

MUTUAL ACCOUNTABILITY MECHANISM

An analysis of the
climate-related commitments
May 2023 update



MUTUAL
ACCOUNTABILITY
MECHANISM
accountability in action



SANITATION
AND WATER
FOR ALL

MAM commitments in focus: Climate action

May 2023 update

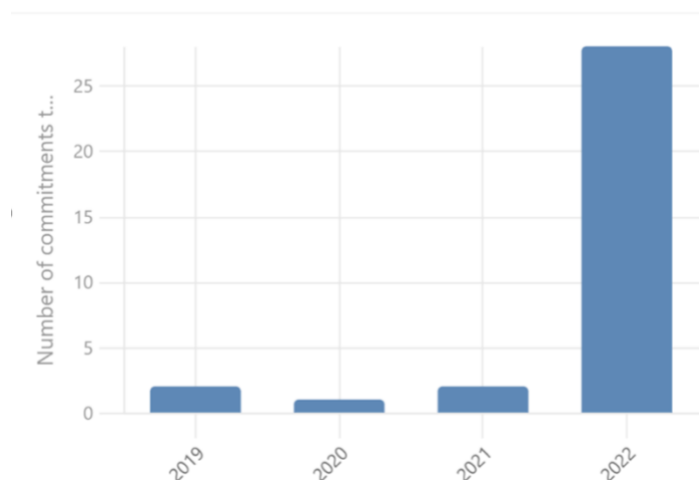
SWA's Mutual Accountability Mechanism (MAM) is the only global accountability process in the sector that is dedicated to all stakeholders working together towards achieving the Sustainable Development Goals' water and sanitation targets. Since the MAM was launched in 2018, over 400 global and national commitments have been tabled, with half of them coming from 60 national governments. Commitments are periodically monitored by partners and the first *MAM Global Report* (2021) can be found [here](#).

Climate action has been a thematic focus for SWA since 2021. The Mutual Accountability Mechanism can work as a vehicle for aligning climate strategies, water and sanitation adaptation and mitigation priorities, as well as climate financing through the submission of climate-related commitments.

In the context of the 26th Conference of the Parties (COP) to the United Nations Framework Convention on Climate Change and the SWA 2022 Sector Ministers' Meeting, countries such as Burundi, Chad, Congo, Eswatini, Fiji, Honduras, Nigeria, Togo and Zimbabwe made significant progress towards the inclusion of drinking water, sanitation and hygiene in the revised versions of their Nationally Determined Contributions (NDCs).

The political commitments presented in the context of COPs and the sector priorities that form part of National Adaptation Plans have started to be developed as MAM commitments by a number of SWA partner countries, facilitating intersectoral, multistakeholder collaboration and monitoring. Overview: Climate commitments. Until May 2023, **37 climate-related** commitments had been tabled under the MAM, of which 28 were made in 2022.

Years in which climate commitments were tabled

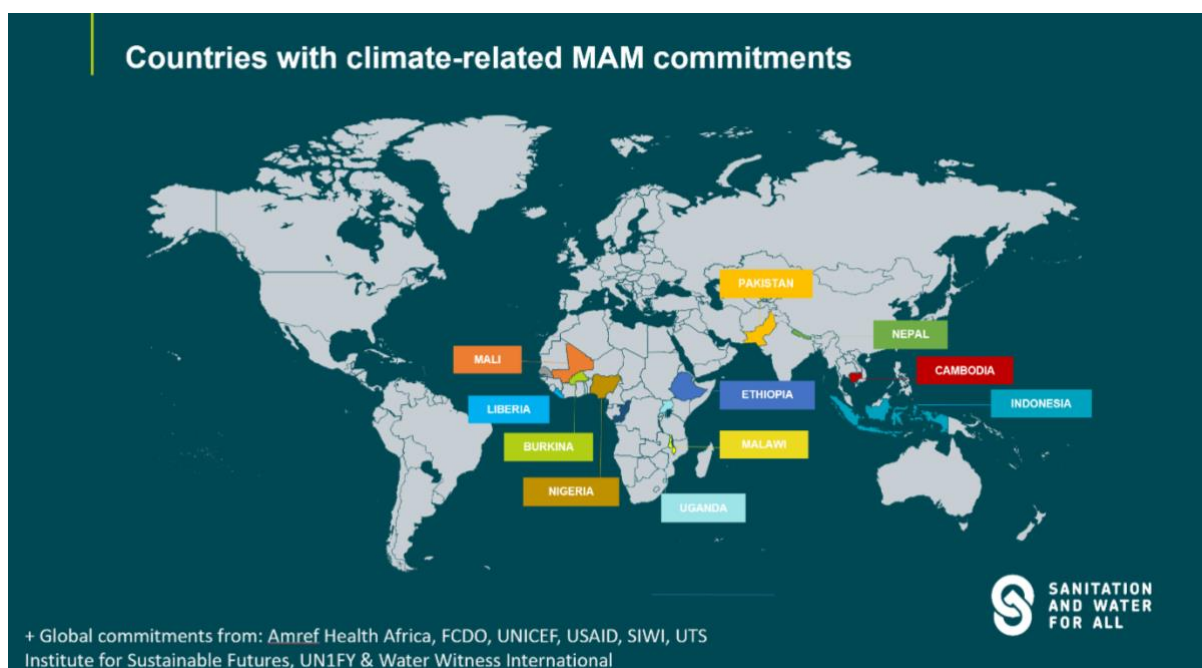


The steep increase in the number of climate commitments made in 2022 directly reflects SWA's ongoing political and capacity-building efforts, along with many partners that are working in this critical area.

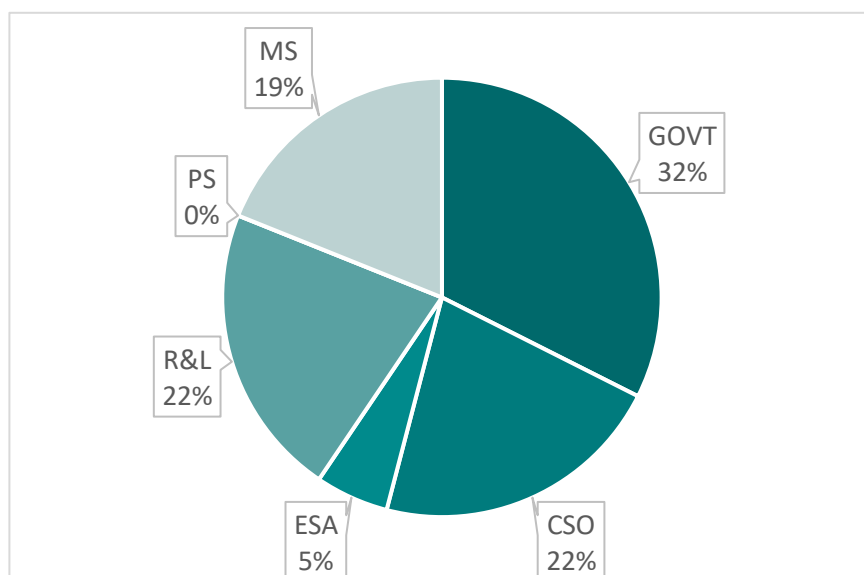
Governments in the driving seat

At the national level, the submission of climate commitments is currently driven by governments, aligned with SWA's objective to champion government-led, multi-stakeholder approaches.

Research & learning organizations have matched the number of climate commitments made by civil society organizations – a much larger constituency in the partnership. The private sector constituency is yet to engage with this theme in the context of the MAM.



Climate commitments per constituency

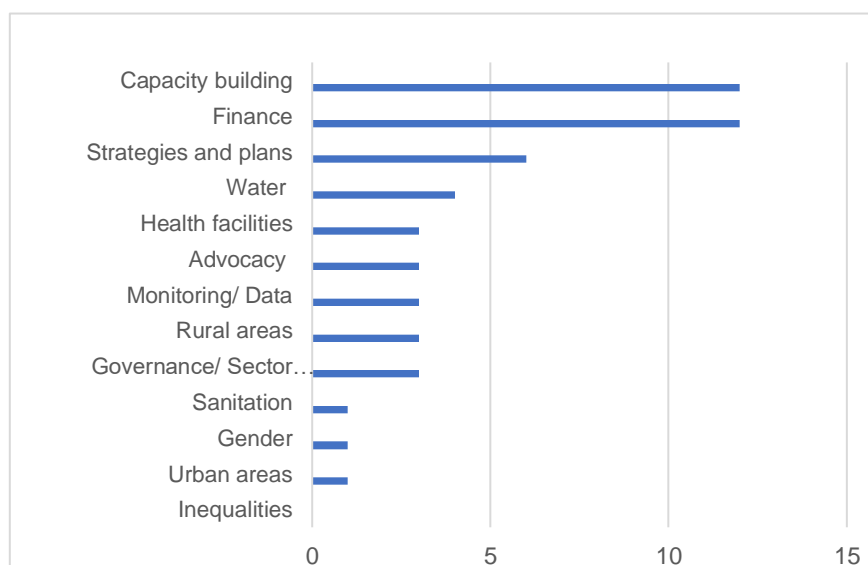


GOVT = government; CSO = civil society organizations; ESA = external support agencies; R&L = research & learning institutions; PS= private sector; MS= 'multi-stakeholder commitments', i.e., government-led commitments tabled by more than one in-country partners

What are partners committing to?

The following graphic shows the intersectional areas the climate commitments primarily focus on.

Climate-related commitments' aims



Highlight 1: Capacity building

At the national level, climate commitments targeting capacity building were tabled by Cambodia, Ethiopia, Liberia, Pakistan and Uganda. Overall, they aim to strengthen capacity of government officials and civil society stakeholders to mainstream climate resilience into water, sanitation and hygiene programmes and processes at the national and sub-national levels. E.g.:

Country: Cambodia	Commitment
Ministry of Rural Development with the Ministry of Environment and UNICEF	Develop a capacity building programme for critical government officials at national and sub-national levels for mainstreaming climate resilience into WASH development planning and programming processes by 2023.

At the global level, climate commitments targeting capacity building were tabled by UNICEF, Amref Health Africa (CSO) and the research and learning institutions University Technology Sydney (UTS-ISF) and Stockholm International Water Institute (SIWI). Their objectives include conducting research, building knowledge and convening meetings to support the shift to a more climate-resilient sector. E.g.:

Global	Commitment
UNICEF	By 2025, UNICEF – together with partners – will support the sector-wide shift towards the implementation of Climate-Resilient WASH programmes, based on understanding the risks, developing strong climate rationale, designing services and promoting behaviors to adapt to those risks and reducing the carbon footprint of the whole WASH sector.

Highlight 2: Finance

Commitments about climate finance have been tabled by the governments of Cambodia, Ethiopia, Indonesia, Malawi, Mali, Nepal, Pakistan and Uganda. Their main focus are on making the sector ready to access climate finance and on the development of sector financing strategies and guidelines. E.g.:

Country: Nepal	Commitment
Ministry of Water and Sanitation with support of Ministry of Forest and Environment and Ministry of Health and Population	Make sector ready to access climate financing to achieve goals of Nationally Determined Contributions and National Adaptation Plans.

At the global level, one finance-related commitment was made by USAID:

Global	Commitment
USAID	Consistent with USAID's current Water and Development Plan, USAID commits to investing in water security, sanitation and hygiene governance, institutions, markets, and financing to foster equitable, climate-resilient and sustainable access to safe drinking water, sanitation and hygiene products and services, and to bolster WASH and water resource management systems. USAID will report on progress toward our 2021 commitment to leverage \$1 billion in financing for climate-resilient water and sanitation by 2030.

Progress achieved

Although commitments were tabled recently (May 2022), three countries have already reported progress: Burkina Faso (to strengthen inter-ministerial collaboration – “on track”); Mali (to conduct research on availability of water resources in relation to climate change and social demand – “almost fully achieved”); and Malawi (to develop a [Climate Resilient WASH Sector Financing Strategy](#) – “fully achieved”, and increase alignment to sector strategies – “on track”).