This Annual Report is dedicated to the memory of Piers Cross (1951–2017), a much-loved friend and colleague.
1. Who we are: our vision, objectives and approach

OUR VISION
SANITATION, HYGIENE AND WATER FOR ALL, ALWAYS AND EVERYWHERE

OUR OBJECTIVES
1. Increase political prioritization for sanitation, hygiene, and water;
2. Strengthen government-led national processes;
3. Develop and use a strong evidence base to support good decision-making;
4. Follow-up and review progress achieved in implementing sanitation, water and hygiene targets of the SDGs.

OUR APPROACH
The SWA global partnership is a multi-stakeholder platform for sanitation, water, and hygiene. It is unique in the sector and was established eight years ago. It has grown to over 200 partners, including 70 governments, as well as civil society and private sector organizations, UN organizations, research and learning institutions, and bilateral donors.

SWA’s mission is to address obstacles that are hampering efforts towards universal access to clean water and safely managed sanitation services. These obstacles include low political prioritization, insufficient and inadequate financing, lack of adequate governance structures, and the absence or weakness of the enabling environment and mutual accountability between stakeholders. There is also a critical need to improve the understanding of the problem and its scale, through the use of more reliable data in decision-making.

The partnership’s goals from the outset have had universal access at their core. They are goals since encapsulated by the SDGs, framing our mission with an increased impetus – and an even greater sense of urgency.

THE SWA FRAMEWORK
The SWA partnership came into being when a group of different types of organizations agreed that a multi-stakeholder platform was needed in the sector. Together, they agreed on several foundational values that later became the SWA Guiding Principles, and which include sustainability, inclusiveness, collaboration, transparency, leaving no-one behind, and evidence-based actions.

Partners then agreed on common ways of working together that would increase the efficiency of the sector, as well as concrete outputs that would enable them to put in place the necessary systems for achieving the partnership’s goals. These became: what to put in place and strengthen – the five Building Blocks, and how to do it – the four Collaborative Behaviours.

Together, these three components constitute the SWA Framework. Partners’ efforts are focused on increasing understanding and application of the Framework at the country level, by all national stakeholders, with governments leading the process to ensure implementation is according to country priorities. The SWA Framework is put into practice and embodied in all partnership activities.

THE GUIDING PRINCIPLES
The values partners have in common and that guide all joint action.

THE COLLABORATIVE BEHAVIOURS
How partners work together to put in place the Building Blocks.

THE ACCOUNTABILITY MECHANISM
Joint initiative that grounds the Framework in specific, measurable, attainable, relevant and timely actions.

THE BUILDING BLOCKS
What partners are jointly putting in place to achieve an effective sector.
In the spring of this year, I had the honour of chairing the Sanitation and Water for All (SWA) Ministerial Meetings in Washington, DC. At these meetings, 62 ministers confirmed their commitment to reaching Sustainable Development Goal 6 – the achievement of sustainable, safely managed water, sanitation, and hygiene for all. Success will depend not just on making the case for the magnitude of the need, or for human rights – these are the basis and raison d'être of our work – but also of making the economic case for financial investment. SWA, and its Finance Ministers’ Meetings, continue to prioritize financing, raising the profile of WASH issues within government and with investors. Water and sanitation must be understood not as a “spending sector” but as one that promotes economic growth and reduces poverty.

The World Bank estimates that $144 billion per year in overall global investment is needed to meet SDG 6, and reduces poverty. A clear sign we are on the right track is the year-on-year expansion of the partnership. In 2017 we hit an important milestone: we now comprise over 200 partners, and I was particularly pleased when six new governments – Bhutan, Honduras, Indonesia, Norway, Peru and Swaziland – joined the partnership. In 2018, we are on track to continue this expansion, as we start implementing the Mutual Accountability Mechanism, which was adopted in late 2017.

I am aware that the Mutual Accountability Mechanism will not be immediately visible. Rather it will become gradually more embedded in our work in the years to come. But for me, it was a highlight of last year: it was inspiring to witness the contributions from partners building the definition, the principles, and the concrete elements of this initiative. The result is a Mechanism that aligns closely with existing national multi-stakeholder planning and review processes, and is firmly rooted in the belief that a strong partnership can and will hold its partners to account for their actions – or indeed their inaction.

Message from SWA Chair
By The Honourable Kevin Rudd

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In 2017 was another full year for SWA, consolidating our work, but also stretching out into new areas that support our mission. It stood out for our partners’ commitment to increasing and strengthening collaborative work at the country level, an approach that will continue to guide us in the future. Significantly, five new countries joined SWA this year, and we saw record numbers of partners engaging in our virtual exchange platforms: 475 participants from 68 countries joined our 2017 webinars. Also, the partnership decided to pause the ongoing regular cycle of High-level Meetings – none will be held in 2018 – to consolidate the implementation of the SWA Framework (our Collaborative Behaviours, our Building Blocks, and Guiding Principles) at national and regional levels. This will also allow us to focus on the roll-out of the updated SWA Mutual Accountability Mechanism, which was adopted in late 2017. The UN General Assembly has declared an International Decade for Action: Water for Sustainable Development from 2018 to 2028. I look forward to working with SWA partners to translate this declaration into action around the world.
2017 – the year in review

January
- Over 35 West Africa civil society organizations gather in Benin to prepare joint messages for the 2017 HLMs (more on page 10)
- Secretariat disseminates guidelines and roadmap for HLM preparations, as well as the SDG WASH Costing Tool (page 7)

February
- Executive Chair missions to Canada and France, promotes WASH and SWA among government and parliamentary ministers, partners and promotes SWA among the media
- Webinar: Accessing new financial resources and using existing ones more efficiently. Throughout the year, the Secretariat organised 23 webinars in 3 languages; 475 participants from 68 countries and 17 presenters from 17 countries share case-studies, ideas and challenges. (page 12)

March
- 38 countries and 12 external support agencies report back on the last time on the commitments made at the SWA 2014 HLMs (page 14)
- Peru joins SWA
- 20 civil society networks engage with their governments ahead of HLMs; civil society organizations in Chad, Nepal and Uganda meet to develop contributions to 2017 HLMs
- In preparation for the HLMs, 39 countries develop SDG Country Overviews and 27 countries use the SDG WASH Costing Tool

April
- GLAAS 2017 report is published ahead of the 2017 HLMs. It states that investments in water and sanitation need a “radical increase”
- Civil society organizations meet from the region in Guinea to prepare for the HLMs 2017
- Over 300 partners meet in Washington, D.C. for the SWA HLMs (page 7)

May
- Menstrual Hygiene Day. Catarina de Albuquerque meet with Executive Director of Agence Française de Développement (AFD) and publishes opinion editorials on TIME, El Pais and Radio France International on the risks of menstruation taboos (page 10)
- Executive Chair missions to Canada and France, promotes WASH and SWA among ministers of finance at the University of North Carolina’s Water and Health Conference

June
- Steering Committee meets in Budapest, Hungary
- SWA chosen as Sanitation Topic Coordinator for the World Water Forum 8
- Financial times publishes interview with SWA Executive Chair
- SWA presents Building Blocks and Collaborative Behaviours at the ‘WASH Enabling Environment’ meeting, organized by UNICEF in Washington, D.C.

July
- JMP 2017 update is published; partner countries use preliminary baseline estimates to calculate the costs of achieving the SDGs ahead of HLM discussions
- Secretariat organizes elections (page 15)
- Dr. Mushitaque Chidhury, BRAC Vice Chairperson, joins SWA Global Leaders’ Group (page 16)
- Pakistan holds multi-stakeholder follow-up meetings to the HLMs

August
- The Hon. Kevin Rudd opens Stockholm World Water Week 2017 and has bilateral meetings with ministers from Ghana, Nigeria and Ethiopia
- UN and Scaling Up Nutrition (SUN) partners bring nutrition issues to Stockholm World Water Week. SUN organizers showcase event involving Chair, Executive Chair and ministers from Swaziland and Peru

September
- SWA and seven other partnerships in education, nutrition and health hold event at the UN General Assembly, to mark the start of a nurturing care framework for early childhood development
- Launch of “About SWA” video, viewed over 7000 times in the first month
- High-level Panel on Water highlights SWA’s contribution to achieving SDG 6
- CSO partners launch research in 26 countries looking at existing accountability mechanisms to implement and plan for achieving the SDGs, with publication expected ahead of the 2018 High-Level Political Forum on Sustainable Development

October
- Bhutan, Indonesia and Swaziland join the SWA partnership – Swaziland marks the event with a ceremony involving national and local authorities and other development partners
- Over 60 participants from different constituencies discuss how to engage ministers of finance at the University of North Carolina’s Water and Health Conference

November
- Partners share findings of the six case studies on how SWA is used at country level to achieve the SDGs. 5 countries involved: Burkina Faso, Ethiopia, Madagascar, Malawi, Pakistan, and Zimbabwe (page 12)
- Cross-partnership fertilization: Several SWA partners attend SUN Global Gathering in Abadan, continuing to highlight links between nutrition and WASH, as SUN partners did during Stockholm World Water Week in August.

December
- New SWA Steering Committee meets for the first time in Maputo
- Secretariat launches popular infographic on how SDG 6 affects other Goals
- Kenya Country Story is published, focusing on sector strengthening in contexts of decentralization (page 13)
5. SWA countries leading progress

BECOMING AN SWA PARTNER: BHUTAN’S EXPERIENCE

Bhutan’s journey to join SWA demonstrates how regional discussion and collaboration between countries can lead to the SWA approach and standards being adopted more widely. Government officials from Bhutan who participated in a sector dialogue in Pakistan heard about SWA and the approaches taken by its partners. After further discussions between Pakistan and Bhutan, Bhutanese government officials were put in contact with the SWA Secretariat and continued to engage with their colleagues and SWA partners in Pakistan. Eventually, Bhutan participated in the 2017 HLM – and decided to join the partnership shortly afterwards.

The SWA Partnership in 2017

Six governments joined SWA in 2017: Bhutan, Honduras, Indonesia, Norway, Peru and Swaziland – raising to 59 the number of partner country and to 201 the total number of partners.

<table>
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<th>Year</th>
<th>Countries</th>
<th>ESAs</th>
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<th>R&amp;L</th>
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<td>83</td>
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Governments are the principal duty-bearers responsible for achieving universal access to water, sanitation and hygiene. They have an obligation to create the broad normative and institutional frameworks to make this possible: establishing and nurturing the ‘enabling environment’. SWA partners are firmly committed to an approach where governments lead through multi-stakeholder, multi-sectoral collaboration and meaningful participation.

6. Progress on SWA objectives in 2017

Objective 1: Increase political prioritization for sanitation, hygiene and water

Advocates for water, sanitation and hygiene often argue that a lack of high-level political commitment has been the key blockage for progress in the sector. Together, SWA partners seek to increase political will and engagement at the highest levels, working to improve, for instance, long-term strategies and plans, clear institutional roles and dedicated budget lines.

The 2017 High-level Meetings, comprising a Sector Ministers’ Meeting (SMM) and a Finance Ministers’ Meeting (FMM), were held in Washington, D.C. on 19 and 20 April. The two meetings gathered together 60 ministers responsible for finance, water, sanitation and hygiene, and representatives from civil society, development partners, academia and the private sector. In total, 59 countries were represented.

Tackling the Financing Gap: The Finance Ministers’ Meeting

The Finance Ministers’ Meeting was convened and hosted by the World Bank for the first time, as a part of its official programme of Spring Meetings.

Ninety-one participants, including 17 ministers of finance, discussed a road map for closing the significant financing gap to meet the SDG for universal access to water and sanitation.

On the day prior to the FMM, ministers responsible for water, sanitation and hygiene held a preparatory session, at the Sector Ministers’ Meeting. Ministers agreed on the urgent need to make better use of existing resources, through setting higher expectations for service providers’ efficiency (technical, financial and capital), as well as the need to demonstrate to ministers of finance that increasing efficiency, particularly in cost recovery, leads to a virtuous cycle of increasing investments and the ability to provide services in a sustainable manner. They also recognized that where direct user payments do not cover the costs of service delivery, the gap must be filled through public finance. For more on the SMM, please see page 13.

The HLMS Preparatory Process

SWA facilitated a comprehensive preparatory process for the 2017 HLMS, to ensure ministers were fully prepared for the meetings, and set the stage for follow-up action. The process ran from November 2016 until April 2017, with a series of webinars (more on page 12) focusing on strengthening multi-stakeholder dialogue and building political will and commitment. Preparatory discussions were based on key documents prepared by partners and the Secretariat, including the UNICEF/World Bank discussion paper on financing SDG 6, the CSO’s joint messages paper and the SDG WASH Costing Tool, which allows countries to estimate the investments needed to attain the SDG targets, as well as the financing gap. A complementary paper, Financing WASH: how to increase funds for the sector while reducing inequities, was also produced by Water.org and IRC. In total, 30 partner countries used the Costing Tool ahead of the HLMS.

“These regular meetings of SWA, of Finance Ministers, offer a really important and valuable opportunity for regular review… and a call to action for bringing in investments in innovative ways. They also ensure that we stay on track to meet SDG 6.”

— MS. AMINA MOHAMMED
UNITED NATIONS DEPUTY SECRETARY-GENERAL
ANNUAL REPORT 2017

“...if the political decision is to continue subsidies for the sector?”

Finance ministers are looking at the rate of mobilization of additional and external sources. The inability to make better use of existing financial and technical resources while also operating under more transparent governance arrangements? The second question is how to implement such a transition to tap those additional sources of financing, particularly the domestic private resources in your respective countries?”

-- DR. JIM YONG KIM, WORLD BANK PRESIDENT

WEST AFRICA CIVIL SOCIETY PREPARES FOR 2017 HLMS

Over 35 civil society organizations from West Africa gathered in Cotonou, Benin, in January 2017 to structure and reinforce advocacy and collaboration in the region, including the preparations towards the 2017 HLMS. Participants looked at ways civil society can influence and engage with their government around the HLMS.

Together they called on ministers to make the case for further financing of the sector that is socially inclusive and follows the principles of integrity and transparency. Conclusions from this workshop, as well as other preparatory meetings around the world, were integrated into one of the HLMS key documents: 2017 Civil Society Summary Messages for the SWA 2017 HLMS.

ELIMINATION OF INEQUALITIES AND EMPOWERMENT OF WOMEN AND GIRLS

One of SWAs Guiding Principles is a commitment to the progressive elimination of inequalities. In practical terms, this implies careful planning, disaggregated data, and dedicated resources. Through SWAs multi-stakeholder approach, partners engage with all actors to find solutions that ensure improved access for all. It is in the spirit of this Guiding Principle that one of the three main agenda items at the 2017 SMM was a dedicated ‘Ministerial Dialogue’, focusing on how to achieve safely managed sanitation services while eliminating inequalities.

An objective of the partnership for 2020 (see Annex 1) is that at least 75% of SWA country partners are implementing sector plans that include specific measures to reach the most vulnerable and marginalized. In 2017, 32 country partners (54%) reported already having these plans in place.

HEARD AT THE SMM

FINANCE MINISTERIAL DIALOGUE

“There is a financial gap, but hand in hand with a management gap.”

— MR. MOUSSA MONTERO
MEMBER OF THE SENEGALESE SOCIAL FORUM

“We have to focus on two critical issues. First, how can we make service providers more efficient to better use their existing financial and technical resources while also operating under more transparent governance arrangements? The second question is how to implement such a transition to tap those additional sources of financing, particularly the domestic private resources in your respective countries?”

— DR. JIM YONG KIM, WORLD BANK PRESIDENT

MENSTRUAL HYGIENE DAY 2017

On the 28 May each year the world celebrates Menstrual Hygiene Day. It’s an opportunity to talk about the importance for women and girls to hygienically manage their menstruation in privacy, safety and with dignity wherever they are, and to help break the social and cultural stigma surrounding menstruation that often hinders such discussion. To commemorate, Catarina de Albuquerque, SWA Executive Chair, published an opinion editorial in several key publications, co-authored by Thorsten Kiefer, Founder and CEO of WASH United, the creators of the Menstrual Hygiene Day. The editorial, focusing on the risk taboos and the importance of education about menstrual health, was published on TIME, El Pais, Radio France International and Delais.

“To accelerate progress, we call upon national governments to adopt national standards for better menstrual hygiene management infrastructure in schools and to guarantee the explicit integration of education about menstruation into school curricula.”
Objective 2: Strengthen government-led national processes

SWA supports government-owned and SDG-aligned national plans for sanitation, water and hygiene, as well strong national processes supported by clear inputs and regular multi-stakeholder participation.

EXPERIENCES FROM PAKISTAN: STRENGTHENING NATIONAL PROCESSES

Pakistan adopted the SWA Framework several years ago and over time has been able to strengthen its WASH sector while employing the Building Blocks and Collaborative Behaviours. In 2017, the country used the WASH bottleneck analysis tool to identify barriers in the sector, utilized the WASH costing tool at both the national and provincial levels to plan budgets versus SDG targets, and undertook a joint sector review at the provincial level as part of a cycle of activity that informs the country’s planning and budgetary cycles – with commitments created at both the provincial and national levels.

EXPERIENCES FROM KENYA: SECTOR STRENGTHENING IN CONTEXTS OF DECENTRALIZATION THROUGH THE SWA COLLABORATIVE BEHAVIOURS

After the 2016 SWA Sector Ministers’ Meeting, Kenya developed a WASH-related action plan for the national government, which was disseminated to partners and counties through the quarterly interagency coordinating committee. The WASH plan involved advocating for the use of the SWA Building Blocks, to benchmark progress towards improving the enabling environment. County governments committed to analysing their situation and agreed to take steps that strengthen these Building Blocks. They also agreed to work with their partners to reinforce the Collaborative Behaviours.

As a result, several Kenyan counties developed specific sanitation and hygiene legislation. Nakuru has also increased funding specifically to address sanitation and hygiene – as have other counties such as Kitui and Busia.

Objective 3: Develop and use a strong evidence base to support good decision-making

High-quality, up-to-date information is critical if decision-makers are to be able to make appropriate and timely decisions, including on what services are needed where, by whom and by when. To ensure a continuous flow of information, SWA creates opportunities and platforms for learning and exchange between partners.

THE 2017 SWA WEBINAR SERIES

2017 saw the launch of the first SWA Webinar Series. These virtual meetings facilitated discussions on the planning, review and implementation of SWA partner’s strategies to achieve the SDG goals. Topics included financing, follow-up action after the HLMs, the Collaborative Behaviours and Building Blocks, as well as monitoring and review systems for the SDGs. Held in three languages and repeated in different time zones, the webinars in 2017 attracted more than 475 participants from 68 countries. Forty-seven government officials and 48 development partners shared case-studies, ideas and challenges. The meetings were recorded, and the videos, together with all presentations and summaries, are publicly available on SWA’s website. The webinars were also used to promote cross-country learning: each webinar called upon several countries to speak about their experiences, challenges and solutions. The most powerful examples of country interventions were converted into narrative ‘country stories’ that were widely disseminated.

UNDERSTANDING SWA ENGAGEMENT AT COUNTRY LEVEL

The partnership continues to strengthen its commitment to put countries at the centre of SWA’s work. In 2017, the ‘Country Processes Working Group’ compiled case studies to broaden understanding on countries’ needs and gaps and how SWA can best enable and strengthen national sector processes. “Learning from these case studies contributed to the Mutual Accountability Mechanism and the Steering Committee discussions in December; and will influence decisions on how partners can maximize their collective efforts at country and global levels.

The Secretariat and SWA’s leadership are also increasing their support towards enhancing stronger partner collaboration at country level. For example, in 2017, the Secretariat engaged with SWA partners at country level through the webinar series and bilateral calls and, where necessary, linked partners with support available from partners outside their countries.
There are profound multiplier effects for investments in this sector. Investments in this sector lead to dividends far beyond what was anticipated. We must hold each other to account, keep each other honest, learn and exchange.” — THE HON. KEVIN RUDD, SWA CHAIR

"Putting in place the essential building blocks for a more effective sector means that all financing – whether public or private, domestic or international – will help children and their families.” — MR. SANJAY WIJESERERA, CHIEF OF WATER, SANITATION AND HYGIENE, UNICEF

**Objective 4: Follow-up and review progress achieved in implementing sanitation, water and hygiene targets of the SDGs**

**2017 HIGH-LEVEL MEETINGS: THE SECTOR MINISTERS’ MEETING**

The one-and-a-half-day Sector Ministers’ Meeting, was convened by UNICEF, hosted by the Pan American Health Organization (PAHO), and was chaired by the Hon. Kevin Rudd. The meeting gathered 216 participants and featured keynote presentations from a range of partners, a panel discussion, and a series of ‘Ministerial Dialogues’. The three dialogues brought together 41 ministers into small groups for three dedicated discussions on sanitation, on disaster preparedness and on financing. Meeting participants focused specifically on how they could work together to achieve the sanitation, water and hygiene targets of the Sustainable Development Goals in these three areas.

**FOLLOW-UP AND REVIEW OF SDGs**

In April, SWA made a submission to the UN High-level Political Forum, highlighting how critical and central access to water and sanitation services is towards efforts to reduce poverty. SWA made five policy recommendations to address these challenges:

- Increase investment in the enabling environment.
- Invest in improving water and sanitation services for those who have been left behind.
- Improve accountability mechanisms.
- Disaggregate data in order to have a better understanding of the population groups that lack access to services; and
- Build and strengthen partnerships between all stakeholders.

**HEARD DURING THE SMM MINISTERIAL DIALOGUES**

"In terms of disaster, what we see is how much we have achieved in the Millennium Development Goals, but one disaster can reverse all development gains.”

"Financing is of course a key issue, but when it comes to sanitation in rural areas we need to talk about behavioural change more than finance. People need to know they need to invest in household sanitation.”

"The Ebola crisis gave greater attention to good WASH.”

"Behaviour change has to include the government officials as well. They have to understand the importance of WASH and the priorities.”

"Planning must be based on comprehensive data... Then we will know which villages to target, rather than spreading resources across the whole country.”

**SWA’S UPDATED MUTUAL ACCOUNTABILITY MECHANISM**

Accountability is one of SWA’s Guiding Principles and a key aspect of the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development. Success on SDG 6 depends on all stakeholders being able to hold each other to account. To respond to this challenge, SWA is updating and expanding its accountability mechanism. Over the past two years, partners redesigned SWA’s accountability mechanism to better address the demands of the SDGs and the new global architecture.

The updated SWA Mutual Accountability Mechanism is an opportunity for all SWA partners to share their priorities and strategies to realize the SDGs at the global level at a multi-stakeholder forum. It also provides a platform for countries to strengthen their reporting on the SDGs, both nationally and for the United Nations High-level Political Forum.

Partners will develop commitments using existing national multi-stakeholder planning and review processes, based on agreed priorities. Commitments and progress on them will be presented and discussed at SWA’s High-level Meetings.

The SWA Mutual Accountability Mechanism will be launched in early 2018, and start being tested in pilot countries.

**BUILDING WASH-NUTRITION CONNECTIONS AT NATIONAL LEVEL**

In Sierra Leone, the SWA CSO Focal Point is now part of the group responsible for the revision/validation meeting for the National Food and Nutrition Security Implementation Plan. This plan will guide multi-sector interventions to combat malnutrition (or, more precisely, stunting). Previously, the water, sanitation and nutrition sectors were completely absent from the process, until the two partnerships – SWA and SUN – started to work together. SWA Focal Points will now be able to ensure that linkages between water, sanitation and hygiene, and other effects of malnutrition, are reflected in Sierra Leone’s national plan.

**FINAL REPORT ON COMMITMENTS MADE AT THE 2014 HLM**

In 2017, thirty-eight countries and twelve external support agencies reported back for the final report on the commitments made at the SWA 2014 High-level Meeting. This marked the end of SWA’s first Accountability Mechanism. The main conclusions of this report were:

- Significant progress reported on almost half of the country commitments. Donors report significant progress on 80% of all commitments made.
- Countries reported significant success towards commitments relating to coordination and alignment, and to the development and enhancement of national policies and plans.
- Countries reported slow or no progress on 68% of their commitments relating to financing.
- Donors have been particularly successful in completing commitments relating to political prioritization, specifically in increasing visibility of water and sanitation.
- Significant progress is reported on half of the commitments related to the 2014 HLM themes of sustainability and inequalities.

SWA further deepened its engagement with the Scaling Up Nutrition movement (SUN) that began in 2016. Both partnerships strengthened their joint advocacy work by identifying ‘cross-fertilization’ opportunities. SUN government focal points from Madagascar and Chad attended and spoke at Stockholm World Water Week with their SWA counterparts, and SWA government focal points from Liberia and Chad did the same at the SUN Global Gathering in Abidjan. Working groups, constituencies and networks from both partnerships are now working together at country level.

During the UN General Assembly, SWA also conducted a joint event with other partnerships including the Global Partnership for Education and Every Woman Every Child. The event marked the start of broad consultations to develop a nutrition care framework for early childhood development, including actions and results that countries can use to guide their investments in that crucial stage of human development.
7. Governance: a partnership fit for purpose

In July and August 2017, the partnership held elections for half of the seats on the Steering Committee. This is in accordance with SWA’s governing document, which calls for change of 50% of the seats after every three-year mandate, retaining half of the Steering Committee members to maintain continuity. New members started their three-year terms in December 2017 and met for the first time in a meeting hosted by the Government of Mozambique in Maputo. The Steering Committee decided that the civil society and community-based organizations constituencies should merge, to encourage joint actions. However, an extra seat was provided for community-based organisations in the Steering Committee so their specific voice is heard in SWA’s decision-making body.

In 2017, the Governance and Finance Working Group tasked a team of independent consultants to carry out a review of the partnership’s governance, which included extensive consultations with partners and other stakeholders. This process resulted in recommendations which were discussed in detail in the Steering Committee. These include, for instance, the Secretariat’s hosting arrangements, the role of the different Working Groups, and the ways constituencies work with each other. The Steering Committee also decided to create a position of Chief Executive Officer for SWA, who will be responsible for the work of the Secretariat and will be recruited in 2018.

THE NEW STEERING COMMITTEE

Executive Chair

Ms. Catarina de Albuquerque
Executive Chair, SWA

Countries
EASTERN AND SOUTHERN AFRICA

Mr. Kepha Ombacho
Kenya

Mr. Tinayeshe Mutazu
Zimbabwe

Mr. Nilton Trindade
Mozambique

WEST AND CENTRAL AFRICA

Mr. Pie Djivo
Burin

Mr. Emmanuel Awe
Nigeria

Mr. Andre Patinde
Nouguirouma
Burkina Faso

SOUTH ASIA

Ms. Lokuliyamage
Mangalika
Sri Lanka

Mr. Jyoti Shrestha
Nepal

LATIN AMERICA AND CARIBBEAN

Ms. Yamieth Astorga
Costa Rica

MIDDLE EAST AND NORTH AFRICA

Ms. Rabab Gaber
Hassan Abbas
Egypt

External Support Agencies

Dr. Canisius Kanangire
African Ministers’ Council on Water (AMCOW)

Mr. Hans Olav Ibrekk
Norwegian Ministry of Foreign Affairs

Mr. Rolf Luyendijk
Water Supply and Sanitation Collaborative Council (WSSCC)

Mr. Pim van der Male
Dutch Directorate – General for International Cooperation (DGIS)

Civil Society

ASIA

Mr. Mohammad Zobair Hasan
Development Organization of the Rural Poor (DORP)

AFRICA

Mr. Samson Shivaji
KEWASNET and African Civil Society Network on Water and Sanitation (ANEW)

NORTHERN

Mr. Thilo Panzerbieter
German Toilet Organisation and End Water Poverty (EWP)

LATIN AMERICA

Ms. Vanessa Dubois
Asociación Regional Centroamericana para el Agua y el Ambiente (ARCA)

Research and Learning

Mr. Patrick Moriarty
IRC

Secretariat Host (Ex Officio)

Mr. Dominick De Waal
UNICEF

Private Sector

Mr. Neil Dhot
Aquafeed

Host of High-level Meetings

Mr. Bruce Gordon
WHO

Observers

Mr. Sanjay Banka
Banka BioLoo (Private Sector)

Mr. Sean Cázares Ahearne
Mexico (Country)

Ms. Lajana Manandhar
FANSA/Lumanti (CSO)

Mr. Paul Deverill
DFID (ESA)

Ms. Rechinsuren Batchimeg
Mongolia (Country)

Mr. Sanjay Wijesekera
United Nations Children’s Fund (UNICEF)

OUTGOING STEERING COMMITTEE MEMBERS

Mr. Amjad A. Elmedat
Palestinian National Authority (Country)

Mr. Ghulam Qader
Afghanistan (Country)

Mr. Jochen Rudolph
African Development Bank (ESA)

Mr. Jorge Mora Portugez
FANCA (CSO)

Ms. Lajana Manandhar
FANSA/Lumanti (CSO)

Mr. Paul Deverill
DFID (ESA)

Ms. Rechinsuren Batchimeg
Mongolia (Country)

Mr. Sanjay Banka
Banka BioLoo (Private Sector)

Mr. Sean Cázares Ahearne
Mexico (Country)
Priorities for 2018

8. Priorities for 2018

These strategic priorities cross-cut all SWA Objectives and will guide the joint work of partners in the year ahead.

DEEPENING ENGAGEMENT AT COUNTRY-LEVEL

It remains SWA’s objective to have partners representing all five constituencies in the different regions of the world, and to make sure that in each country we have multi-stakeholder representation. But in 2018 there will be a focus on further mobilizing current partners, and to stimulate discussion and the exchange of ideas and resources between them. To put this priority in motion, SWA will recruit three ‘Regional Advisors’ to coordinate and support the operationalization of the SWA Framework in country.

Other planned activities include country visits by SWA leadership to promote political leadership and prioritization of the sector, engagement in regional platforms such as SACOSAN and LatinoSan, as well as further development and promotion of the Collaborative Behaviours Country Profiles and country stories/case-studies. These exchanges and learnings will be at the core of the preparation process for the 2019 HLMs, which will begin in late 2018.

ROLLING OUT THE SWA MUTUAL ACCOUNTABILITY MECHANISM

Accountability has always been a central part of SWA’s work and is one of its Guiding Principles. An updated Mechanism was approved by the partnership at the end of 2017, and in 2018 the partnership and Secretariat will focus on its roll-out. As a first stage, the Secretariat and leadership will identify occasions at the margins of global or regional gatherings to discuss the revised Mechanism with partners. Several pilot countries will be identified in early 2018 to help pioneer the process.
9. Financial report

Donor commitments

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Donor</th>
<th>Opening Balance in 2017</th>
<th>Received in 2017</th>
<th>Available in 2017</th>
<th>Expected in 2018</th>
<th>Expected in 2019</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>SDC - Switzerland</td>
<td>80,704</td>
<td></td>
<td>80,704</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>DGIS (The Netherlands)</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>USAID (United States)</td>
<td>595,557</td>
<td>695,000</td>
<td>1,290,557</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>DFAT (Australia)</td>
<td>290,252</td>
<td></td>
<td>290,252</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Gates Foundation</td>
<td>854,816</td>
<td></td>
<td>854,816</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Gates Foundation</td>
<td>37,806</td>
<td></td>
<td>37,806</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>DFID (United Kingdom)</td>
<td>1,113,754</td>
<td>552,948</td>
<td>1,655,702</td>
<td>129,870</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>SIDA (Sweden)</td>
<td>467,486</td>
<td>552,547</td>
<td>1,020,033</td>
<td>552,547</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>DGIS (The Netherlands)</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
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<tr>
<td>Gates Foundation</td>
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<tr>
<td>Gates Foundation</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>BMZ - Germany</td>
<td>11,736</td>
<td></td>
<td>11,736</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>TOTAL</td>
<td>3,452,111</td>
<td>2,855,050</td>
<td>6,307,161</td>
<td>2,763,946</td>
<td>685,425</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

SWA Secretariat income and expenditure in 2017 (in US$)

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Income</th>
<th>Credit</th>
<th>Planned by Component</th>
<th>Debit</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Opening Balance</td>
<td>3,452,111</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Donor Funding received in 2017</td>
<td>2,855,050</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Expenditures</td>
<td>3,322,815</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Balance</td>
<td>2,984,346</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Staff</td>
<td>2,787,127</td>
<td></td>
<td>863,647</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Objective 1: Increase political prioritization for sanitation, hygiene and water</td>
<td>240,000</td>
<td>168,255</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Objective 2: Strengthen government-led national processes</td>
<td>525,000</td>
<td>459,303</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Objective 3: Develop and use a strong evidence base to support good decision making</td>
<td>120,000</td>
<td>72,350</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Objective 5: Follow-up and review progress achieved in implementing sanitation, water and hygiene targets of the SDGs</td>
<td>580,000</td>
<td>579,658</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Objective 6: Cross-cutting: Governance, Secretariat and Executive Chair</td>
<td>501,931</td>
<td>907,109</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Indirect cost/Contingency/2%/Program Support Cost Geneva</td>
<td>483,012</td>
<td>236,493</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>TOTAL</td>
<td>5,237,070</td>
<td>3,322,815</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

10. Annex 1: Results Framework 2017

The SWA Results Framework was approved by the Steering Committee in 2017. It is a graphic representation of the partnership’s strategy to achieve its vision, and how different results lead to the achievement of the Objectives. It also lists the success indicators for each result. This is the first official report on the SWA Results Framework.

Vision: Sanitation, hygiene and water for all, always and everywhere

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>RESULTS</th>
<th>2017 STATUS</th>
<th>SUCCESS INDICATORS BY 2020</th>
<th>2017 RESULTS / BASELINES</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Sanitation**</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>• Just over 1 billion people in SWA countries (the SWA region) lacked a basic sanitation service in 2015, 305 million of whom practice open defecation.</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>• In 2015, 69.2% of the urban population and 39.9% of the rural population used a basic sanitation service.</td>
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<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>• In 2015, 3.5% of the urban population and 21.8% of the rural population practiced open defecation.</td>
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<td></td>
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<tr>
<td>• Safely managed sanitation estimate is available for 10 countries in the region.</td>
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</tr>
<tr>
<td>Water**</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>• 511 million people in the SWA region lacked a basic drinking water service in 2015, 83% of whom live in rural areas.</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>• In 2015, 91.9% of the urban population and 65.4% of the rural population used a basic drinking water service.</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>• Urban coverage of basic drinking water services exceeds 50% in 60 countries, rural coverage exceeds 50% in 41 countries.</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Hygiene**</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>• 1.1 billion people in the SWA region lacked a basic handwashing facility in 2015, 724 million of whom had no facility.</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>• Urban coverage of basic handwashing facilities exceeds 50% in 12 countries, rural coverage exceeds 50% in 7 countries.</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
Objective 1: Increase political prioritization for sanitation, hygiene and water

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>RESULTS</th>
<th>2017 STATUS</th>
<th>SUCCESS INDICATORS BY 2020</th>
<th>2017 RESULTS / BASELINES</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Outcome 1.1 Key policy and decision-makers – including development partners – convene at a global level to assess sector progress, identify financing shortfalls, and agree necessary reforms</td>
<td>At least 50% of SWA partners participate in preparatory webinars in run up to the 2017 and 2019 FMMs</td>
<td>• 35 SWA partner countries (55% of total SWA country partners) provided data to GLAAS in 2017</td>
<td>At least 75% of partner countries have WASH national plans aligned with SDG 6 indicators and milestones.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>At least 50% of SWA country partners are represented by their Ministry of Finance in the 2017 and 2019 FMMs, with at least 25% represented at ministerial level.</td>
<td>• 29% of total SWA country partners (17 SWA country partners) provided data to GLAAS in 2017</td>
<td>GLAAS did not collect data on these indicators for 2016/2017 cycle.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>1.1.1 Regular, successful cycle of Finance Ministers’ Meetings</td>
<td>During the 2017 FMM, 22% of SWA partners were represented by their Ministry of Finance. 19% of partners were represented at ministerial level.</td>
<td>• 21 SWA partners countries (22% of SWA country partners) reported that they have financing plans agreed and consistently followed.</td>
<td>GLAAS data was not available for this indicator in the 2016/2017 cycle. The 2018 survey included questions about Joint Sector Reviews and how many development partners are involved, which will be used to track this indicator, in conjunction with question on coordination mechanisms.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>1.1.2 Agreed actions to address financing shortfalls as part of a transparent financing strategy</td>
<td>At least 50% of SWA country partners report that they have sector financing plans agreed and that they are consistently followed, with financial expenditure reports easily accessible to the public.</td>
<td>• 18 SWA partner countries (29% of total SWA country partners) provided data to GLAAS in 2017</td>
<td>37 SWA partner countries have WASH monitoring framework with indicators aligned with those defined by SDG 6 (linked to Result 2.1.1) and used by JMP.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>At least 50% of country partners increase the government budget allocated to WASH.</td>
<td>• 75% of SWA country partners have a national WASH monitoring framework with indicators aligned with those defined by SDG 6 (linked to Result 2.1.1) and used by JMP.</td>
<td>GLAAS data is not yet available on this indicator.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>1.1.3 Increased funding available for the WASH sector</td>
<td>At least 50% of country partners receiving external support report that 50% or more of external support agency funds are aligned with the national WASH plan.</td>
<td>37 SWA partner countries (63% of SWA country partners) contributed data on this for GLAAS 2017</td>
<td>37 SWA partner countries have WASH monitoring framework with indicators aligned with those defined by SDG 6 (linked to Result 2.1.1) and used by JMP.</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Outcome 1.2 The WASH sector is collectively organized, and all stakeholders make harmonized inputs to achieve universal access and eliminate inequalities

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>RESULTS</th>
<th>2017 STATUS</th>
<th>SUCCESS INDICATORS BY 2020</th>
<th>2017 RESULTS / BASELINES</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>1.2.1 Multi-stakeholder dialogue at global and country level</td>
<td>50% of SWA countries hold an annual WASH Joint Sector Review (JSR) resulting in an agreed set of priority actions.</td>
<td>• 31 SWA partner countries (53% of total SWA country partners) conduct joint sector reviews. Of those, 21 countries (45% of SWA country partners) reported priority actions set by the review process.</td>
<td>37 SWA partner countries (63% of SWA country partners) contributed data on this for GLAAS 2017.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>1.2.2 National WASH plans focus on the elimination of inequalities (including gender-based inequality)</td>
<td>25% of SWA country partners report that formal mechanisms (in addition to an annual WASH JSR) are used to facilitate inter-sectoral coordination for water, sanitation and hygiene.</td>
<td>• 38 SWA partners countries (64% of SWA country partners) provided data on this to GLAAS 2017.</td>
<td>Of these, 33 (55% of SWA country partners) reported that a formal mechanism exists to coordinate the work of different ministries, institutions, and organizations with responsibilities for WASH. Of the 32 SWA country partners that conduct JSRs, 27 (85% of SWA country partners) have a formal coordination mechanism.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>1.2.3 National WASH plans focus on the elimination of inequalities (including gender-based inequality)</td>
<td>At least 75% of SWA country partners are implementing a plan that specifies or includes specific measures to reach the most vulnerable/marginalized.</td>
<td>• 38 SWA partners countries (64% of SWA country partners) provided data on this to GLAAS 2017.</td>
<td>Of these, 34 (53% of SWA country partners) reported they are implementing plan that specifies or includes specific measures to reach the most vulnerable/marginalized.</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
Objective 5: Follow-up and review progress achieved in implementing sanitation, water and hygiene targets of the SDGs

### RESULTS 2017

#### STATUS / SUCCESS INDICATORS BY 2020

#### 2017 RESULTS / BASELINES

**Outcome 5.1: Progress in implementing national WASH plans is assessed globally via a multi-stakeholder intergovernmental platform that links to the water resource, health, nutrition and education sectors**

### 5.1.1 Regular, successful WASH Sector Ministers Meetings (SMMs) which bring together water, health, nutrition and education sectors

- At least 75% of SWA partners engage in preparations for the 2018 SMM.
- 60% of SWA partners participated in the preparatory webinars - 81% of SWA country partners participated in the preparatory process.

### 5.1.2 Discussions at the UN, including at the High-level Political Forum (HLPF), informed by SWA’s Mutual Accountability Mechanism

- SWA utilizes its Mutual Accountability Mechanism to inform the UN’s Follow-Up and Review (FUR) of the SDGs.
  - In April 2017, SWA submitted a review of SDG 6.1 and 6.2 to the HLPF.
  - The SWA Mutual Accountability Mechanism was agreed in September 2017 and will be rolled out in 2018.

### 5.1.3 Enhanced linkages between WASH and related sectors

- Every year, SWA undertakes joint activities with 2 other partnerships or platforms representing other sectors.
- The SWA Working Group on WASH and Nutrition was set up in 2017. SWA and SUN movement organized joint events to showcase countries that had made progress in linking WASH and nutrition. The events took place at the Stockholm World Water Week and the SUN Global Gathering. SWA also conducted another joint event with other partnerships including the Global Partnership for Education, Every Woman Every Child and SUN during the UN General Assembly.

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* The SWA Steering Committee did not establish a specific target for the Vision.
** JMP does not provide data disaggregated by gender
*** Water.org, CARE International and WaterAid and also responded to the GLAAS as External Support Agencies (ESAs). These three organizations are part of the SWA partnership, but in the Civil Society Organizations and Research & Learning constituencies, respectively, not SWA’s ESA constituency.
The SWA Annual Report 2017 was prepared by the Sanitation and Water for All Secretariat with the approval of the SWA Steering Committee. It is intended to give a summary of the partnership’s work in 2017. For more information, please visit SWA’s website www.sanitationandwaterforall.org

The Secretariat is grateful for the support of the following governments and organizations, which have made its work possible:

- The Australian Government – Department of Foreign Affairs and Trade (DFAT)
- The Bill and Melinda Gates Foundation
- The Government of the Netherlands – Directorate-General for International Cooperation (DGIS)
- The Government of Sweden – Swedish International Development Cooperation Agency (Sida)
- The United Kingdom – Department for International Development (DFID)
- The United States of America – United States Agency for International Cooperation (USAID)

This Annual Report was issued in June 2018.

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