AGWA’s Annual Report & Year Ahead
August 2014 – August 2015
INTRODUCTION

Vision

Effective climate change adaptation practices are mainstreamed and enabled within water resources management decision-making processes and policies.

History & Evolution

Founded in September 2010 during World Water Week with about 30 members, 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 650 members located worldwide and initiatives divided broadly into technical and policy areas. AGWA has expanded to serve as a platform and convenor for new perspectives for a wide variety of water and climate change issues, spanning both climate mitigation and climate adaptation. 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 actors, and developed approaches for communicating these issues.

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 adaption by closing the gaps between emerging areas of expertise and translating the next generation of best practices into operational reality. AGWA's network mailing list includes more than 650 individuals and over 100 organizations.

Governance

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

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


Vision
Effective climate change adaptation practices are mainstreamed and enabled within water resources management decision-making processes and policies.\(^2\)

Mission
AGWA is established to provision tools, partnerships, and technical assistance to improve effective decision making, action, governance, and analytical processes in water resources management, focusing on climate adaptation and climate change–relevant scales.

AGWA’s Purpose
• To serve as a member network for sharing knowledge, developing analytical tools, creating methodologies, and coordinating joint actions to assist in resilience building that can be implemented through projects and programs.
• To contribute to water and climate policies and practices to ensure they are integrated into resilient communities.

SECRETARIAT
The secretariat is hosted by AGWA co-chair SIWI and led by Mats Eriksson, director of SIWI’s Climate Change and Water Program. A variety of staff in SIWI support the secretariat’s functions. AGWA is coordinated by John Matthews at approximately a 50 percent level. Secretariat functions and activities are described in Appendix 1.

POLICY TEAM
The AGWA Policy Team is a network of AGWA members and like-minded organizations engaged in global climate-water policy work, particularly the United Nations Framework Convention on Climate Change (UNFCCC), and the Policy Team is committed to contribute to the AGWA mission and purpose. The aim of the Policy Team is to:
• Facilitate coordination and information sharing
• Contribute to bridging between global policy development and national and local climate adaptation

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\(^2\) This statement comes directly from the AGWA Charter but does not reflect the growing emphasis on integrating climate mitigation with climate adaptation through a water lens.
The policy group is coordinated by SIWI — led by Karin Lexén, Director of World Water Week, International Processes and Prizes, and coordinated by Sofia Widforss. Significant support also comes from Anna Forslund. The Policy Team maintains a central budget and plan that is funded by SIWI separately from the AGWA secretariat.

**TECHNICAL PROGRAMS**

AGWA’s technical programs span a variety of work but they share a core set of guiding elements and complementary, connected processes. They differ primarily in their intended audience and the makeup of individual teams rather than in philosophy or approach. The aim of these programs is to:

- Synthesize expertise across institutions, disciplines, and regions
- Define methods, tools, and decision-making processes for specific categories of institutions and decision makers

The technical programs are coordinated by John Matthews. Some technical work is more intensive; core coordination for SESYNC and CRIDA (described below) are funded by the Institute of Water Resources (IWR) with the US Army Corps of Engineers, while support for coordinating AGWA support to developing water-related climate bonds standards has been funded to date by Ceres. Project-level team leaders exist for all programs, and funding is allocated by program.

**Activities since the last annual meeting**

The past year has seen some major transitions and significant advances. Institutionally, one of the co-chair positions as well as the host function passed from Conservation International to SIWI in August 2014. The mailing list grew from 390 to over 650 members over this period (expanding 68 percent). Some technical programs — such as SESYNC — came to a successful completion, while new ones — such as CRIDA and the climate bonds work — were launched, while a number of major publications achieved or approached completion. Our interventions in Lima’s COP 20 were visible and active, with AGWA maturing as one of a handful of global voices on water for the UNFCCC. The clearest fruit of this activity has been in the run-up to Paris’s COP 21: our coordination with the French and Peruvian governments, among others, as well as IUCN, the French Water Partnership, and other leading water policy institutions has been active and direct.

**POLICY TEAM ACTIVITIES**

**Active engagement with Lima COP 20.** AGWA co-organized two side events and a press conference during the Lima COP.³

³ Video footage from our COP 20 press conference is available at [http://alliance4water.org/policy/index.html](http://alliance4water.org/policy/index.html).
Preparation for Paris COP 21. The French Foreign Ministry has been interested in promoting a “solutions agenda” (e.g., demonstrating tangible efficacy for both mitigation and adaptation), which includes demonstrating the importance of water to UNFCCC processes. A “resilience day” has been defined for COP 21, with half of this day devoted to water issues. Following a direct AGWA meeting with the ministry in February, IUCN and AGWA were invited to submit a proposal for a conference before or during the COP to mobilize national parties on water-climate issues. The FM has been reaching out to other parts of AGWA very actively as well on this issue, particularly the World Bank.

UNFCCC institutional engagement. The Policy Team has been active in intersessional policy meetings in both 2014 and 2015, as well as with the Nairobi Work Programme, which is an important AGWA partner for showcasing both policy and implementation dimensions around water management and enabling policy conditions.

UNESCO-IHP collaboration. In both February (an IHP meeting in Paris) and July (Our Common Future Under Climate Change), AGWA was invited to provide support to UNESCO-IHP’s efforts to highlight approaches and needs for bridging divides between technical knowledge, national and international policy, and water decision makers. IHP is an important partner going forward towards COP 21 and beyond on these issues.

UN Water (January, Zaragoza, Spain) and World Water Forum 7 (April, Korea). Both the UN Water and World Water Forum meetings served as essential vehicles for highlighting to the water-policy communities AGWA’s work to date, especially how AGWA assists with the mobilization and concentration of effort around policy and technical expertise. In both meetings, AGWA organized, moderated, and/or contributed to events that presented unified policy-technical knowledge and recommendations.

Policy outreach and communications. For both COPs 20 and 21, the Policy Team has developed a number of briefs relating to the UNFCCC negotiations. A policy video exploring our framing of issues was developed by Arup for AGWA last November, and they have offered to produce and fund a second video along similar lines for COP 21. With the French Water Partnership, the secretariat has also produced seven videos since March called #ClimateIsWater, developed around three questions intended to evoke regional relevance of AGWA issues.

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4 These briefs are available on the policy team section of the AGWA site: [http://alliance4water.org/policy/index.html](http://alliance4water.org/policy/index.html).

5 [https://vimeo.com/113392100](https://vimeo.com/113392100)

6 [https://vimeo.com/channels/918234](https://vimeo.com/channels/918234)
TECHNICAL PROGRAMS

Publication of Beyond Downscaling: A Bottom-up Approach to Climate Adaptation for Water Resources Management. In September, AGWA published with World Bank funding our first technical publication on risk assessment and robust water resources management more generally. We held a launch event at World Water Week in 2014.7

Ongoing: capacity building and technical support for national, intergovernmental, and non-governmental place-based projects. AGWA maintains a strong commitment to local, regional, and national level project support, and with a number of field programs globally. These include national-level water policy support (South Africa, led by Pegasys; Mongolia, led by USACE IWR), community-scale projects (Vietnam and Thailand, led by USACE IWR), and basin-level support (Dniester River, led by USACE IWR), among others. In a number of cases, AGWA guiding elements are being applied to specific investments, as through piloting of the World Bank’s climate adaptation decision tree (Malawi, Nepal, Kenya, with leadership from the University of Massachusetts).

Synthesize ecological and engineering approaches to robust water management (SESYNC). SESYNC (National Socio-Environmental Synthesis Center)8 support for an AGWA program to reconcile ecological and engineering approaches to long-term water management ended in October 2014 with a final series of presentations9 and related journalistic pieces in Nature Climate Change10 and on the New Security Beat blog.11 Content outcomes have been very robust: the new methods have merged into CRIDA (see below), and a Nature Climate Change paper with AGWA members from the Colorado State University, University of Massachusetts, OECD, IWR, and Deltares among others as co-authors (publishing September 2015). SESYNC has seeded funding for a capacity building site building on the paper (see AGWAGuide.org below).

7 Available for download as a PDF and iBook at http://alliance4water.org/Beyond/index.html and on the Apple iTunes store. The launch event is also available for viewing on the AGWA site.

8 SESYNC is co-sponsored by the US National Science Foundation and the University of Maryland; http://SESYNC.org


In addition, members of the SESYNC theme were active as leads for a *Science* policy forum essay that published August 2015.12

**Development of the World Bank’s climate adaptation decision tree.** The World Bank and the University of Massachusetts will publish in August a major report that applies AGWA's guiding elements on risk assessment and risk reduction to World Bank loan financing. The decision tree implementation allows for a much more operational approach than *Beyond Downscaling*. Pilot projects are ongoing in Africa, Asia, and South America.

**Development of robust standards for water finance projects (water-related green bonds standards).** In September 2014 a group of four AGWA-affiliated NGOs (Ceres and WRI in the US, CDP and CBI in the UK) approached AGWA about supporting the development of a set of evaluation standards for water-related green bonds. These standards represent a checklist-based application of the AGWA's guiding elements, making use of some 20 members of the AGWA network (roughly half of the extended team on the project), from a wide variety of institutions. Through August 2015, the standards are approaching the public review phase, in preparation for finalization of the standard in 2016. Funding to date has been sourced by Ceres.13

**Preparation of global standards for mainstreaming climate adaptation for water managers (CRIDA).** Initiated by IWR in the fall of 2014 with Guillermo Mendoza, the Climate Risk Informed Decision Analysis (CRIDA) guidance is a publication for late 2015 designed to provide a template for how to mainstream technical climate adaptation within water management design, operations, and planning. CRIDA synthesizes decision scaling, adaptation pathways, and the SESYNC eco-engineering work into a single decision making process for water managers. Ad Jeuken (Deltares) and Patrick Ray (University of Massachusetts) also play central roles in managing this work, while John Matthews is the lead editor. The core content preparation group includes IWR, Deltares, the University of Massachusetts, the Rijkswaterstaat (Netherlands Water & Environment Ministry), and the USGS, but there are reviewer and case study teams as well that include several dozen more individuals and organizations. A governance team has also been defined for the work and will be initiating their collaboration soon (e.g., Pegasys, SII–Africa, University of Arizona, ODI, GiZ, and other institutions). CRIDA is evolving into an ongoing program as well (see below), led by the Rijkswaterstaat and IWR.

**Convening the AGWA Urban Resilience Team.** The urban team is coordinated by Julian Doczi (ODI) and Katharine Cross (IWA). In the fall of 2014, the urban team convened a session at a cities conference in

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13 John Matthews has acted to synthesize the work of the technical and industry working groups during this first phase, reporting to the consortium of NGOs.
Portugal and has been seeking funding / collaboration opportunities. The urban team is built on the recognition that AGWA contains a significant number of members who work at urban scales and seeks ways to mobilize and channelize this action. A handful of proposals for funding have been submitted (one is in process at this writing) but none have yet been successful. Most previous activities have been based on in-kind work, organizing events, workshops, and sessions within the group.

**Technical collaboration with China’s hydropower management industry.** Facilitated by Josh Weinberg at SIWI, AGWA has initiated discussions with China’s Institute of Water Resources and Hydropower Research (IWRH) and Ministry of Water Resources. We are hoping to engage in multilateral collaboration through processes such as CRIDA as well as direct, bilateral collaboration for the coming year.

**Direct private sector engagement: energy and water.** Through Joppe Cramwinckel at WBCSD, an AGWA workshop was organized in June with Royal Dutch Shell on water and energy connections that integrated climate mitigation and climate adaptation, including Casey Brown presenting decision scaling and the World Bank decision tree document. AGWA’s insights were very well received, opening the door for potential future collaboration (see below).

**Expert technical-policy guidance on transboundary freshwater climate adaptation.** Over the course of the past year, a variety of AGWA staff have provided significant support to the UN Economic Commission of Europe (UNECE) and their ongoing (and global) transboundary freshwater climate adaptation program. This support has been direct and technical with field programs (e.g., IWR’s Rolf Olsen and Kristin Gilroy supporting Ukraine-Moldova work in the Dniester basin), for a collection of good practices and lessons learned that published in April 2015, and for the fifth Workshop on Water and Adaptation to Climate Change in Transboundary Basins. All of these projects were intended to promote coordination and support for institutions and governments in the developing world, and all of them engaged diverse teams of AGWA network members in coordinated, collaborative action.

**Joining the steering committee for the Action Platform for Source to Sea Management.** SIWI and the Stockholm Environment Institute (SEI) have partnered to develop a new global network designed to promote best practices for full-basin sustainable water management, including coastal / estuarine zone. AGWA sits on the steering committee, and views the Source to Sea program as a long-term strategic partner.

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Technical outreach and communications. Outreach and communication of technical work is challenging but essential to amplifying messages about AGWA's guiding elements and approaches. AGWA has a guiding elements introduction video (currently being revised), while we have also published in 2014–2015 in-depth interviews on the economics of water and climate adaptation (Kathleen Dominique, OECD) and developing multiple decision pathways (Ad Jeuken, Deltares). We have also prepared a number of short single-event videos based on AGWA interviews or sessions that explore specific content areas, such as the challenges of adaptation in Pacific islands with Christine Chan. With SESYNC support, we will launch in August–September 2015 a site called AGWAGuide.org, which will include an initial emphasis designed to highlight AGWA's guiding elements around climate-risk assessment. AGWAGuide.org will be discussed more below.

Objectives for AGWA's 2015 – 2016 work

AGWA is a complex organization, with many moving pieces. Functionally, AGWA acts as both a convening, boundary organization that builds capacity and mobilizes action and activities, and as an institution that develops, organizes, and promotes new knowledge and policies. AGWA's own capacity in both regards should be expanded across the coming year. We are well advanced with the process of developing an identifiable, coherent, consolidated, and connected set of issues and methodologies for robust water management and refining those for particular policies, processes, instruments, institutions, and sectors. Based on activities and ongoing processes the Secretariat suggests that AGWA's objectives for 2015 – 2016 should transition into four broad categories:

1) Translate water knowledge into global, regional, and national policymaking on climate change. Enable global policy transitions from agreed frameworks (COP 21) into implementation, new institutions, and operations
   • Build on the policy recognition and momentum with other key global actors engaged in articulating international climate policy relevant to water management, emphasizing the UNFCCC but also other policy processes and new climate finance vehicles and institutions

2) Amplify and translate AGWA's guiding elements to specific audiences in the public and private sectors
   • Consolidate remaining gaps between economic, engineering, and scientific approaches to robust water management decision-making processes
   • Expand our efforts and partnerships that link effective tools with AGWA guiding elements
   • Engage with other development banks, IFIs, and governments involved in critical mitigation and investment decisions
   • Develop a program strategy for engaging with the private sector, including energy and finance

3) Build the capacity building tools necessary to ensure adoption and implementation
• Amplify AGWA's guiding elements, methods, and tools through capacity building for investment, design, and resource management audiences
• Expand and integrate our membership globally

4) Develop a systematic decision-making framework for green, gray, and hybrid infrastructure
• Develop a formal program within AGWA that can demonstrate the technical evidence base and operational guidelines necessary for green and hybrid infrastructure for robust water management

Proposed Framework, Activities, Deliverables
The framework, activities and deliverables below are all mutually supportive. Based on work during the past year it is clear that in order to further effective and robust water management in practice and through policy, AGWA must:

1) make the role and effects of climate change impacts on water resources more explicit through concrete examples
2) identify credible, feasible, and compatible audiences
3) tailor / adjust our guiding elements with and for those audiences

Framework
AGWA has developed a brand around water and climate change, and we are emerging as an identifiable resource and actor globally around issues of infrastructure, institutional governance, synergies between mitigation and adaptation, ecological resilience, and global policies that can reflect the special needs and limits of water resources. AGWA members are jointly building a vision, and recent and forthcoming publications, processes, and place-based projects reflect and document that vision.

In the next phase we will have to decide how to expand the community of investors, policy makers, and resource managers in need of the methods and processes AGWA members have jointly developed. This amplification process has already begun within our network organically with some audiences, but we need to apply a strategic approach to reach other relevant audiences, with information they can make use of, and with the opportunity to learn how to integrate AGWA within their institutional context (and vice versa).

From AGWA's beginning, a central reference point has been sustainable water management in the developing world. Certainly AGWA methods, tools, and policy recommendations are relevant to and useful for the developed world, but the economic and ecological challenges, limitations, and capacities around robust water management are more significant in emerging economies. A number of AGWA's proposed programs and activities for the coming are intended to directly support technical and high-level decision makers in the developing world — exchanging experiences as well as building capacity and tools to support
implementation. Within the secretariat, there is also a strong sense that we need to continue to expand our set of partners and collaborators here as well. From a Policy Team perspective, a major objective should be to enable national and global policies and finance vehicles to fuel robust, resilient economic development trajectories.

**Activities & Deliverables**

**PROPOSED POLICY TEAM ACTIVITIES**

*Continuing: Paris COP 21.* A number of public and closed door events have been proposed for World Water Week intended to mobilize sub-national actors on water issues (e.g., situating water into INDCs, NAPs) and to refine messaging and identify specific actors of who advocate for specific policy initiatives towards the COP. These should serve as means of preparing a unified and coordinated set of messages around water and climate for COP 21. In addition, Policy Team members such as IUCN, the French Water Partnership, SIWI, Arup, and the World Bank have been actively engaged in defining the agenda for the half-day water and resilience event in Paris in late 2015. We are also organizing a formal side event on urban water and mitigation-adaptation issues with IWA, KfW, and a variety of other organizations.

**PROPOSED TECHNICAL PROGRAMS**

*Continuing: A multi-year CRIDA “program” following the CRIDA methods publication.* Through discussions with Deltares, IWR, and the Rijkswaterstaat (Water and Environment Ministry [RWS]), we propose to convert CRIDA into a multi-year program to engage with water managers in the developing world, building a global community of practice around CRIDA’s guiding elements. This would include an annual AGWA “methods and tools” meeting associated with CRIDA, beginning in late 2015 in the Netherlands but with the intention of rotating location / sponsorship. SIWI has been supporting this extension of CRIDA with several regional and national Chinese agencies / groups. Funding through 2015 from RWS is in the final stages of approval.

*Continuing: SESYNC output.* An additional project that integrates the Deltares’ adaptation pathways approach with new economic instruments and tools developed through SESYNC is proceeding surely but slowly for lack of some funds. This work will be presented in a conference the Netherlands in November 2015. NASA is interested in connecting some regional planning processes / outcomes to a Mekong River Commission program through their Mekong Servir team, efforts which have also been connected to Alterra at Wageningen University.

*Continuing / New: Water-related climate bonds.* In the past year, the process of defining AGWA projects has become more formal and is likely to shift to a co-chair and/or steering committee approval process. The green bonds support has never gone through this process. That said, the work is deeply influenced by AGWA’s guiding elements and has broad support from the AGWA network and secretariat. The first phase of
developing the standard should be ending in 2015 and transitioning to a public consultation period, publication of the revised standard, and an amplification / adoption process. Many members of the AGWA network will continue to be involved but active secretariat support has not been confirmed.

**New: Private sector water and energy engagement.** Building on the strength of recent interactions led by WBCSD and others, there has been an increasing level of activity and interest in transferring and translating tools, methods, and frameworks for robust water management from public sector and multilateral audiences to the private sector, particularly around energy, climate mitigation, and finance and investment. WBCSD’s Joppe Cramwinckel has prepared a rich report on this effort. An initial phase to specify objectives and audiences and mobilizes network and financial assets would be an essential early step.

**Expansion: Capacity building / outreach.** Capacity building and outreach have always been critical functions to AGWA’s goals, including the development and implementation of a variety of single-event workshops and training events. However, we have not actively partnered with training programs to develop curricula for courses or regular workshops. Given the appropriate audience, our level of technical guidance should be appropriate for working with specific institutions (financial, university, corporate, or other) to co-create high level content. Early discussions with UNESCO-IHE, IWR, UPeace, and Oregon State University (all engaged in a grad-level water partnership program) suggest some complementarities. There may also be some good possibilities for short-course programs on water and climate change with the appropriate partner, either as a remote or brief residential course — IHE offers courses for water professionals, for instance, and has expressed interest in collaborating in this area with AGWA. An initial next step would be to mobilize resources, develop an implementation plan, and define commitments and timelines.

**Expansion: Green infrastructure.** The program development with SESYNC on eco-engineering generated a great deal of interest in how these methods may apply to the development of a rigorous approach to green infrastructure vis a vis hybrid and green infrastructure. The contrast of our work with much of the difficult to implement advocacy around these issues is high. Moreover, AGWA’s internal member survey has indicated that this the single most-requested topic for support, while a number of active partners such as Deltares have long expressed interest in developing an explicit decision support approach to green infrastructure and water management. A caucus of member initiatives and the development of a knowledge management and partnership plan would be an initial step.

**Proposed Membership Goals**

AGWA’s member survey during 2015 revealed that our network’s core consists of water and climate adaptation professionals, often performing catalytic, technical, policy, and/or capacity building roles within their native institutions. Many work at a regional as well as a global scale. In practice, many AGWA members
are intuitively aware of the rapidly nature of the practice of climate adaptation, tensions with between climate mitigation and adaptation, and the complex interplay between policy and practice. The challenge of mainstreaming novel practices is central to the typical AGWA member’s experience, often on a daily or weekly basis. In the past, this member has been idealized as “Luis’s engineer”: a technical professional who is aware that she or he may be making unresilient, unrobust decisions, and is concerned a better mechanism of including climate adaptation into daily work. Regionally, membership has expanded from western Europe and the Americas to a stronger Asian and African presence. However, much work remains.

This audience will certainly remain important to AGWA. Additional, expanded potential members for AGWA to more fully integrate include:

- More “Luis’s engineers” within the developing world
- A stronger integration with governance and legal professionals
- A broader, deeper integration with additional IFIs and multilaterals
- A better connection to the urban water management community
- More engagement with regional and local organizations, both for practice and policy initiatives

Connecting to these audiences presents challenges that are worth exploring more systematically. For instance, an online forum may facilitate global “lateral” discussions. Developing regional leads who feel empowered to facilitate more local / regional activities and products may be another mechanism.

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17 Some summary information from the AGWA survey is provided in Appendix 2.


19 Julian Doczi has suggested [http://forum.susana.org/](http://forum.susana.org/), developed by the WASH community, as a promising mechanism.
SECRETARIAT

SECRETARIAT FUNDING

- Secretariat funding covers a variety of programs and staff within SIWI, including senior staff, support staff, and programmatic staff, including travel, salary, and resources. Within that larger pool, the secretariat coordinator (John Matthews) is covered at about 50 percent time for AGWA administration and networking activities, including support to global policy work; funding is currently confirmed for through December 2015. About another 50 percent of technical coordination funding for Matthews is secured by USACE IWR via the Oak Ridge federal research laboratory as a fellowship through August 2016. These two funding sources are generally conceived as overall network support (steering committee engagement) in conjunction with technical network track (e.g., CRIDA). In 2014, additional projects (green bonds standards, UNECE integration with AGWA) were funded on a per project basis, with approval of SIWI, though the scope and capacity for secretariat work on additional projects is quite limited at this stage. For 2015, additional secretariat support will be funded through SIWI. Additional projects risk distracting from secretariat work rather than reinforcing network support though the projects to date have had a strong AGWA connection and integration.

- Expanded secretariat funding (additional SIWI staff related to administration, fundraising, communications, etc.) is still developing. The largest gap in capacity / time appears to be with fundraising. John has a part-time assistant in Oregon to support his AGWA work, particularly with the AGWA site, newsletter, and video production, all of which have become an increasingly core component of secretariat functions.

- Some in-kind funding for Secretariat functions is provided, such as travel support for participation in significant events. For instance, Deltares and the UNECE recently subsidized some travel support for Matthews, USACE IWR supported a networking event at World Water Forum in Korea, while the AGWA 2015 annual meeting has been subsidized by the World Bank and WBCSD.

SECRETARIAT EXPENSES (JANUARY - JULY 2015, SIWI)

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<td>Travel</td>
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<td>Conference fees, etc.</td>
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**SECRETARIAT FUNDING STATUS**

**PROGRAM FUNDING STATUS**

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Secretariat: Central contact point, help desk, fundraising, and representation and coordination role (ongoing)

Secretariat: Newsletter, steering committee meetings as needed, and general assembly (ongoing)

Secretariat: Development of the AGWA Guide

CRIDA publication, program launch

Preparation and coordination of AGWA events for SWWW (November 2014 through August)

Green bonds program support (October through September)

World Water Forum

**Secretariat expenses (January - July 2015, SIWI)**

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FUNDRAISING EFFORTS

Many in AGWA have been actively engaged in fundraising for AGWA components. These have spanned a number of categories:

Core support. Funding for the secretariat has been the most challenging aspect of AGWA to secure dedicated resources. Ongoing secretariat support is a priority for SIWI’s hosting responsibilities and for USACE technical support as well. This support represents an investment in AGWA and the secretariat functions that enable and identify AGWA as a network.

Programmatic / activity funding. In terms of the bulk of resources allocated under an AGWA framework, programmatic and activity funding such as for technical programs has been the most successful and largest source of support, though much of it has been via in-kind funding for staff time, travel support, publication fees, and events logistics. Several grant proposals have been made in this area, and a number have been successful and productive such as the SESYNC activities in 2013–2014. At any given time, a number of proposals are already in process.

Place-based technical project funding. Place-based funding has largely occurred within the context of a single organization acting as the AGWA lead, such as the World Bank or UNECE. These projects are not coordinated by the secretariat, though they may receive some networking support from the secretariat. Some early secretariat-let discussions with a handful of development agencies are ongoing about funding projects, such as in eastern DRC and southern Africa. A few project applications have been made jointly, such as with Deltares in December 2014 and SIWI in June 2014, as well as an ad hoc team in April 2014.
APPENDIX 1
SECRETARIAT AND CORE FUNCTIONS

Secretariat functions have diversified somewhat since the hosting shift last August, with a number of activities:

**Newsletter.** The AGWA newsletter has become more regular and has been a consistently monthly publication, with a circulation that has risen from about 450 to 650 over the past year. According to our mailing list service, about 28 to 30 percent of each issue is opened by our members.

**AGWA site.** The AGWA website has expanded and developed considerably in recent months, with consistent site traffic >1000 visits/week. In a recent AGWA survey, about one-third of respondents stated that they visited the site “regularly,” and another third visited “occasionally.” Other sister sites (climatechangewater.org, SIWI.org) and a number of close Twitter partners (World Bank, IUCN) also help drive traffic to AGWA.

**Member survey.** A member survey was drafted in February-March with Christine Chan and released in April; the survey was intended to obtain a clearer picture of the network and their interests / concerns, particularly in terms of what they sought from AGWA. The survey was answered by about 9 percent of the total mailing list. A summary document will be prepared separately, but notable points included the large number of AGWA members who identify as working globally, a strong interest in obtaining more information about green infrastructure, and the desire for AGWA to be a multifaceted content and capacity support mechanism.

**Communication and outreach.** Video production efforts have consumed an increasing (but still small) amount of time. Although generally opportunistic, with simple production values and formats, these videos have spanned policy topics (#ClimateIsWater), highlighted AGWA events, or explored topical themes (the economics of water and adaptation). A series of 20 short videos based on a conversation between John and Kathleen Dominique were recently released, as well as Karin’s talk during the AGWA WWF7 event on policy, some highlights from the AGWA event panel, including a special video with Christine talking about challenges for adaptation in the Pacific islands. A new series with Ad Jeuken from Deltares on adaptation pathways will be released this summer. These videos collectively receive between 100 and 200 views a week at this stage, with usually about 50 percent from North America but spanning well over 100 other countries in total.
AGWA events. Event coordination has always been an important part of the secretariat. WWF7 and the UN Water Zaragoza conference consumed a great deal of time for the first half of 2015. For the Forum, AGWA was involved in a number of sessions and led with one, which was very well attended. We had an experimental networking session. This had few people but we feel the limitations came more from the Forum than from the idea, and we plan to replicate this (and indeed expand it) for SWWW. In contrast to previous years, the secretariat has been less involved in directly developing seminars for SWWW this year, with a total of four AGWA events led by other individuals / institutions within AGWA on a variety of topics. We of course are planning for the annual meeting, as well as a dinner and another networking event.
APPENDIX 2
AGWA MEMBERSHIP: SOME SURVEY RESULTS

Question 7: Check up to three (3) of the most important factors that would make your work in water and adaptation more effective.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Factor</th>
<th>Percentage</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Technical capacity</td>
<td>22 (41.5%)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Institutional support</td>
<td>19 (35.8%)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>More / better data</td>
<td>18 (34%)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Enabling policy</td>
<td>21 (39.6%)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Governance mechanisms</td>
<td>17 (32.1%)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Funding</td>
<td>33 (62.3%)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Other</td>
<td>3 (5.7%)</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

*“Other” responses include: less uncertainty, clearer and more defined case studies and technical tutorials to apply these lessons.

Question 10: What specific resources could AGWA provide to help you or your institution (e.g., collaboration/networking, capacity building, fundraising, partner matching)?

Some respondents mentioned multiple resources AGWA could provide. Their short answer responses were placed into the groups shown in the figure (left).
Since many responses were straightforward one-word answers, only those with more detail were included. Total responses by category are still listed to show magnitude.

**Collaboration (10)**
- Networking and collaboration for bringing ecosystem studies and infrastructure studies closer together, and for better understanding of environmental flows and adaptation to changing flows.
- Collaboration, new partnerships and fundraising opportunities for research, particularly research into policy and practice.
- Collaboration in project development and implementation

**Partner Matching (11)**
- Partner matching between science, managers, funders

**Fundraising (16)**
- Fundraising, which should work both ways, i.e. through engaging AGWA in research and consultancy projects, but also discussing funding possibilities. The latter would for us include some partner matching.
- Funding options (packages)
- Identify funding opportunities or help put different agents and needs together

**Networking (8)**

**Capacity Building (4)**
- It is an excellent network to share experiences from different areas, places and topics of expertise.

**Planning (2)**
- Scenario planning
- Developing specific collaborative networks of themes

**Training (1)**

**Information Services (7)**
- Synthesis of the state of knowledge and best practices in water adaptation design and decision making. DSS is a strong response to this need.
- How to climate-proof infrastructure - eg what is the single "best-bet" value of the one-in-fifty year design flood in 2035?
• Connect good thinking with real opportunities to make a difference whether that be connecting policy with the information they need to make the right decisions, or connecting funding agencies with the means to deliver changes.

**Case Studies (1)**

• Case studies of complex social ecological systems where clear returns on investments have been realised through the restoration and sustainable management of natural land cover in water catchments.

**Promotion (1)**

• Promote Water in the COP 21

**Direct Funding (4)**

• Getting paid days on AGWA projects is key to our participation

**Best Practices (3)**

• I would like to see AGWA help with identifying and sharing best practices. There is a lot going on, but it isn’t always well-known. There are so many needs and the only way we are going to come close to meeting them is by working from (and modifying) existing success stories, instead of repeatedly starting over. We still need innovative, new approaches, but if we only focus on that, we won’t move quickly enough.

**Publication (1)**

**Developing Country Context (1)**

• Climate resilience is perhaps a more useful concept than climate change adaptation in developing country contexts as it frames the immediacy of the current climate related risks as well as long term changes. Perhaps this is an area AGWA could focus on

**Question 11:** I would like to learn more about / participate in the following work with AGWA

![Bar chart showing responses to the question.](chart.png)
Green Infrastructure

Collaboration with others in my field or in complementary disciplines

Collaborating to define new approaches / practices