

SADC Youth Water- Health-Energy-Food Nexus Action Plan

Programme Brief



The SADC Youth Water-Health-Energy-Food (WHEF) Nexus Action Plan was developed in response to the Ministers' Decision on Youth and based on the SADC RSAP IV priorities for youth and under the guidance of SADC Secretariat, to mainstream Youth Engagement and Empowerment in the implementation of the SADC RSAP IV Programmes. This is intended to support Youth Entrepreneurship and Empowerment in WHEF Security related investments; through the SADC Youth Water-Health-Energy-Food Nexus Innovation Network (SAYWIN).

The SAYWIN programme's goal is to improve the quality of life of the youth by equipping them with the ability to realise their economic potential, spur inclusive WHEF related investments and growth in SADC.

The objectives of this programme are to:

1. Catalyse and advocate for job creation through youth entrepreneurship and empowerment in the implementation of the SADC industrialisation and SDG agenda
2. Mobilise youth partnerships and capacity building through skills development, entrepreneurship, and training
3. Accelerate Project Preparation of inclusive WHEF investments targeting youths

The youth challenges that this programme will address are:

1. Youth inclusion in planning and development at higher levels of decision-making
2. Access to incubator starter programmes for scaling youth entrepreneurship projects
3. Innovative youth ideas mainstreamed in project preparation of WHEF projects
4. Youth access to inclusive and sustainable WHEF related opportunities for job creation
5. Youth access to education and training services to improve entrepreneurship skills
6. Sharing of best practices and lessons learned through project preparation

The proposed programme interventions are to:

1. Garner support from government for social inclusion and empowerment of youth including women and disadvantaged groups in planning and implementation of development projects
2. Build capacity through mentorship programmes and incubator starter programmes to support potential for scaling up innovative youth projects
3. Engage youth at all levels of project planning and development of WHEF related investments



This programme will be highly beneficial for the youth in the SADC Region. The specific benefits that this programme aims to achieve are:

- Business cases for youth inclusion developed and inform national economic growth and transformation agendas
- Youth sensitive water related investments integrated address underlying causes of urbanisation, migration
- Job creation leading to improved livelihoods
- Strengthened youth institutional frameworks

Management: Global Water Partnership (Executing Agency) and partners

Implementing partners: SADC, AMCOW, governments

Supervision: National and Sub-Regional Project Steering Committees

Oversight Advisory: Heads of States Orientation Committee, Pan-SADC Advisory Group, comprising AMCOW, RECs and other strategic Pan-SADC bodies and other strategic partners

Funding: GWPO Financial Partners, SADC, national governments and others

Estimated Cost: USD 1.7 Million for three years. USD 300,000 per country (USD1.5 million for five countries) and USD 200,000 for regional activities.

Implementation modality: The program will cover all the SADC region. The program will start implementation targeting five countries. In the five countries, the different components of the program will be implemented. The program will also have some regional level activities to ensure that all SADC Countries benefit through regional capacity building, knowledge management, regional learning and other activities.

Structure and Intended SAYWIN Outcomes

The programme is structured around 3 components and 9 work packages, detailed below:

Component 1: Catalyse, advocate for job creation through Youth entrepreneurship and empowerment in implementation of the SADC industrialisation and SDG agenda

WKP1: Leverage high-level political support for youth empowerment in WHEF implementation

WKP 2: Leverage WHEF finance to support youth programmes from a variety of sources including the private sector

WKP 3: Youth Innovation Prize to motivate youth participation, social inclusion in WHEF investments

Component 2: Mobilise Youth partnerships and capacity building through skills development, entrepreneurship and training

WKP 4: Strengthen WHEF youth networks at country and regional level to foster WHEF implementation

WKP 5: Facilitate outreach and knowledge management on WHEF investments at country and regional level

WKP 6: Enhance capacity through youth led SMMEs, mentorship, apprenticeship, and applied research

Component 3: Accelerate Project Preparation of inclusive WHEF investments targeting youths

WKP 7: Support preparation of bankable projects embedding youth innovation, WHEF NEXUS and IWRM approaches

WKP 8: Accelerate project preparation of WHEF projects maximising youth benefits

WKP 9: Programme Coordination, M&E and Experiential Learning.

The intended outcomes for this programme are:

1. Integration of job creation and youth inclusive priorities into national development planning frameworks and finance instruments for WHEF through leveraging high-level political support.
2. Enhanced youth empowerment through increased capacity, knowledge and application of youth innovation and entrepreneurship.
3. Preparation and implementation of bankable youth sensitive WHEF investment projects accelerated through integrated approaches.