



Mid-year Highlights

News on projects, operations, impact, and information on the African Water Facility's recent and upcoming activities in 2024.



African Water Facility
Facilité africaine de l'eau

Mobilising Resources for Water in Africa
Mobiliser des ressources pour l'eau en Afrique

Note from the Coordinator

As we reflect on our activities in the first half of 2024, it is clear that the African Water Facility has made significant strides in advancing water and sanitation initiatives across Africa.

With approved projects supported by co-financing from beneficiary governments and complemented by project supervision missions, we continue to deliver on our vision of an Africa where there is equitable management and development of water resources and there is universal access to safe water supply, sanitation and hygiene services.

The upcoming launch of the Africa Urban Sanitation Investment Initiative (AUSII) at the Stockholm World Water Week in August 2024 marks a significant milestone for us. It underscores our commitment to safe sanitation for all including the urban poor in Africa and will improve sanitation service delivery across the continent in the next decade.

As we move forward in the year, we are excited about other upcoming initiatives. These include the operationalisation of an Investment Promotion Action Plan for investment ready projects emerging from our project portfolio, the launch of a digital management tool to modernise funding applications, streamline our operations and improve efficiency, and the end of term assessment for our 2017 – 2025 strategy that will inform the development of a new operational strategy post-2025, ensuring that we continue to meet the evolving needs on the continent.

We share this newsletter with you and invite you to read more about what we have been up to this year. We also take the opportunity to express gratitude to our donors and partners for

their continued support and engagement which is instrumental in delivering our long-term goal of improving the quality of life for urban and rural communities in Africa.

Mtchera Chirwa

Coordinator, African Water Facility



Project Highlights

The African Water Facility has approved projects in Congo, Ghana, Burundi, and Egypt. Totalling €2.89 million with co-financing worth €230,329 from the beneficiary governments, these projects will enhance water, food and energy security, and improve sanitation for an estimated 5 million people. In addition, the Facility is processing 8 projects to be approved before the end of the year. The Facility has also completed 10 project supervision missions in urban and rural communities, a 50% achievement rate of the target for the year.



One Big Thing

Did you know that funding from the African Water Facility has resulted in almost €2 billion downstream investments in water and sanitation since 2006? Funding from the Facility continues to help African countries to finance water and sanitation initiatives and mobilise additional financial resources for meeting national, regional and global water and sanitation targets such as the Africa Water Vision 2025 and the United Nations Sustainable Development Goal 6.



Four Things About the Africa Urban Sanitation Investment Initiative

The African Water Facility will launch the Africa Urban Sanitation Investment Financing Window (AUSII) at the Stockholm World Water Week in August 2024. Here's what you should know about the Financing Window:

1. Africa Urban Sanitation Investment Initiative (Financing Window) will address the growing needs of urban population in Africa, where currently 52% (about 200 million people) lack

basic or improved sanitation facilities, through innovative technologies and climate-resilient sanitation solutions.

2. The initiative promotes a paradigm shift from conventional infrastructure investments to inclusive urban sanitation approach, tailored to the diverse realities of different cities and their inhabitants' needs.

3. In the first 10 years of operation, Africa Urban Sanitation Investment Initiative will directly improve sanitation access for 15 million urban inhabitants through the preparation of 50 projects. It will also mobilise financial resources totalling \$7 billion in commercial and concessional finance to bolster private and public sector sanitation projects.

4. Through the initiative, the African Water Facility will promote the involvement and investment of the private-sector and small medium enterprises in urban sanitation.

[Find out more](#)



Our Impact

2006 - 2024

To date, across 52 African countries, the African Water Facility has financed 138 projects providing access to safe water supply for almost 16 million people, 52% of whom are women, and safe sanitation to over 9 million people. For every euro committed to preparing bankable projects, the Facility has mobilised 29 euros for downstream investment.

[Watch this](#)



Showcasing Commitment to Water and Sanitation in Africa

In the first half of 2024, the African Water Facility promoted its work and showcased its commitment to improving water and sanitation in Africa through outreaches and participation at industry events. In particular, at the 10th World Water Forum in Bali, the Facility organised knowledge sessions and shared insights and strategies in more than a dozen sessions on the preparation, financing and coordination of water, sanitation and hygiene initiatives.

[Read more](#)



President Akinwunmi Adesina Highlights the African Water Facility in Saudi Arabia

At the 2024 World Economic Forum's Special Meeting on Global Collaboration, Growth and Energy for Development in Riyadh, Saudi Arabia, Dr Akinwunmi Adesina, President of the African Development Bank highlighted the African Water Facility as an initiative that

provides grants and technical assistance to prepare bankable innovative water projects that are ready to attract private investment in Africa.

Dr Adesina spoke at the panel on “Food and Water for All” which delved into how targeted investment and advanced technologies could address the pressing needs of 2.4 billion people without adequate food and 2.2 billion lack safe drinking water across the world, showcasing Africa’s role in this global challenge.

[Watch the replay](#)

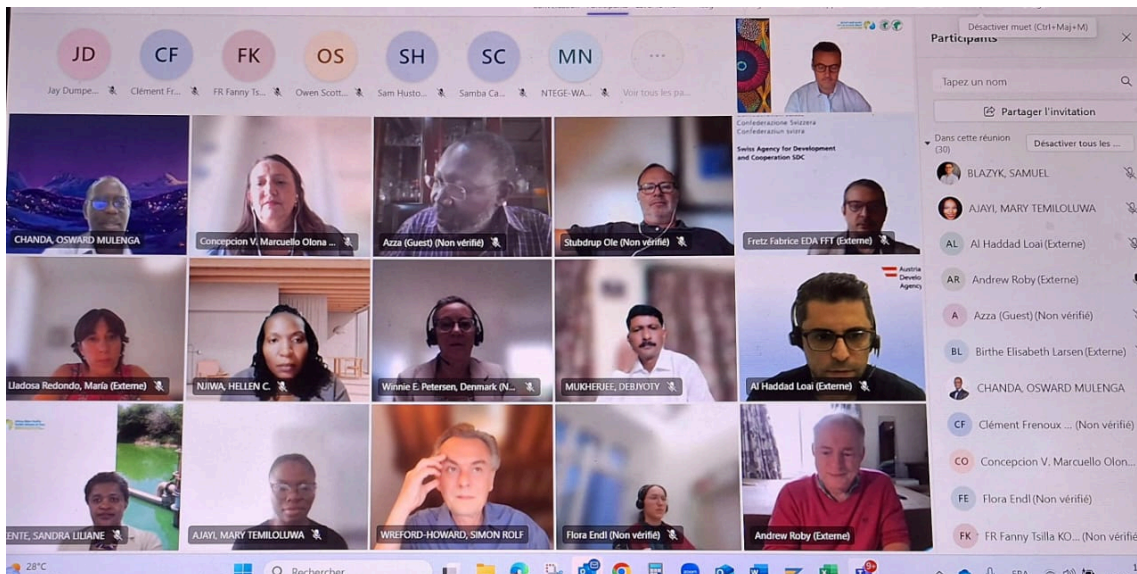
“...the Facility's role in driving progress and transforming Africa's water sector remains crucial...”

"The African Water Facility's efforts have not only addressed immediate needs but also laid a foundation for sustainable development in urban and rural communities. As we continue to innovate and mobilise resources, the Facility's role in driving progress and transforming Africa's water sector remains crucial, ensuring lasting benefits for millions of people in the years to come."

Osward Chanda

**Director, Water and Sanitation and the
African Water Facility, African
Development Bank**





1st Virtual Donor and Observer's Meeting 2024

The African Water Facility held its 1st Donor and Observers meeting in June 2024. Gathering over 40 participants, conversations centered on the development of the Facility's new strategy 2026 – 2030, the launch of the Africa Urban Sanitation Investment Initiative, and presentation of the Facility's Financing Appeal 2024 – 2034.

The African Water Facility's Donor and Observer's meetings are held twice a year (virtual in June and hybrid in Abidjan in November) and serve as an opportunity for the Facility to share progress under its annual work plan. It also presents a platform to engage and strengthen collaboration with partners who are essential in delivering the Facility's goal of improving quality of life for the people of Africa through universal access to water and sanitation. The second Donor and Observer's meeting will take place on 6 November 2024 and will focus on donor commitments in support of the Facility's Financing Appeal.

Coming Soon



Podcast

A podcast on the African Water Facility's €34 million program with Denmark and the Nordic Development Fund in Mali, Niger, Ethiopia, Somalia and Burkina Faso for the provision of greener investments in water, sanitation, water resources management and COVID-19 recovery in urban and rural areas.



Investment Promotion Action Plan

The African Water Facility's Investment Promotion Approach for investment ready projects emerging from its portfolio is expected to be rolled out in the fourth quarter of 2024. It will

guide the Facility's activities across the project preparation cycle with a focus on targeting investors, streamlining processes, aligning with country priorities in water and sanitation.



End of Term Assessment

The African Water Facility is gearing up to assess progress and improvements under its strategy (2017 – 2025). The assessment is expected to unveil achievements and areas of progress, identify challenges and opportunities and inform the preparation of the Facility's new strategy for 2026 – 2030.



Development of New Strategy

The new strategy (2026 – 2030) will seek to consolidate the Facility's past achievements, leverage partnerships for greater impact, address areas of improvements, and formulate a

balanced and comprehensive framework for sustainable impact in addressing the water and sanitation challenges in Africa.



Digital System

To improve and modernize its operational efficiency and processing of grants through a dedicated client portal, the African Water Facility is developing a digital management system. This system will help with the processing of new project applications, promoting investment, and managing the Facility's project portfolio and results.

In Case You Missed It



Tunisia Water Vision 2050 Project Completion Report

The completion report for the Tunisia Water Vision 2050 project is now available. Funding of almost €1.2 million from the Facility lays the groundwork for Tunisia to prioritise water issues and develop a pipeline of relevant, bankable and sustainable water and sanitation projects valued at almost 22.6 billion euros up until 2050, through the development of a master plan which outlines a long-term vision and strategy. This will benefit the country's population of 12 and a half million, including rural population of nearly 3.6 million, and almost 250, 000 agricultural operators.

[Access the report](#)



Appeal 2024 - 2034

The African Water Facility has launched a funding appeal (2024 – 2034) to mobilise more resources to meet increased demand for access to water and sanitation in Africa. Under its current strategy 2017 – 2025, the Facility aims to mobilise €44 million by the end of 2025 to meet this demand for project preparation. Similarly, the Facility requires US\$320 million (€300 million) for the capitalisation of the Africa Urban Sanitation Investment Initiative over the next ten years.

[Download the Appeal](#)



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