

What is GWP?

The Global Water Partnership (GWP) is a worldwide network created in 1996 whose mission is: To support countries in the sustainable management of their water resources.

To achieve its mission, GWP promotes the adoption of an Integrated Water Resources Management (IWRM) approach – a long-term process to optimise the development, management and use of water resources to advance sustainable development. Water is key to achieving the Millennium Development Goals as water is intimately linked to health, energy and the environment, and is a key ingredient for generating rural livelihoods.

The GWP recognizes that the IWRM approach requires political change but as this is a collective/shared responsibility, the GWP promotes partnership as a means to achieve broad ownership of ideas and solutions. The GWP thus aims to facilitate the ability of those that have a major stake in water – government departments, academics, community groups, agricultural and business interests, NGOs and all other interest groups – to join forces to share information, understand data and solve problems, and to create holistic, cross-sectoral approaches that lead towards more sustainable water development, management and use.

GWP does this through the creation of partnerships at global, regional and national levels – primarily in developing countries – directed towards facilitating change, and the systematic creation, accumulation, and dissemination of knowledge to support the process of change.

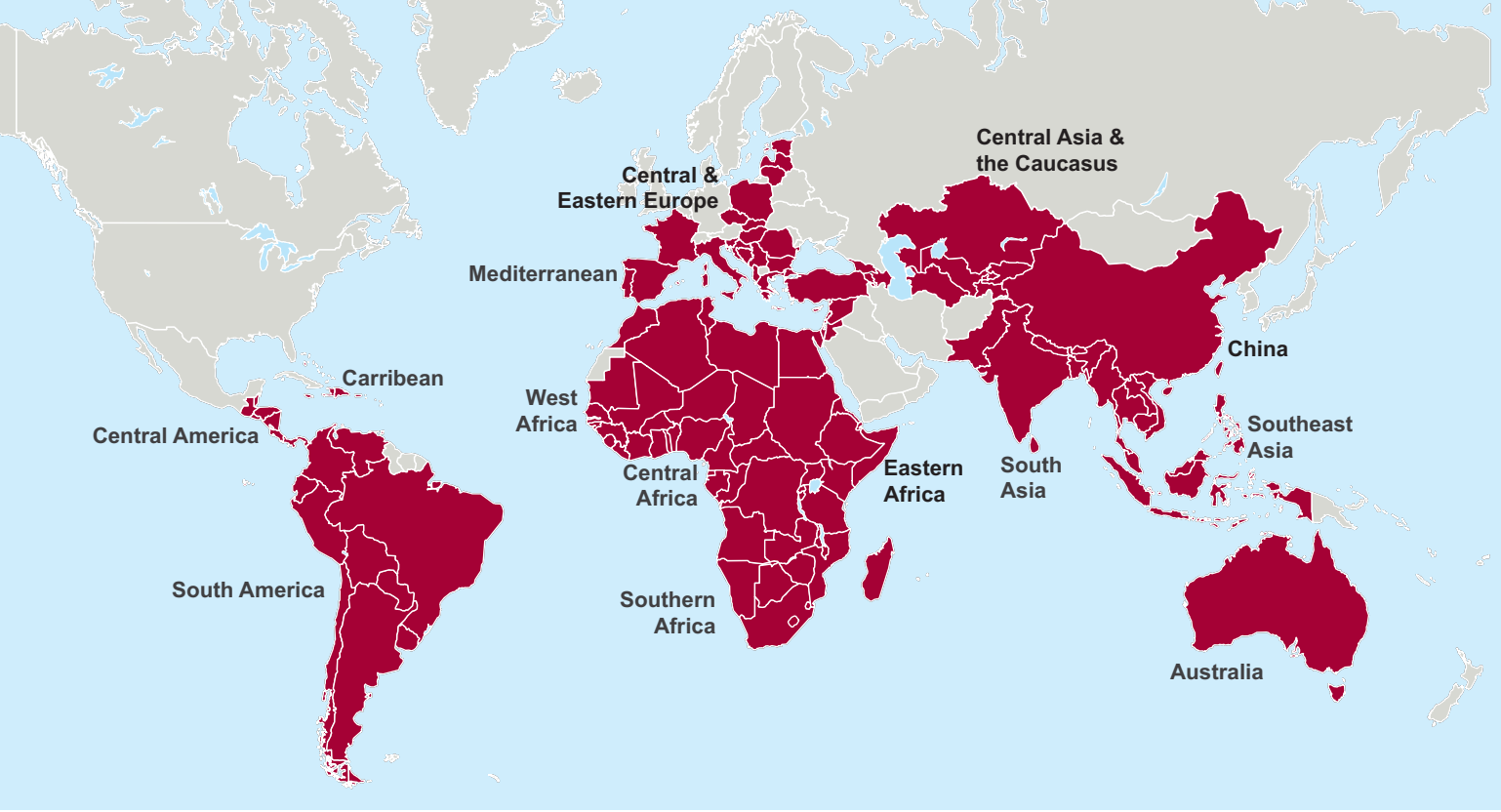
GWP is a facilitating organization, assisting others, rather than an implementing agency. It is a network characterized by shared values, flexibility and a philosophy of decentralization and shared responsibilities.

The network

GWP has established a network of fourteen regional partnerships in Central America; South America; the Caribbean; Southern, Eastern, Central and West Africa; the Mediterranean; Central and Eastern Europe; Central Asia and the Caucasus; South Asia; Southeast Asia, China and Australia (*see map*). The GWP Secretariat is located in Stockholm, Sweden.

In most GWP regions, the emphasis has now moved beyond the regional level into the national level, creating country water partnerships in many participating countries. Today, over fifty country water partnerships have been established in the network and more are in the pipeline.

Area water partnerships have been created in some countries, operating as multi-sectoral platforms for dialogue among stakeholders at the local level. Over forty area water partnerships have been set up in the South Asia, Central and Eastern Europe, and Eastern Africa regions.



Map of the GWP network.

GWP partners

GWP Partners are the members of the GWP network. Any entity, except individuals, may become a partner of the network. Partners may include states, national, regional and local government institutions, intergovernmental organizations, international and national non-governmental organizations, academic institutions and research institutions, companies, service providers in the public sector, or any entity that recognizes and upholds the principles of integrated water resources management. Application forms are available on the GWP website.

Associated Programmes

Associated Programmes – the Capacity Building Network (Cap-Net) managed by UNDP, the Gender and Water Alliance (GWA), the Flood Management Programme (AFPM) hosted by the World Meteorological Organization, the Groundwater Management Team (GW-MATE) with the World Bank, and the International Network of Basin Organizations (INBO) – provide strategic support to help GWP in network development and implementation of good practices for the sustainable management of water resources. Within their areas of expertise, these programmes advise on management and policy requirements, encourage dialogue, provide expert knowledge and information, and help with research, development and training.

Please contact us for more information!

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