



April 2023, revised November 2023

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Annual Report 2022

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SWP Annual Report 2022

Foreword

The SWP started a new phase in 2022 (2022-2025), aiming at four concrete outcomes:

1. **Networking, exchange and learning:** SWP will provide spaces for members to know each other and their expertise areas and network; to share and enrich Swiss knowledge and expertise among members and with external experts; and to facilitate the exchange between young people and senior water experts to enhance inter-generational learning and professional insertion.
2. **Building solutions together:** SWP seeks to facilitate spaces for members to co-create / co-develop joint projects and innovations, bridging science-practice-policy spheres on water; to actively engage young people in this co-creation of innovative water solutions and policies; and to support members to contribute jointly to global policy dialogues on SDG6.
3. **The Swiss voice in global spaces for water security:** the SWP facilitates and organizes the members' voice at global events, including youth; seeks to facilitate international exchange with water experts, and to link Swiss expertise and solutions to market demand.
4. **Platform Development:** the SWP will need to ensure a growing, diverse and active membership base, around Swiss expertise areas in water and related sectors. This includes the facilitation of a growing and dynamic SWP youth organization. A solid membership base will contribute to the platform's financial sustainability.

The year 2022 allowed returning to more **in person exchange**, for which the SWP facilitated a variety of options.

The SWP offered ample possibilities of **networking, exchange and learning** (Outcome 1): at the SWP General Assembly in Wädenswil (including SWP Youth), the SECO Outreach Event and the Innovate4Water event in Geneva. Also, the Study Tour for ASEAN and Mekong River Commission in August was highlight moment in which water experts learned the Swiss way of managing water as a transboundary resource and saw how water related risks can be managed locally, combining green and grey measures.

Under the heading **building solutions together** (Outcome 2), 2022 saw an active involvement of youth, notably the Stockholm Junior Water Prize – Switzerland contest, the SWP Youth Water Challenge which brings together Swiss and International young water talents to co-create and shape innovative water projects and the newly launched SWP Youth podcast series “Water stressed”.



Very active work was conducted for **Swiss voice in global spaces for water security** (Outcome 3), with international representation in hybrid events at the **World Water Week** in Stockholm and notably face to face through the rich and well attended content programming involving a wide variety of members at the Swiss Pavilion at the **World Water Forum in Dakar**, in March.

Finally, for the SWP **Platform development** (Outcome 4) central were the discussions on the current model of SDC contributing 51% of the budget, which will come to an end in December 2025. From 2026 onwards, the SWP needs to find alternative and diversified ways of financing, while also streamlining secretariat functions. The Steering Board discussed suggestions for financing the core activities of the platform and additional service offers to generate income and launched the discussion with SWP members about the willingness to pay for SWP services in the future and their interest in the different offers. The discussion on financial sustainability beyond 2025 will actively continue this year. Very important is the SWP renewed website, for which discussions started in 2022, and communication through social media (LinkedIn and Twitter), which saw an increased in the number of followers.

Darcy Molnar
SWP Co-Chair

Johannes Heeb
SWP Co-Chair



1. About the Swiss Water Partnership

Switzerland has a vibrant water sector. Swiss water professionals have demonstrated their capacity to develop innovative and effective solutions to improve among others **transboundary water management, flood protection, and water pollution control and treatment. Swiss water research** and the **Swiss water and wastewater operators' training** and continuing education system are globally recognised. Many countries show interest in Swiss water technologies such as on **micro-pollutants, waste management (waste to energy), and hydropower**. Switzerland's development cooperation in water is highly recognised, in particular for its **long-term institutional and capacity building, contribution to water for peace, local governance, risk management, innovative partnerships with the public and the private sector, and contributing to global water policies incl. shaping the new global water architecture**. Finally, the presence of both private investors and UN organisations including UN Water in Switzerland represents a unique opportunity for the Swiss water sector to link up and thus create an added value for the sector.

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 community. More specifically, the SWP aims at **contributing to achieving water-related SDG targets by providing space for reflections and partnership creation, developing innovative solutions, and raising visibility of good practices at international level**.

The SWP is an **independent, value-based platform** that brings together member organisations from the Swiss academic, civil society, public and private spheres. The SWP is a non-profit association. Its bylaws define its scope, objectives, guiding principles, and organs (the General Assembly, steering board, and secretariat).

The goal and guiding principles of the SWP are to bring together relevant Swiss stakeholders active in the international water sector, with the aim to ensure that the members and their partners abroad **contribute in a coordinated and effective way** to promote:

- sustainable and equitable use of water resources;
- sustainable provision of universal access to drinking water and sanitation for all citizens;
- sustainable and equitable management of ecosystems, including water, food and energy production aspects;
- mitigation and adaptation to prevent natural hazards;
- Swiss knowhow and experiences in addressing the above-mentioned challenges, particularly by working together in preparing and implementing major international processes and events.



2. Achievements 2022

2.2 SWP Vision and Impact

The SWP's **vision** is to be **a globally recognized Swiss platform of high-quality trans-disciplinary water solutions**.

The envisioned **impact** of the Swiss Water Partnership is that Swiss knowhow and expertise contribute to **global water security¹ for sustainable development**.

The Swiss Water Partnership is expected to have an indirect impact on the **lives of the people** most vulnerable and exposed to water-related risks and challenges (lack of sustainable access to water and sanitation, water-related disasters, water-related conflicts, etc.), on **environmental protection** as well as **economic development** of the countries the members are working in.

The SWP activities mainly seek to contribute to achieving **SDG 6** on water but also relate to other SDGs like SDG 1 on poverty, SDG 2 on food, SDG 3 on health, SDG 5 on gender equality, SDG 11 on sustainable cities or SDG 13 on climate action.

The role of the Swiss Water Partnership is to facilitate Swiss water actors, including youth, to exchange their **knowledge and expertise**, to learn, **co-develop** and jointly **contribute innovative solutions to global water challenges**.

Our **impact hypothesis** is that *if* the Swiss Water Partnership continues with a diverse and active membership base of Swiss actors in the water domain, including youth, which is well connected and facilitated, *then* its members can mutually benefit from networking, knowledge exchange and learning from each other. *If* the members know each other's interests, expertise and competences, *then* they can co-develop joint projects, approaches and innovative solutions relevant for global water security, building synergies across the science-practice-policy spheres. Engaging youth will generate new ideas for the sector and will prepare the new generation of water professionals. *If* the SWP is well connected and present at global water fora and events with a strong Swiss voice, the members have the space to share and contribute Swiss water solutions internationally. This international presence will allow the review, refinement, adoption, and replication of effective approaches. Well-connected and bundled Swiss knowhow and expertise will hence contribute to global water security for sustainable development.

¹ Water security is at the heart of SDG6, which states «ensure availability and sustainable management of water and sanitation for all». Water security can be defined, following UN-Water, as 'the capacity of a population to safeguard sustainable access to adequate quantities of and acceptable quality water for sustaining livelihoods, human well-being, and socio-economic development, for ensuring protection against water-borne pollution and water-related disasters, and for preserving ecosystems in a climate of peace and political stability' (UN-Water, 2013).



2.3 Objectives and Outcomes in the 2022 context

In 2022, The Swiss Water Partnership started a new phase (2022-2025) and defined four new outcomes (see Figure 1). This chapter reflects on the objectives reached and gives an overview of the SWP activities realized in 2022.

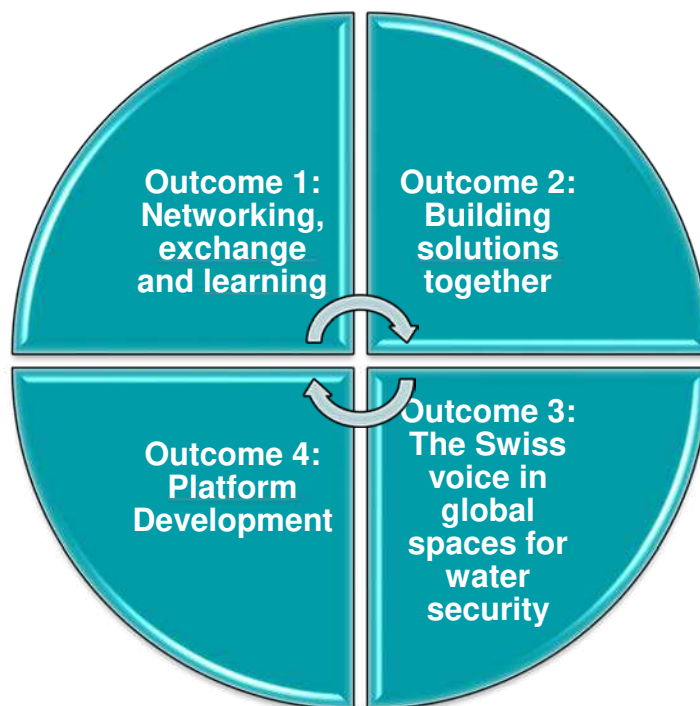


Fig 1: Outcomes SWP Phase 4 (2022-2025)

The year 2022 started with extensive preparations for the World Water Forum in Dakar in March 2022. After two years of limited possibilities to exchange face to face, the World Water Forum was visited with great enthusiasm and was definitely the highlight of the SWP year. Other activities of the year were the SWP General Assembly at ZHAW in Wädenswil, including the SWP Youth General Assembly, the ASEAN/MRC Study Tour, the SECO Outreach Event and the Innovate4Water in Geneva. Additionally, there were still some virtual resp. hybrid events taking place, like the Stockholm World Water Week.

2.4 Outcome 1: Networking, exchange and learning

The core activities of the Swiss Water Partnership and main value for its members are **networking and connecting** as well as **knowledge exchange and learning**. The goal is that the SWP members have increased their knowledge and expertise of current water-related topics through the platform's work.



The SWP has three main **outputs** for this:

- a) Provide spaces for members to know each other and their expertise areas and network
- b) Share and enrich Swiss knowledge and expertise among members and with external experts
- c) Facilitate the exchange between young people and senior water experts to enhance inter-generational learning and professional insertion

The following SWP activities typically contribute to these Outputs:

Learning and knowledge exchange events focus on specific topics and facilitate the exchange of know-how and practical experience between the members as well as with their partners abroad. The knowledge exchanges consist of sharing discussions on bottlenecks, business innovations and experiences as well as new forms of collaboration and solutions.

The annual **General Assembly** offers the members opportunities for networking among themselves but also with external actors, learning from each other, developing new ideas and solutions building up on the diversity of the SWP members' skills and experience, and possibly developing new partnerships.

SWP Youth will continue to focus on creating a network for young water professionals and students in the water sector, both within Switzerland and internationally. To facilitate the exchange between young people and senior water experts and to enhance **inter-generational learning and professional insertion**, activities like the existing Matura mentoring (proposing topics for maturity (A-levels) works and mentoring the works) and intergenerational events like the "Networkshops" will be continued. Other activities like SWP members offering Open Days for students and young professionals are encouraged by SWP. A mentoring system for young water professionals is still in the focus of SWP Youth.

The SWP aims at **promoting synergies and exchanging information with other Swiss-based networks in the sector** such as AGUASAN², the Rural Water Supply Network (RWSN)³ and RésEAU⁴ but also with **umbrella organisations** like Verband Schweizer Abwasser- und Gewässerschutzfachleute (VSA) or Schweizerischer Verein des Gas- und Wasserfaches (SVGW). In the water network landscape, the SWP is unique in that it agglutinates and represents Swiss water organisations, including the private sector. Developing synergies between the different networks is crucial.

² [AGUASAN](#) is an interdisciplinary Swiss community of practice (CoP) that brings together a broad range of specialists to promote wider and deeper understanding of key water and sanitation issues in developing and transitioning countries.

³ The [Rural Water Supply Network \(RWSN\)](#) is the global network for rural water supply professionals.

⁴ [RésEAU](#) is SDC's water network. It aims at assuring the sector knowledge management within SDC and with its partners.



SWP General Assembly 2022

The Swiss Water Partnership celebrated its 10 years existence with the General Assembly at [ZHAW Institut für Umwelt und Natürliche Ressourcen IUNR](#) in Wädenswil.



Fig. 2: Group picture in occasion of the 10 years' anniversary of the Swiss Water Partnership, Photo: SWP

The staff of IUNR first welcomed us at the [KREIS-Haus](#) in Feldbach. KREIS-Haus stands for **Climate and Resource Efficient Sufficiency House**. The project shows how a functioning circular economy can be implemented in buildings in the smallest possible space. From the building materials to the nutrients from the wastewater - everything is in the cycle.



Fig. 3-4: Visit at the KREIS-Haus in Feldbach, photos: SWP



The second part of the visit took us to the Campus Grüental in Wädenswil where the team presented some of their current [research projects](#) like the **MODO** (an energy and water self-sufficient toilet washhouse that produces the required energy itself and cleans the soiled water in the container and makes it available for reuse) which they are testing in South Africa, the **Aquaponics** (polyculture that combines aquaculture and hydroponics, i.e. fish farming and soil-independent food production, in a recirculating system), the **Sun-Oxygen-System** (solar-powered system for aeration of aquaculture ponds in Cambodia) and the **BIOMAT** (a bioplastic production from microalgae).



Fig. 5-6: Visit at Campus Grüental, ZHAW Wädenswil, photos: SWP

In total, 22 participants were present in person at the General Assembly, representing 19 member organizations and 8 representatives of the SWP Youth joined the afternoon program.

The discussions after the statutory part were essential for the future of the platform. The current model of SDC contributing around 50% of the budget will stop by the end of the current phase (end of 2025). From 2026 onwards, the platform needs to find alternative ways of financing. A diversification of finances will be necessary, and the process will have to start now. The Steering Board presented suggestions for financing the core activities of the platform and additional service offers to generate income. The Steering Board launched the discussion with the SWP members about the willingness to pay for SWP services in the future and about their interest in the different offers. The discussion as well as the financial planning beyond 2025 will actively continue this year.

Have a look at the [General Assembly presentation](#) for more information. A special thanks for hosting the General Assembly goes to Devi Bühler und Nadine Antenen and their research team at ZHAW.

Presentation of new SWP members 2022

One of the key objectives of the Swiss Water Partnership is to foster the exchange between the members. The short introduction of the new SWP members brought



insights to their work and helped to connect them to interested members. The presenting new members were:

- Das blaue Wunder
- WATALUX
- Wasser für Wasser
- Skat Foundation
- Links2Water and Development



Fig. 7: The participants carefully listened to the presentation of Ernst Bromeis (Das blaue Wunder)

The SWP warmly welcomes its new members! To read more about the presenting members 2022, read the [full report](#).

Partnerships with Innovate4Water

Innovate4Water is a **marketplace for sustainable development**, organized by **Waterpreneurs**. After the Innovate4Water in Lausanne in 2021, the Swiss Water Partnership also partnered with the Innovate4Water in Geneva in 2022 and coordinated a session with **Swiss Fresh Water**, **Seecon**, **Geneva Water Hub** and **Geneva Center for Security Policy**. Frédéric Koehl from **ecopsis** moderated the session in the name of SWP. The session gave the presenters the opportunity to pitch their innovative projects and highlighted the importance of cross-sectoral collaboration and multi-stakeholder approaches for development in the water sector.



Fig. 8-9: The SWP session at Innovate4Water in Geneva

2.5 Outcome 2: Building solutions together

One of the main reasons for the foundation of the Swiss Water Partnership was to **create partnerships and synergies** among SWP members by putting together different actors with complementary know-how and expertise. Building solutions together remains a central element in the SWP's strategy. The SWP builds on the assumption that there is a demand for 'bundled Swiss expertise'.

Mobilising Swiss water actors for global water issues is one of SWP's value propositions. The partnership aims at supporting Swiss water actors to participate in policy processes particularly related to the **monitoring and implementation of SDG 6** and promoting the operationalisation of the human rights to water and sanitation principles. To achieve SDG 6, SWP can provide space for reflections, partnership development, and dialogue, and by promoting the joint development of new ideas. The joint contribution to global policy dialogues on SDG 6 by joint statements to federal consultations is one specific output of this co-development.

The SWP has three main **outputs** for this:

- a) Facilitate spaces for members to co-create / co-develop joint projects and innovations, bridging science-practice-policy spheres on water.
- b) Actively engage young people in all activities to co-create innovative water solutions and policies
- c) Support SWP members to contribute jointly to global policy dialogues on SDG6.

The following SWP activities typically contribute to these Outputs:

More dynamic and quicker processes to exchange on new ideas are expected to get **new co-creation processes** started. Some concrete ideas are 1) to organize quarterly "meet-the-members" sessions where members can present themselves, their new topics and solutions as well as to ask for collaborations and 2) temporary topic-interest based discussions and brainstorming sessions.



One activity which has been successful in supporting youth at gymnasium level to create innovative solutions since 2017, is the **Stockholm Junior Water Prize - Switzerland** (former Swiss Junior Water Prize) in collaboration with the Swiss Youth in Science contest and the SIWI's annual Junior Water Prize. Building up on this 5-year experience, this activity remains key to draw attention of youth at gymnasium level on important water issues and trigger their interest in further water-related studies.

The annual **Water Challenge by SWP youth** provides seed funding, mentorship and visibility for innovative projects led by young people across the world. The participants are encouraged to co-create innovative solutions through Swiss-International collaborations to contribute towards the water (related) SDGs.

The existing mechanism of the **Working and Discussion Groups** will be used for this co-creation. To motivate the members to become active, the working groups (WG) should be more flexible, thematically focused and for a limited timeframe. The creation of a WG needs a host member and 2-3 other members from at least two different sectors. The Steering Board needs to approve the WG outputs. The **thematic working group** meetings should be mostly dedicated to the annual UN water topics, the preparation of international events like the SWWW or the WWF and/or Swiss-based thematic events. They should continue to provide opportunities for sharing good practices and potentially develop new ideas across sectors. A **discussion group** can be launched by any member to exchange, discuss or innovate and is therefore a dynamic tool open to any member interested in shaping the SWP. Additional to the existing groups, SWP will offer more adhoc spaces for members for co-creation, to become sounding boards for other members' projects and brainstorm on innovations.

To enhance the linkage with international partners, SWP should step up to gain observer status at UN Water and the Economic and Social Council (ECOSOC). The SWP may **organise events in Switzerland**, for example in partnership with UN organisations and/or with the Geneva Water Hub, dedicated to the annual UN water topics. These events could focus on SDG 6 monitoring and implementation, linking the reflections between the SDG 6 process in Switzerland, at country level in other countries (with UN Water), and at global level.

Stockholm Junior Water Prize - Switzerland

The joy of the finalist and organizers was palpable as the 56th edition of the national contest for young researchers **Swiss Youth in Science** was celebrated from 21st to 23rd April in Lugano (TI), after two years in which the competition was successfully carried out online only. The closing ceremony took place on the morning of the 23rd of April in the Aula Magna of the Scuola Universitaria Professionale della Svizzera Italiana (SUPSI), where 117 students who had submitted 106 projects received the appreciation from the Jury and some of them were awarded special prizes.



The Stockholm Junior Water Prize – Switzerland 2022 was granted to Martino Camponovo and Ramon Fitze for their work “**Dalla Spirulina all’energia elettrica**”. Martino and Ramon, two talented young students from the Liceo di Lugano 2 in Lugano-Savosa, drew on all their curiosity and passion for science to build a system that integrates a RedOx cell and a culture of edible photosynthetic cyanobacteria, so that the dioxygen released during their growth can be used to produce electricity. In their work, Martino and Ramon wanted to tackle the challenges posed by climate change by combining two aspects: sustainable food and renewable energy. The organisms and materials used in these processes are low in toxicity and active in carbon sequestration, making the concept presented by Martino and Ramon a promising alternative in the quest for implementing more sustainable solutions to produce electricity while contributing to health and nutrition. The local matadors attracted lots of attention in Lugano through the interactive way in which they showcased their experiment to the experts visiting their stand, as well as to the general public. Their complementary self-made biscuits of spirulina and enthusiastic presentations made a lasting impression among visitors of the projects’ exhibition.



Fig. 10: Ramon and Martino exchange with interested visitors, photo: Karla Schlie

The jury of Swiss Youth in Science acknowledged Ramon and Martino’s work with the distinction “very good” and commented with the following words “The two young students did the project completely independently. I am impressed by the excellent level of their knowledge base and the enthusiasm that both have put into the project. They showed a great interest in theoretical concepts, which they combined with a strong “engineering” motivation in wanting to get not only to the “proof of concept” but to the practical demonstration of the project result. They worked in a multidisciplinary way combining Spirulina cultivation with chemical reactions and the development of a method for dioxygen capture. Read about Ramon and Martino’s project [here](#).”

The Stockholm Junior Water Prize - Switzerland 2022 winners **Martino Camponovo and Ramon Fitze** represented Switzerland in the international competition Stockholm Junior Water Prize (SJWP) from 28 to 31 August 2022, in the frame of the Stockholm World Water Week.

The Stockholm Junior Water Prize is much more than competing for a prize. Martino Camponovo and Ramon Fitze and all finalists participated in study trips, workshops, sessions at the **World Water Week 2022**, interviews, public exhibitions and exchanges with professionals with diverse fields of expertise and backgrounds. The SJWP Award Ceremony was an emotive highlight in the World Water Week.



Fig. 11: Ramon and Martino representing Switzerland in Stockholm, with SJWP-CH organizers Karla Schlie (Swiss Toilet Organisation) and Johannes Heeb (SWP)

Thank you Ramon Fitze and Martino Camponovo for being wonderful ambassadors of Swiss Youth! Dedication, hard work, commitment, care, sense of humor, Swiss punctuality, and an open heart to bring new friends into your life.

The Stockholm Junior Water Prize – Switzerland recognizes young students between 15 and 20 years old who have conducted outstanding school projects written on water and sanitation issues with proven environmental, scientific, social, or technological significance. The Stockholm Junior Water Prize – Switzerland has been awarded since 2017, initially under the name Swiss Junior Water Prize. It is a joint effort of the Swiss Water Partnership and the Swiss Toilet Organisation, aiming to encourage Swiss Youth to grow an interest in water and sustainability issues.

A special thank you to our sponsors **Xylem, Skat Foundation, seecon, Consorzio Depurazione Acque Lugano e dintorni, Consorzio Depurazione Acque del Verbano, Comal SA** and **Studio d'ingegneria Mauri & Associati SA**. We also thank **Karla Schlie** for coordinating this prize and our partners **VSA** and **Schweizer Jugend forscht** for their support.

Winners of the SWP Youth Water Challenge 2022

For the water challenge 2022, Swiss and International young water talents came together to co-create and shape innovative water projects. SWP Youth received more than 20 project proposals from all over the world and carefully selected the top 7. The winners will implement their projects in 7 countries on the Asian, South American and African continents over a period of one year, with focus **on sanitation, drinking water, menstrual hygiene, awareness raising, offering Swiss-inspired solutions**. Therefore, they not only receive seed funding of up to 2000 CHF, but also gain mentorship from leading Swiss water experts, and visibility in the SWP platform as well as in several Swiss and global professional networks. In June, SWP Youth

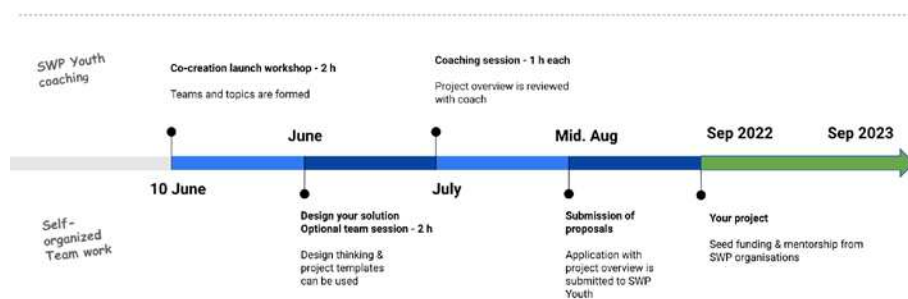


organised a co-creation workshop, for which from more than **100 applications, 31 young water enthusiasts from 26 countries** had joined. From this workshop, 6 teams were formed and had benefited from a coaching session; they have then designed and developed water solutions together. We thank them all for all their submissions and enthusiastic engagement!

SWP Youth Water Challenge 2022 in a few numbers:

- Over 100 applicants for co-creative workshop
- Over 20 final project proposals submitted
- 7 winning projects to be implemented in Asia, South America, and Africa
- Over 10,000 CHF granted to projects

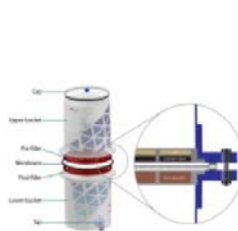
SWP Youth
Water Challenge 2022



The winners of the water challenge 2022 are listed below (in randomised order):



Waterwomen: Empowering women as young water leaders through capacity building and training of female water professionals in Bangladesh



Openversum: Water filters as a business-in-a-box, to deliver safe drinking water for all in Ecuador



She Shelters Sierra Leone: A menstrual hygiene management (MHM) project for young girls in school of Sierra Leone



Water Lovers Ravi: Clean Drinking Water through water quality assessment and handpump installation for People of Ravi, Pakistan



EKYOOTOFOR WATER.s: Advocating and awareness-raising on water management through community-led conversations in Uganda



BRIXSAN: Organic, locally produced product to accelerate fecal decomposition and elimination of odours to improve rural sanitation in Peru



Sodis: Bringing clean and safe water through solar water disinfection (SODIS) to a school in Kenya

Fig. 12-18: Project pictures and logos of SWP Youth Water Challenge Winners 2022



Results of the SWP Youth Water Challenge 2021

The SWP Youth Water Challenge is open to participants between 15 and 30 years old, who have an innovative project related to “Water for development” that is conducted in or related to Switzerland). In the Water Challenge 2021, SWP Youth encouraged Swiss and International young water talents to come together to co-create and shape innovative water projects. A co-creation workshop was organised in March, where teams were formed, and topics identified. The workshop was followed by coaching sessions for the groups with coaches from [collaboratio helvetica](#) to support the group members in developing their solution and their proposal. In addition to the seed grant of up to 2000 CHF each of these projects also received mentorship from senior Swiss water experts from the SWP member organisations. The challenge fostered collaboration between Swiss and International youth in the water sector.



The SWP Youth Water Challenge 2021 in a few numbers:

- almost 100 applicants from 40 countries
- 9 project winners from Co-created solutions
- 11,000 CHF disbursed as seed grants



The winning project teams provided videos of their project outputs, which are accessible on this [SWP youtube channel](#). The following projects have been supported by SWP Youth:



PureDrops: St. Gallen students work with local partners in Uganda on consulting/ business development, distribution of water treatment filters and awareness-raising workshops.



Point-of-water Chlorine Dispensers: Providing safe drinking water for rural communities in Burundi using point-of-water chlorine dispensers in Burundi.



Green Toilet – A citizens4water project: Developing an innovative nature-based sanitation system for a rural school in Brazil with a participatory approach. Compilation of a manual on how to construct nature-based sanitation solutions for other rural communities around the globe.



Youth Act! Blue Peace Index Toolkit: The Youth Act! BPI Toolkit will be a free, accessible solution for helping youth use the Blue Peace Index advocate in transboundary water management forums.



Swajal Shakti Kendra – Women Water Centre: Establishment of a Women Water Centre in India for offering low-cost water quality testing and advisory support services to communities and institutions led by women entrepreneurs.



AMWAJ – The Waves of Change: Providing capacity building of Syrian female engineers and economists in designing their own water management project proposals and communication strategies.



Reboot2Kids: Collecting and rebooting second-hand tablets and distributing them to school children in Sierra Leone to foster their digital learning. At the same time, their tablets are preloaded with a digital water guide to educate them about water issues.



WoW – World of Water: Sensitizing and educating children about the water issues and knowledge through developing a visualisation tool to provide accessible information on introducing water and its processes including actionable steps to improve water security in the local areas.

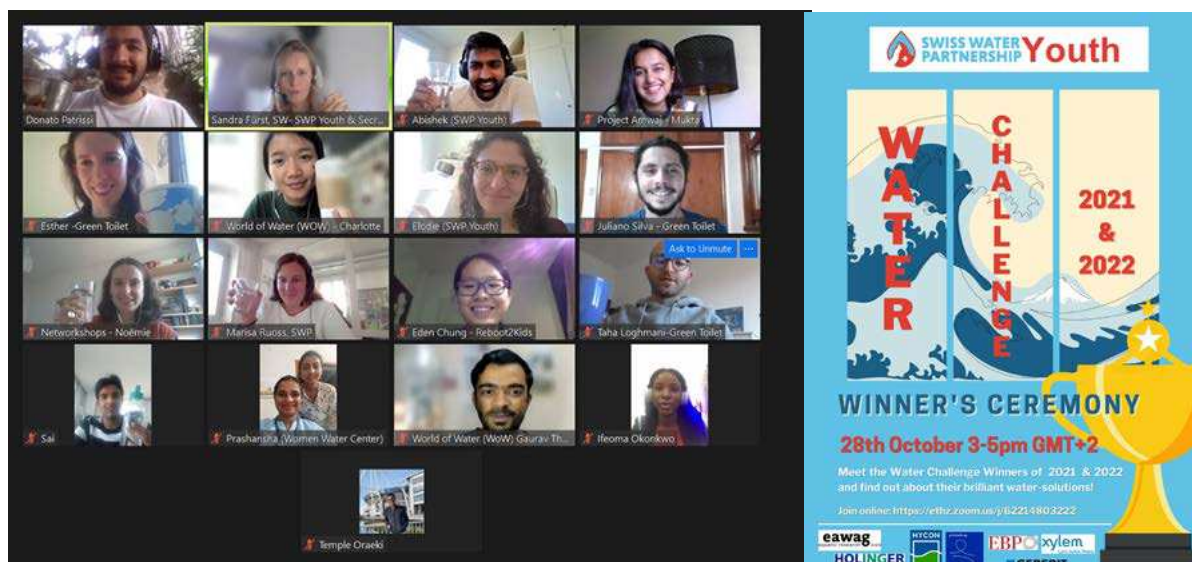


Fig 19-26. Representatives of Water Challenge winners 2021 and 2022 in 8 countries presenting their projects to SWP Youth management Committee and SWP secretariat

Results of Youth Activities 2022

Water Stressed – the SWP Youth Podcast

The first two episodes of the SWP Youth podcast “[Water stressed](#)” has been launched. It is a podcast about global problems related to water. In the first episode, the hosts Francesco and Donato, talk to Dr. Elisa Savelli, a Water Security Specialist from the University of Uppsala, and discuss the problems of living in cities without water and why we cannot blame the rain. The second episode focuses on Pakistan's floods and features Eric Bardou, Deputy Head of the Disaster Risk Reduction at Swiss Humanitarian Aid, and Carine Hancock-Ebner, Desk Manager in Afghanistan and Pakistan for the Swiss Agency for Development and Cooperation, SDC. The podcasts will be continued in the upcoming year.



Matura Mentoring Initiative

The joint Matura Mentoring Initiative (MMI) of SWP Youth, Swiss Toilet Organisation and Stockholm Junior Water Prize- Switzerland) has been re-launched. Led by Georg Odermatt, Solène Schaub and Julian Rieder, MMI aims to motivate students from gymnasiums and technical schools to write their Matura or final grade works on relevant water subjects and connect them to mentors and projects from SWP members. A [current list of topics](#), offered by SWP members, is available for students to choose from.

Youth at Swiss and Global Water Events

SWP Youth engaged actively in the World Water Forum, in the World Water Week as well as the Youth General Assembly in Switzerland. Its engagement is stated in the respective sections of this annual report.

Acknowledgements: SWP Youth Sponsorship and Youth Engagement

SWP Youth kindly thanks the sponsors **Geberit, Xylem, EBP, Holinger, Eawag, photrack and Hycon** for their generous financial support to the Youth Activities 2022, including the Water Challenge, the SWP Youth Podcast, the Mentoring Initiative and the youth at global water events.



SWP also greatly thanks all youth members for their overwhelming, inspiring and dedicated volunteer engagement.

SWP Youth Management

SWP Youth is managed by a dedicated team of 3 to 5 young people (below 30 years old). We would like to say goodbye to Donato Patrissi and Abishek Narayan for serving on the Youth Management Committee (YMC) since almost the beginning of SWP Youth in 2020. We would like to thank them both for all the energy, dedication they have invested as well as for being such passionate youth leaders and advocates. SWP Youth is happy to have Abishek continue with SWP Youth as a Youth Advisor and Donato continue to support the SWP podcast.

Two new YMC members, Akanksha Jain and Delphine Magara, have joined the YMC during 2022 and have already played leading roles in organising the Water Challenge 2022. SWP would like to thank the whole team for their dedicated and excellent engagement!



2.6 Outcome 3: The Swiss voice in global spaces for water security

The Swiss Water Partnership is well recognized through its participation at international events. Building up on this in the new phase, the platform aims at further **promoting Swiss water innovation internationally** by facilitating and organizing the members' voice at global events. Swiss solutions can only contribute to achieving the Agenda 2030 if they are shared, critically reviewed, refined, adopted, and implemented at a larger scale. International exposure and visibility for Swiss water solutions is therefore needed. The Swiss voice in global spaces for water security contributes to exposure and visibility by **convening policy debates and the development of positions**, organising **events both in Switzerland and internationally**, and **maintaining and developing partnerships with key actors**.

The SWP has three main **outputs** for this:

- a) The platform facilitates and organizes the members' voice at global events, including youth.
- b) Facilitate international exchange with water experts.
- c) Link Swiss expertise and solutions to market demand through the partnership.

The following SWP activities typically contribute to these Outputs:

The **Stockholm World Water Week** and **World Water Forum** remain the key priority international events for the members. Other events the SWP might become active are the UN 2023 Water Conference, the Asia Water Week or the Amsterdam International Water Week. The SWP secretariat will continue to invest to highlight Swiss water expertise within the framework of those events. Participation in other events **like international fairs, exhibitions or matchmaking events**, expected to be of added value for members that are usually not involved at the SWWW, particularly representatives from the private sector, can be looked into by the Secretariat on initiative of a member.

SWP will actively include **SWP Youth** in its international activities, but also support specific youth activities together with other regional and global youth networks such as Youth Parliaments for Water. The **SWP Youth** have also co-led the conceptualization of the Youth Session at the Stockholm Water Week the past two years and aim to continue to take a leading role in the coming years.

International events offer the opportunity to **network with international experts**. This international exchange with water experts (e.g. Development Banks, World Bank, ASEAN, WWC, UN organisations), but also with other **national water partnerships** (French Water Partnership, Danish Water Forum, Finnish Water Network, AIWW, NoWNet), other relevant water actors with **complementary competences** and **international youth networks** will be facilitated by the SWP Secretariat. Additionally, the SWP has developed a **good partnership** with related organisations and initiatives such as Swiss Water and Climate Forum or the Blue Community that needs to be maintained and further developed in the new phase. Through sessions at international events also the partners of the members get involved in SWP activities. These



exchanges with actors with high visibility can leverage funding and create the ground for Swiss actors to engage in cross-sector international projects. The good relationship developed with key actors in the past phases will be maintained and further developed by regular exchanges, for example at the occasions of events or in bilateral meetings.

Ideally requests for **Study Tours** or training are resulting from these networking efforts. Study tours will be organised based on demand, on topics such as (transboundary) Integrated Water Resources Management, Hydropower, Integrated Flood Risk Management or water governance. The SWP elaborates a **tailored offer based on the specific needs** of the participants. This approach à la carte builds on an offer of various thematic modules and the participants would choose the most relevant ones according to their expectations and availability. Such events provide visibility to Swiss water actors and contribute to develop partnerships with key global or national actors.

To strengthen the support of the private sector within the Swiss Water Partnership, the **link between Swiss expertise and solutions to market demand** shall be facilitated. Possible activities to reach the linkages are the organization of events to **showcase investment opportunities** for SWP members (e.g. together with embassies, federal offices, Switzerland Global Enterprise) or to present Swiss water expertise at **international roadshows and matchmaking events** (e.g. with international financing institutions).

World Water Forum 2022

Every three years since 1997, the World Water Forum (WWF) is organized by the World Water Council and takes place in a different member country. It is one of the world's largest events on water. The main objective is to mobilize various sectors of society to strengthen action for water management worldwide and make long-term progress on global water challenges. In 2022, the 9th World Water Forum is the first edition taking place in sub-Saharan Africa. Building upon previous World Water Forums, the 9th Forum aimed to identify, promote and implement concrete responses and actions for water and sanitation in an integrated way. The topic of the 9th WWF was: "Water security for peace and development".

The WWF is considered as a key event by the SWP members and partners as it creates an opportunity to enhance the visibility of Swiss water solutions and to approach potential partners and donors, but also to deepen the cooperation with existing ones. As in the previous edition in Brasilia 2018, the SWP together with the **Global Program Water from the Swiss Agency for Development and Cooperation (SDC)** prepared and implemented the process for the Swiss presence at the forum. The SWP and SDC coordinated the Swiss Pavilion (150 m2) to showcase and discuss Swiss water expertise, innovations and projects. What attracted a lot of people was the daily program consisting of different presentations, discussions, exhibitions, illustrations and networking events of the **18 Swiss organisations and companies present and Presence Switzerland**.



Fig. 27: Welcome to the Swiss pavilion, photo: Presence Switzerland

The SWP's main activities were centered around supporting the members, oversee and coordinate the booth and organize events. Two key Swiss events, the **Swiss Reception** at the Residence and the **Swiss Youth Reception** at the pavilion, contributed to represent Switzerland's water expertise internationally.

Overall, **Switzerland had a strong presence and received much positive feedback**. The 9th World Water Forum reflected Switzerland's strategic priorities in the water sector. Switzerland was perceived as a credible, experienced and innovative partner-country with a comparative advantage in the water sector focusing on trending themes such as water stewardship, nature-based solutions and social entrepreneurship. Especially three key topics were associated with Switzerland: Peace & Cooperation, Innovation & Technology and Youth.



Fig. 28-29: Illustrations to the "Water Wish Wall" by the artist Kalonji



At the Swiss pavilion, a total of **29 events were held involving 18 Swiss water and sanitation actors** from NGOs, academia, public and private sector (of which 16 SWP members) over five days led to an audience of average 20 people per session, making a total audience of 580 persons. An average of 230 visitors per day visited the Swiss Pavilion (counted once per hour), or a total of 1.150 visitors, of which thus half attended the content sessions.



Fig. 30-31: Presentations and discussion rounds at the Swiss pavilion, photos: Presence Switzerland

Overall, the World Water Forum (WWF9) attracted around **8'000 visitors from 168 countries**. Next to the Swiss presence in the exposition hall (with a total of 8 exhibitors), SWP Youth was active in the Youth Space and Eawag exhibited their technologies in the Sanitation Village.

Several SWP youth members contributed to events organised at the World Water Forum in Dakar, Senegal during March 21-26. As part of the Swiss Booth we showcased several winning projects from the Water Challenge 2021. A big highlight was launching the Global Youth Movement for Water, a coordination mechanism for youth involvement, with the aim to mobilise and empower youth on the Road to the UN 2023 Water Decade Conference. To date 215 youth organisations have united through this movement and are pushing forward the 30-30-30 Agenda, with the aim that by 2030, youth below the age of 30 years old represents at least 30% of stakeholders engaged in water management and governance mechanisms, consultation and decision-making processes.





Fig. 32-33: SWP Youth Activities at the World Water Forum Youth Space. Youth participants were invited to design postcards and address their key messages to water decision-makers, photos: Presence Switzerland and Sandra Fürst

Find more information about this event in the full [SWP and SDC report](#) and the [Youth Report](#).

Stockholm World Water Week 2022

After two years of virtual Stockholm World Water Weeks, the organizers developed a concept of a hybrid conference. The theme of the event was “Seeing the Unseen: The Value of Water”.



Fig. 34: Flyer NoWNet Session

After many SWP member put a lot of time and resources in their participation at the World Water Forum, the interest to participate at the SWWW was reduced in 2022. Finally, the SWP members ETH Zürich and ZHAW participated in a Nordic Water Network (NoWNet) session with the title “**NBS for Climate Action with sound Watershed Management**”. This session discussed the value of Nature-based solutions (NBS) to mitigate water-related disasters sharing lessons learned from NBS projects in urban and rural areas focusing on watershed-level from Europe, Asia, and the Middle East.

The inputs of [Dr. Peter Bach](#) from ETH/Eawag and [Laila Lüthi](#) from ZHAW focused on opportunities for **implementing NBS in Swiss planning practices**. Nature-based solutions offer a range of multi-functional and climate-adaptive benefits, if they are created at the early stages of territorial development through public-private collaboration. Private architectural studios are frequently commissioned or encouraged by public institutions to participate in pilot planning studies and ideas competitions. Designs from these exercises are compensated for financially by the municipality for adoption in subsequent master plans. Much of this process also bears similarities to engineering and town planning workflows. Using the case of a small development in Bern, Switzerland, it was presented how NBS ideas can be incorporated, both conceptual and technically into architectural design and this



growing opportunity for **cities to seek cost-effective, sustainable options through such public-private interactions**. The speaker, Dr. Peter Bach also illustrated how this case study was adopted in the education of future engineers and planners, who can actively guide this dialogue in future. The example demonstrated the necessity of early interdisciplinary engagement to leverage NBS' full potential in providing climate adaptation and ecosystem services.



Further examples from the city of Zurich, including an apartment building and the KREIS-Haus, focused on the **technical and conceptual implementation strategies** that have been used in Switzerland. The practical aspects of living in a building with incorporated NBS technologies were highlighted as well by Laila Lüthi.

Fig. 35: Presentation Laila Lüthi, ZHAW at SWWW 2022

During the discussion it was examined how we can overcome trade-off challenges and scale-up using technologies, governance, and financing arrangements. The speakers mentioned the following trade-offs:

- Perception of nature versus people
- Land ownership is often a critical factor for NBS
- Bankability of projects → monitoring is becoming possible only after projects are realized → Replication and scalability is difficult without monitoring
- Water does not know boundaries → understanding holistic picture is needed to create bankable projects

In total, 17 speakers and co-convenors contributed to the session, and it attracted additionally 35 participants. The session offered the Swiss presenters a possibility to promote their knowhow and expertise through research on an international platform. The collaboration with the other water partnerships of NoWNet brought interesting insights in their work and the time efforts for the SWP Secretariat to organize the session were reduced.

Even though not enough members showed interest to contribute to a Swiss booth at the conference in Stockholm, the SWP decided to send Johannes Heeb as Co-chair to the event for networking purpose. He had several meetings to discuss potential collaborations. The general feedback on the conference from the Co-Chair was, that the event was smaller than usual, which allowed more efficient networking. The presence of Switzerland was too small. Switzerland should have more presence again in the future. He met with the following organisations for bilateral exchanges:

- Inter-American Development Bank (IADB)



- World Bank
- African Ministers' Council on Water (AMCOW)
- Asian Development Bank (ADB)
- UNEP/ World Water Alliance
- Gesellschaft für Wasser- und Abwasserservice (GWA)
- Cap-Net

Especially the potential for collaborations with IADB (innovation landscape in Switzerland), ADB ((virtual) study tours) and World Bank's Global Water Security & Sanitation Partnership seem promising and further exchanges have been organized. Apart from the bilateral meetings, Johannes Heeb contributed to an event of K-Water, in collaboration with IDB and Australian Water Partnership.



Fig. 36: SWP Co-Chair Johannes Heeb with participants of the K-Water Event at Stockholm World Water Week 2022, photo: K-Water

2.7 Outcome 4: Platform Development

The main stakeholders of the Swiss Water Partnership are the **members**. The SWP activities are expected to enhance their competences, presence at international level, and visibility. The platform uses the available means of communication to share the members' thematic expertise publicly.

The SWP has three main **outputs** for this:

- a) Ensure a growing, diverse and active membership base, around Swiss expertise areas in water and related sectors, through the member acquisition activities of the SWP Secretariat.
- b) Contribute to the platform's financial sustainability.
- c) The SWP Secretariat facilitates a growing and dynamic SWP youth.

The following SWP activities typically contribute to these Outputs:



One of the requirements for the functioning of the platform is a **diverse and active membership base**. The SWP Secretariat continues approaching new potential members, also considering possible members from other sectors (e.g. chemical or pharmaceutical sector). The increased activities in **communication** with the members but also the sharing of information in the e-newsletter, flyer and on social media is in the interest of the members. For this phase, a renewed design and updated content of the SWP website shall provide more detailed information of the members' thematic expertise, well clustered to reflect the Swiss water sector strengths.

The future of the platform depends on its' **financial sustainability**. Additional to the membership fees and donor contributions, **fundraising activities**, sponsorship and contributions for participation in learning and knowledge exchange events as well as fees for the coordination of study tours shall all contribute to diversifying income sources and to further strengthen financial sustainability.

In phase 4, the facilitation of **SWP Youth** remains an important strategic component. The Steering Board in line with the youth strategy now includes two members from the Youth Management Committee. Youth have also been integrated in every activity proposed in this phase. The SWP Secretariat, the Steering Board and the members at large will continue to support youth involvement through support to youth activities and financial contributions. SWP Youth in turn will contribute the **youth perspective and active engagement** in all activities, in addition to support fundraising wherever possible. A **growing and dynamic SWP Youth** can contribute to new and creative ways of tackling water issues.

External Communication

The external communication of the Swiss Water Partnership is happening through the SWP Website. In a first workshop in 2022, the main elements of the new SWP Website were discussed with the working group existing of **Swiss Toilet Organisation, WATALUX, ETH Zürich and SWP Youth**. In the discussions during the workshop, the elements were categorized in "must have" and "nice to have". Based on this summary, offers from several website designers were obtained and reviewed. Until the end of the year, a company was selected and will start developing the new website in the first half of 2023.

Apart from the website, the main communication tools of the Swiss Water Partnership are LinkedIn and Twitter. Until the end of the year 2022, the SWP reached a total of **2'584 followers** on the two platforms (LinkedIn 1'553, Twitter 1'031). The posts lead to **6'104 profile visits** (LinkedIn 633, Twitter 5'471) and **10'905 impression & reactions** (LinkedIn 1'372, Twitter 9'533). Thanks to the increased activity on LinkedIn, the followers on this platform has increased more strongly than on Twitter.

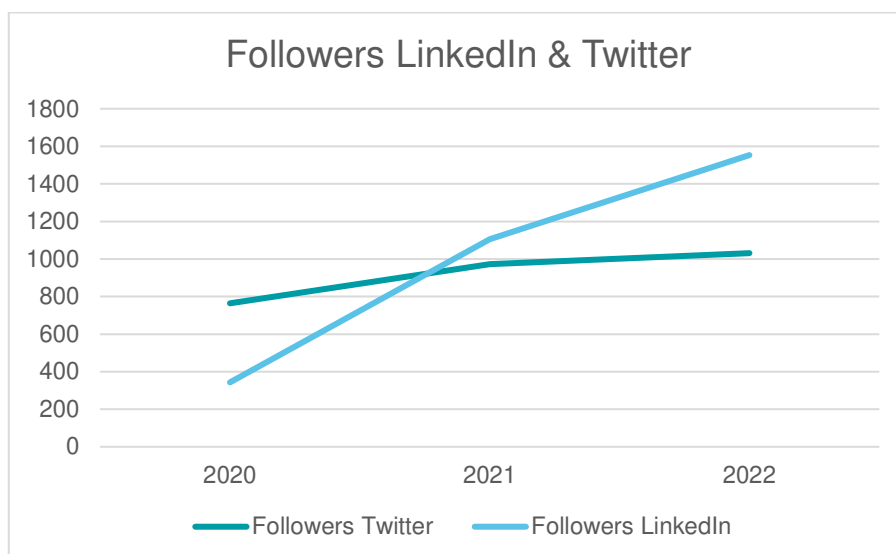


Fig. 37: Followers increase from 2020-2022 on LinkedIn and Twitter

The analysis of the correlation between the number of tweets on Twitter and the tweet impressions and profile visits over 2022 shows that there is a strong link between the number of tweets on the SWP page and the number of impressions/ profile visits. This means, the activities on social media generate a lot of visibility on international level. The high peak in March 2022 can be explained with the activities and posts around the World Water Forum in Dakar.

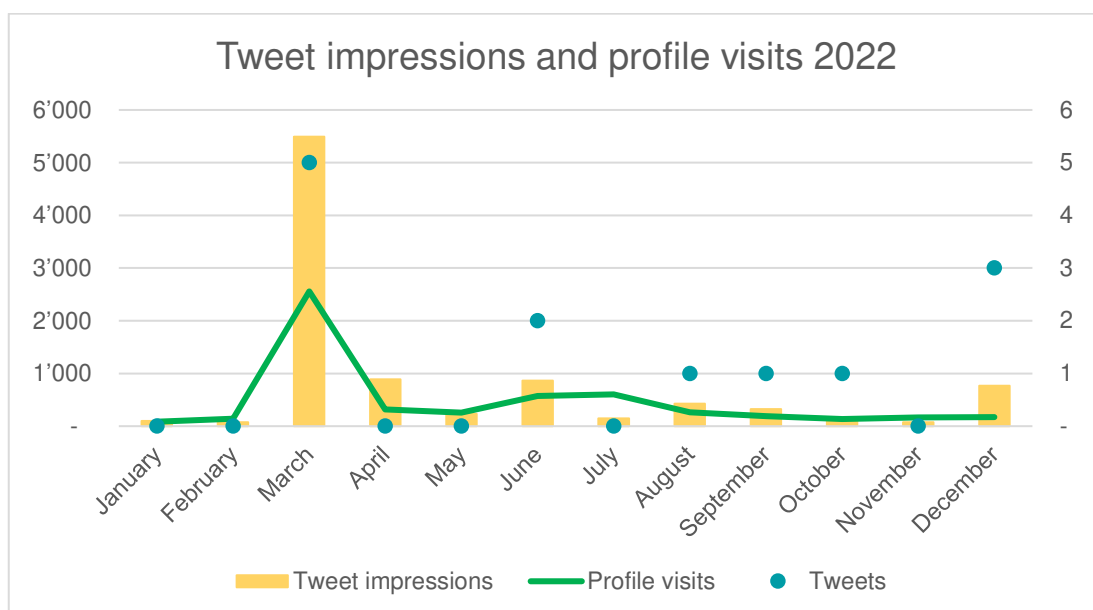


Fig. 38: Correlation between number of tweets and tweet impressions & profile visits in 2022

The new SWP website shall link the social media channels with the website. An increased social media activity should then bring even more impressions and visitors to the SWP website.



3. Financial Overview

The 2022 **expenditures** of Swiss Water Partnership were **CHF 411'815⁵**, below the CHF 496'056 budgeted.

On the **income** side, the SDC contribution amounted to **CHF 172'609⁶** as well as **73'366 CHF** for the study tour. Other income sources were the membership fees of **CHF 58'000** and member contributions and sponsorship of **CHF 140'161** for international and Swiss events.

This results in a positive balance of **CHF 32'322** for 2022.

EXPENSES	Budget 2022	Financial Report 2022
Travel and subsistence	CHF 17'500	CHF 7'415
Airfare international events	CHF 8'000	CHF 3'851.82
Expenses accomodation and food	CHF 8'000	CHF 2'823.43
Train tickets within Switzerland	CHF 1'500	CHF 739.50
External assistance	CHF 297'742	CHF 250'780
Secretariat total	CHF 271'242	CHF 236'172.07
Coordination	CHF 156'057	CHF 124'536.20
Secretary General	CHF 47'980	CHF 31'675.92
Focal Point Youth	CHF 45'072	CHF 54'063.48
Administration	CHF 20'355	CHF 25'896.47
Moderation of events	CHF 1'777	CHF -
Bookkeeping and Audit	CHF 10'000	CHF 7'905.20
Graphic design	CHF 10'000	CHF 2'347.85
Website hosting + continuous improvements	CHF 6'500	CHF 4'354.80
External review	CHF -	CHF -
Consumables	CHF 36'500	CHF 18'116
International events (exhibition space + materials, seminar fees)	CHF 30'000	CHF 4'323.97
Swiss events (Learning events, market places)	CHF 5'000	CHF 10'069.12
Print (flyers, brochures, business cards, etc.)	CHF 1'000	CHF 109.30
Other material cost and expenses (ZKB fee, postal deliveries)	CHF 500	CHF 3'613.49
Other costs	CHF 144'314	CHF 135'505
Study Tours	CHF 55'000	CHF 73'501.47

⁵ It should be noted that the separately received funding by SDC for the study tour 2022, an FDFA mandate, is excluded from the expenditures that serve as base for the calculation of the SDC contribution 2022, which results in CHF 338'448.67. The SDC contribution due for 2022 are thus CHF 172'608.82 (share of 51% of eligible expenditures).

⁶ The total of the first instalment by SDC amounted to CHF 195'000, of which CHF 22'391.18 (difference between actual contributions in 2022 and contributions due) are carried over into 2023.



Youth initiatives	CHF	10'000	CHF	14'954.50
SJWP	CHF	10'000	CHF	12'656.60
Membership fee World Water Council	CHF	350	CHF	325.63
In-kind contribution SWP SB Members & YMC	CHF	56'056	CHF	34'066.38
Contingency fund	CHF	12'908.00	CHF	-
Total Expenditures	CHF	496'056.00	CHF	411'815.12

INCOME	Budget 2022		Financial Report 2022	
SDC contribution	CHF	250'000	CHF	172'608.82
Study Tour Fee (SDC mandate)	CHF	60'000	CHF	73'366.45
Membership fee	CHF	55'000	CHF	58'000.00
In-kind contribution	CHF	56'056	CHF	34'066.38
Additional Income	CHF	135'000	CHF	106'095.20
Member contribution for Swiss events, trainings, market places, etc.	CHF	10'000	CHF	5'366.75
Member contribution and sponsorship for International events	CHF	40'000	CHF	68'328.45
Youth initiative sponsorship	CHF	15'000	CHF	22'500.00
SJWP Sponsorship	CHF	10'000	CHF	9'900.00
Total Income	CHF	496'056	CHF	444'136.85
SWP Capital 2022			CHF	32'321.73

Given the two main service offers provided in 2022, namely the WWF in Dakar and the Study tour of ASEAN and MRC, the **income** structure is better balanced than in 2021: The SDC contribution amounts to 39% of the total income, the study tour fee also paid by SDC to 16%. Membership fees make up 13%, while income generated by member contributions and sponsorship (24%), and in-kind contributions (8%) constitutes of the remaining 32% (see Fig. 39).

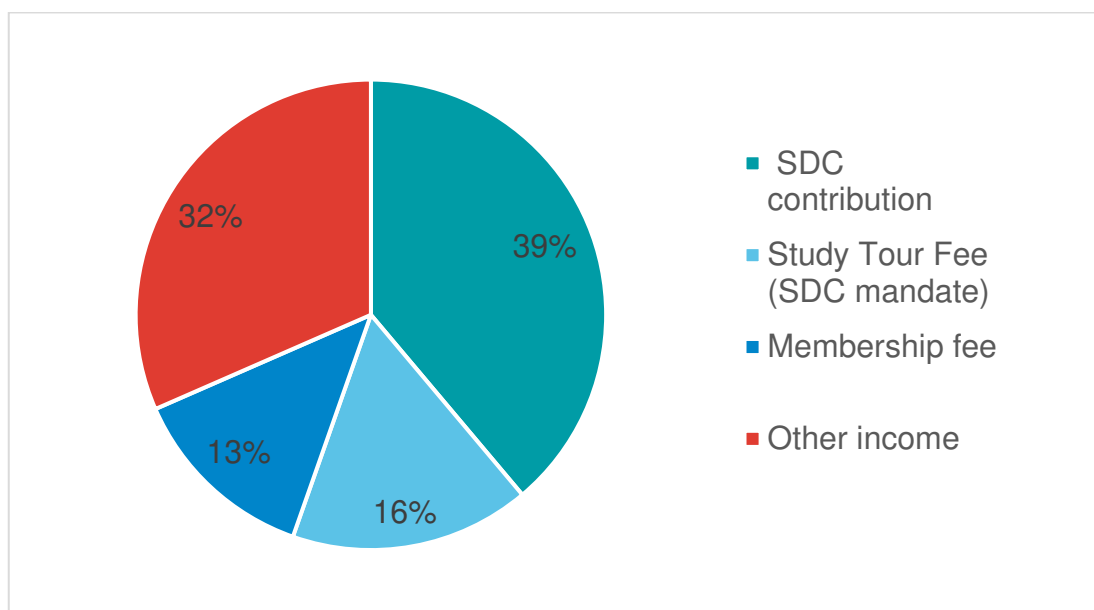


Fig. 39: Income Repartition 2022

On the **expenses** side, all cost lines were below budget, notably remuneration of the secretariat and other service providers (61% of total expenses in 2022) as well as consumables (for international events; 4%) and travel (2%).

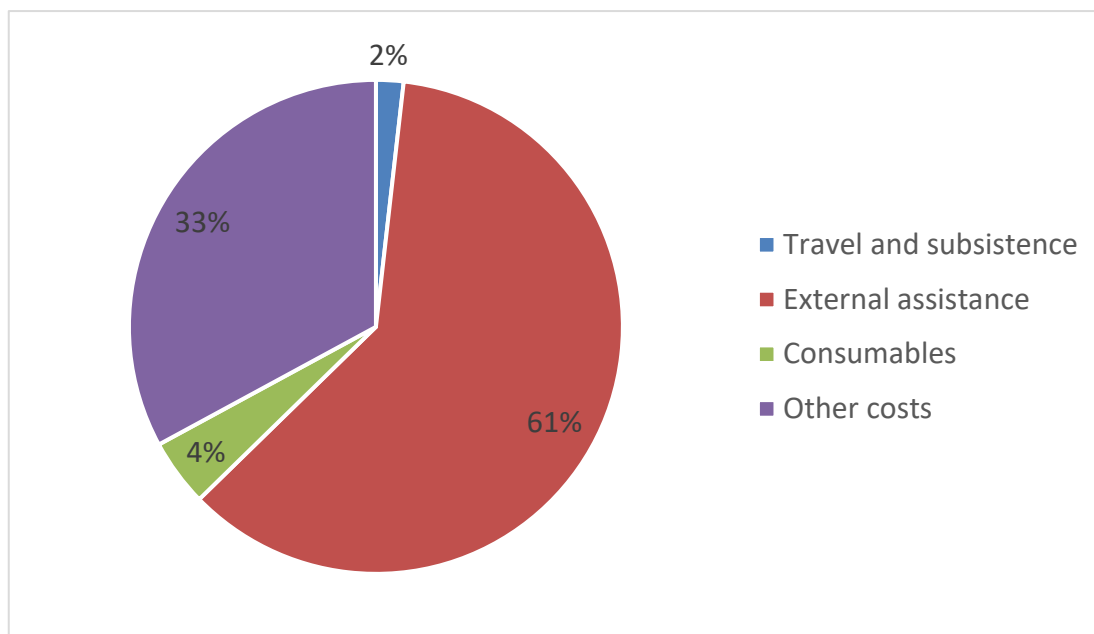


Fig. 40: Expense Repartition 2022



4. Members of the SWP

The SWP has 68 members by end 2022. The SWP General Assembly approved in 2022 9 new members: Water for Water, Das blaue Wunder, Access to Water Foundation and Skat Foundation (NGO sector); Links to Water Development SA, WATALUX and Oxyle AG (SME); Switzerland Global Enterprise (Networks and professional associations); and C Green Solutions (Consulting sector). At the same time, 6 members resigned in 2022: Aqua4D, Hydrell SA, IBG AG and Livinguard Technologies AG, (SME); and BHP – Brugger and Partners (Consulting sector); and Swiss Gas and Water Industry Association – SVGW/SSIGE (Networks and professional associations). Different reasons were provided for the resignations: strategy has changed, SWP offers not used enough or not active, company closing or merging or more pressing internal priorities and restructuring.

The partnership remains **well-balanced** with 45% private sector actors, 25% non-profit organizations, 16% academia and research, 7% networks and professional associations, and 7% public sector.

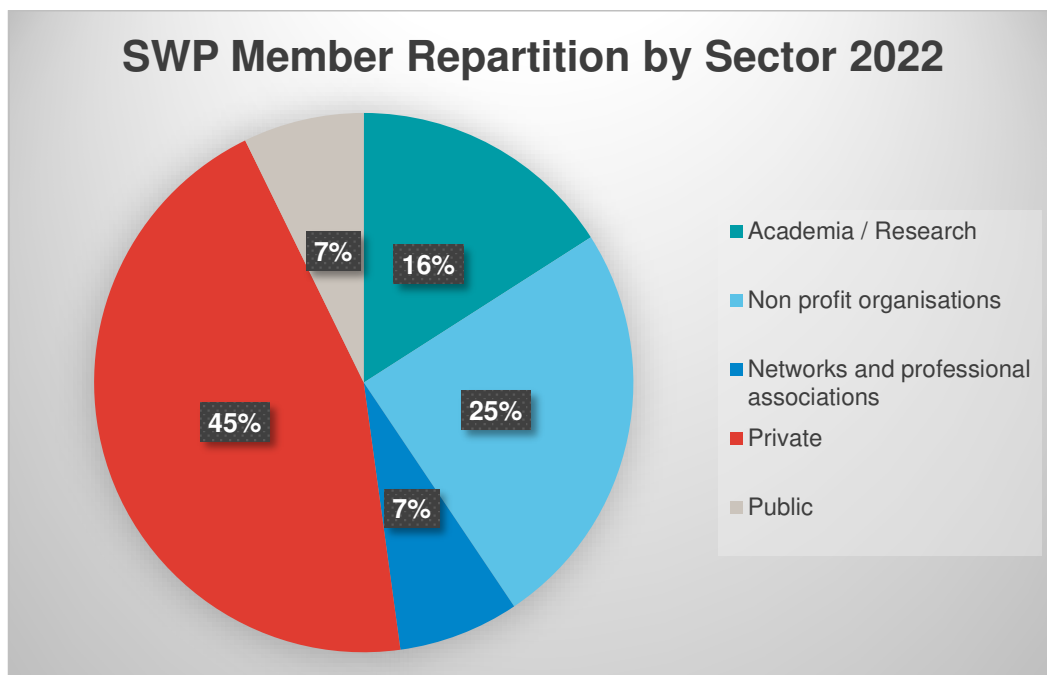


Fig. 41: SWP Member Repartition by Sector 2022

5. Organizational structure

The Swiss Water Partnership association is composed of the following bodies: the **members** (General Assembly), the **steering board** (strategic orientation) and the **secretariat** (management).

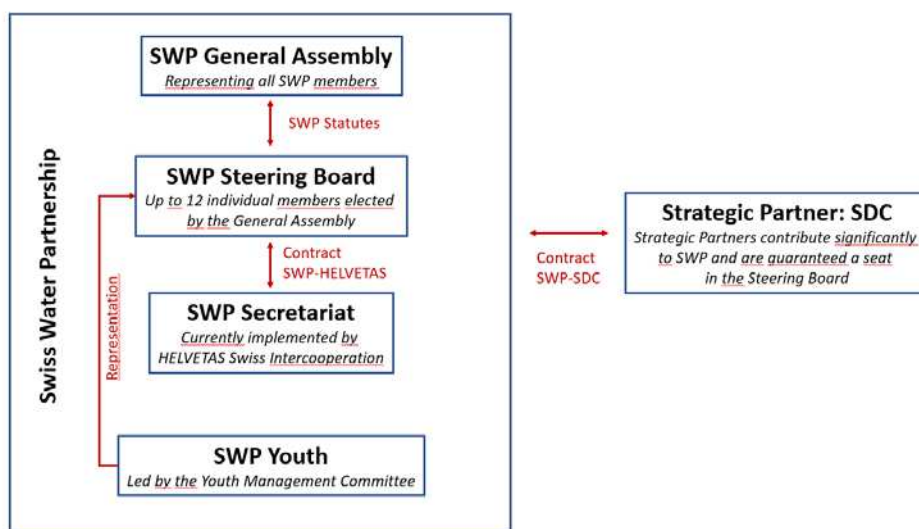


Fig. 42: Organisational structure SWP

The platform is based on **members' initiative**, and the secretariat has a facilitating function. Based on the SWP statutes, the **roles and responsibilities of the different bodies** can be summarised as follows.

Tasks	Steering board	Chair	Secretariat	Members
Planning, operational issues	Guide the secretariat in developing a strategic orientation & yearly program, oversee implementation	Gives strategic support related to achievements of the SWP objectives and to key topics to maintain the development of the partnership and the sustainability of it.	Develop a yearly program, facilitate working/ discussion groups, facilitate spaces for co-creation, organise regular meetings (e.g. GA) and participation at key international events, maintains regular contact with SWP members and approaches potential new members	Get involved in the planning process, launch initiatives, actively participate in the activities
Communication	Review & validate the strategy	See Steering Board	Ensure day-to-day communication, provide/ share information from and to the members, guarantee information transparency	Provide / share information
Financial issues	Review & validate the yearly budget, the financial report & audit	Validation of finances	Draft and manage the budget, elaborate the financial report and organise the financial audit	Contribute to the budget with their fees, approve the yearly budget, financial report & audit



Tasks	Steering board	Chair	Secretariat	Members
Reporting	Review & validate the annual report	See SB	Elaborate the annual and activity reports	Provide reporting of activities, approve annual report

5.1 Steering Board

The total of 12 Steering Board members are key decision-makers, representing the SWP member organizations across the sectors and reflecting the multi-stakeholder character of the Swiss Water Partnership. The SWP Steering Board meets twice a year to review the Secretariat's work and give strategic advice.

SB Member	Member organisation	Elected	End of Mandate	Sector
Andreas Zysset	EBP	2021	2024	Private
Chris Zurbrugg	Eawag	2021	2024	Research
Darcy Molnar	ETHZ, Institute of Environmental Engineering	2019	2022	Research
Derko Kopitopoulos	Ecopsis	2021	2024	Private
Christof Sonderegger	State Secretariat of Economic Affairs (SECO)	2020	2023	Public
Eric Plan	Cleantech Alps	2021	2024	Network / professional associations
Simon Zbinden	Swiss Agency for Development and Cooperation (SDC)	2020	2023	Public
Johannes Heeb	Cewas	2021	2024	Private
Nidal Salim	Global Institute for Water, Environment and Health (GIWEH)	2021	2024	Non-Profit
Abishek Narayan	SWP Youth Management Committee, Eawag	2020	2023	Youth
Frank Wiederkehr	Skat Consulting	2022	2025	Private
Esther Greenwood	SWP Youth Management Committee, Eawag	2022	2025	Youth



Fig. 7: Steering Board Composition 2022

5.2 Secretariat

HELVETAS Swiss Intercooperation hosts the SWP Secretariat. The Secretariat team consists of three water experts and one administrative assistant. You can contact the secretariat by writing to info@swisswaterpartnership.ch.

Coordinator: Marisa Ruoss

Marisa Ruoss holds a Bachelor in Geography and Anthropology and an international Master in Metropolitan Studies with the focus on urban water supply in Mexico City. She has gained field experience in inclusive WASH through strengthening the capacity of a municipality in Cameroon and worked on policy and advocacy in a Water and Sanitation Network in Tanzania. As Coordinator of the SWP, she is the main contact point for the SWP members and for external requests. She is in charge of the day-to-day operational and financial management of the platform, including drafting the action plans and annual reports. She organizes the steering board meetings and the General Assemblies and facilitates and manages the SWP's Swiss and international events.

Secretary General: Bernita Doornbos

Bernita Doornbos is an agricultural engineer specialized in irrigation with experience in irrigation and rural development projects in the Andean region (Ecuador, Peru). Her PhD research was on the introduction of sprinkler irrigation in smallholders' production systems in Cusco, Peru. She has training experience on integrated water resources management for water professionals and has done consultancies in water resources management, irrigation, climate change adaptation and rural development in the Andean region. She has been working with HELVETAS in the Andes since 2007, on climate change adaptation and natural resource management with the Peru program. She is currently Head Water, Food and Climate at Helvetas' Advisory Services department.

Focal Point Youth: Sandra FÜRST

Sandra FÜRST holds a B.A. in Social and Cultural Studies and a M.Sc. in Geography and Development Research with focus on International Relations, Rural Development and Agricultural Water Management. She has several years of working experience in water-related global, regional and national development and research projects as well as with global water networks, like RWSN, RésEAU, AGUASAN and SWA. She works for Skat Consulting, as a subcontractor of HELVETAS Swiss Intercooperation and is responsible for the coordination of SWP Youth, facilitates the activities of SWP youth representatives, advises the SWP secretariat and Steering Board in strategic decisions and supports all SWP activities (e.g. international events and study tours).

