Every day, a lack of clean water and sanitation contributes to the death of over 800 children under-five. Through the SWA global partnership we have the opportunity to change that, as well as help to address countless other health and societal challenges in some of the world’s communities most in need.

THE HON. KEVIN RUDD, SWA CHAIR

The SDGs have given us a strong incentive to address poverty, gender inequalities, and the plight of marginalised people. At SWA we take this challenge seriously, and are focussing on how we can support countries develop policies, programmes and financing strategies that will eliminate inequalities in access to water, sanitation and hygiene.

MS. CATARINA DE ALBUQUERQUE, SWA EXECUTIVE CHAIR

A platform for SDG progress

Led by governments and supported by development partners, collective action ensures everyone can realize their right to safe water and sanitation. Both are essential to human health, environmental sustainability, and economic prosperity.

The SWA partnership includes over 200 governments, donors, civil society and private sector organizations, research and learning institutions, and other development partners. Together, they stimulate political dialogue and leadership, coordinate action, and monitor progress towards the sanitation, water and hygiene-related targets of the Sustainable Development Goals.

The SWA High-level Meetings

Unique in the sector, SWA’s High-level Meetings are the partnership’s most visible contribution to WASH. The Finance Ministers’ Meeting (FMM) most recently held in 2017 and convened by the World Bank, gathers ministers of finance from around the world to discuss the political and institutional reforms required to make better use of existing funding and to attract additional resources for the WASH sector.

The FMM’s sister meeting, the Sector Ministers’ Meeting (SMM), is an opportunity for ministers responsible for water, sanitation and hygiene to share and learn from others’ experiences as they progress towards national SDG targets. The SMM is a platform for SWA partners to present and report on commitments they make as part of the SWA Mutual Accountability Mechanism.

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How we work: putting countries at the heart of the partnership

The partnership developed a framework to accelerate progress at the country level. It also ensures both national and aid resources are used in the most effective way.

Partners agree to support each other in:

**PUTTING IN PLACE THE BUILDING BLOCKS THAT FORM A WELL-FUNCTIONING SECTOR.**

**FOLLOWING THE COLLABORATIVE BEHAVIOURS**

Enhance government leadership of sector planning processes

Strengthen and use country systems

Use one information and mutual accountability platform

Build sustainable water and sanitation sector financing strategies

**LEAVING NO ONE BEHIND AND GENDER EQUALITY**

At the heart of the SWA is a commitment to the progressive elimination of inequalities. Practically, this implies careful planning, disaggregated data, and dedicated resources. Through SWA’s multi-stakeholder approaches, partners engage with all actors, including civil society, to find solutions that ensure improved access for all.

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Governance structure

The Chair provides leadership to SWA, and engages politicians and high-level decision-makers on behalf of the partnership. Partners elect representatives from each constituency to sit on the Steering Committee and delegate decision-making authority to them. The Steering Committee takes overall responsibility for strategic leadership of SWA and elects the Executive Chair.

The SWA Secretariat is hosted by UNICEF and has offices in New York and Geneva.
Governments of 70 countries in all regions are partners of SWA.

Pakistan adopted SWA’s Framework as an action framework and applied various tools to implement it, including Provincial Joint Sector WASH Reviews which feed into a national level review and the application of the SDG costing tool at both the provincial and national levels.

Kenya put in place some Collaborative Behaviours to strengthen and scale up sanitation & hygiene access. After the SMM, Kenya made an action Plan for the National government which was disseminated to partners and counties through the quarterly interagency coordinating committee.

Mauritania’s sector ministry organized the “Workshop on Follow-up of the SWA High-level Meeting: Financing, Monitoring and Evaluation of SDGs”, where participants formulated joint recommendations on the SWA’s Building Blocks to improve sector performance.

At an SWA High-level Meeting, The Netherlands committed to include capacity building, one of the SWA Building Blocks in all projects, specifically to support requirements for sustainability in all funding. They reported spending over 35 million Euros on capacity building in 2015 alone.

Following discussions at SWA’s High-level Meeting, the Minister of Finance of Niger created a budget line dedicated to sanitation while the Minister of Finance for Afghanistan created a budget line for water and sanitation.

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In 2018, the SWA Secretariat was supported by the following organizations:

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