2030 Water Resources Group

HOSTED BY WORLD BANK GROUP Water

2022

Accelerating towards a water-secure future

2030 WRG ANNUAL REPORT 2022

Photo: Jeff Ackley from Unsplash

ABOUT THIS REPORT

Urgent global action is needed if we are to realize the Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs), especially SDG 6: clean water and sanitation for all.

Water resources are essential for life, ecosystems, and economic growth, making them pivotal for several other SDGs, such as those addressing health, poverty, and climate action.

During the year, the 2030 Water Resources Group continued to function as a catalyst for change, leveraging the power of partnerships for transformative impact in the water sector.

This report tracks our activities and impacts between July 1, 2021, and June 30, 2022. It provides a record of our strategic approach and work at country level and a strategic vision for the future.

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MESSAGE FROM THE CO-CHAIRS

Despite massive effort, the world is not on track to achieve SDG 6 and its targets by 2030. Today, 2 billion people lack safe drinking water and 3.6 billion people are without safe sanitation.[1]

We must act urgently and strategically.

Paul Bulcke
Chairman of the Board, Nestlé
Co-Chair, 2030 WRG Governing Council

Juergen Voegele
Vice-President, Sustainable Development, World Bank
Co-Chair, 2030 WRG Governing Council

Globally, government resources are limited and the investment required to achieve water security is vast: An estimated $6.7 trillion for water-related infrastructure will be needed by 2030, reaching $22.6 trillion by 2050. An estimated $150 billion is needed each year to deliver universal safe water and sanitation. Good governance is vital for achieving water security—and for reducing poverty and increasing food security—but governance too needs to be supported by adequate investment.

It is increasingly clear that the massive scale of investment needed requires private sector involvement, along with innovative financing mechanisms to complement limited government resources. Only in this way can we achieve the required levels of efficiency and resilience in sectors such as agriculture, energy, and industry, and in urban water supply.

2030 WRG is working towards finalizing a new strategic plan in FY23 and we have made good headway in rethinking our approach to accelerating progress. We thank UPL and the Gates Foundation for joining us to build upon our efforts.

Our new direction is focused on achieving greater impact. During FY22, both the Steering Board and the Governing Council ratified the five new accelerator programs that you will read about in this report.

In some cases, we are reprioritizing existing programs and concluding activities in certain countries. We thank the teams in Mongolia, Tanzania, and Karnataka state in India for their contributions and hard work, which have allowed 2030 WRG to exit those programs, leaving in place competent local stakeholders to take the work forward.

1 https://blogs.worldbank.org/water/improved-governance-and-increased-investment-needed-tackle-world-water-crisis

Our work is strengthened by our partnerships—the scale and urgency of the water challenge cannot be addressed without collaboration. We appreciate the renewed commitment of the World Bank Group, and the commitment from 2030 WRG strategic partners at the global and local level in support of the extension of our hosting agreement to the year 2030. We will continue to use our multistakeholder partnerships to encourage dialogue and support efforts to create an enabling environment.

Our approach aligns with the Maximizing Finance for Development agenda of the World Bank Group, which is a coordinated approach to optimizing the contributions of the public and private sector and mobilizing greater private capital, where appropriate. The World Bank Group is committed to responsibly crowding in private capital without pushing the public sector into unsustainable debt. This entails pursuing private sector solutions where they can help achieve development goals and reserving scarce public finance for where it is most needed.

Our vision is that the private sector can play a substantially bigger role, both as a financier and as a source of knowledge, expertise, and innovation. At the same time, public sector support is needed to develop legal and regulatory frameworks, key policy reforms, and engage new partners to achieve development goals. We will strengthen government capacity to support such reforms and enable collaboration with others.

Moving forward, we aim to have a new 2030 WRG strategic plan endorsed by our global partners in FY23.

As we head into FY23 and in the run-up to the UN 2023 Water Conference in March 2023, we will strive to strengthen 2030 WRG. We will seek greater synergies with the World Bank Group to deepen our impact, including closer alignment with the Maximizing Finance for Development agenda to support water SDGs and climate goals.

We are in the last mile to 2030 and we are confident of our bold ideas for impact—ideas that can leverage the private investment and innovation that is so urgently needed.

Please join us in this critical work for a water-secure world.

> "Our work is strengthened by our partnerships—the scale and urgency of the water challenge cannot be addressed without collaboration."

EXECUTIVE SUMMARY

2030 WRG continued to promote collective action between government, companies, civil society, and communities on water challenges in FY22. Some of our highlights for the year are discussed here.

A strategic shift for greater impact

2030 WRG is entering a new phase of work to accelerate and scale progress in addressing the surmounting challenge of water security around the globe. For more information about our evolution as an organization, see the About 2030 WRG section.

Contributing to the global dialogue on water

2030 WRG took part in several global agenda-setting discussions in FY22. At the 2021 Stockholm World Water Week, we brought people together for a session on the role of the private sector in transforming water governance, where we discussed the need to efficiently engage water stakeholders, including government decision makers, to solve pressing water security issues.

In Dakar, Senegal, we convened a high-level CEO panel during the opening of the 9th World Water Forum titled 'Not Business as Usual: Game-Changing Innovations for Water Security'. The session was jointly organized by the government of Senegal and the World Water Council. Several important discussions were initiated during the panel and at side meetings on how the private sector can contribute to the climate agenda in a more meaningful way.

New partnerships

Our work depends on partnerships at both a country level and at a global level with companies and organizations. In FY22, UPL Ltd. joined the 2030 WRG Governing Council and Steering Board to support our global and country programs. UPL is a global provider of sustainable agriculture products and solutions, and its engagement with 2030 WRG is focused on water savings, low-carbon agriculture, and sustainable agricultural practices.

The Bill and Melinda Gates Foundation will be supporting 2030 WRG's accelerator program in Uttar Pradesh to bring transformative changes to the state's agricultural sector through a gender-responsive, climate-smart approach. By targeting increased adoption of micro irrigation, mechanization, and water efficiency measures, the program will align flagship public schemes and mobilize private capital and innovation for agricultural transformation.

Country engagements

Some of our highlights for the year include:

- Conducting, in collaboration with the Water Global Practice and Finance, Competitiveness, and Innovation Global Practice operations team, a pilot assessment of market-based models and partnership options for non-sewered sanitation in five towns in Kenya.
- Making significant progress in finalizing a hydro-economic analysis for the city of Cape Town, South Africa. The city has requested 2030 WRG's technical assistance and convening and catalytic support for the long-term financing of catchment restoration.
- Collaborating with the World Bank Environment Global Practice on the circular economy and riverine plastic pollution management in Bangladesh. A National Plastic Action Plan was adopted in FY22 and a rapid assessment of micro plastic pollution was initiated, which aims to develop an investment plan and financing options to mitigate micro plastic pollution in rivers and canals.
- Facilitating the formation of the first-of-its-kind Wastewater Reuse Association, as well as a memorandum of understanding between the Aurangabad Municipal Corporation and Zalta Gram Panchayat for the allocation of 2 million liters per day of water by the Aurangabad Municipal Corporation. This guided the project to set up a dedicated wastewater conveyance system from the sewage treatment plant to farmlands, integrate solar energy, and install flow meters to monitor water use.
- Completing a feasibility study on wastewater reuse in the textile-dominant Pho Noi Industrial Park near Hanoi, Vietnam. The study lays the groundwork for the development of a public-private partnership (PPP) to implement wastewater reuse at Pho Noi.
- Working on an initiative to promote the direct reuse of treated wastewater for industrial purposes in the Brazilian basins of the Piracicaba, Capivari, and Jundiaí rivers. Together with partners, 2030 WRG conducted feasibility studies to assess alternatives for industrial reuse and the main results are being presented to potential industrial clients.
- Organizing, with partners' support, a policy dialogue and analytical work on innovative financial instruments to increase private capital mobilization in Mexico's water sector.

During the year we exited our programs in Mongolia, Tanzania, and the state of Karnataka in India. These partnerships have matured to the point where they can sustain themselves and operate without our support.

ABOUT 2030 WRG

The 2030 WRG vision is to advance water security through public-private-civil society partnerships.

How we work

2030 WRG brings together partners from various sectors to work together to identify, develop, and pilot solutions to water challenges. We aim to catalyze public-private collaboration on the themes of financing and innovation to help develop and implement water security and climate action plans.

Our approach is focused around three pillars as a critical response to climate change:

- Sustaining water resources
- Delivering services (particularly focusing on irrigation and water quality improvements)
- Building resilience.

2030 WRG IS DRIVEN BY THE FOLLOWING PRINCIPLES:

Lifting institutional barriers:
Break down silos in the water sector, within and across public sector institutions, including different ministries and departments; civil society; academia; international organizations; the private sector; and others.

Facilitating cross-sectoral alignment:
Create cross-sectoral alignment, facilitating synergies beyond the water sector with other sectors, such as agriculture, urban development, rural development, energy, environment, and others.

Supporting reforms to policies, practices, and mindsets:
Support changes in water-related policies, regulations, governance, and practices.

Serving as a neutral broker:
Bring different, often competing, partners together and create a neutral space for collective action and reform.

Accelerating towards transformation

With water resources under even more pressure, 2030 WRG has been critically rethinking its plan to achieve transformational impact. As part of this, we have begun the consultative process of revising our current strategic plan.

While a new strategy will only be ratified in March 2023, after further input from stakeholders including our Steering Board and Governing Council, we know we want to accelerate towards transformation in the phase ahead. This will include increased collaboration with the World Bank to support our work and greater emphasis on the use of multi-sectoral engagement to achieve sustainable impact.

The proposed shifts in the way we work will be anchored in the third-party evaluation of 2030 WRG, conducted by Hydroconseil and Partnerships in Practice in 2021. The evaluation emphasized the relevance of 2030 WRG to the SDG agenda as well as its effectiveness in fostering the collaborative approaches required to solve complex problems. The evaluation recommended aligning more closely with the World Bank Group and encouraging more companies to contribute to the 2030 WRG partnership, along with articulating a clearer definition of success.

Working through MSPs

2030 WRG's success lies in its multi-stakeholder platform model, which brings a range of partners together from various sectors to discuss, engage, and cooperate for better water management. The platforms put ownership in the hands of the stakeholders, with 2030 WRG acting as a support, rather than a leader in the process of finding solutions. This collective action is critical for achieving water security.

We want to strengthen each of our MSPs to enable them to become more inclusive, transparent, and accountable, with an emphasis on achieving results. MSPs are the core instrument for convening stakeholders at the national level: they enable the implementation of a co-created roadmap for change.

With our network composed of private sector partners, public sector entities, and civil society organizations, we are well positioned to make an impact.

CREATING LEVERAGE THROUGH 2030 WRG COUNTRY PLATFORMS

Networked coalition for public-private-civil society collaboration

Pre-competitive spaces for innovation at scale

Global-local reach and impact

At the country level, in FY22 we refocused our programming on one core accelerator or pre-accelerator program for each MSP, designed as an impact-oriented engagement with the ability to deliver results within a defined timeframe. Accelerators are high-impact, fast-track engagements to address pressing water challenges. They involve collaboration across the World Bank Group, bringing together various World Bank global practices and IFC. Pre-accelerators are initiatives that are expected to evolve into accelerators within three years. Each of these initiatives will include private sector engagement and public-private-civil society collaboration.

Passing the baton: Exiting countries with mature water programs

In FY22, 2030 WRG began to withdraw from Mongolia in a planned exit that included a process to ensure that key lessons learned have been captured for future programs. Our involvement in Tanzania also came to an end, with 2030 WRG's activities there migrating to the World Bank's Water Global Practice. In the previous year, in a move towards sustainability, the Kilimanjaro Water Stewardship Platform was incorporated into a government basin forum, while the National Multi-Sectoral Forum evolved into the apex body for the government's nine basin-level forums, forming part of the national water management strategy led by the Ministry of Water.

Our work in the state of Karnataka in India has also reached maturity, allowing us to withdraw and refocus our efforts. Since starting work there in 2012 we have facilitated over $650 million in financing for irrigation infrastructure, including one of the world's largest community drip projects, Ramthal, spanning 24,000 hectares (and replicated across an additional 200,000 hectares in the state). Our irrigation activities represent a financial leverage of 1:1,000 on the funds we spent in the state for the design and delivery of this work. We have created an inter-departmental project management unit, with local staff, to continue the activities in future.

Exploring synergies with the World Bank Group and IFC

The World Bank Group is one of the world's largest sources of financing and knowledge for developing countries. We have been exploring how to work more closely with relevant World Bank and IFC colleagues in ways that complement 2030 WRG's proficiency in advancing reforms for an enabling environment and mechanisms for public-private-civil society collaboration. Ultimately, this collaboration with stakeholders will make our work more climate responsive.

Country engagements: Accelerators and pre-accelerators

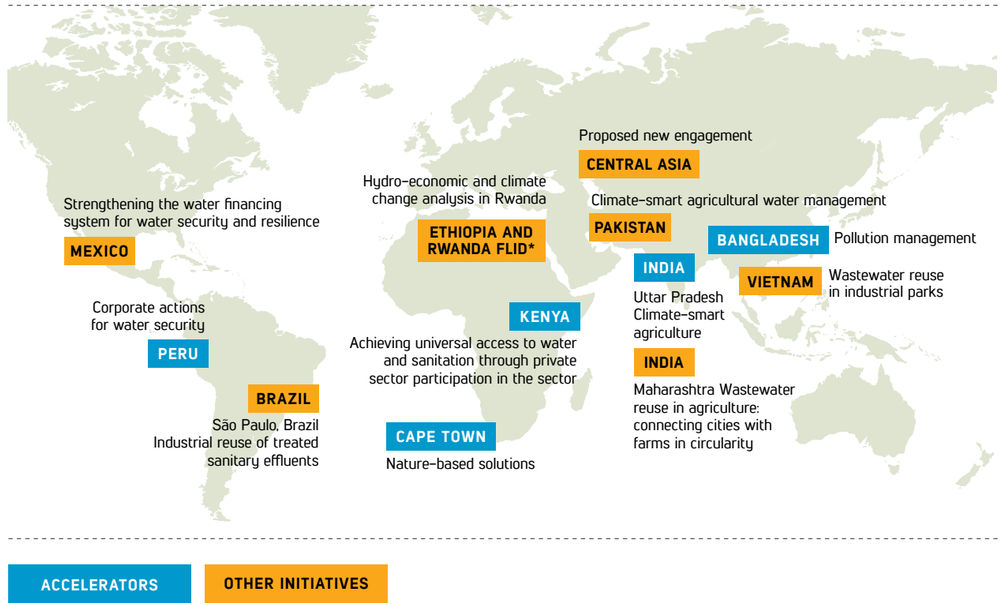
At the core of each accelerator is a focus on integrating private sector capacities and capital in water resources management, combined with a supportive public sector governance framework and civil society implementation. While each accelerator is uniquely designed to address context-specific challenges, they combine four key components:

- **A conducive enabling environment for private sector participation** through incentives, regulations, and standards.
- **Technology and innovation** to drive the implementation of best practices.
- **Financing** through PPPs, blended financing, impact investments, and pay-for-success models.
- **Data and analytics** for evidence-based decision-making and robust monitoring and evaluation.

While we are still finalizing programming of our work at country level, this year we are reporting on one proposed accelerator or pre-accelerator for each area in which we work. The current spread of accelerators and pre-accelerators is outlined in the map that follows. They purposely target a range of themes and geographies.

2030 WRG plans to start an engagement in Central Asia to address water issues in the region. The nature of the activities would be determined through a consultative process carried out through the multistakeholder platform, in line with the approach taken by 2030 WRG in other countries. The World Bank team will closely work with institutions in the region on the next steps.

2030 WRG'S GEOGRAPHICAL FOOTPRINT



PARTNERS

Our work would not be possible without the support of our global and country-level funders.

GOVERNANCE, LEADERSHIP, AND STRUCTURES

Members of the Governing Council FY22

2030 WRG's governance structure comprises a Governing Council, Steering Board, and Secretariat. The Governing Council consists of senior executives of development partners, who provide guidance on the strategic direction of 2030 WRG. They also help to promote 2030 WRG and its activities within their extensive networks.

PAUL BULCKE
Chairman, Board of Directors
Nestlé / Co-Chair, 2030 WRG
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Vice President for Sustainable
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President, African Development
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CEO, Unilever

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BRAC International

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Nature (IUCN)

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Chief Sustainability Officer,
AB InBev

FRANK RIJSBERMAN
Director-General, Global Green
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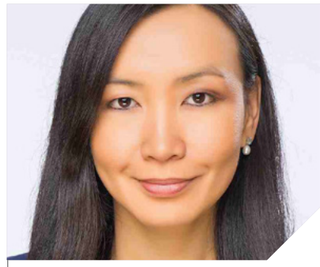

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JAMES QUINCEY
President & CEO,
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OHAD COHEN
Head of the Foreign Trade Administration,
Ministry of Economy and Industry,
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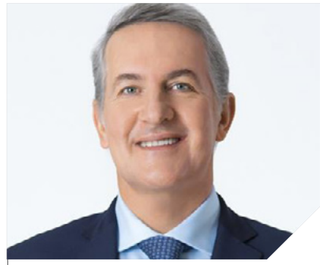

RAMON LAGUARTA
CEO and Chairman, Board of Directors,
PepsiCo

SENZO MCHUNU
Minister of Water and Sanitation,
Government of South Africa

ULRICH KÖRNER
CEO, Credit Suisse
Thomas Gottstein also represented Credit
Suisse in 2022 during his time as CEO

USHA RAO MONARI
Under-Secretary-General & Associate
Administrator, United Nations
Development Programme (UNDP)

GOVERNANCE, LEADERSHIP, AND STRUCTURES

Members of the Steering Board FY22

The Governing Council appoints the members of the Steering Board, which oversees the management of 2030 WRG. The Board supervises the Secretariat; approves its plan, budget, and proposed country programs; supervises funding and resource development within countries; and comments on 2030 WRG's work program.

JENNIFER SARA
Global Director, Water Global Practice, World Bank Group / Co-Chair, 2030 WRG Steering Board

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MICHAEL GOLTZMAN
Vice-President, Global Public Policy and Sustainability, The Coca-Cola Company

NATALIE GUTMAN-CHEN
Minister for Economic & Trade Affairs at the Embassy of Israel in Washington, D.C.

ROBERTA BARBIERI
Vice President, Global Sustainability, PepsiCo

WILLEM UIJEN
Chief Procurement Officer, Unilever

KEY EVENTS

JULY 2021

CATALYZING FARMER-LED SMALL-SCALE IRRIGATION DEVELOPMENT IN KENYA: MULTI-STAKEHOLDER WEBINAR

A high-level multi-stakeholder virtual event took place on July 14, 2021, to discuss key interventions to catalyze farmer-led small-scale irrigation development in Kenya, and the roles and contributions of different stakeholders in this process.

See the recording here: https://youtu.be/N8KfVOZ1MBw

AUGUST 2021

SANITATION WEBINARS IN SÃO PAULO

In August 2021, two webinars to present technological solutions for sanitation utilities in Brazil were organized in partnership with the Israel Trade Investment in São Paulo, Brazil, and the World Bank's Water Global Practice. The webinars focused on the use of artificial intelligence in sanitation and innovations in the circular economy and water reuse.

STOCKHOLM WORLD WATER WEEK

2030 WRG brought people together for a session on 'Transforming Water Governance through Collective Action – The Role of the Private Sector'. Participants discussed the missing link for transformative corporate impact in the water sector: the need to efficiently engage water stakeholders, including government decision makers, to solve the most pressing water security issues. The session highlighted how to prioritize and tackle challenges and identified ways to collaborate for solutions.

See the recording here: https://youtu.be/STSS69Wg5D4

SEPTEMBER 2021

UNLOCKING PUBLIC AND PRIVATE FINANCE FOR WATER STEWARDSHIP

The AB InBev and Reuters webinar highlighted how innovative businesses are tackling the water scarcity crisis. The session looked at global water challenges and climate change; why blended innovative finance for water stewardship is needed; and the role of public-private partnerships in sustainable development and water governance.

See the recording here: https://youtu.be/iOmzYZqx4_g

DECEMBER 2021

ISRAEL WATEC WEBINAR

This webinar focused on Israeli innovation in wastewater treatment and reuse. The session, featuring Israeli companies Ayala Water & Ecology and Aqwise, touched on the enabling conditions for technology adoption; strategies for fostering public-private collaboration for wastewater management; and how solutions could fit into a broader framework for driving the circular economy and improved water quality at the local, regional, and global levels. The webinar was jointly organized by the World Bank Group's ITS Technology and Innovation Lab, the Water Global Practice, counterparts from Israel, Start-up Nation Central, and 2030 WRG.

See the recording here: https://youtu.be/REN3TKY9vro

FEBRUARY 2022

WORLD BANK ONLINE WATER WEEK

This session brought together leading global private sector companies to highlight strategies and approaches for value chain sustainability in the water sector. It explored how corporates can green the value chain through water-use efficiency, circular economy solutions, and water-resilient pathways. It also touched on the role of the government in creating a conducive environment for private investments across the value chain.

See the recording here: https://web.microsoftstream.com/video/1bbb382b-1426-43fd-a48c-92beba6f3788

MARCH 2022

9TH WORLD WATER FORUM

In Dakar, Senegal, 2030 WRG convened a high-level CEO panel during the opening of the 9th World Water Forum titled 'Not Business as Usual: Game-Changing Innovations for Water Security'. The session was jointly organized by the government of Senegal and the World Water Council. The panel brought together leading CEOs in a panel discussion to highlight examples of game-changing approaches, including innovative financing, and opportunities for competitive collaboration among corporates and with governments for achieving water-related impact at scale.

See the recording here: https://youtu.be/aeK_iE4M4Y0

NEW 2030 WRG WEBSITE LAUNCHED

The secretariat launched a redesigned website on World Water Day. The new website is updated and is intuitive to navigate. The new design reflects 2030 WRG's new strategic focus as the partnership introduces its accelerator programs for even greater impact on global water security.

See the new website here: www.2030wrg.org

JUNE 2022

2030 WRG published a report and short video on the lessons learned during its time in Mongolia.

See the full report and related video here: https://2030wrg.org/wp-content/uploads/2022/07/Mongolia-full-report_5.07.22.pdf
https://youtu.be/lLnhqX1uqu8 (ENGLISH).
https://youtu.be/v7f8aVgjJm8 (MONGOLIAN)

COUNTRY PROGRAMS

AFRICA

- Ethiopia
- Kenya
- South Africa
- Rwanda

ASIA

- Bangladesh
- India—Uttar Pradesh
- India—Maharashtra
- Pakistan
- Vietnam
- Mongolia

LATIN AMERICA

- Brazil—São Paulo
- Peru
- Mexico

"We are in the last mile to 2030 and we are confident of our bold ideas for impact—ideas that can leverage the private investment that is so urgently needed."

Photo: Peter Hammer from Unsplash

Photo: Eric Hathaway from Unsplash

AFRICA
ETHIOPIA

ENGAGEMENT: Farmer-led irrigation development
GLOBAL THEMATIC AREA: Transforming agricultural value chains

In Ethiopia, 2030 WRG began preparatory activities to explore the potential for a farmer-led irrigation development accelerator to help small-scale farmers become more productive and profitable while improving their resilience to climate change. During FY22, 2030 WRG in Ethiopia partnered with the International Water Management Institute and the Ethiopian Ministry of Agriculture to organize two multi-stakeholder dialogues on farmer-led irrigation development. These are part of a series of five dialogues in which 2030 WRG has participated in the last two years. The dialogues provided a good basis for capturing experiences and learnings to scale farmer-led irrigation. Themes discussed included financing solutions, value chain and market system approaches, the role of offtake markets in unlocking small-scale irrigation investments, and the inclusive and sustainable expansion of farmer-led irrigation.

2030 WRG in Ethiopia has been developing relationships with stakeholders including the Ministry of Water and Energy, the Ministry of Agriculture, NGOs, and the private sector since 2018. It is refocusing its country engagement towards farmer-led irrigation development to align with work of the Ethiopian government, which has prioritized farmer-led irrigation in pursuit of food security and resilience. The Ethiopian government is already rolling out a Ministry of Agriculture program—the Food Systems Resilience Program for Eastern and Southern Africa, which has the World Bank as the main financier.

2030 WRG is well placed to assist on this program, having championed farmer-led irrigation development in Sub-Saharan Africa (in Kenya and Rwanda) and worked with the private sector on initiatives to improve the efficiency of the agricultural water sector.

The next steps in the Ethiopian engagement are to prepare concept notes and engage in discussions to conceptualize institutional arrangements, 2030 WRG's role, and the future direction the accelerator may take. Outcomes from the multi-stakeholder dialogues will provide important inputs for the concept notes.

With the accelerator designed to support the World Bank's program activities, and the government playing an enabling role through implementing agricultural and rural development policy reforms, 2030 WRG's role is likely to involve leveraging private sector financing to implement selected activities such as supporting farmers' access to finance, access to technology, and access to markets. 2030 WRG is also well suited to coordinate a variety of actors.

THE FOOD SYSTEMS RESILIENCE PROGRAM FOR EASTERN AND SOUTHERN AFRICA is a seven-year regional program benefiting Ethiopia, Madagascar, and the IGAD region (the countries of Djibouti, Eritrea, Ethiopia, Kenya, Somalia, South Sudan, Sudan, and Uganda). The Ethiopia Food Systems Resilience Program will support the development and management of resilient small-scale irrigation to protect farmers against climate-induced water scarcity in Ethiopia. Overall, the Ethiopian program plans to develop 40,000 hectares of irrigated farmland, of which 25,000 hectares will involve new small-scale irrigation schemes. It will also support those using micro-scale irrigation technologies based on demand. The sites will be selected from among 177 districts.

The new irrigation schemes may include water storage infrastructure such as small dams, ponds and tanks, and other community- and household-level water-harvesting structures. The program will also promote simple household- or community-level irrigation technologies, as well as water-saving irrigation methods such as drip and micro-sprinkler irrigation.

2030 WRG will collaborate on activities that strengthen agri-food value chains to improve market efficiency and access for smallholder farmers.

The Ethiopia Food Systems Resilience Program is expected to begin in FY23. It has several components. 2030 WRG is likely to be most active in the component focusing on small-scale irrigation, which is critical for regional food security as it will help boost productivity, reduce food imports, and boost exports.

Photo: Bennett Tobias from Unsplash

AFRICA
KENYA

ACCELERATOR: Achieving universal access to water and sanitation through private sector participation in the sector
GLOBAL THEMATIC AREA: Promoting circular economy solutions
PROPOSED DATES: 2023–2028

The 2030 WRG accelerator program will facilitate increased private investment in Kenya's water and sanitation services. It will assist the Ministry of Water and Sanitation, private sector players, NGOs, and other development partners, such as the World Bank, in creating an enabling environment for private sector investments into the water sector and developing mechanisms to increase SME access to financing.

According to the latest Kenya Population and Housing Census, about a quarter of the country's population lacks access to an improved water source, while only 16 percent have access to an improved sanitation facility. This equates to about 13 million people lacking access to improved water and 24 million lacking access to improved sanitation. Despite this necessity, progress towards increasing access rates has been sluggish due to the sector's reliance on limited public funds, which have become even more constrained since the COVID-19 pandemic. Kenya has a rapidly expanding private sector, but its potential to help provide essential infrastructure and services and close the access gap remains largely underexplored.

The accelerator intends to leverage public funding to facilitate a total of $10 million in private sector investments for operational efficiency improvements of water service providers and for service delivery by 2028, ensuring that 2 million more households have access to improved water and sanitation services by that year.

In support of these goals, the accelerator is being implemented in collaboration with World Bank Operations to enhance the operational and financial performance of water service providers, strengthen the policy framework and institutional arrangements to enable private sector participation, and provide technical assistance for structuring PPPs for service delivery and financing frameworks.

The accelerator interventions build on the upstream work conducted in FY22 by 2030 WRG, which centered on providing technical assistance for the structuring of performance-based contracts for reducing non-revenue water for five government-prioritized pilot water utilities in collaboration with the Water and Sanitation Development Operation. In addition, 2030 WRG, in collaboration with the Water Global Practice and Finance, Competitiveness, and Innovation Global Practice operations team, conducted a pilot assessment of market-based models and PPP options for non-sewered sanitation in five towns in Kenya during FY22.

Through the accelerator, the outcomes of this analytical support—which recommended market structure, smart subsidy schemes, and various PPP options to accelerate public-private engagement in the sanitation value chain—will be scaled at the national level.

2030 WRG will provide technical assistance by facilitating the structuring of high-potential PPPs to enhance water service providers' operational efficiencies and financial viability. The accelerator program will support partnerships between water service providers and private sanitation service operators working on containment, fecal sludge management, and the operation and management of fecal sludge treatment plants.

In addition to providing upstream technical assistance for the preparation of investments, 2030 WRG in Kenya has played and will continue to play a significant role in convening, facilitating, and fostering trust among key sector stakeholders towards ensuring the country's water security. The program has facilitated dialogue over the past four years by establishing a national MSP chaired by the Minister of Water Affairs and a co-chair from the private sector and drawing its membership from senior level policy actors, civil society, business executives, and academic institutions. In an environment increasingly characterized by competing values, the national MSP has provided a neutral platform for defining the areas in which diverse actors can collaborate to close the water and sanitation service gap and ensure Kenya's water security. The MSP's support for the accelerator program's strategic interventions will continue to be a cornerstone of the program's private capital mobilization agenda.

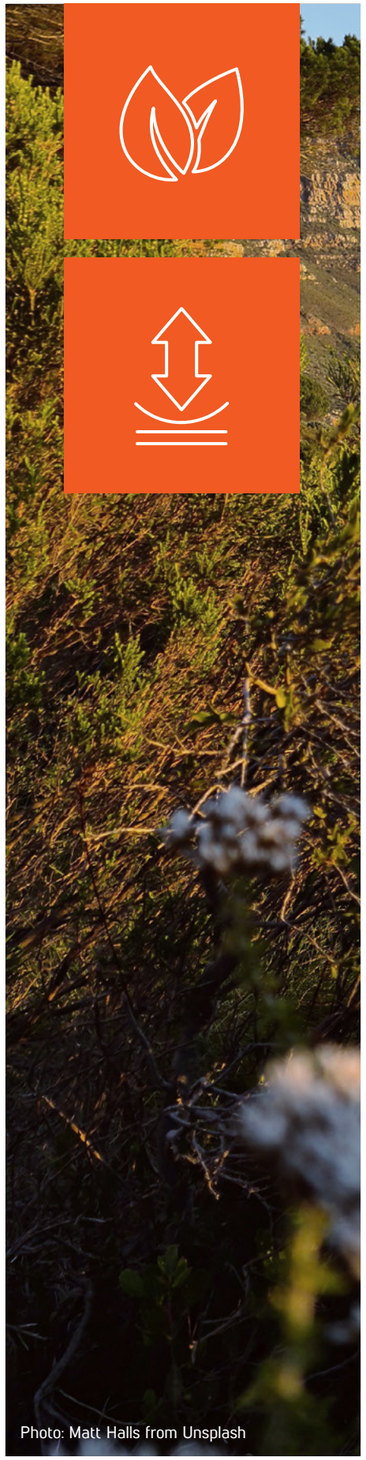


Photo: Matt Halls from Unsplash

AFRICA
SOUTH AFRICA

ACCELERATOR: **Nature-based solutions**
GLOBAL THEMATIC AREA: **Building resilience**
PROPOSED DATES: **2023–2030**

In 2018, the city of Cape Town in the Western Cape province of South Africa experienced one of the worst droughts in recorded history: the resulting water restrictions severely disrupted normal life and significantly affected the regional economy. While the 2018 "Day Zero" crisis was in one city, the whole of South Africa is water stressed. Its annual precipitation is about half the global average, with the water yield already fully allocated (or over-allocated).[2] South Africa's cities are home to 68 percent of the population,[3] and other cities in the country are already facing similar impacts, with Nelson Mandela Bay Municipality in the Eastern Cape province being perilously close to running out of water in early 2022.[4]

In FY22, at the request of the Western Cape government, 2030 WRG made significant progress towards finalizing a hydro-economic analysis of the city of Cape Town and the surrounding towns, industries, and farms. While the hydro-economic analysis focused on Cape Town and the Western Cape, the conclusions are relevant to other cities and water systems from which bulk water supplies are derived. A final version has been released in the first half of FY23.

The Western Cape Water Supply System, which services the city and surrounding areas, is one of the integrated bulk water supply systems developed across South Africa. The analysis was undertaken as a part of a multi-stakeholder dialogue process involving all tiers of government with responsibility for water management within the system: national, provincial, and municipal. The analysis had two objectives. The first was to better understand the relationship of the Western Cape Water Supply System and the economy, to improve the information base for water resources management decision-making. The second objective was to strengthen relationships between key public and private stakeholders towards fostering institutional cooperation and partnerships.

The process was developed around co-creating economic narratives on the costs and benefits of various options for the augmentation of water supply, as well as on the opportunities to build a climate-water resilient economy for the Western Cape.

> Over 9.5 percent of the country's GDP comes from the area serviced by the Western Cape Water Supply System. The proposed augmentation program, which includes clearing thirsty alien vegetation and re-establishing healthy biodiversity, would result in a 7 percent increase in annual GDP for the province, and 195,000 jobs by 2035.

2 Department of Water and Sanitation, South Africa. National Water and Sanitation Master Plan, 2018.
3 United Nations Population Division. World Urbanization Prospects, 2018 update.
4 Nelson Mandela Bay Municipality. Water Outlook Report, February 2022.

Findings from a drought review and hydro-economic modeling were used to stimulate discussion about augmentation options among key stakeholders, which included government departments and representatives from the agriculture, industry, and tourism sectors. Detailed interviews with individual water users and water user groups were used to obtain diverse perspectives. The narrative highlighted two fundamental insights: First, not implementing the augmentation program over the next decade would have significant negative consequences for economic growth and employment.

Second, while augmentation has positive benefits for all households, it disproportionally benefits those who are already part of the formal economy. Pro-poor initiatives need to be explicitly built into the augmentation program.

ACCELERATING NATURE-BASED SOLUTIONS

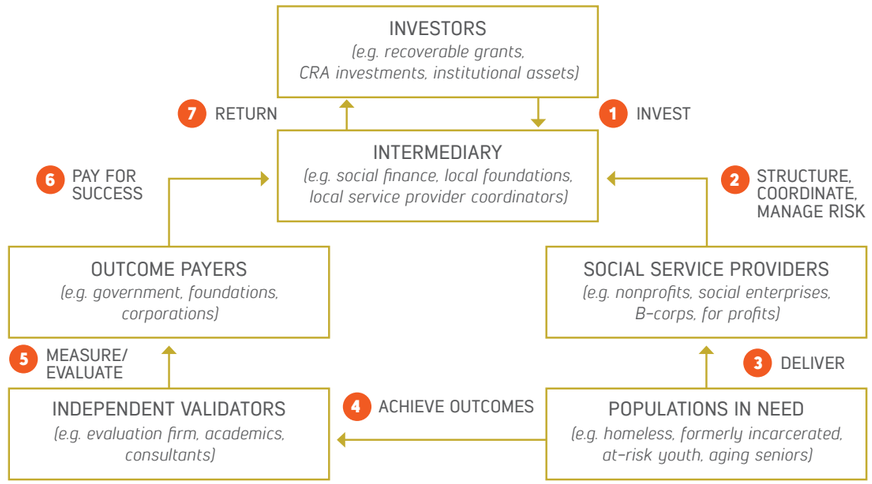
Climate change is likely to exacerbate water shortages, as is failure to manage the spread of alien vegetation—such as pines, gums, and other fast-growing trees—that affect over two-thirds of the sub-catchments supplying the Western Cape Water Supply System. Alien vegetation consumes an estimated 55 billion liters (55 million m3) of water annually, about two months of the city's annual water consumption.[5] The 2030 WRG accelerator in South Africa will focus on alien invasive species management in water catchment areas of the city of Cape Town, as restoring the ecological infrastructure of priority sub-catchments through alien invasive plant removal is a cost-effective and sustainable means of augmenting water supply for the greater Cape Town region. An investment of R372 million (about $22.5 million) on catchment restoration is estimated to gain back the otherwise lost 55 billion liters of water a year within six years.

Following the hydro-economic analysis, the city of Cape Town has requested 2030 WRG's technical assistance and convening and catalytic support for the long-term financing of catchment restoration through alien invasive plant clearing, covering three areas of work:

- Testing the feasibility of developing an impact bond for financing the catchment restoration.
- Driving decision-making towards a ring-fenced water resources management charge.
- Supporting the convening of relevant stakeholders to discuss and support third-party implementation of the above financing instruments.

This work will be conducted in close collaboration with the World Bank team in South Africa.

FIGURE 1: THE SOCIAL IMPACT BOND MECHANISM



Source: OECD adapted from Burand (2013)

5 Nelson Mandela Bay Municipality. Water Outlook Report, February 2022.

Photo: Annie Spratt from Unsplash

AFRICA
RWANDA

ENGAGEMENT: Hydro-economic and climate change analysis in Rwanda
GLOBAL THEMATIC AREA: Building resilience

2030 WRG's engagement in Rwanda is at an early stage. In FY21, the Rwandan government invited 2030 WRG to work with the country's Water Resources Board to establish an MSP. Areas for potential future engagement to improve water resources management are emerging through discussions with the government, private sector, and civil society organizations, underpinned by the recommendations of the recently completed hydro-economic and climate change analysis.

The hydro-economic and climate change analysis work, which was facilitated by 2030 WRG, was identified as a critical input for the development of the Word Bank's Climate Change and Development Report (CCDR) for Rwanda—a core diagnostic report that suggests priority actions to reduce greenhouse gas emissions and boost adaptation, while delivering on broader development goals. Key findings and policy recommendations from the hydro-economic and climate change analysis fed into the final CCDR. The climate change analysis has identified priorities for climate adaptation and resilience measures in key sectors, such as agriculture (irrigation, fishpond and livestock) and energy (hydropower).

A key element of the hydro-economic and climate change analysis process was to build ownership of the analysis along with capacity of the Rwanda Water Resources Board and other stakeholders, so that the models and tools continue to be used in future policy analysis and decision-making.

The Stockholm Environment Institute conducted the work, using its Water Evaluation and Planning platform, combined with economic and climate models, to support the analysis. Additional consultants assessed private sector engagement in the water sector and identified specific areas for intervention.

The key policy recommendations emanating from the analysis included the following:

- Develop a national plan to guide investments in water storage.
- Prioritize wastewater management strategies for both sewered and non-sewered solutions in growing urban centers.
- Expand payments for ecosystem services schemes to improve the functioning of water management structures and provide another entry point for private capital into the sector.
- Source additional investment and capacity for the new policy tools and interventions.
- Undertake research and analysis to develop greater understanding of climate change impacts on irrigated and rainfed agriculture. The government also already identified farmer-led irrigation as critical for increasing agricultural productivity and thus growing the economy, with agriculture accounting for 29 percent of GDP.
- Facilitate policy dialogue between the water and energy sector to agree on targets and strategies for expanding hydropower.

ROBUST, UP-TO-DATE DATA PROMOTES CONSENSUS AND TRUST

Establishing consensus on the key challenges to the availability of freshwater, in the context of climate change, is an important first step towards managing freshwater resources more sustainably. The interaction between the availability of freshwater resources and economic activity also needs to be understood.

Rwanda's hydro-economic and climate change analysis sets out available data, identifies information gaps, and outlines where the real problems and opportunities lie in water management, to create understanding of how shifts in economic activity can improve water security while supporting development objectives. It recommends concrete opportunities and aligns joint initiatives towards sustainable water resources management and long-term economic growth.

The hydro-economic and climate change analysis process has also built relationships between the government, businesses, civil society, and researchers, creating a foundation of common, evidence-based understanding and transparency.

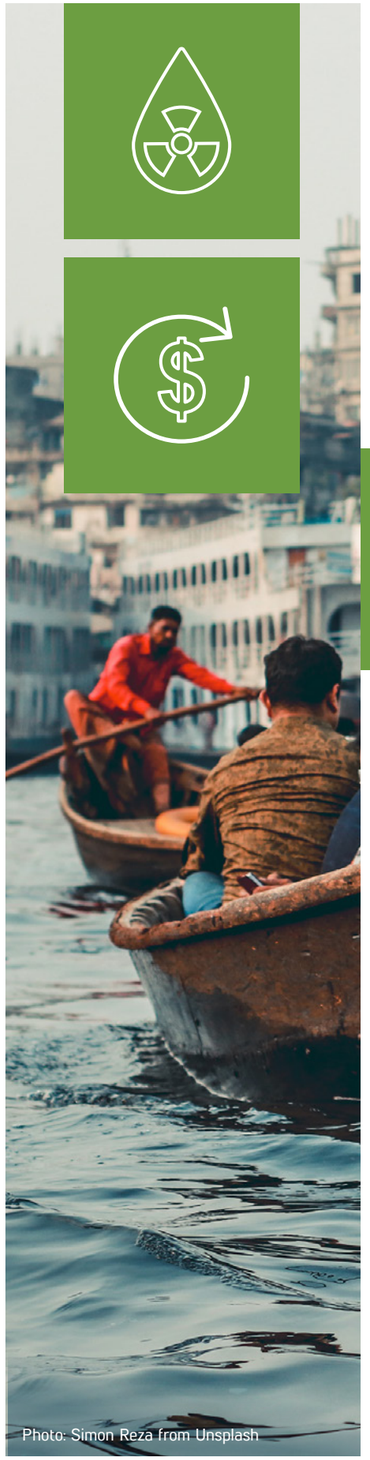


Photo: Simon Reza from Unsplash

ASIA
BANGLADESH

ACCELERATOR: **Pollution management**
GLOBAL THEMATIC AREA: **Promoting circular economy solutions**
PROPOSED DATES: **2022–2030**

In Bangladesh, 2030 WRG's accelerator program aims to support the government in achieving the water pollution management components of its Bangladesh Delta Plan 2100, which was created to address the country's water security challenges. In collaboration with the World Bank and IFC, the accelerator will create a model for channeling private sector expertise in innovative technology for wastewater treatment and reuse into public projects.

Water pollution is a critical issue in Bangladesh, where many rivers are biologically dead, and 28 percent of deaths are caused by pollution. The country's funding gap for water pollution management will be $6.6 billion by 2040. The gap is too large to be met by public funding alone, so 2030 WRG's engagement aims to mobilize $300 million in private capital while accelerating investments totaling about $5 billion by 2040.

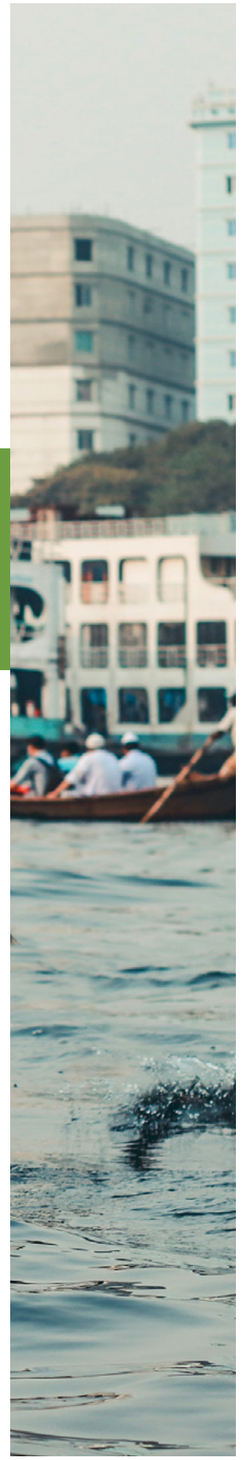
The accelerator program builds on large-scale pollution management activities developed by the 2030 WRG Bangladesh multi-stakeholder partnership over several years. This high-level MSP was gazetted in law and approved by the Prime Minister in 2015. Since then, 2030 WRG has enabled successful partnerships between the public and private sectors, NGOs, and international organizations.

2030 WRG's role in the accelerator will focus on working to build consensus among citizens, municipalities, and private companies on the urgent need to manage pollution, including building an evidence base.

During FY22, 2030 WRG secured commitment from the MSP partners for the accelerator's focus, which is to support the set-up of PPPs for water pollution management in three key areas: municipal wastewater management, industrial wastewater management, and plastic pollution management. Critically, 2030 WRG has expertise in developing and piloting water-related PPPs, which tend to be vulnerable unless substantial effort is put into relationships.

Underpinning this partnership work is 2030 WRG's work on structuring financing instruments for activities in major cities and economic zones. It plans to develop an innovative green bond to mobilize private sector investment in large-scale PPPs (and other projects) supporting greater municipal and industrial wastewater treatment, fecal sludge management, and reuse.

Bangladesh already has an emerging green finance market, along with an evolving green bond market. However, the framework for public-private collaboration is complex. 2030 WRG's past experience positions it to play a vital convening role as a neutral broker and financing facilitator.



ACCELERATOR COMPONENTS:

- Municipal wastewater management PPPs
- Industrial wastewater management PPPs
- Circular economy and riverine plastic pollution management PPPs

Municipal wastewater management

The Ministry of Local Government, Rural Development, and Cooperatives has endorsed the municipal component of the accelerator program.

Gazipur City Corporation: The municipal wastewater management initiative, the first PPP-based municipal wastewater management project in Bangladesh, aims to develop integrated wastewater management facilities for the city. The initiative, originated by 2030 WRG, is now at the final stage, with 2030 WRG supporting PPP development and approval, implementing a pilot fecal sludge treatment plant, and holding a public awareness campaign. This complex initiative, supported by the World Bank and IFC, included helping citizens both to take up improved sanitation services offered by the city, and to access microfinance for the necessary household-level improvements. In FY22, lessons were captured for a replicable model.

Narayanganj City Corporation: The city corporation has formally asked 2030 WRG to start a PPP-based municipal wastewater management initiative, replicating the Gazipur City Corporation model. The terms of reference for a rapid assessment have been approved.

Industrial wastewater management

The Bangladesh Economic Zones Authority under the Prime Minister's Office endorsed the industrial component of the accelerator in FY22.

2030 WRG continued engaging with stakeholders on consensus building and designing the first PPP for a central effluent treatment plant at Mirsarai Industrial Zone, which is a large economic zone servicing mostly textile and garment factories, including major international companies. The Bangladesh Garments Association is a key stakeholder in the initiative, which aims to address pollution caused by the production of Bangladesh's biggest exports, textiles and garments. Construction of the plant will begin in FY23.

The aim is to create a replicable PPP model. In FY22, the Bangladesh Economic Zones Authority asked 2030 WRG to start working towards PPPs for central effluent treatment plants in three additional economic zones. The initiative is supported by the World Bank.

Circular economy and riverine plastic pollution management

2030 WRG, collaborating with the World Bank Environment Global Practice, has been working on circular economy and riverine plastic pollution management through a technical committee formed at the Ministry of Water Resources. Steps taken towards plastic pollution management under this program in FY22 included approval of a National Plastic Action Plan. In addition, a rapid assessment of micro plastic pollution was initiated, which aims to develop an investment plan and financing options to mitigate micro plastic pollution in rivers and canals. In FY22, the Ministry of Water Resources approved the formation of a high-level national coordination committee to fast-track the development of this investment initiative nationally. The aim is to create a PPP model for plastic recycling, river cleanup, waste separation at source, and public awareness programs.

2030 WRG began exploring options for innovative financing in the last few months of FY22. Among other exploratory activities, consultations were organized with stakeholders including Bangladesh Bank, the Bangladesh Securities and Exchange Commission, and the Municipal Development Fund for Green Bonds. 2030 WRG also held national-level workshops to introduce the green bond concept to 10 city corporations and 15 municipalities.

The next steps will be to develop a concept note, develop green bond guidelines, and convene a high-level task force to facilitate the design and launching of the green bond.

Photo: Gyan Shahane from Unsplash

ASIA
INDIA—MAHARASHTRA

ENGAGEMENT: Wastewater reuse in agriculture: connecting cities with farms in circularity
GLOBAL THEMATIC AREA: Circular economy

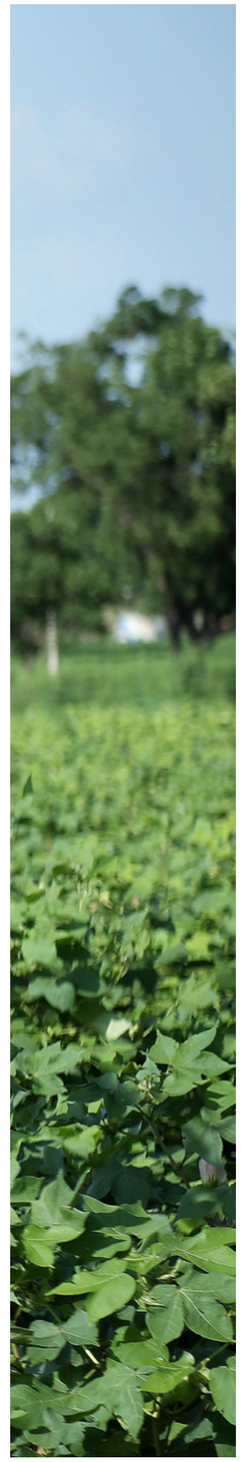
An activity initiated by 2030 WRG in Maharashtra state demonstrated how treated wastewater can be safely, sustainably, and viably reused in agriculture. The initiative was formally launched in March 2022 in the peri-urban, agrarian village of Zalta about 15 kilometers from the city of Aurangabad, Maharashtra. It focused on supplying treated wastewater to smallholder farmers.

UPDATE: In October 2022, the Aurangabad wastewater reuse project received the prestigious Special Jury Award in the Urban Water and Wastewater Management category from the annual National Federation of Indian Chambers of Commerce and Industry (FICCI) Water Awards 2022.

Aurangabad is a significant industrial hub along the Delhi-Mumbai Industrial Corridor. Aurangabad generates close to 1 million employment opportunities for its citizens and migrants, attracting a steady flow of investments. The city has a demand-supply gap of 100 million liters per day. Increasingly erratic rainfall, recurring droughts, and an acute shortage of water supply have also affected thousands of dairy farmers in the peri-urban area of Aurangabad, impacting agriculture, food, and fodder security.

In the absence of an alternative perennial reliable source of water, many farmers have no choice but to pump contaminated water directly from the seasonal rivers, which receive surface runoff from farms carrying pesticides, antibiotics and fertilizer residues, stormwater, effluents released from chemical manufacturers, industries, and untreated sewage from settlements. The use of polluted water for many years has severely affected the soil and groundwater quality. Sick cattle, inferior crop-dairy products, health issues including skin rashes, and allergic reactions for farmers and farm laborers on exposure to untreated sewage have also been reported. Importantly, farmers have been cultivating only low-value, short-duration food and fodder crops, which have influenced their socioeconomic status and compromised the chances of achieving welfare goals in the area.

However, in FY22, as a result of the activity, around 2 million liters per day of secondary treated water, which was previously released into the nearby river, was efficiently diverted to 15 farms in the vicinity of the Aurangabad Municipal Corporation's sewage treatment plant through a dedicated conveyance system, with a commitment of a year-long assured water supply.



Prior to the pilot activity, the farmers have not had direct access to this water. Apart from the health and welfare benefits, the safer wastewater supply is expected to have positive long-term impacts on income generation. The availability of fodder for cattle during summers should increase the quantities of milk and improve the quality of perishable produce.[6]

The demonstration activity is an excellent example of effective local governance through partnerships and community approaches. The Water Resources Department of the government of Maharashtra established an MSP on water in 2017 to pursue the implementation of multi-stakeholder-oriented collective action promoting water security (2030 WRG is the secretariat to the Maharashtra water MSP). The MSP had identified an opportunity to address the demand-supply gap of water at Aurangabad through resource circularity and carbon neutrality.

Supported by the Aurangabad Municipal Corporation, the World Bank-funded Project on Climate Resilient Agriculture, and the district administration, the Maharashtra MSP convened several focused group discussions with farmers around Aurangabad and other stakeholders to understand the gravity of water scarcity and its impacts on the agriculture sector. At the request of the Aurangabad Municipal Corporation and with the support of IIT Bombay, the MSP undertook a rapid assessment of the quality of untreated wastewater used for irrigation, soil health status, and crop residue. A socioeconomic status assessment was also completed. On the basis of the initial findings, and with the active support from the Zalta Gram Panchayat (village council), the farmers, and the local sewage treatment plant, 2030 WRG conceived the initiative, which was executed by the Aurangabad Municipal Corporation.

Through the supply of treated water to farmers and other sectors, the Urban Local Body has ensured a small revenue stream: this highlights the economic value of this important resource, which was otherwise released back into polluted natural streams as 'waste', despite the investment of millions of rupees in setting up treatment infrastructure.

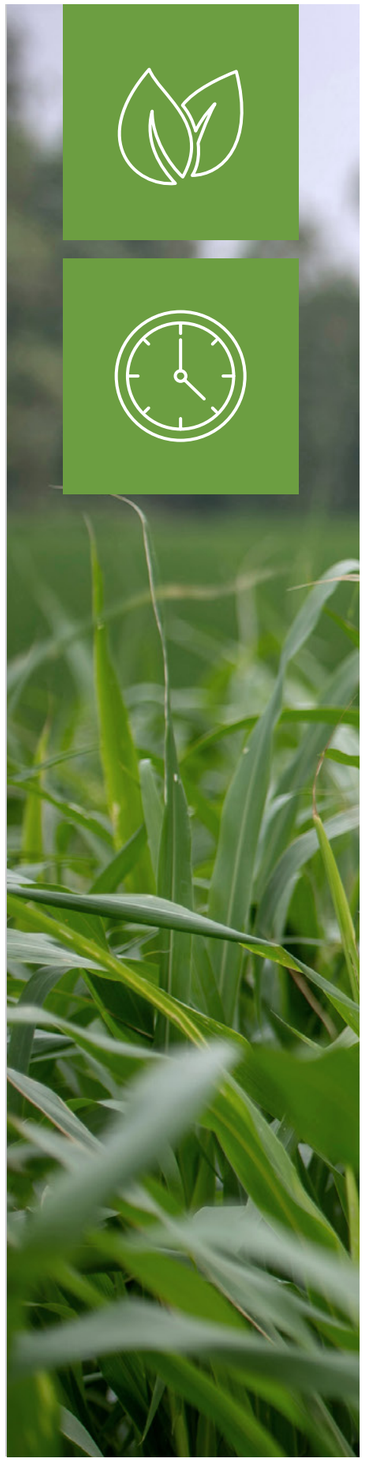
Another innovative aspect of the initiative is a first-of-its-kind agreement in the state of Maharashtra formalized between the Aurangabad Municipal Corporation, the Urban Local Body, and the Sukhana Jalakranti Wastewater Re-Users Association—a group of farmers from Zalta village. The agreement confirms the commitment of the Urban Local Body to allocate treated wastewater for agriculture, especially in the dry months of the year. The farmers have paid the tariff for the treated water as per the guidelines provided by the Maharashtra Water Resources Regulatory Authority and also contributed towards setting up the conveyance infrastructure. It is significant that the farmers are paying for the cost of the water and electricity to pump the water as it reasserts that there is a demand for treated wastewater for irrigation.

The farmer association has 17 founder members and is now eager to grow to accommodate more farmers, enabling irrigation of almost 4,000 acres of land near Zalta using treated water.

Encouraged by the outcome of this initiative, the Aurangabad Municipal Corporation has drawn up plans for improving the collection and treatment of sewage and most importantly allocating wastewater for sectoral reuse. In the proposed plan, around 10 million liters per day of treated water would be allocated for afforestation, 161 million liters per day for industrial and commercial reuse and more than 35 million liters per day would be dedicated to agricultural applications.

This applied model is being considered for replication across the state of Maharashtra: The government of Maharashtra, along with the local private sector partners, bilateral agencies, and IFC, are working collectively to explore possibilities of scaling up wastewater reuse for ensuring holistic, sustainable development in drought-prone regions, and enhancing water security and climate resilience in the state.

6 Findings of the socioeconomic status assessment undertaken for the initiative.



ASIA

INDIA—UTTAR PRADESH

ACCELERATOR: Climate-smart agriculture
GLOBAL THEMATIC AREA: Transforming agricultural value chains
PROPOSED DATES: 2022–2030

In the Indian state of Uttar Pradesh, the new accelerator targets climate-smart agriculture. Wheat, rice, and sugar cane dominate the state's agricultural economy, accounting for 9.6 million hectares, 5.9 million hectares, and 2.7 million hectares of land respectively. However, yields and farmer incomes are low, while water usage and greenhouse gas emissions are high. 2030 WRG is working with the government of Uttar Pradesh and stakeholders to find ways for farmers to create greener value chains—with lower carbon and water footprints—while increasing farmer yields and incomes in the nation's top-ranking agricultural and horticultural producing state.

Uttar Pradesh's water footprint is two to three times higher than international best practice per unit of agricultural output. Moreover, the state is India's largest emitter of greenhouse gases and has the highest livestock population.

The multi-stakeholder partnership in Uttar Pradesh has been active since 2018. In FY22, the government of Uttar Pradesh agreed to set up the accelerator program for transforming agriculture and water resources management in the state. The new initiative will increase the adoption of micro-irrigation, mechanization, and renewable energy technology in value chains. Under the proposal, the accelerator program will be led by the Agricultural Production Commissioner with active participation from other relevant government departments including Agriculture and Horticulture. The private sector will play a key role in value chain development and in creating forward linkages, for example in processing and distribution.

The program aims to reach 5 million farmers in the next eight years, with 50 percent higher farmer incomes, 25 percent higher agricultural yields, and over 50 percent reductions in their water and carbon footprints. It will drive a tenfold increase in the area under micro-irrigation and a 50-fold increase in the area under direct seeded rice, with focused use of modern technologies, farm mechanization, and the promotion of sustainable agricultural practices across key crops.

The accelerator will take a staggered approach to working with farmers in all 75 districts in Uttar Pradesh, with agreed prioritization criteria decided in consultation with the government and partners. 2030 WRG will provide technical support for the rollout of the accelerator program by facilitating private sector participation, mobilizing private finance, and leveraging the government's capacity for district-level planning, monitoring, and implementation.

A novel feature of the program is its inclusion of the private sector to help farmers use new farming technology and adopt mechanization along with agricultural practices that reduce carbon emissions and increase water efficiency. These practices include a shift to directly seeding rice, which results in significant water savings, rather than transplanting seedlings into flooded fields. Similarly, mulching, trench planting, and drip irrigation are being recommended for the 3 million hectares dominated by sugarcane in the state.

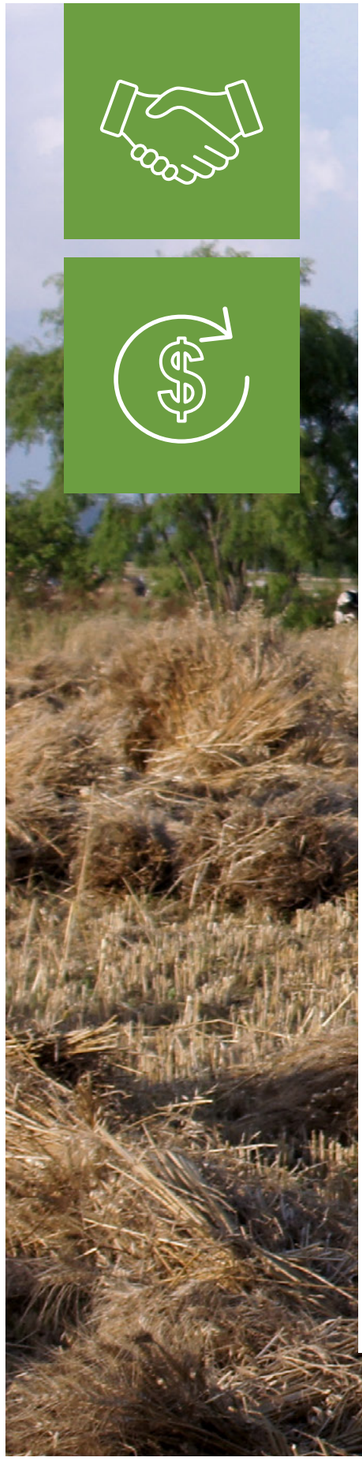
In a first for Uttar Pradesh, the program will aim to unlock carbon credits through sustainable agriculture. This would provide an additional incentive for farmers to switch to practices that promote better soil management, water savings, and more efficient use of specified nutrients. The accelerator also aims to attract financing from the private sector and other partners.

CARBON FINANCING FOR REDUCING EMISSIONS

Supporting farmers to produce carbon credits through climate- and water-positive practices can help decarbonize agricultural value chains. This accelerator program puts farmers at the center of the solution by incentivizing and enabling them to implement cultivation and water management practices that capture carbon in the soil such as reduced tillage or planting cover crops and increasing soil nutrition for improving soil health. Improving soil health increases carbon sequestration, reduces greenhouse gas emissions, increases drought resilience, enhances water quality, boosts crop yield, increases nutrient availability, provides pollinator habitat, and suppresses plant diseases.

The accelerator program will connect farmers to civil society organizations, carbon project developers, and financiers who can support them to sequester carbon in the soil and reduce greenhouse gas emissions. This will generate high-quality, third-party-certified carbon credits, which industries looking to offset their emissions can buy from farmers. Participating farmers can thus generate additional income from carbon cropping while maintaining or even increasing crop yields as a result of improved soil health.

2030 WRG has expertise in establishing consortiums for carbon financing, having leveraged the voluntary carbon mechanism in over 100,000 hectares in Maharashtra and Uttar Pradesh in the past financial year.



ASIA
PAKISTAN

ENGAGEMENT: Climate-smart agricultural water management
GLOBAL THEMATIC AREA: Building resilience

Pakistan ranks high among countries that will be hardest hit by climate change, with impacts including water scarcity and flooding—as evidenced by the catastrophic flooding during the monsoon months of July to September 2022. As the largest consumer of water in the country (at close to 92 percent), the agricultural sector is particularly vulnerable to changes in water availability.

2030 WRG's engagement in Pakistan, which started in 2020, is at the scoping stage. During FY22, 2030 WRG explored opportunities to collaborate on World Bank and IFC projects in the pipeline. It also engaged in bilateral dialogue with private sector partners, including Pepsi, Nestlé, and others. In November 2021, 2030 WRG signed a cooperation agreement with WWF-Pakistan. The team is working with stakeholders to design the accelerator, which will focus on building resilience within the agricultural supply chain, especially for smallholder farmers who are the most vulnerable to water scarcity and climate change impacts. The accelerator aims to support farmers in adopting technologies that can help them use less water, while improving their yields and incomes.

The proposed accelerator will also address Pakistan's food security concerns, which have become increasingly critical due to the COVID-19 pandemic, international supply chain disruptions, and climate change—with the recent flooding pushing the country into deeper crisis.

The Pakistan Council of Research in Water Resources is the assigned focal agency for the 2030 WRG partnership in Pakistan at the federal level. Falling under the Ministry of Water Resources, this body is mandated to coordinate and promote research on all aspects of water resources, including irrigation, drainage, soil reclamation, drinking water, and wastewater. At the provincial level, our key counterparts are the Agriculture and Irrigation departments.

There is interest from government, corporations, and civil society in exploring the role of the private sector and local communities in addressing water challenges in the agricultural sector. The 2030 WRG Pakistan program expects to catalyze this interest into initiatives under the accelerator in FY23.

2030 WRG'S THREE PROPOSED ACTION AREAS

The accelerator will identify activities that reduce farmers' water risk, enhance climate resilience and sustainable use of groundwater in key value chains, and promote social inclusion.

Three action areas have been identified. The first focuses on promoting growing crops that are better suited to water-stressed and heatwave-prone areas. The second action area aims to reduce water loss in irrigation systems. The third area helps to accelerate access to climate-smart agricultural technologies and practices to promote water-use efficiency. The accelerator will look into leveraging 2030 WRG's partner network to bring in innovative financing mechanisms for efficient irrigation systems.

Photo: Toomas Tartes from Unsplash

ASIA
VIETNAM

ENGAGEMENT: Wastewater reuse in industrial parks
GLOBAL THEMATIC AREA: Promoting circular economy solutions

In Vietnam, where 2030 WRG has been working since 2016, a feasibility study on wastewater reuse in the textile-dominant Pho Noi Industrial Park near Hanoi was completed in FY22. As water resources come under stress, reusing wastewater provides industries with an additional source of water supply, while reducing the amount of polluted wastewater being discharged into water bodies.

The feasibility study lays the groundwork for the development of a PPP to implement wastewater reuse at Pho Noi. Getting buy-in from the industrial park's new management, along with attracting private investment, would be the next step. 2030 WRG is offering follow-up support to the management of the industrial park, such as reviewing the bidding documents and procurement plan and exploring financing options. A technical and financial framework for wastewater reuse derived from the study at Pho Noi is being applied to other industrial parks (Bao Minh Industrial Park among others) to assess the parks' water footprints and wastewater reuse opportunities.

Lessons from the Pho Noi feasibility study are also feeding into a new initiative, the IN Sustainable Textile and Apparel Industrial Park (INSTEP) led by IDH and the Vietnam Chamber of Commerce and Industry. The initiative aims to build socially and environmentally effective, efficient, and sustainable industrial parks. 2030 WRG will play a key role in promoting water sustainability and other partners will provide their expertise to address environmental, social, and governance issues common to industrial parks.

A framework like this will need to be supported by continued knowledge-sharing. Treating wastewater to remove chemicals is a costly process and potential investors will need to see evidence that it is possible to earn an adequate return on investment in wastewater services. Certainty and transparency regarding the likelihood of recovery of capital, reimbursement of costs, and a "reasonable profit" will be essential. The stakeholder engagement work done by 2030 WRG in previous years has encouraged productive discussions about such challenges, leading to the development of a pipeline of projects on wastewater reuse.

To address legislative barriers, 2030 WRG has been working since 2021 on a new urban wastewater policy paper. The paper was disseminated to stakeholders and their feedback was incorporated. The paper provides in-depth insights into practices and models of PPPs on wastewater treatment and reuse in Vietnam and other countries.

Currently, public-private investment is notably absent from wastewater services in Vietnam except for a few projects in Hanoi or Ho Chi Minh City. However, the private sector is a possible source of additional investment capital.

KEY WATER AND SANITATION FIGURES

The four river basins (Red-Thai Binh, Mekong Delta, Dong Nai-Sai Gon, and the South-Central clusters) that account for

82%

of Vietnam's GDP will suffer from water stress by 2030.

Although 60% of Vietnam's urban wastewater is collected, only 14.5% is treated.

The remaining 85.5% is discharged untreated to various water courses.

Photo: Lightscape from Unsplash

ASIA
MONGOLIA:
REFLECTING ON A DECADE OF TRANSFORMATIVE IMPACT

After nearly a decade, the 2030 WRG Mongolia multi-stakeholder partnership has achieved maturity. In 2022, 2030 WRG began to exit the country, with knowledgeable and competent local partners in place to take the platform forward.

At inception, 2030 WRG was invited to support Mongolia in improving the country's management and governance of water resources, using the 2030 WRG multi-stakeholder model. With climate change, pollution, and water abstraction increasingly straining the country's groundwater resources, the government identified the need to prioritize implementation of legal and policy reforms to water management. This remains critical, especially because growth in the mining sector projected in Mongolia's Vision 2050—the country's roadmap for economic development—will place increasing demand on the limited groundwater supply.

Analyzing and convening

The foundation of any 2030 WRG engagement is an analysis of water challenges and opportunities. As such, the first step of the Mongolia engagement was to conduct a national hydro-economic analysis, which started in 2012 and was published in 2014. This was followed by hydro-economic analyses of Ulaanbaatar, the Gobi gold and coal mining region, and the copper mining region. These analyses formed the basis for reviewing water management laws, policies, and implementation.

The multi-stakeholder platform was launched in 2013, with 2030 WRG in a facilitating role. Ensuring that all stakeholders understood the basis for proposals and actions was a significant aspect of the convening role. Another was supporting the continued participation of all the right partners—including those habituated to distrust one another.

"In the past nine years, the 2030 WRG Mongolia program has reshaped the landscape of water management in the country."

– Erkhembayer Battulga, State Secretary, Ministry of Environment and Tourism, and chair of 2030 WRG's Multi-Stakeholder Platform Steering Board in Mongolia

WATER CHALLENGES IN MONGOLIA

Groundwater reserves provide for

80%

of Mongolia's water consumption —but they are deteriorating, while demand is rapidly increasing.

40%

of the total population has access to unsafe drinking water.

In Ulaanbaatar, home to half the population,

43%

of water demand will not be met by 2030 in a high-demand scenario.

Transformative impact

Over the past nine years, the multi-stakeholder platform has strengthened Mongolia's water management laws and policies, water resource management, and river basin management. Outcomes include:

AN IMPROVED POLICY FRAMEWORK FOR WATER RESOURCES

- A revised and improved methodology for water ecological-economic valuation.
- National Standards for Treated Wastewater Reuse.
- A revised and improved Water Pollution Fee Law, including uptake of the polluter pays principle and a workable methodology to estimate industrial and domestic water pollution levels.
- An assessment and recommendations for improving the urban water tariff system.
- A new National Integrated Water Resources Strategy and Plan that is aligned with Vision 2050 and the Environmental Targeted Program.

INCENTIVES FOR BETTER RESOURCE MANAGEMENT

- A Voluntary Code of Practice for mine water management, signed by 11 companies.
- The Golden Drop award, which recognizes leading industry partners for their water stewardship efforts and encourages companies to develop state-of-the-art water management practices.
- A groundwater portal and dashboard that facilitates informed decision-making and feeds into forward-looking policies on groundwater use in Ulaanbaatar and the Southern Gobi desert.
- A replicable demonstration initiative showing the feasibility and added value of reusing treated wastewater.
- Wastewater projects in Ulaanbaatar mobilizing close to $100 million from the Millennium Challenge Corporation.

STRENGTHENED GOVERNANCE AND MANAGEMENT AT THE RIVER BASIN LEVEL

- Improved River Basin Council guidelines.
- Improved capacity and knowledge at basin level to support adoption of the guidelines.

Planned exit

As part of the exit process, in 2022 2030 WRG employed a development facilitator, KORUMO, to evaluate its engagement in Mongolia. The evaluation explores the lessons learned in the near-decade of 2030 WRG's involvement in the partnership, providing valuable insights for the remaining partners who will take the vision forward. Highlighting some of the practices that led to 2030 WRG's successes will allow the platform to endure and provide learning for future engagements in other countries.

Lessons learned

KORUMO's evaluation identified five key lessons from 2030 WRG's engagement in Mongolia:

Safeguard the shared vision by guiding multi-stakeholder interventions with explicit, coherent, and consistent visioning. The report recommended being more explicit about the theory behind the vision. While the team's actions on the ground were aligned with their goals, articulating the theory of change behind the actions more explicitly and consistently would help safeguard the shared vision, particularly during course correction in future engagements.

Effective facilitation entails working in service of the multi-stakeholder platform. Taking on the role of a neutral, competent broker has been key to 2030 WRG's success in Mongolia. Competence includes having a deep understanding of stakeholders' interests and needs, as well as the country context. 2030 WRG's guiding principles of inclusivity, transparency, accountability, and integrity were critical to building and maintaining trust.

Be concrete and finish what you start. Focusing on concrete outputs, and ensuring that they are durable, helps to keep stakeholders motivated. So does celebrating milestones. Building an exit strategy for the external facilitator (for example, 2030 WRG) into the engagement right from the start aligns expectations and helps stakeholders envisage what the finish line looks like.

Use analytics effectively and prioritize knowledge exchange. Stakeholders need to understand the analytics and data, and time should be spent sharing knowledge with partners. But knowledge exchange goes beyond this—ensuring that experiences are captured and shared allows stakeholders in one project to learn from the experiences of others. It can also drive upscaling and replication.

Be sensitive and responsive to contextual opportunities when envisioning a multi-stakeholder platform. Unexpected opportunities may arise where resources and interest come together. Being willing to respond to situations like these can be an ingredient for success.

For more information on the evaluation, see 2030 WRG Mongolia Engagement: Key Lessons Learned on Multi-stakeholder Governance.

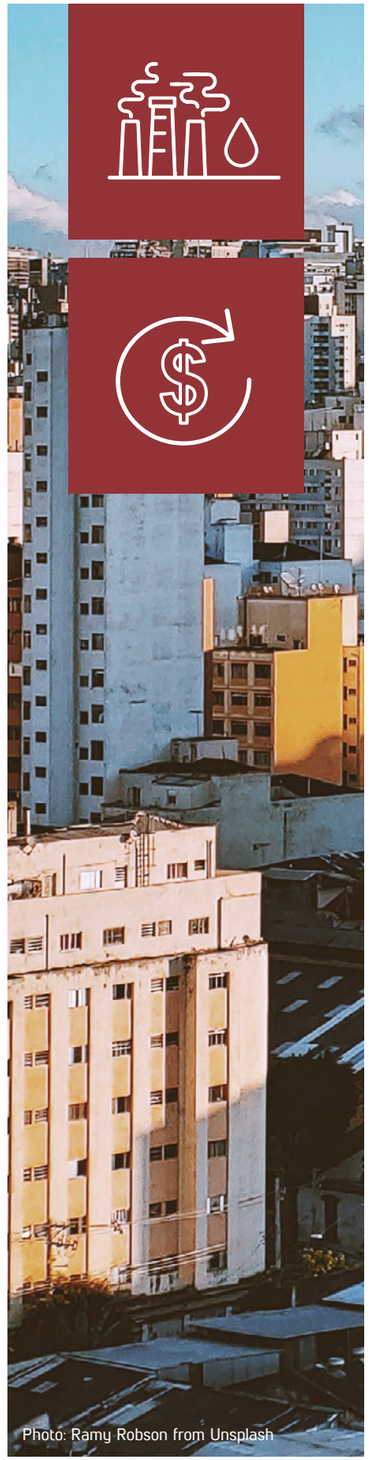


Photo: Ramy Robson from Unsplash

LATIN AMERICA
BRAZIL—SÃO PAULO

ENGAGEMENT: Industrial reuse of treated sanitary effluents
GLOBAL THEMATIC AREA: Promoting circular economy solutions

Reusing treated sanitary effluents from public wastewater treatment plants can help reduce the gap between water supply and demand, especially in water-stressed areas where economic activities compete with public supply for limited water sources. 2030 WRG in São Paulo, Brazil, is working on an initiative to promote the direct reuse of treated wastewater for industrial purposes in the basins of the Piracicaba, Capivari, and Jundiaí rivers (PCJ basins), in the metropolitan area of Campinas.

The PCJ basins are located in an economically important region in São Paulo. However, they are highly vulnerable to water risk. For example, during a severe water crisis in 2014 and 2015, important industries in this region were under strict water restrictions, leading to significant losses.

2030 WRG is working on this wastewater management initiative with the three main sanitation concessionaires operating in the region: state-owned utility SABESP, city-owned company SANASA Campinas, and privately owned BRK Ambiental. Together they are conceptualizing an innovative institutional design that will require a new business model. The multi-stakeholder approach that has been practiced by 2030 WRG in São Paulo state since 2017 was the key to bringing the partners together.

During FY22, IFC and BRK Ambiental financed the feasibility studies proposed by 2030 WRG to assess eight different project alternatives for industrial reuse, which were identified and analyzed for investment potential. Feasibility studies were then done for the most promising options, assessing economic-financial, technical, environmental, and legal points of view. The final reports were delivered at the end of FY22. Further deeper and conclusive analysis and presentations were prepared by 2030 WRG and BRK specialists to demonstrate the impacts and benefits of the most viable alternatives. The 2030 WRG, IFC, and BRK teams are coordinating the initiative, with technical support from the three concessionaires and the PCJ Basins' Agency. The main results from the studies are being presented to potential industrial clients such as petrochemical (Rhodia-Solvay, Petrobrás) and pulp and paper plants (Klabin).

The main existing and planned wastewater treatment plants that could be potential sources of reusable water were identified; and their capacity for producing good quality effluents, as well as the water demands of their potential industrial consumers, were estimated for 2025.

A key premise of the circular economy strategy on water reuse was to ensure that the industrial reuse projects not only reduce the vulnerability of the industries to water risk, but also bring environmental and social benefits to the basins. An important benefit is reducing the pressure of industrial demand on surface water sources. Using treated effluents for industrial processes instead of freshwater abstracted from rivers makes more water available for other uses such as public supply, environmental quality improvement, and new economic activities.

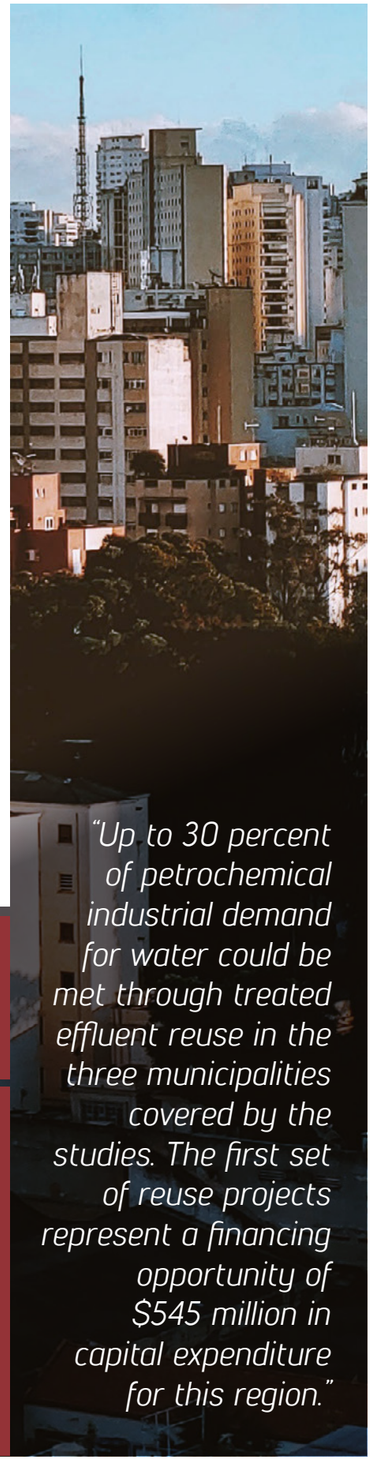
As some rivers depend on the effluent discharged by wastewater treatment plants to have an assured minimum water flow and quality, the impacts on rivers were carefully evaluated for each alternative using sophisticated water balance simulations, among other evaluation techniques.

This initiative by 2030 WRG, IFC, and partners has strong potential to attract new investments in non-potable water reuse in the state. It is also a model for the kind of planning, commercial negotiation, and investment that many cities and industries urgently require in the context of drought and water stress caused by climate change.

Allowing the continued abstraction of raw water by placing a low cost on water grants ignores critical realities such as water scarcity, the need for rationalizing use, and the need for water resources management. It also discourages water reuse by industry. In response to this, 2030 WRG in partnership with the PCJ Basin Agency has developed a digital tool to provide a consistent technical base for decisions on water grants prices. This digital tool aims to improve the decision-making processes on charging for water use, specifically, the definition of raw water prices, in keeping with the investment necessities defined by the PCJ Basin Plan. 2030 WRG is working on this complementary initiative with the state government, the National Water Agency, the PCJ Basins' Agency, and the sanitation concessionaires involved in the industrial reuse initiative.

CIRCULAR ECONOMY PRINCIPLES

Sustainability and climate change mitigation in the water and sanitation sector must be guided by circular economy principles and achieved through a range of integrated actions to push forward changes and advancements in management procedures, technologies, regulation, and institutional culture. Rationalizing water use, reducing raw water abstraction for non-potable purposes, decreasing potable water losses in urban areas, universalizing wastewater collection and treatment, generating effluents of optimal quality, and reusing treated wastewater are all typical components of a circular economy strategy applied to water and sanitation.



"Up to 30 percent of petrochemical industrial demand for water could be met through treated effluent reuse in the three municipalities covered by the studies. The first set of reuse projects represent a financing opportunity of $545 million in capital expenditure for this region."

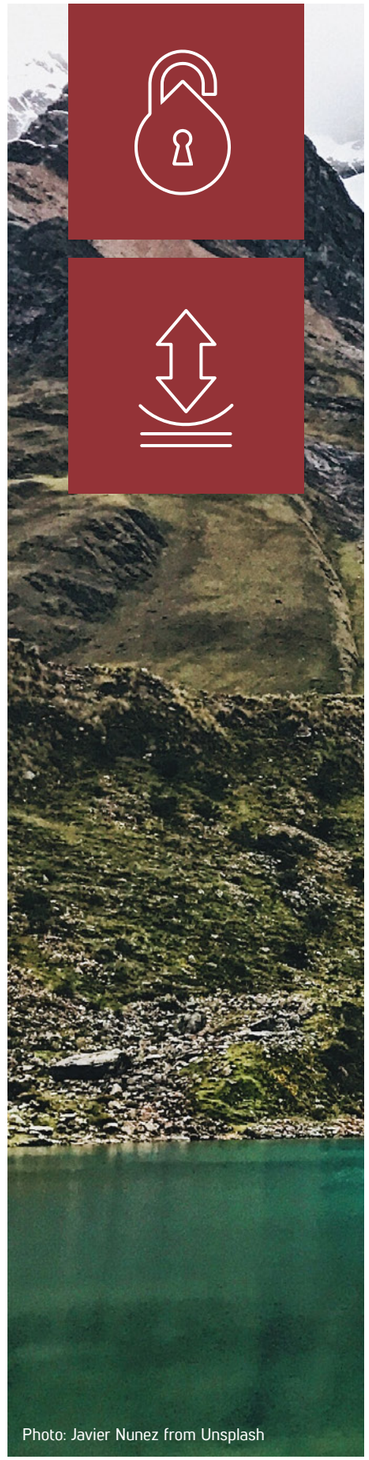


Photo: Javier Nunez from Unsplash

LATIN AMERICA
PERU

ACCELERATOR: Corporate actions for water security
GLOBAL THEMATIC AREA: Building resilience
PROPOSED DATES: 2022–2025

In Peru, the 2030 WRG engagement will focus on supporting the private sector to engage in more effective and coordinated action to help reduce the gap between water supply and demand. Strategic intervention is urgently required because, although Peru has abundant available freshwater, less than 2 percent of its water resources are available in the coastal area, where more than half of the country's population is concentrated. It is also the country's hub of economic activity.

Peru's susceptibility to climate-related floods and droughts means that the country faces urgent pressure to address a complex range of challenges, with limited public finances and human resources. The private sector can provide critical momentum to support solutions to common challenges, so the accelerator plans to use and strengthen existing public-private collaboration mechanisms.

By 2025, 2030 WRG aims to facilitate the scaling-up of effective public-private water stewardship mechanisms to close water gaps in vulnerable communities and accelerate policy changes towards greater water security. The 2030 WRG multi-stakeholder partnership has been active in Peru since 2014, building a strong alliance with business associations, NGOs, and the government.

The accelerator has three components: the Blue Certificate, the Works for Taxes mechanism, and implementation of nature-based solutions with the participation of private sector through the Ecosystems Services Retribution Mechanism (MERESE). The first two are already established, and future work will benefit from the relationships and common understanding already in existence.

Although the MERESE mechanism has existed for water utilities since 2014, 2030 WRG will work to enable public-private collaboration through this mechanism.

The **Blue Certificate** is a national award that recognizes significant efforts made by companies to reduce their water footprint. It encourages sharing knowledge on technical innovations to support the circular water economy, and sharing water-related data and information to better understand circular economy opportunities. The National Water Authority, with the collaboration of 2030 WRG and other members of the Peru MSP, launched the Blue Certificate in 2016 to increase water-use efficiency and treated wastewater reuse among private sector companies.

"In Peru, rapid urbanization and climate change are putting increasing pressure on water resources. In the last 50 years, 51 percent of glaciers in Peru have melted."

Works for Taxes is a government program that allows companies to offset taxes through the construction of public works. 2030 WRG has promoted this mechanism since 2016, using it to support activities that aim to increase private investment specifically in water infrastructure and water-related projects to close water gaps.

The accelerator will promote a nature-based solutions initiative to complement the **MERESE mechanism** to find ways to include the private sector in nature-based solutions projects undertaken by water utilities. The initiative would explore how private sector collaboration can accelerate the implementation of nature-based solutions with the dedicated funds raised by Peru's water utilities: by law a percentage of water received from water tariffs is set aside to invest in nature-based solutions. These are known as MERESE funds. Sedepal, the largest utility in the country, which is based in the city of Lima, has set aside about $30 million in public MERESE funds which it is starting to execute. This new initiative would aim to draw in private sector investment to support the use of these public funds to integrate and scale up nature-based solutions in the country. It is anticipated that 2030 WRG would enable a process to facilitate private sector involvement in collaboration with water utilities.

In April and May 2022, the team engaged in several bilateral meetings with representatives from 2030 WRG's local steering committee (including private sector associations and companies, NGOs, and academia) and key private sector water champions, to introduce the accelerator proposal. The team received various suggestions on the accelerator and its components, with most of the representatives indicating their willingness to participate and collaborate in its implementation. The next step will be to invite potential partners to send endorsement letters or sign memoranda of understanding with 2030 WRG.

LATIN AMERICA
MEXICO

ENGAGEMENT: Strengthening the water financing system for water security and resilience
GLOBAL THEMATIC AREA: Building resilience

Strengthening Mexico's water financing system has been a critical point of departure for 2030 WRG. During FY22, 2030 WRG organized, with partners' support, a policy dialogue and analytical work on innovative financial instruments to increase private capital mobilization.

There is a growing gap between the cost of current and future water sector challenges in Mexico and the financial resources available to tackle them. Public investments alone will be insufficient, and therefore harnessing private capital through innovative instruments will be key to closing the water security gap.

The policy dialogue and related analytical work will help increase the range of financial instruments available to the national government, state-level water polities, and the private sector. The work also creates the basis for exploring opportunities for future strategic engagements, including creating an enabling environment to accelerate private capital mobilization through corporate water stewardship activities and investment. The Northern Border, the Valley of Mexico, and the Bajio regions—where more frequent, severe, and extended droughts threaten water security—have been identified as possible areas for future engagement.

This work has benefited from the momentum built through years of engagement and collaboration with the National Water Commission of Mexico (CONAGUA); state-level authorities; the government's development bank, BANOBRAS; the Consejo Consultivo del Agua; the World Bank's Water Global Practice; and IFC.

FINANCIAL INNOVATIONS

The analytical work done this year explores the opportunities and challenges of four instruments:

Under the **unsolicited PPP model,** a private sector entity develops a proposal for an infrastructure or service project using its own resources. The entity then presents the government with all the necessary pre-feasibility studies and documentation for structuring a PPP project. At this point, the government might launch a bidding process. Although the private entity that did the preparatory work will have some advantage, the bidding process will have clear parameters and be strictly regulated by the PPP legal framework in order not to stifle competition. With this PPP model, the government saves considerable financial resources and the time required to develop all the studies and documents required by law to structure a PPP. The model also helps to overcome gaps in institutional capacity to structure complex PPPs.

Joint ventures are entities created by one or more public entities and one or more private entities to provide or enhance water, sanitation, and wastewater treatment services. The joint venture is a new company with a joint public-private governing body that takes joint decisions. It does not possess physical assets but manages them. The private sector brings organizational, technical, and human resources to the venture. Critically, the joint venture has a majority percentage of public sector capital and maintains majority public sector stock. In this way, the state maintains oversight and control of the joint venture and water concession rights are never privatized.

In the **two-tiered service provision and take-or-pay contract model for water treatment and reuse**, a local government enters into a service provision contract with a private operator. The operator will build, operate, and transfer the infrastructure for a period, entering into a parallel take-or-pay contract with a private off-taker, who ultimately will pay for the infrastructure and service. This scheme addresses government budgetary cutbacks—as the government does not participate through financing, only through an enabling and regulatory role—and transfers most of the construction and operational risk to the private operator. The operator is free to seek private capital from a third-party investor and the model is based on a guarantee structure to help manage risks. The model is scalable, replicable, and suitable for several of Mexico's agricultural regions where there is high-value agricultural produce and severe water stress.

The **state-level water revolving fund** is a specialized public-private trust fund that will both mobilize more private capital and channel public and private capital for water infrastructure. The trust fund allocates loans to water utilities, irrigation districts/units, and other private sector entities that require finance to construct water infrastructure for productive purposes. It functions as a revolving fund, managing its capital by re-capitalizing continuously from the proceeds from the preferential interest rates it charges its borrowers. This type of trust fund may provide guarantees for entities who seek commercial loans. The trust fund can also serve as a project preparation facility, supporting the identification and prioritization of key water infrastructure projects and the development of necessary pre-feasibility studies. The trust fund could be capitalized through water-use tariffs. In this case, a financial resource pool would be integrated by CONAGUA—at federal level—through water tariff collection, and then returned to the respective state for exclusive use in water infrastructure investments.

FINANCIAL SUMMARY (UNAUDITED)

2030 WRG obtains funding from a variety of development corporations, public sector trusts, and private sector institutions. The bulk of these funds support the functioning of the MSPs in countries, while a small percentage covers operational support provided by the Global Secretariat.

Income

TABLE 1: DONATIONS TO THE WORLD BANK TRUST FUNDS UP TO 6/30/2022 ($)

DONOR	TOTAL CONTRIBUTIONS	FY22 CONTRIBUTIONS PAID-IN
Germany-Deutsche Gesellschaft Fur Internationale Zusammenarbeit (GIZ)	$1,418,760	$1,418,760
Israel - Ministry of Economy & Industry	$3,000,000	
Swiss Agency for Development and Cooperation (SDC)[1]	$1,912,830	
Swedish International Development Cooperation Agency (SIDA)[2]	$2,967,816	
Total contributions from public sector through trust funds	**$9,299,406**	**$1,418,760**
Anheuser-Busch InBev Procurement GmbH	$1,900,000	$500,000
Credit Suisse[3]	$1,500,000	
Grundfos Holding A/S[4]	$224,760	
Nestlé SA	$3,000,000	$500,000
PepsiCo Foundation	$1,500,000	
The Coca-Cola Foundation	$3,000,000	$265,000
The Coca-Cola Company	$515,000	
Unilever U.K. Central Resources Limited	$1,500,000	$500,000
Total contributions from private sector through trust funds	**$13,139,760**	**$1,765,000**
GRAND TOTAL[5]	**$22,439,165**	**$3,183,760**
Hungarian Export-Import Bank - Contributions from International Finance Corporation (IFC)	$3,000,000	$2,000,000
Contributions from Global Water Security And Sanitation Program (GWSP)	$1,785,805	$225,805
Contributions from Public-Private Infrastructure Advisory Facility (PPIAF)	$300,000	
Contributions from Korean Green Growth Trust Fund (KGGTF)	$326,000	$163,000
TOTAL FUNDING FROM THE WORLD BANK GROUP	**$5,411,805**	**$2,388,805**

Note 1: SDC net contributions received in US$ equivalent after deducting refunds and unpaid contributions due to SDC exit from 2030 WRG.
Note 2: SIDA net contributions received in US$ equivalent after deducting refunds and unpaid contributions due to SIDA exit from 2030 WRG.
Note 3: Commitment made in 2020 for a three-year membership term.
Note 4: Grundfos net contributions received in US$ equivalent after deducting refunds and unpaid contributions due to Grundfos exit from 2030 WRG.
Note 5: Total contributions from private and public sectors relate to the contributions signed under the 2030 WRG Trustee TF072950. Donors under IFC Trustee TF071915 are not included in this financial summary after its legal closure in April 2019.

Expenses

TABLE 2: FY22 DISBURSEMENTS BY TYPE OF ACTIVITIES ($)

TYPE OF ACTIVITY	AMOUNT
Regional	3,510,782
Global	1,901,659
TOTAL	**5,412,441**

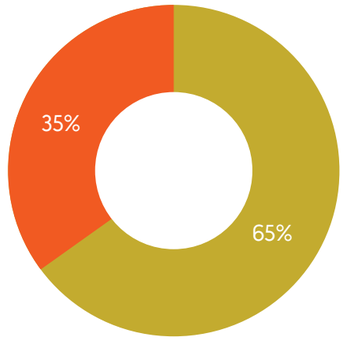
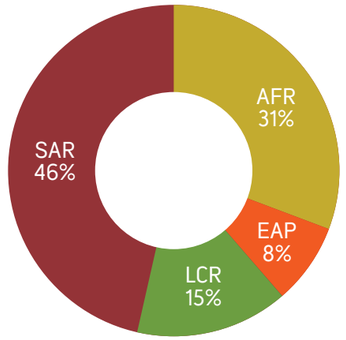
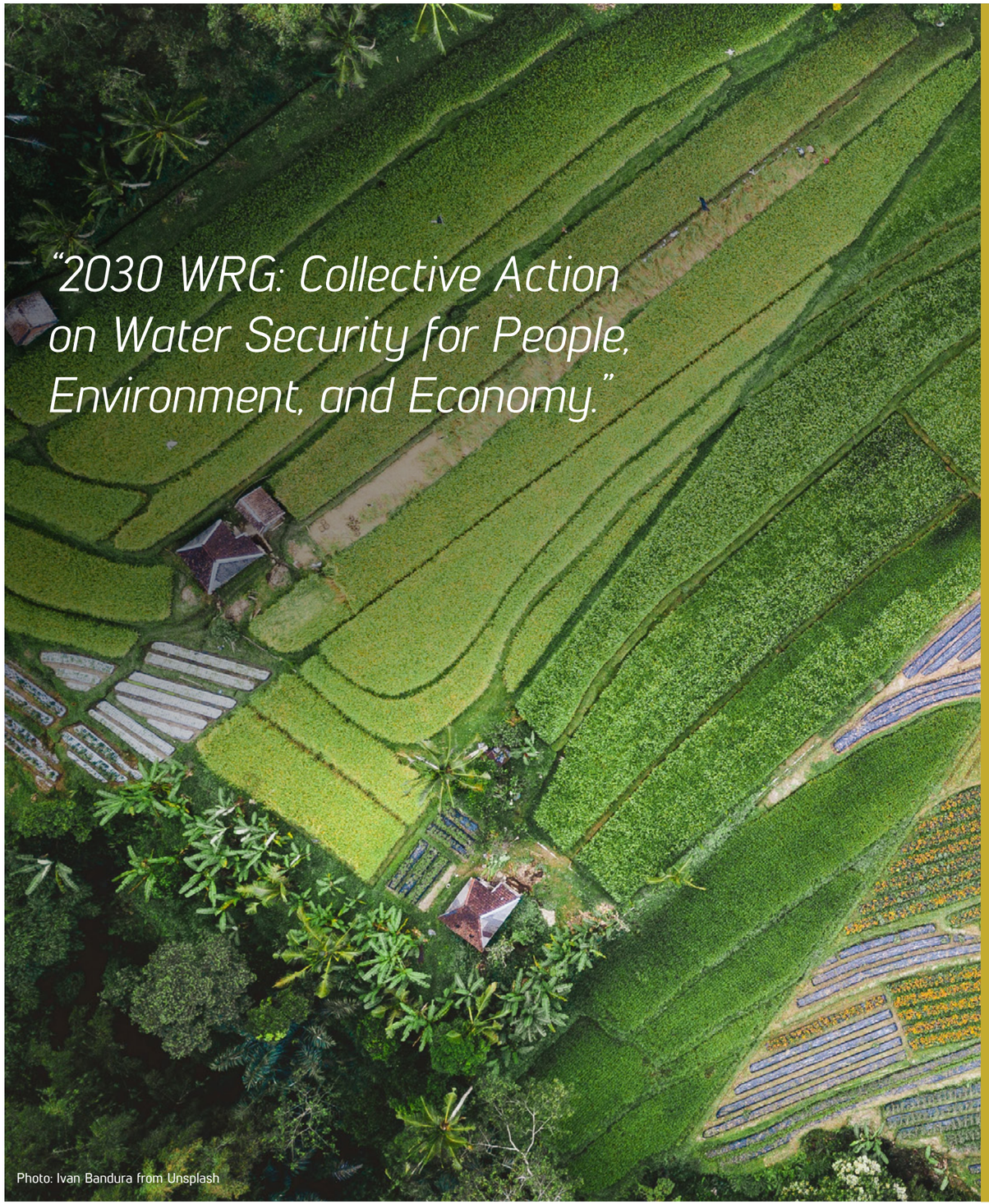


TABLE 3: FY22 DISBURSEMENTS BY REGION ($)

NAME OF REGION	TOTAL
AFR	1,080,927
EAP	272,868
LCR	527,881
SAR	1,629,105
TOTAL	**3,510,782**





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DISCLAIMER

2030 Water Resources Group FY22 Annual Report

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All reference to dollars ($) refers to United States dollars.

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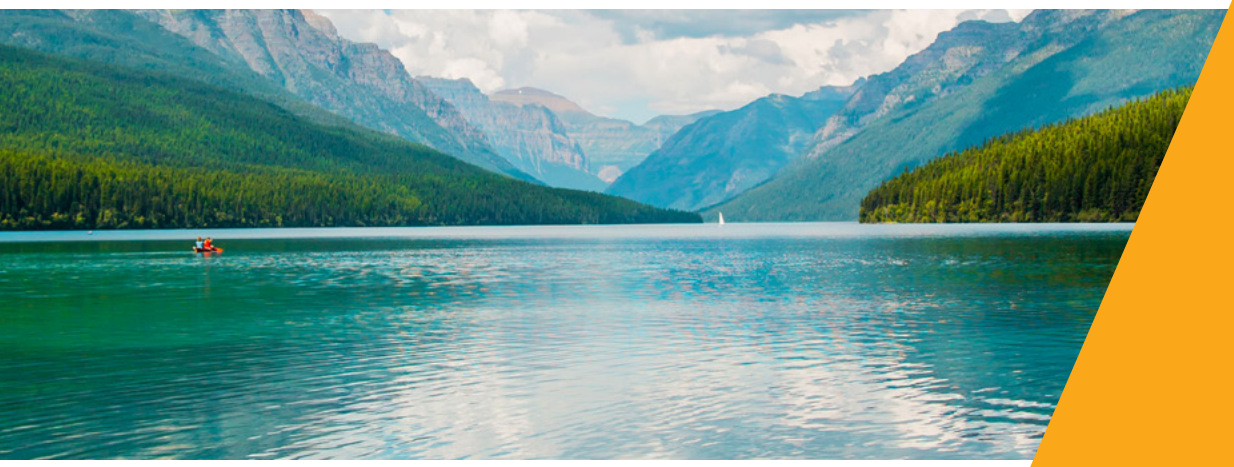

2030 Water Resources Group

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