



**INTERNATIONAL
SECRETARIAT FOR WATER**

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**SOLIDARITY
WATER EUROPE**

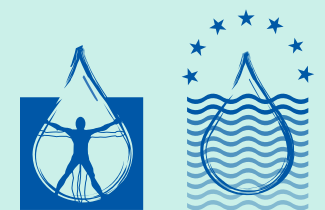
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Annual report

WATER FOR PEACE
AND DEVELOPMENT

2022



International Secretariat for Water
Solidarity Water Europe

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Foreword

Despite the current situation full of conflicts and upheavals, 2022 seemed to be a truly positive year for our movement, giving us a constructive and dynamic image of our unwavering commitment to the service of water, its stakeholders, and its users.

This year has indeed been one of recovery, rewarding us for all our efforts made with both doggedness and determination. For us, it will be remembered as “Dakar year”: the culmination of a project supported by faithful partners such as the Swiss Agency for Development and Cooperation (SDC) and the Artois Picardie Water Agency, but also by the European Union and the French Ministry of Foreign Affairs. It should be noted that this event enabled us to set up the first Youth Space ever held during a World Water Forum. In a way, the success of the Dakar Forum underlines the singular nature of the International Secretariat for Water (ISW) / Solidarity Water Europe (SWE) for whom one of the key objectives is to promote the participation and contribution of young people in our goal for clean and accessible water.

The success of our Youth Space at the Dakar Forum is also a sign of the resumption of ISW-SWE initiatives following the crisis period brought on by the pandemic. Alongside other promising projects, it should be seen as a driver for the development of new initiatives, partnerships, and successes.

Over the years, the roadmap for our movement has become clearer, broader, and ever more promising. For this, we would like to thank our partners and our teams.



**ANTONELLA
CAGNOLATI** | President
ISW-SWE



**SARAH
DOUSSE** | Executive Director
ISW-SWE



Our identity

Founded in 1991, the ISW-SWE is a bold, accessible and committed organization, which accelerates societal transformation and fosters cooperation.

We follow a flexible implementation principle: to be where it counts, in a spirit of localization of aid, with the objective of influencing change to support the transformations that our world and our societies need.

Our values

- **Openness**
- **Complementarity**
- **Audacity**
- **Commitment**

characterize our actions.



Photo credit: FDFA Presence Switzerland

Renewing our youth strategy

Back in 2022, the ISW-SWE started to review its youth strategy for the period 2023-2028. This was based on a number of activities seeking to assess progress over the last 5 years, reflecting on the changing context and setting priorities for 2023-2028. By mobilizing its team, committed young people and partners, the ISW-SWE organized:

- Brainstorming sessions about the changing context
- Capitalizing on three key issues
- An assessment workshop to review the strategy implementation during the previous phase
- A workshop on the specific issue of youth influence on international processes

Over the last 5 years, we have seen our Water Generation network expand. More and more youth-led organizations are active, the number of Youth Parliaments for Water has increased significantly to a total of 56, and more and more organizations, including institutional stakeholders, have added youth to their targets and programmes. This expansion has highlighted the need for further collaboration and synergy in order

to boost youth influence and impact on sustainable water management policies. In response to this need, the ISW-SWE has taken a leadership role by bringing together more than 300 youth organizations and thousands of young people within the Global Youth Movement for Water.

The renewal process of our youth strategy will end in 2023.

3 interconnected areas of intervention

Regardless of the nature of our actions, we implement a similar approach which revolves around three key concepts: facilitate action and connect actors of change, explore innovative ideas, and accelerate implementation to meet pressing challenges.

 **WATER GENERATION**

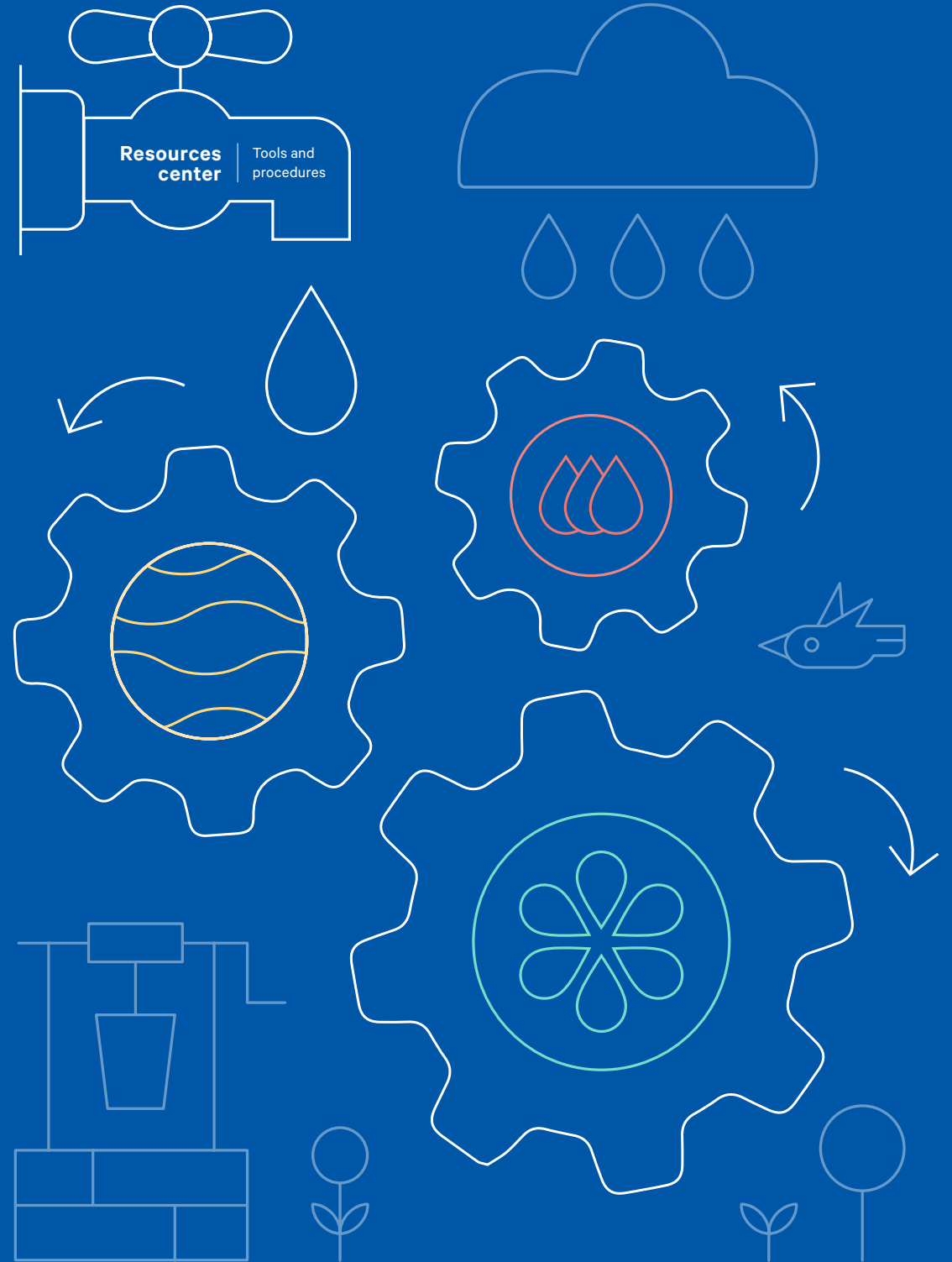
Support young actors of change, strengthen their capacity to implement innovative local projects and their commitment in decision-making spheres. Our goal is to be the global reference of "youth for water".

 **ACTION FOR WATER**

Develop, test and validate, in countries with the most serious water problems, innovative models of water governance, often decentralized, developed with the participation of local stakeholders.

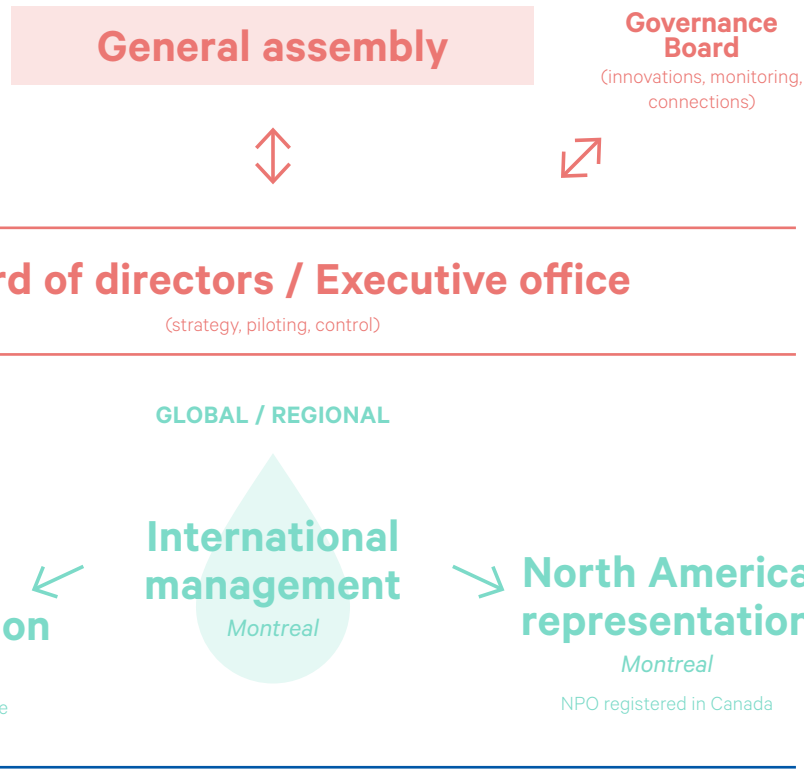
 **WATER FOR CHANGE**

Set up an influence model which connects our areas of intervention, to accelerate systemic change. We mobilize 2 channels of influence: civil society advocacy and dissemination of innovative experiences.



Our Organization

The International Secretariat for Water has an international management based in Montreal (Canada) and two permanent representations in Montreal (ISW-Canada) and Strasbourg (Solidarity Water Europe). Interventions in Central Asia, Eastern Europe, Latin America and West Africa mobilize national representations or partners who share our vision and mission.



RELATED NATIONAL STRUCTURES



Partners in **Central Asia**
(Uzbekistan, Tadjikistan and Kazakhstan)

Partners in **Eastern Europe**
(Moldova)



Partners in **Latin America**
(Peru, Bolivia)

Partners in **West Africa**
(Senegal, Burkina Faso, Benin, Togo)



Photo credit: FDFA Presence Switzerland

Board of Directors

The ISW-SWE Board of Directors is composed of recognized individuals who have all demonstrated a strong commitment to the cause of water, and who give generously of their time to move our organization forward.

Members of the Board
and the Executive Board



**ANTONELLA
CAGNOLATI**

President



**PIERRE-MARIE
GRONDIN**

Vice President



**FRANÇOIS
MÛNGER**

Vice President



**DOMINIQUE
MOSTERT**

Treasurer and Secretary



**SONJA
BEHME**

Member



**MANUEL
FULCHIRON**

Youth policy
referent



**JEAN
BOSCO BAZIÉ**

Representative
for Africa



**DANIELLE
KAMTIÉ**

Youth seat



**SUREN
GEVINIAN**

Representative
for Asia



**HASMIK
BARSEGHYAN**

Youth seat



**CHRISTOPHE
BRACHET**



**ELISABETH
WILD**



**OLIVIER
THIBAULT**



**GEORGY
SIMEONOV**



**LUC
VESCOVI**

Our team

The ISW-SWE can count on a flexible and proactive team to carry out its initiatives, made up of professionals who are passionate about environmental and societal issues. This list describes the full ISW-SWE team, as of 1st February 2023.

Executive Director

 Sarah Dousse

Canada — Montreal

 Vladimir Arana  Nina Bianchi

 Michael Daoust  Radouane

Lamqaddam  Elysa Vaillancourt

 Laurie Fourneaux

France — Strasbourg

 Coline Arnoux  Clément

Dolisi  Clémence Désiré

Moldova — Chisinau

 Svetlana Duca  Cazimir Tino

Central Asia

 Olivier Normand

Tajikistan

 Makhfirat Abdullaeva

 Akmal Akbaro  Abrorbek

Aliev  Hussein Falzullov

 Umed Negmatov  Asror

Gufronzoda  Habib Tursunov

 Rahhbar Homidova  Temur

Sodikzoda  Makhkamjon

Muinov  Shukhrat Igamberdiev

 Dumitru Mamaliga  Firdavs

Umurzokov  Nekbakhti Orzu

Kazakhstan

 Lyazzat Syrly-bayeva

Kyrgyzstan

 Cholpon Aitakhunova

Uzbekistan

 Ram Mani Sharma

Global action

World Water Forum - Senegal: a worthy stakeholder and driver for “Water and Peace”



Photo credit: FDPFA presence Switzerland

The 9th World Water Forum (WWForum) was held from 21st to 26th March 2022 in Dakar, Senegal, under the theme “Water Security for Peace and Development”. Since 2018, the ISW worked in partnership with Senegalese organizers to make this Forum a pivotal moment, facilitating the mobilization, consultation, and influence of civil society. It is clear that the ISW was the driving force ensuring the inclusion of civil society and youth in this process.

Together with our partners, we worked to mobilize hundreds of people from over 50 countries to help them share their messages and solutions, ensuring that those who are usually not heard were given a voice. The Youth Space (an initiative we implemented

with the Senegalese organizers and the SDC) was the forum’s most dynamic and creative section. We were joined by worthy allies such as the great Baaba Maal, helping to ensure that the voices of local people would carry far.

A strong and united youth presence at the 9th World Water Forum

THE YOUTH SPACE

Included for the very first time at a World Water Forum, the Youth Space helped to catalyze youth commitment to water, and to initiate a broader, dynamic, and connected mobilization of young people around the world.

Mandated by Forum organizers, the ISW, in collaboration with the Association of Young Water and Sanitation Professionals of Senegal (AJPEAS), the World Youth Parliament for Water (WYPW-ISW) and the SDC, was the driving force behind developing and managing this Youth Space.

As a central element of the Dakar WWForum, the Youth Space provided young people from all over the world with the opportunity to work together with and alongside key stakeholders, the goal being to strengthen capacity on water-related issues, to develop impactful messages and to come together within the Global Youth Movement for Water, a coalition of more than 300 organizations active in the water sector which was initiated by the ISW and launched in Dakar.



Key messages from young people

- **Including young people in decision-making processes should be the norm, and not the exception**
- **Creating a Blue Fund for Youth in order to fund local projects**
- **Improving and diversifying employment and training opportunities in the water sector**

500
YOUNG
PEOPLE
mobilized

30
regional, national and global
NETWORKS

100
SPEAKERS
and 23 themed sessions

1
**ARTISTIC
FRESCO**



Photo credit: FDFA Presence Switzerland

👤 The World Water Forum Youth Space was a place of sharing, learning, discovery, and networking. In particular, I took part in brainstorming and advocacy sessions which really reassured me that we, the younger generation, play a vital role when it comes to water security for peace and development. The sooner we are involved in decision-making, the sooner we can build a better world from which everyone will benefit.

BEN RACHAD

Benin





THE WORLD YOUTH PARLIAMENT FOR WATER, MOBILIZED IN SENEGAL

On the sidelines of the World Water Forum, the ISW facilitated the organization of the 5th General Assembly of the World Youth Parliament for Water (WYPW), which took place from 16th-25th March in Toubab Dialaw, Senegal.

60 committed young people representing 42 countries participated in a comprehensive programme on the WWForum theme “Water Security for Peace and Development”, including training sessions with key stakeholders such as the European Commission, the SDC, Geneva Water Hub and Aquafed. Participants also learned more about the water sector in Senegal through discussions with the OMVS (Senegal River Basin Development Authority), the AJPEAS (Association of Young

Water and Sanitation Professionals of Senegal) and representatives of the Executive Secretariat of the 9th World Water Forum.

This general assembly strengthened cohesion between the members of the Parliament and provided participants with all the tools and knowledge necessary to optimize their presence and influence at the 9th World Water Forum.

60
YOUNG PEOPLE
representing
42 countries

51
MENTIONS
in the official programme of the 9th
World Water Forum

17
PARTNERS
MOBILIZED

13
NATIONAL AND REGIONAL
Youth Parliaments
for Water launched
following the
WYPW’s general
assembly in Senegal.

DANIELLE KAMTIÉ

Vice-president
of the WYPW



“ This assembly has enabled passionate and committed young people and organizations from all over the world to come together and discuss crucial issues related to water. Young people are the main drivers of change, so it is vital to empower them if we wish to create a safer and fairer world. ”



Photo credit: FDFA Presence Switzerland

Influential civil society present at the World Water Forum

Through the Butterfly Effect coalition (a grouping of 140 organizations led by the ISW), civil society representatives spoke out in Dakar, calling for a global response to the water crisis and advocating for concrete policy changes.

The following five demands are the result of a participatory advocacy process that mobilized 200 participants from five continents:

- Stronger political will
- Stronger water governance
- Actively involved citizens and civil society representatives
- Impactful and transparent financial commitments
- A renewed multilateral framework



NATHALIE SEGUIN | FANMex, member of the Butterfly Effect steering committee

The World Water Forum has always been an important platform to meet and discuss with key stakeholders who may think very differently from us. Our participation enables us to share just how civil society can be a leading stakeholder in reducing inequalities when it comes to accessing basic needs such as water, sanitation, and hygiene in rural and peri-urban areas. The experiences gathered and challenges discussed at a local level form the basis of our advocacy messages that are then taken to the highest level of global decision-making platforms.

200 MEMBERS CONSULTED

and 5 representatives financially supported

POLICY DEMANDS PRESENTED ON 16 OCCASIONS

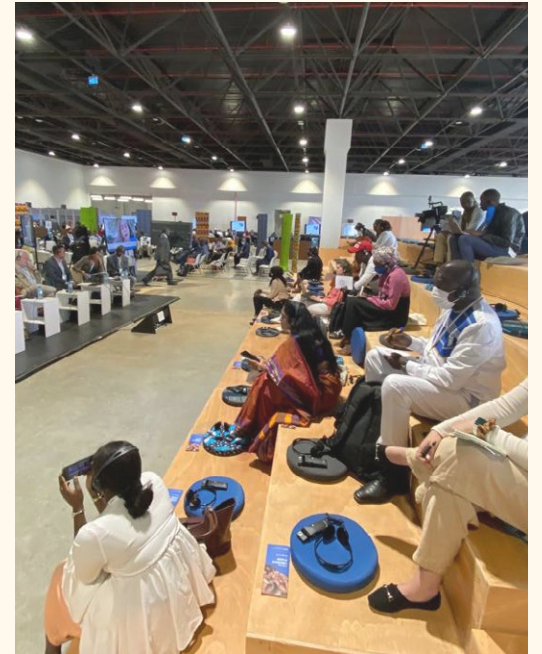
and included in the Final Declaration

4 MENTIONS

in the written press and 1 article in Jeune Afrique

7000 SHARES

on social media



The Butterfly Effect was active in ensuring active involvement from civil society representatives. Our position was made clearest in the space devoted to France and also as part of a high-level panel led by the Spanish government and have been forwarded to several strategic stakeholders including AMCOW (African Ministers' Council on Water), the French Ministry of Foreign Affairs, the Senegalese Minister of Hydraulics and the UN Special Rapporteur on the rights to water and sanitation.

The World Water Forum in Dakar marked a major step in the ISW's work to influence the United Nations Water Conference in March 2023 - the first in almost 50 years. Indeed, this forum will have provided a valuable framework for a major mobilization and laid the foundations for advocacy work that will continue in the run-up to New York in 2023.

Voices of the Senegal River call for peace

The ISW has joined forces with various partners (including the Senegal River Basin Development Authority and the Geneva Water Hub) in order to organize creative discussions for the promotion of peace across the Senegal River basin. Featuring renowned musicians such as Fatoumata Diawara, Daara J Family, Sékou Kouyaté, Noura Mint, and celebrity sponsor Baaba Maal, this project culminated in a special session at the 9th WWForum and an open-air concert, followed by a press conference to promote the album release.

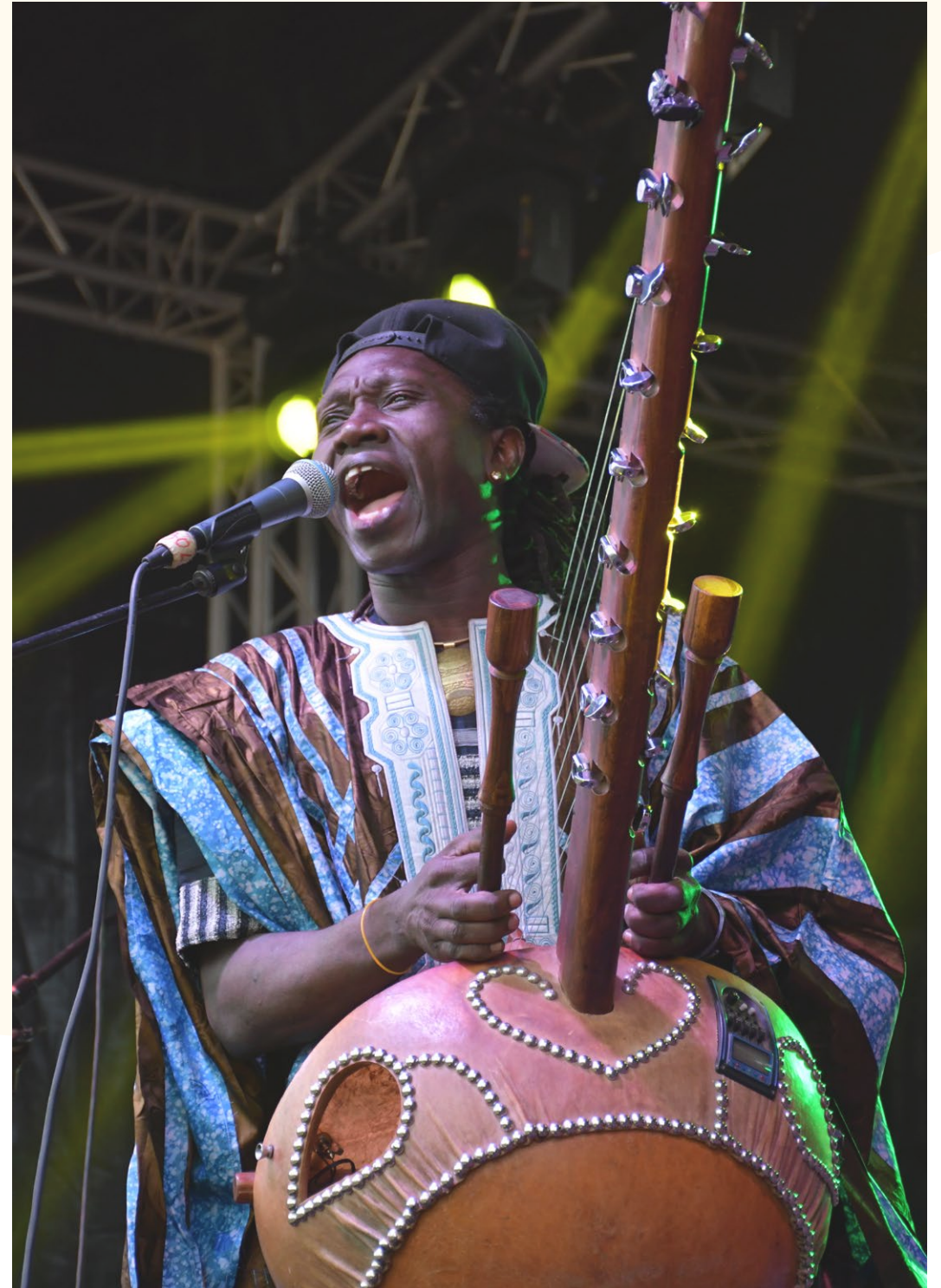
A session presenting the initiative's youth component was also held in the Youth Space. The Blue Fund for Entrepreneurship concept was presented during session 4A.6, all about innovative financing.



ABDOULAYE SENE

Executive Secretary of the 9th World Water Forum

“ There is one thing you said that I remember well: water is both a vital resource and part of our shared heritage. You insisted on the fact that we have to protect this water, always bearing solidarity and cooperation in mind, at all levels and on all scales. Let us not forget this valuable lesson - we must consider this as one of the forum's key conclusions.



Next destination: the UN Water Conference 2023 (March 2023)

The World Water Forum in Dakar was a major first step towards the first UN intergovernmental conference on water in almost 50 years. The ISW is working hard to ensure that civil society and youth representatives are fully involved, and that states and the international community make strong commitments to address the global water crisis.

Thanks to strong mobilization, the ISW was quickly identified by the conference's co-organizers (the Netherlands and Tajikistan) as a driving force for unifying and influencing civil society and the younger generation.

In particular, we played an important role in preparing for the High-Level International Conference on the International Decade for Action (Dushanbe, Tajikistan, June), as well as at the preparatory meeting at the United Nations (New York, USA, October) and we also organized various preparatory webinars for civil society and youth representatives.

INTERACTIONS Water in the movies

October 2022 saw the world premiere of INTERACTIONS at the Rome International Film Festival. Made up of 12 short stories of 8 minutes each, this anthology questions the relationships between water, human beings, climate, health and much more. This project was a partnership between the NGO "Art for the World" and the International Secretariat for Water (ISW).

With no clearly defined genre and bursting with creative synergy, the stories told by the twelve directors reflect the key themes of INTERAC-

TIONS, promoting awareness and education and suggesting possible solutions for the future.

Official screenings in 2022

- **17th October**
World premiere at the Rome International Film Festival
- **9th – 10th November**
Official screening at Cinema Anteo in Milan, in collaboration with the Cariplo Foundation
- **20th – 28th November**
Asian premiere at the 53rd Goa International Film Festival, India
- **19th – 26th November**
Swiss premiere at the Castellinaria Film Festival, Switzerland
- **15th December**
Screening and special event at the COP15 United Nations Conference on Biodiversity, Montreal, Canada



Our organization around the world in 2022



10 CONTRIBUTIONS TO MAJOR 2022 PROCESSES
Details on the following pages

 HEAD OFFICES

 PROJECT OFFICES

 ACTIVE PROJECTS

 REGIONAL AND LOCAL DYNAMICS

 PARTNER NETWORKS

We operate within a network of partners across five continents, forever seeking complementary features and skills. Depending on the situation of local organizations, we develop specific partnerships to enhance local capacities and create synergy. We seek to strengthen the capacity of local stakeholders without ever replacing them.

Contribution to major processes

The ISW and its partner networks, including the Butterfly Effect, Youth Parliaments for Water (the European Parliament and the World Parliament in particular), make numerous contributions at all levels in key decision-making processes related to the multi-faceted water sector. Here is a non-exhaustive list of participations for 2022.

1 High-Level International Conference on the International Decade for Action
Dushanbe, Tajikistan (June)

The ISW has mobilized youth from around the world in their contribution. In particular, they carried the Youth Vision for Water from the World Water Forum in Dakar. This latter project was backed by Henk Ovink, Special Envoy for Water from Holland, as well as by Guy Bonvin, Special Envoy for Water in Central Asia from Switzerland. The ISW team in Central Asia was also able to contribute to the model of decentralization of water and sanitation services implemented in Uzbekistan and Tajikistan.

2 World Water Week
Stockholm, Sweden (August)

As a key annual meeting of the water sector, the ISW participated in order to coordinate the voice of youth towards the United Nations Conference on Water in 2023. We also took the opportunity to develop and consolidate new partnerships and organized a session of the official programme, entitled "Building a Career in Water".

3 Global Center on Adaptation, Youth Adaptation Dialogues: implementing the Glasgow Climate Pact
Rotterdam, the Netherlands (September)

Our presence at this event helped to ensure that water-related issues were at the heart of discussions and included within the agenda of the Global Adaptation Targets and youth priorities for COP27. Discussions were held with Ms. Amina Mohammed, Deputy Secretary-General of the United Nations, and Ban Ki Moon, eighth Secretary-General of the United Nations.

4 Cairo Water Week
Cairo, Egypt (October)

As part of Cairo Water Week, the ISW collaborated with the Geneva Water Hub on a session entitled "Empowering Women in Water Diplomacy in the MENA: moving into action". Amira Sayed, a member of the World Youth Parliament for Water, demonstrated the urgency of moving from a theoretical to a practical approach when engaging women in water diplomacy.

5 Preparatory meeting for the UN 2023 Water Conference
UN HQ, New York, USA (October)

The ISW was present in person for this preparatory meeting, together with about 1200 other water stakeholders. The key messages and priorities of the Butterfly Effect and the Global Youth Movement for Water were presented. The ISW's work was featured in the Quebec daily newspaper Le Devoir and also cited as an example of action in the second global consultation report organized by the UN Conference Secretariat.

6 COP 27, United Nations Climate Change Conference
Sharm El-Sheikh, Egypt (November)

Our organization was fully mobilized and initiated several actions to make the voices of civil society and youth representatives heard, bringing water-related issues to the heart of the climate debate. We organized several round tables and facilitated the participation of the President of the European Youth Parliament for Water.

7 UN-Water Members and Partners Meeting
Paris, France (December)

The 37th UN-Water meeting was held in December 2022. UN-Water meetings bring together members and partners (including the World Youth Parliament for Water) to coordinate the UN approach to water and sanitation.

8 COP 15, United Nations Conference on Biodiversity
Montreal, Canada (December)

Ecosystems are an integral part of the water cycle and protecting them requires integrated planning and management of all water-consuming activities near watersheds. At Cop15, the ISW made its extensive expertise in this area available, collaborating with international partners and highlighting its connections with Quebec, in particular as part of our membership of Montreal International and the AQOCI (Quebec Association of International Cooperation Organizations).

9 World Water Council General Assembly
Paris, France (December)

The ISW is a member of the civil society grouping within the World Water Council. As such, we participated in its General Assembly in December, during which the Board of Governors was renewed. We also took advantage of this opportunity to forge links towards the organization of the next World Water Forum, which will take place in Bali in May 2024.

Round tables and webinars in preparation for the UN 2023 Water Conference
(November-December)

80 representatives of youth organizations participated in our informative webinar on the UN 2023 Water Conference in November 2022. We also invited Latin American authorities and civil society organizations to an online roundtable to strengthen water commitments in the region in preparation for the Conference. Alongside this, civil society and youth representatives organized two online workshops with more than 150 participants to provide information about the conference and share thoughts on expectations, and to inform about advocacy initiatives.

Regional action for change

Central Asia

In 2022, the ISW continued its regional activities in Central Asia, where our teams and partners are committed to sustainable and peaceful water management. In particular, we continued to

implement our programs in Tajikistan and Uzbekistan, while supporting the animation of a regional youth network for water.



Tajikistan

In northern Tajikistan, the CoWaSS project (Comprehensive Water and Sanitation Project in Rural Areas of the Sughd Region) expanded its activities, including providing support to two district authorities in the Tajik part of the Ferghana Valley. The goal is to develop a district WASH programme that can be used as part of their own planning and that can also be used around the watershed.

Alongside this, the construction of water supply systems began in four villages chosen in the Jabor Rasulov district, while mobilization continued in the Konibodom district.

The CoWaSS project also commissioned an in-depth analysis of the existing water supply systems built under previous ISW projects. The goal was to assess the status of these networks after 5-10 years of usage, often under particularly difficult conditions due to Covid and to the tense situation in this part of Tajikistan. The result of this analysis showed that all systems are still functioning well and have no serious technical issues, but need some support in management, accounting, consumer relations and human resources.

This support can be provided through collaborative networking of these drinking water organizations, which is one of the objectives for the coming year. As for sanitation, good progress has been made in identifying key commercial stakeholders who can play an important strategic role in improving sanitation provision in both districts.



This strategy is based on three pillars

- Proposing various sanitation models for public buildings (schools, medical centers, and hospitals) that need significant improvements
- Working with sludge collectors to make them more professional
- Improving domestic sanitation by commercializing some standard sanitation models with the right prices and incentives to ensure they develop

Thanks to the support of this project, a total of approximately **50,000 people** are expected to have access to safely managed drinking water and more than **20,000 people**, mainly children, will benefit from investments in WASH facilities in public places.



ZAINITDINOVA MUHARAM We recognize the importance of projects with a district-wide approach and see the development of a district WASH plan as our local programme for achieving SDG 6.

ZAINITDINOVA MUHARAM

Head of the Health Center in Lohuti Village of Kanibadam district. Member of the Working Group on District WASH Plan for Kanibadam.



Uzbekistan

In Uzbekistan, the ISW continued to be an active member of the World Bank loan-funded project to support villages in rural areas of the Ferghana Valley, the goal being to identify and prioritize infrastructure needs and to access loans funded by the World Bank and the Asian Infrastructure Investment Bank. Water plays a key role in this project as a much-needed basic infrastructure in rural areas, which are significantly deprived of access to clean water.

The project aims to support **64 villages in nine different districts**, including the Uzbek enclave of Sogh. With construction activities benefiting approximately **93,000 people living in 27 villages**, safe drinking water is a key priority in over **40% of the villages**. The approach developed by the ISW in Uzbekistan and Tajikistan on decentralized management of drinking water and sanitation is now the **model used as a reference** for all villages that choose water and sanitation as a key priority. The ISW has been invited to export its know-how beyond the region in which he operates, specifically to the neighboring regions of the Ferghana Valley and to regions outside the valley in Uzbekistan.

The infrastructure development program has been appreciated by the fact that each resident is involved in the decision-making process. I personally participated in every meeting and proposed to improve the water supply in the village and make it more convenient for women. And finally, work began on the water supply in our village. And now I can say with pride that I have contributed to the development of my village.



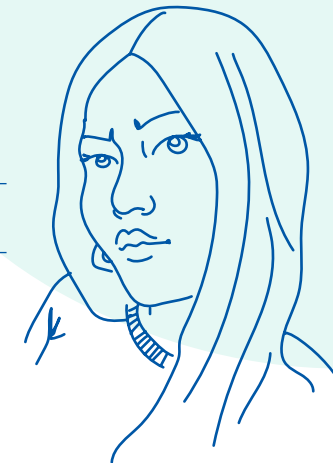
MUTABAR
AMINJONOVA

citizen of Istiqlol in the Ferghana Valley

In addition to this project, the local NGO Taraqqiyot, established with initial support from the ISW in Uzbekistan, has continued to expand its work in new villages in the Ferghana Valley, directly funded by the Ministry of Communal Services. From this a group of NGO consultants was formed, advising villages on how best to manage drinking water supply and sanitation, thus ensuring that the pilot approach backed by the ISW and financed by the Swiss Agency for Development and Cooperation can be disseminated throughout the country.

Central Asian youth cooperate for the cause of water

The ISW supports the development of a strong, connected, and active Central Asian youth movement for water as part of the Central Asia Youth 4 Water (CAY4W) network. Goals include building the capacity of young people in the region, providing opportunities, and establishing an inter-generational dialogue for swapping knowledge and experience, all the while promoting a culture of peace based on the sharing of resources.



SAIKAL
SHAILOBEKOVA

These unforgettable days in Tajikistan enabled me to make new friends from different Central Asian countries, to communicate with experienced trainers and to get rid of cultural and geographical barriers and stereotypes.



In 2022, a second series of cross-border youth discussions in the Syr Darya River Basin was organized by the ISW and its partners as part of the Second High-Level International Conference on the International Decade for Action held in Dushanbe, Tajikistan. Built around the themes of water sharing and diplomacy, understanding water-related issues and regional solutions, these talks brought together more than 30 participants over 3 days in the Nurek Dam region. It was an opportunity to use the Blue Peace Youth Calculation inspired by the Blue Peace Index, developed by the Economist Intelligence Unit, to calculate the cooperation index in this area and to talk to high-level experts and decision-makers.

The network has also distinguished itself by its online presence and its use of various methods to give voice to Central Asian youth, whether through the development of podcasts, artistic activities, or scientific publications.

This project is funded by the Swiss Agency for Development and Cooperation.

3500
MEMBERS

47%
COOPERATION
INDEX

for Syr Darya
obtained with BPI
youth calculation

36
PUBLIC
SPEECHES



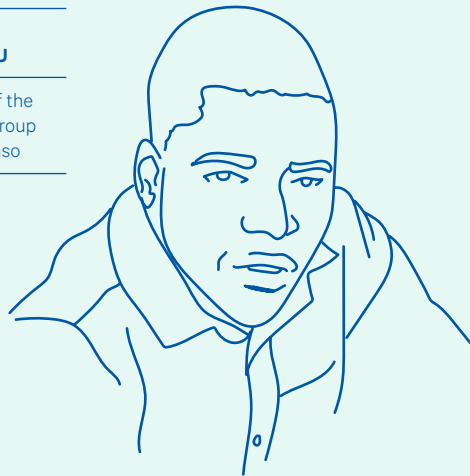
West Africa

The security situation in West Africa is worsening, and access to water and natural resources now plays a major role in these tensions. This situation is notably the result of shortcomings in development policies and lack of confidence in relations between states and popu-

lations. The ISW is working with local stakeholders, particularly the younger generation, to help them achieve their full potential in a context where the challenges are further exacerbated by the impacts of climate change.

**NIKIEMA
P. MATHIEU**

President of the
Kolweogo group
- Burkina Faso



For more than 10 years we had been waiting for better access to water for our needs and to develop our market gardening activities, to generate income for our association and to guarantee production even during periods of drought. We no longer have to walk for miles in search of water. It is now close by.

TonFuturTonClimat (YourFuturYourClimate)

**ECONOMIC
STRENGTHENING OF**
8 local
organizations

12
**TRAINING
ACTIVITIES**

990
BENEFICIARIES

Since 2018, TFTC has been mobilizing young people aged 18 to 35 from Togo, Benin and Burkina Faso around agro-ecological projects that address the challenges of local economic development that must be resilient to water stress and climate change, contribute to the restoration of degraded environments, and equip young people with the tools to become drivers of change within their communities.

This project strengthens the capacity of the younger generation from rural and peri-urban areas to undertake and generate sustainable economic activities which take into account the constraints of climate change in a collaborative local context.

In addition, the preservation of ecosystems and their contribution to water stress resilience will be improved for and by local people in the project areas.

In Burkina Faso



TFTC supports young entrepreneurs in their transition to sustainable agriculture by using agro-ecological practices on a site covering 3 hectares, a place where, thanks to the project, irrigation has also been provided. This transformation of practices enables associations to generate income in a sustainable way.

In Benin



The project contributes to improving the sustainable management of natural and water resources in the Tchoutchoubou watersheds thanks to the planting of an orchard of 2000 mango trees, 15,000 saplings along the banks and the transformation of 12 tons of solid waste into compost for resale.

In Togo



The project promotes good practices in sustainable land management, climate change adaptation and biodiversity conservation to contribute to the financial empowerment of youth associations in the area. The project also supports youth associations in setting up a center for organic fertilizers and pesticides, the annual capacity of 6000kg will be for future sale.

Voices of the River: Pathways to Peace

The Voices of the River: Pathways to Peace initiative (for which the ISW is associated with the Pôle Eau de Dakar, the Rural & Agricultural Perspective Initiative – IPAR -, Globe, the Geneva Water Hub, the International Network of Basin Organizations and the the Senegal River Basin Development Authority - OMVS) has succeeded in effectively mobilizing stakeholders to respond to the major challenges related to the socio-economic fragility of the Senegal River Basin, through a number of cultural and socio-economic components.

13 PARTNERS

coming together from all sectors (culture, politics, entrepreneurship, etc.)

6

internationally renowned musicians join forces to record an album for water and peace

10 YOUTH-LED PROJECTS

supported in the Senegal River Basin

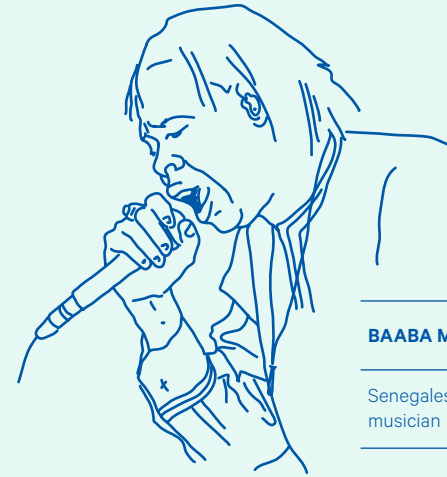
COVERAGE IN 7

local and regional newspapers

After having taken part in the River Blues Festival and the Open Sahel Festival, the OMVS confirmed at the World Water Forum in Dakar (March 2023) its intention to develop a policy of listening more to local stakeholders, to consider including fish ladders in their dams, and to support local entrepreneurship.

These declarations were welcomed by the local representatives who, together with the ISW, the Geneva Water Hub, Baaba Maal and other partners, launched the Mboumba Appeal of local stakeholders for improved access to water, land, and employment, all while maintaining peace in the Senegal River basin.

Supported by the ISW and IPAR, the youth competition enabled 10 participants to design viable and relevant projects with funding and technical support. The experience enabled IPAR to strengthen its support among these young people, who then joined other support measures thanks to a collaboration with the Mastercard Foundation. The 10 young people benefited from a seed grant thanks to the Swiss Embassy in Dakar. On the cultural side, the album Voices of the River: Pathways to Peace was launched on World Water Day 2022, and the concerts brought together thousands of people. The two short films on the theme of water produced by Globe were promoted at international festivals. A video of the initiative, complete with feedback on the process and its outcomes, was released for World Peace Day 2022.



BAABA MAAL

Senegalese musician

I am an artist born on the banks of this river, I know what it represents for the four neighboring countries and all the communities that have lived together for thousands of years around the Senegal River. I know the culture that has developed and what this culture brings us in terms of development and perspectives for the future.



Photos credit: Junio

The Americas

In Latin America, a quarter of the population lives in areas where water is scarce and often polluted. Climate change is exacerbating the water security challenges facing cities and communities. The challenges are equally great in North

America, particularly for the indigenous populations with whom ISW has been working for years on water conservation, climate resilience and biodiversity protection.



NORTH AMERICA

Strengthening indigenous environmental leadership in North America



In the bi-national watershed of the St. Lawrence River, the ISW carried out a youth-led environmental conservation project in the Mohawk community of Akwesasne, located on the border between Quebec and Ontario, Canada, and the United States.

Training, intergenerational discussions and projects on pollinator protection, wetlands, and ancestral knowledge (among others) were implemented directly by Akwesasronon youth. This is the second project funded by the Quebec government's Youth Secretariat. The Mohawk Council of Akwesasne and the ISW have formed a partnership to further lessons learned from the projects already undertaken.



“ We have the right to self-determine our future and to care for our loved ones, our waters, and our natural environment. How can we support indigenous peoples' self-determination to care for and protect water? Through meaningful participatory engagement and decision-making power.

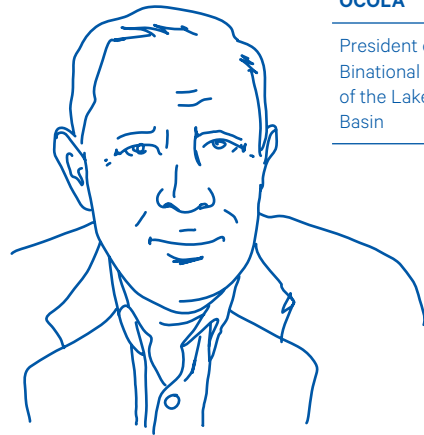
ABRAHAM FRANCIS

Akwesasronon, Mohawk, researcher for indigenous rights

A Blue Pact for the Binational Lake Titicaca Basin

The ISW, in collaboration with the Binational Authority of the Lake Titicaca Basin and more than 50 partners from Bolivian and Peruvian civil society, as well as authorities and cooperation agencies from both countries, has developed a Blue Pact for this transboundary basin. This is a participatory process identifying 45 proposals for action and 28 proposals for public policies in the areas of water management, climate change, social and economic development, land use planning and environmental conservation.

In particular, the Blue Pact was presented at the International Conference on Living Lakes organized by the World Wildlife Fund. A follow-up committee led by the ISW and the Binational Authority of Lake Titicaca has been formed to promote the implementation of Blue Pact agreements.



JUAN
OCOLA

President of the
Binational Authority
of the Lake Titicaca
Basin

Lake Titicaca, an indivisible territory between Peru and Bolivia, is the largest body of fresh water in South America, with a basin that is home to over 2 million Peruvians and Bolivians. It is a fragile ecosystem threatened by pollution generated by all kinds of socio-economic activities. Participants in the international workshop entitled “Towards a Blue Pact for the Binational Lake Titicaca Basin” identified a framework for action to improve transboundary diplomacy in this vital binational basin.

A Blue Book for Bolivia

The ISW is continuing its work to strengthen public policies through the development of a national agenda for the water sector led by citizens with the involvement of the country’s authorities and cooperation agencies, the aim being to establish multi-stakeholder synergies.

In Bolivia, some sixty civil society organizations (as well as the authorities and cooperation agencies) are participating in talks to identify opportunities for developing projects and consolidating multi-sectoral water policies that benefit the country's most vulnerable populations.



The joint work carried out as part of the Blue Book framework has fostered the teamwork of several civil associations and NGOs, improving the sharing of information, knowledge, and resources. We are convinced that this is the beginning of a fruitful and reciprocal relationship.

CARLA
ELIAS

President of the Bolivian Association of
Sanitary and Environmental Engineering



Projects for local communities in Peru

In Peru, the ISW continues to support the work of the National Blue Book Committee and is preparing a new project in the Andean communities of the Ayacucho region to be implemented in 2023.

The work of strengthening water and sanitation infrastructures, combined with water governance at both national and local levels is of great interest because of the opportunities for collaboration and the multi-stakeholder synergies that can be generated, all of course for the benefit of the most vulnerable.





Europe

From inadequate drinking water supplies to contamination from sewage overflows and epidemics due to inadequate wastewater treatment, the pan-European region faces major challenges. The context of instability caused by the terrible conflict in Ukraine shines a light on how drinking water and sanitation infrastructures can be used as weapons of war, directly impacts the populations concerned.



The European Youth Parliament for Water commits to peace

The European Youth Parliament for Water (EYPW) has been a leading platform for youth engagement on water issues in Europe for over 30 years and has contributed to improved dialogues and a culture of peace through the shared management of the continent's water resources.

Capitalizing on the achievements of the 15th EYPW in terms of transboundary and basin management, the network has strengthened this approach. First of all, through its collaboration with the Geneva Water Hub during a number of panels on issues related to water and peace, but also through its participation in ensuring greater youth inclusion for the first annual report of the World Observatory for Water and Peace, launched during the 9th World Water Forum in Dakar.

In July 2022, the EYPW organized a dialogue between young people from Georgia, Armenia, and Turkey on the transboundary Kura-Arak River to create a Kura-Arak Youth Network. The workshop brought together 30 participants who were able

to use the Blue Peace Index Youth Calculation. The result for the river was 32%. This activity was supported by our organization, but also by the US State Department and the Economist Intelligence Unit.

In addition to these activities, 2022 saw the EYPW implement more than 30 water-related actions across Europe. They were visible at the major events of the European and international agenda (COP 27, World Water Forum, European Energy Forum, etc.) and have developed new partnerships, notably in Ukraine with the creation of a National Youth Parliament for Water in Ukraine.



Promoting inter-municipality in Moldova

Directly affected by the consequences of the war in Ukraine, Moldova is at a real turning point in its history, and the actions that Solidarity Water Europe (SWE) have tirelessly implemented in the country over the last few years have led to a marked improvement observed in 2022.

Following on from the SWE-led pilot cooperation project for Mayors of the Nirnova Basin, the Moldovan Parliament has since adopted a law aimed at creating a network of Intercommunity Development Associations (IDAs).

This major reform, for which SWE has been campaigning for several years, is an indispensable condition for ensuring a governance of water resources that is democratic, participatory, and ensures a more efficient provision of public services to inhabitants.

Aiming at strengthening cooperation between French and Moldovan stakeholders at all levels, SWE's work has facilitated the development of exchanges of experience and practices between

local authorities of both countries, thanks in particular to the involvement of two new French authorities in this project, the municipalities of Stutzheim-Offenheim and Coisy.

In addition, 2022 marks the completion of several key initiatives for the benefit of local inhabitants: the protection of catchment areas in the village of Vinatori and the development of the water supply network in Cateleni, accompanied by a system for controlling water usage.

Throughout the project, these various achievements were accompanied by information and awareness-raising activities for local inhabitants with a view to ensuring a sustainable and supportive management of this resource.

Protection of
2 LARGE
CATCHMENT
AREAS
covering 2
hectares of land

Protection of
30 WATER
CATCHMENT
WELLS
and complete
rehabilitation
of 19 wells

700
PEOPLE
CONNECTED
to the various
catchment
points

60
ADDITIONAL
HOUSEHOLDS
were connected to
the water supply
system in Cateleni



SWE's support and expertise provided over time has resulted in a parliamentary initiative enabling the creation and development of inter-community development associations.

LARISA VOLOH

Member of the Moldovan Parliament, Chair of the Parliamentary Committee on Public Administration



Making the water sector more attractive to young Europeans

Our “Youth for Water & Climate Programme”, which aims to strengthen the capacity of young professionals in the water sector, ran throughout 2022. The programme developed innovative methodologies and tools, such as a community of best practices and an online curriculum, the idea being to attract young European professionals to the water sector and to keep them there.

Two international mobility projects were organized in Budapest (April) and Stockholm (August), including:

- Thematic workshops to develop key skills, such as leadership, conflict management and communication.
- Meetings with experts and networking events with industry professionals.
- Field visits: the group was able to meet with two departments of the Budapest University of Technology and Economics, active in water and climate issues, and also visited a wastewater treatment plant in the Budapest area.
- A session organized at the World Water Week in Stockholm on the theme entitled “Building a career in water and climate”, where the key challenges and solutions for career paths and entrepreneurship in the water sector were discussed.

This year-long mentoring programme gave young people the opportunity to interact directly with professionals in the water sector and to gain unique personal and professional experience. Some young people were also able to access internships that led to their first job.

DANIELLE GAILLARD-PICHER

Senior Water and Global Processes Specialist, Global Water Partnership



“We often question the impact of our work on a large scale, but with mentoring I could see the difference I was making in building the capacity of young professionals. It was worth it.**”**



20
YOUNG
PROFESSIONALS

20
MENTORS

15
EUROPEAN
PARTNERS

Communication for change

The ISW-SWE reaches online audiences who appreciate our work and who help to share information about our projects and highlight the many committed individuals who contribute, seeking a better world.

+ 28 700

Visits to our websites



+ 4 393

New social media
subscribers

+ 30

Web articles

+ 25

Newsletters



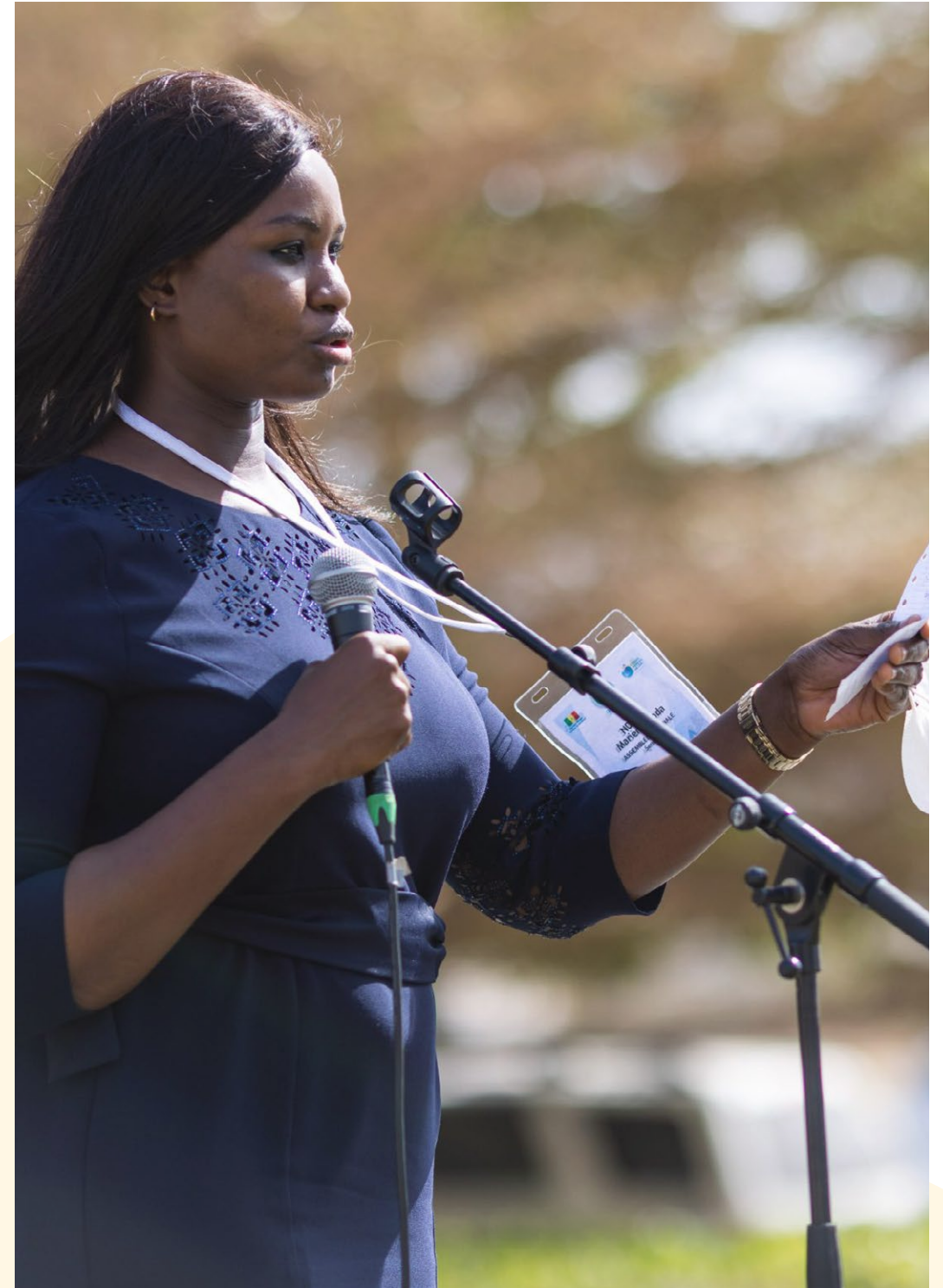
+ 856

Social media posts

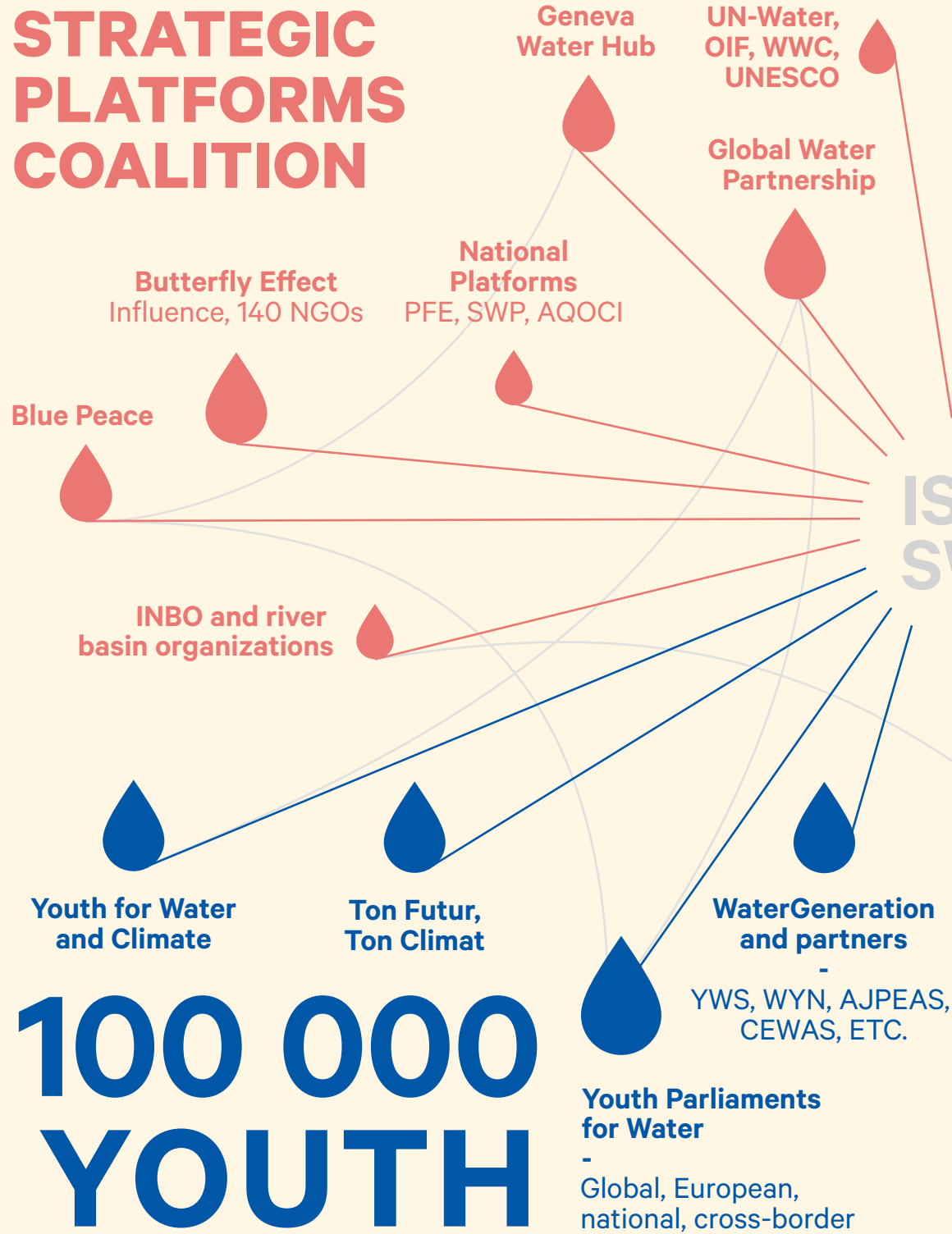
Our network, our strength

We mobilize youth in over 100 countries, we are connected to influential civil society organizations and have access to decision-makers at all levels.

In 2022, we strengthened existing relationships while creating links in related sectors, the ideal way to challenge ourselves and come up with new ideas.

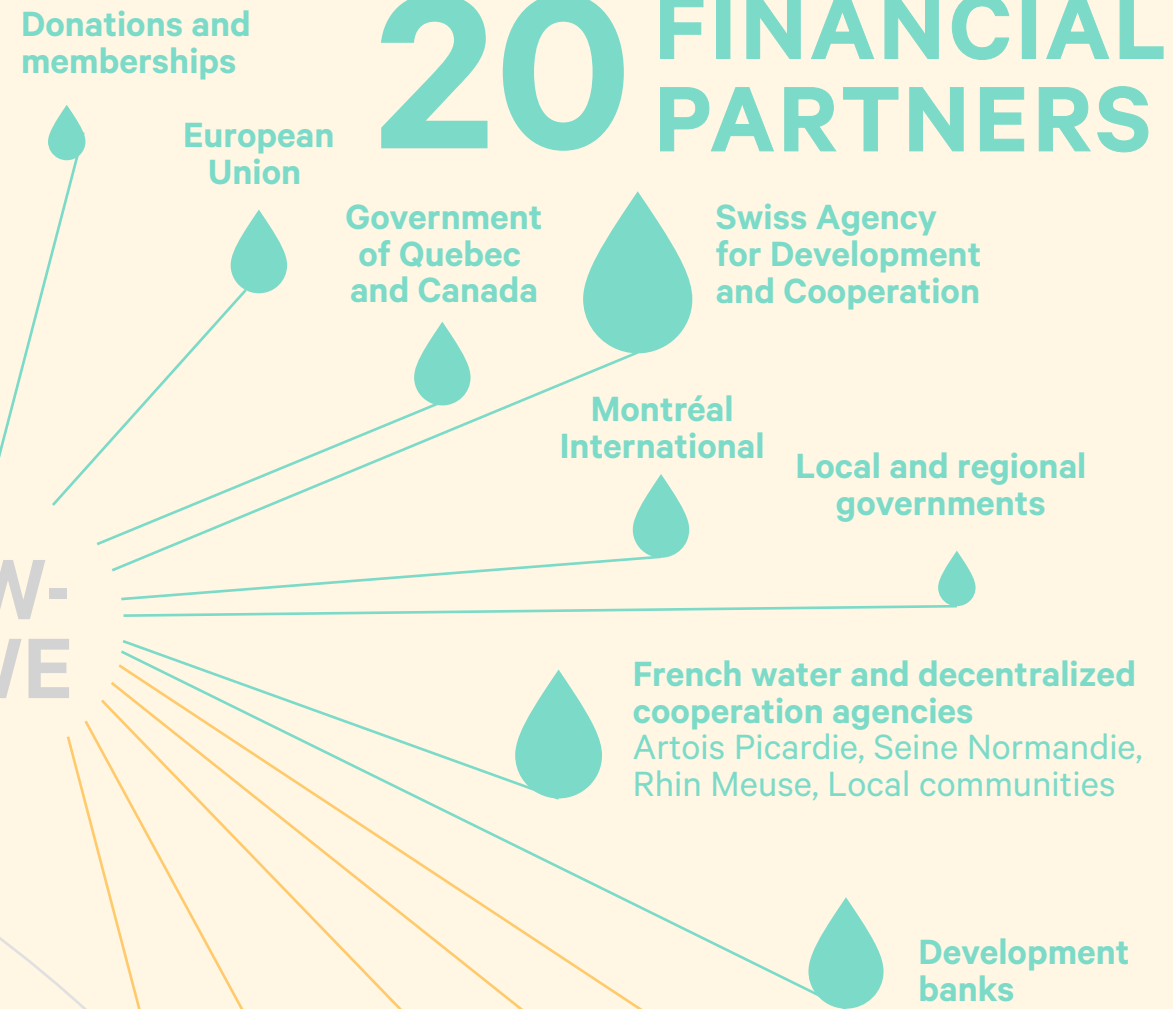


STRATEGIC PLATFORMS COALITION



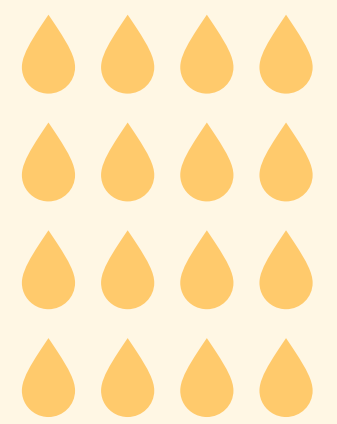
100 000 YOUTH

20 FINANCIAL PARTNERS



50 000 PROJECTS PARTNERS

Peru, Moldova, Uzbekistan, Tadjikistan, West Africa



Financial report

THE CONSOLIDATED RESULT OF THE INTERNATIONAL SECRETARIAT FOR WATER - SOLIDARITY WATER EUROPE (ISW-SWE) GROUP IS 84 478 EUR OR 122 138 CAD, OUT OF AN ANNUAL BUDGET OF 2 777 155 EUR OR 4 015 211 CAD.

The International Secretariat for Water (ISW - Canada) ended 2022 with a surplus of 99 970 CAD, out of an annual budget of 3 713 330 CAD. Solidarity Water Europe (SWE - France) ended 2022 with a surplus of 9 947 EUR, out of an annual budget of 262 689 EUR.

→ In-kind contributions from our project partners continue to be recognized in our financial statements, thus allowing for a more accurate measurement of the indirect contribution made by our partners in achieving our mission. In 2022, the in-kind contribution received by ISW-SWE was almost 251 290 EUR, or 363 315 CAD Canadian dollars.

→ All the offices of the ISW-SWE are subject to an annual accounting and financial audit that meets international audit standards, ensuring the compliance and regularity of our organization's accounts. The financial statements of the ISW-SWE offices are consolidated within a joint audit, providing a comprehensive view of all organization resources.



The consolidated financial statements of the ISW-SWE Group as well as the financial statements of the International Secretariat for Water (Canada) were audited by Petrie Raymond audit firm. The financial statements of Solidarity Water Europe (France) were audited by the auditor Laurence Schwob audit firm.

Financial partners

We would like to thank our partners who, through their support to our institution and its projects, are committed to a world in which everyone benefits from fair and equitable access to water.



Contribute to the action

Would you like to work alongside us, for a more sustainable and fairer world?

Would you like to be informed about the major water-related issues and our responses to them?

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