

Women for Water Partnership (WfWP)

Women as Agents of Change for a water secure and equitable future



Region
Global

Partners
Women for Water Partnership

Background information

Having access to water catalyses women's social and economic development. WfWP mobilises and capacitates women to provide water for themselves and their communities and to ensure equitable allocation and sustainable use.

Mission

To position women and their organizations as active leaders in sustainable development and to enable them to catalyze change towards integrated approaches and universal access to water for all uses, sanitation inclusive.

Beneficiaries

WfWP member organizations and their local networks. Women worldwide in different layers of society.

Costs
CHF 600,000

Duration
02.2016 – 12.2018

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 Schweizerische Eidgenossenschaft
Confédération suisse
Confederazione Svizzera
Confederaziun svizra

Swiss Agency for Development
and Cooperation SDC

The active and meaningful engagement of women in the provision, management and safeguarding of water is known to decrease irresponsible water use and pollution, to prevent corruption and conflicts, and to increase water efficiency and the sustainability of interventions. "Women for Water Partnership" unites the diversity of women's civil society across the globe and facilitates their collective contributions to achieving universal access to and the sustainable governance of water resources. In this way, women and their organisations are empowered and positioned as development agents in their communities, countries and regions.

The Women for Water Partnership (WfWP) consists of 26 women's civil society networks with subsidiaries in approximately 100 countries. The membership ranges from rural women, academia, women water professionals and businesswomen to service organisations and special interest groups. This diversity of women's civil society organisations creates an enabling environment for women's active contribution to sustainable development. Universal access to water for all uses – including hygiene and sanitation – is the agreed entry point for women's empowerment and their social and economic development.

Since its establishment in 2004, WfWP has consistently raised the profile of women in the water sector, both in their professional capacity and as major group in society. This has contributed to the global agenda setting on integrated water resources management, gender mainstreaming and the human right to water and sanitation. The strengthening of, and support to, member organisations has resulted in effective influence on national policies and in a myriad of concerted actions and local projects that accelerate the implementation of the internationally-agreed, water-related development goals.

The partnership focuses on integrating water, gender and sustainable development in policy and practice by facilitating women's meaningful participation:

- *At the global level:* WfWP is active in supporting a more effective global water architecture for the 2030 agenda, and uses its convening power to promote gender equality at international level.



- *At the national level:* WfWP creates a strong women's civil society voice for influencing decision-making and provides a platform and the evidence base for their joint contributions to implementing policies and programmes.
- *At community level:* Women's empowerment and leadership in the water and development sector are central in all WfWP interventions. Active exchange between member organisations is complemented with a global support mechanism to facilitate their projects that in turn lead to the improvement of the living conditions of women and their communities, in particular in low and middle-income countries.

In the current phase, WfWP will focus more precisely on the following strategic objectives:

- Advocate the link between women, water and sustainable development in policies and implementation
- Position women as agents of change, leaders, professionals, experts and partners on equal footing with men in water and sustainable development programmes to achieve equitable access to water for all for all uses
- Advocate for women's access to financial investments and instruments
- Use and promote gender disaggregated indicators in the water sector
- Establish regional or national hubs (dependent on additional funding)
- Develop a knowledge platform for learning

Additional information:
www.womenforwater.org