

About GWP

What you need to know



Who

GWP is a diverse network of 3,000-plus institutional partners with the convening power and deep technical expertise to improve the way communities and countries manage water.

When managed well, water is an enabler of sustainable growth, and a solution to the challenges of the [2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development](#) – from achieving food and energy security to alleviating poverty, creating equitable societies, reducing disaster risk, and combating climate change. Good water management is about **good governance**: policies, laws, financing, and institutions that are transparent, inclusive, and integrated across sectors. That's why GWP supports the application of an integrated approach to water resources management ([IWRM](#)).

In addition, Agenda 2030 calls for the renewal of a global partnership for sustainable development. GWP's local-national-regional-global network works with stakeholders – government, civil society, and business – who have the power to solve water problems. GWP's **multi-stakeholder partnership** provides the knowledge, capacity, and flexibility to respond so that political will brings about water security.

What

Our mission is to advance governance and management of water resources for sustainable and equitable development.

Our network of 65+ Country Water Partnerships and 13 Regional Water Partnerships convenes and brokers coordinated action by government and non-government actors to address water risks. We work with our partners to change behaviours, strengthen institutions, build pilots, and catalyse

GWP Value Added

GWP mobilises action on the global water crisis through a unique combination of social capital, shared values, credibility within the global water community, bottom-up orientation, and expertise.

A network of networks, we ensure the 'voices of water' can influence local, national, regional, and global development priorities. We are committed to our role as a neutral convener and respected for our focus on inclusiveness and sustainability.

investment for water-wise sustainable development. We measure ourselves through the actions we take to improve water management and governance.

Where

Our Partners are in 180+ countries. We have Country Water Partnerships in more than 65 countries. And we have 13 Regional Water Partnerships spanning the developing world and emerging economies.

Why

Solving water crises is urgent! They are among the top global risks in the World Economic Forum's [Global Risks Report](#). Water is limited. Economic growth, population growth, and climate disaster are creating water crises – in many places there is "too much", "too little" or "too dirty"

ABOUT GWP

water. And that is life threatening. So we need to manage water better and share it carefully.

GWP supports countries to ensure that every person has clean water to lead healthy lives, to protect communities from water-related threats, and to harness the productive power of water for sustainable growth while protecting ecosystems.

How

GWP focuses its work around three strategic goals:

Providing water solutions to the Sustainable Development Goals

GWP supports work on the policies and investment plans that help countries resolve water-related trade-offs inherent in achieving the SDGs. We stimulate ongoing awareness of the need that, to achieve the 2030 Agenda, mandated institutions must work in new ways, especially through multi-stakeholder partnerships, as highlighted in SDG 17.

As part of this effort, we focus on:

- Supporting agencies and key players to coordinate and resolve the competing demands for water resources as they work towards achieving the SDGs while driving investment and
- employment targets;
- Incorporating the multiple values of water in decision making; and
- Supporting countries to assess their progress towards integrated water resources management targets as set through SDG 6.5.

Catalysing climate resilient development

Ninety per cent of natural hazards and disasters are water related. And “water” is the most-cited priority sector in Nationally Determined Contributions (NDCs) to the 2015 Paris climate agreement.

GWP introduces water-specific insights into national dialogues, planning, and investments associated with climate resilience-related development priorities.

As part of this effort, we focus on:

- Including water-informed insights in national adaptation planning;

Our Values

Inclusiveness | Openness | Transparency | Accountability | Respect | Gender sensitivity | Solidarity

- Facilitating access to climate finance for resilience-building water projects; and
- Supporting integrated resilience planning, including in water infrastructure.

Enhancing transboundary cooperation

There are 310 transboundary lakes and river basins, 592 transboundary aquifers, and transboundary water bodies exist within 153 States serving 2.8 billion people.

GWP works across sectors and administrative borders to identify solutions that can promote sustainable transboundary water resources management.

As part of this effort, we focus on:

- Facilitating dialogue across political jurisdictions;
- Learning about water governance and international water law; and
- Improving transboundary water governance.

Mobilising for a water secure world

GWP’s strategy calls for a **massive mobilisation** effort to get all stakeholders involved, including poor and marginalized groups, as well as new actors, and giving space for innovation and entrepreneurship to solve water challenges.

Unless we mobilize – well beyond the water sector – we will not hear the ‘voice of water’ at the tables of decision makers. Which is why, across each of our strategic goals, GWP has a particularly broad and determined outreach to **youth, women, and the private sector.**

Impact

Since 2014, GWP has influenced **221 water governance outcomes**. Those plans, strategies, and initiatives have influenced water-related **investments of more than €1.3 billion.**

As a result, more than **60 million people have benefited** from improved water management in 2014-2018.

[For more information, read our Impact Stories here.](#)