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CALL FOR APPLICATION

AN OVERVIEW

European Union Water Operators' Partnerships Programme (EU-WOP) Phase 2

Led by UN-Habitat's Global Water Operators' Partnerships Alliance (GWOPA)
Funded by the European Union

An Invitation to Strengthen Water and Sanitation Utilities Through Solidarity



About the EU-WOP Programme

The EU-WOP Programme supports peer partnerships that improve the capacity and performance of water and sanitation utilities in EU partner countries. Implemented by GWOPA/UN-Habitat and funded by the European Union, the programme champions not-for-profit partnerships – Water Operators' Partnerships (WOPs) – as a cost-effective, sustainable approach to achieving Sustainable Development Goal 6: clean water and sanitation for all.

Phase 1 (2020–2025)

Supported 22 WOPs in Africa, Asia and Latin America.

Phase 2 (2025–2030)

Now open for proposals, with funding available for up to 30 new WOPs.

What is a Water Operators' Partnership (WOP)?

A WOP is a peer-to-peer collaboration between two or more water and/or sanitation operators. It is carried out on a not-for-profit basis with the aim of strengthening public utilities' capacity to deliver safe, inclusive and resilient services.

Resident Partner

The utility receiving capacity support.

Supporting Partner

The mentoring utility.

Additional Partners

Knowledge institutions, facilitators, funders and others contributing to shared objectives.

EU-WOP Stories

Unsung Heroes:

A Powerful Partnership for Sanitation in [Nepal](#)



Photo: Avash Karmacharya/WaterAid.

An Award-winning Partnership in [Peru](#)



Photo: Julie Perkins/GWOPA/UN-Habitat.

Turning Waste into Watts:

A Groundbreaking Partnership in [Zambia](#)



Photo: Luapula Luapula Water Supply and Sanitation Company Ltd.

What's New in Phase 2

Two Funding Windows

- Expanding WOPs – builds on previous Phase 1 projects.
- Emerging WOPs – new or newly configured partnerships.

Leveraging Impact

- Targeted utility improvements in technical, financial, social and environmental areas.
- Leveraging impact with digitalization, financial linking and human rights for stronger impact.

Increased Support to Coordination

- Funded initial diagnostic visit for shortlisted Emerging WOP applicants.
- Required budgeting for staff time and coordination.
- Support for advocacy and joint learning.

Simplified Reporting

- One annual narrative and financial report.

Who Can Apply?

Eligible **Resident Partners** must be public or community-based utilities operating in a country endorsed by an EU Delegation (see country lists below).

Eligible **Supporting and Additional Partners** must be from EU or OECD-DAC countries and operate on a not-for-profit basis.

All partners must be GWOPA members.

All WOP partners must commit to:

- Not-for-profit collaboration.
- Joint design and monitoring of the partnership.
- Adherence to GWOPA's Code of Conduct.

Applications cannot be submitted by a single organization. All proposals must be submitted by a consortium comprising at least one Resident Partner and one Supporting Partner. Additional Partners may also be involved. The EU-WOP Programme supports partnerships only – individual applications are not eligible for consideration.

Need a Partner?

GWOPA helps connect water and sanitation operators to form effective partnerships. Through the WOPportunity Hub and WOPportunity Connect, eligible organizations can share profiles, explore synergies and meet potential partners for EU-WOP 2.

WOPportunity Hub

Browse or post interest in forming a partnership.

WOPportunity Connect

Join online networking events to meet potential partners.

Visit the [Good Grants](#) platform for pairing and resources.

Application Timeline

Window	Stage 1 Application deadline	Outcome notification	Stage 2 Application deadline	Outcome notification
Expanding WOPs	26 Sep 2025	3 Oct 2025	24 Oct 2025	15 Nov 2025
Emerging WOPs	7 Nov 2025	24 Nov 2025	30 Jan 2026	16 Feb 2026

Any adjustments to the application timeline presented here will be announced at the [GWOPA website](#).

Applications are submitted via the [Good Grants](#) platform.
Proposals must be co-developed and endorsed by all partners.

Grant Details

Grant Size

USD 200,000 to USD 400,000

Duration

Up to 48 months

Eligible Costs

Staff time (non-profit/public), travel, supplies, equipment, logistics, coordination and knowledge-sharing.

Co-financing

Cash and in-kind contributions strongly encouraged
All partnerships must demonstrate commitment to shared learning, sustainability and mutual respect.

Let's Build Stronger Utilities – Together

Apply to join a global community of utilities working through solidarity to improve lives and build resilient cities. Whether you are expanding an existing WOP or starting a new one, this is your opportunity to strengthen public services where they are most needed.

Expanding WOPs

Apply by 26 September 2025.

Emerging WOPs

Apply by 7 November 2025.

This brochure is a summary. For full eligibility criteria, budget rules and application requirements, consult the [EU-WOP 2 Call Package](#).

More information on [GWOPA website](#).

Eligible Countries for Resident Partners

• Angola	• Lesotho	• Vanuatu
• Antigua and Barbuda	• Madagascar	• Vietnam
• Bangladesh	• Malawi	• Zambia
• Barbados	• Mali	
• Benin	• Marshall Islands	
• Bolivia (Plurinational State of)	• Mauritius	
• Burkina Faso	• Micronesia (Federated States of)	
• Burundi	• Montserrat	
• Colombia	• Nauru	
• Cook Islands	• Nepal	
• Cuba	• Niger	
• Democratic Republic of the Congo	• Nigeria	
• Djibouti	• Niue	
• Dominica (Commonwealth of)	• Pakistan	
• Dominican Republic	• Palau	
• Ecuador	• Papua New Guinea	
• El Salvador	• Paraguay	
• Ethiopia	• Peru	
• Fiji	• Republic of the Congo	
• Gambia (Republic of The)	• Saint Kitts and Nevis	
• Ghana	• Saint Lucia	
• Grenada	• Saint Vincent and the Grenadines	
• Guatemala	• Samoa	
• Guinea	• São Tomé and Príncipe	
• Guinea Bissau	• Senegal	
• Haiti	• Sierra Leone	
• Honduras	• Solomon Islands	
• India	• Somalia	
• Indonesia	• South Africa	
• Kazakhstan	• Tajikistan	
• Kiribati	• Tanzania	
• Kyrgyzstan	• Togo	
• Lao People's Democratic Republic	• Tonga	
	• Tuvalu	
	• Uganda	
	• Uzbekistan	

Eligible Countries for Supporting and Additional Partners

• Afghanistan	• Democratic Republic of Korea	• Iran (Islamic Republic of)	• Montenegro	• Solomon Islands
• Albania	• Democratic Republic of the Congo	• Iraq	• Montserrat	• Somalia
• Algeria	• Denmark	• Ireland	• Morocco	• South Africa
• Angola	• Djibouti	• Italy	• Mozambique	• South Sudan
• Argentina	• Dominica	• Jamaica	• Myanmar	• Spain
• Armenia	• Dominican Republic	• Jordan	• Namibia	• Sri Lanka
• Austria	• Ecuador	• Kazakhstan	• Nepal	• State of Palestine
• Azerbaijan	• Egypt	• Kenya	• Netherlands (Kingdom of the)	• Sudan
• Bangladesh	• El Salvador	• Kiribati	• Nicaragua	• Suriname
• Belarus	• Equatorial Guinea	• Kosovo (under UN Security Council Resolution 1244/1999)	• Niger	• Sweden
• Belgium	• Eritrea	• Kyrgyzstan	• Nigeria	• Syrian Arab Republic
• Belize	• Estonia	• Lao People's Democratic Republic	• Niue	• Tajikistan
• Benin	• Eswatini	• Latvia	• North Macedonia	• Tanzania
• Bhutan	• Ethiopia	• Lebanon	• Pakistan	• Thailand
• Bolivia (Plurinational State of)	• Fiji	• Lesotho	• Palau	• Timor-Leste
• Bosnia and Herzegovina	• Finland	• Liberia	• Panama	• Tokelau
• Botswana	• France	• Libya	• Papua New Guinea	• Tonga
• Brazil	• Gabon	• Lithuania	• Paraguay	• Tunisia
• Bulgaria	• Gambia (Republic of The)	• Luxembourg	• Peru	• Türkiye
• Burkina Faso	• Georgia	• Madagascar	• Philippines	• Turkmenistan
• Burundi	• Germany	• Malawi	• Poland	• Tuvalu
• Cabo Verde	• Ghana	• Maldives	• Portugal	• Uganda
• Cambodia	• Greece	• Mali	• Romania	• Ukraine
• Cameroon	• Grenada	• Malta	• Rwanda	• Uzbekistan
• Central African Republic	• Guatemala	• Marshall Islands	• Saint Helena and the Grenadines	• Vanuatu
• Chad	• Guinea	• Mauritania	• Samoa	• Venezuela (Bolivarian Republic of)
• China (People's Republic of)	• Guinea Bissau	• Mauritius	• São Tomé and Príncipe	• Vietnam
• Colombia	• Guyana	• Mexico	• Senegal	• Wallis and Futuna
• Comoros	• Haiti	• Micronesia (Federated States of)	• Serbia	• Yemen
• Congo	• Honduras	• Moldova	• Sierra Leone	• Zambia
• Costa Rica	• Hungary	• Mongolia	• Slovakia	• Zimbabwe
• Côte d'Ivoire	• India		• Slovenia	
• Croatia	• Indonesia			
• Cuba				
• Cyprus				
• Czech Republic				



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