



Action Plan 2020 - 2021



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March 2020

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1. Introduction

According to the statutes of the Swiss Water Partnership (SWP), the SWP's General Assembly has to "adopt the annual work plan". The Secretariat drafts the work plan based on the SWP's long-term vision and objectives and the Steering Board of the SWP reviews it.

The action plan 2020-2021 presents the key elements of the annual work plan and puts it in the broader framework of the SWP's long-term strategy and objectives. This document covers the period from January 2020 to June 2021 including key targets and activities. It will be updated for the SWP General Assembly 2021.

The SWP is a member platform. While the Secretariat can facilitate and trigger certain actions, its dynamism relies on the ideas and participation of its members. The document therefore presents concrete opportunities to get involved and potential entry points.

2. SWP Strategy

2.1 About the SWP

The Swiss Water Partnership (SWP) was launched in 2012 based on the initiative of SDC with the aim to contribute to solving global water challenges and position Switzerland at the forefront of the international water scene.



Switzerland's privileged situation as Europe's water tower and the fact that around 80% of its water footprint is affecting other countries call for the country to take responsibility to support others in achieving water security for their population and aquatic ecosystems.

As a multistakeholder platform, the SWP brings together over 70 Swiss organisations from the academic, civil society, public and private sector to develop, share, and promote innovative solutions for water challenges in developing and transition countries.



2.2 SWP Vision

Driven by its values of solidarity and integrity, the SWP as a partnership strives to become a **globally well-recognised brand of high quality solutions for water security** and the **platform for water in Switzerland**.

This vision can be articulated into a series of three inherent **sub-functions**. The SWP operates as:

- **A knowledge hub**
 - The SWP is a **dynamic learning platform**, facilitating exchange of knowhow and experience between the members as well as with their partners abroad.
 - The SWP contributes to train and promote the **new generation of water specialists**.
 - The SWP regularly **informs** its members, in a targeted manner, on global water issues.

- **A knowledge setter**
 - The SWP develops itself to a **think-tank**: it enables **space for reflexion** and discussion on key water challenges between stakeholders from various sectors and facilitates **brainstorming** (also with external actors) targeted towards the development of innovative cross-sector innovations contributing to achieve water security.

- **A cross-sector innovation carrier**
 - The SWP creates the **ground for innovative cross-sector projects** to be implemented internationally.
 - The SWP brings cross-sector innovations and expertise **where it is needed**.
 - The SWP **promotes** the **knowledge** and these **innovations and expertise internationally** and feeds them into policy processes in Switzerland, nationally and globally.

By achieving this vision, the SWP aims at becoming a global leader on selected water-related topics. In Switzerland, the SWP aims at acting as the **hub for water-related issues**. It also acts a **model network** with a dynamic core group & secretariat and an **impact network** influencing sector policies leading to improved water management and service delivery.



2.3 SWP Objectives

In order to achieve this vision, the SWP works along three **key set of objectives**:

- **Strong Swiss Voice**
 - Promote Swiss water innovation and expertise in Switzerland and internationally contributing to highly valued and recognized Swiss specialists at international level.
 - Increase the coherence in action and discourse among the SWP members through working groups and collaboration for specific events or projects by learning from each other and mutually reinforcing the existing expertise.
 - Through concrete projects and strategic partnerships, improve the project design by major sector actors (e.g. development banks).

- **Water Dialogue**
 - Feed the innovations and expertise into policy processes in Switzerland, in different countries and globally and ensure that appropriate sector policies are effectively implemented.

- **Dynamic Learning**
 - Create a dynamic learning environment by **creating space**
 - 1) for **reflexion and dialogue**
 - 2) to **develop, test and share innovations** enhancing the effectiveness of approaches to achieve water-related SDG targets
 - 3) to train and promote the **new generation of water specialist by engaging youth** in water-related reflections to attract and connect young people to the sector.
 - These learning environment objectives are interlinked with all the three sub-functions of the SWP (knowledge hub, knowledge setter, cross-sector innovation carrier).



3. Long Term Vision and Milestones

This section aims to give an insight into activities and milestones planned in the longer term (**by 2025 at the latest**). The list is not exhaustive and might change in the future according to upcoming opportunities and the evolution of the Partnership. However, it helps to illustrate the potential evolution of the SWP.

The Swiss Water Partnership as a Knowledge Hub	
Vision for 2025	Milestones
The SWP serves as a dynamic learning platform	<p>Internal knowledge exchanges/fairs, targeted to specific thematic needs are conducted regularly.</p> <p>An overview of all publicly available courses in the Swiss water sector is available on the SWP website and promoted.</p> <p>A training offer of SWP members is available and shared with key international actors.</p>
The SWP contributes to train and promote the new generation of water specialist	<p>A mentoring program is initiated, where senior water experts offer mentoring to junior water experts who are not in their organisations.</p> <p>SWP coordinates the submission of applications of young water professionals to international water events or water prizes (e.g. Stockholm Junior Water Prize).</p> <p>A SWP JPO program is launched, allowing young professionals to gather experience from the variety of stakeholders present in the partnership.</p>
The SWP regularly informs its members, in a targeted manner, on global water issues	Conduct regular information and discussion events on key global water issues.

The Swiss Water Partnership as a Knowledge Setter	
Vision for 2025	Milestones
The SWP acts as a think tank creating space for reflection and dialogue	<p>Working groups on key strategic themes meet regularly to discuss trends and topics</p> <p>Discussions lead to concrete outputs (policy briefs, projects, recommendations, etc.)</p>



The Swiss Water Partnership as Cross Sector Innovation Carrier	
Vision for 2025	Milestones
The SWP creates the ground for innovative cross-sector projects to be implemented internationally	<p>Study tours showcasing innovative cross-sector solutions in Switzerland with strategic partners (e.g. WB, AfDB, ADB, etc.) are conducted regularly.</p> <p>Cross-sector projects are regularly launched amongst members of the SWP (e.g. Flagship Initiatives).</p>
The SWP brings cross-sector innovations and expertise where it is needed	Members of the SWP support the monitoring of the SDG 6 in 1 or 2 pilot countries.
The SWP promotes the Swiss innovations and expertise internationally and feeds them into policy processes	<p>Expertise gained in the pilot countries and in Switzerland are fed into national policies of partner countries.</p> <p>Present and promote Swiss water innovation and expertise in Switzerland and internationally through events and by maintaining close relationships to key sector actors.</p>



4. Action Plan 2020 – 2021

4.1 Activities 2020-2021

This section presents key activities to be conducted in 2020 and 2021. It also presents the targets for 2020-21 based on the objectives of the second phase (2019-2021) and the long-term strategy. These activities are presented along the three key

objectives (dynamic learning, strong Swiss voice and water dialogue) and contribute to one or several aspects of the SWP vision described in the previous chapters.

Objective	Target 2020/21	Key activities 2020/21	How to get involved?
Dynamic Learning			
A SWP mapping of existing trainings in the water sector is shared with strategic partners and applied	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Updated training offer shared with strategic partners At least 1 support mission or training conducted by SWP members based on requests (e.g. from WB or ADB) 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Regularly update the content of the training document Continue to deepen strategic partnerships with WB, ADB, AfDB for training offers in CH 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Let us continuously know if yourself, or some of your partners, plan a training Promote the platform within your network
SWP Think Tank: A knowledge exchange programme is implemented	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Conduct or support members in organizing a 1 SWP learning event Conduct or support members in organizing a half-day knowledge exchange event 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Based on a specific topic suggested and prioritized by the members, an SWP learning event is organized or supported. A knowledge exchange event with a focus on the UN water topic is organized or supported mainly as preparation for 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Contribute with your knowledge to the SWP learning event (give a short presentation, join the discussion group on capacity development and help the secretariat to identify potential speakers for event, etc.)



Objective	Target 2020/21	Key activities 2020/21	How to get involved?
		<p>presentation of good practices at Swiss or international events</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Host the SWP learning or knowledge exchange event • Take the initiative to organise further learning events for SWP members • Share your knowledge in a short knowledge exchange event
<p>A concept on the SWP youth strategy is available</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • The Implementation of the SWP Youth Strategy has started 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Implement the SWP activities of the youth strategy, involving members and partners 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Share your ideas and activities/strategy in the field of youth or young professionals • Join the SWP Youth Task Force
<p>Connecting young water professionals to the sector</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • 1-2 young professional water expert event were conducted • A draft of an internship catalogue is available • A JPO programme / mentoring system for young water professionals is developed 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • The youth group meets regularly • Connect with regional and global youth networks • Identify possible Swiss or international events that could be jointly organized between SWP members, the platform and the youth (e.g. open days/future days for students) 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Become part of the youth group • Propose internship opportunities • Become a host for a youth event • Launch ideas to foster youth engagement • Become a mentor
<p>Attract Youth by encouraging the engagement of Swiss Youth in water with the Swiss Junior Water Prize (SJWP)</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • SJWP is conducted incl. participation of the finalist at the Stockholm Junior Water Prize • SJWP is more broadly advertised within schools • SJWP promoted in CH and Stockholm 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Seek more long-term sponsors • Provide a time slot / space at the WWW SWP booth for the winner of the Swiss JWP • Provide opportunities for the winner of the Swiss JWP to get exposure to the water sector (attendance to an event, 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Participate in the jury of the Swiss Junior Water Prize • Promote the prize in you network • Offer the possibility to the future generation of water leader to get an insight into your organisation



Objective	Target 2020/21	Key activities 2020/21	How to get involved?
		communication of the idea via newsletter, etc.)	(presentation of the activities of your organisation, internship, etc.)
Develop and test innovative ideas through Flagship Initiatives (FI) contributing to the SDG's	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> SWP FF pilot project documentation is fine-tuned and the project has started Identify and formulate 1-2 additional Flagship Initiative (SWP Products) 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Further explore possibilities for Flagship Initiatives and facilitate the development and testing of innovative ideas through space for reflection (see SWP Think Tank) Promote exchange opportunities e.g. through the SWP FF pilot project or another cross-sector collaboration (see strong Swiss voice) Continue reflections on Flagship Initiatives (e.g. SWP FF pilot project) 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Complement and contribute to the SWP FF pilot project with your expertise Contribute to ideas to identify possible Flagship Initiatives (FI)

Strong Swiss Voice

Innovative cross-sector solutions involving SWP members are presented and documented at	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> The SWP is present in 1-2 international events/conferences (SWWW and other) 1-2 seminars at an international event are co-convened by the SWP 1 knowledge exchange event on the UN water topic is jointly organized with members 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Facilitate the participation in thematic events at SWWW Organize a Swiss booth at the SWWW (and potentially at another conference) Support the different working groups Conduct a study tour in Switzerland depending on the demand 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Co-convene a thematic event at the SWWW Co-own the Swiss booth in Stockholm Represent the SWP at international events you are attending Join an existing SWP working group or express your interest to initiate a new
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Objective	Target 2020/21	Key activities 2020/21	How to get involved?
Swiss and International Events	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • 1 new working group on UN topic 2020 is launched at the General Assembly in May 2020 • Identify 1 cross-sector project opportunity or a joint project (e.g. study tour) in collaboration with strategic partners (e.g. ADB) 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Identify and document existing cross-sector innovations 	<p>working group on a topic/project or idea, which would be of interest for you and other SWP members</p>
<p>Innovative cross-sector solutions involving SWP members are presented and /or implemented among Swiss and International Networks and key sector actors</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Promote Swiss specialists by acting as door opener for the SWP members to provide expertise or training to key partners (e.g. through SWP vetted CVs for WB; call for experts for ADB; advisory committee to SDC) • Membership/partnership developed (finances, insurance, etc.) • Dialogue with strategic partners (e.g. ADB, AfDB, WWC, IWA, GWP, SGE) maintained 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Create demand for Swiss water expertise (e.g. multilateral and financial organisations) • Support the development of Swiss strategies/positions in view of key (international) events and processes (e.g. WWW, WWF, SDG) • Promote and strengthen synergies among Swiss and international Networks by identifying joint opportunities (e.g. joint event with FWP and German WASH cluster; Solidarit'Eau; Reseau; Adelphi) • Further explore current and upcoming possibilities for SWP involvement in international projects (through expert panel or expert mapping) 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Communicate to the SWP secretariat your existing and new innovations so they can be documented and shared with key strategic partners • Indicate on the SWP website where your organization is active, so it can easily be communicated to strategic partners or persons willing to start a project in a specific country • Propose to other SWP members who complement your expertise to jointly get involved in projects • Contribute with your ideas and network to identify possibilities for SWP consortia



Objective	Target 2020/21	Key activities 2020/21	How to get involved?
Water Dialogue			
SWP members contribute to shaping global policies	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Facilitate knowledge sharing by contributing to the global policy dialogue among others on the monitoring and implementation of SDG 6 in Switzerland and internationally, with the focus on the policy-science interface and the integration of the human rights to water and sanitation principles 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Based on exchanges, gather and provide information on current development of relevant policy processes from members (e.g. through Infomail or event) Strengthen the water dialogue in sight of the WWF9 (Senegal): create 1 thematic event/input in Switzerland and/or abroad Provide support by exploring possibilities for SWP members to be involved in further discussions around SDG 6 monitoring and implementation in a coordinated manner internationally at country level Support interested organizations in Switzerland in adjusting their water programming to SDG 6 upon request 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Share with the Secretariat your expertise and activities related to monitoring and implementation mechanisms in Switzerland and abroad, which shows how your organization is making a significant contribution in the process towards the achievement of SDG 6 Approach the secretariat with your request (e.g. adjusting your water programming to SDG 6)
Platform Development			
Increase the number and diversity of SWP members as well as their active participation	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> 3-5 new members join the SWP 75% of members attend at least one event during the year Elaborate a concept on decentralized cooperation 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Actively promote the partnership towards potential new members (based on Excel list) Further identify potential entry points for strengthening decentralized cooperation 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Regularly read the SWP Infomail and participate in the SWP events Get in touch with the Secretariat to propose new type of activities that better suit your expectations Encourage your peers to join the SWP



Objective	Target 2020/21	Key activities 2020/21	How to get involved?
Maintain & diversify SWP finances	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • SWP FF pilot project has started (see above) • New sponsors for the SWWW and the SJWP acquired 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Conduct pilot project on SWP blended finance model SWP FF (see above) • Reach out to new potential sponsors for the WWW and the SJWP 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Sponsor an activity of the SWP • Through your network, help the SWP in finding additional financial sources
Increase the attractiveness & impact of SWP communication channels	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Update the SWP Website (incl. the member description) and upload key documents • Update the SWP communication materials 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Update the SWP website regularly • Launch of call for update to SWP members to update their member profile on SWP website • Update key SWP communication documents (Flyer) 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Make sure the description of your organisation on the SWP website is up to date • Regularly update your member space on the SWP website • Provide content for the SWP Secretariat to upload on the website
Event management	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Sponsorship concept is used for thematic events and conferences (e.g. WWW) besides the SJWP 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Apply the SWP sponsorship concept at events and conferences 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Engage in the call for sponsorship

4.2 Yearly Activity Cycle

The main activities of the SWP are structured around a yearly cycle of activities. The Stockholm World Water Week (SWWW) has been identified as a key international event in which the SWP shall be represented, both through thematic events and by giving to its members the possibility to be represented in the exhibition through a common Swiss booth. In addition, the SWP

will organize a yearly event in Switzerland addressing the international water community in Geneva by showcasing the Swiss expertise on the UN-Water theme of the year. The organizers of the SWWW also take up this theme. Thus, during a year, the SWP focuses in particular on the UN-Water theme, as illustrated hereafter. For 2020, the UN-Water theme is “Water and



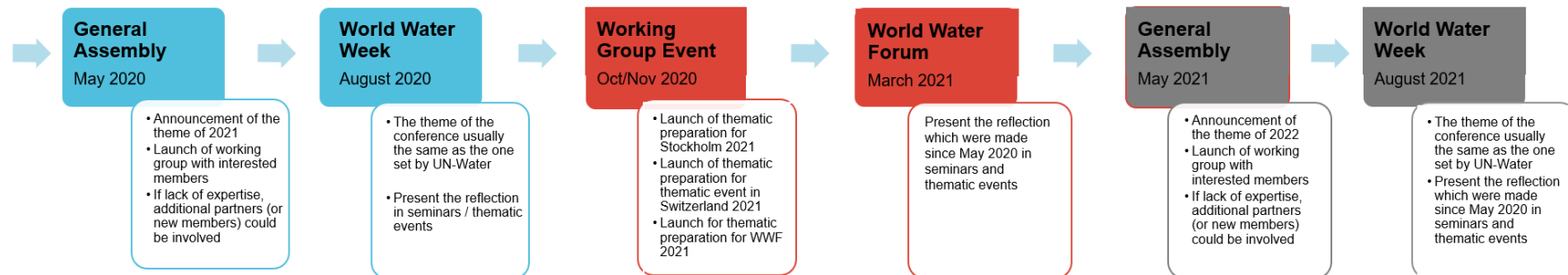
Climate Change”. In 2021, the UN-Water theme will be “Valuing Water”.

This structured cycle of activities responds to all objectives of the SWP. It allows reflecting and discussing on a specific topic

amongst various actors. It gives the possibility for the members to actively participate in this process to learn from each other and mutually reinforce their expertise. It promotes the knowledge and expertise both in Switzerland and internationally. Finally, it creates ground for multi-stakeholder collaboration.



Activity Cycle Swiss Water Partnership 2020 - 2021





5. Organisational Set-Up

5.1 Roles and Responsibilities

Tasks	Steering Board	Secretariat	Members
Planning and operation	Guide the secretariat in developing a strategic orientation & yearly program, oversee implementation	Develop a yearly program, support the development of task groups, organise	Get involved in the planning process, launch initiatives, actively participate in the activities
Communication	Review & validate the strategy	Draft the strategy, ensure day-to day communication, guarantee information transparency	Provide /share information
Finances	Review & validate the business plan, the financial report & audit, assist the secretariat in finding additional financing sources	Draft the business model, manage the budget, elaborate the financial report and organise the audit	Contribute to support the activities of the SWP through their membership fees and fees for participation in international events
Reporting	Review & validate the activity report	Elaborate the activity report	Provide reporting of activities

5.2 Working and Discussion Groups

The SWP aims at providing its members opportunities to take the lead and/or actively engage in discussion or working groups on specific topics or in preparation of a specific event.

The SWP Steering Board clarified that any member can launch a **discussion group** to exchange, discuss or innovate. Discussion groups are a dynamic tool open to any member interested in shaping the SWP.

The creation of a **working group** is more formalised as the Steering Board has to validate it along its planned objectives and outputs. It needs a host member and 2-3 other members from at least two different sectors.

The following table presents the working and discussion groups that exist today, but since these are dynamic groups hosted by SWP members and can easily be linked to the SWP activity streams and value propositions, new groups may emerge and some existing may phase out.



5.2.1 Working Groups

Name	Objective	Lead
Water integrity	Sensitise Swiss organisation on water integrity issues	Cewas
Assessment of Surface & Groundwater	Follow-Up on the past learning event and identify further opportunities for collaboration (e.g. WWW 2020)	SWP / ETHZ
UN Water Theme 2021	Discuss and prepare meaningful inputs on the UN Water Theme 2021 (for a thematic event and for the Stockholm World Water Week)	SWP
SWP Youth	Support the implementation of activities of the SWP Youth Strategy	SWP

5.2.2 Discussion Groups

Name	Objective	Lead
SDG 6 Monitoring & Implementation	Discuss the processes underway towards implementation and monitoring water related targets in the SDG framework and identify possibilities for SWP members to get involved.	SWP