



SANITATION
AND WATER
FOR ALL

ANNUAL REPORT 2021

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RESULTS FRAMEWORK

The SWA Secretariat is supported by several institutional and private donors:



Ministry of Foreign Affairs of the
Netherlands



USAID
FROM THE AMERICAN PEOPLE



Schweizerische Eidgenossenschaft
Confédération suisse
Confederazione Svizzera
Confederaziun svizra



WE WERE FOUNDED IN 2009 and are hosted by UNICEF. The SWA partnership is unique and has had a profound impact on the sector – globally, regionally, and nationally.

WE WORK TO ELIMINATE INEQUALITIES to realize the human rights to water and sanitation. With women and girls at the centre as dynamic agents of change.

WE ARE A UNIQUE PARTNERSHIP of over 300 governments, utilities and regulators, external support agencies and organizations from civil society, research and academia, and the private sector.

WE FOCUS ON THE HARDEST TO REACH and most vulnerable individuals, communities, countries and regions.

SWA's VISION

WHO WE ARE

WE GALVANIZE POLITICAL LEADERSHIP, to inspire co-ordinated action and achieve the sector's SDG targets.

WE HARNESS THE COLLECTIVE POWER of our partners, supporting a government led, multi-stakeholder action at national, regional and global levels.

We work together to stimulate **HIGH-LEVEL POLITICAL DIALOGUE** at country, regional and global levels, to generate long-lasting impacts for the sector.



WATER, SANITATION AND HYGIENE FOR ALL, ALWAYS AND EVERYWHERE.

We believe achieving universal access to water and sanitation services requires more than building walls and laying pipes.

WHO WE ARE

GUIDING PRINCIPLES

The SWA partnership is founded on a set of core values that guide it in everything it does:

-  **Multi-stakeholders efforts**
-  **Leaving no-one behind**
-  **Evidence-based decision-making**
-  **International collaboration and aid effectiveness**
-  **Sustainability of service and actions**
-  **Transparency and accountability**
-  **Human Rights to water and sanitation**

SECTOR BUILDING BLOCKS

What partners work towards for an effective sector:

-  **Sector Policy/ Strategy**
-  **Institutional Arrangements**
-  **Sector Financing Arrangements**
-  **Planning, Monitoring And Review**
-  **Capacity Development**

COLLABORATIVE BEHAVIOURS

How partners work together:

-  **Enhance Government Leadership of Sector Planning Processes**
-  **Strengthen and Use Country Systems**
-  **Use One Information And Mutual Accountability Platform**
-  **Build Sustainable Water and Sanitation Sector Financing Strategies**

MUTUAL ACCOUNTABILITY MECHANISM

Enabling partners to put all of the above together, improving the sector through shared goals and clear responsibilities.



SWA'S STRATEGIC OBJECTIVES

- 1** To build and sustain the political will to eliminate inequalities in water, sanitation and hygiene
- 2** To champion multi-stakeholder approaches towards achieving universal access to services
- 3** To rally stakeholders to strengthen system performance and attract new investments

MESSAGE FROM THE CEO

Dear partners and friends,

As we all know, 2021 was another rollercoaster of a year. On the positive side, the COVID-19 pandemic has showed how the world can achieve extraordinary things in the face of crisis. However, there can be no doubt it has also exposed the flaws with international systems and action – most of which centre around a familiar failure to address global inequalities. We must learn from our mistakes over the past two years if we are to protect the most marginalized – whether in the face of a pandemic, a climate catastrophe that seems to gather pace with each passing year, or for communities that, more than two decades after the turn of the millennium, still struggle to obtain adequate water or sanitation for their families.

The following pages outline last year’s key events, stories, and achievements, before going more in detail about activities for each of our Strategic Objectives. The Annual Report also contains all the important figures for the last financial year.

For my part, I would like to highlight the fantastic contribution of our **Global Leadership Council** in its inaugural year. They have already succeeded in bringing water, sanitation, and hygiene to new audiences and pushing the messages of our sector further up the decision-making scale. I am also particularly proud of the advocacy work of our partners, helping us to move towards better alignment between water, sanitation, and hygiene and climate policies and budgets. The mobilization at country level

was truly extraordinary – and fruitful, as we saw and the sector’s joint work around the **first Water Pavilion at the COP26**, one of my personal highlights of the year.

We planted many seeds that will bear fruit in 2022 – in particular the preparations for the **May 2022 Sector Ministers’ Meeting**, which will be hosted by the Government of Indonesia and co-convened with UNICEF. I look forward to seeing many of you there – and to our continuing work. Together, we will build ever-stronger alliances: across other sectors and with the help of decision-makers at the very highest levels, to realize our ambitions for our most critical of sectors.

Catarina de Albuquerque
Chief Executive Officer, Sanitation and Water for All



**Together, we will build
ever-stronger alliances: across
other sectors and with the help
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YEAR AT A GLANCE



**PROVIDING
TARGETED
SUPPORT TO
COUNTRIES**



**STRENGTHENING
NATIONAL
ADVOCACY
EFFORTS**



**PUSHING
FOR ACTION
ON CLIMATE**



**ENGAGING
YOUTH**



**IMPROVING
SECTOR
COMMUNICATIONS**



76 NEW PARTNERS

30k NEW SOCIAL MEDIA
FOLLOWERS

09 GLOBAL WEBINARS

32% MORE WEBSITE VISITS



**WORKING
TO IMPROVE
SECTOR
FINANCING**



**MOBILIZING
POLITICAL
WILL AND
HIGH-LEVEL
ADVOCACY**



HUMAN RIGHTS OUTREACH



**GENDER
ADVOCACY**

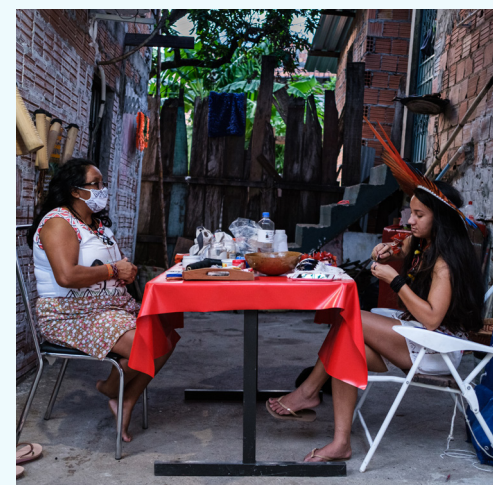


**PROMOTING MUTUAL
ACCOUNTABILITY**

YEAR AT A GLANCE



In NICARAGUA
Exploring opportunities in the national 'WASH commission'



In COSTA RICA & BRAZIL
Engaging parliamentarians to advance sector priorities

In PARAGUAY
Supporting discussions between the sector and finance ministries

In COLOMBIA
Creating connections for community organizations

In NIGERIA
Encouraging high-level discussions to fortify the sector budget

In MALAWI
Working to prioritize the water, sanitation and hygiene sector in parliament

In NEPAL
Strengthening the sector's national multi-stakeholder platform

In CAMBODIA
Identifying missing voices from sector conversations



In ZIMBABWE
Capitalizing on a 66% increase in the sector budget

In INDONESIA
Preparations for hosting the 2022 SWA Sector Ministers' Meeting



In LIBERIA
Developing a presidential 'Compact' for water, sanitation and hygiene

In the REPUBLIC OF THE CONGO
Integrating water, sanitation and hygiene with pledges on climate



THE YEAR IN REVIEW

Objective 1

Build and sustain political will to eliminate inequalities in water, sanitation and hygiene



COUNTRY HIGHLIGHTS: BUILDING POLITICAL WILL

LIBERIA

Developing a Presidential Compact for water, sanitation and hygiene

SWA is supporting partners in Liberia to develop a national Compact for water, sanitation, and hygiene, designed for the ultimate endorsement of the President of Liberia. This has required tailored advocacy and engagement with national partners, as well as discussions at the highest levels during 2021. Highest-level advocacy included, for example, SWA's CEO engaging members of the Liberia Senate directly, as well as co-ordinating joint letters from the National Water, Sanitation and Hygiene Commission and SWA's CEO to the president, and to Liberia's sector and finance ministers.

The Compact for water, sanitation and hygiene will include a focus on finance, governance, transparency, and accountability, and it will set out the country's priorities and commitments for the sector in the coming years.

It is expected that the Compact will be agreed, finalized and signed during 2022.

INDONESIA

Preparations for hosting the 2022 SWA Sector Ministers' Meeting (SMM)

SWA worked closely during 2021 with partners in Indonesia to advance discussions on the preparations for SWA's Sector Ministers' Meeting. The SMM will be the first of SWA's face-to-face high-level meetings since the COVID-19 pandemic began. SWA has engaged partners from across the water, sanitation and hygiene sector in Indonesia, as well as exploring links with actors from other sectors during the course of 2021. Together with health and economic development, a particular focus of the SMM meeting will be to shore up discussions and commitments made on climate during 2021, including as part of the UN Climate Change Conference COP 26 held in Glasgow.

There are also plans to link a major national level conference on sanitation to the SMM, as well as securing a high-profile, official declaration on water, sanitation and hygiene from Indonesia as part of this important gathering of the partnership. SWA's catalytic funding support for multi-stakeholder platforms has also helped to strengthen Indonesia's preparations for the 2022 SMM, and is expected to support the generation of brand-new commitments under SWA's Mutual Accountability Mechanism during 2022.

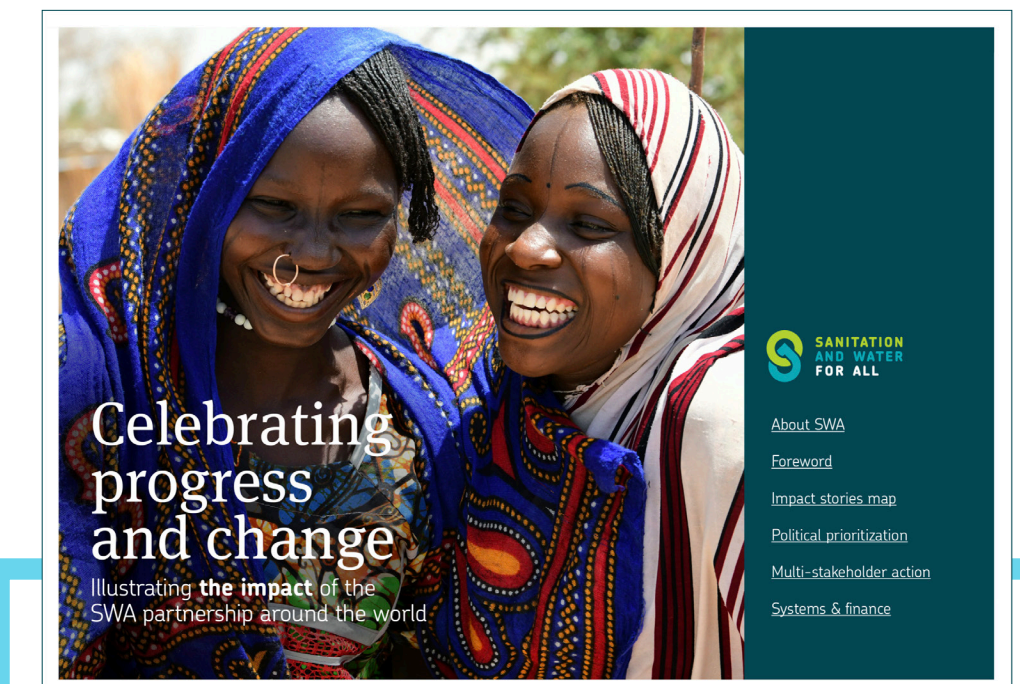
COSTA RICA & BRAZIL

Engaging parliamentarians to advance sector priorities

In 2021, SWA worked with Costa Rica and Brazil as part of developing the SWA Parliamentary Handbook, due to be published in 2022. Meetings were held with parliamentarians and their offices in both countries, as part of SWA's initiative to influence decision makers at the highest levels to prioritize the water and sanitation sector, through an emphasis on the sector's contributions to economic development, health improvements and effective action on climate.

Experiences from both countries have helped shape the handbook and suggest approaches for parliamentarians across the globe to consider, to support their sectors. The Brazilian Chamber of Deputies, for example, launched their 'Mixed Parliamentary Front in Defense of Sanitation', which included civil society organizations, public- and private-sector actors. And in Costa Rica, a parliamentary reform movement enshrined the human right to water and sanitation by adding a new paragraph to Article 50 of the Constitution.

Working with such senior community representatives in Costa Rica and Brazil has contributed to broadening conversations on improving their water, sanitation and hygiene sectors. It has also helped the SWA partnership to engage new audiences, and persuade decision makers at the highest levels of public office of the wide-ranging benefits of increasing access to water and sanitation services.



SWA'S 'IMPACT BOOKLET' – INSPIRING CHANGE

In December, SWA launched the **SWA Impact Booklet**. This compendium of stories of the impact of the work of the SWA partnership, offers a powerful snapshot of what the partnership achieved in recent years.

The booklet was developed with the support of partners, that worked with the Secretariat to capture stories, and collect quotes from high-level representatives.

It is designed to become a 'living document', growing each year as stories are added. Stories in the Impact Booklet can be easily used by the SWA Secretariat and by partners in different formats, such as speeches, presentations, articles.

HIGH-LEVEL ADVOCACY FROM SWA LEADERS

SWA'S GLOBAL LEADERSHIP COUNCIL



**Her Excellency
Laura Chinchilla**

Former President of Costa Rica



**The Honorable
Kevin Rudd**

President of the Asia Society
and former Prime Minister and
Foreign Minister of Australia



**Her Excellency
Aminata Touré**

Former Prime Minister
of Senegal and renowned
human rights activist



**His Excellency
Elbegdorj Tsakhia**

Former President and Prime
Minister of Mongolia



Henrietta Fore

UNICEF Executive Director, and
former Administrator of USAID



Alan Jope

Chief Executive Officer
at UNILEVER and member
of the World Economic Forum's
International Business Council



Kumi Naidoo

Renowned rights and justice
advocate. Former
Secretary-General of Amnesty
International and former
Executive Director of Greenpeace

A significant element of SWA's advocacy stems from its ability to speak for a broad partnership, to reach global and regional audiences. Our voice is the voice of a sector, and we use it to speak for the billions of people who need it to serve them better.

In February 2021, SWA launched its Global Leadership Council (GLC). The GLC is a high-level group of leaders who advocate for and mobilize wider political commitment to the sector, and the aims of the SWA partnership.

These distinguished and highly respected leaders offer the SWA partnership and the wider sector valuable exposure, with increasingly prominent speaking opportunities and media placements. The Council is already helping to elevate the discussion on water, sanitation and hygiene to highest levels of political decision-making. The GLC currently composes seven high-profile leaders from around the world – each bringing their own expertise and experience to the Council. Having these outstanding global advocates for the sector has already had a significant impact, in the GLC's inaugural year.

HIGH-LEVEL ADVOCACY FROM SWA LEADERS



HENRIETTA FORE spoke with SWA's Youth Champion Nicole Becker on International Youth Day 2021, in the 4th #WASHGoingOn conversation. They had a fascinating discussion, imagining a world empowered by the hope of its youth, and where youth are no longer held back by inequalities. Watch it [here](#).



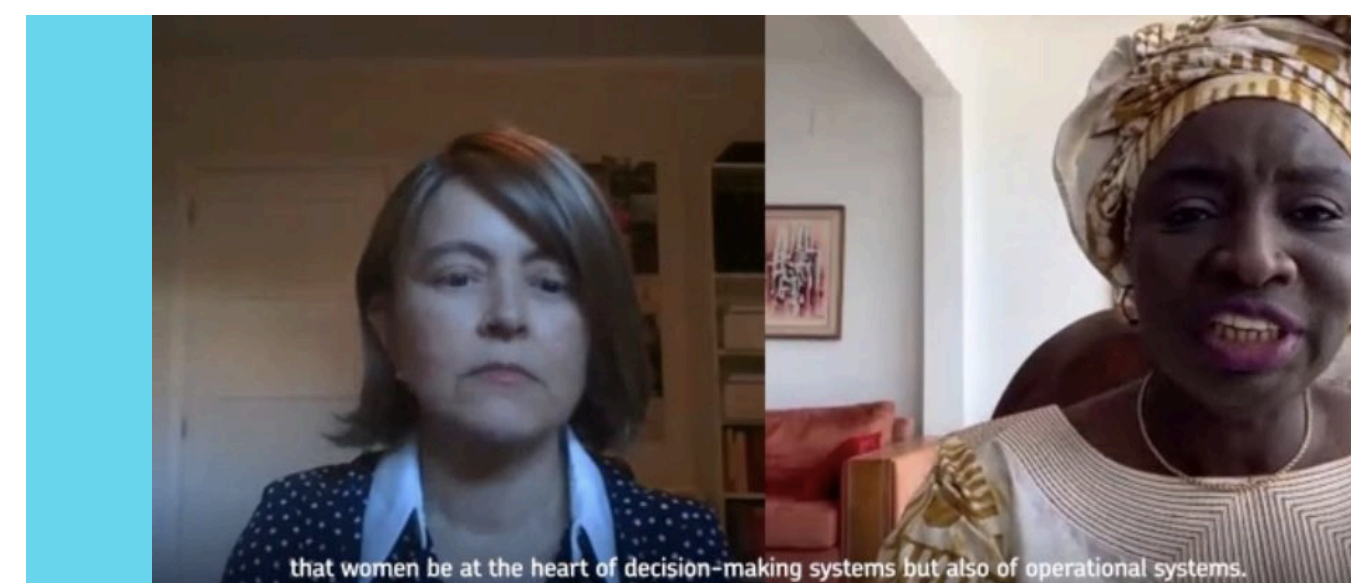
KUMI NAIDOO was on the panel at the opening plenary of World Water Week in August, where he reflected on how vital collective action is to achieve change. And in November, he opened a session at the first ever Water Pavilion at COP26 in Glasgow, United Kingdom. He highlighted how water supply, sanitation and hygiene services must adapt to counter the effects of climate change – and why it is vital that this is recognized at the heart of countries' Nationally Determined Contributions, and National Adaptation Plans.



HER EXCELLENCY LAURA CHINCHILLA helped focus minds on the importance of securing adequate finance for the sector to increase its climate resilience, opening an event at World Water Week entitled, 'Climate Finance for water, sanitation and hygiene: Reaching Those Most in Need.' She also published an opinion piece for CNN for International Women's Day alongside The Hon. Helen Clarke, urging action on gender inequalities in the sector.



ALAN JOPE took part in a Washington Post Live virtual event in June. He was in conversation with José Manuel Barroso, the Chair of GAVI, and they discussed strengthening the COVID-19 recovery response globally, and the role of sanitation, water and hygiene to fight the spread of the virus and prevent future pandemics. They noted that the increasing availability of vaccines was a critical positive development, but maintained that we cannot lose sight of prevention as our first line of defence.



HER EXCELLENCY AMINATA TOURÉ advocated strongly for African women and how they can lead a more inclusive and sustainable climate response for the water, sanitation and hygiene sector. She was interviewed by SWA CEO Catarina de Albuquerque as part of a World Water Week event, entitled 'Breaking Silos: Climate Resilience for water, sanitation and hygiene through Women's Leadership.' The discussion highlighted the importance of gendered health and climate policies, and noted that between the 54 countries in Africa, there are only 13 female health ministers.



THE HONORABLE KEVIN RUDD took part in the Winter Series of 'Good Will Hunters', Australia's leading podcast for aid and development. He was in conversation with Michael Wilson, CEO of the Australian Water Partnership, and Rosie Wheen, Chief Executive of WaterAid Australia. They discussed global water policy, the critical need for smarter sector financing, and the growing worldwide water crisis, in the contexts of human development, security, and global markets.

THE WORK OF SWA'S CEO

Complementing the Global Leadership Council, SWA's CEO Catarina de Albuquerque continued to pursue opportunities for engagement and dialogue with high-level decision makers in 2021.

Her participation at these events ensured that the message of the SWA partnership – and the voice of the sector – was heard across diverse and numerous high-profile platforms. Her continuing mission is to convince those at the highest levels of decision making that water, sanitation and hygiene should be a political priority in every single country of the world, and that by working together, we can build the political will to ensure every community has access to water and sanitation services by 2030.

At the country level, she held bi-lateral meetings with ministers from new partner governments of **El Salvador, São Tomé and Príncipe**, and Fiji. She also engaged other sector leaders and decision-makers – for example the **senator leading the water, sanitation and hygiene legislative caucus in Liberia**, and many ambassadors from the European Union to SWA partner countries.

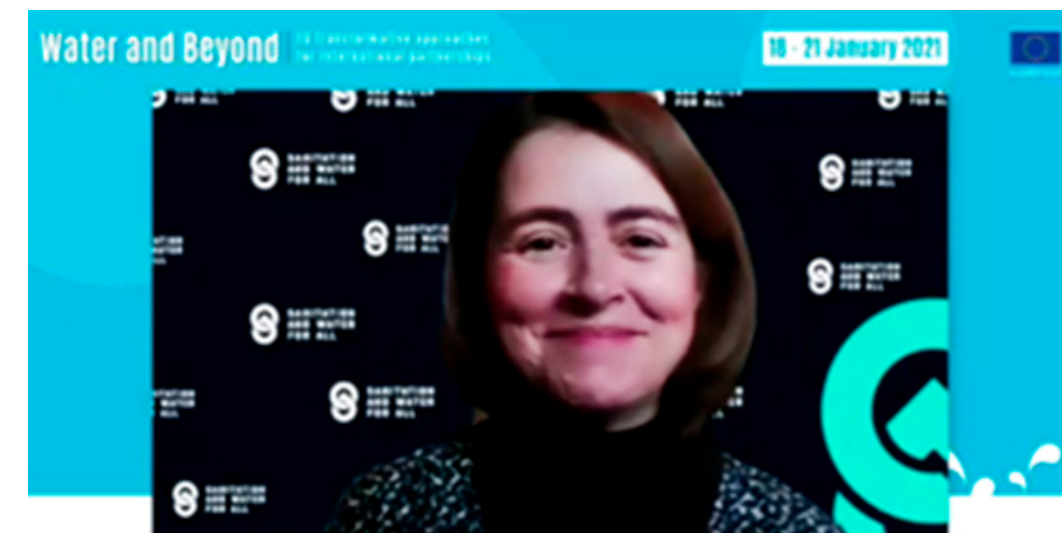
At global and regional levels, SWA's CEO has been in regular contact with the leaders of partner organizations and has facilitated connections between SWA's Global Leadership Council and other high-level influencers.

She has also been invited to contribute to several privately convened meetings on water and sanitation, including by

His Royal Highness the Prince of Wales and the United Nations' Senior Management Group chaired by the UN Secretary General. SWA's CEO has also represented the sector and the partnership on numerous global and regional stages, including:

'WATER AND BEYOND' HIGH-LEVEL EVENT

The event considered the importance of cooperation between countries and of building broad partnerships to support both the SDGs and the Paris Agreement. SWA's CEO delivered a keynote address which outlined how increasing and improving sector finance will be critical for achieving global SDG and climate commitments.



CLIMATE ADAPTATION SUMMIT

SWA's CEO spoke at the annual summit convening global leaders and local stakeholders to accelerate, innovate and scale up adapting societies and economies in the face of climate change.

UNC WATER AND HEALTH CONFERENCE

A conference event co-convened with WHO and UNICEF. SWA's CEO introduced the session on affordability, focusing on redressing inequalities to achieve the SDGs, the interlinkages between affordability and human rights, and financial sustainability and measurement.

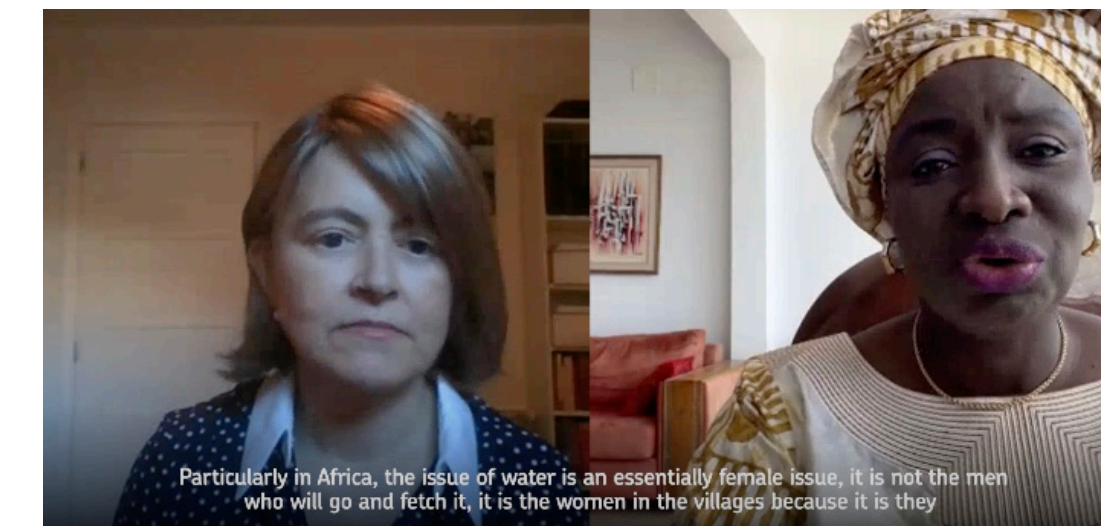


ARAB WATER FORUM

SWA's CEO addressed the most important water-related event in the region. A region that represents 65% of countries suffering from water scarcity, and which therefore has the potential to shape global water policies in the coming years.

WORLD WATER WEEK

A session putting women at the heart of responses to water, health and climate. SWA's CEO discussed the importance of involving women and supporting them to lead. In areas such as health, water, sanitation, hygiene and climate change mitigation, they can be the key to creating enabling environments for better health, social and economic development.



EU WORKING PARTY ON HUMAN RIGHTS (COHOM)

SWA's CEO addressed the COHOM on the human rights to water and sanitation, as well as on UN processes aimed at recognising human rights. The COHOM co-ordinates positions of European Union member states on the same issues for the UN General Assembly and the UN Human Rights Council, and, later in the year, EU member states officially supported the recognition of the human right to a clean and safe environment.

ACTION ON CLIMATE

SWA's work on climate this year has been focused on positioning water, sanitation, and hygiene as basic services which are an essential piece of climate planning and action.



The COP26 UN Climate Change Conference came at a pivotal moment for the world. Climate change is no longer a prediction for the future: it is already affecting millions of people in vulnerable communities across the planet.

SWA was a lead partner at COP's first ever water and climate pavilion. The pavilion was a collaboration of 32 organizations including UNICEF, Water.org, WaterAid and SIWI, and focused on how climate-resilient water and sanitation is already needed by the world's most vulnerable communities – and will be needed by

many millions more in the coming years. The pavilion marked the first time we had a dedicated, high-profile presence for the sector at the UN climate conferences, offering the sector unprecedented visibility and helping to shape the debate around the strong links between water and the climate crisis. The pavilion allowed SWA to mobilize and advocate on behalf of the sector, communicating directly with climate decision-makers and forging new relationships that will be critical in the years ahead.

SWA worked to ensure the perspectives of SWA partner

countries were heard at the pavilion and across COP26, and worked to highlight the strong links between water and sanitation and climate change throughout the year. SWA focused the partnership in 2021 on how the water, sanitation and hygiene sector can align its work with countries' climate commitments. This blend of interconnected ambitions has been expressed by several countries through SWA's Mutual Accountability Mechanism. The mechanism offers an opportunity for stakeholders to sit around the table to plan, mutually commit to act in a coordinated way, and improve outcomes on countries' SDG 6 and climate commitments,

through collaborative efforts. The governments of Malawi and Ethiopia, WaterAid-Ethiopia, and research & learning SWA partners in Mali have all already tabled specific climate-related commitments under the mechanism. SWA will be working with partners to encourage more climate-related commitments under the mechanism in 2022, both as follow-up to COP26, and as part of the partnership's preparations towards the 2022 Sector Ministers' Meeting.

ACTION ON CLIMATE

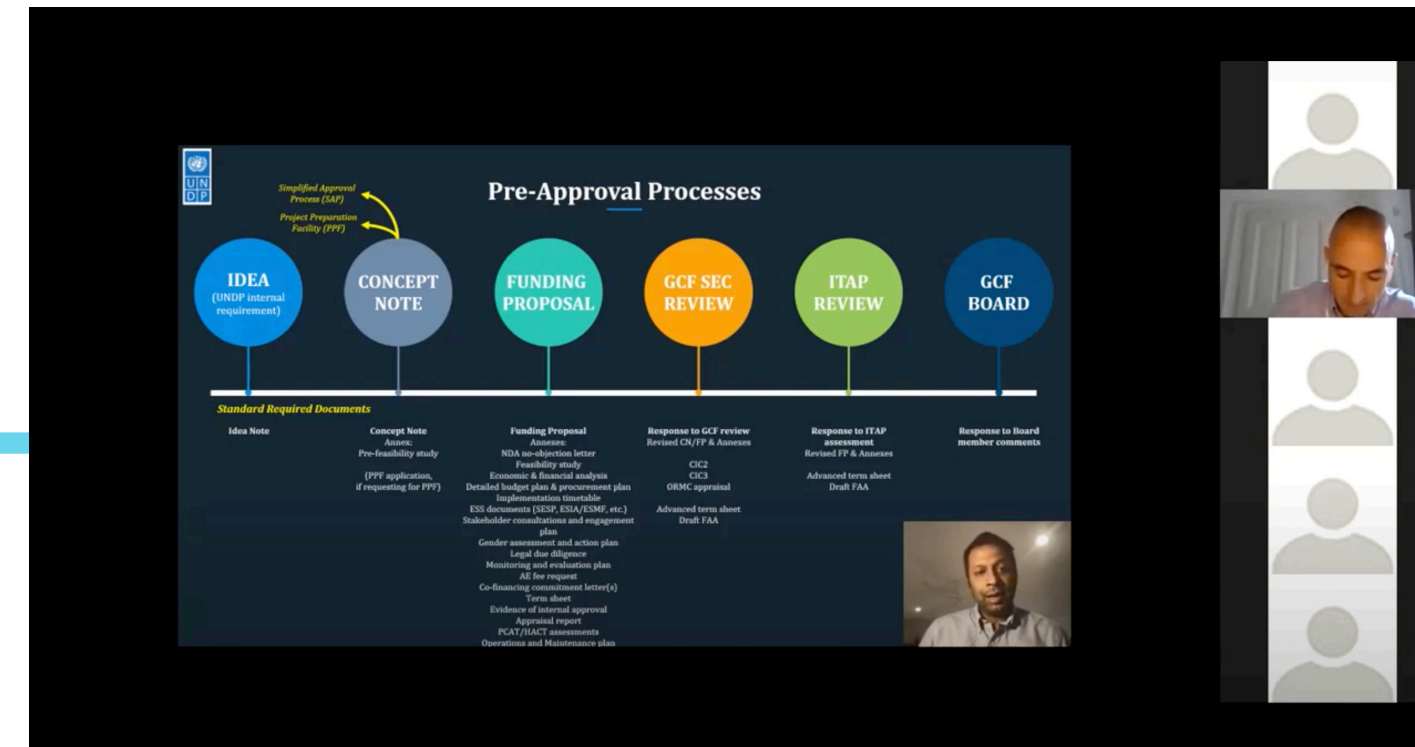


Civil society partners working together on climate messaging

In October, SWA's civil society organization partners drafted and published an advocacy document to build a rights-based climate narrative for the water and sanitation sector. The document aims to strengthen partners' advocacy efforts in 50 countries.

For example, the Africa Water and Sanitation NGO Network (ANEW) used the messaging to prepare for the recently concluded Africa Water and Sanitation Week. Their recommendation on gender

and climate became part of the official conference declaration. In Malawi, civil society partners used the messages to prepare the country's interventions at COP26 and to inform the country's Joint Sector Review. In Zambia, they used the advocacy messages to lobby Parliament for increased funding in the 2022 budget. And in Mexico, civil society partners prepared an article with climate messaging published in the widely circulated environment journal **Jarocho Cuántico**.



Working with countries to integrate water and sanitation into their NDCs

SWA often works to connect people at country level – sometimes for the first time – to achieve each other's ambitions. In the crucial lead-up to the COP26 UN climate summit in November, SWA worked with several countries to help them include water and sanitation in their Nationally Determined Contributions (NDCs) on climate. NDCs are at the heart of the Paris Agreement and the achievement of its long-term goals: they are the stated efforts of each country to

reduce national emissions and adapt to the impacts of climate change.

SWA facilitated work sessions focused on climate and water, sanitation and hygiene with more than 15 countries: Burundi, Republic of Congo, Dominican Republic, Fiji, Honduras, Mali, Nicaragua, Togo, Zimbabwe and the nine Lusophone countries. The work sessions included both water and sanitation sector and climate actors, such as climate focal points, donors,

civil society organizations and senior officials from ministries of environment.

As well as increasing vital cross-sectoral understanding, this SWA support had direct results and impact: three of the countries revised their NDCs specifically to include water and sanitation in their official climate commitments (Republic of the Congo, Chad, and Zimbabwe).

YOUTH ENGAGEMENT

SWA is actively seeking to include and amplify the voices of young leaders, advocates and professionals within the partnership and in the sector.

Governments alone cannot deliver the ambitious SDG targets. According to the latest United Nations estimates, in 2019 around 1 in 6 of the world's population were aged between 15 and 24 years. SWA's inclusive, multi-stakeholder approach demands more explicit efforts to work with this population group: increasing youth participation in global and national accountability processes as well as ensuring greater representation of youth in national, regional and global forums. SWA is actively seeking to include and amplify the voices of young leaders, advocates and professionals within the partnership and in the sector. This will not only help empower the youth in developing their capacity to be leaders and negotiators in the sector but will also tackle a critical sectoral challenge, i.e. scaling up action and deepening the impact on SDGs.

SWA focused on strengthening its youth engagement during 2021. This means seeking meaningful ways to engage the youth directly, supporting governments to fulfil their obligations under article 12 of the **Convention on the Rights of the Child** according to which States Parties shall assure children "the right to express (their) views freely in all matters affecting the child, the views of the child being given due weight in accordance with the age and maturity of the child" and thinking about how to make SWA processes easier to engage with. The work has resulted in the **first SWA youth strategy**, which describes how – and why – the SWA partnership commits to involve youth more closely in its work from 2021-2025.

SWA YOUTH STRATEGY 2021-2025

The Strategy's key objective is to guide the SWA partnership to use SWA processes and activities to support the youth in their role as dynamic agents of change in the sector, while also using their voice within the partnership to improve SWA processes and activities.

What SWA would ultimately love to see, and is now actively working towards is:

YOUTH ENGAGEMENT AT GLOBAL LEVEL:

SWA partner countries improving policies to ensure progressive inclusion of young people in their country's decision-making processes.

YOUTH ENGAGEMENT AT REGIONAL LEVEL:

SWA youth partners working towards accountability 'moments', for example through sector 'report cards', media briefings, or discussions during regional forums

YOUTH ENGAGEMENT AT NATIONAL LEVEL:

Participation in national sector review processes, and other national multi-stakeholder sector processes.



YOUTH ENGAGEMENT

In January, SWA recruited **Nicole Becker from Argentina as SWA's Youth Champion**. A gender and climate activist, Nicki is part of a growing hugely influential network of youth activism and in 2021 she undertook numerous engagements with support from SWA. These included the popular **'#WASHGoingOn'** series – eight interviews with leaders from within and outside the sector, covering topics related to youth empowerment. Nicki spoke at several engagements during the year including several events at COP26, and took part in the opening plenary and a standalone event called **'Youth engagement: why it matters and how to do it'** at World Water Week. Through Nicki, SWA has been able to access new spaces, opening up conversations with new audiences. She has helped SWA's drive to more effective engagement with youth: challenging perceptions among water sector stakeholders of what youth engagement means, and how effective engagement can be put into practice.



“

Because they tell us we are the future, but they pollute our present.
Because they defend human rights, but our drinking water is disappearing. Because they tell us that we are the future, but they deforest our present.

Nicole Becker
 SWA's Youth Champion

YOUTH ENGAGEMENT

SWA supporting intergenerational dialogue

The Youth Water Network Central America is a collective platform of young people and youth organizations, comprising age ranges between 18 and 35 years, which has a private, local, national and regional scope. It is an open and inclusive space for young people and youth organizations in the region that share the vision of working together.

In July, SWA supported and co-organized the event 'Intergenerational Dialogues: Youth for Water' with the network. The event featured exchanges of experiences and opinions between young people and professionals. Participants discussed the importance of bringing generations closer together on the coordination and implementation of projects in the water sector, as well as stressing the need for cross-sector dialogue with the climate and gender sectors, if SDG 6 is to be achieved.

Through such initiatives and dialogues, SWA can support platforms that amplify the voices of young people. By continuing to tap the huge potential of broader youth participation wherever we can, SWA believes it can only strengthen our mission to achieve water and sanitation services for every community.



SWA funding to support civil society & youth

In Liberia, civil society partners organized a two-day capacity-building workshop, hosted by youth-led organization United Youth for Peace, Education, Transparency & Development in Liberia (UYPETDL). The workshop was funded by SWA's catalytic funding for civil society organizations, and used human rights structures and SWA's Mutual Accountability Mechanism as a framework to track water and sanitation progress.

As a result of the workshop, SWA civil society partners in Liberia identified gaps in their climate advocacy and established a specialized committee on climate change and water, sanitation, and hygiene. This special committee was invited by the Liberia COP26 delegation to enhance discussions about the crucial roles of water and sanitation in climate mitigation and resilience.



Youth Statement 2021 on WASH, climate action and gender

SWA's Youth Champion Nicole Becker worked with SWA partners to draft SWA's Youth Statement for 2021, which was released on Youth Day (12 August).

The statement calls on governments to strengthen their water, sanitation and hygiene responses with regards to climate action, the consideration of the needs of women and girls, and the engagement of their country's youth.

HUMAN RIGHTS OUTREACH



The human rights to water and sanitation are a cornerstone of all SWA's work. In line with World Water Day and UN Water's 'Value of Water' campaign, SWA focused its human rights work in 2021 on affordability.

SWA's 2021 human rights campaign was called 'Affordability. Fundamental for human rights'. The campaign raised awareness and understanding about what the concept of affordability of water, sanitation and hygiene is – and why it matters. It focused on simple facts: we will not achieve SDG 6 unless everyone can afford water and sanitation, and no one must be denied access because they cannot afford it. SWA launched a [communications toolkit](#) to support the campaign with materials in 3 languages, including

video testimonials by 12 partners representing all constituencies. Partners also [contributed articles](#) for the SWA website, and case-studies related to affordability were compiled and promoted from the [SWA Finance Handbook](#) and the recent finance SWA webinars. Within five days, the teaser video had received 12,000 views, 2,000 people had visited the campaign's page, and over 300 organizations and individuals shared the materials on social media, with an estimated three million people reached.



SWA HUMAN RIGHTS ACTION AROUND THE WORLD

SWA's catalytic funding supported civil society organizations to conduct rights-based advocacy activities and strengthen capacity in several countries:

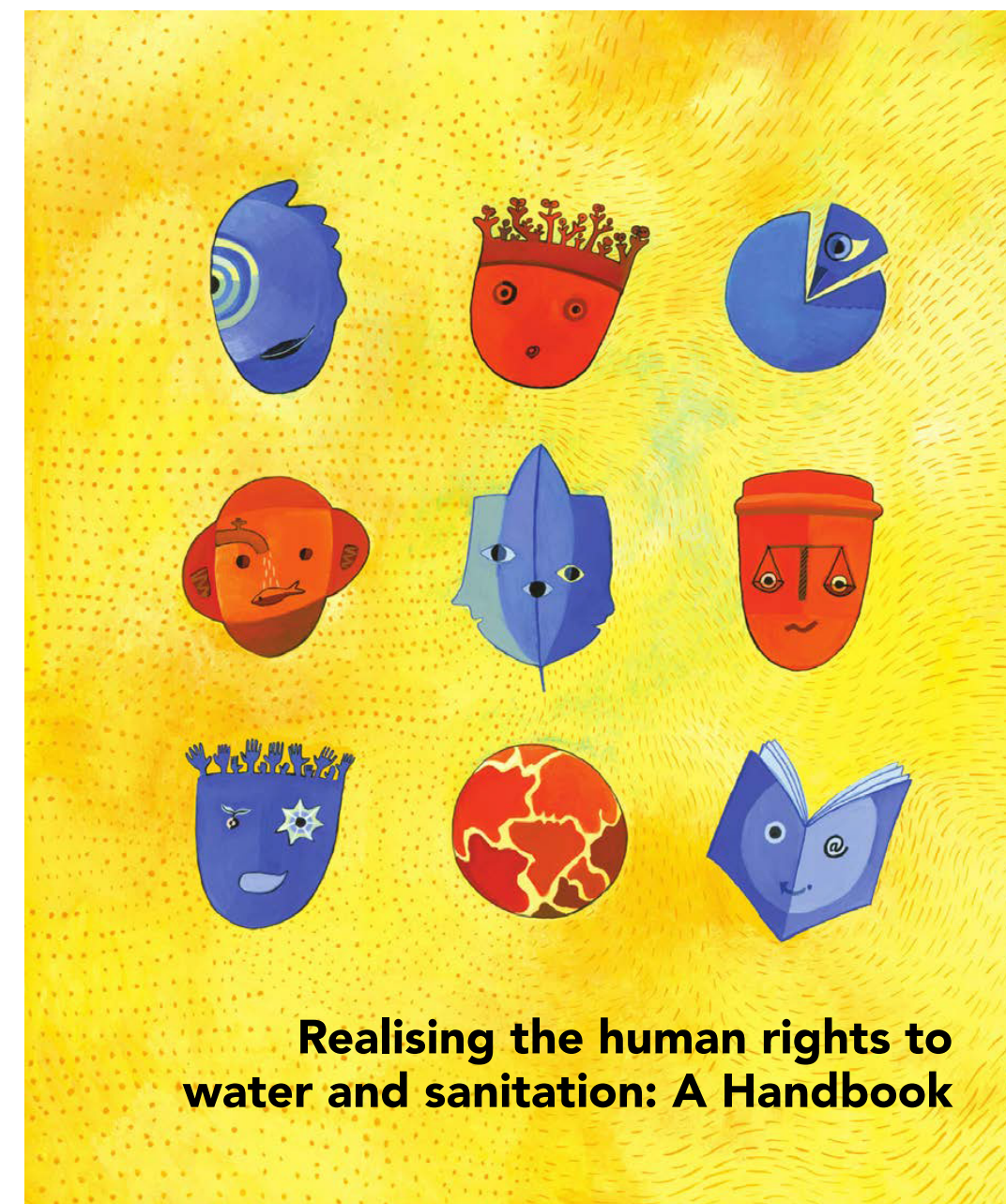
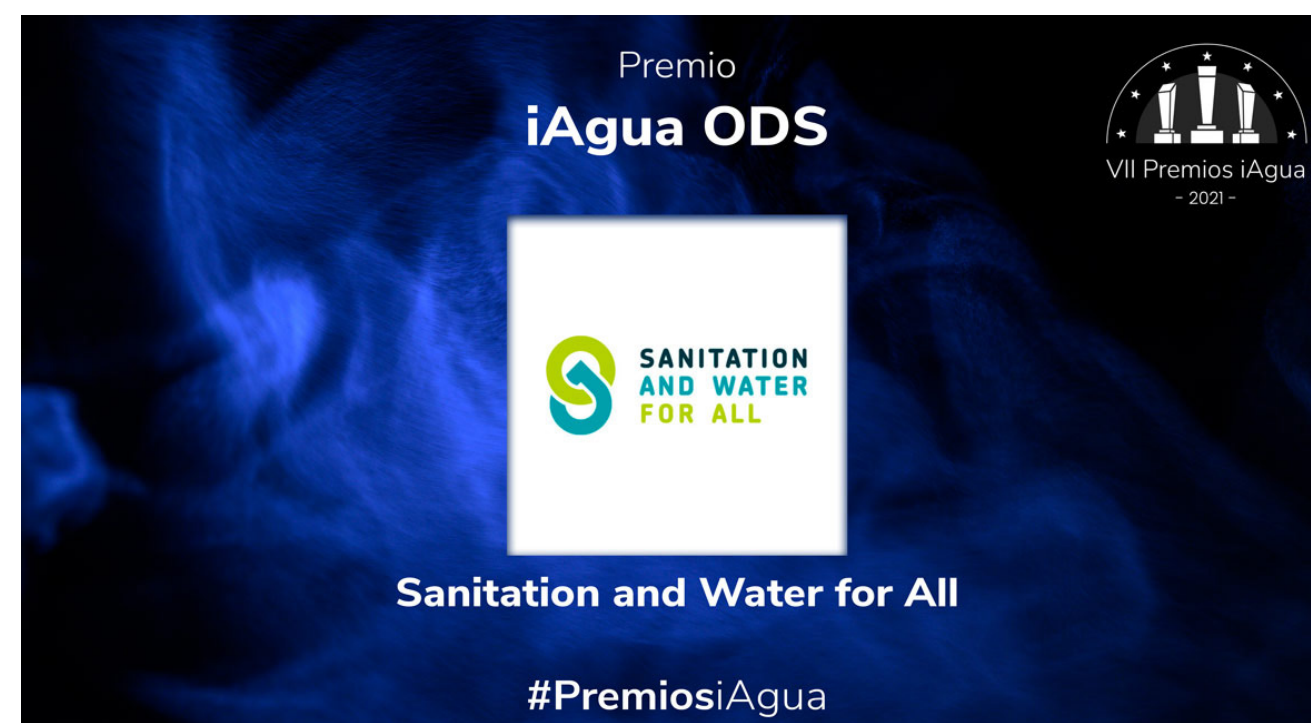
BANGLADESH: Civil society partners organized dialogue with local government to explore gaps in service provision and increase community understanding of their human rights to water and sanitation. This rights-based advocacy has led to local government engineers incorporating water and sanitation issues in their monthly coordination meeting agenda, and an INGO installing a pilot water plant to supply safe drinking water to impoverished communities.

GAMBIA: SWA civil society partners developed a training manual and workshop on lobbying, advocacy and policy development. The workshop explored how attendees could learn to strengthen their advocacy, influencing policies and legislative frameworks at local and national levels using human rights-based principles.

COSTA RICA: SWA supported civil society partners to engage with community-based organizations, exploring how human rights-based advocacy could be used to increase participation of local and grassroots community groups in the formulation of sector policies and projects.

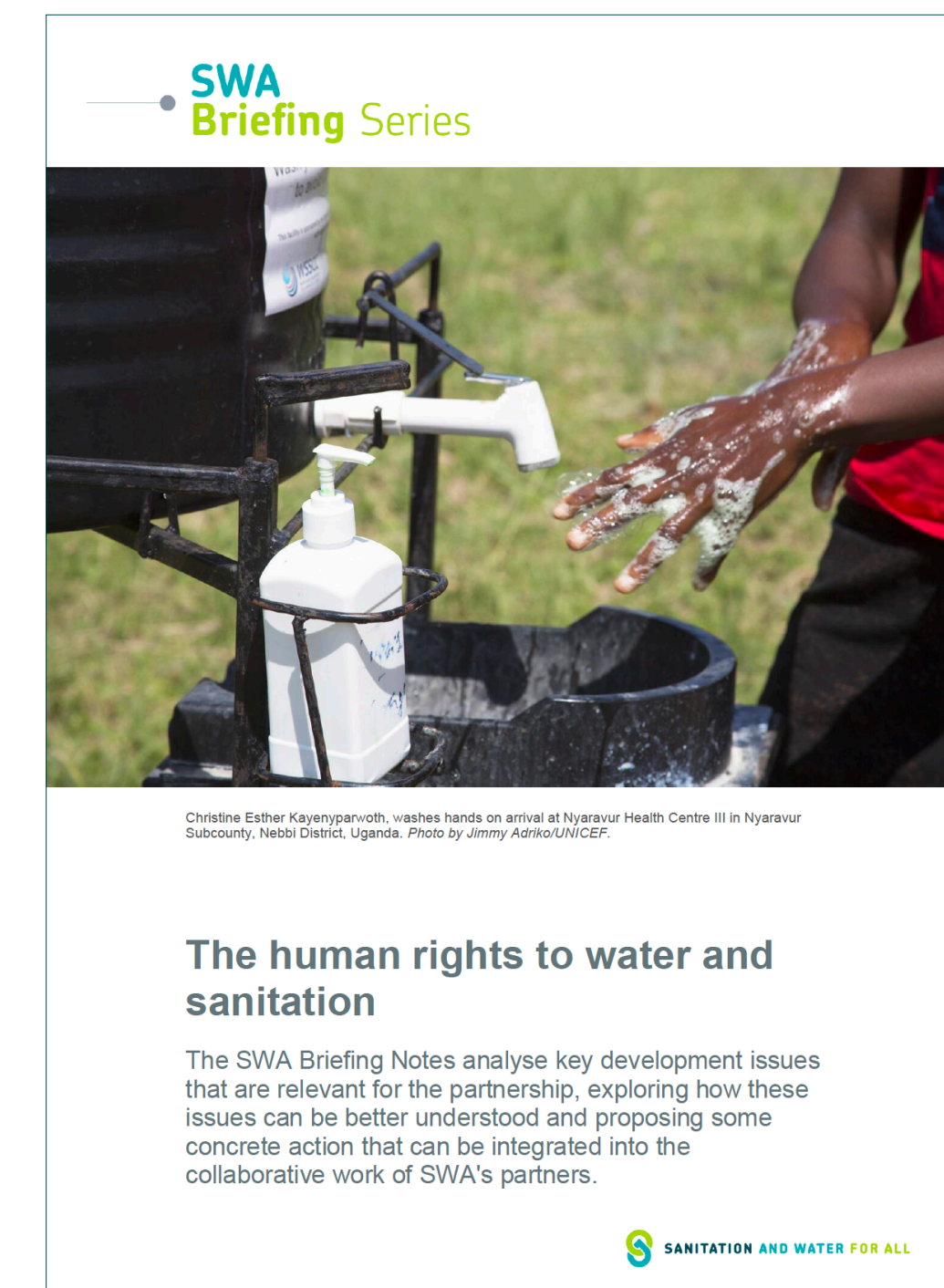
HUMAN RIGHTS OUTREACH

In March, SWA was proud to win the iAqua award for **best SDG organization**, for its efforts to eliminate inequalities related to the human rights to water and sanitation. The iAqua Awards are the most prestigious awards in the water sector in Spain and Latin America and recognize the most outstanding entities and professionals in the field of water resources management.



In July, SWA released an online **version of the Handbook for Realizing the Human Rights to Water and Sanitation**. Originally released in 2014 by the UN Special Rapporteur on the Human Rights to Water and Sanitation, the handbook is a comprehensive guide for those working in the water and sanitation sector, framing their efforts as contributing to the implementation of States obligations to realize human rights. The online version includes new case studies of how the human rights are being realized and implemented in different ways around the world.

In October, SWA also launched the **Human Rights Briefing Paper**, to add to its popular Briefing Paper Series. SWA **Briefing Papers** analyse key development issues that are relevant for the sector and the partnership. They explore how these issues can be better understood, and propose specific actions that can be integrated into the collaborative work. By one week after launch, the **teaser video** for the new briefing paper had been viewed nearly eight thousand times on Twitter alone.



GENDER ADVOCACY

Gender continued to be a priority work area for the partnership in 2021.

An essential part of raising the political visibility of water, sanitation and hygiene is a collective obligation of the partnership to consider the rights, needs and voices of women and girls. SWA pledges to leave no one behind in its work – and this means addressing gender inequalities that leave over half of the world’s population disadvantaged, marginalized and ignored.

SWA launched its **gender campaign** on International Women’s Day on 8 March, alongside a **Gender Briefing Paper** – the latest addition to SWA’s Briefing Paper Series. Later in the year, SWA mobilized partners around the affordability of basic services – including a focus on ‘period poverty’; SWA used social and traditional media to bring discussion of an issue that is often hidden out into the open.

SWA organized two major events during 2021 with Amref, the largest health development non-governmental international organization in Africa. The events considered inter-linked issues around gender, climate, and the water, sanitation and hygiene sector. The first was during **World Water Week** focusing on how to build community climate resilience by mainstreaming gender into water, sanitation and hygiene and health

interventions. The other was held at the virtual **Health Pavilion at COP 26**, and focused on building climate-resilient, gender-sensitive health systems through community-based health interventions in Africa.



WORKING WITH SWA PARTNERS ON GENDER

With help from SWA’s catalytic funding for civil society organizations, the Africa Water and Sanitation NGO Network (ANEW) hosted a civil society organizations’ forum at the Africa Water and Sanitation Week. It focused on civil society’s role in advocating for the rights of marginalized or vulnerable people such as women and girls. The SWA Secretariat helped develop the concept and content of the forum with ANEW, and SWA partners from Zambia, Ghana and Mali were presenters.

Elsewhere across the partnership, in Malawi, SWA civil society partners engaged the country’s Parliamentary Women Caucus to broaden the perspective and voices in sector’s multi-stakeholder partnership. In Paraguay, SWA partners worked on gender mainstreaming in community management of services as part of their Mutual Accountability Mechanism commitments. And the SWA Secretariat helped the **Freshwater Action Network South Asia (FANSA)** to produce a policy brief that includes specific recommendations on women, girls, and transgender people. This policy brief is now being used as an advocacy tool for FANSA members in seven south-Asian countries.

IMPROVING SECTOR COMMUNICATIONS

SWA continues to explore ways for the sector to improve its communications work. In 2021 this work focused primarily on how to connect more effectively with audiences 'outside' of the water, sanitation, and hygiene sector; engaging those at the very highest levels of decision-making and those working in other sectors.

Effective communication about water, sanitation and hygiene is critical to achieving SWA's vision. Our partners often reflect on how our sector competes with other political priorities for attention and resources – and yet, water, sanitation and hygiene are vital to the success of all these 'competing' priorities. These reflections have informed SWA's work on communications during 2021. This means exploring ways to engage the broadest possible coalition to achieve SDG 6 – reaching out more effectively to audiences outside water, sanitation, and hygiene, both vertically (to the very highest levels of decision-making) and horizontally (to other relevant sectors).

During 2021, SWA began work to address this, seeking ways to re-position our messaging to connect better with audiences 'outside' the water, sanitation, and hygiene sector. This has involved extensive consultation with partners, communications, and political experts, including on the development of a new SWA Communications Strategy 2022-2025 that synthesizes the partnership's communications objectives, target audiences, and processes. Over the coming year SWA will use this knowledge to change the way it communicates, re-framing the water and sanitation sector as the undisputed foundation from which to tackle global development.



RESEARCH PROJECT: POSITIONING THE WATER, SANITATION AND HYGIENE SECTOR MORE EFFECTIVELY WITH OTHER SECTORS AND HIGH-LEVEL POLITICIANS

In 2021, SWA commissioned research into how decision-makers at the highest levels and experts in adjacent sectors (climate, health, humanitarian, education, human rights, finance) view the

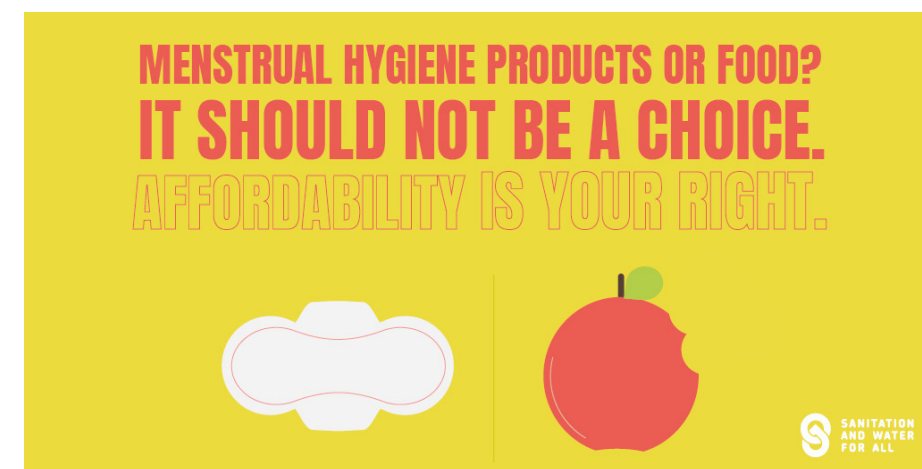
connection between their work and water and sanitation. The research specifically considers what type of messages about our sector would resonate better with decision makers and other professionals in such sectors. This research complements the work many of SWA partners are doing in this area, and SWA hopes that it can move forward collectively to expand our influence and ultimately achieve the SDGs.

Findings from the research project are expected to be published in summer 2022.

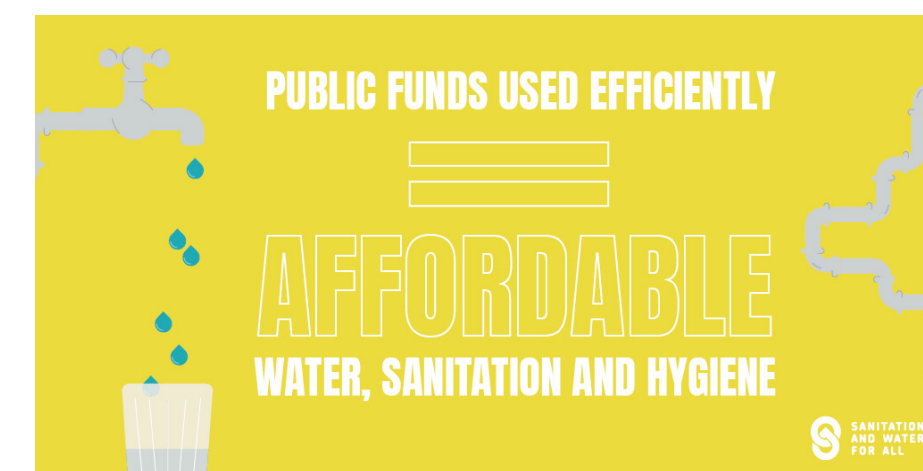
IMPROVING SECTOR COMMUNICATIONS

SWA also produced several communications toolkits in 2021. The toolkits support partners and other stakeholders in their communication outreach, and SWA published materials and messages related to key topics of 2021:

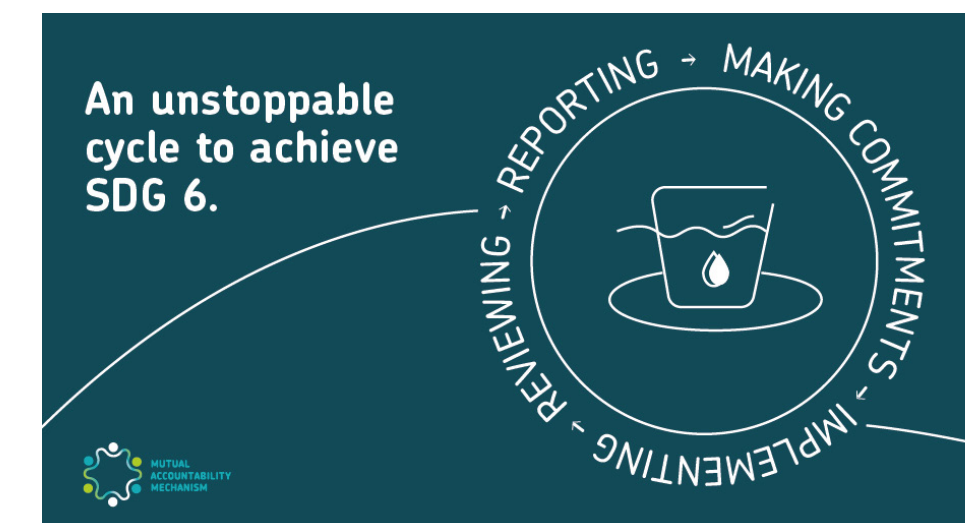
GENDER



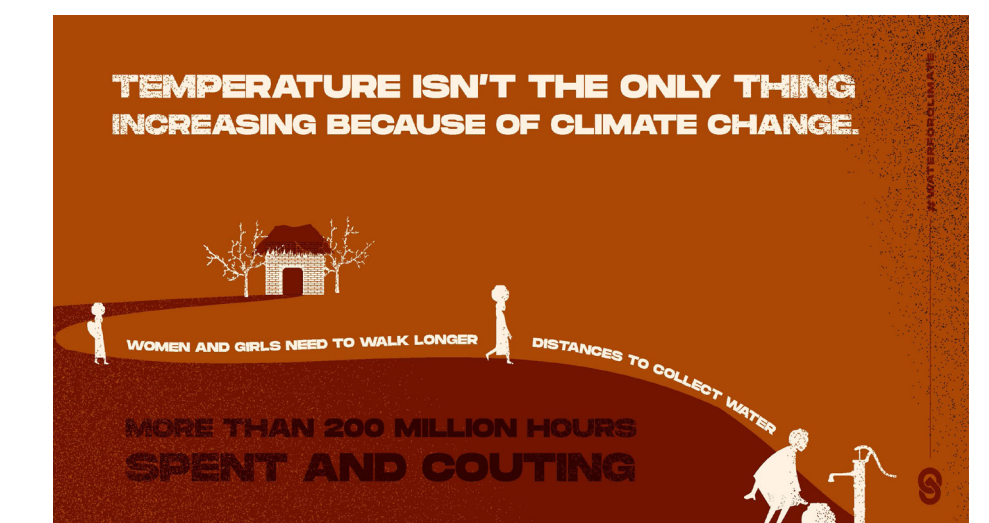
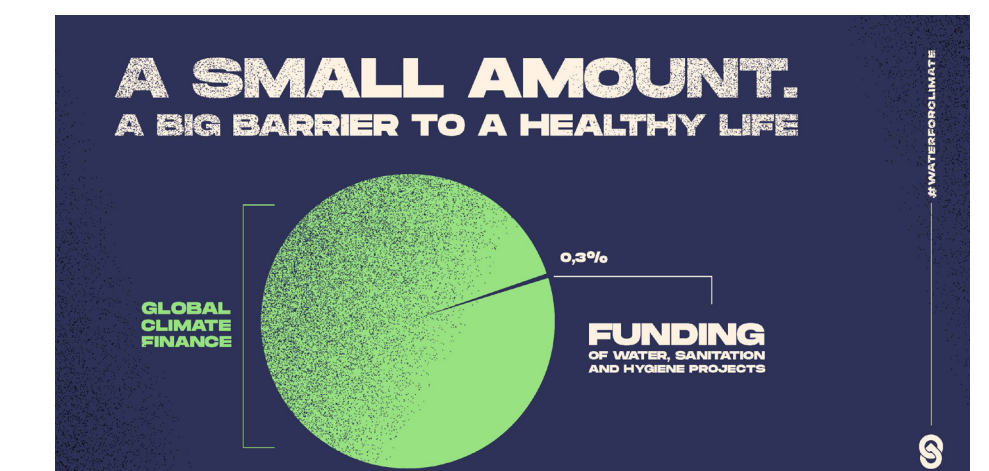
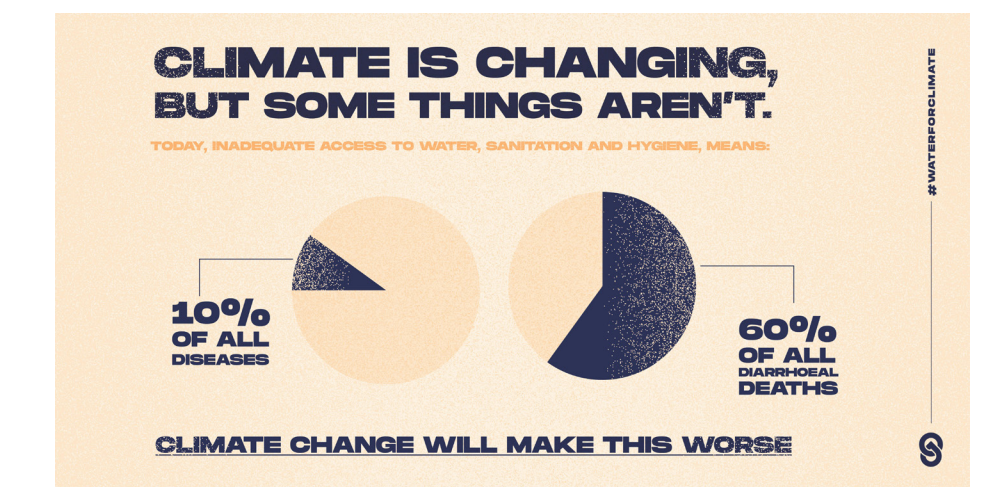
HUMAN RIGHTS



MUTUAL ACCOUNTABILITY



CLIMATE



THE YEAR IN REVIEW

Objective 2

Champion multi-stakeholder approaches towards achieving universal access to services

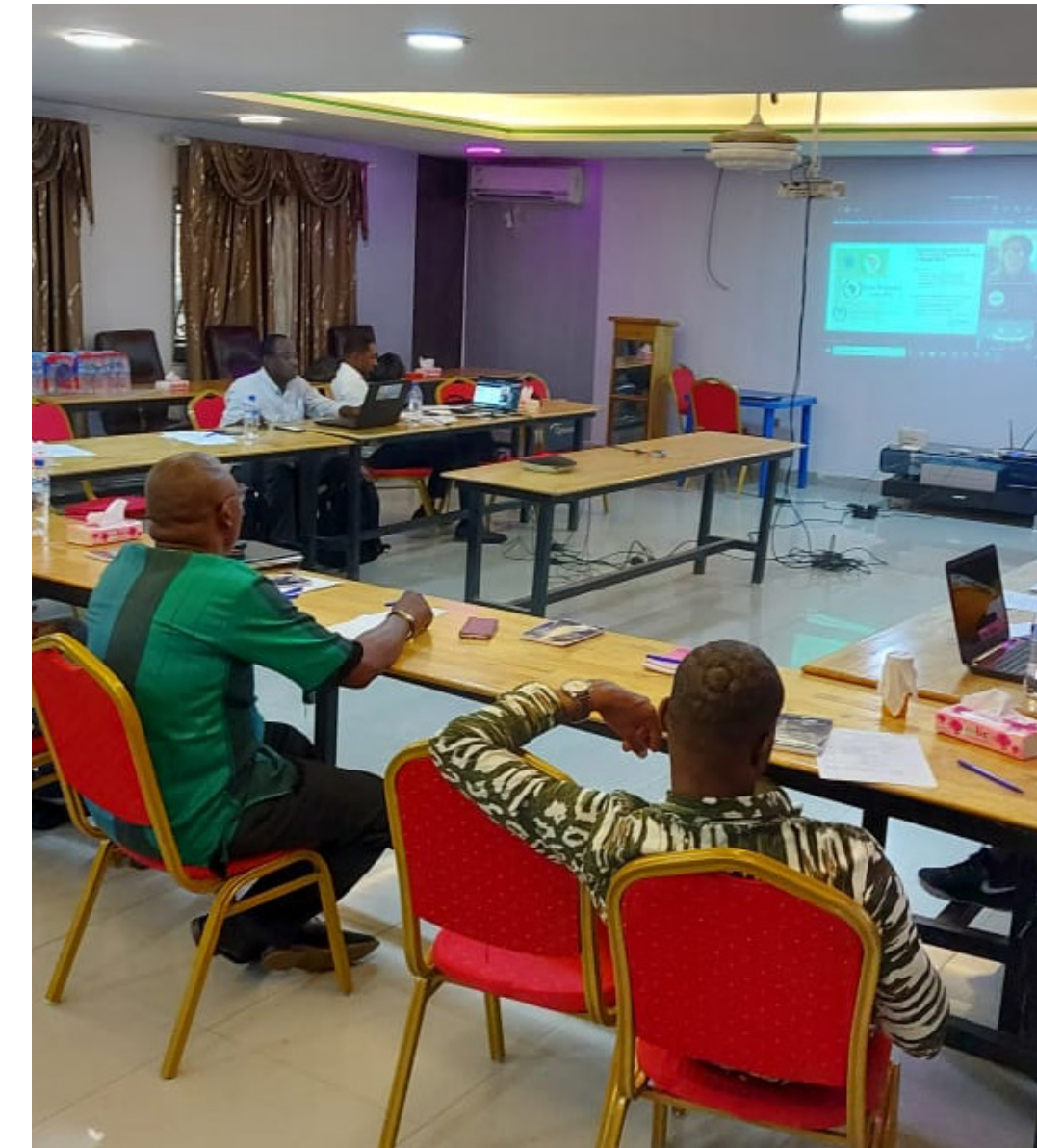


PROVIDING TARGETED SUPPORT TO COUNTRIES

SWA continues its high-level advocacy efforts at the regional and global levels, but in line with the partnership's Strategy for 2020-2030, work has been evolving to focus increasingly on the engagement of partners at country level, to better support governments' ambitions for realizing the rights to water and sanitation.

In 2021, SWA identified 31 'priority countries' to provide focused support to partners on any of SWA's strategic objectives. SWA used data from the JMP and GLAAS, as well as drawing on its experience working with countries in recent years to identify priority countries. SWA has then worked with those countries to prepare and deliver individual action plans during the course of the year.

The process has helped SWA to improve its focus, clarifying specific areas of action. It has meant that the SWA Secretariat can provide dedicated support in a more sustainable and predictable way for countries that need it most – and it has also meant increased direct engagement on tangible outcomes with SWA partners. The work with priority countries has had several significant impacts for partner countries in its first year. In Cambodia, Colombia, Malawi, and Peru, the work has given partners the extra support they needed to identify new partners and perspectives to build more inclusive multi-stakeholder platforms. In Nepal and Nicaragua, partners have identified thematic and strategic areas for improvement, including through private sector engagement and an increased focus on climate action.



A few highlights of SWA national-level work

BURUNDI

Multi-ministry, multi-stakeholder work to integrate water, sanitation & climate, and explore donor engagement

CAMBODIA

Work to bring new partners to multi-stakeholder sector platforms and increase collaboration

NEPAL

Developing a new multi-stakeholder partnership with broader participation, including private sector & research

DOMINICAN REPUBLIC

Multi-stakeholder dialogue exploring how to increase alignment of national climate & sector policies & strategies

MALAWI

Encouraging private sector and research experts into national platforms and processes

REPUBLIC OF THE CONGO

Sector actors now included and contributing to national climate commitments processes

TOGO

Rallying stakeholders, including private sector & research to improve multi-stakeholder partnership & sector coordination

ESWATINI

Water, sanitation and hygiene now prioritized as part of national adaptation plans for climate

PALESTINE

Strengthening multi-stakeholder coordination for development actors, including building on the work of the *WASH Cluster*

MADAGASCAR

Exploring financing bottlenecks and solutions for inclusion in new national sector policy

SWA CSO CATALYTIC GRANTS: STRENGTHENING NATIONAL ADVOCACY EFFORTS

SWA supported civil society partners directly during 2021, through the provision of small grants of ‘catalytic’ funding. While the sums involved are typically low, the funding can have a transformative effect – helping partners to nudge their advocacy or sector engagement, to benefit their national priorities and objectives. In 2021, grants from the civil society catalytic fund were awarded to 10 civil society partners and three regional networks. Some highlights:



In **NIGERIA** NEWSAN (a Nigerian network of over 300 civil and community-based organizations and NGOs) used the funds to bring together the ministry responsible for water and the African Ministers’ Council on Water (AMCOW). Discussions centred on commitments made through SWA’s Mutual Accountability Mechanism, and secured a commitment from AMCOW to support sector efforts – for example to work with the government to engage the private sector to improve access to services and end open defecation.



In **LIBERIA**, the SWA fund helped civil society partners organize a two-day capacity-building workshop to consider how to use human rights structures and the SWA Mutual Accountability Mechanism to track water and sanitation progress. The workshop established a specialized committee to consider water, sanitation, and hygiene in the context of climate change. The committee was invited to join Liberia’s delegation to COP26, and is now working with the government to identify opportunities for expanding their work.



In **HONDURAS**, the funding supported three pilot communities to develop plans for raising local investment to build sustainable services. The sessions were facilitated by AHJASA – a local organization with decades of proven experience delivering water and sanitation projects specifically designed for rural communities.



In **PAKISTAN**, community-based organizations and NGOs were funded to develop rights-based advocacy strategies for improving services in four provinces. The initiative has created civil society groups in these provinces to engage with local and provincial processes to improve water, sanitation, and hygiene services. These groups will also review and develop commitments made under SWA’s Mutual Accountability Mechanism.



In **INDONESIA, KENYA, NEPAL, NIGER, PARAGUAY, REPUBLIC OF CONGO AND SENEGAL**, the catalytic funding focused specifically on bolstering sector multi-stakeholder platforms at the national level. The projects bring together SWA partners from civil society and research and learning organizations, to strengthen their countries’ multi-stakeholder platforms and increase engagement with SWA’s Mutual Accountability Mechanism.

SWA SECURING OTHER CATALYTIC FUNDING IN 2021

SWA secured other catalytic funds to support partners in 2021. The Roddenberry Foundation, for example, worked with SWA to identify local and national agencies doing impactful work on COVID-19 and water, sanitation and hygiene in Africa.

Seven SWA partners were identified in Africa and received catalytic grants to support their work. SWA helped prepare partners for this funding, supporting them to tighten and adjust their existing work, to contribute to SWA’s Strategy. Such a support bridging role – linking our partners to external resources – helps realize specific activities in the workplans of partners and contributes to stronger partner engagement.

THE SWA MUTUAL ACCOUNTABILITY MECHANISM

Partners continued to engage with SWA's Mutual Accountability Mechanism in 2021, using it as a tool to support collective action towards common objectives. In 2021, the SWA Secretariat chose to concentrate efforts on encouraging the review of existing commitments, rather than actively encouraging new ones.

The year saw 24 new commitments made, and 65 new progress reports submitted. In 2021, SWA more than doubled the number of progress reports received since the mechanism was launched in 2018 (going from 40 progress reports received by December 2020 to 105 reports by December 2021). Most of these commitments were reviewed using a multi-stakeholder process. These numbers are expected to grow significantly as the partnership prepares for its Sector Ministers' Meeting in Jakarta in 2022.



The **inaugural report** was launched in November 2021 and covers the first three years of SWA's Mutual Accountability Mechanism. It analyses how partners have engaged with the mechanism so far.



Every three years, SWA produces a Mutual Accountability Mechanism global report to analyze and discuss how partners are working towards a culture of mutual accountability for ensuring universal access to water, sanitation, and hygiene for all, always and everywhere. The inaugural report was launched in November 2021 and covers the first three years of SWA's Mutual Accountability Mechanism. It analyzes how partners have engaged with the mechanism so far, including a selection of country experiences, as well as exploring the breadth and depth of the mechanism's potential to engage stakeholders in the sector. **The report**

also identifies some of the challenges that have hampered efforts, concluding by setting out action and ambitions to overcome those challenges, and to help partners take full advantage of the mechanism in the years ahead.

Ambitions identified for the next three-year reporting period are to: strengthen multi-stakeholder platforms; improve global commitments and engagement; and generate momentum and learning opportunities, through the creation of 'accountability moments' dedicated to the discussion of national and global commitments at future high-level engagements.

SWA'S NEW UTILITIES & REGULATORS CONSTITUENCY

SWA's new Utilities & Regulators constituency SWA's Utilities & Regulators (U&R) constituency was created in 2020. During its first year in 2021, the constituency grew quickly – at the end of 2021 SWA had 6 U&R partners.

The new constituency is already defining its messaging and finding its voice. This includes an appeal to political decision makers for public policy based on sound, strategic direction, as well as a call to define clear mandates for utilities and regulators, so they can maximize their positive impacts in the sector.

The first major SWA milestone for the U&R constituency will be the 2022 Sector Ministers' Meeting, which it has been developing messaging and its delegation for during 2021.

The constituency is aiming to double the number of partners during 2022, consolidating its support to countries via the SWA partnership.

COUNTRY HIGHLIGHTS: CHAMPIONING MULTI-STAKEHOLDER APPROACHES



NEPAL

Strengthening the sector's national multi-stakeholder platform

SWA co-ordinated with the Nepalese Government to organize important dialogue between stakeholders, with the aim of identifying and involving missing key sector actors in the national multi-stakeholder platform. SWA is helping develop new terms of reference for the platform that reflect this increased inclusivity, set regular processes for meetings and reviews, and ultimately influence the national planning, financing, and monitoring processes.

As one of SWA's priority countries in 2021, SWA is extending this support to Nepal's sector and multi-stakeholder platform with ongoing work to revitalize Nepal's Joint Sector Review process, which has not been conducted since 2014. SWA private sector partners have been particularly active in offering support to the Nepalese Government, with the constituency developing a scoping note of potential areas of support (e.g., training on non-revenue water, supporting the implementation of a performance monitoring system, and match-making between Nepalese water operators and international peers). In 2021, the Government identified ongoing difficulties interacting with the country's fragmented landscape of local small and medium-sized enterprises (SMEs). The SWA Private Sector constituency responded by developing proposals for a 'Nepalese WASH SME Business Network', which are now being considered by the Government.

REPUBLIC OF THE CONGO

Integrating water, sanitation, and hygiene with pledges on climate

SWA supported several partner countries during 2021 to integrate water, sanitation, and hygiene into their Nationally Determined Contributions (NDCs), in preparation for the COP 26 UN Climate Change Conference in November 2021. In the Republic of Congo, water, sanitation, and hygiene considerations now take a central role in the country's NDC. The priority actions of the NDC include rural sanitation to fight against vector-borne diseases, improving urban waste management (both solid waste and wastewater), increasing access to drinking water, managing coastal flooding more effectively, and increasing the resilience of coastal infrastructure.

Encouraged by the Ministry of Environment, SWA is now working with and supporting the country's sector actors (including government ministries, UNICEF, civil society organizations, and research partners) to develop the concept for a project that directly links water, sanitation, and hygiene with action on climate. The project will draw on SWA's experience working with Zimbabwe on a climate finance proposal, which was submitted in July 2021.

CAMBODIA

Identifying missing voices from sector conversations

SWA worked with government policy and decision-makers, UNICEF, WaterAid and others, to identify critical gaps and challenges in the water, sanitation and hygiene sector. The discussions identified that the country's multi-stakeholder platform needed to be developed and strengthened, so that it could go beyond dialogue and take co-ordinated action. Solutions included exploring ways to engage the private sector and research organizations, and defining distinct roles for different stakeholders, in order to realize a common vision for the sector.

The dialogue resulted in a collective agreement to use an existing technical working group for rural water, sanitation and hygiene, using it as a foundation on which to build a broader multi-stakeholder platform. The working group will have responsibility for actions and progress in developing the multi-stakeholder platform, which will be chaired by the minister of rural development, and co-chaired by SWA partners from civil society organizations. The platform is expected to bring significant impacts – it is tasked with developing national sector plans, ensuring a broader engagement in sector processes, and strengthening sector accountability using SWA's Mutual Accountability Mechanism.

COUNTRY HIGHLIGHTS: CHAMPIONING MULTI-STAKEHOLDER APPROACHES



MALAWI

Working with stakeholders to prioritize WASH in parliament

SWA worked closely with partners in Malawi to support the national-level, self-described multi-stakeholder ‘SWA task force’ to prepare an annual costed workplan. The workplan proposed how to engage different actors broaden sector processes and conversations, and therefore improve sector coordination.

SWA worked with the Government and the taskforce to identify and engage additional sector stakeholders from the research and learning, private sector and utilities and regulators.

The newly expanded taskforce, which was now able to speak with increased expertise and experience, met with parliamentarians to discuss prioritization of the water, sanitation, and hygiene targets at parliamentary level. By the end of the year, the Government had created a new ministry with responsibility for water, sanitation and hygiene.

NICARAGUA

Exploring opportunities in the national ‘WASH commission’

Nicaragua’s national water, sanitation and hygiene multi-stakeholder platform for the water, sanitation and hygiene sector is led by the Government. SWA partners in Nicaragua determined that the platform could be strengthened significantly through encouraging engagement with other relevant ministries, such as the environment, the health, and the education ministries. SWA partners suggested that engaging these ministries and associated agencies on specific, focused topics could bring vital perspectives to addressing the many intersectoral challenges related to water, sanitation, and hygiene.

Following government interest in climate, for example, SWA facilitated work sessions that were focused on the links between climate and water, sanitation, and hygiene. The sessions identified government stakeholders that could bring valuable expertise and experiences to the dialogue, and encouraged the focal points to invite them to the discussions. Representatives from a broad spectrum of government agencies participated in the work sessions, and the creation of a dedicated climate action group was agreed. This commitment to creating a dedicated technical working group, as well as the process of bringing new partners together for dialogue, has both strengthened the country’s sector multi-stakeholder platform and improved the sector’s response to the climate emergency.

COLOMBIA

Creating connections for community organizations

In 2021, SWA supported partners in Colombia to improve sector co-ordination platforms, with a focus on the challenges faced by displaced communities. The work led to the creation of a new system, called Red de Sistema. The new platform now advocates powerfully for addressing inequalities and challenges in accessing basic services, including water and sanitation, faced by vulnerable communities, in both long-term development and humanitarian contexts. Red de Sistema is led by UNICEF, Accion Contra el Hambre and CAWST (a Canadian water and sanitation charity) and specifically aims to engage government, civil society, research organizations, utilities and regulators, and other external support agencies.

Further work between SWA, government and the leading organizations explored ways to engage the communities where the greatest bottlenecks persist in accessing services and achieving SGD 6. SWA’s Secretariat organized and facilitated a peer-to-peer learning exchange to share experiences from Colombia, Nicaragua and Peru, AQUACOL (an association of community-based service providers) expressed their interest to join the Red de Sistema platform. During 2022, SWA will support AQUACOL and the Red de Sistema to formalize their engagement, and to develop specific areas of work to engage with and create meaningful impacts for communities that have been left behind.

THE YEAR IN REVIEW

Objective 3

Rally stakeholders to strengthen system performance and attract new investment



WORKING TO IMPROVE SECTOR FINANCING

During 2021, SWA continued to support global and country platforms for sector leaders to discuss major bottlenecks to sector financing, and to explore specific, tangible ways to overcome them.

The partnership built on important discussions that took place at the Finance Minister's Meetings in 2020, beginning work to support both country and global action on mobilizing finance focused on achieving SDG 6. SWA's emerging strategic focus for systems strengthening and sector finance is on:

- 1** Co-ordinating advocacy and strategies around increasing good governance and a systems approach to financing services;
- 2** Addressing the lack of solid sector data that is currently hampering investment decisions; and
- 3** Seeking a stronger finance architecture for the sector.

Providing knowledge exchange, technical assistance and catalytic grants to countries

SWA provided small grants of US\$10,000 to Mali, Nigeria, Paraguay and Zimbabwe during 2021. The grants enabled the countries to develop finance strategies and consultation processes to identify solutions to bottlenecks and facilitate sector discussions to improve sector finance.

In addition to the grants, SWA also organized dialogues between government partners for knowledge exchange. Topics included how to influence sector budgets in countries with no ministry of water and sanitation and sharing guidelines and experiences in developing sector finance strategies.

Sector finance policy support

SWA provided support to a number of SWA civil society organization partners in 2021 around the topic of sector finance. In South Asia, the Freshwater Action Network (FANSA) was supported to develop a sector finance policy brief with other key sector stakeholders. The FANSA policy brief uses perspectives of the vulnerable communities in the South Asia region, encouraging sector financing to be channelled specifically to support those that are being left behind. The Africa Civil Society Network on Water and Sanitation (ANEWS) was also supported by SWA to produce a similar policy brief on financing gaps in Africa.



SWA'S FINANCE WEBINARS

In June, SWA organized a series of thematic capacity development webinars on finance and funding for the water, sanitation and hygiene sector.

Working with UNICEF, USAID, Water.org and WHO, SWA hosted four webinars on sector finance and funding. The series focused on maximizing value from existing public funding and mobilizing more finance.

The webinar series was attended by 1,050 participants representing all regions. Participants were highly positive, saying they welcomed the opportunity for cross-sectoral discussions, and to hear case studies exploring challenges and good practices from all over the world.

WEBINAR 1

Focused on de-mystifying water tariffs.

WEBINAR 2

Considered affordability and sustainability.

WEBINAR 3

Highlighted the importance of tracking sector expenditure.

WEBINAR 4

Looked at how to ensure tackling inequalities are considered in sector budgeting.

COUNTRY HIGHLIGHT: STRENGTHENING SYSTEMS AND SECTOR FINANCE



ZIMBABWE

Capitalizing on a 66% increase in the sector budget

In Zimbabwe, the Minister of Finance increased the 2021 sector budget by 66% after attending the 2020 SWA Finance Ministers' Meeting. Partners identified the need for a financing strategy as a crucial mechanism to make the most efficient and effective use of the increase in funding. In response, SWA is working with the Government and other partners in Zimbabwe, offering technical assistance to develop a 'WASH Sector Financing Strategy' that will boost constructive financial planning and resource mobilization.

The 66% increase is already helping improve service delivery across the country's water, sanitation and hygiene sector, including improvements to its monitoring, data and information systems. The improved systems will help guide evidence-based planning and budgeting, including to provide specific support to rural water supply programmes – particularly those focused on the development of solar-powered systems.

NIGERIA

Encouraging high-level discussions to fortify the sector budget

SWA continues to discuss the challenges for achieving universal access to water, sanitation and hygiene with those at the highest levels of decision-making – including heads of state and government. SWA's Global Leader Kevin Rudd was honoured to meet and discuss these challenges with Nigeria's President, His Excellency Muhammadu Buhari, who signed SWA's Global Leaders Call to Action on COVID-19 in 2020. Such dialogue helped lay the foundation for productive engagement between the country's minister of finance and the minister of water resources at SWA's Finance Ministers' Meeting of December 2020.

These productive discussions have been decisive in securing an increase in funding for the sector in 2021. In the words of the Minister for Water Resources, the Honorable Suleiman Adamu, "...the President and the Minister of Finance, who was also engaged through SWA, made sure things changed for the better for water, sanitation and hygiene. We got more than 90% of what we requested in terms of [sector] funding for COVID-19 response...Bringing our minister of finance to the table has made things change in favour of WASH. Now the finance department are taking our issues very seriously."

PARAGUAY

Supporting discussions between the sector and finance ministries

SWA helped facilitate discussions to identify financing bottlenecks in Paraguay, including between the sector and finance ministries, during 2021. The dialogue identified that sector planning processes among the agencies, institutions and relevant ministries was inefficient and uncoordinated, which was leading to predictably low and erratic investment in the sector.

With a core bottleneck identified and a common understanding of it clearly defined, SWA partners have received technical assistance from the SWA Secretariat to address the challenges, which includes mapping out existing institutions and available financial information. This information will be used to build a procedural guide with recommendations on how to attract financing from different sources – including assisting the Paraguay water, sanitation and hygiene sector to access climate-related global funds.

LOOKING AHEAD TO 2022



SECTOR MINISTERS' MEETING: JAKARTA, INDONESIA

In May 2022, the partnership will come together for a much-anticipated **2022 Sector Ministers' Meeting**, which will be the first time that partners have come together in person since 2019. We will put our strategic approach of reaching out to other sectors firmly into practice: bringing ministers from water, health, climate, and economies together, as well as heads of agencies and organizations, and even some Heads of State and Government. We look forward to broadening the discussion on our sector and to forging a way forward, together.

A FOCUS ON CRISIS CONTEXTS FOR WATER, SANITATION, AND HYGIENE SERVICES

In 2022, SWA will also prepare to start engaging more closely with the emergency and humanitarian sector. Whether during drought, flooding, or violent conflict, vulnerable populations are much more susceptible to diseases related to inadequate sanitation and water supplies. Partners and the Secretariat will increase advocacy and capacity building activities around this important topic.

CONTINUING WORK TO ELEVATE WATER, SANITATION, AND HYGIENE TO THE HIGHEST LEVELS OF DECISION MAKING

Reaching up to decision makers at the highest levels will be a key objective for 2022. We will deepen our work in political prioritization, anchoring it in impact

and results: what improved water, sanitation and hygiene can deliver for communities' and countries' health, resilience, well-being, and financial stability. This will mean engaging Heads of State and Government as well as parliamentarians, to commit to national, political ambitions for the sector. To achieve this, we will continue to engage our Global Leaders, and connect strategically to contribute to key events, such as COP27 and the Asia-Pacific Water Summit. We will also continue to develop targeted knowledge products, such as a Handbook for Parliamentarians, which will be launched in 2022.

GLOBAL ADVOCACY CAMPAIGN

There will be a global campaign to solidify links between water, sanitation and hygiene and the broader SDG Agenda. It will address how other sectors view the water, sanitation, and hygiene sector, and explore how increasing access to these services can form the basis of ensuring education for all, climate resiliency, economic development and healthier lives. The campaign will be a significant contribution to broaden the appeal of the sector's voice, enabling the partnership to reach out more effectively to other sectors and key decision makers. The campaign will be complemented by an in-depth audience research that will give advocates, spokespeople and communicators in the water and sanitation an insight into how our sector is perceived and what type of messaging and approach best resonated with external target audience.

GOVERNANCE



GOVERNANCE

A significant element of SWA’s advocacy stems from its ability to speak for a broad partnership, to reach global and regional audiences. Our voice is the voice of a sector, and we use it to speak for the billions of people who need it to serve them better.

SWA’s Steering Committee

SWA’s Steering Committee met each quarter in 2021 (in January, March, June, and December). The meetings were all held virtually. Key discussions and decisions focused on SWA’s new Results Framework and the Regional Roadmaps (which set out how SWA’s Strategy 2020–2030 will be delivered), as well as on SWA’s programmatic and strategic objectives, and governance procedures. The Steering Committee also gave clear direction on the concept and format of the next Sector Ministers’ Meeting, which it decided to postpone from 2021 to May 2022.

SWA’s Working Groups

The SWA Steering Committee creates ‘Working Groups’ to focus on tasks which require specific attention. If you are a partner and would like to be involved in any of the Working Groups, please contact us. The structure of the Working Groups was reviewed by the Steering Committee in 2021 to align with SWA’s three new strategic objectives. The new corresponding Working

Groups are: The High-Level Political Dialogue Working Group, The Multi-Stakeholder Coordination Working Group, and The Systems and Finance Working Group. A cross-cutting ‘Task Team’ on climate action was also established in 2021 to address the SWA strategic priority for the year, and there is also a Working Group dedicated to fundraising for the SWA partnership.

SWA’s Executive Oversight Committee

The SWA Secretariat also supported the Chair of the Steering Committee to convene meetings for the partnership’s Executive Oversight Committee (EOC). The EOC is a representative body of SWA’s leadership, consisting of the Steering Committee chair and/or vice chair, the two standing sub-committee chairs, and the CEO. The EOC meets regularly, between Steering Committee meetings, to address urgent issues and take timely action when necessary. It met seven times during 2021.

SWA STEERING COMMITTEE

The Steering Committee is SWA’s ultimate decision-making body. Each of the seven constituencies elects representatives to serve three-year terms. All approved minutes from Steering Committee meetings are available on the SWA website [here](#).

2021 Main Steering Committee Members

Mr. Patrick Moriarty, Steering Committee Chair
Ms. Catarina de Albuquerque, SWA CEO

Governments

Mr. Makhosini Khoza, Eswatini
Mr. Khalid Massa, Tanzania
Mr. Dhoba Lovemore, Zimbabwe
H.E. Mr. Ouk Rabun, Cambodia
Mr. Oscar Izquierdo Sandí, Costa Rica
Mr. Hugo Ramón Ruiz Fleitas, Paraguay
Ms. Majeda Alawneh, State of Palestine
Mr. Madhav Belbase, Nepal
Ms. Hélène Bragori Epse Yocolly, Côte d'Ivoire
Mr. Djoouro Bocoum, Mali
Mr. Emmanuel Awe, Nigeria
Dr. Alexandra Carvalho, Portugal

Civil Society Organizations

Ms. Sareen Malik, African Civil Society Network on Water and Sanitation (ANEW)
Dr. Seetharam M.R., VILD foundation
Ms. Barbara Schreiner, Water Integrity Network (WIN)
Ms. Nathalie Seguin Tovar, Freshwater Action Network Mexico (FANMex)

External Support Agencies

Mr. Paul Deverill, Foreign, Commonwealth & Development Office (FCDO)

Mr. Dominic O’Neill, Sanitation & Hygiene Fund (SHF)
Ms. Kelly Ann Naylor, UNICEF
Ms. Lisa Schechtman, US Agency for International Development (USAID)
Mr. Nazim Khizar, UNICEF (DFAM)
Ms. Rekiya Adamu Atta, UNICEF (FSO)

Private Sector

Ms. Alex Knezovich, Toilet Board Coalition
Dr. Nicholas Igwe, Zenith Water Projects

Research and Learning

Dr., Anna Virginia Machado, LabGea
Dr. Sarah Dickin, Stockholm Environment Institute (SEI)

Thank-you to the Steering Committee members who completed their terms in 2021:

Governments

Mr. André Patindé Nonguierma
Mr. Kepha Ombacho
Dr. Nguyen Thi Lien Huong
Mr. Pie Djivo

Ms. Rabab Gaber Hassan Abbas

Civil Society

Ms. Vanessa Dubois

External Support Agencies

Mr. Hans Olav Ibrenk

Research & Learning

Ms. Erma Uytewaal

Private Sector

Mr. Neil Dhot



FINANCIAL REPORT

FINANCIAL REPORT 2021

In 2020, SWA moved to become a UNICEF hosted fund, meaning SWA now has a trust account modality.

In 2021, three existing donors (The Netherlands, Switzerland, and the United Kingdom) and one new donor (Spain) contributed to the new Trust Account, with fundraising efforts focusing on concluding long-term agreements with donors, to allow for longer-term predictability and planning. For example, the Netherlands signed a five-year agreement and three-year and four-year agreements are ongoing with Switzerland and the United Kingdom.

In addition, SWA continues to be supported by USAID and the Bill and Melinda Gates Foundation through long-term bi-lateral agreements.

SWA continues its efforts to increase and diversify its donor portfolio and is in close contact with several donors, with a view to receiving additional support that would allow the partnership to meet the objectives set in SWA's Strategy 2020-2030. The continued funding from donors assured the full implementation of SWA's workplan in 2021.

Details of SWA income, expenditure and donor commitments are set out below.

SWA SECRETARIAT INCOME AND EXPENDITURE IN 2021 (IN US\$)

| FINANCIAL ASSETS | BILATERAL CONTRIBUTION | TRUST FUND ACCOUNT | TOTAL |
|--|------------------------|--------------------|------------------|
| Open programmable balance (including open commitments) | 1,161,353 | 989,012 | 2,150,365 |
| Donor programmable funding received in 2021 | 1,379,721 | 2,653,733 | 4,033,454 |
| Available programmable in 2021 | 2,541,074 | 3,642,745 | 6,183,819 |
| Indirect costs | 93,741 | 26,537 | 120,278 |
| Available balance in 2021 | 2,634,815 | 3,669,282 | 6,304,097 |
| Actual expenditures | 1,851,874 | 2,628,776 | 4,480,650 |
| Open commitments as of 31 December 2021 | 601,869 | 47,239 | 649,108 |
| CLOSING BALANCE OF 2021 | 87,332 | 966,730 | 1,054,062 |

EXPENDITURE BREAKDOWN PER SWA OBJECTIVE

| | ACTUAL EXPENDITURE | OPEN COMMITMENTS |
|---|--------------------|------------------|
| Objective 1 - Build and Sustain the Political Will to Eliminate Inequalities in Water, Sanitation and Hygiene | 794,404 | 28,304 |
| Objective 2 - Champion Multi-Stakeholder Approaches Towards Achieving Universal Access to Services | 567,871 | 56,816 |
| Objective 3 - Rally Stakeholders to Strengthen System Performance and Attract New Investments | 73,418 | 47,205 |
| Governance and operations | 583,369 | 492,282 |
| Staff costs – SWA Secretariat | 2,161,987 | |
| UNICEF cost | 299,601 | 24,500 |
| CLOSING BALANCE OF 2021 | 4,480,650 | 649,108 |

DONOR COMMITMENTS (IN US\$)

| DONOR | OPENING BALANCE IN 2021 | RECEIVED IN 2021 (USD) | AVAILABLE IN 2021 |
|---------------------------------|-------------------------|------------------------|-------------------|
| Bill & Melinda Gates Foundation | 435,081 | 500,000 | 935,081 |
| FCDO (United Kingdom) | 130,000 | 1,097,427 | 1,227,427 |
| Sida (Sweden) | 84,597 | - | 84,597 |
| USAID (USA) | 641,663 | 1,000,000 | 1,641,663 |
| SDC (Switzerland) | 166,831 | 500,000 | 666,831 |
| DGIS (The Netherlands) | 692,192 | 1,000,000 | 1,692,192 |
| MAEC (Spain) | - | 56,306 | 56,306 |
| TOTAL | 2,150,364 | 4,153,733 | 6,304,097 |

RESULTS FRAMEWORK



RESULTS 2021

A new Results Framework

In January 2021, SWA's Steering Committee approved a new Results Framework. This new Results Framework is the primary tool for assessing progress towards the vision, mission and objectives of the Sanitation and Water for All (SWA) Strategic Framework 2020-2030.

The SWA Results Framework has three main elements:

1. High-level outcomes and impact indicators: A select set of indicators available from existing data sources used to assess sector progress and trends relevant for achieving the SWA mission. These data are collected on an annual or bi-annual basis (depending on data availability) through tools such as the JMP and GLAAS initiatives and do not demonstrate SWA's contribution directly. The SWA Secretariat is responsible for compiling and analyzing these indicators.
2. Intermediate outcome benchmark indicators (country level): Partners periodically complete a self-assessment for their country which considers their sector's progress on 6 indicators – 2 indicators per SWA Strategic Objective. The assessment results in a score for each objective from 0-100%, a narrative explanation for the score, and supporting evidence/justification. The evolution of these scores over time, for each country, will allow SWA to closely follow changes happening at the national level and to better understand its own contribution to change.

3. SWA activities and output indicators: These are mainly quantitative indicators which assess the partnership's activities. For example, this could be the number of ministers attending SWA high-level meetings, the number of trainings and webinars organized, or the number of new partners joining the SWA partnership.

The 2021 Annual Report is the first annual report to include a progress update based entirely on the new SWA Results Framework.

Progress on SWA's vision for universal access to sanitation, water and hygiene services

In 2021, a new Joint Monitoring Programme (JMP) report was published. The JMP report is published every two years and presents estimates on household access to safely managed drinking water, sanitation and hygiene services. The 2021 report focused on how rates have changed over the past five years, to assess the pace of progress required to achieve SDG 6 to 'Ensure availability and sustainable management of water and sanitation for all by 2030'.

The report states that at current trends, billions of children and families will be left without critical, life-saving services. It suggests that in 2030:

- Only 81 per cent of the world's population will have access to safe drinking water at home, leaving 1.6 billion without;
- Only 67 per cent will have safe sanitation services, leaving 2.8 billion without;
- And only 78 per cent will have basic handwashing facilities, leaving 1.9 billion without.

The report also notes vast inequalities with vulnerable children and families suffering the most. To achieve universal access to safe drinking water by 2030, the current rate of progress in the Least Developed Countries would need to increase ten-fold. In fragile contexts, where people were twice as likely to lack safe drinking water, it would need to accelerate by a factor of 23.

Achieving SDG 6 targets by 2030 will require a quadrupling of current rates of progress:



Global coverage of WASH services, 2015-2020 (%), and acceleration required to meet targets by 2030

Progress on the SWA partnership’s Strategic Objectives 2020–2030

Progress assessment, from limited confidence in ability to achieve SWA indicators by 2030, to very high confidence.

OBJECTIVE 1: BUILD AND SUSTAIN POLITICAL WILL TO ELIMINATE INEQUALITIES IN WATER, SANITATION AND HYGIENE

| | INDICATOR | 2021 RESULTS | PROGRESS ASSESSMENT | COMMENTS |
|---------------------|--|------------------------------------|---------------------|---|
| High-level outcomes | # of SWA countries with sufficient measures targeting vulnerable groups for water, sanitation, and hygiene | 14 | | This data is from the last round of GLAAS data collection in 2019. A new round of GLAAS data collection is currently taking place. |
| | % of government Mutual Accountability Mechanism commitments targeting reduction of inequalities | 14% | | 24 out of 172, or 14% of commitments made by governments under the SWA Mutual Accountability Mechanism are targeting reduction of inequalities. The target is for this proportion to increase to 40% by 2025. SWA is working towards this objective in several ways. For example, through organizing webinars, through supporting civil society partners to engage in SWA processes and advocate for reducing inequalities, and through providing opportunities and platforms to reflect on inequalities (such as the country self-assessments, and national preparations for the Sector Ministers’ Meeting). |
| | | | | |
| | Government-funded water, sanitation and hygiene budget, per capita | US\$16.77 (average, SWA countries) | | <p>37 SWA countries were able to provide GLAAS with information on their water, sanitation and hygiene-specific government budgets. This shows that a system for collecting comprehensive water, sanitation and hygiene budget data may be lacking in most countries and territories.</p> <p>Annual budgets ranged from almost US\$ 3 billion in South Africa, to less than US\$ 1 million in some small countries.</p> <p>Overall, the reported average water, sanitation and hygiene budget per capita for all countries which reported (SWA + non-SWA) was US\$ 9 and ranged from US\$ 1 to US\$ 150. This indicates that SWA countries seem to commit more funds than average to water, sanitation and hygiene.</p> <p>Trend data on national water, sanitation and hygiene budgets are limited, with a very limited number of countries providing comparable sector budget data between the GLAAS 2018/2019 cycle and the previous GLAAS cycle in 2016/2017.</p> <p>A new round of GLAAS data collection is currently taking place. This updated information will be published in 2022 and will help SWA assess progress regarding this indicator.</p> |

The SWA Secretariat used the following criteria to estimate the status of progress by end 2021:

 Results have been achieved (100%)

 Result has been nearly achieved (>75%)

 Significant progress toward the result (>50%)

 Some progress on the result (25–50%)

 No progress towards the result (0–25%)

 n/a: non-applicable

| | INDICATOR | 2021 RESULTS | PROGRESS ASSESSMENT | COMMENTS |
|-----------------------|--|--------------|---------------------|---|
| | # of Nationally Determined Contributions of the Paris Agreement that link to SDG 6 | 860 | | <p>NDCs are submitted every five years to the UNFCCC secretariat. In order to enhance the ambition over time, the Paris Agreement requires that successive NDCs represent a progression compared to the previous NDC, and reflect its highest possible ambition. The next round of NDCs is planned for 2025.</p> <p>Data is not currently available on NDCs by SDG and by year, preventing us from producing a trend analysis at this stage. The current result of 860 will serve as benchmark, and we will be able to assess progress from this point in time.</p> |
| Intermediate outcomes | <p>Intermediate outcomes are assessed through country-led and multi-stakeholder self-assessments.</p> <p>These assessments result in a score for each objective from 0–100%, a narrative explanation for the score, and supporting evidence/justification. The scores are revealing SWA partners’ collective perception of their national context, successes, progresses and bottlenecks. The evolution of these scores over time, for each country, will allow SWA to closely follow changes happening at the national level and to better understand its own contribution to change.</p> <p>This process was launched in 2021, and seven countries have already completed their self-assessment in 2021.</p> <p>For Objective 1, the assessment considers the sector’s ability to mobilize political will, rally leaders and connect with other SDGs.</p> <p>SWA partners, in the countries already self-assessed, estimated their national achievements on these areas half-way towards their objectives (score around 55%)</p> <p>SWA partners used this process as an opportunity to jointly plan the next steps to be taken. For example, Zimbabwe partners identified the need for the formation of a coordination structure at parliamentary level, and requested technical support from SWA. In 2022, we will be able to see whether this structure has been formed.</p> <p>In 2022, we are aiming to have 15 countries completing their self-assessment, including countries updating the assessment done in 2021. This will give us a richer picture of the situation in these countries, and will enable SWA to analyze progress made.</p> | | | |

| LEVEL | TARGET 2021 | INDICATOR | RESULT 2021 | STATUS | COMMENT |
|---------|-------------|---|-------------|--------|---|
| Outputs | 15 | # of organizations supported to engage at national level and advocate for reducing inequalities | 13 | | <p>This indicator counts partner organizations supported to advocate for eliminating inequalities, by engaging in national, multi-stakeholder processes, and in SWA processes.</p> <p>In 2021, this included SWA allocating grants and providing technical support to 10 national civil society partners.</p> |
| | 2 | # of trainings, webinars, meetings, or events organized by SWA and specifically focused on reducing inequalities | 2 | | <p>SWA civil society partners partnered with the International Budget Partnership to organize webinars on budget tracking and accountability from a gender and disabilities perspective, covering case studies on different countries. Both sessions of the webinar were open to and well-attended by SWA partners from all six SWA constituencies.</p> |
| | | <p>Indicators for High-level Meetings</p> <p>(# of participants, # of ministers and heads of agencies attending, # of women planned as speakers, level of satisfaction, and # of partners engaged in the process)</p> | | | <p>The planned Sector Ministers' Meeting for 2021 was cancelled due to the COVID-19 pandemic. The Sector Ministers' Meeting was postponed until May 2022, so these indicators will be reported on in the 2022 Annual Report.</p> |

The SWA Secretariat used the following criteria to estimate the status of progress by end 2021:



Results have been achieved (100%)



Result has been nearly achieved (>75%)



Significant progress toward the result (>50%)



Some progress on the result (25-50%)



No progress towards the result (0-25%)



n/a: non-applicable

OBJECTIVE 2: CHAMPION MULTI-STAKEHOLDER APPROACHES TOWARDS ACHIEVING UNIVERSAL ACCESS TO SERVICES

| | INDICATOR | 2021 RESULTS | PROGRESS ASSESSMENT | COMMENTS |
|-----------------------|---|--------------|---------------------|---|
| Outcome | % Mutual Accountability Mechanism commitments achieved | 4% | | <p>Out of the total 339 Mutual Accountability Mechanism commitments, 105 (31%) were reported on by the end of 2021, and of these 14 (4%) were reported as fully achieved.</p> <p>During these first few years of the Mutual Accountability Mechanism, the focus of SWA is on bringing stakeholders together to make and work on their shared commitments, rather than ensuring those commitments are fully achieved. The aim is to have SWA partners developing, jointly planning and reviewing the achievement of these commitments.</p> |
| | # SWA countries with government-led Joint National Reviews | 41 | | <p>39 of these SWA countries already had Joint National Reviews conducted by government during the previous GLAAS data collection process.</p> <p>A new round of GLAAS data collection is currently taking place. This updated information will be published in 2022 and will help SWA assess progress regarding this indicator.</p> |
| Intermediate outcomes | Intermediate Outcomes are assessed through country-led and multi-stakeholder self-assessments. | | | |
| | These assessments result in a score for each objective from 0-100%, a narrative explanation for the score, and supporting evidence/justification. The scores are revealing SWA partners' collective perception of their national context, successes, progresses and bottlenecks. The evolution of these scores over time, for each country, will allow SWA to closely follow changes happening at the national level and to better understand its own contribution to change. | | | |
| | This process was launched in 2021, and seven countries have already completed their self-assessment in 2021. | | | |
| | For Objective 2, the assessment considers whether governments are establishing and leading functioning multi-stakeholder platforms, and whether partners are informed about and using the SWA Mutual Accountability Mechanism. | | | |
| | SWA partners, in the countries already self-assessed, reported that their national multi-stakeholder platforms were on a good track to becoming fully functional (score on average around 65%); Whereas the score given to their use of the SWA Mutual Accountability Mechanism (around 35%) revealed a need to communicate about the mechanism and better anchor it into SWA and national processes. For example, Eswatini acknowledged SWA efforts to involve all stakeholders in the sector, and asked to be trained on the MAM. | | | |
| | In 2022, we are aiming to have 15 countries completing their self-assessment, including countries updating the assessment done in 2021. This will give us a richer picture of the situation in these countries, and will enable SWA to analyze progress made. | | | |

The SWA Secretariat used the following criteria to estimate the status of progress by end 2021:

| | | | | | | | | | | | |
|---|-----------------------------------|---|--|---|---|---|--------------------------------------|---|--|---|---------------------|
|  | Results have been achieved (100%) |  | Result has been nearly achieved (>75%) |  | Significant progress toward the result (>50%) |  | Some progress on the result (25-50%) |  | No progress towards the result (0-25%) |  | n/a: non-applicable |
|---|-----------------------------------|---|--|---|---|---|--------------------------------------|---|--|---|---------------------|

| LEVEL | TARGET 2021 | INDICATOR | RESULT 2021 | STATUS | COMMENT |
|--------|--|---|--|--------|--|
| Output | 11 Gov 11 CSO 11 PS 11 ESA 11 UR 8 RL | # of partners supported to strengthen multi-stakeholder platforms at national level | 12 Gov 14 CSO 11 PS 10 ESA 6 UR 13 RL | | <p>In 2021, SWA identified 12 priority countries to be supported to develop and strengthen multi-stakeholder platforms.</p> <p>SWA has been able to observe particular actions and progress in Cambodia, Malawi, Nepal, Nicaragua, Peru and Togo.</p> <p>Prioritizing support of these countries has also led to new applications received from civil society, utilities and regulators, and research and learning constituencies.</p> |
| | 3 | # of knowledge exchange events organized by SWA | 11 | | <p>Including 5 events at World Water Week, including a focus on climate finance, on accountability, and on gender. At COP26, SWA was a core partner of the first ever water pavilion, and organized three events.</p> |
| | 18 | # of tabled commitments | 25 | | <p>Seven governments have tabled 17 new commitments in 2021, including 3 new government who had never tabled commitments before. Some countries (Kenya, Zimbabwe and Uganda) now have commitments tabled by all 5 constituencies, modelling the idea of mutual accountability.</p> <p>The total number of new commitments is lower than in previous years. During 2021, efforts were focused on existing commitments work, reviewing progress, and on improving the quality of processes, rather than the quantity of commitments.</p> <p>Governments: 17 Research & Learning: 2 Private Sector: 2 Civil Society Organizations: 3 External Support Agencies: 1</p> |

The SWA Secretariat used the following criteria to estimate the status of progress by end 2021:

| | | | | | | | | | | | |
|---|-----------------------------------|---|--|---|---|---|--------------------------------------|---|--|---|---------------------|
|  | Results have been achieved (100%) |  | Result has been nearly achieved (>75%) |  | Significant progress toward the result (>50%) |  | Some progress on the result (25-50%) |  | No progress towards the result (0-25%) |  | n/a: non-applicable |
|---|-----------------------------------|---|--|---|---|---|--------------------------------------|---|--|---|---------------------|

| LEVEL | TARGET 2021 | INDICATOR | RESULT 2021 | STATUS | COMMENT |
|-------|-------------|--|-------------|--------|---|
| | | % of commitments reviewed (following a multi-stakeholder process) | 31% | | <p>105 commitments have been reviewed, including 64 reviewed in 2021. The percentage of commitments reviewed increased from 13% in 2020 to 31% in 2021.</p> <p>All commitment review processes in 2021 were following a multi-stakeholder approach.</p> |
| | 37 | # of new partners joining SWA | 39 | | <p>New governments joining in 2021: El Salvador, Bolivia, Fiji, Dominican Republic and Democratic Republic of Congo.</p> <p>Other new partners by SWA constituency:</p> <p>Research & Learning: 12 Private Sector: 4 Civil Society Organizations: 11 External Support Agencies: 1 Utilities & Regulators: 6</p> |
| | | # of countries where at least 3 constituencies have tabled commitments | 8 | | <p>No target was set for this indicator, but the result increased from 3 in 2020 to 8 in 2021.</p> |
| | | # commitments identifying gender / inequalities | 61 | | <p>Government: 22 / Civil Society: 23 / Private Sector: 2 / Research & Learning: 2 / External Support Agencies: 12</p> <p>Out of the 25 new commitments tabled in 2021, 10 are targeting gender and inequalities.</p> <p>This is a good result, but SWA is aiming at giving a gender and inequalities perspective to all its work. We are therefore aiming at having the vast majority of new commitments tabled targeting gender and inequalities.</p> |

The SWA Secretariat used the following criteria to estimate the status of progress by end 2021:



Results have been achieved (100%)



Result has been nearly achieved (>75%)



Significant progress toward the result (>50%)



Some progress on the result (25-50%)



No progress towards the result (0-25%)



n/a: non-applicable

OBJECTIVE 3: RALLY STAKEHOLDERS TO STRENGTHEN SYSTEM PERFORMANCE AND ATTRACT NEW INVESTMENTS

| | INDICATOR | 2021 RESULTS | PROGRESS ASSESSMENT | COMMENTS |
|---------|---|-------------------|---|---|
| Outcome | #SWA countries with 100% of domestic funds committed to water, sanitation and hygiene absorbed | 17 | 19 in 2017 | |
| | Amount of aid commitments for water, sanitation and hygiene | US\$ 3.65 million | US\$ 2.89 million in 2017 | |
| | Amount of aid disbursements for water, sanitation and hygiene | US\$ 3.65 million | US\$ 3,01 million in 2017 | These results are calculated using the latest round of GLAAS data collection, from 2019. Progress is assessed against the previous of GLAAS data collection, from 2017. |
| | # SWA countries with sufficient (>75%) financial resources to implement their plans on all subsectors | US\$ 2,67 million | Not yet assessed in previous GLAAS survey | 39 of these SWA countries already had Joint National Reviews conducted by government during the previous GLAAS data collection process. |
| | # SWA countries with existence and use of mechanisms that make access to water, sanitation and hygiene more affordable to vulnerable groups | 1 | 26 in 2017 | A new round of GLAAS data collection is currently taking place. This updated information will be published in 2022 and will help SWA assess progress regarding this indicator. |
| | Number of countries from the Systems and Finance Working Group with effective multi-stakeholder coordination platforms that address foundational issues and bottlenecks to attract additional finance to the sector | 31 | | 12 countries joined the SWA Systems and Finance Working Group. These countries were supported to put in place a multi-stakeholder coordination platform on finance for water, sanitation and hygiene. |
| | Existence of fair and efficient subsidies to the sector | | | All of them now have an effective platform, and the impact on the existence of fair and efficient subsidies to the sector will be considered from 2022. |


The SWA Secretariat used the following criteria to estimate the status of progress by end 2021:


Results have been achieved (100%)
 Result has been nearly achieved (>75%)
 Significant progress toward the result (>50%)
 Some progress on the result (25-50%)
 No progress towards the result (0-25%)
 n/a: non-applicable

| | INDICATOR | 2021 RESULTS | PROGRESS ASSESSMENT | COMMENTS |
|--|-----------------------|--|---------------------|----------|
| | | <p>Intermediate outcomes are assessed through country-led and multi-stakeholder self-assessments.</p> <p>These assessments result in a score for each objective from 0-100%, a narrative explanation for the score, and supporting evidence/justification. The scores are revealing SWA partners’ collective perception of their national context, successes, progresses and bottlenecks. The evolution of these scores over time, for each country, will allow SWA to closely follow changes happening at the national level and to better understand its own contribution to change.</p> <p>This process was launched in 2021, and seven countries have already completed their self-assessment in 2021.</p> | | |
| | Intermediate outcomes | <p>For Objective 3, the assessment considers whether each country has a costed finance strategy, and whether finance is targeting the elimination of inequalities.</p> <p>SWA partners, in the countries already self-assessed, indicated the need for major improvements in the finance area (score on average around 45%) and identified concrete actions to take.</p> <p>In the Maldives, sector stakeholders from all constituencies participated in the self-assessment, including constituencies which do not usually participate in multi-stakeholder platforms. Partners acknowledged the role of the last SWA Finance Ministers’ Meeting in influencing results on these indicators and asked for the support from SWA to engage ministries of finance to join the next round of self-assessments.</p> <p>In 2022, we are aiming to have 15 countries completing their self-assessment, including countries updating the assessment done in 2021. This will give us a richer picture of the situation in these countries, and will enable SWA to analyze progress made.</p> | | |

| LEVEL | TARGET 2021 | INDICATOR | RESULT 2021 | STATUS | COMMENT |
|--------|-------------|---|-------------|--------|---|
| Output | 9 | # of events organized by SWA on finance topics, allowing for peer-to-peer knowledge exchange | 7 | | <p>This included, for example, sessions at COP26 on financing water, sanitation and hygiene and climate resilience, and the SWA Systems and Finance Working Group organizing several meetings between partner countries.</p> <p>Efforts have also focused on gathering case studies from partners on targeting finance for those left behind. Three case studies have been gathered and published.</p> |
| | 12 | # countries holding a discussion between sector and finance ministries on the bottlenecks to accessing and utilizing financing | 7 | | <p>Out of 12 countries participating in the Systems and Finance Working Group, 6 reported increased cooperation between the ministry of finance and line ministers.</p> <p>While most countries in the group started implementing their technical assistance from SWA as part of the group's activities, improving coordination between national sector ministers and national finance ministers is often challenging. This is a lesson for dialogues in 2022, to provide clear actions that ministries of finance can undertake and follow up.</p> |
| | 10 | # number of countries represented (and actively engaged) at the SFWG with at least one high-level representative/counterpart from the Ministry of Finance | 15 | | <p>No target was set for this indicator, but the result increased from 3 in 2020 to 8 in 2021.</p> |
| | | Global (and regional) influencing strategies on finance are updated annually | | | <p>Concrete results are expected in 2022. For 2021, progress on this work was the designing of a template for developing a finance strategy, created by the Systems and Finance Working Group.</p> |

The SWA Secretariat used the following criteria to estimate the status of progress by end 2021:

 Results have been achieved (100%)

 Result has been nearly achieved (>75%)

 Significant progress toward the result (>50%)

 Some progress on the result (25-50%)

 No progress towards the result (0-25%)

 n/a: non-applicable



**SANITATION
AND WATER
FOR ALL**

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#SWAinAction

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