



SUMMARY OF THE RESILIENT WATER ACCELERATOR (RWA)

The Resilient Water Accelerator is a new initiative designed to increase the flow of private and public finance into water projects that help the most climate-vulnerable communities build resilience to climate change.

Our vision: By 2030, at least 50 million people in climate-vulnerable regions have greater water security and climate resilience through increased investment in well-managed water resources and services.

Our mission: to demonstrate the business case for increased and enhanced public and private investment in water-related deals that strengthen resilience for climate-vulnerable communities, and are replicable so that millions more can benefit.

Context

The climate crisis is a water crisis. Around the world, people are feeling the effects of climate change through water (flooding; droughts; sea-level rise, irregular rainfall etc). Climate change is affecting seasonal and long-term water availability, meaning we can no longer rely on rain, river flows and aquifers.

To adapt to this new reality and build resilience to the impacts of climate change, we need to re-think how water resources are managed and delivered for different users over time. This provides an exciting opportunity to rethink how we create investment opportunities that promote resilient water management for people and the planet.

Current investment opportunities often lack the financial viability required to secure the necessary investment. This is due to barriers including:

- Long time horizons for investment and returns
- Lack of data on water supply and demand, water risk and vulnerability
- Competing needs from users
- Weak regulatory frameworks
- Absence of a comprehensive approach to addressing systemic water issues



Credit: WaterAid/ James Kiyimba. Handpump mechanics fixing a handpump head on a borehole in Bwijanga, Masindi District, Uganda,

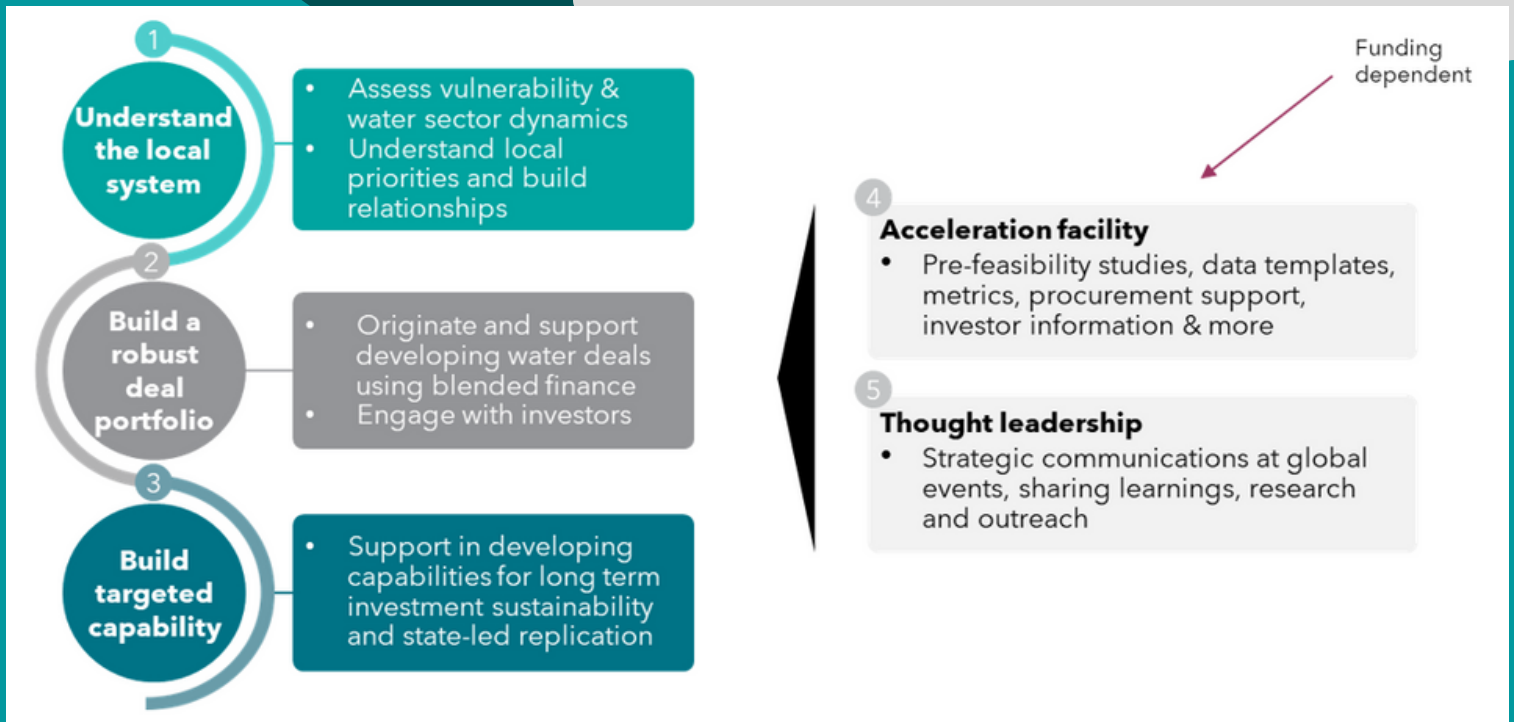
Our goal is to create projects that **address these issues**, and are not only pragmatic in the current context, but also **future-proofed** against impending challenges. It's not just about increasing investment in water, but about **fundamentally revitalising** the investment landscape to incentivise measurable improvements in watershed performance.

How do we do it? RWA focuses on strengthening market conditions for investment in water. We bring relevant decision makers, technical experts and investors together to create deal pipelines that address water risk, strengthen resilience and attract domestic or international private and public finance. We are a globally-distributed team, bringing on-the-ground expertise and comprehensive perspectives, combining climate policy, water economics, private finance, measurement and evaluation, and governance.



Credit: Kiran Pawar. Abesan-Ipaja Septage Treatment Plant, Lagos





Our value proposition is to deliver **speed, scale** and **replicability** by:

- Developing a platform that will identify and share bankable and impactful projects, thereby creating a pipeline for investors across International Financial Institutions, private financiers, corporate organisations and governments, helping to bring together the right mix of financing with the right commercial structures and improvements in the enabling environment.
- Conducting pre-feasibility assessments covering initial social, environmental, legal, regulatory, and financing aspects of projects that are needed by investors.
- Developing templates, shared resources and an investors' database to provide a springboard for increased action on resilient water.

The outcomes will be:

1. Comprehensive programmes that target critical risks to water systems and deliver environmental gains, including carbon reduction, in a way that crowds in diverse sources of finance;
2. Confidence in replicating these investments at scale, through proof of concept and increased availability of data and improved capacity across governments, finance organisations and communities;
3. Improved climate resilience, water security, access to clean water and hygiene, and commercial viability of water investments.

Where are we working already?

The RWA is already operational in **Nigeria** and **Bangladesh**, with plans to expand in up to 10 countries in Africa, South America and South-East Asia over the coming years.

Across both countries, the RWA has cultivated and solidified key relationships with water stakeholders including governments, investors and communities; conducted thorough assessments of the water context to develop a shared vision for action; and developed a robust deal pipeline featuring over 150 projects, with up to 15 projects currently under review.

Join us! in our mission to rethink, redesign, and revolutionise our approach to water. Together, we can create a world where water is not just a resource, but a resilient force that sustains life and prosperity for generations to come.

Connect with our team:

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"If the world could get water investment right, it would unlock US \$500bn in global economic benefits every year."
Source: Systemiq/WaterAid 2022

Visit Our Website
<https://resilientwateraccelerator.org>