

Continental Africa Water Investment Programme

Development of Guidelines for National Climate Resilient Water Investment Programmes

Pan-African Regional Virtual Stakeholder Consultation

16 January 2025

14:00 – 16:00 CAT

Zoom registration link: https://gwp-org.zoom.us/meeting/register/6_RiW41vTQWXjtfEs6XKrw

CONCEPT NOTE

Date	16 January 2025
Time	14:00 – 16:00 CAT
Event theme	Regional Consultation on the development of the African Union Commission (AUC) Guidelines for National Climate Resilient Water Investments Programmes
Organizer	AUC with technical support from the AIP Secretariat
Expected Participants	<p>The virtual meeting will bring together participants from AU Member States and Regional Economic Communities (RECs). It is expected to be attended by:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Member States - Ministries responsible for water and sanitation; Ministry of Finance; GCF National Designated Authority ▪ RECs ▪ AMCOW ▪ AUDA-NEPAD ▪ Regional and international development partners ▪ AIP Secretariat (GWP Africa) ▪ AUC
Objective	<p>The objectives of the consultation include:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ To seek input from stakeholders on the draft guidelines and get their perspectives ▪ To gather insights from financial institutions, multilateral development banks, and other funding agencies regarding their expectations for the guidelines on National Water Investment Programmes ▪ To share the roadmap for implementation of the guidelines across African countries and opportunities for collaboration and partnership with development and finance partners
Context and Rationale	Water plays a crucial role in African countries' socio-economic development and sustaining natural ecosystems. Furthermore, water is considered to be at the center of the international key agendas (SDGs, Paris Agreement, Sendai Framework on Disaster

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Risk Reduction). The huge investment gap for climate resilient water security in Africa is one of the main barriers to achieving national and international commitments. It is also critical in building climate resilience in the continent. It is therefore imperative for Africa to enhance resource mobilization and invest in climate resilient water security at national, regional and transboundary levels.

Ensuring that water investments in Africa are climate resilient and socially inclusive is the main challenge for Africa. The huge gap in water investments necessitates priority actions. There are two critical issues when it comes to water investment in Africa. One is the huge gap in water investment in Africa while the other is ensuring that such water investments are climate resilient and socially inclusive.

Delivery of water infrastructure across Africa remains below the targets required to meet the water needs of the continent. The Continental Africa water Investment Program (AIP) which was adopted during the AU Summit in 2021 aims to close the water investment gap by mobilising at least an additional US\$30 billion annually by 2030 to meet Sustainable Development Goal 6. Only \$10-\$19 billion/year is invested in water infrastructure.

The AIP comprises five pillars that aim to contribute towards narrowing the investment gap in water across Africa, namely:

- i. *International High-level Panel on Water Investments for Africa*. The [International High-Level Panel on Water Investments for Africa](#) was established in 2022, comprising current and former Heads of State and global leaders. During 2023, the Panel developed and launched a report, [Africa's Rising Investment Tide](#), and an [Africa Water Investment Action Plan](#) with actionable pathways for countries to mobilise at least US\$30bn annually by 2030 for implementing the AIP.
- ii. *AIP-PIDA Water Investment Scorecard* to enhance mutual accountability, transparency and efficiency of water finance and investments – The Scorecard supports countries to track progress, set benchmarks, identify bottlenecks, and take action to meet water investment needs. It was adopted by AUDA-NEPAD as part of PIDA in February 2022. The Scorecard was developed and piloted in 10 countries in 2023, ahead of its roll out across AU Member States.
- iii. *Regional and national water investment programmes to close the water investment gap* - The AIP supports AU Member States to develop national water investment programmes. National water investment programmes address the key gaps such as climate change, institutional capacities, water infrastructure, and information systems being informed by insights from the AIP-PIDA Water Investment Scorecard.
- iv. *AIP International Blended Investment Facility to leverage public-private finance* - The AIP will assess the need for an International Blended

<p>Investment Facility to support countries to leverage ODA (Official Development Assistance) and grant finance to de-risk priority water investments using a variety of innovative financial instruments and sources. These include sovereign wealth funds, guarantees, commercial finance, institutional investors and private equity investors, foundations, value-based impact investment, and climate finance.</p> <p>v. <i>Gender equality and empowerment of women and girls in water investment</i> through the AIP Gender Transformative Water Climate Development Program (AIP WACDEP-G) – The AIP WACDEP-G develops tools to assist governments in addressing systemic inequalities in decision-making, planning, and implementation of investments, by fostering a transformative approach in agencies, structures, and social relations. The AIP WACDEP-G was piloted in five African countries during 2020-2024 and is expected to be expanded to many other countries in Africa.</p> <p>The workshop will update stakeholders on the progress made in the development of National Climate Resilient Water Investments Guidelines, present the draft Guidelines for discussion with key stakeholders, and agree on the timelines and process for its launch and implementation. The consultation workshop is funded by the AU-AIP Multi-country Green Climate Fund (GCF) Readiness Project, which aims to enhance the capacities of AU Member States for climate-resilient water investment planning and project preparation, enabling the development of national climate-resilient water investment programs. The Readiness Project spans 15 African countries, including Burundi, Central African Republic, Chad, Eswatini, Ghana, Guinea, Malawi, Mali, Morocco, Mozambique, Republic of Congo, Sierra Leone, Somalia, Tunisia, and Zambia.</p>	<p>Investment Facility to support countries to leverage ODA (Official Development Assistance) and grant finance to de-risk priority water investments using a variety of innovative financial instruments and sources. These include sovereign wealth funds, guarantees, commercial finance, institutional investors and private equity investors, foundations, value-based impact investment, and climate finance.</p> <p>v. <i>Gender equality and empowerment of women and girls in water investment</i> through the AIP Gender Transformative Water Climate Development Program (AIP WACDEP-G) – The AIP WACDEP-G develops tools to assist governments in addressing systemic inequalities in decision-making, planning, and implementation of investments, by fostering a transformative approach in agencies, structures, and social relations. The AIP WACDEP-G was piloted in five African countries during 2020-2024 and is expected to be expanded to many other countries in Africa.</p> <p>The workshop will update stakeholders on the progress made in the development of National Climate Resilient Water Investments Guidelines, present the draft Guidelines for discussion with key stakeholders, and agree on the timelines and process for its launch and implementation. The consultation workshop is funded by the AU-AIP Multi-country Green Climate Fund (GCF) Readiness Project, which aims to enhance the capacities of AU Member States for climate-resilient water investment planning and project preparation, enabling the development of national climate-resilient water investment programs. The Readiness Project spans 15 African countries, including Burundi, Central African Republic, Chad, Eswatini, Ghana, Guinea, Malawi, Mali, Morocco, Mozambique, Republic of Congo, Sierra Leone, Somalia, Tunisia, and Zambia.</p>
<p>Desired outcome</p>	<p>The desired outcome of the workshop is to achieve stakeholder consensus on the National Climate Resilient Water Investments Guidelines document, including finalized timelines and a clear process for its launch and implementation.</p>

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Agenda

Time	Agenda Items	Responsibility
14:00	Welcome by the Co-Chairs of the Core Group and High-Level Panel Sherpas	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • AUC • AUDA-NEPAD • Republic of Senegal
14:05	Statements from AIP Core Group Partners and AIP Secretariat	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • GCF • World Bank • Afdb/AWF • OECD • DBSA • GWPO • EU-Blue Africa Initiative (GIZ/KWF/BMZ/EU) • UNICEF • UNDP • UNCDF • AIP Secretariat
14:25	Draft AU National Climate Resilience Water Investment Program Guidelines Document	AIP Secretariat



15:00	Discussion	All
15:50	Summary and Next Steps	AUC
16:00	Meeting Close	AUC

