

# The Swiss Water Partnership



**Country**  
Switzerland

**Partners**  
HELVETAS Swiss Interco-  
operation, Skat Consulting  
Ltd. (Secretariat), 70+  
members

**Background information**  
The SWP is a Swiss non-  
profit association founded  
in 2012, umbrella organi-  
sation for the main Swiss  
stakeholders working on  
global water challenges.

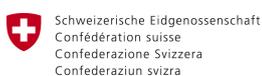
**Project objectives**  
Bring together and stimu-  
late Swiss know-how and  
expertise to contribute to  
improving living conditions  
in developing and tran-  
sition countries through  
enhanced water security

**Beneficiaries**  
Water decision- & policy-  
makers, water users, aca-  
demic sector, civil society,  
private sector, etc. both in  
Switzerland and abroad.

**Costs**  
CHF 870,000

**Duration**  
01.2019 – 12.2021

**Contact**  
Global Programme Water  
water@eda.admin.ch



Swiss Agency for Development  
and Cooperation SDC

Switzerland’s privileged situation as Europe’s water tower, and the fact that around 80% of its water footprint is affecting other countries, require the country to take responsibility to support others in achieving water security for their population and ecosystems. The Swiss Water Partnership (SWP) was launched in 2012 based on the initiative of the SDC, with the aim of contributing to solving global water challenges and position Switzerland at the forefront of the international water scene. The scale and urgency of the global water challenges call for the development of multi-stakeholder partnerships, which have the potential to create a leveraging effect.

The Swiss Water Partnership is a multi-stakeholder platform bringing together Swiss organisations from the academic sector, civil society, the public and private sectors, including youth, to join forces and find innovative solutions for water challenges in developing and transition countries. As an umbrella organisation for Switzerland’s water stakeholders at the international level, the Swiss Water Partnership is a key complementary partner to SDC both in Switzerland and abroad, and carries the diversity of the Swiss voice. It aims at contributing to achieving the water-related SDG targets globally by:

- Leveraging partnerships: Facilitating partnerships among SWP members, in particular as a way to create synergies by putting together different actors with complementary know-how and expertise, to support Swiss actors to position themselves abroad, and potentially develop new partnerships & business opportunities ;
- Generating innovation: Stimulating the creation of innovative cross-sector solutions by and for its members, and promoting Swiss water innovations internationally ;
- Influencing policy and practice: Mobilising Swiss water actors to tackle global water issues, to participate in policy processes, particularly in relation to the monitoring and implementation of SDG 6, and promoting the operationalisation of the human rights to water and sanitation principles ;

- Managing knowledge: Positioning the platform as a dynamic learning platform, offering a space to learn from each other, exchange experience, develop new ideas and solutions building on the diversity of the SWP members’ skills and experience.

### Shared values

The SWP members have agreed upon the following shared values:

- SOLIDARITY - Supporting the less privileged in getting universal access to safe water, sanitation and hygiene and manage their water resources in an integrated and sustainable manner is at the core of SWP’s activities.
- INTEGRITY - Water projects need to be managed under the principles of transparency, accountability and participation of the civil society, thereby ensuring ownership and sustainability.

### Guiding principles

The activities of the platform are guided by the following principles: Non-partisan // Evidence-based // Information transparency.

The statutes form a binding document for all members to ensure the respect of these values and principles.

### Specific Objectives

1. **PLATFORM DEVELOPMENT**  
platform is only as dynamic and innovative as the sum of its members. The SWP therefore seeks to diversify its membership base, increasing the potential for disruptive dialogue, including non-traditional investment actors, youth, and private sector water users.
2. **YOUTH FOR WATER**  
Shaping tomorrow’s water future with today’s youth, the SWP works at attracting and connecting youth and young professionals to the water sector, with the aim of engaging Swiss and eventually international youth to influence water-related debates.
3. **INNOVATIONS FOR SDG WATER**  
Innovations enhancing the effectiveness of approaches to achieve water-related SDG targets are generated and/or tested, and shared through the SWP and its members.
4. **Strong Swiss Voice**  
The SWP contributes to increasing visibility and recognition of the Swiss know-how, solutions and research on water, through better coordination of Swiss stakeholders at the international level



Additional information:

[www.swisswaterpartnership.ch](http://www.swisswaterpartnership.ch)