



South Africa Country Profile 2018

Achievements to date (since 2014)

- 1 246 000 indirect beneficiaries, 70% women
- 221 000 direct beneficiaries, 30% women
- €2 404 000 total financial contribution leveraged from the private sector, government and civil society organisations

Context, Approach and Objectives

South Africa's political stability, economic growth, stable food production and electricity generation capacity not only directly impacts on the welfare of its people, but also on its neighbouring countries. Water poses a significant and growing threat to the country's performance in these critical fields. South Africa is a water-scarce country that relies heavily on water sources outside its borders. It has exemplary legislation for integrated water resources management, but implementation thereof has been challenging. The consequences of this are being felt severely in the current drought and is threatening food stability across the region.

Over the past 4 years, IWaSP supported seven partnerships in South Africa at either catchment, municipal or national level. Each of these partnerships focus on different elements of water security, but all are designed to significantly improve the lives of the people in the project areas through innovative, replicable approaches.

IWaSP Partnerships in South Africa

Partnership Name	Sector/ Thematic Area	Duration
Water Stewardship in the hops-growing areas of George and Oudtshoorn	Food and beverages/ Agricultural supply chain	2014 to 2018

IWaSP entered into a partnership, '**Water Stewardship in the hops-growing areas of George and Oudtshoorn**', with South African Breweries, WWF and the Department of Environmental Affairs (DEA)

to improve the water balance around the George and Oudtshoorn areas in the Southern Cape. SAB sources its hops – a water-intensive crop – from this water-stressed area. Clearing 536 ha of invasive trees, monitoring groundwater use and achieving water irrigation efficiency on farms are among the project's main achievements.

Partnership Name	Sector/ Thematic Area	Duration
Water Stewardship in the Upper Breede Catchment	Retail/ Agricultural supply chain	2015 to 2018

'**Water Stewardship in the Upper Breede Catchment**' is a partnership between Marks & Spencer, IWaSP, WWF, the Alliance for Water Stewardship (AWS), the Breede-Gouritz Catchment Management Agency (BGCMA) and Woolworths and aims to reduce water risks in one of the most important deciduous fruit-growing regions in the country. The partnership tested the AWS Standard on farm-level and empowered local residents to improve the quality of run-off water from informal housing areas. In cooperation with AWS, the partnership has developed a tool to reduce agricultural water risks. As South Africa's first functional catchment management agency (CMA), BGCMA serves as an example for emerging CMAs.

Partnership Name	Sector/ Thematic Area	Duration
Securing Port Elizabeth's water through landscape restoration and water stewardship	Insurance/ Landscape restoration and water loss reduction	2015 to 2018

The partnership '**Securing Port Elizabeth's water through landscape restoration and water stewardship**' aims to improve water security for this important industrial and agricultural hub through large-scale restoration of degraded land in the three catchments that provide 70% of the city's water. It also seeks to improve the capacity of local municipalities to address drought risk challenges and climate change adaptation. Santam (insurer), Living Lands (NGO), Grounded (NGO), the Department of Water and Sanitation (DWS), the Mzimvubu-Tsitsikamma CMA and IWaSP are project partners.

Partnership Name	Sector/ Thematic Area	Duration
Water loss reduction in Metsimaholo Local Municipality (LM)	Oil and petroleum/ Municipal water loss reduction	2016 to 2018

‘Water loss reduction in Metsimaholo Local Municipality (LM)’ is a partnership between Sasol, Metsimaholo LM, DWS and IWaSP which focuses on reducing water losses in this municipality, situated in the International Vaal/Orange-Senqu catchment. Actions include a baseline assessment to determine current losses, community outreach measures and leakage repair on bulk and household infrastructure. This project contributes to the creation of a model approach for water loss reduction, which can serve as reference to other municipalities.

Partnership Name	Sector/ Thematic Area	Duration
Improving water security for Madibeng Local Municipality	Mining/ Municipal infrastructure improvement	2016 to 2018

The partnership, **‘Improving water security for Madibeng Local Municipality’** addresses issues of ageing infrastructure which causes leakages and interrupted water supply to residents and businesses. Through technical interventions, capacity development and awareness raising, the objective of the partnership is to directly improve water security for approximately 50,000 people. Project partners are Lonmin mine, Madibeng Local Municipality and IWaSP. The interventions are aimed at supporting the municipality’s water and sanitation department so that infrastructure management can be further improved.

Partnership Name	Sector/ Thematic Area	Duration
Strategic Water Partners Network (SWPN)	Multi-sector cooperation	2014 to 2018

The **Strategic Water Partners Network (SWPN)** is a platform for companies, government and civil society to collectively find solutions to the country’s most pressing water challenges. IWaSP has supported SWPN since 2014 in various working groups and initiatives, such as ‘No Drop’, incentivising the reduction of water leaks in municipalities; the Water Administration System which saves 55M m³ of irrigation water per year, and a sustainable mining coordinating body. Partners include SABMiller, DWS, DEA, 2030 Water Resources Group, ABSA bank, Anglo American, South32, Coca-Cola, Eskom, Exxaro, Nestlé, Sasol, Rand Water, Santam, Unilever, WWF and IWaSP.

Municipalities supplying water to domestic water users account for 27% of all water used in South Africa. 41% of municipal water does not generate revenue, R9.9 billion in water revenues is lost each year, while water supply reliability is at 65% on average. IWaSP is working together with several municipalities and civil society partners to improve water efficiency, repair and maintain water supply infrastructure and tackle non-revenue water. ►

Partnership Name	Sector/ Thematic Area	Duration
The uMhlathuze Water Stewardship Partnership (UWaSP)	Multi-sector cooperation	2016 to 2018

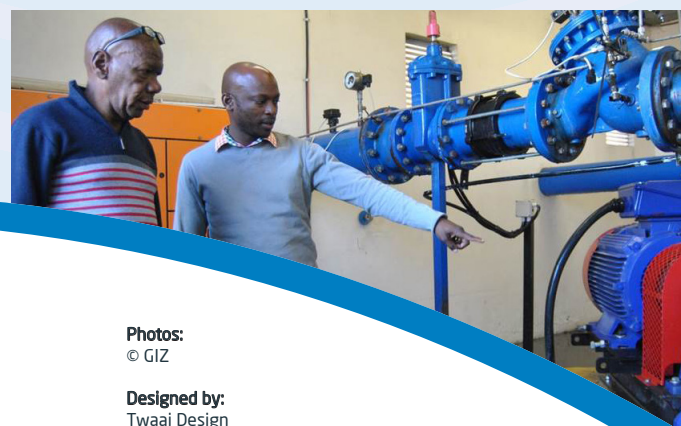
The **UWaSP Partnership**, based in the Richards Bay industrial and agricultural hub, mobilises commitments and resources from 11 partners comprising numerous businesses based in the area, the Department of Water and Sanitation (DWS), the Catchment Management Agency of Pongolo-uMzimkulu, the National Business Initiative, WWF and SWPN. Partners are committed to improve the sustainability of the river catchment, addressing downstream water use efficiency opportunities, agricultural water stewardship practices, alien invasive plant clearing and wetlands rehabilitation, the development of local community environmental champions for pollution control and enhanced management of the region’s coastal lakes and surface water dam. Project activities include working with the local municipality to reduce non-revenue water, scoping entrepreneurial opportunities around water conservation and recycling, the implementation of water efficiency in the sugar cane, nut and fruit industry, clearing of invasive plants and capacity building for Goedertrouw Dam’s operators.

Emerging Lessons from IWaSP Partnership Implementation

IWaSP South Africa’s current focus in 2018 is to ensure partnership sustainability and scalability of lessons learnt. Key lessons identified thus far include:

1. Local level facilitators play an important role in coordinating collective action around water challenges.
2. It is important that partnerships are firmly anchored in areas where there is strong local leadership.
3. The sustainability of project partnerships needs to be planned upfront and accounted for in the design of the implementation and funding cycle of the partnership.
4. There is need for a neutral third party such as IWaSP to play a convening role, especially given its networks of strong relationships with the public and private sector actors.
5. It is important to establish clear roles and responsibilities reflecting partners’ institutional capacity, developing holistic solutions while maintaining flexibility and fostering momentum over the long term.

These emerging lessons are valuable for the wider international stewardship community.



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