



AGWA's Annual Report

Part 1

Year in Review: September 2016 – August 2017

Part 2

The Year Ahead: September 2017 – August 2018

COORDINATOR'S FOREWORD

AGWA: CATALYZING EFFECTIVE KNOWLEDGE, IMPLEMENTATION, AND POLICIES

My son is a climate change refugee. Seven years ago, his birth mother in Africa's Rift Valley told my wife and I that she feared a drought severe enough to make her choose between feeding herself and her son. He was nine months old then, and about two months later an El Niño in the Pacific triggered the worst famine in decades in the Horn of Africa. His birth mother may have just missed making some very difficult choices for the two of them. Our son is now tall, strong, and kind, a gift from Africa to us. And a daily reminder to me about the choices more and more of us will be facing and how they can affect us so deeply as individuals and families and communities.

In contrast, AGWA emphasizes how *institutions* can make effective resilient decisions consistently and how *policies* can encourage and enable institutional mainstreaming. Adaptation should not be an accident or depend solely on the role of particular individuals. If adaptation is to go to scale and help the largest number of individuals, we must work at this systems level, which will ultimately help projects and people as they navigate an increasingly complex and uncertain future. I hope that this annual report provides evidence that we as a network have been moving forward on this path.

AGWA is about supporting better choices — longer term, more sustainable and robust, more flexible. We recognize that water is central to these choices. We also recognize that hope for the future is critical — hope for a future that can be better in spite of great changes and uncertainties. Our technical and policy programs demonstrate what practical, operational should look like.

Not all of the climate-relevant choices we face today or tomorrow will be so difficult as the ones our son's birth mother faced. But her brave actions remind me every day that we need good systems to help and guide us, that when we speak about institutions and policies and water we are really talking about people and places and how the choices we make today will grow and evolve and take on new lives of their own.

John Matthews — August 2017

INTRODUCTION

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 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 advocacy 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.

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 network 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 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 1000 individuals and an estimated 300 organizations. Some basic statistics:

- AGWA's LinkedIn Group has grown to over 345 members in the past year – over 30 percent growth
- The newsletter mailing list has grown to over 1000 members – a modest growth of 9 percent following several years of more than 70 percent year over year growth
- The AGWA Facebook site was launched in the third quarter of 2017. With minimal promotion and organic growth, the site has over 50 followers in first six weeks. We expect comparable numbers to LinkedIn Group in next year.
- Main website (Alliance4Water.org) averages over 14,000 visits per week. Companion site (AGWAGuide.org) receives 2,500 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). Maggie replaced Karin Lexén co-chair on behalf of SIWI in March when Karin shifted institutions. The work of the AGWA coordinator and steering community 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.

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

Part 1

Year in Review: September 2016 – August 2017

Activities since the last annual meeting

The past year saw more than 70 percent growth in newsletter subscriptions (itself following a year with 70 percent growth); the rapid differentiation and expansion of our policy activities; the expansion of our policy capacity and achievement of a number of significant policy goals; the launch of two AGWA spin-off initiatives (#ClimateIsWater and CRIDA); the delivery and adoption of several technical guidances; the award of grants to support AGWA-informed programs and activities; and media coverage around our activities.² We have a great deal to be proud of. This section will detail 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. Building on the complementary capacities of its members, our efforts have been amplified through collaboration, and our Policy Team member list of some 130 individuals (more than 10 percent of AGWA's newsletter membership) showcases the full spectrum of policy, technical, and legal and governance perspectives. SIWI staff and leadership are essential to AGWA's policy strategy and activities, even though this was a year in which three SIWI staff contributors to AGWA policy work — Karin Lexén, Sofia Widforss, and Anna Forslund — all left SIWI. Since July 2017, SIWI international climate policy work has been led by AGWA co-chair Maggie White.

Given our understanding of the global policy landscape (and not simply climate policy), the Policy Team continuously prepared input for global meetings leading up to the COP22 in Marrakesh, Morocco, in November 2016. In the autumn of 2016, building up from the dynamics launched at the Bonn intersession in May 2016 forth looking at the implementation of the Paris Agreement and the launch of the Global Climate Action Agenda, the AGWA Policy Team worked tenaciously to ensure a role for water in the climate policy discussions. Several activities were organized by members and AGWA used its strong network to inform and influence decision makers, by involvement and knowledge sharing in global dialogues, through the preparation of memos, policy brief, organizing events and through the preparation and distribution of key messages, leaflets, news articles, policy papers, among other vehicles.

² Appendix 2 contains a summary of AGWA media coverage over the past year.

AGWA gratefully acknowledges several key partners in our global work, including the International Network of Basin Organizations (INBO), the French Water Partnership, Arup, Coalition Eau, WaterAid, IUCN, CDP, and #ClimateisWater,³ who's secretariat is ensured by the World Water Council and was co-founded by AGWA in 2015 as a mechanism to coordinate climate and water communications throughout the diverse water community. By being present and active as a strong member of the #ClimateisWater (#CIW) steering committee, AGWA has tried to ensure a shared approach to different dynamics and activities and contributed to the success of the different operations undertaken by #CIW by bringing in sound policy recommendations and sharing content and messages through its communication network.

A snapshot of the past year:

- Policy Group has grown to 130 individuals – growing in pace with AGWA as a whole and remaining about 10 percent of AGWA's mailing list
- Took a leading role in Water Action Day at COP22.
- With OECD, moderated “Water Dialogue” on Water Action Day that led to Water Outcomes Document
- At COP22, organized multiple events in blue and green zones.
- Continued role in steering committee of #ClimateisWater Campaign
- Policy Group reps took part in closed meeting with GCAA Champions during Climate Week in New York
- Presented at Climate Chance Summit and helped secure a specific day for water at event
- Participated in UNECE Workshop on Water and Climate Change in Transboundary Basins in September 2016
- Represented at September 2016 UNFCCC Adaptation Committee meetings through Policy Group members in FWP, INBO, and WWC
- Represented at Sept. 2016 UNFCCC Standing Committee on Finance via Policy Group members in WaterAid
- Represented at May 2017 UNFCCC Bonn intersessional meeting by SIWI and other Policy Team members
- Submitted material to Nairobi Work Programme concerning its work plan on health and also nature-based solutions
- Released position paper on importance of NDCs to inform UNFCCC strategies: Climate Change is Water Change

³ <http://climateiswater.org> and hashtag “climateiswater.”

- Released policy brief reflecting on Paris Agreement and looking towards COP22: Water a Success Factor for Implementing the Paris Agreement
- Released policy brief on gender and climate change: The Gender Dimension of Water and Climate Change
- Took part in Budapest Water Summit in November 2016
- Participated in series of water and policy related events around Rome to coincide with World Water Day, including “Watershed” Conference
- Secured funding for core Policy Team support through collaboration with the German and Dutch governments.

Pre-COP22 Activities. Prior to COP22, the Policy Team was very active at the 2016 World Water Week (WWW) in Stockholm. At the SWWW, the Policy team organized and spoke at the event “Climate Change and Water Quality: Connecting the Dots,” with such high-level speakers such as Ania Grobicki, Secretary General of the Ramsar Convention on Wetlands, highlighting water’s essential role in the National Determined Contributions (NDCs) presented by the signatory countries at COP21. We also co-organized a high-level event with #CIW entitled “Water to Guide the Implementation of the Paris Agreement.” During WWW the Policy Team also supported COP presidencies (France and Morocco) in organizing a Global Climate Action Agenda meeting specifically on water in order continue securing the mobilization for a Water Action day at COP22. Additionally, SIWI organized its first annual stocktaking event “Building a Resilient future through Water” that initiated a high-level policy dialogue on the interlinkages between the SDG and Paris Climate Agreement. High level representatives such as Crown Princess Viktoria, Jan Eliasson DSG of UN, Hakima El Haite, Minister of the Environment and GCA Champion of Morocco, Dr. Abdeladim El Hafi, High Commission for COP22 and Célia Blauel, Deputy Mayor of Paris were present.

The policy team was also able to meet with 30+ members, following the AGWA annual meeting, in order to strategize on the coming year and COP22. World Water week 2017 will also host an official AGWA event, a #CIW side event and the second stocktaking high level dialogue on “Building a resilient future through Water” that is co-convened by SIWI and Rockefeller Foundation.

United Nations General Assembly (UNGA) 71th Session. During the UNGA71, the UN SG and PGA agree on the necessity to launch a process that will look into how the global agendas could be interlinked and build up from one another; especially for the SDG and Paris Climate Agreement. The AGWA Policy Team will look into how to mainstream this through water and deliver key messages at different international and national meetings that will look into the implementation of these agendas. This dynamic builds upon the discussions that took place during the 2016 World Water Week and with the Global Climate Action Agenda (ex Lima-Paris Action Agenda) which also gives a recognition for what non state actors can bring to the table.

Global Climate Action Agenda (GCAA; formerly the Lima Paris Action Agenda [LPAA]). The GCAA 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. Throughout the year four water alliances were consolidated following their launch at COP21. At COP22, these alliances⁴ decided to organize themselves into a network – the Global Alliance for Water and Climate⁵ – whose secretariat is trusted to INBO. Other relevant alliances were also under discussion at COP22, such as one on Water, Health and Climate Change⁶ lead by WaterAid and DFID and another focusing on youth mobilization that could join GAWC.

A specific water-themed “Action Day” was announced through a broad group of actors: AGWA, the alliances, #CIW, and the support and investment of the COP presidencies (France and Morocco) and their respective Champions (Laurence Taubiana [ambassador to climate] and Hakima el Haite [delegate minister to the environment]).

During Climate Week 2016 in New York, SIWI as coordinator of the AGWA Policy Team was invited to a closed meeting of the champions where they presented the premises of their action plan that would be delivered and validated at COP22. The Global Climate Action Agenda has undergone some strategic changes and is now hosted by the secretariat of UNFCCC. A work plan was elaborated for 2017 in order to join the roadmap of the Champions⁷ with the outcome documents of the different COP22 Action days and look into the organization of the future action for COP23. AGWA took part in these consultations remotely and will engage once more into the organization of the water action day at COP23.

Climate Chance Summit, 26-28 September 2016, Nantes, France. Another strong push for the GCAA was initiated through the Climate Chance Summit, which was intended to mobilize and organize many non-state different actors across a wide range of issues to enable them to prepare the “action days” in advance of COP22. The Climate Chance Summit is now intended to be held annually in September in order to ensure a preparatory process for non-state actors at the COP. French members of the AGWA Policy Team (French Water Partnership, Coalition Eau, INBO, UNESCO, and the City of Paris, among others) were able to secure a specific day for water at the event and organized a Water forum in which

⁴ Paris Pact on Water and climate change adaptation to river basins, lakes and aquifers; Business Alliance for Water and Climate; Megacities Alliance for Water and Climate; Global Clean Water Desalination Alliance

⁵ http://riob.org/IMG/pdf/Declaration_Alliances_annexes.pdf

⁶ <http://www.wateraid.org/news/blogs/2016/november/climate-change-a-threat-and-an-opportunity-for-water-and-sanitation>

⁷ <http://newsroom.unfccc.int/climate-action/global-climate-action-agenda#Champions>

several other international members of AGWA took part. Maggie White was one of the members of the steering committee organizing this Water Forum and Karin Lexén of AGWA moderated the event. The champions also organized a round of consultations of their action plan that was presented at COP22.

COP22 & the Water Action Day 7-18 November 2016. At COP22, water was extremely visible over the two weeks of the conference in Marrakesh, especially the first week since water was prioritized in the GCAA with a specific day (9th November), had an official high level reporting event to the decision makers, and more than 50 side events addressing water issues. In the same way that the presence of water at the Paris COP the year before marked a “high water mark” for climate and water issues, Marrakesh even surpassed Paris. Representatives from AGWA and the OECD Water Governance team moderated the “dialog” of the Water Action day⁸ organized by the Morocco, France, the WWC, and INBO; SIWI, the World Bank, the EIB, and many other key AGWA members were among the key speakers. The Water Action day was attended by several thousand participants. The opening segment consisted of a high-level dialogue, with a second part organized as a multi-stakeholder dialog. The concluding segments delivered a specific Outcome document⁹ that was presented at the GCAA official reporting days the second week of the COP in front of all the decision makers. The concluding segments of the Champions’ Road map indicated a process to build up the GCAA and Marrakech Partnership for Global Action on an annual basis and water was one of the themes that was maintained. Outcomes of the International Conference on Water Security for Climate Justice that took place in Rabat in July 2016, such as the Blue Book¹⁰, were also launched on the Water Action Day. AGWA and SIWI directly organized two events: “Capitalizing on Water and Multistakeholder Engagement for Successful Implementation of the Paris Agreement,” “Human Water Security, Health and Climate Change,” and “Water, A Connector for Successful NDC Implementation”¹¹ and took part in more than 20 events, including activities related to the #ClimatelsWater campaign. Several AGWA members were also able to attend concluding segments of the Adaptation Committee, the Nairobi Work Programme, and many others, as well as the concluding session of COP22.

AGWA and #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, but the organization is evolving too with the secretariat led by the WWC. As a member of the #CIW

⁸ <http://www.un.org/apps/news/story.asp?NewsID=55513#.WY3o5NMrK1t>

⁹ http://alliance4water.org/blog/files/2016_xii_21a.php

¹⁰ http://www.worldwatercouncil.org/fileadmin/world_water_council/documents/publications/20161124_blue_book.pdf

¹¹ <http://www.siwi.org/latest/siwi-cop22-high-level-panel-water-connector-successful-ndc-implementation/>

steering committee, AGWA contributes actively but #CIW and AGWA are 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 COP22 were once more built from AGWA's content and expertise over the past years, enhanced with beautiful branding.

The well-orchestrated series of activities throughout the autumn of 2016 and during COP22 built momentum for water issues, but pushing towards COP23 and after is critical. To ensure the prominence of water issues in the global climate dialogue, the water community must continue to speak with one voice, whereby the AGWA Policy Team can serve as a vehicle for collaborative and accelerated action, a neutral voice for policy recommendations and technical advice, and a mechanism to convey emerging water practices to climate policy makers.

UNFCCC intersessional policy meetings, Nairobi Work Programme, and other UNFCCC organizations.

AGWA was present and active at the September 2016 Adaptation Committee via the French Water Partnership, INBO, and WWC, the Standing Committee on Finance via WaterAid in September 2016, and the May 2017 Bonn intersessional meeting (represented by SIWI, INBO, WWC, IWA, GWP, FWP, IUCN, among others). Presence at intersessional meetings is strategic for maintaining credibility and continuity. AGWA's presence has influenced the coming discussions about next steps for the implementation of the Paris Agreement, the work plan for the Adaptation Committee and its TEP-A (Technical Examination Process on Adaptation), and other processes. Since the discussion has gone from agreement to implementation, water is now being mentioned in many different contexts, especially agriculture, cities and finance. Most Nationally Determined Contributions (NDCs) that address adaptation section have integrated water elements, often alongside agriculture and health, and now is the time to dialog with climate policy makers and by raising water in the development of the Ad Hoc Working Group on the Paris Agreement (APA), the Adaptation Committee, in the Nairobi Work Programme and with the Five Year Work Plan for Loss & Damage, among other instruments. During COP22 and just after strong contributions were sent from AGWA members to the Nairobi Work Programme concerning its work plan on health and also nature-based solutions. A policy note has been elaborated by the AGWA Policy Team to strategize these steps over 2017¹².

During 2016-2017, AGWA also analysed the national climate plans, NDCs, to map where and how water elements was incorporated. This emanated in the policy brief *Water a Success Factor for Implementing the Paris Agreement*¹³ that also reflected on the outcomes of COP22. Furthermore, the Policy Team supports the NDC Partnership¹⁴ by looking into how to mainstream water in the process so that the

¹² http://alliance4water.org/resources/Climate-change-is-water-change_20160912.pdf

¹³ <http://www.siwi.org/publications/water-success-factor-implementing-paris-agreement/>

¹⁴ <http://www.ndcpartnership.org/>

Partnership can support countries in developing and implementing the water chapters of their NDC's. A small working group composed of members of AGWA are looking into producing a water expert piece and establishing a water group to support this process.

Building on the COP22 decision on Gender and Climate Change¹⁵ members of the policy group prepared the policy brief *The Gender dimension of Water and Climate Change*¹⁶ that was shared during the workshop held during the UNFCCC intersessional in May 2017.

Following the UN Conference on Oceans (June 2017), hosted by Fiji and Sweden, SIWI and AGWA are working closely with the Source to Sea action Platform to finalise a policy brief for WWW illustrating the links between SDG 6 and SDG14 and preparing a side event on this topic for COP23.

CAPACITY BUILDING PROGRAMS

AGWA expanded in 2015 from an exclusive technical focus on knowledge synthesis and decision support to include capacity building, both directly from their network to specific projects and to preparing content for others to use, integrate and customize as necessary. The expansion came from growing confidence that over time we have come to develop a common understanding about *how* to assess and reduce risk. Now, the more urgent issue had become to grow 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 one year ago for technical content (AGWAGuide.org) and the development of a series of publications and knowledge products. Over the past year, we saw:

- **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 instituted training workshops for internal and external associates at locations in both North America and Asia. Work is now starting on implementation of the DTF for Mexico City. Ongoing work is taking place in Indonesia and Mexico (Valley of Mexico Basin). DTF implementation related to flooding is about to begin in the Lerma Basin (Mexico) and in Kenya.
- **The slow maturation of AGWA-U in its second year.** AGWA content has begun to enter graduate-level courses for students and water management professionals interested in learning about the emerging

¹⁵ http://unfccc.int/files/gender_and_climate_change/application/pdf/auv_cop22_i15_gender_and_climate_change_rev.pdf

¹⁶ <http://alliance4water.org/resources/water-gender-p-brief-digital-version.pdf>

trends in climate adaptation and how it can be relevant to their work. Some of this has occurred informally and incidentally — documented by accident. AGWA-U is intended to make this process more formal. To date, AGWA-U has involved collaboration with IHE, TU-Delft, Oregon State University (OSU), and the Asian Institute of Technology (AIT). AGWA partner Rare produced a three-part video series based on some of the content in AGWA-U for capacity building as well.¹⁷

- **At project scales, AGWA has helped assemble teams** to develop technical capacity for specific institutions, often in connection to specific grant proposals. Beginning in December 2016, for instance, AGWA began working with WWF-Mexico 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. 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 put together a team of aquatic ecology and resilience experts to provide direct feedback and input and supported a workshop on the topic in Mexico City last May, assisting with assembling the tools, evidence, and expert opinion to transform EEDS into a fully operational program influencing practical water management decisions. The project has been an excellent model of how the AGWA network can add value to other organizations by supporting the development of internal capacity for a variety of organizations.
- **AGWA began to explore avenues for expanding its engagement with students and young water professionals.** This was to go beyond its work on the AGWA-U Initiative – an effort to teach water professionals and graduate students cutting edge climate adaptation methods through university coursework. Initial actions 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. It was decided that the first event would be held at WWW and further events would be planned afterwards (e.g., webinars, expanding “AGWA-U” to more universities, side events at conferences, and so on). AGWA also engaged in a separate line of conversation with the host of a major “water jobs” website about establishing a mentorship program involving SIWI, Josh’s Water Jobs, AGWA, and IWRA.

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,

¹⁷ http://alliance4water.org/blog/files/2016_xi_3b.php

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.

Transition: Growing a “knowledge platform” for Bottom-Up Approaches. Beginning in May 2017, the World Bank, SIWI, and AGWA core staff began to develop a technical “knowledge platform” that can promote bottom-up approaches and support individuals and institutions who wish to reorient towards these methods. Funded by the World Bank, work began with a reorganization of the AGWAGuide.org site to include a suite of approaches and basic support materials, while we develop more detailed and intensive resources. Content now in development includes a set of case studies, library of publications, a series of webinars, and some broadcast materials that can generate ongoing interest and traffic to the site. Moreover, AGWA has co-organized a variety of workshops on Bottom-Up Approaches over the past year, including (but not limited to) the UNECE Water and Climate Workshop in Geneva on 11-17 Sept. 2016; the “Future of Cities” forum in Tianjin, China in November 2016; the International Association for

Impact Assessment (IAIA) Conference in Montreal on 3-9 April 2017; and the EEDS workshop with CONAGUA, WWF-MX, and IADB in Mexico City on 3-5 May 2017.

Ongoing: Water Climate Bonds Standard, phase 2. AGWA began supporting work on developing resilience criteria for water-related green and climate bonds in September 2014. The first set of criteria targeted traditional gray infrastructure with the exception of hydropower and formally launched in October 2016¹⁸. Well over 1 billion USD have been issued against these criteria from the public utilities for San Francisco, USA, and Cape Town, South Africa, over the past calendar year.¹⁹ A detailed scoring guide was also developed to support the application of the the criteria by issuers and verifiers²⁰. KPMG, for instance, used the guide to evaluate the issuance of the Cape Town water bond. The second phase of work began in February 2016 and is nearing completion. Led by Climate Bonds Initiative (CBI), funded by the Rockefeller Foundation, and supported by dozens across the AGWA network, the second phase has divided into two teams: criteria for hydropower (especially with storage reservoirs), and criteria relevant to nature-based solutions (NBS). AGWA is involved in both components, but we are most engaged in the team for the NBS working group. The NBS criteria should go to public consultation soon and should be finalized and ready for full implementation by November 2017.

Ongoing: Freshwater Resilience Strategy. Overview: Providing guidance and inputs to The Rockefeller Foundation on how they approach freshwater resilience, the landscape of issues, opportunities, and players, and how to engage most strategically. Funding: only a few days contracted to JM; more to MW; most to regular SIWI staff, When: final report due fall 2017, Recent developments: Initial phase reported out to RF early June with good results, transitioning to final phase

Ongoing: Negotiating adaptive tradeoffs between infrastructure and ecosystems. Sustainability as a term is evolving rapidly as the evidence, insights, and technical knowledge around resilience becomes an operational concept. AGWA has carved out a clear niche in how we envision the relationship between ecosystems, species, and water resources management systems in the context of a shifting climate. Building on work supported by the US National Science Foundation and SESYNC²¹ and published by *Nature Climate Change*, AGWA actively promotes efforts such as Eco-Engineering Decision Scaling (EEDS) with specific applications, institutions, and decision support systems. Our most detailed applications over the past year have been through Mexican national environmental flow policy with

¹⁸ <https://www.climatebonds.net/2016/10/climate-standards-board-approves-new-criteria-climate-resilient-water-bonds-science-based>

¹⁹ <http://www.watergrabbing.net/2017/07/13/green-bond-help-new-normal-water-shortages/>; <https://www.climatebonds.net/2016/12/five-big-gb-stories-you-may-have-missed-san-fran-ny-new-gbs-mexico-and-colombia-brazil>

²⁰ <https://www.climatebonds.net/standard/water>

²¹ <http://sesync.org>

WWF-MX²², engaging on nature-based solutions with European insurance systems (NAIAD — see below), resilience criteria for water-related bonds designed to fund green and hybrid infrastructure, supporting the integration of EEDS with other bottom-up approaches (CRIDA), and a number of still-outstanding grant applications.

Ongoing: NAIAD. Another major initiative launch last year was the formalization of a natural infrastructure program. EEDS and our bonds resilience criteria are central to this process, since EEDS can also be used as a mechanism for designing and testing alternative types of natural infrastructure. Work on this program officially launched in December 2016 and via a kick-off meeting in Valladolid, Spain, in January 2017. The work is led by iCatalyst and Ribera del Duero River Basin Authority. AGWA partners SIWI and Deltares are very involved with the technical work and the AGWA secretariat is also engaged (via SIWI). Called NAIAD (NAture Insurance value Assessment and Demonstration), this consortium is intended to work with public and private sector entities to define how ecosystems can be formally integrated within insurance systems to cope with climate extremes. Work is currently proceeding on finance processes. A framework publication has also published in a peer-reviewed journal.²³

Ongoing S-Multistor. something on process S-Multistor, an effort led and coordinated by UNESCO-IHE 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 second 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). Recent work has focused on building field program support, which will integrate bottom-up methodologies later in 2017.

Support for grant proposals. Since it's inception, AGWA has not required very large amounts of funding, but *sufficient* funds are important to support core staff and network functions as well as to implement projects and initiatives. Core funding is the most elusive income source to find. Project-specific funding is also critical, and the past year saw growth in the pace and scope in this category in the funding we applied for and received, especially with the support of groups such as SIWI and

²² WWF-MX selected EEDS as a means for analyzing the efficacy of a national environmental flows program called “reservas del agua” from a climate adaptation perspective. The Inter-American Development Bank (IDB) is funding WWF-MX to develop a national set of policy guidelines centered around EEDS (see Part 2). UNESCO-IHP’s Latin American and Caribbean office (OREAL) is developing some of the technical applications with WWF-MX, and together we organized a May 2017 workshop in Mexico City to showcase early developing internal applications of EEDS as well. We hope to expand these efforts in 2017–2018 to other countries in Central and South America.

²³ <http://www.sciencedirect.com/science/article/pii/S0013935117312756>

Deltares. Even when we did not receive funding, AGWA was often part of consortia that was a finalist for funding. A partial list of grants from the past year:

- Through SIWI and Deltares, joined Horizon2020 project on insurance value of ecosystems called NAIAD
- Support to CONAGUA and WWF-Mexico project to develop national-scale application of EEDS in Mexico
- With SIWI, guidance for The Rockefeller Foundation's Freshwater Resilience Strategy
- Part of three-year project called S-MultiStor led by IHE Delft and focused on sustainable multipurpose green and grey water storage
- Submitted successful proposal for project on bottom-up climate adaptation in the Baltic Region. Work to begin in the third quarter of 2017.
- Recently submitted a proposal with TNC for a knowledge synthesis proposal with NCEAS around freshwater ecosystem resilience and the the evidence for how to adapt low-order streams and rivers.
- An unsuccessful but finalist proposal with Oregon State University and a group of other institutions to apply EEDS to a large US military facility, funded by the US Department of Defense.
- An imminent submission to the EU for a complementary program to NAIAD called MARACANA, focused on urban adaptation and the integration of nature-based solutions around water management.

In addition, Secretariat staff undertook some project-specific funding in order to generate additional revenue for core function support. These are always chosen for their complementarity to AGWA objectives and goals. For instance, Mott McDonald was awarded a contract in mid 2016 with the World Bank to work on mainstreaming climate adaptation and bottom-up methodologies within their WASH portfolio, and the Overseas Development Institute (ODI) had included funds for AGWA in the proposal; AGWA secretariat staff provided some limited support, which was then used to help pay for secretariat staff salaries. A similar project came from a partnership with DFID's Act on Climate Today (ACT) program, which provided guidance on bottom-up approaches for the provincial government of Punjab, Pakistan, on resilience strategy and capacity building and water management issues in a variety of ministries.

Part 2

The Year Ahead: September 2017 – August 2018

Objectives for AGWA's 2017 – 2018 work

AGWA ultimately intends to support and promote long term sustainable water resources management. 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.

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

AGWA has emerged as 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. This work has mobilized something approaching 1000 members, often with single activities involving more than 100 individuals within the network.

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.

More slowly, the climate change community has increasingly recognized that resilient water management is central to human adaptation and sustaining 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 been ahead of the pack for many years, quietly mobilizing knowledge and expertise. And our time has come. We are meeting the new fiscal year with new resources and a more clear agenda.

The Budget year: Sept. 2016 – Aug. 2017

The main costs to keep AGWA running refers to the following budget posts: remuneration of AGWA coordinator; secretariat cost (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, printing of info material etc. In addition, a great support to AGWA comes from 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 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 at an implementation and funding levels.

Spearheaded by AGWA, #CIW, and GAWC, the global water community can showcase how wise and resilient water management can support coherence in mitigation and adaptation activities and policies. The challenge for AGWA is to ensure that the messages are complementary, that trade offs 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 decisions.

The GCAA must strive to keep water high in the climate change agenda and to promote concrete solutions to tackle and adapt to climate change. It is a key entry point for non-state actors. Indeed, the

call to leave the Paris Agreement by the USA illustrates the growing role that the non-state actors (cities, businesses, NGOs and CSOs, academics) play in defining how global and national objectives and how the water and climate communities a full range of governance levels engaged. One objective is to share results and experiences and monitor impacts in order to reinforce the water and climate dynamics and scale up ambitions towards COP23 collectively. It will also be strategic to reach out to other sectors, especially those that do not prioritize a link to water but which need water as an enabling or sustaining element, and prepare for the “global stock take” on progress against 2015’s goals foreseen for 2018.

By continuously formulating arguments based on local practice and emerging technical insights and evidence, AGWA aims to contribute with expertise on the linkages between water and climate through policy and stakeholder dialogues, collaborating and communicating with different actors, countries and sectors.

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. Building on the momentum from COP22, AGWA will continue to connect stakeholders from within and outside the water and climate communities and will serve as a vehicle and link for the purpose of influencing policy decision makers and climate negotiators. One task for the group is to link up with country delegations to the UNFCCC; by conveying messages on the many benefits of integrating water management in adaptation and mitigation planning, to increase the likelihood of water elements being included in the architecture constructed around the Paris Agreement. AGWA will use its wide network and build a strong case based on research and best practice. For this purpose, AGWA’s mission and capacity to bridge between policy and practice is of particular relevance.

Further activities relate to gathering a repository of best practice in various thematic areas. Work is initiated in the area of climate finance, NDCs and the implementation of the Paris agreement. For the latter, an analysis of how water is incorporated into national climate planning processes through the NDCs, showcasing how water resources management could inform implementation of the Paris Agreement will be produced in 2017 through the water expert piece and water group of the NDC Partnership that is being set up in collaboration with WRI, GIZ, CBI, and IUCN.

In addition, experiences from the National Adaptation Plans (NAPs) should support the processes for further enhancement and complementary efforts. With these objectives, AGWA will engage in key events such as the UNFCCC COP23.

Preparation for Bonn's COP23

AGWA preparation for COP23 has had several components: support and shape the Water Action day, mobilize national parties and non-state actors by organizing specific events for COP23 and for other events that lead up to COP23, and publicly articulating policy recommendations through published statements.

The Policy Team will bring its support to the GCA-UNFCCC secretariat and to the German, Fijian and Dutch governments in preparing the Water Action day. AGWA will stay active with the Adaptation Committee and continue developing and delivering evidence and messages that illustrate water's key role in implementing the Paris agreement as well as linking UNFCCC priorities with the SDG 2030 agenda; Key focus areas include SDG2 (food and hunger) and SDG11 (cities).

Endeavors to continue promoting a specific window within the GCAA for water will be strong at SWWW through the organization of many official and side events as well as specific meetings. Efforts are being made in order to be present at the Pre Cop in Fiji in October 2017. AGWA has also been invited to help with the follow up to the conference on water security and climate justice that took place in Rabat in July 2016. The 2017 edition will be held in Marseille with the WWC on a smaller scale and more working group focused.

The Policy Team will also continue coordinating the work with other key partners (#CIW, WWC, IWA, FWP, Source to Sea Action Platform, Swedish Water House, UN Water, IUCN, INBO, WWF) in order to finalize the COP23 side events and its presence at COP23. Special attention will be given to linkages with SDG2, SDG 11 and also SDG14; following the UN conference on Oceans that took place in New York in June 2017. The Policy Team will also look into which events within the upcoming UNFCCC process (2017-2018) are key to mainstream water within the different decision making processes and subsidiary groups.

Presently several side events have been proposed with other partners for the blue and green zones of COP23 in order to address the key issues of water's role is the implementation of the Paris agreement, in building resilient cities, and knowledge sharing, dissemination and the oceans.

Overall, AGWA seeks for water to continue to hold a place in the climate policy agenda (the Action Agenda), and that water is placed in the formal negotiations of the UNFCCC, addressed in the same formalized way as e.g. energy and agriculture. 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 (e.g. CMA with the "facilitated dialogue" in 2018). The challenge is that there is a discrepancy between policy and practice when it comes to the

linkages between water and climate. In countries own national prioritizations (Nationally Determined Contributions-NDCs), that are supposed to comprise the fundament of the Paris agreement, water was highly topical. Water elements, such as waste water treatment and hydropower, were addressed in the vast majority of the adaptation plans, especially in developing countries. This is a clear indication that countries consider water to be vulnerable to climate change yet at the same time central to their responses to climate change. However, water is not even mentioned in the Paris agreement, and neither is it topical in the climate negotiations which still focus on mitigation, energy and in regards to sectoral approaches, agriculture and even forests. Much still needs to be done to demonstrate that adaptation and mitigation are part of the same coin when it comes to water.

PROPOSED CAPACITY BUILDING & TECHNICAL PROGRAMS

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

1. A more active “forward” role in global policy dialogues, with direct policy linkages to our work with climate finance and investment, cross-sectoral integration, and ecosystem-based adaptation. We plan an ambitious program of engagement in policy circles in the second half of 2017, and we can expect these efforts to also result in additional uptake and exposure for our technical programs.
2. 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. Though still quite new as a concept, 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.
3. A more active communications role in engagement with the media. AGWA plans to develop a systematic list of water/climate media contacts and expand our more direct engagement and presence to connect with water-climate professionals through blogs, the development of a new podcast, and so on.
4. A more programmatic 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. Our LinkedIn site has grown by about 50 percent in the past year. Within the past few months, we also added a Facebook site for AGWA. But we need to expand these efforts. We also need to meet our members and potential members where they are, making use of existing networks such as Mendeley, ResearchGate, SuSanA, and others to connect with specific target groups to ensure our messaging, approaches, and tools are within the worldview of groups such as WASH, researchers, engineers, and so on.

5. Develop the core for a knowledge platform for technical support and capacity building. While the platform itself will 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. This work will launch in stages throughout the coming year.
6. Pursue a series of regional AGWA-branded and co-branded workshops on technical themes.
7. Expand the number of educational programs that we engage with through AGWA-U and develop a more explicit focus on the needs of young professionals and pre-professionals. The first event related to this effort will be at World Water Week. AGWA will be in charge of the Young Professional's booth all day on Sunday, 27 August. Beyond WWW, AGWA will continue to work with existing youth and young professional networks to set up events over the next year at various venues. One strong possibility includes hosting occasional events on university campuses that take on an important global topic, with AGWA providing a virtual presenter to lead a presentation and discussion. Students / young professionals would attend in person and take part in a relaxed discussion. In 2018 AGWA will also likely be part of a mentorship platform that is currently in development, leveraging AGWA's large and knowledgeable membership base and link established professionals with interested students / young professionals. As another way to help the next generation learn relevant skills, AGWA could potentially set up a series of "virtual internships" to work directly with the Secretariat as appropriate.
8. 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.
9. 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.
10. Continue to expand our fundraising efforts. We may be better positioned, currently, to shift from seeking project-related to funds to core funding.

Proposed Changes to the AGWA Charter

AGWA has had two major iterations of its charter in its seven years. Ideally, the charter should describe how we work together, minimizing transaction costs and maximizing our opportunities for cooperations. A number of major topics had been developing in recent years and in 2016 it was decided that we

should consider a third iteration of the charter to reflect the growth in scope, complexity, and size of AGWA.

Under the leadership of AGWA steering committee member Joppe Cramwinckel, the 2016 annual meeting organized a Task Force to revisit the AGWA Charter and reassess our standing as an informal network and how our charter handled a variety of issues. About twelve individuals participated in this process from a wide variety of institutions and localities, including a total of four members of the steering committee. The Task Force produced a number of major recommendations:

- There is a strong basis for organizing AGWA as a formal legally registered NGO, chartered through Europe (probably Sweden), though maintaining a close relationship with SIWI to share functions and some structural components. Concerns remain about this pathway, however, such as the legal and management transaction costs associated with taking AGWA in this direction. Much of the initial impetus for this recommendation was based on the sense that AGWA may be losing some funding opportunities as an informal NGO. These concerns have been alleviated somewhat in recent months, and the pace for moving in this direction have slackened as a result.
- Developing an explicit and clear set of guidelines for how AGWA's logo, name, and other branding aspects can be used, including what defines an AGWA project or program.
- Putting forward a set of "guiding elements" that represent a set of shared values among AGWA members about what good resilient water resources management should look like.
- How funding should be organized within the network.

Many other small adjustments were made as well. Details on all of these are present in the 2017 edition of the AGWA charter.

BUDGET OVERVIEW

- 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 coordinator (John Matthews) is covered by SIWI at about 5–10 percent time for AGWA administration and networking activities, with the bulk of his salary supplied through February 2018 by the US Army Corps of Engineers and some project-specific funding. This funding will modestly expand beginning in January 2018 through German government funding sourced through BMZ. This level of funding is confirmed for through calendar 2018. Since 2014, secretariat and core support for other projects (climate bonds standards, UNECE integration with AGWA) have been 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. 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.
- Given that caveat, the overhead for the coordinator activities has gradually expanded. Beginning about 20 months ago, John hired a full-time assistant in the US to support his work (Alex Mauroner). In the past year, even Alex's work has expanded, with the need to occasionally hire additional individuals on short-term contracts. While the latter are largely funded by project-specific funds, much of Alex's work is more generalized like John's. As mentioned above, over the past year John has engaged in some short-term paid projects in order to meet Alex's payroll. As much as possible, these are chosen to complement existing AGWA work. Both John and Alex have very basic employment benefits, and the current arrangements are not sustainable long-term and should develop into a more regularized and equitable outcome.
- The role of Maggie White in SIWI and potentially other SIWI staff has also been a vulnerability in the past year. For the third and fourth quarters of 2017, additional support from both the Dutch and German governments should help support some core personnel expenses in both Sweden and the USA.
- The tradeoffs between core and project funding are in dynamic tension. More project funding that goes to the secretariat staff generally means less core functionality. The World Bank has recently taken an active role in this regard in providing project-based network support funding, such as for the knowledge platform described above. We hope to focus in the coming year on finding additional core funding and project-based network support funding.
- Some project funding is essential to AGWA functions and credibility, such as work with NAIAD, S-MultiStor, support in Mexico for EEDS, and the climate bonds standard criteria development. For the most part, these efforts involve many within the network, not just the coordinator staff.

- Expanded secretariat funding (additional SIWI staff related to administration, fundraising, communications, etc.) is still developing. Current SIWI budgets from last year to next year remain essentially flat.
- In-kind funding for Secretariat functions is provided, such as travel support for participation in significant events. These contributions are important to AGWA and provide significant enabling of core processes and people.

Secretariat expenses (Sept 2017 - Aug 2018)	Cost (USD)
Staff costs (internal SIWI staff)	\$ 65,000
Coordinator costs (contributed by SIWI, USACE, BMZ, project funds)	\$ 220,000
Travel (various)	\$ 15,000
Conferences, seminars, workshops (various)	\$ 5,000
Total	\$ 305,000

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. In 2015, funding for coordinator staff salaries shifted largely from SIWI to USACE, which will continue into early 2018, with BMZ support beginning in January. Additional BMZ and Dutch government support focused on policy activities will be critical for the third and fourth quarters of 2017. 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.

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. At any given time, a number of proposals are 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.

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:

Newsletter. The AGWA newsletter has remained a consistent monthly publication, with a circulation that has risen slightly over the past year. While 2015-2016 saw an increase of around 250 individuals, this year the list has grown more modestly by around 90 members to just over 1000 people. According to our mailing list service, about 25 percent of each issue is opened by our members.

AGWA site. 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. Over 170,000 people have visited the site, leading to an average site traffic of over 14,000 visits/week. AGWA's companion site for more technical methods and capacity building for climate adaptation, <http://agwaguide.org>, is less often visited than the main website. This is in part due to its content matter that remains only minimally changed from a year ago. It is designed more towards information and less towards engagement. AGWAguide.org received just over 30,000 visitors last year. Other sister sites (climateiswater.org, SIWI.org) and a number of close Twitter partners (World Bank, IUCN) also help drive traffic to AGWA.

Communication and outreach. AGWA remains a member of the #ClimateIsWater steering committee, though the relationship has evolved over the past year. No longer is #CIW an AGWA-only campaign. In October the website for the #CIW campaign was handed over to the initiative itself. AGWA still hosts the website but it is managed by members of the #ClimateIsWater partnership. Outreach for AGWA has focused on inter-network communication.

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 group has grown from 260 to 340 members (a 31% increase). Those members regularly receive updates and posts from the Secretariat and each other. In June AGWA launched a Facebook page in an effort to reach even more demographics. It is located at www.facebook.com/Alliance4Water. 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 is designed to grow organically as more people view, share, and follow our posts. As of early August there are 50 people following

the page. Even with a small number of followers, posts from the page can reach over 350 people per week. The page will grow over the coming year and serve as another venue for sharing important events, articles, and AGWA news.

As another way of leveraging social media, AGWA has added social media buttons and icons to all of its web pages so visitors can more easily share information or pages with friends and colleagues. This has driven increased traffic to our sites and more external press.

Youth engagement has become a higher priority for AGWA over the past year. This is reflected in AGWA's increased efforts for its AGWA-U initiative. The program is designed to help train water professionals and graduate students in cutting edge methods and issues from the water and climate communities. Courses have been taught at Oregon State University's Natural Resources Leadership Academy as well as IHE Delft. Three courses took place between April-July 2017. Beyond the classroom, the Secretariat has engaged with other youth networks and partner organizations (e.g., Engineers without Borders, World Youth Parliament for Water, etc.) to find areas of collaboration and to design future activities that promote youth education/involvement. This effort will manifest itself in possible webinars, events, and other activities throughout the next year.

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 COP22 in Morocco. AGWA was part of several sessions in the Blue Zone and Green Zone. The Secretariat also helped prepare for the a number of international events:

- International Association for Impact Assessment (IAIA) Conference in Montreal
- EEDS Workshop with CONAGUA, WWF-MX, and IADB in Mexico City
- World Bank Water Week in College Park, Maryland
- NAIAD Kickoff Meeting in Valladolid, Spain
- IWA's DCU Conference in Dublin
- US CDC Arctic Adaptation Workshop in Anchorage, Alaska
- UNECE Water and Climate Workshop in Geneva

The Secretariat also led much of the preparation for AGWA's official World Water Week seminars as well as network-specific events such as the Annual Members Meeting, an AGWA dinner, and a hosting a day of the Young Professionals Booth.

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 language of water is the language of climate change."

In February a group of AGWA members wrote a three-part series for the Global Water Forum on the history and future of progress in water and climate change policy. They called it "Water & climate change policy: A brief history of future progress." The authors included AGWA's two Co-Chairs, its Coordinator, the Coordinator of its Policy Group, and what would eventually become the next AGWA Co-Chair. The articles provided a retrospective on the past two years, the current status of climate and water policy, and thoughts on where policy will head in the future.

<http://www.globalwaterforum.org/?s=Brief+history+of+future+progress>

"Together with our partners we are engaging with governments and implementing agencies to mainstream resilience in water management in order to climate-proof the work that they are doing..."

The Nairobi Work Programme (NWP) produced a video series on SDG 13, "Taking urgent action to combat climate change and its impacts." Episode 3 features views from partner organizations, including a segment with Karin Lexén (SIWI & AGWA). She discusses the urgent need for action on climate change, her organizations' engagement in taking stronger climate action, and priority areas of intervention.

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=7q3OyrQTh84&t=13s>

AGWA Leading in Climate Finance:

"The City of Cape Town should spend some of the R1bn raised in its first Green Bond on installing digital water-use devices in homes."

CBI's Water Criteria for its Climate Bonds Standard has been put to good use over the past year. In July the City of Cape Town issued a 1 billion RSA Rand water bond. AGWA played a key role in developing this standard.

<http://www.watergrabbing.net/2017/07/13/green-bond-help-new-normal-water-shortages/>; <https://www.climatebonds.net/city-cape-town>

“The market is growing rapidly, albeit from a nascent low base. About \$100 billion of green bonds are expected to be issued this year, up from \$40-odd billion last year...I am optimistic that this market will continue to evolve quickly.”

Ceres launched a new Q&A series as part of its Clean Trillion campaign aimed at elevating clean energy investments globally by an additional \$1 trillion a year in order to minimize damaging climate change impacts. This interview is with Monika Freyman, director of Investor Initiatives, Ceres' Water Program about the launch of a new 'green' standard for water bonds. AGWA has played an important role as a Consortium member and leader of the Technical Working Group that developed this Standard.

<https://www.forbes.com/sites/mindylubber/2016/10/14/ceres-qa-with-monika-freyman-this-market-will-continue-to-evolve-quickly/#7db6fb95339c>

AGWA and the Edge of Science:

“AGWA has worked to develop decision support systems that work with, rather than against, uncertainty. We use so-called bottom-up methodologies that reflect their definitions of success and failure, expressed through the language of water and climate.”

AGWA featured a prominent role in the Climate Services Partnership's quarterly newsletter. CSP interviewed AGWA's Coordinator, John Matthews, about mainstreaming climate adaptation into water management practices. The article focuses on three distinct bottom-up approaches to addressing uncertainty: the World Bank's Decision Tree Framework, Eco-Engineering Decision Scaling (EEDS), and Collaborative Risk Informed Decision Analysis (CRIDA).

<http://www.climate-services.org/wp-content/uploads/2015/05/CSP-October-newsletter-2016.pdf>