



2018 - 2030



# Partnerships

Helping 20 million people worldwide to gain access to clean,  
sufficient and safe water.



Ministerie van Infrastructuur  
en Waterstaat

 DUTCH WATER  
AUTHORITIES



Ministerie van Buitenlandse Zaken

**Helping 20 million people  
worldwide to gain access  
to clean, sufficient  
and safe water.**



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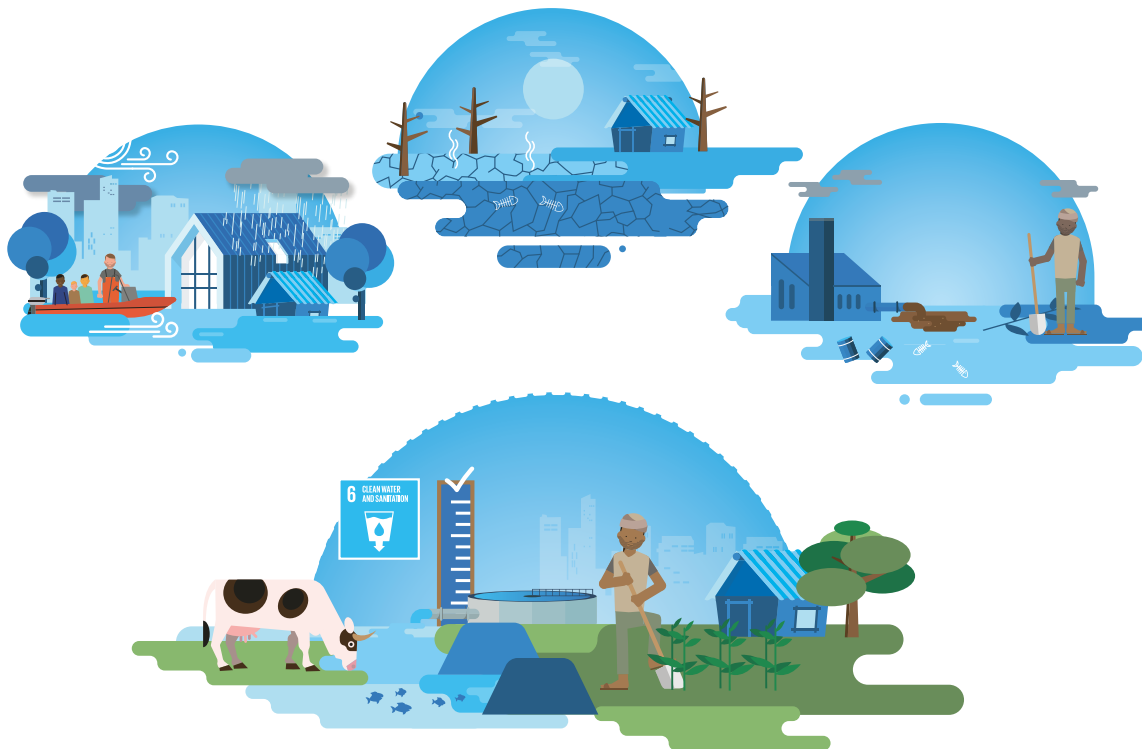
“Worldwide we see an increase in water-related problems. There is therefore a great need for knowledge and expertise on how we can solve these problems structurally and in a sustainable way. I expect the Netherlands to contribute effectively with the Blue Deal to improving water safety and water security in the world. In addition, I also see opportunities for the Dutch private sector. Many countries approach the Netherlands for our expertise to solve problems with water. With this Blue Deal, Dutch Water Authorities and companies in the water sector can more easily cross the border with their knowledge.”

“With the Blue Deal, the projects of the ministries and Dutch Water Authorities have a greater impact in countries that have challenges in the field of water management. If you start with water, you can prevent many problems. Water and food security belong together, as do water shortages and climate refugees.”

“The Sustainable Development Goals have a 2030 horizon. This long term is necessary to realize the ambitious SDG agenda. For me it is important that the Blue Deal has that same horizon. No separate projects, but long-term partnerships, continuity. Impact on 20 million people who are better protected against flooding, have access to water – for example for irrigation – or whose wastewater is better purified; I hope for that.”

**17 partnerships  
in 14 countries**





**Helping 20 million people around the world to gain access to clean, sufficient and safe water. That is the ambitious goal behind the Blue Deal, the international programme of the Ministries of Foreign Affairs and of Infrastructure and Water Management and all the Dutch water authorities.**

The Blue Deal programme will run to the end of 2030 and consists of 17 partnerships in 14 countries. Together they strengthen the three crucial elements of good water management: sufficient knowledge and expertise, a well-functioning organisation and cooperation with key stakeholders. In this way, the programme contributes to achieving Sustainable Development Goals 6.3-6.6, the International Water Ambition and the vision of the Dutch Water Authorities.

### **Unique opportunity**

The Blue Deal is unique because it offers the water authorities and the ministries the opportunity to support regional and national governments with more resources than are available now and for a longer period. By joining forces, the ministries and water authorities wish to achieve more together than they do now individually. The focus is on providing help, creating opportunities for businesses and learning from other countries so as to keep improving our own work in the Netherlands.

## Country list

### **Argentina**

Clean water  
Sufficient water  
Water safety

### **Burkina Faso**

Clean water  
Sufficient water  
Water safety

### **Colombia**

Clean water  
Sufficient water  
Water safety

### **Ethiopia**

Clean water  
Sufficient water  
Water safety

### **Ghana**

Clean water  
Sufficient water  
Water safety

### **Kenya**

Sufficient water

### **Mali**

Clean water

### **Mozambique**

Clean water  
Sufficient water  
Water safety

### **Romania**

Sufficient water  
Water safety

### **South-Africa**

Clean water  
Sufficient water

### **Palestinian Territories**

Clean water  
Sufficient water

### **Peru**

Clean water  
Sufficient water  
Water safety

### **Swaziland**

Sufficient water

### **Vietnam**

Clean water  
Water safety



## All projects

**14 countries | 17 proposals**



## Argentina

### Tandil-Lavalle

Clean water  
Sufficient water  
Water safety



#### Summary:

The Tandil-Lavalle catchment area in Argentina suffers from serious flooding, combined with salinisation at high tide, as well as aridity in combination with saline groundwater. The scarce freshwater supplies are polluted, due to deficient water treatment. Dutch Water Authorities is working together with the province of Buenos Aires to improve local operational water management. To this end, a water organisation is being set up for the Tandil-Lavalle rural catchment area.





## Burkina Faso, Faso Koom

Volta Basin

Clean water  
Sufficient water  
Water safety



### Summary:

In Burkina Faso, five local water authorities are working to improve water management. Dutch Water Authorities is helping to enhance their cooperation. In the initial phase, this partnership will focus on improving monitoring and setting up a water information system, putting a water laboratory into operation, introducing waste water measures for gold mining, drawing up operational water management plans and further establishing local water committees.



## Colombia

Alto Magdalena,  
Macrocuena Magdalena-Cauca,  
Magdalena Media,  
Caldas, Valle del Cauca

Clean water  
Sufficient water  
Water safety



### Summary:

In Colombia, Dutch Water Authorities is strengthening water governance in two regions. In the first phase of the Blue Deal, the focus is mainly on improving integrated water management, on the basis of a three-tier water governance model. The approach involves improving water treatment plants, making management plans more workable, cracking down on illegal industrial discharge and promoting working with reliable data. Experience will be translated into widely applicable methods, directives and procedures, and linked to players at national level. This will enhance water security, availability and quality.





## Ethiopia Abbey

Abbey River

Clean water  
Sufficient water



### Summary:

Ethiopia is richly supplied with water, but unfortunately it is unequally distributed, both time-wise and location-wise. The country's population is growing rapidly and moving to the cities. As a result, local demand for water is increasing fast, creating the danger of water shortages and water pollution. The Blue Deal Partnership is focusing on achieving an equitable, balanced and efficient distribution of water in this catchment area. To this end, Dutch Water Authorities is working with Abbey Basin Development Office, the local water authority. This includes setting up an information system and professionalising the method whereby water data is converted into information, as well as improving the laboratory's quality system. In this way, the Blue Deal partnership is contributing directly to an equitable distribution of water, a professional information supply and manageable water quality.



## Ethiopia Awash

Awash River

Clean water  
Sufficient water  
Water safety



### Summary:

Previously, Dutch Water Authorities worked together with local partners on various issues, including a catchment area management plan. Over the next four years, the Blue Deal partners will work to improve this plan and put it into effect. Attention will also be paid to monitoring, database management, information supply and reporting on the state of the water system. An approach is also being devised to regulate emissions in the Awash catchment area, with a view to improving water quality.





## Ethiopia (WWTPs)

Adama, Awasa,  
Dire Dawa, Bahir  
Dar, Mekelle

Clean water  
Sufficient water



### Summary:

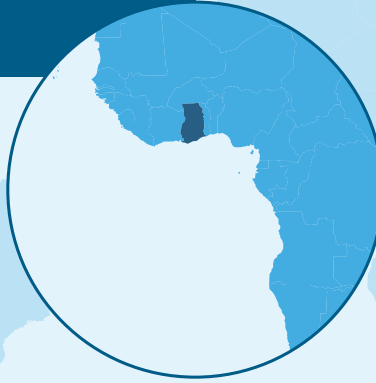
Water scarcity, poor water quality and inadequate sanitation are causing millions of people to die every year. With the Blue Deal the partners want to reduce the discharge of untreated industrial effluent, improve the processing of household effluent and improve the quality of ecosystems. In Ethiopia clean water is scarce. The population is growing rapidly and water sanitation is almost non-existent. This problem is not solved in the blink of an eye. The Blue Deal makes sure that Dutch Water Authorities is helping the Ethiopian partners to improve the water quality step by step in the coming twelve years. With this Blue Deal partnership, Dutch Water Authorities wants to support the Ethiopian partners in improving the (domestic) waste water treatment of five cities. Work is being done on urban waste water plans, the planning and construction of waste water treatment plants (WWTPs) and improving the management and maintenance of existing WWTPs.



## Ghana

Volta Basin  
(White Volta &  
Volta Delta)

Clean water  
Sufficient water  
Water safety



### Summary:

In the initial stage, the Blue Deal partnership is focusing on drawing up water management plans, with attention for agriculture and how it can reduce water pollution. The aim is to tackle emissions and set up a water information system. To ensure the effectiveness of this approach, a new organisational structure for effective local water management is being established. As yet, the Volta Delta does not have a regional water authority, so phase 1 aims to get an effective structure in place.





## Kenya

Tana River,  
Thika Upper &  
Mid Catchment

Sufficient water



### Summary:

Sufficient water is an increasing problem, especially in Africa. The partnership in Kenya is led by World Waternet and focuses on improving quantitative water management in the upstream areas of the Tana River. This area is important for the (drinking) water supply for the capital Nairobi. In the first phase of the Blue Deal partnership, the partners work together on drawing up water management plans and water allocation plans. Special attention is paid to the required information about water availability and water users and to improving data management by setting up water information systems. In addition, work will be done on improving licensing and enforcement. This Blue Deal partnership is linked to the ongoing Waterworx project in Nairobi.





## Mali

Niger River Basin

Clean water



### Summary:

Mali is a country with great potential, but it is still very vulnerable in certain respects, including wastewater treatment. The Blue Deal partnership will ensure that wastewater treatment methods are improved and made more efficient. Within the partnership, Dutch Water Authorities is working with the local agency ANGESEM, which oversees eight wastewater treatment plants in Mali. The focus of the programme is on capacity building, with three priorities: professionalising technical maintenance and supervision of the largest wastewater treatment plants, increasing institutional resilience and achieving a more integrated approach to relationship management.





## Mozambique

Luria, Revubue, Pungwe,  
Infulene, Nhartanda Valley,  
Limpopo, Maputo aquifer,  
Incomati, Montepueze,  
Miengo River, Chiveve



Clean water  
Sufficient water  
Water safety

### Summary:

In this Blue Deal partnership, Dutch Water Authorities is working with five Mozambican water authorities and the water and sanitation department of the municipality of Beira to strengthen their capacity in the fields of water security, water distribution and water quality. The main focus of the programme is on improving operational work processes, and training Mozambican professionals. The pilots are aimed at timely flood prediction and protection measures, as well as measures to improve water quality, to distribute available water more fairly at times of scarcity, and to improve operational plans.



## Palestinian Territories

West Bank

Clean water  
Sufficient water



### Summary:

In the Palestinian territories, the Blue Deal partnership is working on improving water quality and water management. World Waternet is the lead party for this partnership that builds on previously initiated knowledge exchange on water management reform in the West Bank. The activities mainly focus on improving operational water management in two municipalities through peer-to-peer knowledge exchange, and Dutch Water Authorities also supports the implementation of sustainable financing for water management.





## Peru

Tumbes, Chira-Piura

Clean water  
Sufficient water  
Water safety



### Summary:

All themes of the Blue Deal are addressed in the partnership in Peru. The partners are working on clean water, sufficient water and flood protection. Dutch Water Authorities cooperated with Peru for the first time in 2015 in the context of disaster risk reduction. In 2015, the north of Peru was hit by floods. The Blue Deal partnership focuses on improving water governance, with the focus on improving cooperation with various stakeholders. Attention is paid to preventing floods, improving water distribution and availability, and improving waste water treatment in the country. The Dutch water authority Noorderzijlvest Water Board is the secretary for this partnership.



## Romania

11 main river basins

Sufficient water  
Water safety



### Summary:

Water management in Romania is under pressure due to protracted flooding, water scarcity and financial problems. In this partnership, Dutch Water Authorities will be working with the National Administration Apele Romane to jointly identify structural solutions to prevent uncontrollable damage as much as possible.





## South Africa

Inkomati-Usuthu,  
Pongola-Umzimkulu,  
Vaal

Clean water  
Sufficient water



### Summary:

The South Africa Blue Deal partnership springs from the Dutch Water Authorities' Kingfisher programme. In that programme, the partners worked to set up local catchment management agencies (CMAs). Partnership in the Blue Deal will focus on improving operational water management. It will entail working with local water managers and stakeholders in South Africa to provide sufficient clean water where the need is greatest. Projects will be carried out to improve water quality and availability. Over the next four years, the main focus of the partnership will be on water management in the Vaal, Inkomati-Usuthu en Pongola-Umzimkulu regions. There will also be some scope for pilot projects in other regions and with other parties, where the results have the potential to benefit the selected catchment areas.



## Swaziland

Usuthu River Basin, Mbuluzi River Basin,  
Komati River Basin,  
Ngwavuma River Basin,  
Lomati River Basin

Sufficient water



### Summary:

The partnership in Swaziland focuses on better water distribution and better water availability. It is a continuation of the earlier projects of Dutch Water Authorities under the leadership of water authority Vechtstromen. The partnership has the title "All Hands on Deck" and will work over the next twelve years to combat over-exploitation and establish a more efficient use of available water. Dutch Water Authorities helps five local water authorities to professionalise the organisation, with a focus on stakeholder management and increasing water awareness in the region. Improving water management in Swaziland has a positive cross-border impact for both South Africa and Mozambique.





## Vietnam

Several catchment areas

Water safety  
Sufficient water



### Summary:

The Blue Deal partnership in Vietnam has the title “Blue Dragon” and is drawn by the dutch water authority of Vechtstromen. Vechtstromen already has a long-term partnership with Vietnamese partners in the Mekong Delta. This Blue Deal partnership is supposed to achieve results in the field of flood protection and better water distribution and availability. The partnership defines how cooperation between “provinces” and urban regions can improve on these issues. Expert groups have been introduced, consisting of Vietnamese and Dutch experts, who give substance to this assignment. In addition, a Blue Dragon Academy, Accelerator and Community will provide up-scaling possibilities, academic embedding and knowledge exchange.



## Volta

### Burkina Faso & Mali Volta basin

Clean water  
Sufficient water  
Water safety



#### Summary:

The Sourou is a transnational river basin, partly located in Mali, partly in Burkina Faso. At present, virtually no hydrological monitoring or data sharing on water quality and quantity takes place. The Blue Deal partnership seeks to set up an enhanced cross-border monitoring network in order to create a shared understanding of the river basin, with the aim of managing it sustainably and promoting cooperation. This will be done in direct partnership with the ABV, the regional organisation responsible for managing the Volta Basin, so that it can translate lessons learnt to all the six countries within the basin.







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2019

For more information on the Blue Deal, please send  
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