



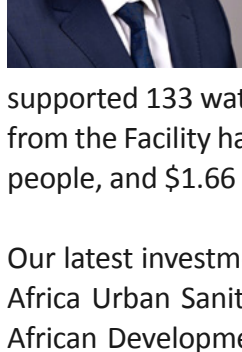
WORKING FOR WATER

ISSUE 1 | 2023



AFRICAN DEVELOPMENT BANK GROUP
GROUPE DE LA BANQUE AFRICAINE
DE DEVELOPPEMENT

MESSAGE FROM THE COORDINATOR



It gives me great pleasure to share our first newsletter for 2023. This issue is extra special for me as it coincides with my first anniversary as Coordinator of the African Water Facility (AWF). I'm proud to be associated with the AWF, which carries a strong history of leadership and delivery in the African water sector, and with the people who work tirelessly to bring its vision to life.

Since 2006, the African Water Facility has provided grants for project preparation to strengthen Africa's water governance and work towards water security on the continent. To date, it has supported 133 water and sanitation projects in 52 African countries through \$192.72 million in grant funding. Funding from the Facility has also provided access to safe water supply for 13.5 million people, sanitation services for 8.4 million people, and \$1.66 billion in downstream investment financing.

Our latest investment case, first published in March 2022, has been updated to reflect resource requirements for the Africa Urban Sanitation Investment Initiative (AUSII), under development as a special window to be hosted by the African Development Bank, within the African Water Facility. We're at a crucial time in Africa's water sector, where we must innovate and mobilise resources to guarantee access to safe water and sanitation on the continent. We must continue to 'work for water' which is to deploy all resources – both public and private and across industries – to deliver on the promise of the Sustainable Development Goal 6 for Africa.

This first quarter of 2023 has been productive for us, with project preparation and supervision, and our team ensuring that the AWF was represented to contribute at key industry events including the United Nations 2023 Water Conference.

We trust that you will enjoy the first issue of our newsletter, and we welcome any feedback and engagement. Please connect with us via email, through our social media platforms, or on our website.

Mtchera Johannes Chirwa
Coordinator, African Water Facility

GRANT APPROVALS

Our latest approvals

The African Water Facility recently approved projects in Niger, Burkina Faso, and Yobe.

In **Niger**, the Facility's grant of €7.64 million will support climate-resilient drinking water and sanitation services, in four rural regions of the country, over a four-year period.



In **Burkina Faso**, a grant of €4.9 million will benefit approximately 61,270 people, including internally displaced people of whom at least 50% are women. They will gain access to climate-resilient drinking water, hygiene, and sanitation services.

In **Yobe**, €362,000 funding from the African Water Facility will support phase II of the Komadugu-Yobe Multi-Purpose Water Resources Development Program. The project will address water resources management issues in the Komadugu-Yobe basin, and provide water resources for irrigation, urban and rural needs to improve the livelihoods of about 15 million people.

INVESTMENT



Making a case for investment

In March 2022, the African Water Facility published an investment case aimed at mobilizing additional resources for improving access to water and sanitation, and the quality of life for rural and urban communities in Africa by 2025. A total of €62.15 million (\$70.64 million) is required by the end of the period. The investment case has now been updated to reflect resource requirements for the **Africa Urban Sanitation Investment Initiative (AUSII)**, under development to be hosted by the African Development Bank as a special window within the African Water Facility. By spending an average of €12.43 million (\$14.13 million) annually over five years, the AWF will be able to deliver significant progress in the water, sanitation, and hygiene (WASH) sector.

Find out more and [download](#) the investment case.

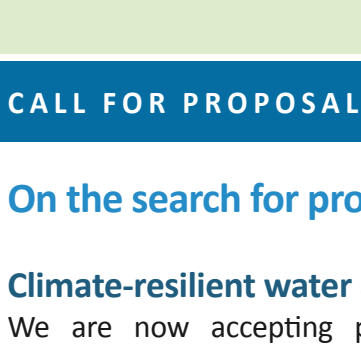
URBAN SANITATION

Inclusive Sanitation in Togo

In Togo, the Promotion of Inclusive Sanitation in Urban Centres (PAICUT) project has kicked off with a signing ceremony between the country's Ministry of Water and Village Hydraulics and the African Development Bank. The PAICUT project received grant funding of €1.25 million from the African Water Facility and will support urban sanitation in nine communities in Togo. [Read more](#) about the project.



Africa Urban Sanitation Investment Initiative (AUSII)



The Africa Urban Sanitation Investment Initiative (AUSII), previously conceptualized as the African Urban Sanitation Investment Fund (AUSIF), has been in development since 2018. The Initiative includes the implementation of seven pilot urban sanitation projects across Africa and is on the verge of completing development for full establishment. AUSII, whose operationalization is planned for this year, will be hosted by the African Development Bank and managed as a special sanitation financing window within the African Water Facility. AUSII will use Citywide Inclusive Sanitation (CWIS) approaches to provide climate-resilient and inclusive sanitation solutions in African cities, for the next 20 years or more.

AUSII aims to support the improvement of urban sanitation services and to support sanitation service providers in Africa by enhancing the conditions for investment impact, encouraging the adoption of CWIS approaches, providing grants and other blended financing options for efficient and sustainable sanitation investments, and working with development and commercial finance institutions. The window will serve as a bridge between governments and sanitation service providers, and between commercial and development finance institutions to align CWIS and climate activities with financing options. **Dig deeper into the teaser** [here](#).

CALL FOR PROPOSALS

On the search for projects

Climate-resilient water and sanitation

We are now accepting project proposals to expand and build a strong pipeline of bankable projects to finance (and mobilise additional funding for) the water and sanitation sector in Africa. This is in support of Africa Water Vision 2025, the African Union Agenda 2063, the Paris Agreement for climate action, and the United Nations Sustainable Development Goals.



Within our revised strategy, we are looking for high-impact, transformative, catalytic, climate adaptation-focused projects covering the following sector areas:

1. Water supply and sanitation (urban and rural)
2. Urban master planning (water supply, sanitation, and so on)
3. Urban-city-wide inclusive sanitation
4. Climate change adaptation and ecosystem management
5. Solid waste and faecal sludge management

6. Multipurpose (water, hydropower, irrigation and ecosystem management)
7. Transboundary/basin-level integrated water investment planning and governance.

Eligibility

Eligible applicants and respondents are African governments, their agencies, and organisations; Regional Economic Communities; and river and lake basin organisations.

Submission

Applicants are requested to prepare and submit project concept notes (maximum five (5) pages) using the template annexed in the [RFP document](#). Completed Project Concept Notes in either French or English should be submitted by email only to africanwaterfacility@afdb.org with copies sent to s.blazyk@afdb.org and e.nyabeeya@afdb.org, by no later than 5PM (GMT) on April 30, 2023, indicating "2023 Call for Proposals" as the subject of the email.

The African Water Facility will accept submission in either Microsoft Word or Adobe PDF formats.

INTERNATIONAL DAY

World Water Day 2023: why it matters in Africa

Celebrated on March 22, World Water Day is a reminder that access to water remains a challenge in Africa. One in three Africans experience water scarcity; 779 million lack access to basic sanitation services; and 839 million lack access to basic hygiene services.

In his note on "Accelerating Change in Africa's Water Sector through Multisectoral Partnerships and Investments", African Water Facility Coordinator, Mtchera Chirwa said, "Coordinated efforts and cooperation from local, regional and global players are required, as well as a multidisciplinary and multisectoral approach to achieving the needed transformation in Africa's water



sector. We must also give attention to integrated water resources management and consider the nexus between the water-energy-food ecosystem and climate change, to address multi-purpose uses and needs for water." **Read the full note** [here](#).

KNOWLEDGE



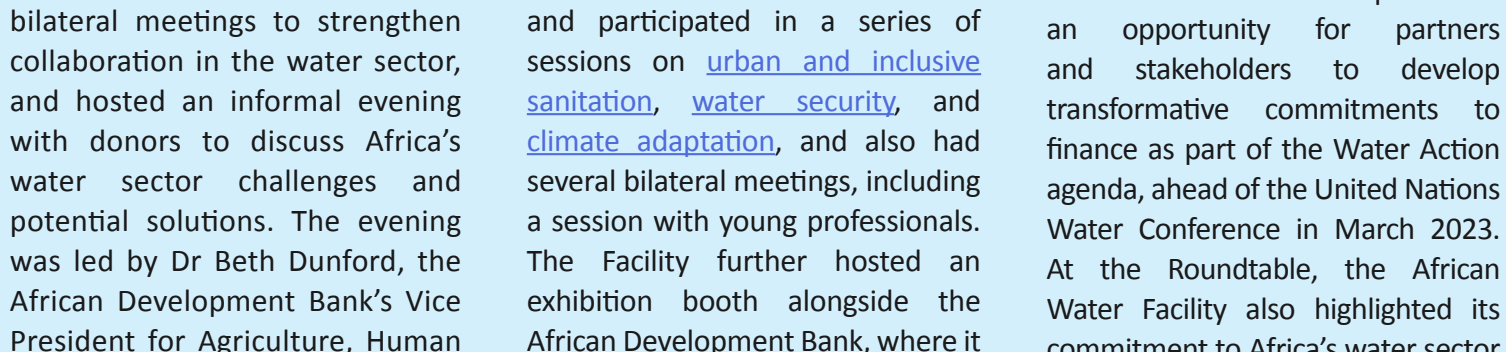
Knowledge is strength

The African Water Facility has developed knowledge management products on Africa's water sector and our work across the continent to improve access to water for all and deliver adequate and inclusive sanitation services. **Watch a recap** of our work in Lesotho–Botswana on the preparation of a climate-resilient water resources investment strategy and plan, and visit [here](#) to **watch** other project preparation videos.

UPDATES FROM THE FIELD & PAST EVENTS

We've been busy

Over the past few months, our team has been working across several countries, overseeing projects and supporting local and governmental stakeholders to achieve water and sanitation goals on the continent.



Project Preparation: Freetown, Sierra Leone

Earlier this year, in Sierra Leone, we assessed the Freetown Water Supply and Sanitation Master Plan and Investment Studies. The project sought to prepare effective and efficient short and medium-term investments in the water supply and institutional aspects of sanitation systems of Greater Freetown, using the Integrated Urban Water Management (IUWM) approach. The project also aimed to support the mobilisation of financial resources to meet the city's water supply and sanitation needs and develop a water and sanitation master plan for Greater Freetown.

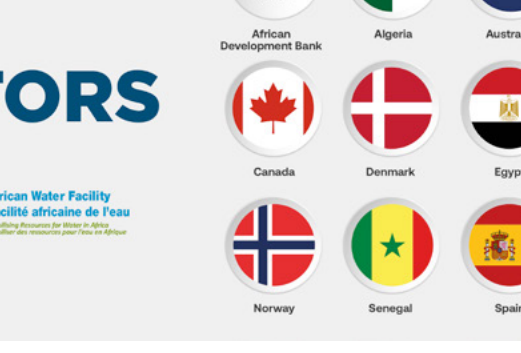
The investment framework supports mobilising resources for the ongoing infrastructure project, as well as for the Freetown WASH and Aquatic Environment Revamping Project after project implementation, and mobilising another \$67 million for advanced stages (to add to the \$49 million that is already effective).

The Government of Sierra Leone presented the completed master plan and investment packages related to water-supply improvement, climate resilience and water shed protection, along with the investment framework, during the UN 2023 Water Conference in New York.



United Nations 2023 Water Conference

The African Water Facility was at the UN 2023 Water Conference in New York as part of the African Development Bank's delegation. This was an important platform for government, ministers, and stakeholders from different sectors to take joint and timely action to achieve universal access to safe water, sanitation, and hygiene for all.



2023 African Water and Sanitation Congress

The 21st African Water Association International Congress and Exhibition and the 7th Faecal Sludge Management Conference were held in Abidjan, Côte d'Ivoire from February 19–23, 2023. There were 1,600 delegates and representatives from 146 international companies at the conference to call for stronger commitments to ensure universal access to clean water and sanitation for all by 2030.

The African Water Facility hosted and participated in a series of sessions on [urban and inclusive sanitation](#), [water security](#), and [climate adaptation](#), and also had several bilateral meetings, including a session with young professionals. The Facility further hosted an exhibition booth alongside the African Development Bank, where it displayed its expertise and engaged with public and private stakeholders at the event.



Ninth meeting of the Organisation for Economic Co-operation and Development (OECD) Roundtable

At the 9th meeting of the OECD Roundtable on Financing Water, the African Water Facility along with the Coordination and Partnerships Division of the African Development Bank's Water Department, contributed to dialogue on the water sector while strengthening collaboration with key players.

The Roundtable presented an opportunity for partners and stakeholders to develop transformative commitments to finance as part of the Water Action agenda, ahead of the United Nations Water Conference in March 2023. At the Roundtable, the African Water Facility also highlighted its commitment to Africa's water sector over the coming years.

The 10th OECD Roundtable will be co-organized by the African Development Bank and will be hosted in Abidjan, in the fall of 2023.

UPCOMING EVENTS

Looking ahead to Q2 2023

In the second quarter of 2023, the African Water Facility will approve projects focused on climate resilience in water and sanitation while continuing to supervise and support the implementation of our ongoing projects across Africa. We will also participate in virtual outreach events, commemorate water-related international days, and engage at industry events such as the International Conference on Climate Risk, Vulnerability and Resilience Building, and the 7th AfricaSan conference under the auspices of the African Ministers' Council on Water (AMCOW). Our next significant engagement with existing and potential donors is also scheduled for the second quarter of 2023.

Please keep checking our website for more information as it becomes available.

A HUGE THANK YOU TO OUR DONORS

The African Water Facility is proudly supported by our donors who make it possible to accelerate change in Africa's water sector.

FINANCIAL CONTRIBUTORS

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