

Press release on the GAFWAC Incubation Platform: 100 Water and Climate Projects for Africa

Africa is one of the most vulnerable continents to climate change and its impacts, which pose a serious threat to its water security. The resulting water crisis manifests in current and future social, economic, environment and migration crises, affecting health, food and energy security as well as impacting negatively economic growth; all essential components to the sustainable development of Africa. This is time to act now together to accelerate action and mobilize finance to implement projects at scale.

Donors are mobilized but they have difficulty in finding sound projects to finance; at the same time, projects' leaders highlight their lack of capacities to initiate a cycle of project preparation and to access preparation facilities and leverage financing instruments at the expected scale.

To bridge this critical gap, a pilot incubation platform was launched at COP22. At the "One Planet Summit", 4 countries, 2 development banks and 5 alliances representing more than 450 signatories from 94 countries, are launching, the Global Alliances For Water And Climate (GAFWAC) Incubation Platform "100 projects for water and climate change in Africa" program.

It aims to scale up this platform with the objective of fostering 100 projects over the next four years, with grants worth a total of 20 million euros over the period to support the incubator and project preparation. It will support projects at different scales, from the basin and municipalities, to small soft projects, including private sectors, which will become accessible to donors when aggregated. It will also mobilize decentralized cooperation and seek innovative schemes to leverage the commitments taken by members of the Alliances to produce or invest differently.

In supporting this incubation platform, Italy, France, Chad, Burkina Faso, UNESCO, UNECE, the African Development Bank, AFD and the Global Alliances for Water and Climate and its 4 partners (International Network of Basin Organizations, Business Alliance for Water and Climate, Megacities Alliance for Water and Climate, Global Clean Water Desalinization Alliance) are committed to anticipate or alleviate the impacts of climate change in Africa. They invite other donors to support this dynamics.