



AGWA's Annual Report

Part 1

Year in Review: September 2017 – August 2018

Part 2

The Year Ahead: September 2018 – August 2019

COORDINATOR'S FOREWORD

Over the past eight years, AGWA has tackled some of the most difficult challenges around climate change: how do we assess and act on climate risk when we face high risks from failure, deep uncertainty, and the need for credible quantitative frameworks? How do we ensure that the global climate community recognizes that water is the critical lever for achieving goals for climate mitigation and adaptation, and that the SDGs must also be secured with freshwater resilience? Remarkably, we have made enormous progress against all of these goals. How has it happened?

From 150 days of travel and some 300k of flight kms over the past year, I have come to know AGWA in a new way — one that helps me understand both how we function as a network, as well as why we continue to grow. Indeed, “network” seems insufficient as a descriptive term; from where I sit, AGWA is an active and living institution, actually shaping other institutions and co-creating knowledge tools. I believe we show several key traits that have been critical to our success and growth:

- We do not work at the level of pure policy or at project scales. Instead, I've come to understand that **AGWA works at the “decision making” scale**: How do people and institutions consistently and successfully ensure that resilient water knowledge is included in their decisions, actions, and policies? Work such as the World Bank's Decision Tree Framework and the imminent UNESCO-IHP and ICIWaRM publication CRIDA (Climate Risk Informed Decision Analysis), both of which emphasize how to integrate and mainstream some of the emerging best practices of resilient water management.
- **Most projects with an AGWA affiliation are crowd-sourced** — that is, individuals and small groups from across the network are mobilized to contribute time and expertise. Individual projects may include dozens and sometimes well over 100 contributors. There is no single institution that can define the best practices for the water community — we must work *between* institutions, and AGWA serves as that catalyst. Crowd-sourcing means sharing insights about resilient water management that can be aligned, prepared, and ordered for specific target audiences. Indeed, such processes are the only way we will create a new generation of best practices for sustainable water management, which is why most of our projects and publications come with a long list of institutional affiliations. And why AGWA works to build capacity within the network, through the network.
- Our policy work shares the same intensively collaborative spirit. I have personally seen how some of our best insights on global policy come from non-policy specialists — engineers, scientists, and economists — who have never worked in policy before. We work as a community to leverage — and create — change. **Policy is too important to be left to policymakers; technical specialists need to be engaged too.** At the same, the network as a whole gathers and shares information and insights about what is happening and how best to position ourselves. Indeed, we as a network are often represented by many partners within the network. Not just by core staff.
- Often the best levers for resilience come indirectly. Many of our programs recognize that tools such as finance and economic assessment are critical to signal to institutional and policy

decision makers about the risks from not adapting while providing a positive set of practical actions about how to implement. **We can't use most of our existing, stationary tools to understand and act on non-stationary problems; new tools must emerge and be implemented**, and they span all aspects of the decision making cycle.

- Climate and water professionals need clear examples and positive communications. Often, we work alone and in isolation within our institutions. **AGWA provides that connective tissue, demonstrating that we are a movement making progress.** Good stories of momentum, innovation, and effective implementation are critical to our work and help us communicate with broader, non-traditional audiences. Those stories are not constrained by any one discipline or region — they come from Africa, South America, southeast Asia. We try to tell these stories through our communications and most recently through our podcast.

John H. Matthews — August 2018

INTRODUCTION

History & Evolution

Founded in September 2010 during World Water Week by about 30 individuals, AGWA began as a network to catalyze expert knowledge, practical action, and effective global policy for climate adaptation. That mission continues now with more than 1000 members located worldwide and initiatives divided broadly into technical and policy areas. AGWA has expanded to serve as a platform for new perspectives on a wide variety of water and climate change issues, spanning both climate mitigation and climate adaptation. We strive to disseminate knowledge and advocate on critical technical and policy aspects of water and climate. To date, our technical programs have emphasized connecting thought leaders to develop a coherent set of guiding elements, processes, and methodologies for implementing robust long-term water management. Our policy work has defined a core set of issues, targeted relevant processes and policy frameworks, identified motivated and supportive policy and decision making actors, and developed approaches for communicating these issues to make changes in behavior.

At an early stage, AGWA members outlined the vision, mission and purpose for AGWA. But we have not been inflexible. Indeed, these have subsequently been revised several times, and last year a third purpose was added during the Annual Meeting to reflect the increasing relevance to highlight connections between climate adaptation and mitigation.

Mission

The Alliance for Global Water Adaptation (AGWA) is established to provision tools, partnerships, guidance, and technical assistance to improve effective decision making, action, governance, and analytical processes in water resources management, focusing on climate adaptation and mitigation.

Purpose

To serve the needs of our Members. These needs are conceived as falling into two broad categories:

1. Core network support, which includes sharing knowledge, connecting individuals and institutions to enable collaboration on water and climate projects and issues, identifying potential partners and growing the network; and promoting and advocating on the basis of existing tools, insights, and approaches.
2. Extended network support and outreach beyond the network, which includes technical assistance for project development and implementation; direct policy support; tool and methodological development; creating capacity building, educational, and training materials, programs, and workshops; and identifying and provisioning new programs and needs to reflect shifting conditions.

In addition, AGWA also values two cross-cutting purposes:

- To contribute to water and climate policies and practices to ensure they connect with, reach, and enable resilient communities and institutions.

- To foster and encourage dialogues between individuals and entities working on adaptation and mitigation of climate change, recognizing that water resources bridge these bodies of work.

Membership

AGWA seeks to help build resilience for adapting to climate change by closing the gap between existing knowledge and policies and practical application. The members of AGWA are dedicated to supporting efforts within governmental, civil society, research, and private sector institutions to develop knowledge and skills that can address issues of water-based climate change adaptation by promoting collaboration between emerging areas of expertise and translating the next generation of best practices into operational reality. AGWA's network mailing list peaked at more than 1250 individuals and an estimated 500 organizations. Some basic statistics:

- AGWA's LinkedIn Group has grown to over 430 members in the past year – representing 25 percent growth.
- The newsletter mailing list grew to over 1250 members – representing 25 percent growth over the past year before a significant overhaul in June 2018.
- The AGWA Facebook site was launched in the third quarter of 2017.
- Over the course of a year we have gained over 250 followers through organic growth. We expect at least 30 percent growth in the coming year, with comparable rates for the LinkedIn Group.
- Main website (Alliance4Water.org) averages over 3,700 visits per week (about 15,000 visits per month). Our companion site (AGWAGuide.org) receives over 1,000 visits per week.

Governance

AGWA is an informal network, defined by a community of practice charter.¹ AGWA is governed by two co-chairs, who also have seats on a steering committee. AGWA is coordinated by John Matthews, who reports to the steering committee (SC). The current co-chairs are Maggie White (Stockholm International Water Institute [SIWI]) and Diego Rodriguez (World Bank). The work of the AGWA coordinator and steering committee is supported by a small Secretariat hosted by SIWI. Major decisions and programs are ratified during an annual meeting, held in conjunction with World Water Week.

Challenges and Opportunities: the Coming Year

Several areas appear to be natural areas of focus for 2018–19:

- Policy partnerships with national parties has been central to our policy successes over the past three years, but the shifting range of issues within the UNFCCC around water suggests that we should expand our partnerships and/or strategy for party engagement.
- Funding growth has been strong and should expand — we are incredibly grateful to our funding partners, both direct and in-kind. However, our informal non-legal status has presented

¹ Details of AGWA's governance and charter are provided at <http://alliance4water.org/About/index.html>.

structural challenges sometimes in receiving those funds. AGWA has long planned on becoming a legal entity, which should resolve this specific issue. At the same time, a formal AGWA entity will also create other relationship adjustments, which will need to be considered carefully. Complex choices remain to be decided.

- DRR, WASH, green infrastructure, and agriculture are areas where interest in AGWA technical and policy programs have been growing very rapidly. In areas such as DRR and WASH, there is a renewed engagement in the synergies between water and resilience. However, DRR in particular may also require additional staffing or tradeoffs between existing and emerging portfolios.
- Finance mechanisms as a vehicle for mainstreaming water and resilience will continue to grow in strength, particularly with regard to urban resilience and green infrastructure. However, new partnerships with specific finance institutions will be especially important for regional and thematic growth (e.g., Asian Development Bank, Green Climate Fund).
- In recent months, we have experimented with regional representatives, beginning with Louise Whiting (FAO) for the Asia-Pacific region and Emma Carmody (Ramsar, EDO NSW) for Australia. We should leverage and expand these roles, especially in underrepresented regions.
- Our promotion of bottom-up risk assessment and reduction methodologies began in earnest in 2017 and should grow significantly over the coming year, particularly with existing (e.g., Deltares, USACE) and emerging technical partnerships (e.g., UNESCO-IHP, TNC). Our first co-convened AGWA conference occurred last February, and we hope to have a second conference and still deeper programs over the coming year.

Part 1

Year in Review: September 2017 – August 2018

Activities since the last annual meeting

The past year saw more than 25 percent growth in newsletter subscriptions (before compliance with EU mailing list regulation); the rapid differentiation and expansion of our policy activities; the expansion of our policy capacity; the successful development of Water Action Day at COP23, participation in SB 48 in Bonn in May, including in the ongoing Talanoa Dialogue for Global Climate Action; development and launch of new Water Infrastructure Criteria for climate bonds; the release of the multi-year CRIDA publication as a water resources planning framework; selection of AGWA to lead three UNFCCC continent-scale water and adaptation workshops; expansion of AGWA-supported bottom-up risk assessment projects; the launch of the first and second seasons of our new podcast: *ClimateReady*; the award of grants to support AGWA-informed programs and activities; and expanding media coverage around our activities. We have a great deal to be proud of. This section details some of the work of the past year.

Policy Team Activities

Over the past several years, AGWA's Policy Team has proven to be a strong global network for joint action to raise the profile of water in the climate change policy discussion. Our role has combined three key elements: representing a broad consortium of the water community in climate talks without grandstanding and as an honest broker, communicating climate issues and policy relevance back to the water community, and undergirding our policy recommendations with technical expertise.

This emphasis on raising the profile of water has yielded many impressive and significant results. For example, we are now enmeshed within the UNFCCC as a leading organizations working in this space. However, raising awareness about the importance of water for climate change mitigation and adaptation – while important – is not sufficient. Historically, much of our policy work has been to mobilize the water community around climate change issues, often with reference to a specific COP, and typically with most of the effort highly seasonal. At our best, we have also supported the translation of these issues more directly into specific recommendations for the climate community. Through the Policy Team and close partners such as #ClimatelsWater, we have had significant success with mobilization processes in particular.

Over the past year, we have sharpened our focus on specific institutions, issues, and processes within the UNFCCC that need resilient water knowledge. In the past, we have made good strides along these channels too, but the UNFCCC has itself changed significantly, and we now see opportunities that are either new or did not exist clearly before. The work of mobilizing and aligning the water community must continue, and we have good systems and solid foundations for this work. For the coming year, we look to forge more strategic partnerships with our colleagues working on related issues in agriculture, finance,

forests, disaster risk reduction, oceans, and urban settlements. This work began in earnest at COP23 and has continued throughout 2018 in the run up to COP24. We have already identified several potential areas for collaboration, as well as willing partners, and we will look to broaden and scale up our collaborative work in the coming years.

Within the AGWA policy network itself, our efforts have also been amplified through collaboration, and our Policy Team member list of some 320 individuals showcases the full spectrum of policy, technical, legal and governance perspectives. SIWI staff and leadership continue to play an essential role in AGWA's policy strategy and activities. Since July 2017, SIWI international climate policy work has been led by AGWA co-chair Maggie White and, in April 2018, we added Ingrid Timboe full-time as an AGWA policy associate to assist Maggie and John Matthews with our expanding policy portfolio. In early 2018 we also launched a stand-alone monthly policy newsletter to help share our work, advertise upcoming policy-related events, and maintain our diffuse policy network between our regular calls.

Building on our successes at COP22 in November 2016, throughout the past year the Policy Team worked fervently to ensure an expanded role for water in the climate policy discussions. Given our understanding of the global policy landscape (and not simply climate policy), the Policy Team prepared input for global meetings leading up to COP23 in Bonn, Germany in November 2017, as well as for the UNFCCC intercession meetings (SB 48), also in Bonn, in May 2018. Several activities were organized by our members, and AGWA used its strong network to inform and influence decision makers, by involvement and knowledge sharing in global dialogs, through the preparation of policy briefs, organizing events, and through the preparation and distribution of key messages, news articles, policy papers, among other vehicles.

AGWA and SIWI gratefully acknowledge several key partners in our global work, including Morocco, Germany and the Netherlands, World Water Council, Arup, FAO, IUCN, Deltares, and #ClimatelsWater. By being present and active as a strong member of the #ClimatelsWater (#CIW) steering committee, AGWA has tried to ensure a shared approach to its messages and activities in order to promote sound policy recommendations through its communication network.

A snapshot of the past year:

- The policy group has grown to 320 individuals – growing in pace with AGWA as a whole
- We took a leading role in organizing, executing and participating in Water Action Day at COP23, featuring over 100 speakers and presenters over the course of six sessions. We were also a key contributor to the elaboration and finalization of the press release and press conferences surrounding Water Action Day.
- During COP23, we emphasized reaching out to other GCA Thematic and High Level Days organizers to share our key messages, agendas, and solicit opportunities for cross-fertilization of content and speakers. Following the COP, SIWI led the creation of the Water Action Day

Outcomes Document², revising and strengthening its focus based on strong feedback from our Moroccan partners.

- At COP23, co-organized and participated in a number of other side events, including: *Nature Based Solutions for an Uncertain Future* (IUCN), *The Water Way Forward for Climate Action* (UNESCO), and *From Adaptation in NDCs to Bankable Climate Projects: The key role of the water cycle* (GIZ / BMZ).
- Continued role on steering committee of #ClimatelsWater Campaign
- Attended Marrakech Partnership for Global Climate Action meetings on behalf of all the water organizations in Rome, Italy (September 2017); Lisbon, Portugal (March 2018); and Bonn, Germany (May 2018). Ingrid has been appointed a water focal point person for the Marrakech Partnership as of July 2018 and will continue to represent AGWA and SIWI in this group going forward.
- Developed content and participated in the 2nd International Climate and Water Conference, sponsored by the World Water Council and held from 3-4 October 2017 in Marseille, France.
- Contributed to the pre-COP meetings (October 2017)
- Released three policy briefs in the run-up to COP23^{3,4,5}, two of which were also published on the Global Water Forum: “A Thirst for Food Resilience: Climate-Smart Water Knowledge Integrates UNFCCC and SDG policies for food and agriculture”⁶ and “Sustaining Water, Sustainable Cities: Urban climate change and SDG policy solutions through water resilience.”⁷
- Organized and participated in several sessions at the 8th World Water Forum⁸ held March 19-24, 2018 in Brasilia, Brazil, including a high-level panel on water and climate that mandated the creation of a Water and Climate Working Group, co-coordinated with the World Water Council. AGWA is on the steering committee for this working group.
- Participated in May 2018 UNFCCC Bonn intersessional meetings, including the Technical Expert Meetings on mitigation and adaptation, the Talanoa Dialogue, and official side events.
- Represented at the International Decade for Water: Water for Sustainable Development conference held 20-22 June in Dushanbe, Tajikistan by SIWI. Also coordinated pre-conference events on water and agriculture and water and climate change.
- Represented at the High Level Political Forum, 9-16 July, 2018 in New York City by SIWI, where SDGs 6, 7, 11, 12, 15, and 17 were reviewed.
- Secured funding for core Policy Team support through collaboration with the German and Dutch governments.

² http://alliance4water.org/resources/cop_23_outcome-waterday_final.pdf

³ http://alliance4water.org/resources/COP-23_Cities.pdf

⁴ http://alliance4water.org/resources/COP-23_Food-and-Agriculture.pdf

⁵ www.siwi.org/wp-content/uploads/2017/08/Freshwater-and-oceans_WEB-1.pdf

⁶ <http://www.globalwaterforum.org/2017/11/16/a-thirst-for-food-resilience-climate-smart-water-knowledge-integrates-unfccc-and-sdg-policies-for-food-and-agriculture/>

⁷ [http://www.globalwaterforum.org/?sfid=14131&_sf_s=Sustaining percent20Waters percent2C percent20Sustainable percent20Cities](http://www.globalwaterforum.org/?sfid=14131&_sf_s=Sustaining%20Waters%20percent20Sustainable%20Cities)

⁸ <http://alliance4water.org/events/wwf8/>

Pre-COP23 Activities. Prior to COP23, the Policy Group was very active at the 2017 World Water Week in Stockholm (SWWW). At the SWWW, the Policy Group organized and spoke during the event “From Global Policy to Local Project: Managing Water Through NDCs.” The event featured high level participants, including SIWI’s Director, Torgny Holmgren, as well as Franz Marré, Head of Division for Water, Urban Development, and Mobility at BMZ. This event sought to reconcile local, national, and global mitigation and adaptation goals. We also co-organized an event with #CIW entitled “Water to Mitigate Climate Change: Beyond the Obvious” which aimed at clarifying the links between water, energy, and mitigation. We organized a side meeting during SWWW along with BMZ and others who led the water related activities of the Marrakech Partnership for Global Climate Action in preparation for COP23.

Policy Group at SWWW 2018. World Water Week 2018 will feature two AGWA policy-coordinated events: one on resilient water for connecting climate and DRR policy, as well as one on connecting the SDGs and Paris Agreement agendas through water. The latter session will be formatted using the official UNFCCC facilitative stocktaking dialogue format for 2018, called the Talanoa Dialogue, which was mandated by a COP decision at COP23 in order to take stock of where parties and non-party stakeholders are now in terms of working towards their climate goals, and to raise ambition in advance of the implementation phase of the Paris Agreement. The outputs from our session will be submitted to the UNFCCC as part of the official Talanoa Dialogue record and final report for COP24.

For the Water-Climate-Disaster Risk session, co-convened with the World Bank, UNISDR, High Level Experts Panel (HELP) on Water and Disasters, Deltares, BMZ, GIZ, SIWI, and the World Water Council, we will be using the results of this dialogue to inform our work on water and DRR moving forward. This topic is of particular relevance over the coming years with the 4th European Climate Change Adaptation Conference (28-31 May 2019) focused on adaptation and disaster risk, the 6th Session of the Global Platform for Disaster Risk Reduction (GP2019) taking place in Geneva in May 2019, as well as the 2020 deadline for preliminary national plans to be submitted under the Sendai Framework for Disaster Risk Reduction.

Global Climate Action Agenda (GCA; formerly the Lima Paris Action Agenda [LPAA]). The GCA agenda is an initiative to broaden the climate negotiations and mobilize cooperative action for efficient implementation by state and non-state actors to create platforms for the exchange of lessons learned, the mobilization of resources, and scaling up successful experiences and good practices to promote climate resilience.

Since its founding at COP21, the Global Climate Action Agenda has undergone some strategic changes and is now hosted by the Secretariat of UNFCCC. As for the past two COPs, AGWA was once again heavily involved in the planning, execution, and participation in Water Action Day at COP23, and will retain this role for COP24. Since coming on board to assist with COP23 in 2017, Ingrid Timboe has now stepped in as the focal point person for the Water organizations for COP24 and has attended the past two GCA meetings in Lisbon and Bonn on behalf of SIWI and AGWA.

2nd International Conference on Water and Climate 3-4 October, Marseille, France. Following our work on the inaugural ICWC in Rabat, Morocco in July 2016, AGWA was once again instrumental in setting the agenda, speakers, and content for this now annual pre-COP conference on water and climate policy, jointly hosted and led by the World Water Council and the Government of Morocco. The conference tried to concentrate on the question of how best to integrate water thematically within the UNFCCC policies and institutions. Climate negotiators from Senegal, Bangladesh, Morocco, Germany, and El Salvador as well as many representatives from agriculture, cities, finance, the private sector, and WASH all took part. Other governmental actors ranged from a mayor to the UN Food and Agriculture Organization (FAO). About 100 attendees from four continents participated over the two days.

COP23 & the Water Action Day 6-17 November 2017. At COP23, AWGA actively participated in and / or led several water content group meetings organizing Water Action Day, finalizing the agenda, coordinating a speakers list of over 100 Water Action Day participants, assisting with speaker accreditation, liaising with UNFCCC Global Climate Action team on behalf of the water content group, and drafting and revising all Water Day documents for publication on the UNFCCC website. We also reached out to other GCA Thematic and High Level Days organizers to share our key messages, agendas, and solicit opportunities for cross-fertilization of content and speakers. Given the significant amount of time and effort required by this workstream alone, AGWA brought on Ingrid Timboe part-time in October to coordinate these water content group activities.

Internally, the AGWA policy website was re-organized in advance of the COP to draw attention to our work at the conference, as well as the newly published policy papers on water for cities and agriculture. We also added a new web page to the site (“BlueLineBonn”)⁹ dedicated to tracking and publicizing all water related events at the COP and reached out to partner organizations and some outside of the SIWI network to collect details on these events. SIWI and AGWA also promoted the new #ClimatelsWater messages for COP23 prepared by colleagues at the World Water Council through our social media networks. We also released an episode of the *ClimateReady* podcast

As an event, the Water Action Day brought forward a broad variety of organizations that support the relevance of freshwater within the UNFCCC process. In addition to opening and closing plenary sessions, which included high-level participation from government ministries and delegations from Morocco, Senegal, Sweden, Italy, Germany, El Salvador, the Netherlands, and France, among others, COP23’s Water Action Day featured a roundtable discussion on unleashing climate finance for water along with afternoon break-out sessions focused on water knowledge for climate adaptation and mitigation, water for agriculture and food security, and water for urban resilience.

Following the COP, SIWI led the creation of the Water Action Day Outcomes Document, revising and strengthening its focus based on strong feedback from Morocco.

⁹ <http://alliance4water.org/events/cop23/>

Also new for this COP was the collaboration between AGWA and SIWI's Source to Sea Platform ahead of the COP, which resulted in a new policy brief entitled "The blue trinity of freshwater, oceans and climate change,"¹⁰ an official COP23 side-event organized together with the French Water Partnership, and an event hosted by the Nordic Pavilion.

8th World Water Forum 18-23 March, Brasilia, Brazil. This was the 3rd World Water Forum for AGWA and our engagement at this edition was extensive. In addition to promoting the Forum's water and climate events extensively through our social media networks and newsletters, AGWA took part in over 10 sessions, organized one on science and policy on behalf of UNESCO-IHP, and co-convened a high-level panel on bridging water and climate, which was one of the official themes of WWF8. The primary outcome from the high-level panel on water and climate was the creation of a new Working Group on Water and Climate (WGWC) which brings together climate negotiators and water organizations to identify and access strategic entry points for water within the UNFCCC agenda. This group, co-organized with the World Water Council and AGWA, is an active member of the steering committee. WGWC activities since the Forum are summarized under SB 48: UNFCCC Intersessional Meetings.

SB 48: UNFCCC Intersessional Meetings. This year's first intersessional meetings took place from 30 April – 10 May in Bonn, Germany. As in past years, SIWI and AGWA were present and heavily involved in a number of meetings and sessions as engagement with these intersessional meetings is strategic for maintaining credibility and continuity. Prior to SB 48, at the initial meeting of the Working Group on Water and Climate (WGWC), it was suggested that we focus our efforts on getting language acknowledging water into the text of the Paris Agreement Rulebook Item 4, which pertains to countries' adaptation communications (including their NDCs). This Item was being negotiated at SB 48 so we drafted language that could be added to the adaptation communication guidance document urging Parties to acknowledge in their plans and reports the important role that water, forests and landscapes play in climate adaptation. AGWA and SIWI were actively engaged in these discussions on behalf of the WGWC at SB 48. Unfortunately, little progress was made in these negotiations (having nothing to do with our suggested language additions), and they will be taken up again at the second intersession meetings, scheduled for 4-9 September in Bangkok, Thailand. We are working with the Working Group on Water and Climate to determine next steps in terms of expanding support for our draft language, as well as other potential avenues for us to engage at Bangkok and beyond (COP24, etc).

Beyond these activities, we attended and participated in a number of UNFCCC events including the Technical Expert Meetings on Mitigation and Adaptation (TEM-M / TEM-A), the Talanoa in-person Dialogue, meetings of the Nairobi Work Programme, the Koronivia Joint Decision on Agriculture, and a side event co-sponsored by our friends at Wetlands International on water and human migration and security. We also co-authored a short piece on climate and water with WI that was featured on the front of the CAN-Eco Newsletter, the widely distributed daily newsletter of the UNFCCC meetings.

¹⁰ <http://www.siwi.org/publications/freshwater-oceans-working-together-face-climate-change/>

International Decade for Water: Water for Sustainable Development Conference in Dushanbe, Tajikistan. AGWA was represented by SIWI at this conference, which is set within the framework of the UNGA International Decade for Water: 2018-2028 and is scheduled to be repeated every two years through 2028. Heads of State and Government officials, Member State UN Ambassadors, ministers and other high-level decision makers took part in this historical gathering together with representatives of international and regional organizations, local governments, civil society, the private sector, academia, women and youth organizations. The Conference provided a timely and necessary platform for elaborating recommendations in the run-up to the United Nations HLPF (High-Level Political Forum on Sustainable Development) where Sustainable Development Goal (SDG) 6 to “ensure availability and sustainable management of water and sanitation for all” is to be discussed. Maggie White participated in and coordinated a number of events focused on water, sustainable development, agriculture, climate, disaster risk reduction, and youth engagement. SIWI is also a member of the drafting committee for the final declaration and outcome documents and will continue to play a role in organizing these biannual conferences moving forward. These meetings, which will continue to be co-chaired by the Tajik government and held in Dushanbe, also present a strategic opportunity for AGWA to expand its reach – particularly in Central and East Asia where we have (to date) rather limited engagement.

UN High Level Political Forum. This year’s HLPF took place from 9-18 July at the UN Headquarters in New York City and was particularly relevant as progress on SDG 6 on sustainable water management and sanitation was reviewed – along with SDGs 7, 11, 12, 15 and 17. We were represented at the Forum by SIWI, where Maggie White participated in a number of sessions and side events, highlighting the importance of water as a bridging factor between the SDGs as well as broader global agendas, such as the Paris Agreement and Sendai Framework on Disaster Risk Reduction. At the HLPF, SIWI also presented how a source-to-sea approach to water governance can help implement the SDGs and co-hosted a dialogue between faith based communities and the development and water sectors on achieving SDG 6. This work on bridging water and sustainable development targets also ties into our 2018 World Water Week session on linking development and climate change mitigation and adaptation policies and practice through resilient water management.

AGWA and #ClimatelsWater. #ClimatelsWater (#CIW) began life as a platform to coordinate and define a set of clear, coherent, community-based messages about the connection between water and climate policy. This role remains important to #CIW. As a member of the #CIW steering committee, AGWA contributes actively, but #CIW and AGWA remain separate groups and the steering committee has diverse voices. Today, #CIW represents about 30 NGOs, institutions, and networks involved in water issues and interested in joint and coordinated communications. The main messages promoted by #CIW during COP23 were once more built from AGWA’s content and expertise over the past years, enhanced with beautiful branding. Currently, the steering committee is in discussion about what activities and messages it would like to convey for COP24 – and beyond.

To ensure the prominence of water issues in the global climate dialogue, the water community must continue to speak with one voice. The AGWA Policy Team should continue to serve as a vehicle for

collaborative and accelerated action, a neutral advocate for policy recommendations and technical advice, and a mechanism to convey emerging water practices to climate policy makers.

Capacity Building Programs

Beginning around 2015, AGWA has made a specific goal of expanding its efforts in capacity building. In addition to AGWA's technical focus on knowledge synthesis and decision support, capacity building efforts have been undertaken within the network as well as through preparing content for others to use, integrate, and customize as necessary. As new methodologies and decision making science had advanced, there was an evident need to expand the number of people and institutions who were capable of delivering effective action and enabling good policy.

While universal agreement about effective resilient water resources management would be impossible to achieve within such a large network, broad outlines have emerged on the need to deploy risk based and robust approaches to climate adaptation, particularly those now referred to as “bottom-up” approaches to risk assessment and risk reduction. Our shift has included the creation of a separate AGWA site in late 2016 for technical content (AGWAGuide.org) and the development of a series of publications and knowledge products. This process has continued in a number of ways over the past year:

- **Direct method-specific capacity building** occurred through close partners such as the World Bank, the University of Massachusetts, Amherst, and the University of Cincinnati, which have been conducting training workshops over the past two years for internal and external associates at locations in both North America and Asia. The World Bank's Decision Tree Framework (DTF) has been applied in Nepal, Mexico City, Indonesia, and Kenya to date.
- **The “Resilient Water Decisions” Workshop** was hosted by the World Bank and convened by the World Bank and AGWA in February 2018 to highlight bottom-up activities and insights and to foster dialogue with relevant parties. AGWA was an organizing partner in this event that brought together around 70 individuals from around the world to discuss ongoing efforts around bottom-up approaches and to determine next steps and areas of possible collaboration.
- **“AGWA-U” efforts to bring adaptation into the classroom.** AGWA began to recognize the need for more climate adaptation coursework around 2016 — specifically at the graduate and professional development level. Through short-term courses or guest lectures, this “AGWA-U” effort has involved collaboration with IHE Delft, TU-Delft, Oregon State University, the Asian Institute of Technology, University of East Anglia, Leiden University, and the University of Idaho. It has been difficult to establish long-term programs or courses beyond Oregon State University, resulting in more one-off lectures or periodic input to courses at partner institutions. The branding around “AGWA-U” has been only minimally successful and may end up undergoing major changes as the Knowledge Platform is revamped in late 2018.
- **At project scales, AGWA has helped assemble teams** to develop technical capacity for specific institutions, often in connection to specific grant proposals. Two examples of this type of work took place over the past year. AGWA began working with WWF-Mexico in early 2017 to develop their capacity to implement a bottom-up methodology called Eco-Engineering Decision

Scaling (EEDS), a method developed via AGWA with support from the US National Science Foundation SESYNC. WWF-MX had already been partnering with the Inter-American Development Bank (IDB) and the Mexican National Water Commission (CONAGUA) to develop a set of guidelines that can define climate-adaptive water reserves and environmental flow programs for each basin in Mexico. AGWA assembled a team of aquatic ecology and resilience experts to contribute to this project over the course of 2017. The initial goals of the project analysis were met by mid-2017. Since then AGWA has continued on in an advisory and support role as additional analysis is conducted to expand the project's scope and evidence base. Another project exemplified AGWA's ability to assemble teams and experts for capacity development projects. Led by SIWI, AGWA helped to organize a series of three one-day training workshops around urban climate adaptation in the Baltic Sea Region. It was a collaborative venture with Deltares, Baltic Development Forum, and the Union of Baltic Cities. The goal is to train decision makers and stakeholders in the Baltic Sea region in bottom-up risk assessment approaches to climate adaptation, specifically with an urban focus. Workshops took place in Stockholm, Turku, & Copenhagen in late November 2017. Both projects have been excellent models of how the AGWA network can add value to other organizations by supporting the development of internal capacity for participating institutions and their target audiences.

- **The *ClimateReady* podcast launched** as a way to increase capacity around climate adaptation and water through diverse stories and expert interviews.¹¹ As part of the broader activities around the World Bank funded "Knowledge Platform" (see next section), Season 1 of the podcast launched in November 2017. It was comprised of ten episodes covering a range of topics from decision making under uncertainty to nature-based solutions and much more. The free podcast was made available on the Knowledge Platform, iTunes, Google Play, SoundCloud, and other platforms. Each episode received hundreds of listens and was widely promoted inside and outside of the AGWA network. Season 1 concluded in April and production for Season 2 began immediately afterwards with an intended launch in August 2018.
- **AGWA has been attempting to expand its engagement with students and early career water professionals.** This was to go beyond its work on the AGWA-U Initiative. Initial actions took place in early 2017 and included scoping and brainstorming (via conference calls) with several groups already working on similar efforts: Engineers without Borders, UNESCO-IHE, SIWI, Global Water Partnership, and World Youth Parliament for Water. AGWA organized an event at World Water Week's Young Professionals Booth to promote the network and discuss areas of interest with early career attendees. Efforts to hold joint webinars or on-campus events have not worked out thus far. One output has been the launching of a new LinkedIn Group for Young Professionals¹² in the AGWA Network. So far the group has around 40 members. It serves as a venue for the members to network with each other and learn about funding, jobs, and upcoming events. AGWA is making a concerted effort to get young professionals engaged in the *ClimateReady* podcast as well.

¹¹ <http://agwaguide.org/library/climateready/>

¹² <https://www.linkedin.com/groups/12105590>

Technical Programs & Activities

AGWA began largely as a group of technically oriented water professionals concerned about how climate change alters how we define and evaluate sustainability — this tradition continues. Informed by a core set of methodologies called the “guiding elements,” AGWA has shown how these approaches may be reinterpreted and refined for distinct and disparate audiences — finance, development loans, ecosystems, infrastructure, cities, policy. Over the past year, specific technical programs can involve hundreds of participants, often with diverse funding sources.

Ongoing: Applying the guiding elements. Prompted through discussions over the past several years, much of AGWA's technical work has consolidated around using a set of flexible methodologies such as decision scaling and adaptation pathways that are now generally classified as bottom-up approaches (BUA). These methodologies are characterized by their emphasis on beginning with stakeholder definitions of success and failure and co-developing solutions that are robust to future uncertainty. They are typically contrasted with “top-down” methodologies, which in contrast begin by enumerating impacts from climate models. Top-down approaches often deemphasize uncertainties about the future and may not be easily translated impacts that are of significant interest to stakeholders. Within AGWA, we have invested heavily in the development of tools and applications of bottom-up approaches for specific audiences and localities. We expect this work to remain central to AGWA’s technical work in the future, and we believe this also informs our vision of the interaction between policy and practice.

Ongoing: Match-making within and beyond the network. AGWA maintains a strong commitment to providing local, regional, and national level project support globally. These calls are highly variable in scale, audience, and focus. The Secretariat serves as a way to match partners within the network around grant proposals, specific needs and skills, place-based collaboration, and filling technical and policy gaps. Often, these calls involve using the newsletter as a means for reaching out to the membership, as well as AGWA’s LinkedIn site and the AGWA blog. Responding to these calls has always been central to AGWA's work and occupies a significant portion of the Coordinator’s work, though this is difficult to plan for. On occasion, these calls become formal relationships. For instance, AGWA has a formal advisory role on two EU Horizon2020 grants about resilience, finance, and nature-based solutions (AQUACross and Nature4Cities), through AGWA is not at all involved in implementation or operations.

Ongoing: Maintaining and growing a “Knowledge Platform” to support the expansion of bottom-up approaches to assessing and reducing climate risk.¹³ AGWA launched a technical knowledge platform in late 2017 as part of a World Bank funded project to highlight bottom-up approaches, increase understanding and capacity around the topic, and support individuals and institutions who wish to reorient towards these methods. Content includes short “crash courses” on each of the associated methodologies (e.g., DTF, CRIDA, EEDS), a library of publications, case study examples, training materials, and the *ClimateReady* podcast. To further engage with the target audience, AGWA launched a

¹³ <http://agwaguide.org/>

separate “AGWA Guide” Newsletter that focuses on the same topics — publications, events, case studies, and tools around bottom-up approaches. The first issue of the quarterly newsletter went out in late March and the second issue in early July 2018. Currently the mailing list for this topic is around 320 individuals. The Knowledge Platform is continually growing and evolving as more resources become available. AGWA is seeking additional funds to revamp and expand the KP in late 2018.

Ongoing: If necessary, expansion of the stepwise water resources planning framework CRIDA (Climate Risk Informed Decision Analysis). CRIDA has been developing with AGWA support over the past seven years as a way to provide stepwise planning guidance for water resources planners, managers, and engineers to implement robust water management to implement bottom-up approaches incrementally; CRIDA guides institutional support to apply resilience water management. As with the World Bank’s DTF, AGWA’s role has been to serve as a framework for linking institutions and, for the past 18 months, supporting the book production process. Content leadership and almost all funding has come from USACE, Deltares, and the Rijkswaterstaat. CRIDA is being co-published in September 2018 by ICIWaRM and UNESCO IHP in both print and electronic forms. In the past year there has been substantial efforts to refine the document and promote the methodology more generally. It has been widely applied and highlighted in a number of venues. UNECE has supported the CRIDA methodology in the Dniester River Basin of Ukraine-Moldova (about 20 M €). The Asian Institute of Technology (AIT), USACE IWR and USAID’s Regional Development Mission for Asia (RDMA) organized a professional development workshop on CRIDA in September 2017 in Bangkok; Deltares has applied CRIDA in the Persian Gulf and in South America. CRIDA was presented at the UNESCO-IHP Knowledge Forum on Water Security and Climate Change in October 2017 as well as at the University of North Carolina’s Water and Health Conference that same month. As mentioned in an earlier section, CRIDA was also the focus of three one-day training workshops in the Baltic Sea Region in late November 2017. At the World Bank’s “Resilient Water Decisions” workshop in February 2018, CRIDA was highlighted in numerous presentations and breakout sessions. Finally, the U.S. Millennium Challenge Corporation (MCC) produced two videos about CRIDA to support scaling up of the methodology in its own institution in two regions (Zambia, Philippines), and MCC is in the process of developing a broader program within their aid agency. US AID has also expressed strong interest.

Ongoing: NAIAD: NAture Insurance value: Assessment and Demo. AGWA joined a multi-year EU Horizon2020 project in late 2016. We have continued to contribute to this project over the course of 2017-2018. The goal of the project is to operationalize the insurance value of ecosystems to reduce the human and economic cost of risks associated with water (floods and droughts) by developing and testing - with key insurers and municipalities - the concepts, tools, applications and instruments (business models) necessary for its mainstreaming. AGWA partners SIWI and Deltares are very involved with the technical work as well. AGWA has held in-person meetings with the project leader at WWW and WWF8 in addition to online project contributions (e.g., co-authoring publications, finance process documents, etc.). AGWA is also advising on the application of NBS green bonds criteria and bottom-up methodologies to NAIAD demo utility/flood control sites as well as a MOOC planned for completion in 2019.

Ongoing: Arup City Water Resilience Framework (CWRf). AGWA is part of an Arup led project to develop and implement with five core cities a water resilience framework. A steering committee includes the WB, UMass Amherst, 100 Resilient Cities, OECD, and IWA, among others. The project fully commenced in November 2017 and the first stage runs through December 2018. Arup has partnered with AGWA and SIWI to develop the CWRf and contribute to the engagement strategy.

Ongoing: SNAPP — Assessing the water quantity benefits from source water protection. AGWA is on the core team for SNAPP, along with TNC, Conservation International, and Forest Trends. SNAPP intends to develop a knowledge synthesis to improve water quantity and resilience by focusing on source water protection activities. The design is twofold: assess the opportunity for source water protection to reduce flooding risks associated with land use and climate change, and 2) integrate principles and guidance into decision support. The project is supported by the National Center for Ecological Analysis and Synthesis (NCEAS), which is partnered with the US National Science Foundation. AGWA is serving as part of the principal investigators team leading the effort. Methods used include CRIDA and WB's DTF. AGWA has taken part in the launch meeting in December 2017 and the first workshop in June 2018.

Ongoing S-Multistor is an effort led and coordinated by IHE Delft and funded by the Dutch government to develop better technical approaches to storing water sustainably and forge a global community of practice on this issue, particularly around energy-related water storage. S-MultiStor is now in the final of its three-year program to investigate and demonstrate improved approaches to sustainable multipurpose storage, including both gray and green storage. AGWA is part of a consortium led by IHE Delft (formerly UNESCO-IHE). AGWA is exploring the potential connections with EEDS framework for this project.

Completed: Water Infrastructure Criteria of the Climate Bonds Standard. AGWA began supporting work on developing resilience criteria for water-related green and climate bonds in September 2014. The project is part of their broader Climate Bonds Initiative (CBI) Climate Bonds Standard Certification Scheme. The first set of criteria targeted traditional gray infrastructure with the exception of hydropower and formally launched in October 2016. Well over 1 billion USD have been issued against these criteria from the public utilities for San Francisco, USA, and Cape Town, South Africa. A second phase of work began in early 2016 to expand the criteria to include nature-based and hybrid water infrastructure. AGWA led the technical working group behind the criteria. This culminated in the release of the updated Water Infrastructure Criteria on 22 May. The first bonds issued against these new criteria came from the Bank of China in June as part of a larger USD1bn Climate Certified green bond. In July 2018 the San Francisco Public Utilities Commission announced that they would be issuing another USD400m bond using these criteria to update water infrastructure and increase climate resilience.

Important Changes Regarding AGWA's Privacy and Data Use Policies

Since its founding, AGWA has been steadily growing in its reach and membership. One metric for this evolution has been the use of an ever-expanding mailing list. Inclusion in the mailing list has generally

come in one of two ways: 1) signing up online through a form on AGWA's website, or 2) expressing an interest to members of AGWA's Secretariat to join the mailing list. The latter often arise as a result of in-person interactions at workshops, events, and conferences. Through these combined methods, AGWA's mailing list grew another 25 percent in the past year from around 1000 individuals to just over 1250, coming from all across the globe.

In May 2018 the European Union instituted a new policy on data usage with far-reaching effects. The General Data Protection Regulation (GDPR) overhauled how businesses process and handle data. Like thousands of other companies and organizations, AGWA was forced to make drastic changes to comply with the new regulation.

The main result of the regulation was an overhaul of AGWA's mailing lists. Subscribers needed to opt back in after reading new data handling policies in order for AGWA to store their contact information (i.e., continue to receiving newsletters as part of a general mailing list). AGWA sent out notices of the changes asking its members to review their preferences and opt back in to the mailing lists. Since these lists were the accumulation of eight years of sign-ups, there was going to inevitably be significant loss in this process.

As of July 2018, AGWA's main mailing list has decreased from 1250 to 365 individuals. It is expected that the number will organically grow with time. Concerted effort will also be put into encouraging people to sign up. AGWA's mailing lists for the Policy Group and its technical programs actually benefited from the changes. Both were launched in early 2018 and had around 120 subscribers. After the changes both have grown to approximately 320 subscribers.

The changes due to the GDPR have had an immediate and drastic impact on AGWA's reach via mailing lists; however, AGWA supports the responsible use of people's personal data – the main goal of the new regulations. With time, AGWA will regain subscribers who are affirmed as having a strong interest in supporting our activities and those around climate and water.

Part 2

The Year Ahead: September 2018 – August 2019

Objectives for AGWA's 2018 – 2019 work

AGWA ultimately intends to support and promote long term sustainable water resources management — managing water over the lifespans of the entities we are about and the investments we make, including infrastructure, institutions, and ecosystems. The links between AGWA's technical and policy initiatives have always been present, but they have also been strained at times — the languages and priorities of water management and water and climate policy do not easily reconcile. Practitioners, researchers, and policy specialists often require patience and translation to interact effectively. Since the Paris Accord in 2015, however, this period of division is ending. Evidence and insight have suddenly become essential to policy processes as we move from overarching frameworks to project-scale action, while practitioners have awoken to a world where global policy is altering the investment and funding landscape in unexpected ways. The integration of credible local action into global accounting brings a renewed level of interest in AGWA.

AGWA's strategy for the next year is shifting in parallel with the overarching frameworks we seek to influence: as these global bodies move towards implementation and project-scale activities, AGWA has also evolved its focus to identify and pursue targeted areas for influence at the local, regional, and global scale. We will seek to use our growing network of policy specialists and practitioners to target and support key decision-making bodies within these frameworks to ensure the meaningful consideration of sustainable water resources within their policies and projects.

Proposed Framework, Activities, Deliverables

We believe that the framework, activities, and deliverables here are fully integrated. As a network, AGWA has tried to define specific audiences — technical, policy, institutional — and to compile and deliver relevant guidance. From the insights of the past year, AGWA proposes to:

1. focus on processes and decision making systems that can influence resilient water management
2. target technical and policy audiences that impact resilient decision making
3. tailor / adjust our guiding elements with and for those audiences.

Framework

Following years of steady progress, AGWA has now become a widely known resource and actor globally around issues of infrastructure, institutional governance, synergies between mitigation and adaptation, ecological resilience, investment decisions, and global policies that reflect the challenges of water management.

Among members of the broader water community, the sense of urgency around adaptation and resilience has grown rapidly, and many institutions have begun to recognize what we in AGWA have known for some time: managing risk in the face of uncertainty is difficult, integrating meaningful action with institutions requires a careful assessment of how decisions are made, and national and global policies for resilience and sustainability must place water resources — and water management systems — at their center. Our challenge now is to leverage the reputation we have developed within the water community to begin to influence other sectors; to identify and pursue opportunities to integrate our water messages within broader policy frameworks, management practices, and research agendas.

One of these areas for expansion is within the climate community. The climate change community has increasingly recognized that resilient water management is central to human adaptation and sustainable development. The climate policy community has lagged yet more slowly, but significant change has been evident there as well.

On all of these points, AGWA has travelled ahead of the pack for many years, quietly mobilizing knowledge and expertise. We are meeting the new fiscal year in our strongest position yet, on firmer financial footing and with a clear path forward.

The Budget year: September 2018 – August 2019

The main costs to keep AGWA running refers to the following budget posts: remuneration of AGWA's coordinator and other core staff (Matthews, Mauroner, and Timboe); Secretariat costs and policy coordination (including SIWI staff time); travel and lodging to participate in conferences and events; logistical costs related to organizing seminars, network activities etc., technical costs related to web sites and the podcast, printing of communications materials, etc. In addition, a great support to AGWA comes from the in-kind contribution of SC members' and AGWA members' time.

Activities & Deliverables

Proposed Policy Team Activities

Expanding the Policy Team Objectives and Activities

AGWA will continue to promote resilient water knowledge within the global climate policy processes, foremost linked to the UNFCCC. We have always tried to represent the whole of the water community and to ground our policy work in effective technical evidence and knowledge. Following the 2015 Paris Agreement, our emphasis has been to illustrate how water management can support climate mitigation and adaptation activities, to enable decision makers and climate policies to be more resilient and effective in both implementation and funding.

COP24 will be an important milestone for international climate policy as nations will move into the implementation phase of the 2015 Paris Agreement. Expected focus will be on finalizing guidelines (called the *Paris Rulebook*) for fully operationalizing the Agreement, taking stock of how countries are doing collectively in terms of being on track to realize Paris's aims and ambitions over the coming years and decades, in particular through the review of preliminary NDCs.

As in past years, the challenge for AGWA and our like-minded partners is to ensure that the messages are complementary, that tradeoffs between adaptation and mitigation choices are made with a full understanding of the risks and opportunities, and that the best water practices can actually reach climate negotiators, thereby influencing the climate policy dialogue and supporting informed decision making.

Now that we are established as a key actor in the climate-water policy space, our challenge is also to connect the work that we do at COP24 to our larger goals so that we are not just thinking COP to COP, but instead focusing on how our COP messages can influence the larger climate and water conversation. It also means thinking seriously about how our work at COP24 can put us in a position to influence future high-profile events such as COP26's review of SDG 6, the forthcoming UN World Water Development Report, and World Water Day 2020 (theme of water and climate), to name but a few. In many ways this is not a new challenge, but one that is becoming more relevant as we are becoming more enmeshed within the UNFCCC.

The Global Climate Action (GCA) agenda remains the key entry point for non-state actors within the UNFCCC. However, there was general consensus amongst the COP23 Water Action Day organizers – as well as the other thematic Action Day organizations – that the effectiveness of the GCA program at COP23 was limited. While we had great participation at our sessions, the primary audience of the Water Action Day was drawn from the water community. Because different thematic groups shared the same high-level days, participants from the water group were not able to attend the sessions of our colleagues in agriculture or energy, limiting the ability to share our messages and collaborate with groups outside the water community.

However, AGWA and SIWI worked hard to ensure that cross-fertilization between these action days was occurring, so that water messages were infiltrating other UNFCCC “sectors” such as cities, forests and agriculture. These may have been some of the most important outcomes for the whole of the COP, and since the COP AGWA and SIWI have worked hard to maintain and enrich these interactions. These relationships have already placed us ahead in work for COP24.

One area of uncertainty for COP23 was the physical proximity of the negotiation and “event” meetings. Separated by several kilometers, COP23 was unusual in having very limited interaction between national Parties and advisory, scientific, and advocacy groups. In effect, COP23 was organized as two largely separate meetings. Thus, the participation of climate negotiators in all GCA events was severely limited, which meant that our messages probably did not penetrate the negotiations themselves.

While we will continue to take a leading role among our fellow water organizations during the run-up to COP24 and throughout the conference, pushing our messages outside the water community is a primary goal for AGWA this year and we have already been working to collaborate with other policy communities such as oceans, cities, forests, and agriculture in advance of the COP. Similarly, given the limited impact of the GCA agenda on the negotiations themselves, we will also need to look beyond the GCA program

this year to help push water within the political phase of the negotiations. Our direct engagement with the UNFCCC Talanoa Dialogue is one example of this work, which will continue through the remainder of 2018 and perhaps beyond.

Several parallel work streams have been initiated within the Policy Team, with the common objective to continue to illustrate how water resources are key for a wide variety of climate adaptation and mitigation activities. Last year we made it a goal to connect with climate negotiators from country delegations and we have begun to do so through the newly formed Water and Climate Working Group (WCWG), which we co-coordinate with the World Water Council. In the coming year we will seek to strengthen this group so that we are able to not only identify key entry points, but also develop the broad backing needed for our messages so that they can meaningfully contribute to the climate dialogue and decision making within the UNFCCC. For this purpose, AGWA's mission and capacity to act as a bridge between policy and practice is of particular relevance.

Bridging policy and practice will also be a main objective of a series of upcoming UNFCCC adaptation training workshops that AGWA has been asked to coordinate. This past spring, the UNFCCC Consultative Group of Experts (CGE) team approached AGWA asking if we would be willing to help run three regional, week-long trainings in the summer and fall of 2018: one in Lomé, Togo, one in Asunción, Paraguay, and one in Baku, Azerbaijan. These workshops, which feature dozens of national adaptation focal points from around the world, are focused on training policy makers in vulnerability and adaptation assessment: how to better assess water risk, to determine what constitutes a good or bad adaptation project, and to report these plans and activities in line with UNFCCC National Adaptation Communication guidelines. The fact that the GCA team asked AGWA to plan and lead the water segments of these trainings is a testament to our hard work over the past several years positioning AGWA as one of the premiere water and climate organizations within the UNFCCC, uniquely able to bridge the policy and practice divide.

Further activities for the coming year relate to mainstreaming water within other policy agendas, including the SDGs and the Sendai Framework for Disaster Risk Reduction. Water is a necessary component of nearly all the SDGs, not just the targets listed under the dedicated water goal (SDG 6), while disaster risk planning, mitigation, and recovery is inextricably tied to water management. Our World Water Week policy sessions for 2018 focus on these two policy realms, along with their linkages to climate, and we will seek to further advance our messages about the critical need for water-smart sustainable development and DRR policies and practice.

Preparation for Poland's COP24

AGWA will be present and active at COP24. Our preparation encompasses several components: support and shape the Water Action event(s), mobilize national parties and non-state actors by organizing specific events for COP24 and for other events leading to COP24 (such as the Talanoa Dialogue and the 3rd International Conference on Water and Climate) and publicly articulating policy recommendations through published statements and white papers.

In the run-up to the COP, we will continue to track and engage in the political and policy dialogs and processes, including the second round of UNFCCC intersessional negotiations in Bangkok (September) the pre-COP meetings (November), the Water Pavilion at the Global Climate Action Summit in California (September), as well as UNFCCC institutional and support processes, such as the Koronivia joint decision on Agriculture, Adaptation Committee meetings, Talanoa Dialogue, NDC Partnership, Nairobi Work Programme, among others. We are well placed to do so as we have participated in the UNFCCC intersessional meetings in Bonn in May 2018 (SB 48), including active participation in the Talanoa Dialogue and technical expert meetings on mitigation and adaptation. We have also convened multiple sessions on water and climate policy at World Water Week, aimed at further engaging and affecting the UNFCCC process.

As mentioned, we have participated in the 2018 facilitative dialogue (the “Talanoa Dialogue”) both at SB 48 in Bonn and through our two Talanoa Dialogue sessions at World Water Week this year; one focused on linking water and climate policy, and a second on the forest, water and climate nexus. The outputs from these sessions, as well as the intervention we made in Bonn,¹⁴ will be included in the report prepared for COP24. At the COP we will push for the expansion of this dialogue process for 2019 as we believe that Party and non-Party stakeholder dialogue is essential for the successful implementation of the Paris Agreement.

For the GCA agenda at the COP this year, AGWA has once again been named an organizer for the water group and has been actively participating in Marrakech Partnership planning meetings throughout the year. Unlike last year, COP24 will not have full thematic days, but rather thematic events that are designed to be more targeted towards the climate community. We are hoping to combine our event with a few other thematic groups such as agriculture, forests, cities and / or oceans to demonstrate the concrete linkages between them and the reality that global climate action demands cooperation between all sectors.

Part of the challenge is that our ability to do so is also dependent on the willingness of these other thematic groups to join us. This is why we have been working to build relationships with our colleagues in forests, agriculture, oceans, etc. over the past year and we hope to build on them further during COP24 and beyond. We must continue to refine our messages and convincingly demonstrate that water truly is essential for all sectors and must be a priority for each of us.

The Policy Team will also continue coordinating the work with other key partners (#CIW, WWC, FAO, FWP, Source to Sea Action Platform, Swedish Water House, UN Water, IUCN, INBO, GIZ, Deltares) in order to finalize additional COP24 side events – including the UN Water side event on water, climate and landscapes, as well as our proposed event on water, DRR and human mobility (pending acceptance) – and ensure that we have coherent and consistent messaging. To the extent that we are able, we will participate in the planning and execution of these events as well.

¹⁴ https://drive.google.com/open?id=1nQpW2OuKNcplA_712jxvvXK2xpj7mYFQ

Overall, AGWA seeks for water to continue to hold a place in the GCA climate policy agenda, and that water is placed in the formal negotiations of the UNFCCC, addressed in the same formalized way as energy and agriculture, for example. The success of the Koronivia Joint Decision on Agriculture can serve as a model for how to proceed. Working with our colleagues at FAO, we will explore how we can contribute to the Koronivia work plan, and to learn from their example so that we might carve out a similarly prominent space for water within the formal UNFCCC agenda. Given countries' prioritization of water in their domestic climate planning (the NDCs), water should consequently be adequately addressed in climate funding and in the UNFCCC Programs supporting the Paris agreement.

Proposed Capacity Building & Technical Programs

We are proposing the following areas for new or expanded action:

- Close interconnections and exchanging of ideas between global policy efforts and our work with climate finance and investment, cross-sectoral integration, and ecosystem-based adaptation. This was made a more concerted effort in the second half of 2017. If the extreme overlap between the technical and policy mailing lists is any indication, our members share interest in both realms of adaptation efforts.
- Use NDCs as a key linkage between the technical and policy programs. Since the Paris Agreement, “Nationally Determined Contributions” or NDCs have become the primary vehicle for discussions within the UNFCCC broadly as well as much development investment. NDCs are becoming one of the most important mechanisms for discussing the relationship between global and national climate targets with individual projects, linking mitigation and adaptation as operational issues (and tradeoffs), and seeking coherence between subnational, national, global, and public-private investment.
- A more active communications role in engagement with social media. AGWA’s social media presence is growing but there is still a large amount of potential for expansion. AGWA’s LinkedIn group has grown approximately 30 percent over the past year, now up to 430 members. With continued engagement it should be possible to keep the trend continuing. AGWA’s Facebook page is much newer, having launched in June 2017. Over the course of a year we have gained over 250 followers. That number should also increase by at least 30 percent over the coming year. The more people engaged in discussion and getting updates on AGWA activities, the more influence we can have in shaping the dialogue and activities around water and climate.
- A more targeted approach to communications within the network. While the newsletter has been critical to AGWA for many years, the use of member and steering committee monthly report “snapshots” has made our internal level of awareness and clarity much more effective. With so much going on within AGWA on both policy and technical sides, we found the need to launch more targeted newsletters for our members based on their topical interests and areas of engagement. In April 2018 we created a Policy Newsletter that goes out approximately monthly depending on activities and relevant news. That same month AGWA launched an AGWA Guide newsletter on bottom-up approaches (BUA) and technical components of climate adaptation as

promoted by the network. This newsletter publishes approximately once per quarter. Each topical newsletter has grown substantially in subscribers over their first few months. Both have approximately 320 subscribers. Over the next year we expect this number to grow by at least 20 percent.

- Expansion of the Knowledge Platform for technical support and capacity building. The platform initially launched in late 2017. Through mid-2018 it continued to expand in terms of supporting documents and resources hosted on the site. However, it became apparent that the Knowledge Platform had areas in strong need of expansion (e.g., training materials, promotion of capacity building events). AGWA would like to undertake significant changes and updates to the Platform beginning in late 2018. Areas such as the *ClimateReady* podcast and the associated AGWA Guide newsletter have been well received while others (e.g., case studies) have received only minimal support and recognition. While the platform itself will continue to have many static elements, we also need to go looking and reach out for our core audience through workshops, webinars. We propose increasing our focus on urban water resources management, investment decisions, and ecosystem-centered management. We also intend to build a presence through other network mechanisms, such as research communities, the Decision-making Under Deep Uncertainty (DMDU) group, and others. Much of this work is intended to help build a global community of practice around BUA that can be a resource for those transitioning to these methods as well as to document new trends, applications, and innovations as the number of institutions adopting BUA expands.
- Pursue a series of regional AGWA-branded and co-branded workshops on bottom-up approaches.
- Develop a more data-driven approach to our membership to foster more intra-network relationships, as well as better access to network expertise from outside of AGWA. In practical terms, this probably means a more active database solution for organizing and managing our network. We have begun this process by encouraging members to list their Organizations and geographic regions for our mailing list database.
- Technical areas for promotion: economics and the evaluation, comparison, and communication of ecological and engineering based approaches; insurance; support for green/climate/resilience bonds; more application of EEDS and continuum of green, gray, hybrid infrastructure; CRIDA.
- Continue to expand our fundraising efforts.

BUDGET OVERVIEW

- AGWA's financial flows are complex, even for close partners. At this writing, AGWA is an informal, non-legally organized organization. Structurally, John, Ingrid, and Alex are employed by a US corporation owned by John rather than by SIWI or a formal AGWA NGO. While last year saw record core funding, AGWA's informal structure created a major cash flow crisis between October and December 2017 since it proved difficult to find ways to transfer money to support core functions, placing John in debt for some months before the situation was resolved.
- Even so, the overhead for the coordinator activities has gradually expanded. John hired Alex Mauroner in 2014 as a part-time assistant, and he increased to full-time in 2015. The ever expanding amount of work AGWA has been engaged in over the past year required the hiring of an additional part-time staff member, Ingrid Timboe, in October 2017. With additional core funding last year, we were able to move Ingrid to full-time in the spring of 2018 to assist more broadly with AGWA's policy-related workstreams, and to help John with AGWA's financial administration.
- At this time, John, Alex and Ingrid still have very basic employment benefits. The current arrangements are not sustainable long-term and should develop into a more regularized and equitable package. Assuming we now have a more reliable and steady source of income, over the next year as we transition into a more formalized institution, we would like to use a portion of these core funds to provide increased remuneration for our Secretariat staff to bring us in line with cost-of-living standards, and to offer some form of employer sponsored healthcare benefits.
- We are anticipating an expansion of our policy work (e.g., linkages between Sendai and the DRR community), which may necessitate adding a part-time policy staffer.

Roles Overview

John Matthews, AGWA Coordinator. John's role as the co-founder and coordinator of AGWA has not changed significantly over the past year, although he has happily ceded some of his financial administration duties and tasks to Ingrid. In consultation with the steering committee, John is responsible for the overall content and direction of AGWA's technical work (CRIDA, Climate Bonds Initiative, etc.) and he advises our policy work along with Ingrid and SIWI's Maggie White. He is routinely asked to organize, advise and participate in water and climate adaptation conferences worldwide and he engages regularly with the media on AGWA's behalf, be it through his column on climate adaption at OoskaNews, our newsletters or through our co-authored white papers.

Alex Mauroner, Research Associate. Alex wears many hats at AGWA: he helps John coordinate the Knowledge Platform and supports our technical work, such as assisting with the production and design of the new CRIDA publication. He also maintains our websites and has served as a co-host and editor of the *ClimateReady* Podcast since its inception. In addition he produces two newsletters for AGWA and manages our social media presence.

Ingrid Timboe, Policy Associate. Ingrid assists Maggie and John with all things policy at AGWA, coordinating AGWA Policy Group communications, producing the AGWA Policy Newsletter, helping prepare policy briefs and white papers, participating in the Water and Climate Working Group and on the

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#CIW steering committee. She also serves as the water focal point for the GCA team, coordinating our work with the UNFCCC. Since early 2018 she has co-hosted the *ClimateReady* Podcast with Alex. She also assists John with AGWA's financial management.

Secretariat expenses (Sept 2017 - Aug 2018)	Cost monthly (USD)	Cost annually (USD)
Staff costs (internal SIWI staff)	\$6,500	\$78,000
Staff costs including: salary, taxes, retirement contribution (John, Alex, Ingrid)	\$18,140	\$217,680
Consultants	\$620	\$7,450
Travel for conferences workshops (from AGWA core funds)	\$417	\$5,000
Travel for conferences, workshops, other events (in kind funding)	\$3647	\$43,760
Office operational costs	\$250	\$3,000
Capital Expenses (computers, recording equipment, office furniture, etc)	\$417	\$5,000
Total	\$29,991	\$359,890

Sources of Funding (2017-2018)

Source	Work Covered	Amount (USD)
SIWI	Baltic Cities urban resilience; travel support for IT to attend SB 48 and Marrakech Partnership meetings; NAIAD	\$39,377
Rijkswaterstaat (via Deltares)	Water and Climate: Water Action Day at COP23	\$70,182
BMZ (via SIWI)	Water and Climate: Water Action Day at COP23; support for AGWA Coordinator + climate policy activities	\$45,000

GIZ (<i>via SIWI</i>)	Water and Climate: Water Action Day at COP23; support for AGWA Coordinator + climate policy activities	\$25,000*
U.S. Army Corps of Engineers	core support, CRIDA	\$76,880
Climate Bonds Initiative (CBI) (<i>via SIWI</i>)	climate water bond criteria, part II	\$17,500
Arup	City Water Resilience Framework (CWRF) engagement strategy work	\$2,250
Asian Development Bank		\$7,460
Action Climate Today (ACT) Pakistan	Consulting: Mainstreaming Climate Change Adaptation in Agriculture, Energy, Irrigation Departments, Government of Punjab	\$5,300
The Nature Conservancy	source water climate adaptation white paper	\$8,000
WWF-MX	EEDS technical support / capacity building with WWF-MX, CONAGUA	\$15,750
World Bank Group (<i>via SIWI</i>)	Knowledge Platform support	\$25,200
Total		\$337,899

*NB: GiZ provided a total of \$40,000 USD, with about \$15,000 USD allocated for SIWI COP23 support.

In-kind Support 2017–2018

Non-financial support risks being invisible and unacknowledged — and perhaps more than for many organizations, AGWA’s in-kind funding may be our most important asset as a network. One epiphany of the past year has been that AGWA is a *crowd-sourcing organization* that mobilizes networks of motivated individuals and institutions, which means that the Secretariat’s most important roles are to coordinate, guide, and coalesce that in-kind work. Individual groups such as the USACE and World Bank estimated their in-kind support for the past year at over 50,000 USD each; if anything, such estimates seem low. Leadership in all of our core partners have allocated significant staff time. From the perspective of the Secretariat, the motivation we see across the network often demonstrates joy and dedication. Indeed, this is what motivates us to serve.

We also see very tangible indirect financial support, and we have tried to estimate in-kind support in our budget more formally this year though the exact value of the staff time, travel support, and logistical assistance from AGWA members is impossible to fully account for.

Categories of contributions are as follows:

- Steering Committee: SC members agree to provide a minimum of 40 hours per year towards AGWA. With nine current members, that equals at least 360 hours of in-kind contributions.
- Staff time and materials from members
- Members representing AGWA at events
- Members co-producing publications
- Direct funding for Secretariat travel

Fundraising Efforts

Many in AGWA have been actively engaged in fundraising for AGWA components. These have spanned a number of categories: institutional core support from partner organizations, project-specific grants, travel funding for events, and in-kind contributions.

Core support. Funding for the Secretariat has been the most challenging aspect of AGWA to secure dedicated resources. In 2015, funding for coordinator staff salaries shifted largely from SIWI to USACE, which continued into early 2018, with BMZ support beginning in January. Additional BMZ support focused on policy activities will be critical for the remainder of 2018. The World Bank has initiated a process to provide core support for critical network functions, treating those functions like “projects” with well defined deliverables rather than as traditional core salary. Overall, ongoing Secretariat core support is a priority for SIWI’s hosting responsibilities. This support represents an investment in AGWA and the Secretariat functions that enable AGWA as a network.

Projected Sources of Funding (2018-2019)

Source	Work Covered	Amount (USD)
SIWI	travel support	\$5,000
NAIAD (via SIWI)		\$17,000
Rijkswaterstaat (via Deltares)	policy support, COP24	\$35,000
BMZ (via SIWI)	core support	\$78,000

GIZ (<i>via</i> SIWI)	COP24 policy support (not discussed how to allocate with SIWI; some will go to their work)	\$212,000
Deltares	publication support	\$4,000
World Resources Institute	climate water bond promotion	\$24,000
Arup	City Water Resilience Framework (CWRF) engagement strategy work	\$9,000
Asian Development Bank	technical support	\$5,000
World Bank Group (<i>via</i> SIWI)	Knowledge Platform support	\$40,000
Total		\$429,000

Secretariat proposed budget (Sept 2018 - Aug 2019)	Cost monthly (USD)	Cost annually (USD)
Staff costs (internal SIWI staff)	\$6,667	\$80,000
Staff costs including salary, taxes, retirement contribution, healthcare (John, Alex, Ingrid)	\$23,333	\$280,000
Consultants	\$833	\$10,000
Travel for conferences workshops, etc. (AGWA-funded)	\$1,250	\$15,000
Travel for conferences workshops, etc. (donor-funded)	\$4,375	\$52,500
Office operational costs	\$350	\$4,200
Capital Expenses	\$417	\$5,000
Total	\$37,225	\$446,700

Appendix 1

Secretariat and Core Functions

Secretariat functions have remained a vital part of AGWA over the past year. They cover a diverse number of activities:

Newsletters. The AGWA Updates newsletter has remained a consistent monthly publication. The number of subscribers reached over 1250, a growth of 25 percent over the year prior, before changes had to be made due to the GDPR (see earlier section on handling of data). The main mailing list is now down to 360 individuals, though that number is expected to grow at least 25 percent over the coming year. The main change regarding newsletters was the addition of two new topical newsletters: one for policy around climate and water and one for technical approaches to adaptation. Those two newsletters were launched in April 2018. In the first three months they grew from 120 subscribers each to over 320 subscribers each. That level of growth is not expected to continue, though something closer to 25 percent growth is within reach over the next year. According to our mailing list service, around 25-30 percent of each issue gets opened by our members.

AGWA websites. The main AGWA website (<http://alliance4water.org>) has remained a critical way to reach our membership as well as a broader international audience. Site traffic has increased this past year. The site was visited over 194,000 times, equating to average site traffic of over 3700 visits/week. AGWA's companion site for more technical methods and capacity building for climate adaptation, <http://agwaguide.org>, was less often visited than the main website over the same period of time. This is partially the result of the content matter and partially due a revamping of the site. This is in part due to its content matter that remains only minimally changed from a year ago. The site does get new content periodically, but it doesn't have the same regularly updated Blog or Events pages as the main website. More importantly, the site underwent a major overhaul in late 2017, eventually re-launching as AGWA's Knowledge Platform on Bottom-Up Approaches in November 2017. Since then it has seen regular traffic and a moderate number of visits. AGWAguide.org received around 54,000 visitors last year. For context, the same site received only 30,000 visitors the year prior – an 80 percent increase.

Communication and outreach. AGWA has made a more concerted effort to utilize the AGWA Blog and Events pages as well as LinkedIn to communicate with members of its network and the general public. This includes working with Apple News (an iOS app) to publish AGWA news to an incredibly large audience of iPhone and iPad users. AGWA has also grown its social media presence this year. AGWA's LinkedIn group¹⁵ has grown from 340 to 430 members (a 26 percent increase). Those members regularly receive updates and posts from the Secretariat and each other. In June 2017 AGWA launched a

¹⁵ <https://www.linkedin.com/groups/4077253/>

Facebook page¹⁶ in an effort to reach even more demographics. Anyone can follow or mention AGWA's page using @Alliance4Water, the same handle as our Twitter feed and based on our website address. The Facebook page has grown organically as more people view, share, and follow our posts. Over 250 people follow the page. This number should increase at least 25 percent over the next year.

Youth engagement has been more of a priority of AGWA's over the past two years, with mixed results. AGWA's Secretariat has actively sought to help bring together a group of early career and young professionals within its network working towards activities that interest them. Due to capacity limitations, AGWA was challenged in terms of organizing the events itself; however, we sought to have a more managerial role in the process. Ideas for activities included joint webinars with other youth networks and drawing upon AGWA's members for speaking positions. Other ideas involved hosting events on university campuses or summarizing the various international events that most young professionals could not attend. The main output has manifested as a well-received LinkedIn Group for AGWA's young professionals. Currently with 40 members, the group has proven to be a good venue for these members to share and receive notices about upcoming events, job and funding opportunities, and other relevant news.

AGWA events. Event coordination has always been an important part of the Secretariat. This continued over the past year as AGWA was represented at even more meetings and conferences than the year prior. Perhaps the largest meeting of all was COP23 in Bonn or the Eighth World Water Forum in Brasilia. AGWA was part of several sessions at each event. The Secretariat also helped prepare for the a number of international events:

- AQUACROSS Conference (EU Horizon2020 project) in Vienna (Sept. 2017)
- 2nd International Conference on Water and Climate in Marseille (Sept.-Oct. 2017)
- Water and Health Conference in Chapel Hill, North Carolina (Oct. 2017)
- UNESCO IHP Knowledge Forum on Water Security and Climate Change in Paris (Oct. 2017)
- Asian Development Bank Workshops on ecosystem-based adaptation in Manila (Oct. 2017)
- UNFCCC COP23 in Bonn (Nov. 2017)
- Urban Climate Adaptation in the Baltic Sea Region Workshops in Stockholm, Turku, and Copenhagen (Nov. 2017)
- NAIAD Annual Meeting (EU Horizon2020 project) in London (Jan. 2018)
- World Bank's Resilient Water Decisions Workshop in Washington, DC (Feb. 2018)
- University of Idaho Guest Lectures in Moscow, Idaho (Feb. 2018)
- World Water Forum 8 in Brasilia (March 2018)
- Water Policy Summit at Univ. of Alabama in Birmingham, Alabama (March 2018)
- NCEAS / SNAPP workshop on Source Water Protection in Santa Barbara, California (June 2018)
- SESYNC Workshop in Annapolis, Maryland (June 2018)
- 1st International Conference on Water Security in Toronto (June 2018)
- UNFCCC Adaptation Workshops for Africa in Lomé, Togo (July 2018)

¹⁶ <https://www.facebook.com/Alliance4Water/>

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- World Water Week in Stockholm (August 2018)

The Secretariat also led much of the preparation for AGWA's network-specific events around World Water Week such as the Annual Members Meeting and an AGWA dinner.

Appendix 2

AGWA's Media Presence

AGWA's influence within and outside of the climate adaptation community has continued to grow over the past year. In addition to internal press from AGWA, SIWI, and the World Bank, AGWA's work and expertise regularly appears in various media sources and publications. Below are a few instances in which AGWA received attention or emphasis in external media outlets since the last Annual Meeting.

AGWA as a Policy Authority:

"The role of cities in large-scale water management and water security decisions is especially important and provides a micro-example of what countries do regarding water management and water security on a national level."

During COP23 a group of AGWA members wrote a three-part series for the Global Water Forum on how to use water to connect the UNFCCC and SDGs for cities and agriculture. The series was entitled *Sustaining Waters, Sustainable Cities: Urban climate change and SDG policy solutions*. The authors included AGWA's two Co-Chairs, its Coordinator, and over a dozen other AGWA members. The articles provided background and context on urban climate change issues, demonstrated the importance of finance mechanisms for engaging cities, and analyzed the role of water management in aligning policy and action for urban resilience.

[http://www.globalwaterforum.org/?sfid=14131&_sf_s=Sustaining percent20Waters percent2C percent20Sustainable percent20Cities](http://www.globalwaterforum.org/?sfid=14131&_sf_s=Sustaining%20Waters%20Sustainable%20Cities)

"The world's leading water agencies called for coordinated action on water resource resilience, to meet several SDG and climate targets including those on zero hunger (SDG 2) and sustainable cities and communities (SDG 11)."

The IISD news service highlighted AGWA's call for coordinated action on water resource resilience. Working under the UNFCCC and the SDGs will enable more effective policies to advance "water-centered urban resilience."

<http://sdg.iisd.org/news/agwa-proposes-water-resilience-framework-for-meeting-sdg-climate-targets/>

AGWA Leading in Climate Finance:

"Traditional sources of capital for infrastructure investment such as governments and commercial banks, are insufficient to meet capital requirement needs to 2030."

The issuance of water bonds is a relatively new phenomenon, attracting private investment towards a sustainable future for natural resources, especially water. A new set of global scoring criteria for these bonds could help transform the financial markets and boost investment in nature-based solutions. This article in the UNESCO Courier online magazine focuses on innovative finance for natural resilience projects. It is a byproduct of the work AGWA has done with Climate Bonds Initiative in developing water infrastructure criteria for climate bonds certification.

<https://en.unesco.org/courier/2018-1/financing-natural-resilience-new-wave>

“Development bank officials and private investors are beginning to recognize ‘that water is not just a sector; that fresh water cuts across sectors, with special risks and opportunities.’”

The Water Infrastructure Criteria of CBI's Climate Bonds Standard has played a pivotal role in establishing scientifically robust metrics to identify bonds and projects with proven environmental and adaptation impacts. This article features an interview with AGWA's coordinator and covers the ongoing City Water Resilience Framework project as well as the newly released Water Infrastructure Criteria for climate bonds.

<https://www.gfmag.com/magazine/may-2018/water-bonds>

AGWA and the Edge of Science:

“As drought-hit Cape Town faces the prospect of its taps running dry as soon as April, it is joining a project to work out how cities can better prepare for water shocks and stresses in the future.”

The global engineering firm Arup is leading a new project to develop a set of practical tools to help urban areas deal with too little or too much water. This *Reuters* article describes the City Water Resilience Framework (CWRF). Five cities will initially be studied to better understand and measure the resilience of their water systems. Eventually these efforts will be made available for others around the world to use. AGWA, the World Bank, UMass Amherst, and others are contributing to this project.

<https://www.reuters.com/article/us-global-water-environment-cities/parched-cape-town-flood-prone-miami-help-cities-confront-water-risks-idUSKBN1FK2CM>