

Global Water Partnership  
Executive Secretary  
Executive Brief  
September, 2017



# About the Global Water Partnership



The Global Water Partnership (GWP) is a global action network with over 3,000 partner organisations in 183 countries. The network has 86 Country Water Partnerships and 13 Regional Water Partnerships.

The network is open to all organisations involved in water resources management: developed and developing country government institutions, agencies of the United Nations, bi- and multi-lateral development banks, professional associations, research institutions, non-governmental organisations, and the private sector.

GWP's action network provides knowledge and builds capacity to improve water management at all levels: global, regional, national and local. GWP does not operate alone. Its networking approach provides a mechanism for coordinated action and adds value to the work of many other key development partners.

GWP is an 'on-the-ground' network that mobilises government, civil society, and the commercial sector to engage with each other to solve water problem.

Usually these problems stem from the demands of competing water users so it's about how to manage, or govern, the resource itself. Their focus is on improving the way water is managed across sectors – it's called the integrated approach.

Their comparative advantage is a large and diverse multi-stakeholder network that can deploy 20 years of knowledge and experience in applying the cross-sectoral integrated water resources management approach to sustainable development.

GWP has identified three strategic goals that will help countries to advance water governance and management and realise their vision of a water secure world. These strategic goals are interdependent. Achieving the first two goals, *catalysing change in policies and practice* and *sharing knowledge*, depends upon the third goal: *creating strong partnerships*. Together the goals ensure a coherent approach and guide activities at all levels. In working towards them, GWP provides knowledge leadership and products that draw on Partners' worldwide experience. They influence and inform global, regional, and national policies on water and sustainable growth.

## Vision and Mission

A water secure world is vital for a better future: a future in which there is enough water to support social development, sustainable and inclusive growth, and ecosystems. In a water secure world, we will respect the intrinsic value of water and recognise its vital role in supporting human lives and livelihoods.

GWP supports countries to realise this vision by helping them to advance their governance and management of water resources for sustainable and equitable development.

## Global Secretariat

A global secretariat, based in Stockholm, Sweden, provides overall support and coordination to the network.

The Secretariat supports the Executive Secretary, the Technical Committee, other GWP Committees, and the Regional Water Partnerships in governance, finance, communications, planning, and operational management of programmes and administration.

The Secretariat manages finances and reports on funding received at global level. It also helps the Partnership exchange knowledge and resources, and ensures communication and coherence across the Network.

The Global Water Partnership Organisation (GWPO) is:

- An intergovernmental agency hosted by the Government of Sweden.
- Managed by the Executive Secretary reporting to the Steering Committee.
- Accountable to the Steering Committee that directs policy and approves the work programme and budget.
- Overseen by the Sponsoring Partners – the founding members – the ultimate decision-making body that appoints the Steering Committee.

# Executive Secretary

The Executive Secretary is the Chief Executive Officer of the Organisation (GWPO) and the Head of the Secretariat. The Executive Secretary reports and is responsible to the Steering Committee for the activities of the Secretariat as per the Statutes of GWP.

The Executive Secretary shall ensure the implementation of the strategic directions and instructions received from the Steering Committee. The Executive Secretary shall work with fostering and developing the GWP Network, widening its membership and links with other organisations and institutions in non-water sectors. The Executive Secretary shall also be responsible for overall fundraising at the global level, developing new funding opportunities.

This role requires an experienced senior-level leader with extensive people and project management experience as well as strong leadership credentials and a proven track record of success. The candidate should have a strong background in dealing with international organisations, top business leaders, civil society, local stakeholders and innovators globally in a high-profile environment, an ability to effectively communicate to a diverse audience, and a proven track record in catalysing large scale initiatives. They will have the ability to proactively develop and grow strategic relationships at the executive corporate level, with civil society, the entrepreneurial community and the philanthropic sector. The successful candidate will also have a deep commitment to building a water secure world.

## Duties and Responsibilities:

### Strategy and Programme

- Lead the organisation through strategic change.
- Support the continued development of the GWP Strategy and Programme
- Implement the GWP Strategy as well as appropriately manage and monitor mechanisms for all functions within the GWP/O and their budgets
- Develop and implement a global fundraising strategy aligned with the approved plan of work and budget
- Develop relationships and links with the GWP Network bodies in order to ensure efficient and successful implementation of the GWP Strategy
- Seek out and drive opportunities to promote GWP's efforts to a wide range of stakeholders, with a specific focus on developing new income streams and partnerships to advance priority initiatives
- Build and develop partnerships and collaborations with (inter)national organisations and institutions to enhance the performance of the GWP Network and create links with actors in non-water sectors

### Management/Oversight

- Manage and provide oversight of the global GWPO Secretariat work
- Appoint such staff/individuals as may be required to carry out the objectives of the Organisation in its objective to support and work with the Network. Be responsible for the Human Resources Function within the GWP Secretariat

- Work closely with the Chair of the Technical Committee to ensure the Technical Committee work plan supports the Network

### Institutional Governance

- Support the meetings, and follow-up decisions by, the Network, the Sponsoring Partners, Steering Committee, and the Financial Partners Group in close collaboration with the GWP Chair
- Fulfil required functions with respect to GWPO operations including approving new Partners of the Network, issuing statements and entering into obligations in the name, and on behalf of the Organization or as authorized by the SC
- Report annually on the activities of the Network and Organization

### Represent GWP and GWPO

- Represent at operational level GWP and GWPO in global, regional, national and subnational events and at GWP meetings, donor meetings and other fundraising activities, as speaker and/or spokesperson for GWP, as appropriate and in coordination with the GWP Chair
- Provide adequate support to the representative functions of the GWP Chair

## Required Experience and Qualifications

The successful candidate will be an experienced, enthusiastic and committed leader. Experience working closely with or reporting to an engaged Board of Directors or similar is preferred.

### Education

The ideal candidate will hold a Master's degree and have a minimum of 5-7 years' relevant executive managerial experience, preferably with an international organisation involved with water, climate change, agriculture or the environment.

### Relevant Experience

- Experienced visionary leader with effective management skills to lead an organisation of talented and diverse professionals
- Demonstrated transformational leadership skills, steering a global international organisation through strategic change
- Proven understanding of water related issues and water resource management
- Experience developing and implementing global fundraising strategies
- Ability to maximise political and technical profile of a large international organisation in a relevant sector (e.g. water, agriculture, climate change, environment, energy, development or other related area of expertise)
- Experience working with public and private institutions
- Proven business acumen coupled with strong financial management skills to drive financial sustainability

- Exceptional interpersonal skills with the ability and personality to work collaboratively and inspire colleagues
- Effective people manager who can catalyse teams and individuals to own a shared vision and deliver high performance
- Excellent written and oral communication skills in English are essential; knowledge of another language, French, Spanish or other, is an advantage.

## Core Competencies

### Leadership and Strategic Thinking

- Strong strategic visionary skills
- Seeks opportunities to gain support and buy-in from internal and external partners for GWP's vision, mission and strategy

### Change Orientation

- Drive new strategy implementation

### Working Together

- Builds sustainable and productive long-term relationships with partner organisations

### Innovation and Change

- Acts as a change sponsor to win the support for GWP-wide strategies and/or organisational changes
- Persuasively communicates the reasons for organization change, addressing concerns and encouraging thinking beyond possible immediate personal inconveniences

## Terms of Appointment

This is a full-time position with the successful candidate being contracted on a three year basis with the possibility of renewal. Salary is competitive and commensurate with qualifications and experience.



## Location: Stockholm, Sweden

Stockholm is the capital of Sweden and the most populous city in the Nordic countries. 942,370 people live in the municipality, approximately 1.5 million in the urban area, and 2.3 million in the metropolitan area. The city stretches across fourteen islands where Lake Mälaren flows into the Baltic Sea.

Stockholm is the cultural, media, political, and economic centre of Sweden. The Stockholm region alone accounts for over a third of the country's GDP, and is among the top 10 regions in Europe by GDP per capita. It is an important global city, and the main centre for corporate headquarters in the Nordic region. The city is home to some of Europe's top ranking universities, such as the Stockholm School of Economics, Karolinska Institute and Royal Institute of Technology (KTH). It hosts the annual Nobel Prize ceremonies and banquet at the Stockholm Concert Hall and Stockholm City Hall. One of the city's most prized museums, the Vasa Museum, is the most visited non-art museum in Scandinavia.

Stockholm is the seat of the Swedish government and most of its agencies, including the highest courts in the judiciary, and the official residencies of the Swedish monarch and the Prime Minister. The government has its seat in the Rosenbad building, the Riksdag (Swedish parliament) is seated in the Parliament House, and the Prime Minister's residence is adjacent at the Sager House.

## Key Steps in the Selection Process

1. If you wish to be considered for this position, please forward a copy of your CV and a supporting letter in **Microsoft Word format**, along with any relevant documentation to Catherine Hughes at [chughes@sri-executive.com](mailto:chughes@sri-executive.com). All information will be held in the strictest confidence as we pride ourselves on our professional service. We will revert to you as soon as feasible when we have reviewed your application.
2. During the recruitment process, SRI Executive Search will require your cooperation in completing a Competency Profile. You will also be required to participate in a number of telephone or Skype conversations with the team to ensure there is a clear understanding of the Terms of Reference and also an appropriate “fit” for you and the Global Water Partnership.
3. We will require that you provide us with full details of three people who are willing to act as a referee. We will not contact these referees without your express permission. Please note that reference checks may be conducted prior to your face-to-face interviews.
4. Once we have the details of all those interested in going forward for this role, we will evaluate all applicants against the requirements of the role as outlined above. SRI will conduct a number of interviews with interested parties.
5. Should both the parties wish to proceed an interview with the Selection Committee will take place. The face-to-face interview with the committee will take place in Stockholm, Sweden. Please note a meeting with SRI Representatives may be required prior to this. You may be asked the terms and conditions that you would require for an offer to be acceptable to you.
6. After you meet with the Selection Committee, we will advise you of the Committee’s decision as soon as possible. At the selection stage should you be the preferred final candidate, our client will likely extend a verbal offer to you. Please note that the successful candidate will be required to furnish us with original copies of their qualifications prior to an offer being extended.



Headquarters  
40 Grand Canal Street Upper  
Dublin 4  
Ireland

Telephone: +353 1 667 5008  
Email: [info@sri-executive.com](mailto:info@sri-executive.com)  
Website: [www.sri-executive.com](http://www.sri-executive.com)

