

Ministry of Water Resources.
The ministry has the following agencies

- * **Guma Valley Water Company (GVWC)**
- * **Sierra Leone Water Company (SALWACO)**
- * **National Water Resources Management Agency (NWRMA)**
- * **Sierra Leone Electricity and Water Regulatory Commission (SLEWRC)**

The Freetown Water Supply & Sanitation Master Plan Studies is completed; the Government of Sierra Leone implements measures to protect the water catchments and seeks funding for the projects.

ORGANIZERS:

**Government of Sierra Leone,
Ministry of Water Resources,
GVWC, NWRMA, CRS, TNC,
AfDB, CRS.**



THURSDAY, 23 MARCH 2023

11:00 - 12:15

Water Catchment Protection through a Water Fund for Sustainable and wider Water Supply Coverage in Freetown, Sierra Leone

**LOCATION: CONFERENCE
ROOM 7**



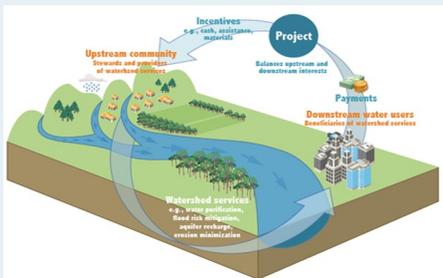
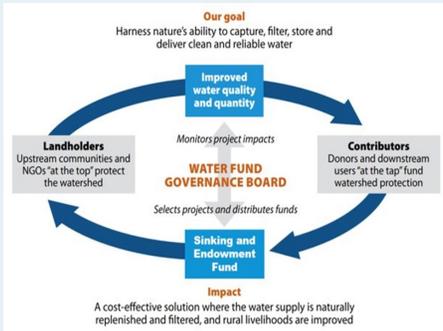
Western Area Peninsular Water Fund

Water Funds are design to enhance financial and governance mechanisms to contribute to water security through nature-based solutions and sustainable watershed management. Water Funds are founded on the principle that it is cheaper to **prevent water problems at the source** than it is to address them later.

The Western Area Peninsula Water Fund (WAP-WF) seeks to protect water sources within the Western Area Peninsular National Park (WAPNP) and beyond. The governance structure consist of five standing committees and a secretariate: a Steering Committee, a Technical Committee, a Resource Mobilization Committee, a Social Mobilization Committee, and a compliance and Monitoring committee. Ad hoc committees will be established to complete specific tasks, the National Water Resources Management Agency (NWRMA) is the Secretariat/Management Unit. Implementing the WAPWF will directly contribute to achieve Goal 3 of the NWRMA Strategic Development Plan(2019-2023). The Nature Conservancy (TNC) is the champion of water funds worldwide and Catholic Relief Service (CRS) through the NWRMA are the main organizations through this water fund business case was developed and being operationalized.

The Business case is been developed and validated. It has a ROI of 2.7 USD for ever 1 USD invested. The initial investment need is 20m USD with 55 million economic benefits in 30 years.

How does the water fund work?



Benefits of the Water Fund

Over 11 Hectares of degraded areas restored.

Agroforestry promoted within the designated buffer zones

REDD+ project has a mitigation potential from 57,000 tco2e to 124,000tco2e per year

Over 11,000 m3 addition water available at annual cost saving of USD 436,941

8.6 million more of tonnes of carbon stored, avoiding annual climate change damages of USD 170,000.

Ecological restoration, agroforestry and nature based tourism, sustainable livelihood and average reduction of flooding.



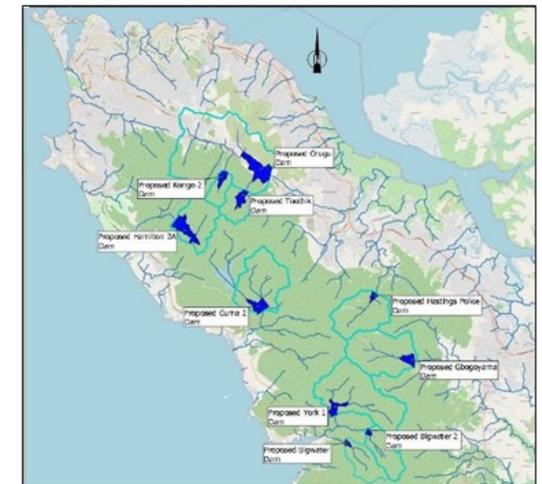
Western Area Water Supply Master Plan

Sierra Leone is projected to be strongly impacted by climate change, especially through increases in extreme events and flooding that will affect already vulnerable populations. Climate variability contributes to deteriorating water security resulting in diminishing water availability for various developmental and environmental needs. The current status of most functional infrastructure in Freetown is to be characterized as aged and of insufficient capacity to cover current demand. The current main water source (Guma valley dam) has a reliable yield of 80,000m³/d, the non-revenue water is assumed to be in the range of 40%. The projected demand for 2030 is approximately 300,000m³/d. Consequently, the current water demand has been quadrupled with the available supply needs for the entire supply area.

The Master Plan

The Master Plan has developed several interventions to help mitigate sustainably the appalling water supply situation in the Western Area, Sierra Leone. The interventions range from the construction of dams, water treatment plants, transmission, and distribution infrastructures throughout the supply area.

These interventions will bring water supply to all inhabitants of the capital city Freetown and peri-urban communities, reduce the incidence of water-borne diseases, support economic growth, and ensure that children spend more time in schools instead of fetching water from unprotected sources, and women and girls remain within the safety of their homes than going in search of water at night.



Proposed Dams Locations in Western Area