

**Concept  
for the  
Members and Activities Pillar  
of the  
Water and Climate Coalition**



# CONCEPT

## I. Background

We are seriously off track to meet the water-related goals and targets of the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development, especially SDG 6 on ensuring availability and sustainable management of water and sanitation for all, and we are nowhere near ensuring resilient water adaptation to climate change in order to meet the Paris Agreement and Sendai Framework for Disaster Risk Reduction.

A major obstacle to providing efficient and sustainable water solutions is the lack of information about the currently available water resources, water quality, water uses/abstractions, and future availability and demand. The latest UN-Water SDG 6 progress report highlights large data gaps, with the average UN Member State having data for only about two-thirds of the global indicators for SDG 6. Country focal points say data gaps result from the lack of monitoring infrastructure, lack of data management systems, and low expertise, among others. A survey amongst WMO member states showed that 60% of the countries globally report declining capabilities in hydrological monitoring. Efforts to further increase data and information availability are therefore urgently needed for policy- and decision-making and planning at the national and sub-national levels.

The SDG 6 Global Acceleration Framework was launched by the United Nations in 2020 as a unifying initiative that aims to deliver fast results at an increased scale on data and information, as well as on governance, finance, innovation, and capacity development. The Water and Climate Coalition (WCC) was founded by 10 UN entities<sup>1</sup> and the Global Water Partnership, to support the implementation of the Framework with a concrete action mechanism (WCC Members and Activities Pillar) and a high-level policy panel (WCC Water & Climate Leader Pillar) specifically to address the data and information gap.

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<sup>1</sup> WMO, UNU, UNEP, WHO, UNICEF, UNECE, FAO, UNESCO, IFAD and UNDP.

## II. Members

In the Members and Activity Pillar, the Water and Climate Coalition (WCC) brings together multi-stakeholder actors to join forces to implement solutions that address the gaps in operational water and climate challenges with a special focus on data, information, monitoring systems, and operational capacity.

The objective is that members can engage and align with other members on equal footing to generate momentum through implementing concrete activities at national, regional, and global scales. The WCC is open to a wide range of members from academia, the private sector, NGOs, UN Organizations, and other intergovernmental organizations, as well as governmental organizations and civil society.

The coalition is a non-bureaucratic community of like-minded members who comply with the defined [criteria](#) (see Annex I) to ensure the Coalition achieves the envisioned outcome with meaningful contributions. Expression of interest to become a member can be submitted on the Coalition's [website](#) and is granted after the secretariat of the Water and Climate Coalition has verified that the criteria are met.

Once a new member joins the Coalition, they will be invited to a Welcome Webinar, typically scheduled every 2 months or according to need, where they will be introduced to the Water and Climate Coalition and its activities. In this webinar, the new members will get the chance to ask questions and meet fellow new members. After the Welcome Webinar new members can either join ongoing activities of their interest or submit their own suggestions to the Activity Marketplace. By suggesting activities, the members can find partners to collaborate with through the Water and Climate Coalitions' community.

### III. Activities

Members of the WCC can join their forces to get on track to meet the current goals of the water-related SDGs, especially SDG6 to ensure resilient water adaptation to climate change and to provide efficient and sustainable water solutions by closing the data, information, and capacity gaps regarding the currently available water resources, future availability, and demand. The WCC will provide several ways of showcasing successful activities that are implemented under the WCC:

#### The WCC will provide several ways of engagement:

- a) Activity Marketplace;
- b) Activity Implementation
- c) Conferences, Events, Webinars, and Meetings;
- d) WCC Community Support
- e) Interface with political and societal leaders in the water and climate leaders' panel

#### **a) Phase 1 - Finding partners for joined activities: "The Activity Marketplace"**

- The Activity Marketplace is a platform hosted on the WCC website that brings members together to work on concrete activities that
- address the gaps in operational water and climate challenges,
- with a special focus on data, information, monitoring systems, and operational capacity.

WCC members can showcase activities on the Marketplace and find partners for a joined development and implementation of these activities. Members of the Coalition are encouraged to provide activity suggestions that are open and require partners. Activity suggestions for the Marketplace can be submitted through the WCC website:

<https://forms.office.com/pages/responsepage.aspx?id=VL6m6odGxECYJ8BEvY6NPFH2jNwr7ipCn283wAuiVxRUQUJCMFhWVldLQUszU1VTS0IZVDJCMjBZSyQIQCN0PWcu>

The Marketplace is not intended to showcase already fully implemented activities.

The activities on the Marketplace should either be:

- new activities that are open for new partners or
- ongoing activities that require new partners.

### **Steps after having submitted an Activity Suggestion to the Marketplace:**

- The WCC Secretariat will contact the activity focal point and arrange a meeting to discuss the suggested activity
- The activity will be uploaded to the Marketplace
- The WCC Secretariat will assist the activity focal point in identifying potential partners for a joined activity implementation
- During the regular Coalition Member Meetings, newly submitted activities will have the opportunity to present their ideas to find new partners.
- Kickstart Workshop:
  - Once a core group of potential partners has been identified, the WCC will assist in organizing a kickstart workshop if needed to catalyze a joined activity
  - All members of the WCC will be informed about the kickstart workshop to give them the chance to raise their interest in joining the activity
  - Discussion about the goals and objectives of the joined activity
  - Agreement on implementation steps

### **b) Phase 2 – Joined activity implementation: “The Activity Implementation Space”**

After having connected to partners on the marketplace and launched the activity, the activity will be published on the Activity Implementation Space. The Activity Implementation Space is a platform on the WCC website that showcases the activities that entered the implementation phase. The goal is that the members implement their joined activities independently. The Secretariat will assist with the implemented activities when needed.

- The Activity Implementation Space showcases the joined activities and shows the implementation progress. The progress reporting is kept simple and not excessive.
- Members that participate in joint implementation activities will be highlighted on the WCC website as Active Members of the WCC

- During the regular Coalition Member Meetings, activity focal points can highlight the progress of their activities and seek assistance from other members
- The activity focal has the lead on the activity implementation
- The WCC Secretariat will have regular meetings with the activity focal point to discuss the progress and assist with further collaboration possibilities with other members or the Leaders Panel of the WCC (Patronage of a WCC Leader for certain activities).

### **c) Conferences, Events, Webinars and Meetings**

The WCC provides several ways of outreach and interaction. The WCC has established a series of events under the branding “Water and Climate in Conversation” that can give members the opportunity to showcase their activities. Additionally, an “Activity Challenge” will be launched to highlight actively implemented activities. Those activities will have the chance to present their work during several events and conferences like COP, Stockholm Water Week, the 2023 UN Conference on Water, and others.

Activities will be presented to the Water and Climate Leaders and serve as good practice in the Leaders’ communication and policy development activities.

Two to three times a year, the WCC will organize WCC Members Meetings that cover the following topics:

- Information about past, ongoing, and future events and activities of the WCC
- Presentation of newly suggested activities to find new partners
- Presentation of activities that are already under implementation
- Interactive space to socialize with new members and create informal connections
- Interactive discussion on concrete topics related to the WCC
- Interface with Water and Climate Leaders Panel

### **d) WCC Community Support**

The WCC members have access to a large variety of resources and expertise through collaborating with multi-stakeholder members. The WCC members can receive support from the Water and Climate Coalition community (including Secretariat, Members, Leaders, and Youth) for activities. The Secretariat can for example help in fostering partnerships and identifying funding sources within the WCC community and the possibility exist that certain WCC Leaders provide patronage for various jointly implemented activities.

## **e) Interface with political and societal leaders in the Water and Climate Leaders panel**

- Joined members and leaders' event during conferences and events
- Possible patronage of leaders for member activities
- An exchange between high-level policy guidance and practical implementation of activities

## **IV. Steering Committee**

A Steering Committee will be created by the founding members of the Water and Climate Coalition to provide strategic guidance on the Coalition and to steer the implementation of its activities.

The Terms of Reference of the Steering Committee are included as annex II to this document.

## ***Annex 1: Member Criteria***

The WCC has defined the following member criteria: <https://www.water-climate-coalition.org/wcc/wp-content/uploads/2021/11/Criteria-for-becoming-a-Water-and-Climate-Coalition-Member.pdf>

The Water and Climate Coalition is a multi-sectoral community of actors with the intent to address water and climate challenges in an integrated manner, in support of sustainable development and national mitigation and adaptation actions.

Coalition Members join forces on concrete activities to implement solutions that address the gaps in operational water and climate challenges with a special focus on data, information, monitoring systems, and operational capacity.

The objective is that members can engage and align with other members on equal footing to generate momentum through implementing concrete activities at national, regional, and global scales.

The Water and Climate Coalition is open to a wide range of members from scientific organizations, the private sector, NGOs, UN Organizations, countries, and civil society. The coalition is a non-bureaucratic community of like-minded members.

To become a Water and Climate Coalition Member, the interested party or individual should meet the below criteria at a minimum:

- Be actively involved in activities to implement solutions that address the gaps in operational water and climate challenges with a special focus on data, information, monitoring systems, and operational capacity.
- Demonstrate interest in pursuing integrated water and climate agenda in support of sustainable development and national mitigation and adaptation actions.
- Respect principles of the United Nations Charter, the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development, the Paris Climate Agreement, and the Principles of the United Nations Global Compact.
- Commit to engaging and aligning with other coalition members to generate momentum through implementing concrete activities at the national, regional, and global scale.

Submissions will be reviewed by the Water and Climate Coalition Secretariat.



## ***Annex 2: Terms of Reference for the Steering Committee of the Members and Activities Pillar of the Water and Climate Coalition (WCC)***

### **1. Background**

The Water and Climate Coalition (WCC) was founded by 10 UN entities<sup>2</sup> and the Global Water Partnership, to support the implementation of the SDG 6 Global Acceleration Framework with a concrete action mechanism (*Members and Activities Pillar*) and high-level policy guidance (*Water & Climate Leader Pillar*)<sup>3</sup> specifically to address the data and information gap.

Given the increasing number of new WCC members from different sectors, the WCC Founding Members decided to establish a steering committee that consists of members from different sectors to guide the work of the *Members and Activities Pillar*.

### **2. Objective**

The objective of the Steering Committee is to provide direction, and strategic guidance for the *WCC Members and Activities Pillar*, its linkages with the *Water & Climate Leader Pillar*, as well as contribution and interlinkage with the SDG 6 Global Acceleration Framework.

### **3. Membership**

1. The 11 WCC Founding Members and the Head of the WCC Secretariat will be permanent members of the Steering Committee. Additionally, 5 WCC members, if possible, from private and public organizations, academia, and civil society groups will be non-permanent Steering Committee members.
2. The WCC founding members are automatically a member of the Steering Committee.

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<sup>2</sup>WMO, UNU, UNEP, WHO, UNICEF, UNECE, FAO, UNESCO, IFAD and UNDP.

<sup>3</sup>The “Water and Climate Coalition Leaders” were invited by WMO Secretary-General and UN-Water Chair to set and pursue an integrated global water and climate agenda in support of sustainable development and national mitigation and adaptation actions. As part of the Water and Climate Coalition, the eminent representatives of governments, UN entities, civil society, and the private sector focus on catalysing action through leadership and example. <https://www.water-climate-coalition.org/leaders/>

3. WCC members can express their interest to be non-permanent Steering Committee members. The expression of interest will be reviewed by the WCC Secretariat. The non-permanent members will be voted into the Steering Committee by the WCC members.
4. The term of the Steering Committee membership shall be two years with possible extension.
5. The Chair of the Steering Committee will be elected by the Steering Committee members. The Head of the WCC Secretariat will be the co-chair of the Steering Committee to ensure institutional memory.
6. The Chair may consider allowing observers to participate, if/as appropriate.
7. The Steering Committee members commit to dedicate the necessary time and engagement for effective implementation of roles and responsibilities.

#### **4. Working Modalities**

1. Members of the Steering Committee shall meet at least twice a year, virtually and/or in person.
2. Ad hoc meetings may be convened by the Chair when circumstances demand.
3. The WCC Secretariat will support the work of the Steering Committee.

#### **5. Roles and Responsibilities**

1. Provide direction, and strategic guidance for the *Members and Activities Pillar* of the WCC regarding joint implementation of activities to address the gaps of operational water and climate challenges with a special focus on data and information as well as capacity development needed to advance the water and climate agenda.
2. Establish and ensure links between the *WCC Members and Activities Pillar* and the *Water & Climate Leader Pillar*.
3. Ensure the contribution and interlinkages with the SDG 6 Global Acceleration Framework.
4. Provide guidance and support in attracting new WCC members and establishing an active community of members.
5. Provide guidance and support for outreach activities (conferences, workshops, events, etc.)
6. Promote the work, achievements, and goals of the WCC.

#### **6. These Terms of Reference will be regularly reviewed and updated as needs and experience evolve.**