

Water for Cities

Keeping water in the taps so cities can thrive



One in three cities is at high risk of water stress. The 2030 Water Resources Group (WRG) helps cities prevent, respond to, and recover from water crises. We do this by facilitating partnerships between governments and businesses to manage water more effectively and create resilient and water-secure cities.

BUILDING RESILIENCE IN WATER-STRESSED CITIES

WRG is an impact-focused global partnership between the private and public sectors. As a trust fund housed within the World Bank, we provide a platform for businesses, governments, and civil society to work together to close the gap between water supply and demand.

We help cities ensure reliable water supply in the face of growing demand, unpredictable weather patterns, and limited resources. Through our multi-stakeholder platforms, we facilitate collaboration between government agencies, private companies, and local communities to use water more efficiently, diversify their water sources, tackle pollution, and improve water management.

We develop strategies to address water risks over the medium and longer term, while attending to social, environmental, economic, and financial sustainability. Our analysis and insights enable decisions to be prioritized, and our platforms strengthen accountability for implementation. We work with the World Bank to scale up successful projects so they can have a wider impact.

WATER FOR THE FUTURE: WATER SECURE CITIES

Our public-private collaboration models have unlocked new possibilities. We are leveraging these successes to pursue bold solutions that were previously out of reach. Our new Water Secure Cities initiative is designed to help governments avoid water crises by supporting the development of tools and integrated strategies that address water risks over the medium and long term.

EXAMPLES OF OUR WORK

Shaping a water security strategy for Bogotá, Colombia

Bogotá's water system serves 11 million people and is vital to the national economy, but faces a significant gap between water demand and supply. We are working with the city and its water utility to craft a comprehensive water security strategy outlining actions to improve the resilience of the water supply system. This includes establishing a multi-stakeholder forum that will bring together public institutions, private sector representatives, and civil society to collaboratively address the city's water challenges.



Creating water-secure cities in Gauteng, South Africa

The Gauteng city region, which has insufficient supply to meet current water use, accounts for one-third of South Africa's gross domestic product and a quarter of its population. WRG, working closely with the government, has established the Platform for a Water Secure Gauteng to bring government, business, and civil society together to agree on priority actions and monitor implementation. The short-term goal is to reduce demand by 10 percent, alongside initiatives to ensure the better distribution and management of water across the region. The platform is also exploring innovative financing mechanisms to both reduce demand and increase supply.



FIRSTS IN URBAN WATER MANAGEMENT

For the past decade, we have worked alongside city governments, water utilities, and technology partners to develop first-of-their-kind solutions that help cities secure reliable water supplies. These successful projects provide a foundation for other cities and regions to adopt and scale similar approaches.

In India, we assisted in designing and ratifying a **National Blueprint for Water Accounting**. The blueprint is a comprehensive plan aimed at improving water use efficiency and water quality management, and ensuring sustainable funding and financing for water projects. The implementation of the blueprint has improved transparency and accountability within India's water management framework; equipped government agencies to make informed decisions about water allocation, quality improvement, and investment prioritization; and strengthened collaboration between public institutions and private companies to address critical water issues.

FIND OUT MORE ABOUT OUR WORK

WRG works with governments, corporations, and civil society to address water risks affecting food, cities, and ecosystems.

www.2030wrg.org

2030wrg@worldbank.org