zambia’s support to the Government of the Republic of Zambia in the implementation of the Zambia Water Investment Programme, which was launched in July 2022 to leverage USD 5,75 billion in investments in water security and sustainable water utilisation.

The goals of the Youth Dialogue included raising awareness among the youth on SDG 6; driving youth engagement; and enhancing meaningful participation that

influences youth’s policy decisions towards achieving SDG 6 by 2030. The Youth Dialogue was also to help the youth identify challenges and opportunities available to them in the Zambia water sector and propose strategies to enhance youth career pathways and vocational options related to water security and climate-resilient investments.

Among the challenges identified by the youth were a lack of water hubs and WASH resource centres, limited transparency in respect of internship opportunities, a lack of resources for youth-led initiatives, and the adoption of a silo approach by the youths themselves. The youth also bemoaned the absence of mentors and mentorship programmes for young WASH professionals and mentioned that they would appreciate more career fairs for career guidance.

“Today, I stand not only as a professional in this field but also as a firm believer in the power of the youth, particularly the vocal Zambian youth. Our generation holds the key to shaping a brighter and more sustainable future. Our passion, our dedication, and our innovative spirit are essential in driving transformative change and making the SDG 6 a reality for all”

Natasha Mumba,
Zambian Youth





Goal 2

We learn, communicate, and share knowledge

Global Water Partnership Southern Africa creates and communicates information about IWRM, accessing climate finance, project preparation, and more, which contributes to improved water governance and investment and, ultimately, water security. Together with our partners, we provide knowledge resources and capacity-building activities for solving water problems.

SADC exchange of knowledge on Water, Energy, and Food Nexus and impact of climate change on communities

Global Water Partnership Southern Africa, on behalf of the SADC secretariat, convened a workshop to share lessons learnt about the implementation of the GCCA+ WEF Nexus Demonstration Projects with the Member States. Partners also exchanged knowledge on issues involving WEF Nexus, how they affect climate change, and their impacts on communities in southern Africa.

The knowledge-sharing workshop was convened in Gaborone, Botswana, in June 2023, under the framework of the EU-funded Intra-ACP GCCA+, which was being implemented in the region by SACREEE, CCARDE-SA, and GWPSA, on behalf of SADC.

Stakeholders, including youth, deepen their understanding of the Water, Energy, and Food Nexus



Global Water Partnership Southern Africa, together with partners including the University of KwaZulu-Natal, the International Water Management Institute, the Water Research Commission, the United Nations Educational, Scientific and Cultural Organization, IHE Delft Institute for Water Education, and WaterNet, co-convened the third SADC WEF Nexus Winter School. The winter school was held in August 2023 at the University of Pretoria's Future Africa Campus.

Global Water Partnership Southern Africa facilitated a session on mobilising finance to implement Nexus solutions. Participants were introduced to different climate funding opportunities and participated in group discussions aimed at developing their skills in developing funding concept notes to access funding. During the weeklong training, the participants were also introduced to different WEF tools and concepts to apply in their daily work. They also visited the Agricultural Research Council's Hydroponics and Vegetable, Industrial and Medicinal Plants site to see some of the WEF Nexus technologies.

GWPSA is implementing climate-resilient IWRM interventions in Botswana and Tanzania. This project aims to build the capacities of the two countries to adapt to the impacts of climate change, targeting vulnerable communities, enhancing their hands-on capacity through developing climate-resilient IWRM pilot interventions in the two countries, and creating an enabling environment for their upscaling.

Together, the three regional organisations co-implemented WEF Nexus Demonstration Projects in Malawi and Zambia. Solar-powered irrigation systems using surface water in Malawi and groundwater in Zambia were installed for drip irrigation systems and the productive use of energy to improve the livelihoods of rural communities.

A Community of Practice was launched during the WEF Nexus Winter School that will facilitate the continued exchange of Nexus ideas, research, and opportunities and keep the nexus alive.

The WEF Nexus Winter School is a capacity-building initiative aimed at providing support to early career researchers, postgraduate students, policymakers, managers, and practitioners in understanding the nexus thinking, particularly the WEF Nexus, as a transformative approach to sustainable natural resources management and socioeconomic development.



“Integrated planning of water, energy, and food sectors and promoting regional cooperation are our strategies to meet security targets in these sectors and to improve natural resource use efficiencies,”

Mr. Duncan Samikwa,
Senior Programme Officer, SADC’s Directorate
of Food Agriculture and Natural Resources

Enhancing the capacity of SADC Member States to mitigate and adapt to climate change

Climate change poses several risks to the SADC region, such as increased frequency of floods, cyclones, and droughts. To address the specific challenges of access to climate finance for investments, and in response to requests from Member States for support with regard to accessing climate finance, the SADC Secretariat convened a climate finance workshop back to back with the State of Adaptation in Africa Report and Key Messaging Stakeholder meeting, during which GWPSA shared its interventions to the impacts of climate change. The training held in Cape Town, South Africa, in February 2023 was organised under the EU-funded Intra-ACP GCCA+ programme in southern Africa and implemented by GWPSA on behalf of the SADC Secretariat. It was a follow-up to the first climate finance workshop that was held in Zanzibar, Tanzania, in March 2022.

The GCCA+ programme in the SADC region is aimed at increasing the capabilities of SADC Member States to mitigate and adapt to the effects of climate change, in support of the achievement of the Regional Indicative Strategic Development Plan (RISDP), Africa Agenda 2063 and SDGs; and to have their voice better heard in the international climate change negotiations.

The primary objective of GWPSA’s involvement in the GCCA+ programme is to enhance the capacity of SADC Member States and regional institutions to access and mobilise climate finance from both public and private sources. As a result, GWPSA attended the workshop to provide training on climate finance from the GCF. Additionally, it engaged in discussions with Member States regarding the development of multicountry readiness proposals for both SADC and the AU. The SADC multicountry readiness proposal has been submitted to the GCF. This project aims to enhance the capacity of the GCF National Designated Authorities and key stakeholders. The project also aims to develop strategic frameworks that will support countries to mobilise climate finance. The project targets Comoros, DRC, Seychelles, and Zambia.

Strengthening early warning and flood forecasting in the Limpopo River Basin

With technical support from GWPSA, the GEF-funded Integrated Transboundary River Basin Management for the Sustainable Development of the Limpopo River Basin project is supporting the strengthening of the Limpopo transboundary FFEWS as well as the capacities of LIMCOM Member States and the LIMCOM Secretariat to sustain the FFEWS. The training on FFEWS, conducted in August 2023, provided participants with knowledge of the theoretical contents required to understand flood processes’ modelling constraints, as well as how to effectively extract results from the operational tool and analyse and interpret the results.

A FFEWS is required to ensure that countries share near real-time water-level and flow-gauge data, which are then fed into a hydraulic model that can predict flood flows to enable authorities to issue early warnings, thereby saving lives.

The Limpopo River Basin is the fourth largest in southern Africa after the Congo, the Zambezi, and the Orange-Senqu basins, and is shared by Botswana, Mozambique, South Africa, and Zimbabwe. The basin is under severe water stress, with the high level of hydroclimatic variability in the basin leading to both frequent floods and droughts, and the limited availability of water. The basin has an estimated population of more than 18 million people who rely on its water resources for their livelihoods and socioeconomic activities, and has a limited capacity to cope with such climate variability.

Investments in information, early warning systems, and infrastructure are needed to manage the extreme variability of the hydroclimatic conditions in the basin. Therefore, the need for a FFEWS is critical in determining the probable extent and timing of floods downstream, thus allowing countries to be better prepared to deal with the floods and reduce their impact.

To further enhance the capacity and awareness of practitioners responsible for water resource management and project delivery, GWPSA together with the SADC Secretariat and USAID convened a GESI training work-

Promoting Gender Equality and Social Inclusion (GESI) in transboundary water management in the southern Africa region



shop in Pretoria, Southern Africa on 30-31 August 2023. The workshop was attended by technical task team representatives, groundwater focal points, program staff, and Gender Focal Points (GFPs) from the RBOs within the SADC Region.

The workshop provided a hands-on introduction to GESI tools for action planning and established cross-functional relationships for GESI action planning among professionals in the SADC Water Sector. It represented a significant step forward in mainstreaming gender equality and social inclusion across the SADC Water Sector, ensuring that the GESI dimensions are firmly integrated into the region's water resource management and development initiatives.

The workshop provided an opportunity for participants to have a clear understanding of funding agencies' GESI requirements, best practices and implementation challenges. Participants also discussed GESI aspects in conjunctive water resources management and proposed recommendations for the 10th SADC RBO workshop held in October 2023.

Participants urged for mandatory inclusion of GESI in institutions' programming and operations of transboundary water resources and the early onset of GESI teachings from primary school levels.

The GESI workshop was preceded by a one-month online course titled "Enhancing Capacities for Mainstreaming Gender Equality and Social Inclusion in Transboundary Water Resource Governance", which was conducted by UNESCO. Reflections on the online course were shared during the GESI workshop.

Global Water Leadership in a Changing Climate programme taskforce members trained in developing finance plans

Taskforces established under the GWL in Malawi were trained on the development of finance plans, in a bid to have smooth costing of various activities identified under their response strategies.

The training took place in Lilongwe, Malawi, in September 2023. The strategies identified solutions to Malawi's biggest barriers to IWRM and WASH, namely lack of coordination in the sector, lack of financing and investment, and weak advocacy.

The training equipped taskforce members with knowledge on approaches to developing financing plans, budgeting, methods of budgeting, activity-based budgeting, tools for budgeting, and costing and finance

options. The consultant also supported each of the three taskforces in costing the various activities in their response strategies. The taskforces have since finalised their response strategies.

Knowledge generation and sharing key to catalysing investments for long-term environmental protection

Knowledge generation and sharing are critical in ensuring that investments achieve a lasting impact in safeguarding the global environment. In line with this, the GEF-BUPUSA and UNDP-GEF Limpopo Project Management Units participated in an exchange visit to Lesotho in September 2023.

The primary aim of this visit, hosted by the Orange-Senqu River Commission and the Lesotho National Integrated Catchment Management Coordination Unit, was to promote knowledge-sharing to facilitate the achievement of project objectives.

Key lessons learnt from the visit include the importance of including Member States during the early stage of carrying out a Joint Basin Survey and determination of EFlows. Ensuring decision-making is at the highest possible level, including at ministerial level, was also identified as key to ensuring ownership of interventions within river basins and the success of the RBOs managing them. It was recommended that key lessons learnt from integrated catchment management practices employed under the ReNOKA programme in Lesotho be replicated to help communities to restore degraded lands.

Global Water Partnership Southern Africa is the executing agent for the two GEF-funded International Waters Projects in the BUPUSA Tri-basin and the Limpopo River Basin. The Management of Competing Water Uses and Associated Ecosystems in Pungwe, Buzi, and Save Basins project is being implemented in the basins by the International Union for Conservation of Nature (IUCN), while the UNDP is implementing the Integrated Transboundary River Basin Management for the Sustainable Development of the Limpopo River Basin project.

Zambia climate sector experts receive climate finance and gender training

The Ministry of Green Economy and Environment (MGEE), with support from GWPSA held a three-day Climate Finance and Gender Training workshop aimed at training national sector experts on key concepts in climate finance and how to develop GCF proposals. The training, held in November 2023, was also aimed at equipping sector experts with knowledge on how to

identify, formulate, implement, monitor, and evaluate gender-responsive climate projects.

The Climate Finance modules covered the following key concepts:

1. Policy overview of climate change regime;
2. Financing Mitigation and Adaptation Actions; and
3. Developing a Green Climate Fund-funded project proposal.

The Gender modules equipped participants with the information needed to understand, advocate, and influence the gender aspects of climate finance. The training was conducted under the National Adaptation Plan for Climate Resilience Zambia Project, funded by the GCF and implemented by the MGEE. Global Water Partnership Southern Africa provided technical support for the project.

The training culminated in the development of three draft concept notes focusing on building the resilience of rural livelihoods to climate change-induced floods, conserving biodiversity under rising temperatures, and enhancing resilience in the health sector to the impacts of climate change. Upon finalisation, the concepts will be submitted for funding to the GCF and other funding sources.



2023 knowledge products

AIP Programme



Africa's Rising Investment Tide report

This landmark report by the International High-Level Panel on Water Investments for Africa outlines three pathways to secure an additional USD 30 billion for water security and sustainable sanitation by 2030. Released during the UN 2023 Water Conference, the report is considered a significant and transformative outcome of this event. The report is available in English and French.



Eswatini Gender and Water Security Technical Brief

This technical brief on Mainstreaming Gender Equality for Climate Resilience and Water Security: Addressing gender gaps and challenges through gender transformative approaches presents an overview of gender gaps in Eswatini relating to climate change and water security.



Africa's Rising Investment Tide: Investment Action Plan

The High-Level Panel's Investment Action Plan proposes critical actions needed to unlock the investments and close the continent's water investment gap. The plan is available in English and French.



National Adaptation Plan for Zambia

The NAP for Zambia was formulated to address identified risks and vulnerabilities in various sectors to enhance the country's resilience to the impacts of climate change.

Climate Programme



Eswatini Gender Action Framework

The GAF was developed to promote gender mainstreaming or integration instruments for ensuring gender-inclusive planning, design, development, and/or implementation of projects.

Water Solutions for Sustainable Development Goals

The root cause analysis was the first phase of a comprehensive effort from the GWL Malawi and Tanzania to develop a response strategy to address the barrier of inadequate funds. The analysis identified three barriers to one to climate-resilient water management in Tanzania.





Barrier #1 - Tanzania

Identified Barrier #1: Inadequate funds for implementing resilient water resources investments
 The analysis provides a comprehensive evaluation of the underlying factors contributing to insufficient financial resources for investments in Water Resources Management (WRM) to increase climate resilience within Tanzania.



Response Strategy - Tanzania

Response Strategy to Bottlenecks of Climate-Resilient Water Resources Management in Tanzania
 This Response Strategy encompasses three-in-one strategies to address three key bottlenecks that hinder climate-resilient water resources investment in Tanzania



Barrier #2 - Tanzania

Identified Barrier #2: Inefficient irrigation water uses and practices: the case of Ruvu Sub-Basin
 The analysis confirmed that the current water-stressed condition of the Upper Ruvu catchment is strongly linked to the high demand for water required for irrigation.



Global Water Leadership Programme Country Briefs

The briefs, developed for each of the seven countries in which the GWL Programme was implemented with GWP's support, detail the major barriers that were identified in each country, their root causes, and strategies highlighted in the response strategy that would help address the challenges.



Barrier #3 - Tanzania

Identified Barrier #3: Overlapping legal and regulatory mandates impacting inter-sectoral coordination
 The analysis reviewed the legal mandates of consumptive and regulatory sectors and their impacts on water sector performance to provide recommendations on water governance improvement, especially regarding coordination and collaboration among the sectors.



WEF Nexus Demonstration Project lessons learnt Document

The purpose of the lessons learnt document for the EU-GCCA+ project is to capture the project's lessons learnt in a formal document for use by other project managers and community members on similar future projects



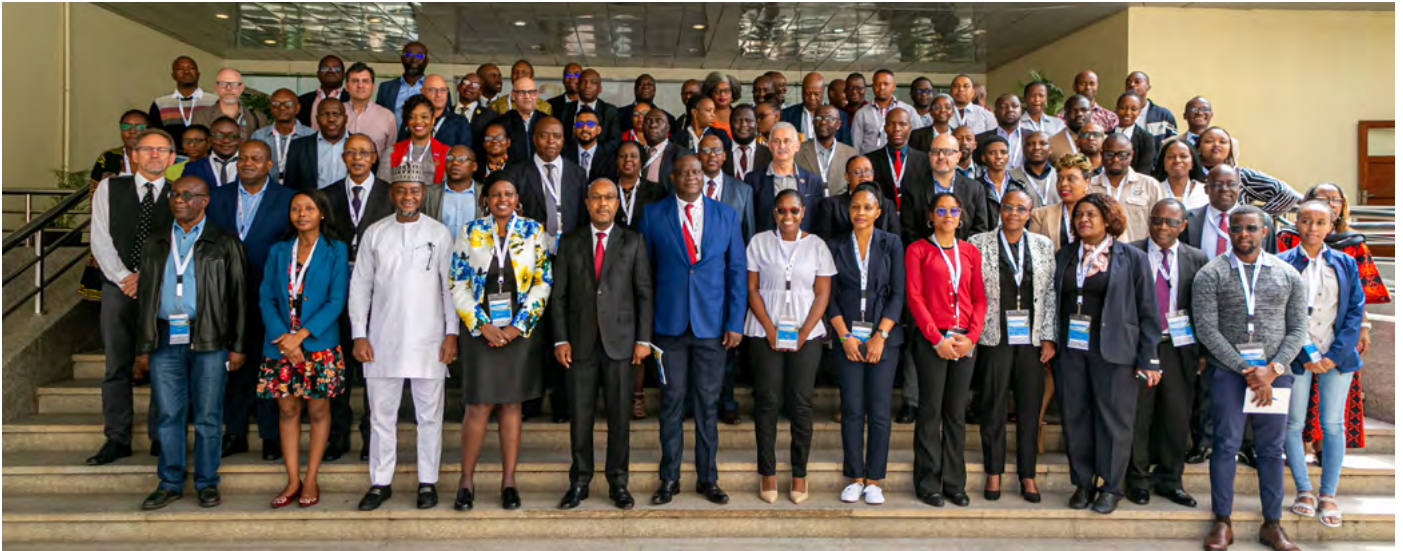
Goal 3

We mobilise stakeholder engagement to achieve water security

Institutional partners are the basis of Global Water Partnership Southern Africa's multi-stakeholder partnership. We believe that a strong, diverse partnership can bring about the changes needed to achieve a water-secure Africa

Background: Africa

SADC water sector urged to elevate groundwater management as a means of increasing water security in the region



Southern African Development Community Member States and players in the water sector have been urged to upscale groundwater governance and sustainable management to improve water security in the region. This was one of the main recommendations at the tenth SADC River Basin Organizations/Shared Watercourse Institutions (RBOs/SWIs) Workshop held in Maputo, Mozambique, in October 2023. The event was hosted by the Government of Mozambique through the Ministry of Public Works, Housing and Water Resources in collaboration with the SADC Secretariat and LIMCOM, with the technical support of GWPSA.

The workshop identified climate change as a major contributor to the increasing risk of water insecurity within the region, a challenge that is also aggravating water and sanitation delivery in the region. The workshop also noted progress since the last conference held in 2021. This includes the development and improvement of an enabling environment for regional cooperation on shared water resources.

The regional workshop, which deliberated on a wide range of issues, urged stakeholders to go beyond just enacting protocols and agreements, and also move towards implementation to ensure sustainable development is achieved in promoting regional water security in southern Africa. The meeting also noted the need to review some regional policies and national legislation on water to align them with new and emerging issues such as groundwater management. This includes the SADC Protocol on Shared Watercourses in the Southern African Development Community. The same was proposed for the Regional Water Policy for the Southern African Development Community of 2005.

The outcomes and recommendations of the tenth SADC RBOs/SWIs Workshop, together with other related

decisions, were presented to the SADC Water Resources Technical Committee (WRTC) for endorsement during the committee's 34th meeting held on 5 October at the same venue in Maputo, Mozambique.

The base funding support for the workshop was provided by the GIZ through the Transboundary Water Management in the SADC region and the Climate Resilience and Natural Resources Management programmes. Other funding came from the African Ministers' Council on Water, the IUCN, the UNDP through the Global Environment Facility, the SADC Groundwater Management Institute, the Komati Basin Water Authority, RBOs/SWIs and other SADC implementing agencies in the region.

Malawi Water Partnership accredited

In June 2023, the GWPO accredited the Malawi Water Partnership as a country water partnership. The Malawi Water Partnership, now also known as GWP Malawi, is a body that is made up of partners in Malawi that are duly registered with the GWPO as partners. It is a non-governmental, not-for-profit, non-political, human rights-based and gender-oriented network of institutions and organisations in Malawi.

The Malawi Water Partnership is now the entity responsible for coordinating the action of GWP in the country. The partnership is supporting the Government of Malawi in implementing the GWL, a global initiative to support emerging leadership for improved WASH services, and climate resilience. Support was also given to the government to implement the Intra-ACP GCCA+ programme funded by the EU. The programme aimed to increase the capabilities of SADC Member States and countries in the ACP region to mitigate and adapt to the effects of climate change and have their voices better heard in international climate change negotiations.



GWPSA-Africa Board



**His Excellency Jakaya
Mrisho Kikwete**

CHAIR

Former president of Tanzania, His Excellency Jakaya Mrisho Kikwete, is a graduate of economics from the University of Dar es Salaam. He also served

as the sixth chairperson of the AU from 2008 to 2009, and the chairman of the SADC Troika on Peace, Defence and Security in 2012 and 2013. His Excellency Kikwete's extensive experience in international peacebuilding, and his commitment to the use of natural resources to improve human health and livelihoods, reflect the core of the GWP's values and work.

He served Tanzanian cabinet ministerial portfolios as Minister of Finance, Minister of Water, Energy and Mineral Resources, and Minister of Foreign Affairs and International Cooperation.



**Engineer
Munashe Mvura**

VICE - CHAIR

Engineer Munashe Mvura is a management consultant in strategic planning, strategic management, and corporate governance. A graduate

of international water law studies in Israel and South Africa, he is a gender mainstreaming specialist in water resources planning, development, and management. He has vast experience in watershed management, water development, management, and protection of the finite resource. He has served as Host/Coordinator for the Zimbabwe Water Partnership and Chief Executive Officer of the Upper Manyame Sub-Catchment Council in Zimbabwe and has served in the Ministry of Water Resources Development, and in the Zimbabwe National Water Authority. Engineer Mvura is a member of the Engineering Council of Zimbabwe and the Zimbabwe Institution of Engineers.



**Her Excellency
Chileshe Kapwepwe**

The Secretary General of the Common Market for Eastern and Southern Africa has served as Deputy Minister of Finance and National Planning, in the Cabinet of Zambia;

Executive Director of the International Monetary Fund; Chairperson of the Zambia Revenue Authority; Managing Director of the Zambia National Airports Corporation Limited; and a Board Member of the Zambia Revenue Authority, Bank of Zambia, Ecobank Zambia Limited, BP Zambia Limited, Zambia Privatisation Trust Fund, Airports Council International, African Civil Aviation Commission, and Nico Insurance.



**Ms Nchedi Sophia
Maphokga-Moripe**

Ms Nchedi Sophia Maphokga-Moripe is the Chief Director, Global Cooperation and Strategic Partnerships in the South Africa Department of Water and Sanitation. She

is a member of the International Advisory Committee of the UN Water Action Decade 2018-2028 and the UN SDG Political Forum for UN 2021 & 2023 International Preparatory Group, and has served in high-level advisory and negotiating roles for the UN and World Bank's High-Level Panel on Water, the UN Commission on Sustainable Development, Women Major Groups, the UN Commission on Status of Women, and the India, Brazil and South Africa People-to-People Forum.



Dr Patrice Kabeya

Dr Patrice Kabeya is the Senior Programme Officer for Water at the SADC Secretariat. He is responsible for developing programmes that lead to promoting efficient and effective management of

shared watercourses and improving the development of strategic water infrastructure in the SADC region. His areas of expertise include water management, economic analysis for water investment projects, institutional development, application of research to water economy, and econometrics. Dr Kabeya earned a PhD in Economics and International Development at the University of Bradford.



Mr Harsen Nyambe

Mr Harsen Nyambe is the Director of the African Union Commission (AUC)'s Directorate of Sustainable Environment and Blue Economy, which is responsible for Environment, Climate Change, Water,

Biodiversity, Disaster Risk Reduction, Forestry, Land Management, Meteorology, and Wildlife. He is responsible for the AUC's coordination function on water, sanitation, and climate change. He also chairs the AUC Partners' Coordination Platform on Water and Sanitation that was established by the AUC for stakeholder coordination in the African water sector. He coordinates AUC coordination efforts and preparations for pan-African and global water and climate change events.

Mr Nyambe has 23 years of professional experience and a track record in providing strategic direction for policy development; formulating programmes and projects; supervising results-based monitoring and project appraisals; establishing networks and partnerships and cultivating a culture of consultation with regional economic communities and Member States. Fourteen years of his career have been in international organisations covering the SADC region. He possesses excellent communication, leadership, negotiation, interpersonal, and organisational skills.



Mrs Emelda Mapule Dlamini Magagula

Mrs Emelda Mapule Dlamini Magagula is a Senior Water Engineer – Infrastructure at the Department of Water Affairs in Eswatini. She holds an MSc in Leadership and

Change Management from Leeds University, an MSc in Integrated Water Resources Management from the University of Zimbabwe, and a BSc in Biology, Geography, Environmental Science and Planning from the University of Eswatini.

Mrs Dlamini-Magagula has worked extensively on water development, regulation, and management, and is a member of the Komati Basin Water Authority Board of Directors. Mrs Dlamini-Magagula played a major coordination role in the development of the Integrated Water Resources Master Plan for Eswatini, was involved in the drafting of dam safety regulations, and participated in the development of the National Water Policy.



Engineer Kelvin Chitumbo

Engineer Kelvin Chitumbo is the Director of the National Water Supply and Sanitation Council in Zambia. He is a water regulation expert with more than 15 years of experience in

water utility regulation and reform, policy development, restructuring, financing, and services provision.

His previous experience is as Chief Inspector for Zambia's water supply and sanitation services, as Director of Engineering Services at Kabwe Municipal Council, and as an engineer for the energy industry supporting the mines in Zambia. Engineer Chitumbo holds an MSc degree in Strategic Management, an MBA from Edinburgh Business School and Heriot-Watt University, and a BEng degree in Civil Engineering from the University of Zambia. He is working on a Doctor of Business Administration with Edinburgh Business School, Heriot-Watt University.



Prof. Dr Piet Kebuang Kenabatho

Prof. Dr Piet Kebuang Kenabatho, Associate Professor at the University of Botswana, is an environmental scientist with more than 18 years of professional experience in applied

hydrology, groundwater modelling, water resources development for sustainable environmental management, IWRM and climate change adaptation, resilience and mitigation strategies. He holds a PhD in Hydrology and Water Resources from Imperial College London, UK.



Mr Alex Simalabwi EX OFFICIO MEMBER

Mr Alex Simalabwi is the Executive Secretary of GWPSA, Head of GWP Africa Coordination Unit and Global Head of Climate Resilience for GWP's global headquarters in Stockholm, Sweden. He is an international development professional with extensive expertise in water resources management, climate change adaptation, economic development, finance, investment strategy design and public policy.

Throughout his career, he has developed large water, climate development, and investment programmes implemented across 60 countries spanning four continents in Africa, Asia, Europe, and Latin America and the Caribbean, and leveraged more than USD 1,2 billion in investments. He holds postgraduate qualifications in business (MBA) and Civil Engineering, and a master's degree in public policy from Harvard University's Kennedy School of Government.



Sara Oppenheimer EX OFFICIO MEMBER

Sara Oppenheimer is the Network Officer for the Caribbean, Central America South America, and Southern Africa. She is also GWPO's Programme Specialist responsible

for coordinating planning processes and programme development for both GWPO and Regional Water Partnerships. Sara also oversees the monitoring and reporting system, including the coordination of GWP's

annual corporate reporting and has coordinated the development of the Gender Action Piece. She has also managed the second phase of the GWP-UNICEF collaboration on the Strategic Framework for WASH Climate Resilience during which her roles included the development of guidance notes, technical briefs, and learning modules.

Before joining GWP, Sara was a Programme Officer for the Associated Programme on Flood Management at the World Meteorological Organization. She focused on technical and scientific edition of Integrated Flood Management Tools.

Sara holds an MSc. Environmental Science and Engineering, with specialization in Environmental Chemistry and Bioprocesses from the Polytechnical School of Lausanne, Switzerland. She also has a Master's degree from the Universidad de Antioquia, Colombia.



Ms Dina Ravaka Ramaromandray EX OFFICIO MEMBER

Ms Dina Ramaromandray was elected as the youth representative on the GWP-SA Steering Committee in 2020. She has worked as a Water Resources Planner at

the Environment Agency for England and Wales. Following some time as a consultant in the private sector, she made the move into international development and has worked at the Ministry of Water, Energy, and Hydrocarbons in Madagascar as a lawyer since December 2014. She is working on the legal framework and the implementation of the New Energy Policy for 2015-2030. She was assigned to the Studies and Planning Department, where she dealt with energy planning and strategies in general. She is currently the Director of Legal Affairs.

In addition, she is a member of the Groupe de Réflexion sur l'Énergie, a focus group on energy which gathers all experts in the energy sector. In 2016, with the support of the Groupe de Réflexion sur l'Énergie, she co-founded a movement called Malagasy Youth Against Climate Change, which wants to involve young Malagasy people in the process of tackling climate change. Ms Ramaromandray is also the Madagascar representative on the SADC WEF Nexus Youth Innovation Network, a SADC youth initiative supported by GWPSA.

GWP Southern Africa Regional Technical Committee



Dr. Michael James Tumbare

TRANSBOUNDARY WATER MANAGEMENT EXPERT

Dr Michael Tumbare is currently the Director of the Department of Engineering Infrastructure and Estates at the University of Zimbabwe after serving the university as an academic for ten years. Previously, he served for 16 years as the CEO of the Zambezi River Authority, managing the operations at Kariba Dam and Lake Kariba, the largest man-made lake by volume in the world. He spent 11 years in the Zimbabwe civil service and five years in the private sector in Botswana. Throughout his 32 years of practical experience, Dr Tumbare designed, constructed, maintained, and managed infrastructure from buildings to dams to water supply systems.

Dr Tumbare holds a PhD in Engineering Technology, an MBA, a postgraduate diploma in Hydrology and a BSc (Hons) Civil Engineering degree. He is a Fellow of the Zimbabwe Institution of Engineers, the Institution of Civil Engineers (UK) and the Zimbabwe Academy of Sciences. He is also a Professional Engineer (Zimbabwe) and a Chartered Engineer (UK) and is gazetted as an approved Engineer for Dams and Large Dams in Zimbabwe. Additionally, he has expertise in the following fields: water resources infrastructure design, development, and management; hydrology and hydraulic infrastructure design; formulation of infrastructure development and management policies and strategies; construction supervision; infrastructure monitoring, maintenance, and operation; and human capacity development and implementation strategies.



Engineer Konstant Bruinette

PROJECT - PREPARATION INFRASTRUCTURE EXPERT

Engineer Bruinette has 20 years of industry experience and offers specialist expertise and unique insights into project preparation, stochastic risk and financial modelling, risk mitigation and deal structuring to ensure bankability of large-scale water services projects in southern Africa. His experience as a civil engineer and project manager relates to infrastructure advisory services, status quo investigations, preparation of bankable feasibility studies, preliminary and detailed design of bulk water and reticulation systems, the preparation and evaluation of tender documentation, and contract management.

Engineer Bruinette holds a BEng (Civil) and MEng (Technology and Engineering Management) from the University of Pretoria, a postgraduate diploma in Development Finance, as well as an MBA from Stellenbosch University.



Prof. Cate Brown

ECOLOGICAL EXPERT

Prof. Cate Brown has a PhD in Freshwater Ecology and specialises in understanding the links between aquatic ecosystem functioning and flows of water, sediments, and biota. She was the EFlows coordinator for the Lesotho Highlands EFlows (biophysical and social) assessments (1997-2002) and EFlows advisor to the Lesotho Highlands Development Authority for ten years (1997-2007).

She was also the leader for the EFlows assessments for, inter alia, the Olifants-Doorn (South Africa), Breede (South Africa), Outeniqua (South Africa), Usutu and Mthlatuze (South Africa), Pangani (Tanzania), Okavango (Angola, Namibia, Botswana), Cunene (Namibia, Angola), Zambezi (Mozambique), Kafue (Zambia), Maputo (Mozambique), Mekong (Lao PDR, Thailand, Cambodia, Vietnam), Nile (Sudan), Kagera (Burundi, Rwanda, Uganda), Neelum-Jhelum (Pakistan) rivers and basins. She is currently, inter alia, Project Leader for the upgrade to the Permanent Okavango River Basin Water Commission Integrated Transboundary DRIFT DSS (Okavango Basin), the Comprehensive EFlows Assessment for the Lower Kafue Sub-Catchment (Zambia) and advisor to the Asian Development Bank on the Ravi River Revitalization Study (Punjab, Pakistan).



Ms Malango Mughogho

FINANCE EXPERT

Malango Mughogho is the Managing Director of ZeniZeni Sustainable Finance Limited, which she set up in 2018 to help solve the critical sustainability issues facing players in the finance and financing sectors in a wide range of development contexts. She has an MSc in Economics and Finance from Warwick University and more than 20 years' experience in banking and development finance.

ZeniZeni Sustainable Finance was appointed in 2019 to develop the early stages of South Africa's National Climate Finance Strategy and helped co-author the Alliance for Financial Inclusion's 2020 Policy Landscape report on Inclusive Green Finance. She is currently the Programme Coordinator in South Africa for "30 by 30 Zero", a joint International Finance Corporation/GIZ/ World Bank programme that aims to catalyse climate finance through greening the financial system and mobilising finance. She is also financial analysis advisor to the Climate Resilient Infrastructure Development Facility.

Ms Mughogho is on the board of the Alternative Prosperity Foundation, which aims to advance inclusive black leadership in South Africa and helped set up an umbrella organisation to advance the diagnosis and treatment of women and girls with endometriosis.



Financial report 2023

Presented below is a summary of financial results for 2023 for the GWPSA Secretariat based in Pretoria, South Africa. Total funds available for GWPSA programmes for 2023 amounted to €6,81 million, comprising funds raised globally through GWPO, regionally (GWPSA Secretariat) and at country level (Tanzania).

Globally raised funds

Funds allocated to the region from GWPO during 2023 amounted to €1,43 million.

Regionally raised funds

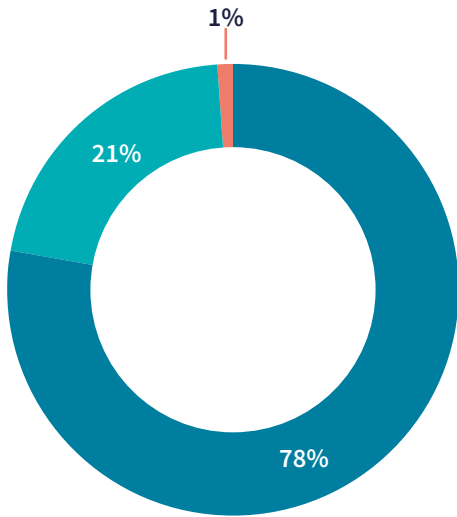
Total regionally available funds for expenditure for the year amounted to €5,34 million. The funds comprised

locally mobilised funds from donors, including the Foreign, Commonwealth & Development Office (through Tetra Tech), GIZ, the European Commission, the UNDP, the United Nations Children's Fund, the GCF, SADC, the World Meteorological Organization, the United Nations Convention to Combat Desertification, and the GEF.

Nationally raised funds

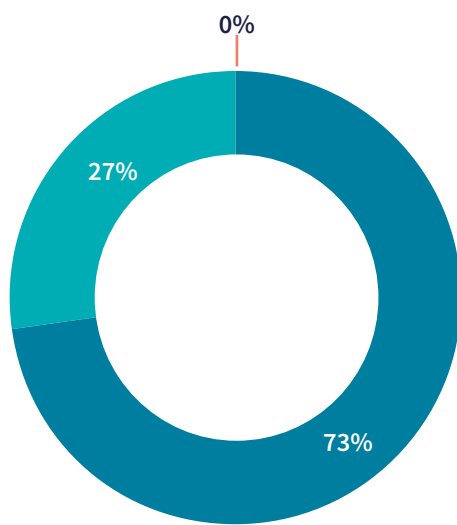
Nationally raised funds for 2023 amounted to €0,04 million mobilised by the Global Water Partnership Tanzania. Funds for Tanzania were mobilised through Purdue University, SADC, the High Commission of Canada, the African Academy of Sciences, and the Department of Water in Tanzania.





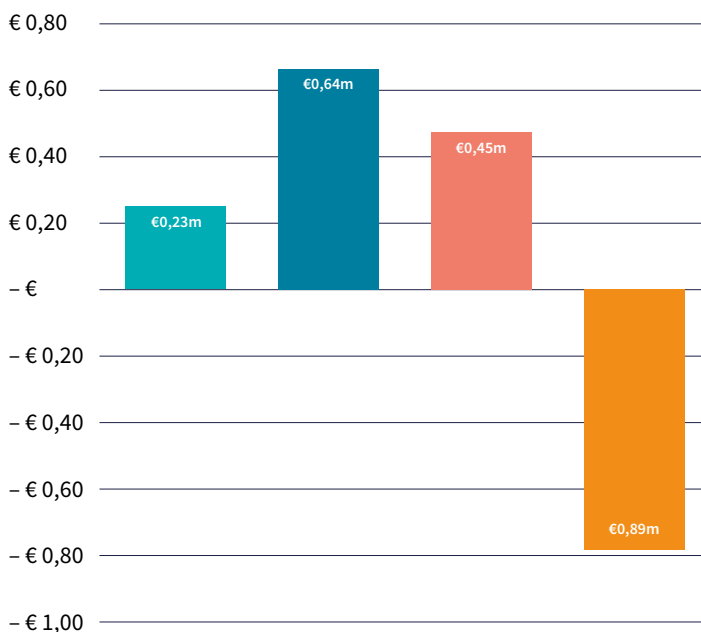
Donor Income Categories 2023 € Millions

Globally Raised Funds	€1,43 million
Regionally Raised Funds	€5,34 million
Nationally Raised Funds (Tanzania)	€0,04 million
Total funds available for expenditure	€6,81 million



Expenditure 2023 € Millions

Expenditure on Globally Raised Funds	€1,77 million
Expenditure on Regionally Raised Funds	€4,81 million
Expenditure on Nationally Raised Funds (Tanzania)	€0,01 million
Total Expenditure	€6,59 million

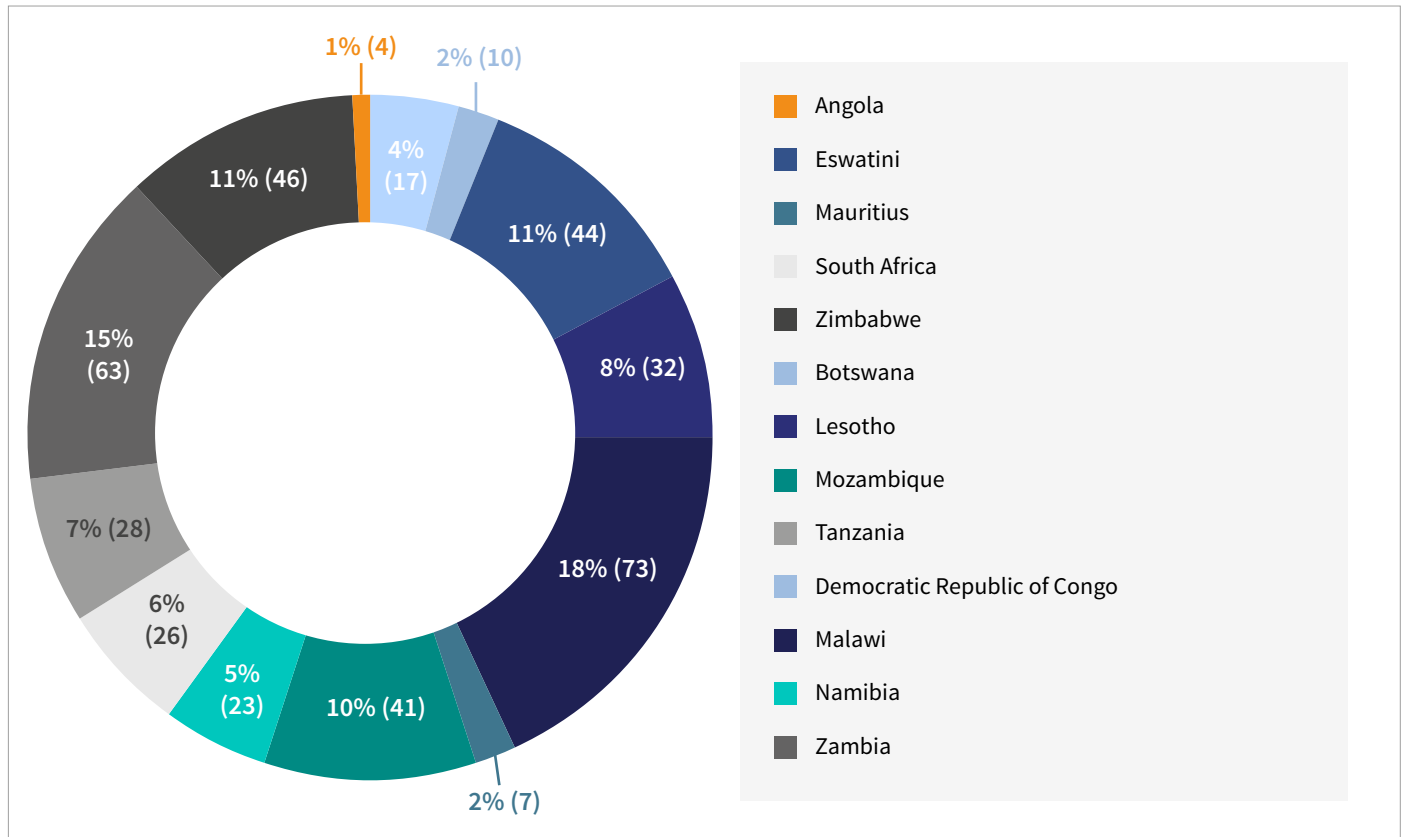


Balance Sheet As at 31 December 2023 € Million

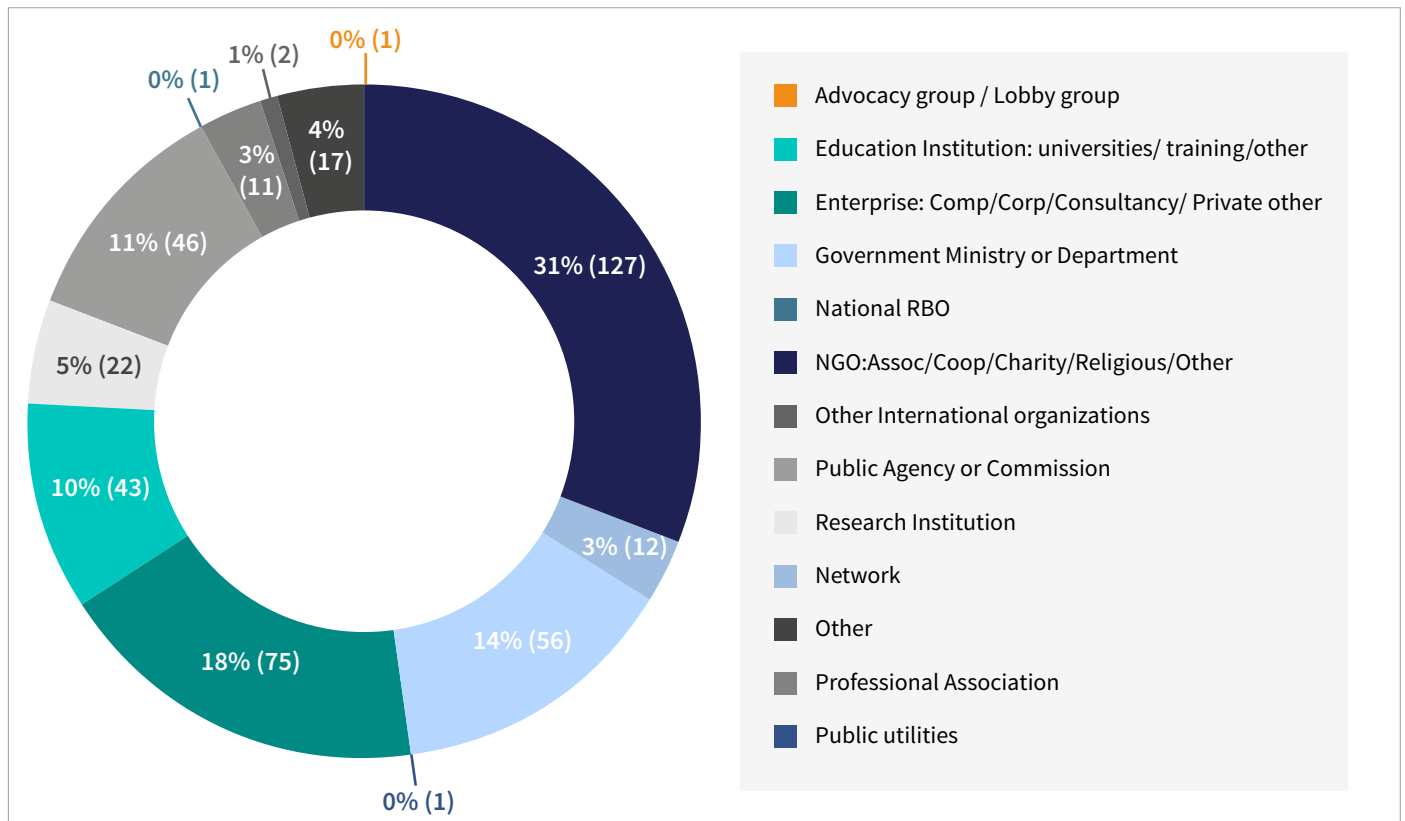
Donor Advances	€0,23 million
Receivables	€0,64 million
Bank Balance	€0,45 million
Payables	-€0,89 million

Global Water Partnership Southern Africa Partners

Partners per country as at 31 December 2024



GWPSA Partners per organisation type as at 31 December 2023



GWPSA Country water partnership leadership as at 31 December 2023

Country	Leadership
Angola	Chair: Mr José João da Silva Neto (Acting)
Botswana	Chair: Prof. Piet Kebuang Kenabatho Coordinator: Mr Randall Tsepang
Comoros	Coordinator: Ms Chadhouliati Abdou Chakour (Acting)
DRC	Chair: Prof. Yvonne Ibekeke Saila
Eswatini	Chair: Mr Bheki Ginindza Coordinator: Ms Sindi Mthimkhulu
Lesotho	Chair: Mr Seriti Phate Coordinator: Mr Thabo Nteko
Madagascar	Coordinator: Mr Simon Robison Randriatsiferana (Acting)
Malawi	Chair: Dr Judith Kamoto Coordinator: Engineer Dr Theresa Mkandawire
Mauritius	Coordinator: Dr Manta Nowbuth (Acting)
Mozambique	Coordinator: Mr Messias Macie (Acting)
Namibia	Chair: Mr Johannes Sirunda Coordinator: Ms Ndina Nashipili
South Africa	Chair: Ms Lindiwe Lusenga (Acting) Chair: Mr Ngwisa Mpembe Coordinator: Ms Diana Kimbute
Zambia	Chair: Engineer Kelvin Chitumbo Coordinator: Ms Margaret Samulela
Zimbabwe	Chair: Engineer Shepherd Shereni (Acting) Coordinator: Engineer Wensley Muchineri



Acknowledgements and contact details

The Global Water Partnership Southern Africa and African Coordination (GWPSA-Africa) Secretariat is grateful to the partners whose financial and in-kind contributions helped to implement our strategy and programmes. For financial information please see pages 51-52. GWPSA- Africa wishes to thank all those who have contributed to this annual report



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