# Women in Water Diplomacy Network: 2024 Year-in-Review Online Event



Tuesday, December 17, 2024 | 9:00-11:00 EST/ 15:00-17:00 CET | Online



### Welcome to the 2024 Year-in-Review Session!

### **Today's Program highlights include:**

- Network updates
- 2024 Network Highlights
- What to expect in 2025?
- Opportunities to grow your engagement
- Small group discussions on key Network challenges and opportunities
- Closing remarks

#### **Logistical Notes:**

- The plenary components of this session will be recorded and made available as part of the session's After-Action Report. Not including the breakout room discussions.
- We will be taking a 'group picture' before breakout discussions.





# Snapshot: Women in Water Diplomacy Network

- Initiated in the Nile Basin in 2017
- Central Asia-Afghanistan Network launched in 2021
- Global Strategy 'A Path Forward for Women, Water, Peace and Security' released in 2022
- North America Network launched in 2023
- South Caucasus Network launched in 2024
- New basin Networks under development Southern Africa, Latin America

## Women in Water Diplomacy Network's Global Strategy "A Path Forward for Women, Water, Peace and Security"

### WOMEN'S EMPOWERMENT AND LEADERSHIP IN HIGH-LEVEL DECISION-MAKING IN TRANSBOUNDARY BASINS



water decision making



















# The Women in Water Diplomacy Network is today a broad partnership working collaboratively to advance the Network's Global Strategy

The Network's Process Support Team coordinates global and inter-basin Network engagements; with core partners in each region/ basin providing support to regional activities.



**Global WWDN Process Support Team Partners** 











Global Network Leadership Council to be relaunched in 2025



Member of the Stronger Together Coalition of women-led water networks through ELI





South Caucasus
Network
Development Partners
through ELI:







With thanks for previous support in the Nile through SIWI from:

**Global Network support** 

with ELI:

through SIWI in partnership

Government of the Netherlands



Southern Africa Network Development support through ORASECOM from:





In-kind contributions for Southern Africa Network Development from:



Central Asia-Afghanistan Network Development Partners through OSCE:



Ministry for Foreign Affairs of Finland







With thanks for previous support to the Global Network through SIWI from:







With thanks for in-kind contributions to the Global Network through ELI:





### **Network Activity Snapshot....**

2022 2017 2018 2019 2020 2021 2023 2024

#### Geographic focus of engagements:

Global	Nile
Southern Africa	North America
Central Asia- Afghanistan	South Caucasus



In-person Trainings, Knowledge Exchange workshops



Online Trainings, Knowledge Exchange workshops



Research and Communications



Collective engagement at key regional and global water policy dialogues



**Strategic development** 

### But what does the Network do together?

2017



2018



2019









We started by simply coming together to share knowledge and experience....

### Our engagement approaches start to take shape...

### 2020









**Experience exchange with Women Mediators Networks with FBA** (December 2020, Online)



**Research collaboration** initiated with IHE - gender dynamics in water governance



In-person Trainings, Knowledge Exchange workshops



Global





**Online Trainings, Knowledge Exchange workshops** 



Collective mobilization at key regional and global water policy dialogues



### **Expanded online approaches & Central-Asia Afghanistan Network launched**

### 2021



International Women's
Day Network 'Townhall'
(March 2021, Online)



Network Newsletter Edition 2 (March 2021)



Youth Engagement in Water Diplomacy Webinar (April 2021, Online)



Experience exchange session with Finnish Peace Mediators Network CPM (May 2021, Online)



Launch of Central Asia-Afghanistan Network Event OSCE-CAREC (June 2021, Online)



Experience exchange communication resilience and third parties (June 2021, Online)



Skills Building- social media tools to support women water experts (Oct 2021, Online)



Inception Session (Sept 2021, Online)



Side Event IFAS (Oct 2021, Hybrid Tajikistan)



**Knowledge Exchange Session (Oct 2021, Online)** 



Nile Network Leadership Council Established (Dec 2021)



**Knowledge Exchange Session (Nov 2021, Online)** 



Global Strategy Launch and Partners Consultation Event (Dec 2021, Online)

Key

Nile

Global

**Central Asia- Afghanistan** 

### Going global....

2022



**Global Strategy Consultation with Nile** Network (Jan 2022, Online)





Key

Nile

Global

**Central Asia- Afghanistan** 



**Network Newsletter Edition 3 (Feb 2022)** 

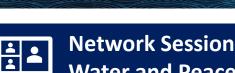


**Water Security and Project Management Training (Feb 2022, Online)** 



**Central Asia's Regional Climate Change Agenda** (March 2022, Online)





**Network Session at IHE Water and Peace Seminar** (March 2022, Hybrid)



**Nile Experience Exchange** Session (March 2022, Online)



**Network Delegates at** World Water Forum (March 2022, Senegal)



Water diplomacy and negotiations skills training (April 2022, Online)



**Network Engagement at UN Water Action Decade** 'Dushanbe Process' (June 2022, Tajikistan)



### **2022** (continued)









Global Strategy Launched
World Water Week
(Aug 2022, Sweden)





UN Water Conference Accreditation and Engagement (Nov 2022, Online)



Zambezi Basin
Consultation ZAMCOM
(Dec 2022, Online)



Water Diplomacy Training (Dec 2022, Online)



Okavango Basin
Consultation OKACOM
(Dec 2022, Online)



Process and Proposal Design (Dec 2022, Online)



Network Newsletter Edition 4 (Dec 2022)



Year-in-Review (Dec 2022, Online)

Key

Nile Central Asia- Afghanistan

Global

**Southern Africa** 

### Raising our ambitions...

2023



**Women + Water Webinar** (Jan 2023, Online)



**International Women's** Day Event (March 2023, Online)



**Water Diplomacy** Symposium in advance of **UN Water Conference** (March 2023, United States)





Official Side Event at UN Water Conference (March 2023, United States)





**Women in Diplomacy Day** Event USIP (June 2023, **United States)** 



**Network Newsletter** Edition 5 (June 2023)



**Orange Sengu Basin Consultation** (June 2023, Lesotho)



**Orange Sengu Basin** Consultation (July 2023, **South Africa**)





**Year-in-Review** (Dec 2022, Online)



**North American Network** launch event CRWUA (Dec 2023, United States)





Key

Nile

**Central Asia- Afghanistan** 

Global

**Southern Africa** 

**North America** 

#### **Network 2024 Engagement Summary**



In-person Trainings, Knowledge Exchange workshops

- **2** Research and communications actions
- Collective engagement and visibility actions at major regional and global water policy dialogues





2024



North American Network Consultation (Jan 2024, Online)



Ten Tribes Consultation (Feb 2024, Online)











Women + Water, Water and Peace Webinar (March 2024, Online)



International Joint
Commission Semi Annual
Conference Session (April
2024, United States)









**2024** (continued)



New York Meet-Up UN GA (May 2024, USA)



Women in Environmental Law Session (June 2024, United States)



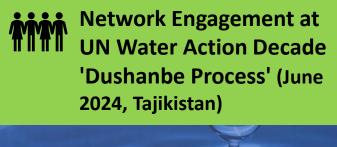
Network Newsletter **Edition 7 (June 2024)** 

Key



Women in (Science)
Diplomacy Day Event
(June 2024, online)













### 2024 (still more...)

Stockholm Meet-up & World Water Week Engagement (August 2024, Sweden)





Experience Exchange Workshop (Sept 2024, Tajikistan)



Engaging male allies (Sept 2024, online)



Cairo Meet-up & Africa Water Week Engagement (Oct 2024, Egypt)



South Caucasus Water
Diplomacy Workshop (Oct
2024, Georgia)





Ljubljana Meet-up & UN Water Conference MOP Engagements (Oct 2024, Slovenia)



Baku Meet-up & COP29 Engagements (Nov 2024, Azerbaijan)





Network Newsletter Edition 8 (Dec 2024)



Year-in-Review (Dec 2024, Online)

#### Key

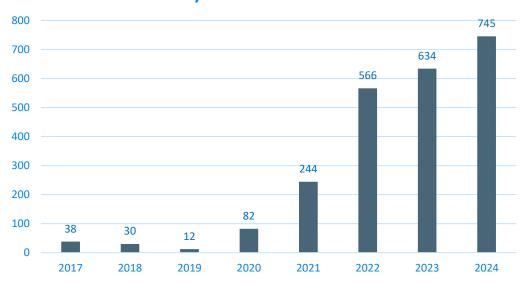
Nile Central Asia- Afghanistan

Global Southern Africa

North America South Caucasus

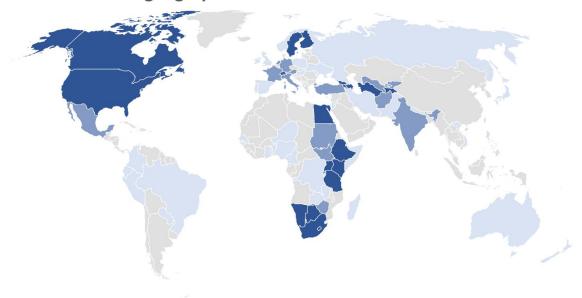
### Network Engagement Snapshot.... Behind the numbers

### Total number of individual participants engaged in Women in Water Diplomacy Network activities by year as of Oct 2024



# WOMEN IN WATER DIPLOMACY NETWORK & PARTNERS

### Network participant engagement - geographic distribution 2017-2024



#### A strongly engaged online community



- ✓ 5K followers
- ✓ 2K newsletter subscribers
- ✓ 50+ countries
- ✓ Avg. engagement rate +20%

### What have we been learning about together?





### How can I become a Network "member"?

Anyone can become a member simply by actively *engaging with* and *contributing to* the mission and values of our Global Strategy!

#### What does **engaging** with the Network mean?

- Network members actively and recurrently engage in Network activities each year.
- Anyone who participates in at least three Network events including one in-person engagement in any region is welcome to request a certificate of membership and Network clip!!

#### What does <u>supporting</u> the Network mean?

- Financial support is urgently needed to sustain and advance the Network's global strategy and
  improve gender equality in transboundary waters with resultant impacts on peace and
  security. Financial resources are particularly needed at this juncture to support the Nile Basin
  Network and global coordination.
- Many of our partners including those in the Process Support Team contribute to the Network's Global Strategy by aligning programming, contributing staff time or other in-kind contributions.
- **Speaking out** about the Network, wearing the Network's symbol, raising the importance of the intersecting themes of women, water, peace and security, and encouraging others to support our community are all essential ways to support!

# Strengthen Your Contribution to the Women in Water Diplomacy Network in 2025!

Please consider if you can **volunteer** or **commit work hours as an in-kind contribution** to support the Women in Water Diplomacy Network in 2025!

By dedicating your time and skills, you can support a variety critical needs and functions for our growing community such as:

- Research collaboration and coordination
- Writing and coordinating Network related content (blogs, policy briefs, short articles etc.)
- Network Mentor to be partnered with Network members interested in recurrent and regular mentoring sessions.
- Graphic design illustrations, publication layout, other communications
- Network governance support (coordination of meetings, minutes, etc) and many more options!







### What about the Global Leadership Council?

- We are still planning on launching a new Global Leadership Council in 2025!
- This new Global Leadership Council will build on the amazing leadership of the Nile Network Leadership Council.
- New committed staff time support from UNU will in part support this effort.
- Expected to be made of Network Members from across Network focus regions/basins (Nile, Central Asia-Afghanistan, North America, South Caucasus, Southern Africa), who have shown particularly leadership in advancing the mission of the Network, plus representatives of the Process Support Team partners (ELI, SIWI, UNU, CAREC, OSCE).
- Leadership Council representatives will be expected to contribute up to 8 hours a month to advance Network objectives, provide mentorship and elevate the voices of the Members, and contribute to the Network's strategic and sustainable development. Council representatives are asked to take up this role for 2 years.
- We expect the application process to include a letter of motivation from all interested in applying to serve as part of the Leadership Council.
- Please note that participation in the Leadership Council is not an official role requiring nomination from your employers although Council members are welcome to seek approval to use work-time for this role as an in-kind contribution to the Network.

### What Network activities to expect in 2025?

- Online Experience Exchange Sessions will continue we are aiming for quarterly sessions open to global engagement on key topics of water diplomacy (in the pipeline: confidence building measures, local cross-border cooperation practices, climate proofing transboundary water agreements...)
- Celebrating key international dates with 'open' online events including International Women's Day (March 8), International Women in Diplomacy Day (June 24) and Annual Year-in-Review.
- Resource mobilization and partnership development with focus on Nile Basin Network and Global Coordination
- Network Newsletter will continue! Your contributions are welcome!
- Third Global Network Forum?? see resource mobilization :)
- TBC UN Commission on the Status of Women engagement March 2025, USA
- Preparing to contribute to the UN Water Conference Dec 2026, UAE
- Make sure to follow announcements on LinkedIn for details and registration!

### Time to Dig Deeper!

- 25-minute Breakout Room Discussions x 2 rotations
- Each breakout room discussion will focus on a core area of Network engagements where <u>your inputs are needed</u> and facilitated by Process Support Team members.
- You choose the breakout room themes of most interest to you.



### **Breakout Room Discussions Options:**

Breakout Room 1: Knowledge Exchange Themes for 2025?
Facilitated by Kerry Schneider, SIWI and Dr. Roisin Burke, Utrecht University

**Breakout Room 2: Global Leadership Council?**Facilitated by **Sogol Jafarzedeh**, UNU – Institute for Water, Environment, and Health and **Tim Kraenzlein**, OSCE

**Breakout Room 3: Research Cooperation?**Facilitated by **Jessica Troell**, ELI and **Letizia Zuliani**, OSCE

Breakout Room 4: Resourcing our global community?
Facilitated by Elizabeth A. Koch, ELI and Dr. Saule Ospanova, OSCE





### Reporting Back



Facilitated by: **Dr. Zodwa Dlamini**, Independent Consultant and Former South Africa Chief Delegate and Permanent Representative on the Lesotho Highlands Water Commission



### **Closing Reflection**



**Tanja Miskova,** Ambassador-at-Large for Water Diplomacy at the Ministry of Foreign and European Affairs of Slovenia



### With special thanks to our community of partners!































































### Share your inputs in the Exit Poll



https://forms.office.com/r/VnPEj72r4d



