



ALLIANCE FOR  
WATER STEWARDSHIP  
AFRICA





**AWS Africa is the regional initiative of the global Alliance for Water Stewardship.** We work for a water secure Africa, driven by responsible water stewards who play a leading role in economic growth, poverty reduction and sustainable environmental management.

**In Africa we face the greatest water challenges anywhere on earth.** Inadequate water supply and sanitation continue to take an unacceptable human and economic toll. Demand for water for industry, hydropower, cities and agriculture is rocketing. Floods, droughts, and water conflicts grow more severe and frequent. Water infrastructure, governance and financing are extremely limited.

**Africa's future health, wealth and wellbeing depends on our ability to transform these challenges into opportunities:** to harness water to create jobs, energy and economic growth, to ensure healthy, peaceful and more equal societies, and to safeguard our remarkable ecological diversity.

**We invite you to join us within Africa's Alliance for Water Stewardship to work at the heart of this transformation.**

**Water stewardship** is the use of water that is socially equitable, environmentally sustainable and economically beneficial. The **Alliance for Water Stewardship (AWS)** has led development of a global standard which guides and differentiates responsible water users. **Implementers of the AWS standard work with stakeholders through 6 steps to assess and take effective action on shared water challenges and opportunities.** To demonstrate stewardship credentials to communities, government, investors and customers AWS sites can be 3rd party certified.



**Sustainable water balance**



**Good water quality**



**Healthy water-related areas**



**Improved water governance**

**As users of the AWS standard in Africa we have seen the benefits that water stewardship can deliver for all water users.** We have therefore united to champion credible water stewardship and to ensure that the AWS delivers its full potential for Africa.

# The benefits of the AWS standard

Ongoing implementation across the continent, in **Morocco, Nigeria, Ethiopia, Kenya, Tanzania, Zambia, Malawi** and **South Africa** demonstrates benefits for:

## Private sector and investors:

- ◆ A cost-effective framework for safeguarding against water related threats.
- ◆ State-of-the-art guidance and benchmarking against global best practice.
- ◆ Due diligence and risk mitigation across investment portfolios and supply chains.
- ◆ Improved stakeholder relations, investment & social/statutory licence to operate.

## Government, smallholders and communities:

- ◆ Proactive compliance with laws and policies, and the 'do no harm' principle.
- ◆ New engagement on shared problems including WASH, climate & financing.
- ◆ New investment & political profile for sector priorities, governance & advocacy.
- ◆ Safe working conditions, sustainable use, pollution control & conflict resolution.

**"It is clear that the AWS standard will help us implement our national water policy and IWRM. It has our full support."**

CEO, Water Resource Management Authority, Kenya

**"Implementing the AWS standard has opened our eyes to the risks we face. We weren't making best use of our resources and this was risking productivity, and environmental, regulatory and reputational impacts."**

Jeremy Dufour, Olam International, Tanzania

**"The cohesive and inclusive nature of the AWS standard is what sets it apart from other standards and systems."**

Mia Antoni-Naidoo, SGS, South Africa

**"The Standard enlightens business organisations to use water responsibly and address the impacts of climate change."**

Kasenga Hara, National Water Supply and Sanitation Council, Zambia

**"AWS is the future for equitable water use for all in Africa."**

Malama Kasalwe Hamoonga, GIZ IwaSP Zambia

# AWS Africa - our future plans

In 2018, 26 regional stakeholders from 8 countries joined together to agree a strategy to guide and champion the impact of AWS in Africa.

## Our goals:

- 1 AWS standard and system are relevant and widely used in Africa, delivering value for users & stakeholders, & progress towards the Sustainable Development Goals.
- 2 AWS Africa, it's brand and members are widely recognised and respected for their contributions to improved water security in Africa.
- 3 AWS Africa, our members and wider network have the capacity, finances, human resources, technologies and knowledge required to deliver our mission.

Immediate priorities are to communicate and engage to build our membership; support implementation and learning; strengthen the regional capacity base of 172 professionals already trained to AWS accreditation; and to nurture the AWS Africa Secretariat.



## How do I get involved?

### Join as a member

The AWS is a genuine alliance, governed by members drawn from all sectors. Membership provides: unique knowledge & network building opportunities; access to global expertise, innovations, AWS tools and guidance; and the opportunity to shape the future of water stewardship where it matters most.

### Implement the standard

We are keen to provide practical advice to those interested in using the standard. As well as water using businesses, investors, the public sector, donors, retailers and NGOs are now realising the benefits of AWS in Africa.

### Collaborate with us

If you share our vision of a water secure Africa through credible water stewardship, then we want to work with you. Our work goes beyond aid, supporting economic growth, trade and job creation based on secure, sustainable and fair resource use.

For more details please contact Doreen Chanje ([doreenchanje@waterwitness.org](mailto:doreenchanje@waterwitness.org)) or Tyler Farrow ([tylerfarrow@waterwitness.org](mailto:tylerfarrow@waterwitness.org))

AWS Africa is currently hosted by Water Witness International with support from:

