

# AFRICAN WATER FACILITY FUNDING DIALOGUE DONOR BRIEF

SEPTEMBER 2023



## RENEWING COMMITMENT TO TACKLING AFRICA'S WATER AND SANITATION CRISIS



Climate change is accelerating Africa's water and sanitation crisis. A massive scaling up of investment is needed to offset the crisis, combat climate change and build more resilient economies. This urgent investment challenge is a significant opportunity for governments, the private sector and multilateral development organisations to make a lasting contribution to Africa's future.

The recently held World Water Week highlighted the global determination to find innovative solutions to complex water challenges. This renewed commitment comes at a critical time, as the world is not on track to meet Sustainable Development Goal (SDG) 6: clean water and sanitation for all. The situation is particularly critical in Africa, where over 400 million people lack basic water supply and 700 million people lack adequate sanitation. Achieving water security and sanitation for all requires large-scale investment in water supply and sanitation, improved governance of water resources and operations, and the design of climate-resilient infrastructure.

African ministers came together to discuss these and other sector challenges during a high-level session on Waterwise Africa at World Water Week, including improving efficient use of funds and consolidating the sector. In addition, African ministers responsible for

water issued a joint communique at the recently held Africa Climate Summit in Nairobi, Kenya, urging African leaders to develop programmes and to invest in climate-resilient investments for water security and sustainable sanitation. As the continent's only project preparation facility dedicated solely to climate-resilient water and sanitation projects, the African Water Facility (AWF) is uniquely positioned to address the continent's water and sanitation crisis. But we need more funding to do our work.

As such, we are hosting a Funding Dialogue in Paris from 12 to 13 October, bringing together global leaders to explore innovative pathways to improve the financing of access to water and sanitation services in Africa. This event provides a timely opportunity to strengthen collaboration, renew existing partnerships and build new ones. Together, we can achieve water security and sanitation for all.

**Mtchera Johannes Chirwa**

Coordinator, African Water Facility



## OUR FUNDING REQUIREMENTS

Since inception, the AWF has received €205 million in contributions, but we require more financial support to achieve our ambitious target of investing €50 million to €60 million annually in project preparation to make notable progress towards achieving SDG targets and tackling climate change impacts in Africa.

### OUR FUNDING DIALOGUE AIMS TO SECURE THREE KINDS OF COMMITMENTS:

#### Commitments to our core funding for the period ending in 2025

About 30% of the budget of €62.2 million for our revised strategy for 2017-2025 is currently unfunded.

#### Commitments to the African Urban Investment Initiative (AUSII)

Support for the initial capitalisation of AUSII of US\$15 million by the end of 2024.

#### Strategic support and expressions of interest

Strategic support to develop our strategy for 2026-2030 and to secure expressions of interest to financially support us from 2026.

## ADVANCING AFRICAN WATER AND SANITATION AT WORLD WATER WEEK



We participated at the recently concluded World Water Week in Stockholm from 20 to 24 August 2023. At the conference, under the auspices of the African Development Bank and in collaboration with the African Ministers' Council on Water (AMCOW), we co-hosted the African Exhibition Pavilion, showcasing our projects and impact across countries. We also spoke at several side events, advancing conversations on water and sanitation in Africa and highlighting the demand, finance gaps, and impact on millions of lives.

## DEEPENING CONNECTION – ENGAGING WITH THE NORDIC DEVELOPMENT FUND IN HELSINKI



Nordic Development Fund

Last month, we held a bilateral engagement with the Nordic Development Fund to discuss our partnership and work in Africa, and to deepen our relationship. The Nordic Development Fund has been a strong supporter of the African Water Facility for the last 10 years. Together, we have financed 14 climate-resilient water and sanitation projects in 16 countries.





*We are racing to meet the international goal for water and sanitation; the African Water Facility’s Funding Dialogue is timely.*

*– Nancy Eslick, Senior Deputy Assistant Administrator & USAID and Global Water Coordinator, United States Agency for International Development.*

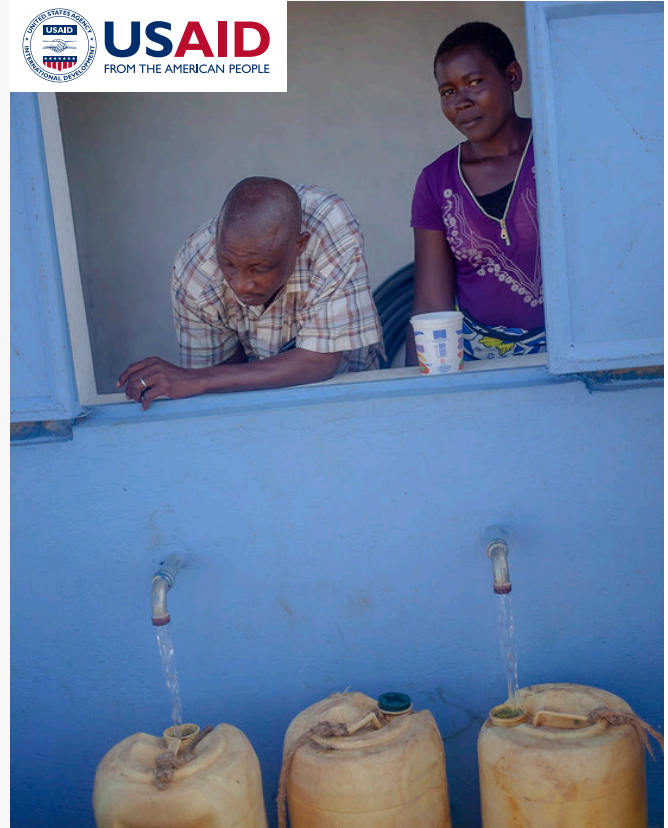


“As a new partner to the African Water Facility (AWF), USAID supports the Facility and its mandate as a specialized fund in Africa providing countries with finance and technical expertise to resolve water and sanitation crises and meet the significant demand for access and service delivery.

We are racing to meet the international goal for water and sanitation and the African Water Facility’s Funding Dialogue is timely. The Water Facility builds on the United Nations 2023 Water Conference and the U.S. Government’s Global Water Strategy and provides an Africa-focused platform critically needed to foster investment-ready projects and bridge the finance gap in order to enable universal access to water and sanitation for millions of Africans.

We look forward to the Funding Dialogue and to meeting the Facility’s partners, mobilizing resources for water and sanitation in Africa.”

**– Nancy Eslick, Senior Deputy Assistant Administrator & USAID and Global Water Coordinator, United States Agency for International Development.**



## WHAT’S COMING – AGENDA AND MATERIALS FOR THE FUNDING DIALOGUE

As our Funding Dialogue approaches, below is an overview of planned engagements.

### THURSDAY 12 OCTOBER 2023

15h00 – 18h00

**Reserved for bilateral engagements** for AWF Partners with the leadership of the African Development Bank, of the African Water Facility, of the African Ministers’ Council on Water, and of the Chair of the Governing Council of the African Water Facility

**Venue:** OECD Centre de Conférence, Salle M05, **2, rue André Pascal, 75016 Paris, France**

18h00 – 19h30

**AfDB/AWF** Welcome reception for all attendees to the AWF Funding Dialogue, as well as for other identified external stakeholders not attending (media, etc.)

**Venue:** OECD Château de la Muette, **2, rue André Pascal, 75016 Paris, France**



## FRIDAY 13 OCTOBER 2023

Full-day meeting from 09h30 to 16h00 to be held at the OECD Centre de Conférence, Salle CC7, 2, rue André Pascal, 75016 Paris, France.

09h30 - 09h45	<b>Welcome remarks</b> by the President of AMCOW and the Chair of the AWF Governing Council
09h45 - 10h00	<b>Statement by the President of AfDB</b> and Welcome video
10h00 - 10h15	<b>Keynote by the OECD Environment Directorate</b>
10h15 - 10h30	<b>Health Break</b>
10h30 - 11h00	<b>AWF at work</b> - Voices from the field <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• Support statement by African sovereigns</li><li>• Video of an impactful AWF project</li></ul>
11h00 - 12h30	<b>Presentation of AWF as an agent for change for climate-resilient water and sanitation in Africa</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• By the AfDB Director of the Water and Sanitation Department and the AWF Coordinator (30-minute presentation)</li><li>• Discussion, brainstorming and inputs on thematic areas:<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• How to mobilize more resources for project preparation in Africa, including how to better harmonise financing flows</li><li>• Feedback on what AWF can do differently or better</li><li>• How to mobilise partnerships to scale</li><li>• Future strategic directions of AWF</li></ul></li></ul>
12h30 - 14h00	<b>Photo opportunity &amp; Lunch</b>
14h00 - 15h00	<b>Stakeholder statements</b> in regard to: <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• AWF funding (unrestricted and/or earmarked)</li><li>• The African Urban Sanitation Investment Initiative (AUSII)</li><li>• In kind support, including technical assistance</li><li>• Other support options, i.e. advocacy, partnership building, project co-financing, investment opportunities, etc.</li><li>• Guidance on AWF's next strategic plan for 2026-2030</li></ul>
15h00 - 15h15	<b>Health Break</b>
15h15 - 16h00	<b>Appreciations and closure</b> by the Chair of the AWF Governing Council, including next steps and forthcoming key meetings

### Conference Materials

We've put together resources to help you prepare for our Funding Dialogue. These are available on our website via the following links: [Logistics note](#); [AWF showcase \(EN\)](#); [AWF showcase \(FR\)](#).

Have you registered for our Funding Dialogue? Express your interest here: [Registration link](#)

### DID YOU KNOW?

With your support, we've provided funding for 135 water and sanitation projects in 52 African countries, impacting millions of lives.

**135**  
water and sanitation projects

**52**  
African countries

**€1.6 billion**  
in downstream financing

Equipped for irrigation  
**1.3 million hectares**

Access to safely managed  
sanitation services  
**9 million people**

Access to safely managed  
water supply  
**14 million people**



Over 400 million Africans still lack access to safe water supply and over 700 million access to basic hygiene services. Together, we can do more.