

WELCOME TO THE GLOBAL WATER PARTNERSHIP SOUTH ASIA (GWP SAS)



WHO WE ARE

The Global Water Partnership (GWP) is a network founded in 1996 in Stockholm, Sweden. GWP's diverse network of 3,000-plus institutional partners based in more than 180 countries gives the network a convening power and deep technical expertise to improve the way communities and countries manage their water resources. GWP Network consisted of 69 accredited Country Water Partnerships and 13 Regional Water Partnerships. GWP SAS is one of the 13 Regional Water Partnerships of GWP based in Sri Lanka, hosted by the International Water Management Institute (IWMI), Palawatta, Battarmulla.

GWP's Strategy 2020-2025 was designed with the opinion of leveraging global policy frameworks through mobilising, acting, and learning. The anchor areas of the strategy are water solutions for the SDGs, climate resilience through water and transboundary water cooperation. In addition, mobilising youth, engaging the private sector and working towards gender equality are placed as the across-anchor areas in its Strategy.

ABOUT GWP SAS

GWP SAS was launched in 2002, with the Vision of "A water-secure South Asia". Our Mission is to promote water security and climate resilience in South Asia as a key part of sustainable regional and national development for economic growth and human security keeping Integrated Water Resources Management (IWRM) intact.

The GWP SAS network is linked through, Country Water Partnerships (CWPs) and Institutional partners across the region. The six CWPs that are being coordinated by the Regional Secretariat includes GWP Bangladesh, Bhutan, India, Nepal, Pakistan and Sri Lanka. There are more than 430 registered GWP Partners representing the South Asia region and the CWPs and the Secretariat are collaborating with some of the active Partners in different capacities in our projects and programmes.

OUR AFFILIATION WITH THE GOVERNMENT OF SRI LANKA

GWP was nominated as the delivery partner for the 2nd National Designated Authority (NDA) Readiness Project for Sri Lanka 2021 under the GCF Readiness Programme, by the Ministry of Environment. The project title is "Strengthening the capacity of Direct Access Entities (DAEs), NDA and GCF project programming stakeholders in Sri Lanka to access climate finance through enhanced strategic frameworks for stakeholder engagement and a strengthened project pipeline". This is a 24-month-long project that started on 16 June 2022.

OTHER KEY ONGOING PROJECTS

GWP South Asia is collaborating with South Asia Co-operative Environment Programme (SACEP) to draft a regional report on “Progress on Integrated Water Resources Management (IWRM) in the South Asia Region” based on the UN-Water-led step-by-step Integrated Monitoring Initiative for Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs) indicator 6.5.1. Further, the Consultant contacted the designated government institutions of the eight countries in South Asia to gather the missing information to compile a comprehensive report.

The core programme is our regular programme where we support the countries to conduct educational and awareness programmes to sensitise and build the capacity of practitioners, women and youth on IWRM principles, improve water resources planning and management and advocate reviewing enhanced water resources management policies. Building resilience and promoting access to safe drinking water through community-based solutions and creating and strengthening multi-stakeholder platforms for sustainable water resources management are some of the other topics addressed under the core programme.

Global Water Leadership (GWL) in a Changing Climate Programme is funded by the UK Foreign, Commonwealth and Development Office (FCDO), and implemented by GWP and UNICEF, as well as the Sanitation and Water for All Partnership (SWA), and the WHO/UNICEF Joint Monitoring Programme (JMP). The Grant Agreement between GWP and FCDO was signed on 30 April 2021. It is expected that the programme would break the long-lasting division between WASH and IWRM and would strengthen the collaboration at the global as well as the national level. It seeks to support governments in the Least Developed and Lower-Middle Income Countries (LMICs) to implement inclusive, climate-smart water policies and strategies, ultimately resulting in better-served and more climate resilient communities. This programme is being implemented in 10 countries including Nepal co-led by UNICEF. The project implementation in Nepal has started in October 2021.

To harness the power of youth, one of South Asia's greatest assets in driving positive social change, environmental sustainability, and technological innovation, GWP SAS came up with an idea to develop Youth and Young Water Professionals Platform (YPPP) of South Asia in 2020. GWP SAS expects the platform would provide meaningful value addition to the existing regional youth networks and would leverage the effective participation of youth in the implementation of the Sustainable Development Goal 6.

GWP SAS GOVERNANCE STRUCTURE

GWP SAS governance structure comprises a Regional Chair, the Regional Council (RC) and a Regional Secretariat. The Regional Council consists of two nominees (female and male) from all six Country Water Partnerships. The Chairperson of the Regional Council is the Chairperson of GWP SAS where the position is being selected rotational basis from each South Asian country. The position is currently being held by Ms Kusum Athukorala, an environmental activist and a gender specialist from Sri Lanka.

The annual Regional Council meeting is held towards the end of each year at a mutually agreed location in one of the six countries and the invitees are selected depending on the budgetary position of the secretariat. The regular invitees include, Regional Council members, Country Water Partnership Chairs and GWP Network Officer based in Sweden and the meeting is hosted by the Chair and the Secretariat.

The functions of the Regional Council include outlining the implementation of the strategic policies and taking administrative and funding decisions, receiving, and considering programme and financial reports produced by the Regional Coordinator and receiving and considering the previous auditor's report. The members involve in programming, monitoring, resource mobilisation and partner mapping.