Contents

Message from the President ........................................................................................................... 3
WfWP Members ............................................................................................................................ 4
1. Introduction ..................................................................................................................................... 5
2. Core activities ............................................................................................................................... 5
   2.1 Project implementation: Members help members ................................................................. 6
   2.2 Lobby and advocacy ............................................................................................................... 10
   2.3 Knowledge development, exchange and learning ............................................................... 12
3. Governance, members and partners ......................................................................................... 13
   3.1 General Assembly ............................................................................................................... 13
   3.2 Member Organisations ........................................................................................................ 13
   3.3 Steering Committee ............................................................................................................ 14
   3.4 Partnerships ....................................................................................................................... 14
4. Operations ..................................................................................................................................... 15
   4.1 Communication ................................................................................................................... 15
   4.2 Planning and monitoring ..................................................................................................... 15
   4.3 Hubs ..................................................................................................................................... 15
   4.4 Fundraising .......................................................................................................................... 15
   4.5 Staffing .................................................................................................................................. 16
   4.6 Finance .................................................................................................................................. 17
Appendix A List lobby and advocacy events
Message from the President, Mariet Verhoef-Cohen

Dear Friends,

‘Leaving No One Behind’ was the theme of World Water Day in 2019, a theme close to the heart of Women for Water Partnership. We were proud to be one of the three key collaborating partners for the Stockholm World Water Week, a sign of recognition of our efforts to position women as leaders and experts in the water sector. For the Water Week we co-organised the seminar ‘Women and Youth: Living Apart together’ and were involved in many other debates. This water week was a highlight for us: it is the place to be to meet our partners and friends in the sector.

‘Members helped members’ to carry out projects in the field of water, sanitation, agriculture accompanied with vocational training. I am very grateful for their support, especially since funding for women’s organisations is declining every year. That is the main reason why we could not organise a Face-to-Face meeting with our members and I regret that. Meetings in person are so important to remain connected and excellent opportunities to share experiences and ideas.

The Steering Committee (SC) had to take the difficult decision to move the Secretariat to one of our SC members and at the same time we had to say goodbye to our Director Annemiek Jenniskens per November 2019 due to lack of core funding. Most tasks of the Secretariat were transferred to members of the SC to continue WfWP, since our mission is not yet accomplished. Continuously, we must advocate for attention to what women are contributing to the sector. In fact, women are managers of the majority of the world’s water resources, however, this is not always recognised due to persistent stereotypes about roles of men and women.

We continue to search for core funding and I am very grateful for the support we received from the Deutsche Gesellschaft für Internationale Zusammenarbeit (GIZ), the Netherlands Ministry of Infrastructure and Water Management, the Food and Agriculture Organisation of the UN, next to the partners who made our participation in conferences and events possible.

I thank our members, partners, donors, collaborating governments and you all for your support and look forward to continuing our collaboration in 2020.

Alphen aan den Rijn, July 2020
Members of Women for Water Partnership¹

1. Armenian Women for Health and Healthy Environment (AWHHE), Armenia
2. The International Federation of Business and Professional Women (BPWI), Global
3. Black Sea Women’s club (BSWC), Ukraine, Moldavia, Romania, and Georgia
4. CONSAM, Colombia
5. Earth Forever, Bulgaria and EECCA Region
6. Isenim: Uzbekistan
7. Katosis Women Development Trust (KWDT), Uganda
8. MAMA 86, Ukraine and EECCA Region
9. Medium and Sanitas, Romania
10. Mupan, Brazil
11. National Women’s Movement (NVB), Suriname
12. Netherlands Council of Women (NVR), The Netherlands
13. NetWWater, Sri Lanka
14. Passage, The Netherlands
15. Soroptimists International of Europe and Africa (SIE)
16. Soroptimists International Global (SI)
17. Tanzania Gender Networking Programme (TGNP) Tanzania
18. Tegemeo Women Group (TWG) Tanzania
19. Uganda Women for Water and Sanitation (UWWS), Uganda
20. Women and Labour Market Foundation (VAM) The Netherlands and ACP countries
21. Women of Today (Vrouwen van Nu), The Netherlands
22. Waterlution, Canada and Brasil
23. Women Environmental Programme (WEP), Nigeria
24. Women Fund Tanzania (WFT), Tanzania
25. Water Mothers Myanmar (WMM), Myanmar
26. Women Farmers Advancement Network (WOFAN) Nigeria
27. Women Professionals in the Land Use Sector (WPLUS), Nepal
28. Women’s Resource and Outreach Centre Limited (WROC), Jamaica

¹ You can find more information about our members at the following link: https://www.womenforwater.org/member-organisations.html
### 1 Introduction

2019, a year to remember; full of activities you can read about in this annual report. Chapter 2 is dedicated to the core activities of WfWP. Members enabled members to implement projects in Tanzania, Kenya and Bulgaria. Next to other SDG’s, these projects contribute mainly to SDG 5 and 6 (par 2.1). The partnership devoted a lot of time and efforts to its lobby and advocacy activities. The Stockholm World Water Week was the highlight, but WfWP participated in many other actions and events to advocate for a recognised, improved and visible position of women as sustainable water managers (par 2.2). In terms of knowledge development, together with OECD, WfWP finalised a pre-study to women’s inclusion in water governance and applied for follow-up funding to carry out the research. By the end of the year FAO-WASAG, the global framework on water scarcity in agriculture, assigned WfWP to draft a position paper and strategies to include women in the work of WASAG (par 2.3).

In terms of governance both the General Assembly and the Steering Committee showed decisiveness even though all decisions had to be taken via email consultation and Skype meetings (par 3.1 and 3.3). Two new members were taken on board and one member left as you can read in par 3.2, leaving the total number at 28 member organisations. The number of partners remained rather stable (par 3.4). Many efforts were made to raise funding for WfWP and some of these applications are still pending. WfWP received almost 30,000 euro for its contributions to international events and conferences. (par 4.4). Facebook, Twitter, and the website were, also in 2019, important means to communicate with the outside world (par 4.1). A summary of the main financial figures is presented in paragraph 4.6.

### 2 Core activities

The mission of WfWP is to position women as active leaders, experts, partners and agents of change to realise access to safe water for all - including gender responsive sanitation - for all uses; thus, contributing to all SDG’s, especially goal 5 & 6.

WfWP applies three strategies at the grassroots, national and international level simultaneously:  
1.1 Providing access to water and sanitation via project implementation of our members  
1.2 Influencing policy at all levels via lobby and advocacy activities  
1.3 Knowledge development and sharing

WfWP has a 5-year Strategic framework 2016-2020 with the following strategic goals:
1. Advocate the link between women, water and sustainable development in policies and implementation;
2. Position women as agents of change, leaders, experts, and partners on equal footing with men in water and sustainable development programmes to achieve equitable access to water for all for all uses;
3. Advocate for women’s access to financial investments and instruments;
4. Use and promote gender disaggregated indicators in the water sector;
5. Establish regional or national hubs;
6. Develop a knowledge platform for learning.

The strategic goals are still relevant, however due to lack of funding for strategic goal 5 – the establishment of hubs has not been implemented. The three different strategies as well as the strategic goals are the backbone of this chapter.

2.1 Project Implementation: Members help members contributing to strategic goal 2
Members of WfWP carry out projects to ensure access to water as well as safe sanitation for all for all uses. In all projects women are taking the lead, showing that they are experts, managers of the projects and the budgets, taking part in all decision-making processes concerned and achieving great results with often relatively small budgets. These roles are still exceptional for women in the water world and therefore good examples to shift perceptions and stereotypes. Besides, most of these projects take place in remote areas; areas often neglected by the main players amongst others due to higher costs and perceived higher risks: in general, the inhabitants of these areas are often left behind.

The members of WfWP and the partnership itself experiences that the budgets allocated to women and their organisations are decreasing every day: in 2017 less than 1% of the total budget for development aid, according to the OECD. Despite this fact members helped members and we will mention three examples of projects. The project of member Tegemeo Women Group in Tanzania is financed by member Passage and managed by the WfWP Secretariat. Member Soroptimists International funded two projects of members, one implemented by Earth for Ever in Bulgaria and the second one by Soroptimists International Europe and Africa in Kenya.

**Tegemeo Women Group Tanzania (TWG) supported by Passage: € 45,000 2017-2020**
The women group lives high up in the mountains in the village of Mweteni of Same District. The road to the group is very bad and this impacts their life and for example their business plans. In the past a multi-year water and sanitation project was carried out and the women wanted to undertake the next step - setting up businesses - since clean water is available year-round.
Passage supported them in these endeavours and financed a three-year project focussed on vocational training, capacity building and investments for establishing group- and individual businesses. In 2019 for the second time, Passage travelled to Tanzania to train the group in management and entrepreneurship. Next to the training of Passage, TWG followed courses in production, marketing, supply, how to structure a group business, enterprise development, management of a small enterprise, product development, plant layout, packaging, labelling and developing a business plan.

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Moreover, TWG made a study tour to Moshi to learn about milling, because grain milling was identified as their future group business. The tour was hosted by SIDO (Small Industry Development Organisation). The group visited two milling enterprises owned by women groups as well as a machine workshop to orient themselves on milling machines with different capacities and their prices. TWG learned about the milling process from grinding up to packaging, sources of capital, challenges and mitigation measures taken. The formal status of these enterprises is a cooperative society, where each member has equal rights. This was an interesting idea for TWG and therefore they initiated a meeting with a specialist on cooperatives to learn about criteria, cooperative law and procedures of a cooperative society. Unfortunately starting a milling group business was not feasible, due to lack of and high costs of electricity and alternatives for electricity in the area. TWG did not despair and is drafting a plan for a new group business. In the meantime, they continued with their common tomato farm. Also 22 members of TWG received individual loans to improve their private businesses and all businesses gained profit and no losses. The capital of their own savings and credit system - a village community bank ‘Vicoba’ - grew due to the interest charged and an investment of Passage.

Next to training and working on their businesses, TWG is also involved in other activities such as cleaning the environment of the village every month. They participated in national events such as advocating against violence to women and children and reported on some cases of gender-based violence causing death and injuries in their district.

Earth Forever Bulgaria supported by Soroptimists International: € 60,000 May 2018 – November 2019

Women Empowerment through Water, Sanitation and Health – in short WeWash – is designed to empower, to build capacity and leadership of women and girls living in rural communities to address their water and sanitation issues.

The project is executed in three villages of Stara Zagora District: Sulitsa, Hristiyanovo and Kalitinovo. A majority of the population is of Roma origin and a large number of women and girls are without jobs. WeWash focused on affordable alternatives for water and sanitation to meet the EU regulations because, especially in rural communities, water closets as well as central sewerage and conventional wastewater treatment plants are unaffordable.

A bottom up approach was designed to ensure community ownership, sustainable use and maintenance. All stakeholders were involved, such as mayors, community centres, schools, civil society groups, governmental health, environment and water institutions, labour authorities, water, sanitation and solid waste utilities, local and international NGOs and media. Community project groups were established to manage and implement the projects. The intervention strategy was made specific for each village, for example in Hristiyanovo and Sulitsa the quality of drinking water was a central issue because of microbiological pollution and flooding of water sources. In Kalitinovo the drinking water is permanently polluted with nitrates. Management of wastes was a big topic in Hristiyanovo as the water source is very close to the old dump site.
A main part of the project was dedicated to vocational training - learning by doing - since the majority of the participants are village women with low education or Roma women practically without formal education. Furthermore, attention was paid to awareness raising about new roles of women and girls in leading, constructing and maintenance of facilities, which is perceived as a man’s job. Role models were used for inspiration. Women were specifically trained on their rights, how to address the authorities responsible for the problems they face and how to submit complaints; they learned which authority is responsible for what to be able to cope with the various casualties that they face in their everyday life.

The adopted skills created opportunities for jobs and starting businesses in the alternative Wash sector. Best practices were taught on sustainable sanitation management and better hygiene for a healthy life. Women, 120 in total, now are able to construct, manage, monitor and market alternative sanitation planning. In addition, 80 women and girls gained the knowledge and skills to advise their community members and families on safe reuse of treated water and biological waste for natural agriculture to feed their families. Thirty women are able to plan, implement and monitor small alternative sanitation projects and to run small-scale water and sanitation businesses. Trainees constructed a model alternative sanitation system at a local children’s centre in Kalitinovo. The tools, tiles and glue were bought by the project. Building skills were also taught to renovate and maintain water and sanitation systems at household level, modernise decentralised toilets as well as building alternative wastewater systems. After the project women continued to borrow the specific tools to repair/renovate/construct various water facilities in their own households.

Additionally, 20 women participated in a leadership and coaching programme and are empowered to act as community leaders in water, sanitation and nature-based agriculture projects. They are able to express the position of their communities as well as to protect their rights in communication with decision makers at municipal and regional level.

Soroptimists International Kenya supported by Soroptimist International: € 250,000 December 2017 – December 201

The Mwihoko women live in a volcanic area in Nakuru County, characterised by dependence on subsistence farming, under-nutrition, poor market access and unreliable rainfall. During the programme Kilifi, Kisumu and Machakos counties were added with similar characteristics. Women make up 60% of the subsistence farmers producing 70% of food. Many of the men left the area to find jobs in the city. Due to drought farmers’ capital base is decreasing as their animals and crops die. Next, excessive erratic rainfall causes dangerous floods resulting in gully’s and soil erosion. Climate change is threatening these women and their communities.
Mwihoko Women Group was founded in 2005 and started to get access to safe water, a project supported and initiated by WfWP. After this project, the women wanted a training centre of their own and raised the money to purchase 2.5 hectares of land through the Nakuru council. When the training centre was built, the women initiated a crop demonstration plot to improve their agricultural practices. At the end of 2017 a project was designed to educate, empower and enable 500 women farmers to get access to clean water, nutritious food and to increase their income by commercialisation of their farming practices. The women took leadership of the project: no decision was taken without them. During the whole process the women were encouraged to raise their voices. They learned how to negotiate with authorities, about their rights and responsibilities and how to get things done.

Vocational training was a main part of the project and the training was not provided for free. Some women who were not able to contribute in cash, could devote extra time to the project - for example work at the demonstration plot - and this time was calculated as their own contribution to the course. The training was provided by a university and specifically adapted to the level and needs of the women. The training was not a one-off event but followed up in working conferences to share gained knowledge and experiences. Next to training at the university, at the training centre of the Mwihoko Women, women farmers were educated in sustainable farming such as clean seed production, conservation agriculture, greenhouse training and multi-story gardening. The training centre of the Mwihoko Women Group was equipped with appropriate technologies and income generating tools were developed to continue the centre after the project. A greenhouse was erected to promote water smart farming and pest control.

The group of farmers was divided into subgroups and received extension services after the capacity of the agricultural extension services was built to work with women. This resulted in increased and better-quality interaction between female farmers and these services and is also a way to ensure continuation of these services after the project. Since groups usually have a stronger position on a market compared to individuals, they are buying their inputs collectively. Selected farmers were provided with inputs such as seeds and fertilizers, contributing 20% of the costs. Maize, beans, assorted vegetables and herbs, sunflowers, pineapples, strawberries, bananas have been planted. The quality of the soil improved by tree planting. The yields of smart farming tripled. With these yields the food security increased and more healthy food is served in the participating households. Women were trained on how to preserve and cook their vegetables. The surplus is being sold on neighbouring markets resulting in more income for the women and making them economically independent. With new marketing skills they learned what kind of vegetables are in demand on the market and what the prices are. They use this information to decide when to sell their produce for which price. In this way, the women learned to act as real entrepreneurs.

In addition to farming, 20 schools and institutions received a 10,000-liter water tank to facilitate access to clean water reaching 6,871 persons. To gain a more reliable and safe access to water 328 households
were supported with rainwater harvesting tanks, gutters and taps. Tools and utensils such as a fireless cooker and an energy saving stove were provided – not for free to make the women less dependent of donations and creating a spirit to get things done by their own. The energy saving devices reduced indoor pollutions dramatically decreasing healthcare expenses and improving the health of the inhabitants. With the solar lanterns a space is created to read and write when it is dark outside. In total 341 women were trained in energy saving technics such as the construction of energy saving stoves and smoke-free cookers as well as solar lantern management: 702 lanterns were bought and 324 Chepkube stoves have been constructed. They are all under the custody of the women.

2.2 Lobby and advocacy

WfWP participated in many international events to advocate for positioning women as experts and leaders in the water world and not only as vulnerable groups or beneficiaries. This message is not new but needs to be repeated consistently. One of the reasons is that stereotypes about the role of men and women are persistent and often (unconsciously) play a role in doing research, collecting and analysing data, designing programmes and projects, managing companies, organising (inter)national meetings events and the like. Most people are aware of the fact that men and women need to be treated equally, but do not know that budget and expertise need to be specifically allocated to realise this. Many policies and international declarations such as Dublin Principle 3 (accepted in 1992) state that women play a central role in the supply, management and safeguarding of water. There is a huge gap between these (international) policies and practice on the ground. This gap needs to be bridged for instance by paying more attention to and facilitating of the managers, advisors and implementors to translate policy into action.

Next to the main message mentioned above - in fact strategic goal 2 -, the lobby and advocacy activities contribute to three of our strategic goals:
Goal 1: Advocate the link between women, water and sustainable development in policies;
Goal 3: Advocate for women’s access to financial investments and instruments;
Goal 4: Use and promote sex-disaggregated indicators in the water sector

One of the vehicles WfWP uses for its lobby and advocacy work is to be a member/partner of international organisations of influence such as ECOSOC, UNEP, UN Water, and in June 2019 WfWP was admitted in official partnership with UNESCO, with consultative status. WfWP has accredited representatives in most of the main seats of the UN contributing to UN meetings and -conferences on a regular basis. WfWP lobbies via contributing to working groups such as the World Water Quality Alliance (WWQA) hosted by UNEP, the Water and Gender working group of UNESCO World Water Assessment Program³, by contributing to reports such as the annual World Water Development Report, by attending meetings and (co) organising events. By being a member of for instance the Women Major Group we raise our voices collectively in meetings and prepare messages jointly for the CSW, UNEA, High Level Political Forum (in charge if the agenda 2030 and the SDGs) etc.. WfWP is a steering committee member and contributes to the #ClimateisWater campaign⁴; participates to the OECD Water Governance Initiative and promotes and uses the OECD Water Principles⁵

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⁵ http://www.oecd.org/cfe/regionaldevelopment/oecd-principles-on-water-governance.htm
In Europe, through its membership of European Pact for Water, WfWP was intensively involved in influencing candidates for the election of the European Parliament to maintain the water issue on the agenda of the EU and dedicate sufficient budget (the budget has to triple to achieve SDG 6) to the topic by organising the campaign ‘StandUp4Water’. Letters were written to members of parliament and publicity was sought for instance during a debate with Dutch candidates for the European Parliament. Moreover, for the new parliamentarians and officials of the European Commission a training session is designed about the topic water and the connection to their portfolio⁶.

Day was ‘Leaving No One Behind’ and kicked off by WaterLex through organising the first summit about this topic on 7 and 8 February 2019. WfWP was part of the scientific committee and facilitated one of the sessions in which member NetWwater participated. Earth Forever and AWHHE were also present. The summit focused on human rights to water and sanitation, and on finding and implementing workable solutions with support from sponsors. Solutions need to be innovative, economical and easy to implement. One of the outcomes of the summit was tangible projects to pilot with funding: The project proposed by NetWwater on rainwater harvesting was one of the three winners of the exploratory project’s awards.

The 63rd session on the Commission on the Status of Women (CSW 63) took place in New York from 11-22 March. WfWP, in close coordination with members Soroptimist International and BPW International highlighted the crucial role of women and girls in reaching safe access to clean water and sanitation for all.

WfWP co-organised two sessions ‘Vocational Training of women: an excellent investment’ and ‘Advancing women’s legal rights to water’. Moreover, WfWP emphasised the need for good data collection and analysis.

On 13-14 May, UNESCO organised an International Water Conference ‘Leveraging Intersectorality for Sustainable Water Security and Peace’. One of the thematic panels was dedicated to gender equality, entitled ‘Thirsty for Change: Promoting a Gender-Responsive Approach to Achieve Water Security’ and WfWP concluded that session with the following words: Stereotypes persist, sex-disaggregated data are lacking and finance for women is practically impossible. Nevertheless, what we need to do is clear: continue our mission.

⁶ The working conference had to be postponed to January 2021 due to the COVID_19 pandemic
From 18-21 July 2019, a member of WfWP, Soroptimist International organised its 21st Convention in Kuala Lumpur, Malaysia with amongst other workshops on women, Water and Food Security ‘Safe in her hands’ and ‘The She Factor in Climate Change’. Also, other members of WfWP were speakers during the convention.

The highlight of the year was Stockholm World Water Week with the theme ‘Water for society- including all’. WfWP was a key collaborating partner as well as a member of the scientific committee co-organising the seminar titled ‘Women and Youth: living apart together’. The seminar exposed the stark reality of the sex- and age-related disparities in a masculine dominated water sector and challenged the tokenism of women and youth inclusion. The seminar defined three key messages:

1) While women represent more than 50% of the world population, less than 1% of development aid is designated to women and their organisations directly. To achieve equality in water and sanitation, there is need for an equal share in funding

2) To break the cycle of masculine managed water, a shift in policy discourse, actors and power relations is required

3) The voices and meaningful participation of women and youth bring equality to the water sector and investing in youth and women is key to support change.

‘She decides’ was another session WfWP organised about the number in and decision-making authority of women in water governance bodies.

Other examples of lobby and advocacy activities were:

- WfWP signed the open letter to the UN Summits and the UNGA for multi-stakeholder representatives of the water/climate/development community: ‘Water as a catalyst for collective action in the next decisive decade’
- World Hydropower Congress in Paris from 13-16 May about the role of hydropower in delivering on the Paris Climate Agreement and the SDGs ‘The power of water in a sustainable interconnected world’. SC-member Lesha Witmer was re-elected as chair of the social impacts, project affected communities and indigenous peoples’ organisations.
- WfWP participated as speaker and moderator in the International Conference Water & Climate (WWC) in Bonn on 13 June 2019, organized by the World Water Council.
- Budapest Summit in October where WfWP co-hosted and facilitated events and participated in a panel as well as a consultation meeting with member states about upcoming meetings 2020-2023
- WfWP signed the civil society statement to the UNGA resolution ‘The Human Rights to Water and Sanitation’

In Appendix A you can find an overview of events the Steering Committee of WfWP and some of our members on behalf of WfWP attended or contributed to in 2019.

### 2.3 Knowledge development, exchange and learning

Knowledge exchange and learning activities contribute to WfWP’s strategic goal 6: Develop a knowledge platform for learning.
Knowledge sharing took place by a visit of two representatives of WfWP to Armenia on request of member AWHHE from 29 March to 4 April 2019. AWHHE asked for support with a part of the implementation of their project titled ‘Enabling Women to Participate in Sustainable Water Management in Armenia’ funded by UN Democracy Fund. They wanted to learn from the experiences of regional water authorities in the Netherlands and advice on community participation in water resource management. Three workshops were held in different villages about access to water for different uses. The supply of drinking water is not reliable, and the quality is low and the same applies for water for irrigation. There was a lively exchange of ideas and recommendations were made for the project to take on board.

In terms of knowledge development WfWP prepared a study on the impact of inclusion of women in water governance processes. This pre-study was financed by GIZ and we cooperated with OECD. A desk review was undertaken, an inventory was made of organisations who did research and collected data in the field of women inclusive governance and of organisations who are potentially interested in contributing to the implementation of the research in the next phase. A research methodology was developed as well as a questionnaire. Main outcomes of the desk review are:

- There is a lack of data, information and analysis and therefore, insufficient knowledge on the state of women’s participation in the water sector.
- Many publications state that there is a persistent gender gap in water management leadership at all levels of governance. Women are rarely involved in decisions relating to water policies and strategies, water resource management, or tariff setting and technology choices. They are missing in key areas of water-related decision-making.
- Little research has been done to the impact of the inclusion of women in water governance processes.

At the moment of writing of this annual report it is unknown if the main study will be carried out, because funding is not secured yet.

A second activity is the assignment WfWP got of FAO WASAG – a partnership about Water Scarcity in Agriculture – to produce a position paper about gender issues and the role of women in water scarcity in agriculture as well as to provide each of the six WASAG working groups with strategies to include women in their work and benefit from their services. The themes of the respective working groups are migration, drought preparedness, sustainable use of water in agriculture, finance, saline agriculture and nutrition. Furthermore, as an open source, WfWP monitors the release of publications and documents and makes them available on the website.

3 Governance, members and partners

3.1 General Assembly

The General Assembly (GA) is the highest governing body of WfWP and it consists of one delegate per member organisation. During the year 2019 all decisions were made via email for instance about the annual plan and budget 2019 as well as the annual report and annual accounts 2018. Elections were held for SC positions; three new members came on board and the term of one member was extended. Due to the financial situation of WfWP an exceptional measure was proposed to the GA to ensure continuity as well as the institutional memory of WfWP. The measure proposed was to
extend the term of the President, Honorary Secretary/Treasurer and SC member Advocacy with a maximum period of three years. The GA agreed with this measure.

3.2 Member Organisations
The members are the core of WfWP.
In 2019 WfWP welcomed two new members, Mupan and WaterLution and said goodbye to member Melania.

Mupan - Mulheres em Ação no Pantanal (Women in Action in the Pantanal - Mupan) - is based in Brazil. Their aim is to enable the participation of women as multipliers in the context of gender and the environment, defending economic and social strength, contributing to gender equity and sustainability. Mupan has 35 members - mainly volunteers - and about 100 employees from several municipalities in the Upper Paraguay Basin and the Pantanal.

Waterlution is a Canadian based organisation with the purpose to inspire patternmaking and pattern-breaking change towards a healthy and sustainable relationship with water. They facilitate future young leaders with the development of powerful leadership skills, effective community building and directing passion into focused and purposeful action. Approximately 6000+ participants have been trained. During the year three other applications were declined. The current number of members is 28. The member organisations are diverse, have wide ranging aims and themes and together reach approximately 1 million women.

3.3 Steering Committee
The Steering Committee held 6 meetings in 2019. Early 2019 elections were held, and three new members came on board: Ulla Madsen member of Soroptimist International Europe living in Denmark, Kusum Athukorala, member of NetWwater based in Sri Lanka and Rose Mwangi, member of Soroptimist International Europe based in Kenya, were elected. At the end of the year the extension of the term of SC member Margarida Yassuda was approved by the GA. The SC devoted 3226 voluntary hours to WfWP.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Position</th>
<th>Name</th>
<th>Start Term</th>
<th>End Term</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>President</td>
<td>Mariet Verhoef-Cohen</td>
<td>1 April 2014</td>
<td>1 April 2023</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Vice-President</td>
<td>Margarida Yassuda</td>
<td>1 December 2016</td>
<td>1 December 2022</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
3.4 Partnerships
WFWP has a huge range of different types of partnerships, with funding agencies such as the Deutsche Gesellschaft für Internationale Zusammenarbeit (GIZ). We are part of networks such as the, the Major Group Women, MGO HLPF coordination mechanism, OECD Water Governance initiative, World Water Council, UN Water. We are founders and facilitators of the Butterfly Effect NGO coalition, the ClimateIsWater campaign and the European Pact for Water. We work together with a range of different partners such as BORDA, Simavi, Aquafed, and UNESCO-WWAP. In December, we started a new partnership with Nile Basin Discourse, a network of civil society organisations with over 600 member organisations throughout the Nile Basin, influential in a main part of Africa. In essence, for each activity we try to find one or more partners to join us. Next WfWP is often asked to join others because of its reputation and expertise in the field of water and women.

4 Operations

4.1 Communication
The website and Facebook/Twitter are our main means of communication with the outside world. On the website we communicate about important events and we update the item publications regularly, making the site a valuable source for our virtual knowledge platform. Facebook covers our activities and many links to relevant interesting information.

4.2 Planning and monitoring
Due to lack of capacity it was not possible to monitor the achievements of our members in 2019. The elements of our current planning and reporting system are:
- A strategic framework 2016-2020, translated into annual work plans and budgets
- Annual reporting and accounting
- Monitoring decisions taken by the GA and the SC
- Financial reporting to follow up budget expenditure
- SC meetings, to monitor progress and financial matters
- Back to office reporting of SC members after participating in external events
- Special reports to funders to account for the budget received such as the funding of GIZ and Passage in 2019.

4.3 Hubs
As in previous years, strategic goal 5 – the establishment of regional or national ‘hubs’, was put on hold due to the lack of finance.

4.4 Fundraising
Also, in 2019 WfWP actively searched for funding of member projects, global projects, advocacy and core funding, necessary because the main funder of the past years, SDC, ended its core funding at the end of 2018. Examples are:
WfWP tried to become an expert organisation for the Blue Deal, a programme of the Dutch Government and the Water Authorities to provide access to sufficient, clean and safe water for 20 million people in the world. This might remain an opportunity for the future.

Together with Borda several funding proposals were drafted, one to Open Society Initiative for Europe (OSIFE) about expanding the female talent pipeline for the water sector in Europe and one about Water and Energy by Women proposed to SIDA. The OSIFE proposal was declined and the other one is still pending.

At the end of 2019 we made a proposal for the Netherlands Ministry of Foreign Affairs to develop a fund accessible for women and their organisations in the field of women and sustainable livelihoods: The Green, Blue, Orange Deal: no response yet.

Together with European Pact for Water and several other organisations, we applied for the LIFE Fund of the EU but did not get the grant.

We submitted a proposal to Fondation Chanel ‘Empowerment of Women through Water’; declined.

We submitted several proposals to GIZ to follow up on the preparatory study to women inclusive governance in the water sector; still pending.

We drafted a proposal on gender to the Ramsar Convention; no response yet.

Together with NetWwater we applied to organise an Asian Regional Conference on Leave No one Behind at Stockholm Environmental Institute (SEI), this was declined. (In 2020 we sent a new proposal, and this was approved).

For USAID a proposal was made to promote gender and social inclusion in the WASH sector leadership and decision making in Sub-Saharan Africa, also members Katosi and SIE in Kenya applied. The proposal was declined.

Early in the year a campaign was started for the financial survival of WfWP, letters were sent to friends and partners, a call was made on Facebook and the website; all to no avail. We contacted Finida, Norad, SIDA, UN Women, World Bank and many more. Maintaining these contacts remains important for the future of WfWP.

We received funding of

- The Netherlands Ministry of Infrastructure and Water Management provided 25,000 euro in total and in 2019 €15,792 was used for Aquawarness, events and supporting the preparation of a High-Level UN Water conference in 2021
- GIZ (Deutsche Gesellschaft für Internationale Zusammenarbeit) financed a pre-study about women in water governance and in 2019 € 39,362 was spent.
- An agreement was made with FAO WASAG to submit a position paper and strategy papers for the six working groups to include women in their work. The total amount is $ 30,000 and the main part will be spent in 2020
- Passage supported a project of Tegemeo Women group for a period of three years of in total 45,000 euro; in 2019 15,000 euro was spent.
- European Pact for Water provided travelling costs for an amount of €1,223
- Various third parties contributed to travel- and accommodation costs for a total amount of € 28,754

4.5 Staffing
Due to lack of funding the SC decided to move our Secretariat from The Hague to one of our SC members; the director Annemiek Jenniskens left WfWP per 1 November, the freelancer for communication, Arnold Marseille, left the organisation per 1 May. Our freelance controller Diantha Brackel remains on board. The main tasks of the Secretariat have been handed over to the Steering Committee members.
4.6 Finance
The total income of WfWP was € 293,423 euro including in kind voluntary contributions mounting to € 239,598. In terms of cash the income was € 54,175 and the expenditure is € 139, 891 leaving WfWP with an annual deficit of € 85,716. Therefore, WfWP had to diminish its reserves. A complete financial overview is presented in our annual accounts.
## Appendix A: 2019 Events Participation of WfWP

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Event</th>
<th>Dates</th>
<th>Venue</th>
</tr>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>145th meeting of the Committee of Permanent Representatives</td>
<td>15 January</td>
<td>UNEP NAIROBI</td>
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<tr>
<td>UN Water</td>
<td>30-31 January/ 1 February</td>
<td>Rome</td>
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<tr>
<td>World Summit on leaving no one behind</td>
<td>(6) 7-8 February</td>
<td>Geneva</td>
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<tr>
<td>European Pact for Water</td>
<td>12 February</td>
<td>Brussels</td>
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<tr>
<td>IHE water &amp; Peace conference</td>
<td>21-22 February</td>
<td>Delft</td>
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<tr>
<td>Prep. meeting SWWW 2019 (SPC and AC)</td>
<td>4-6 March</td>
<td>Stockholm</td>
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<tr>
<td>CSW</td>
<td>11-22 March</td>
<td>New York</td>
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<tr>
<td>European Pact for Water</td>
<td>8,9 or 10 April</td>
<td>Paris</td>
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<tr>
<td>European Pact for Water work meeting</td>
<td>9-10 May</td>
<td>Bremen</td>
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<tr>
<td>International water conference</td>
<td>13-14 May</td>
<td>Paris (UNESCO)</td>
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<tr>
<td>IHA World Hydropower Congress</td>
<td>13-16 May</td>
<td>Paris</td>
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<tr>
<td>International Conference Water &amp; Climate (WWC)</td>
<td>13 June</td>
<td>Bonn</td>
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<tr>
<td>European Development Days</td>
<td>18-19 June</td>
<td>Brussels</td>
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<tr>
<td>Kick-of 9thWWWForum</td>
<td>20-21 June</td>
<td>Dakar, Senegal</td>
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<tr>
<td>European Pact for Water working group on capacity building strategy</td>
<td>17 June</td>
<td>Berlin</td>
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<tr>
<td>Meeting “Blue Deal”</td>
<td>18 June</td>
<td>Amersfoort</td>
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<td>OECD WGI</td>
<td>20-21 June</td>
<td>Berlin</td>
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<tr>
<td>Water &amp; Health protocol working groups</td>
<td>3-4 July</td>
<td>Geneva</td>
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<tr>
<td>HLPF</td>
<td>9 – 18 July</td>
<td>New York</td>
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<tr>
<td>UN Water meeting</td>
<td>23-24 August</td>
<td>Stockholm</td>
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<tr>
<td>Stockholm World Water Week</td>
<td>25-30 August</td>
<td>Stockholm</td>
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<tr>
<td>WWDR2021 Developmental Workshop ‘Valuing Water’</td>
<td>19-20 September</td>
<td>Perugia</td>
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<td>HLPF</td>
<td>24-25 September</td>
<td>NY</td>
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<tr>
<td>Kick-off meeting “sextortion” project</td>
<td>25 September</td>
<td>Kibera/Nairobi</td>
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<td>IWRM working group ECEWC</td>
<td>22-24 October</td>
<td>Geneva</td>
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<tr>
<td>Budapest Summit</td>
<td>15-18 October</td>
<td>Budapest</td>
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<tr>
<td>UNECE meeting Beijing 25</td>
<td>29-30 October</td>
<td>Geneva</td>
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<td>AIWW</td>
<td>4-8 Nov</td>
<td>Amsterdam</td>
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<tr>
<td>Capacity building workshop advocacy EU / EPfW</td>
<td>7-8 November</td>
<td>Berlin</td>
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<tr>
<td>Water policies presentation EU</td>
<td>12 November</td>
<td>Brussels</td>
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<tr>
<td>International symposium on non-conventional waters for achieving food security</td>
<td>14-15 November</td>
<td>Madrid</td>
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<tr>
<td>Union for the med. lab/ working group on water-migration</td>
<td>18-20 November</td>
<td>Istanbul</td>
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<td>MoP W&amp;H protocol</td>
<td>19-21 November</td>
<td>Belgrade, Serbia</td>
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<td>CoP25</td>
<td>2 -13 December</td>
<td>Madrid</td>
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<tr>
<td>NGO Forum UNESCO</td>
<td>16-17 December</td>
<td>Paris</td>
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