The Roundtable of African Mayors for Water Security
Raising African voices on water security

Why a Roundtable of African Mayors for Water Security?

In Sub-Saharan Africa, 40% of people lack basic access to water supply and 70% to basic sanitation.

Over the past 15 years, floods and landslides have affected 38 million people in Africa and caused damage estimated at over $4 billion.

By 2030, 75 to 250 million people in Africa will be living in areas of high water stress, likely displacing 24 to 700 million people.

Every hour, an estimated 115 people die from diseases related to improper hygiene, poor sanitation or contaminated water.

Two-thirds of African cities are at extreme risk of climate-related shocks including tropical cyclones, flooding, droughts and crop failure.

What is the Roundtable of African Mayors for water security?

The Roundtable brings together 50+ Mayors from cities of different sizes across the five sub-regions of Africa to raise the voice and boost the capacity of city leaders.

The platform aims to facilitate the design and implementation of robust local water policies by producing granular data and evidence, sharing knowledge, experience and best practices, and enhancing collaboration among Mayors.

City to city partnership
To share knowledge, experience and best practices on local policies for water security.

Data collection & policy analysis
To set up an Observatory with scientific data and knowledge on water security in African cities, especially on SDGs 6 and 11.

Capacity building
To facilitate the uptake of the OECD Principles on Water Governance at local level.

Advocacy
To foster dialogue between local authorities and stakeholders to drive synergies and build consensus on a multi-dimensional approach to water.

Check our report on Water Governance in African Cities.
Ten reasons to support the Roundtable of African Mayors for Water Security

1. **Raise the voice of African Mayors** in national agendas, regional platforms and international fora
2. **Connect to 50+ African local governments leaders** and understand their water security priorities
3. **Produce granular data** on African cities’ distance to water-related SDGs, incl. SDG 6 and 11
4. **Shape better water policies** for better lives in African cities and countries
5. **Boost the capacity of Mayors** to enhance good governance, financing and management of water
6. **Share your expertise on water** with African city administration staff and decision makers
7. **Learn from concrete solutions and best practices** already in place in many African cities
8. **Engage with/for vulnerable groups and communities** via capacity and awareness activities
9. **Connect water management and adaptation planning** in city governments
10. **Foster synergies** between water, nature-based solutions and urban planning in African cities.

Join the Roundtable!

- **Get inspired** by good practices and case studies implemented around the world and build capacity
- **Get connected** to national and subnational authorities from Africa and engage in peer-to-peer dialogue
- **Gain international recognition and visibility** for your local authority’s action in water.
- Create the conditions to **boost access to financing** for your local water-related projects.
- **Receive tailored guidance** and access self-assessment methodologies and tools to guide your policies, investment and decisions

**January 2022**
- Kick-off meeting (*online*)
- Discussion on the strategic objectives of the Roundtable

**March 2022**
- 9th World Water Forum (Dakar, Senegal)
- First official meeting of the Roundtable

**November 2022**
- COP27 (Cairo, Egypt)
- Launch preliminary Data & Observatory

**March 2023**
- 2023 UN Water Conference (NYC)
- Launch of the synthesis report

**2024**
- 10th World Water Forum
- Launch of the City-Level Policy Dialogues

**March 2025**
- XIX IWRA World Water Congress
- Launch of datasets, dialogues & reports

Soumia BENLESBIR
Task Manager, Climate, Biodiversity and Food Security Department, UCLG Africa
sbenlebsir@uclga.org
@UCLGAfrica - https://www.uclga.org/?lang=fr

Mélissa Kerim-Dikeni
Policy Analyst, Water Governance and Circular Economy Unit
Melissa.kerim@oecd.org
@OECD_Local - https://oce/4fU