



GWOPA

Global Water Operators' Partnerships Alliance

UN HABITAT

FOR A BETTER URBAN FUTURE

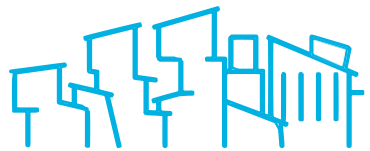
Dr. Anne Bousquet
Programme Management Officer

August 2022

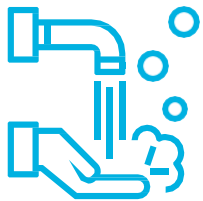
1. Background: UN Habitat mandate and the water crisis in urban Africa
2. What are WOPs?
3. What does GWOPA do?
4. The EU WOP program

UN-Habitat - Our Mission

UN-Habitat promotes transformative change in cities and human settlements through knowledge, policy advice, technical assistance and collaborative action to leave no one and no place behind.



1 billion people live in informal settlements and slums in overcrowded and inadequate housing



2.4 billion people lack adequate access to safe water and sanitation



Our Global Commitment to WASH

SDG 6
ensuring availability and sustainable management of water and sanitation for all.



Other SDGs
with specific water-related targets to be achieved before their success is possible.



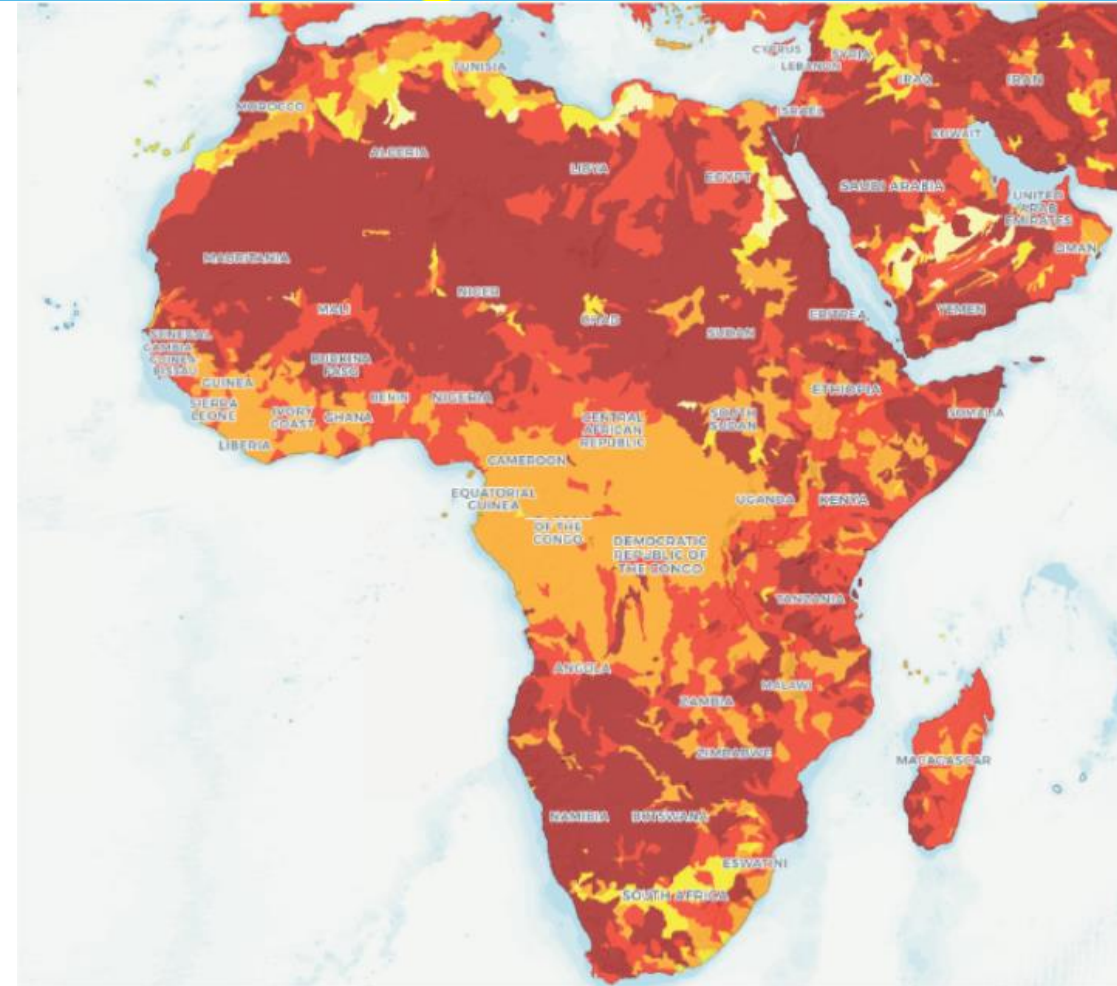
2030 Sustainable Development Agenda

- Make cities **inclusive, safe, resilient and sustainable** (SDG 11).
- **Universal access** to water and sanitation and hygiene for all by 2030 (SDG 6.1, 6.2)
- Halve the proportion of **untreated wastewater** by 2030 (SDG 6.3.1)
- Principle of **Leaving No One and No Place Behind - Reaching the furthest behind first.**

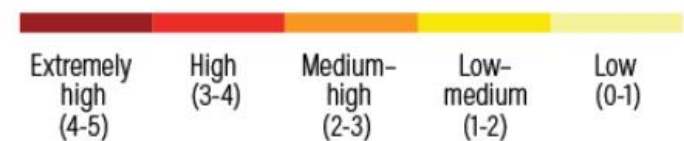
Africa faces highest water risk in the world

Crisis in cities worsening

- 1 in 3 African citizens is impacted by water scarcity, worsened by climate change impacts.
- 400 million people in sub-Saharan Africa lack access to basic drinking water.
- Citizens in sub-Saharan Africa travel 30 minutes on average daily to access water.
- **Nearly 63% of urban areas in sub-Saharan Africa lack access to basic water and sanitation.**
- **In Cape Town, South Africa, "Day Zero" event where the city ran out of water drew global media attention.**

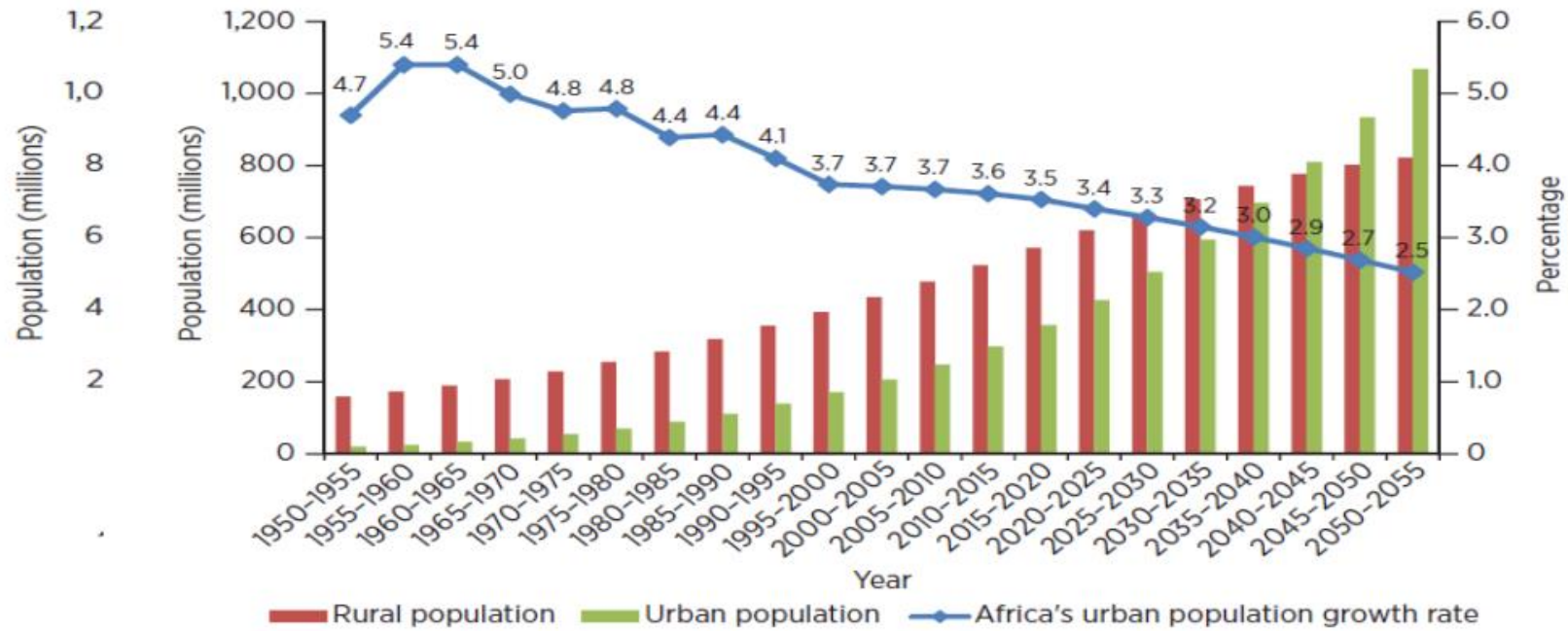


OVERALL WATER RISK





Understanding the urban WASH Crisis: Africa has the fastest urban population growth in the world



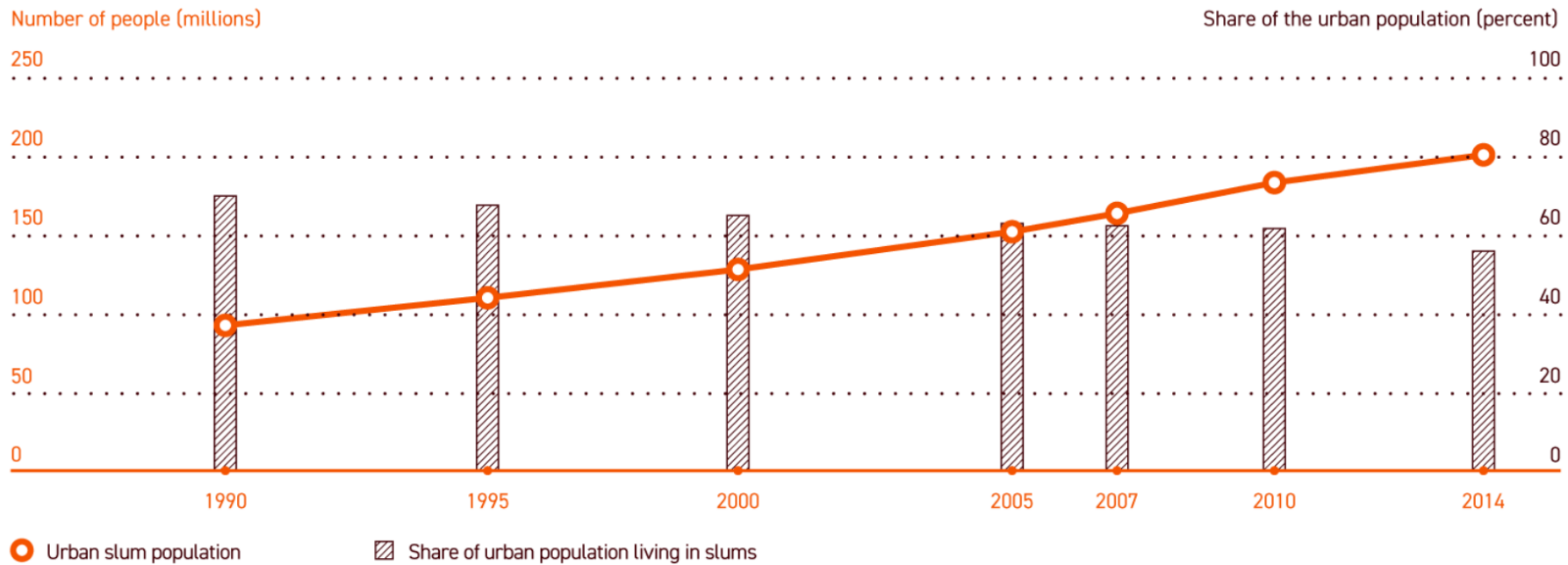
Adapted From: AU/AMCOW Monrovia
SDG presentation on Wastewater
Management and Water Quality

- **At 3.5% per year, Africa has the fastest urban population growth rate in the world.** <https://www.oecd.org/publications/africa-s-urbanisation-dynamics-2022-3834ed5b-en.htm>
- **1950 Africa's urban population was 27 million people, a minute fraction of today's urban population of roughly 567 million people.**
- **Since 1990, Africa's rapid growth in urbanization has been driven primarily by high population growth and the reclassification of rural settlements**
- **Africa's population will double between now and 2050, and two-thirds of this population increase will be absorbed by urban areas.**



Understanding the urban WASH Crisis:

Africa has a rising number of people living in urban slums



Source: UN-Habitat, Urbanization and Development: Emerging Futures (Nairobi: UN-Habitat, 2016).

- The number of people living in urban slums in Africa doubled from 100 million in 1990 to 200 million in 2014, although the share of urban population living in these settlements declined from 70 to 56 percent over this time period.
- The share living in slums, however, has not declined as rapidly as it has in South and East Asia, and is 25 percentage points higher than the second-worst region, South Asia. https://www.brookings.edu/wp-content/uploads/2020/01/ForesightAfrica2020_20200110.pdf

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6.1 Safe drinking water



6.2 Sanitation and Hygiene



6A. Expand international cooperation and capacity-building **Support** to developing counties in water-and sanitation-related activities and programmes...

6B. Support and strengthen the participation of local communities in improving water and sanitation management

Effective water Operators are central to the achievement of Sustainable Development Goal 6



6.6 Water efficiency



6.3 Water quality



6.5 Integrated water resources management



6.4 Water related ecosystems



1. What are WOPs?

WOPs are not to be used for money-making purposes. The costs of WOPs that need to be recovered should be done so on a cost-recovery basis only.

Partnerships take place between peer service providers, be they "operators," "utilities" or municipal departments

Mentors and Mentees

Developing the capacity of local staff to improve performance, not doing it for them. Emphasis on learning for improved performance.

Not-for-Profit partnerships between two or more water and/or sanitation operators carried out in the objective of strengthening their capacity to sustainably provide quality services to all.

Inducing lasting change that takes into account social, environmental and financial considerations and contributes to the SDGs

As long as they meet these criteria, PUPs, SUPs, O2O, WUPs, decentralized cooperation, city twinning... are all WOPs!

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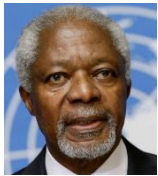
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2. What does GWOPA do?



UN Member states commit to reducing by half, the proportion of the population without sustainable access to safe drinking water and basic sanitation. (MDG 7.C).



SDGs replace MDGs framework. Goals call for the expansion of international cooperation and capacity building support that promotes equitable, efficient, safe, financially viable, resilient, participatory, innovative and integrated water and sanitation activities and programmes. (SDG, 3.3, 3.9, 6A, 6B, 6.1, 6.2, 6.3, 6.4, 11.5, 12.4, 17.3, 17.6, 17.9).



The New Urban Agenda presents a shared vision for the future of sustainable cities and communities, where 'the rubber hits the ground' in realizing the SDGs. The Agenda commits "to equip public water and sanitation utilities with the capacity to implement sustainable water management systems" (NUA, paragraph 120) and recognizes the need for sustainable and inclusive water and sanitation services in its vision of cities as communities where "no one is left behind." The NUA also emphasizes peer-to-peer capacity development and partnerships (120, 126, 149).

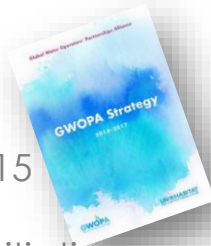
NEW URBAN AGENDA

2036



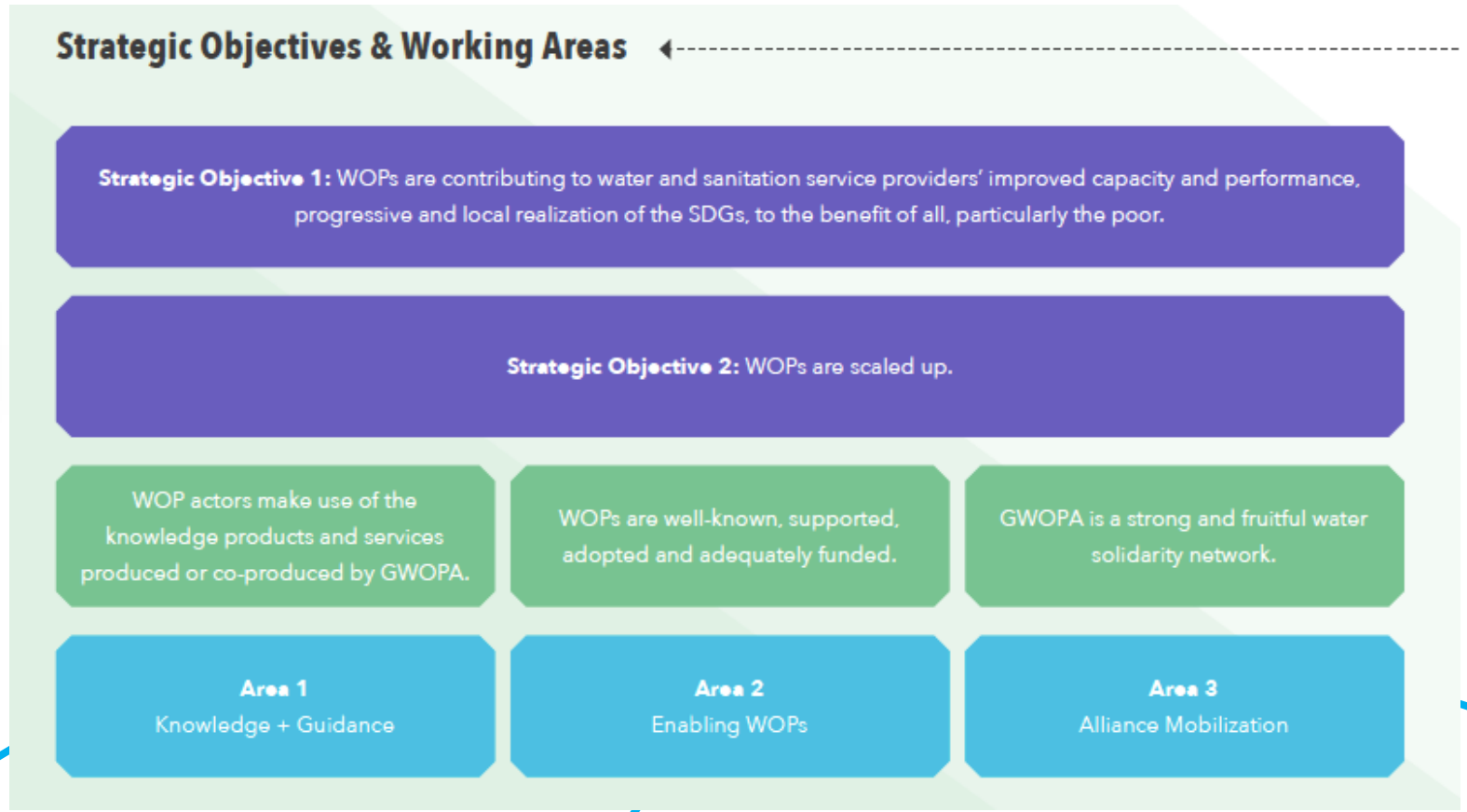
Some Key Moments

- UNSGAB Hashimoto Action Plan, 2006
- UN-Habitat began 2007, GWOPA founded 2009
- Platforms establishing 2007 onward
- Global WOPs Congresses and GAs, 2011, 2013, 2015
- Barcelona, Spain Host, 2013-2017 Strategy
- European Parliament adopts European Citizen's initiative
- Sustainable Development Goals + Paris Agreement, NUA, Sendai, ..
- 2018, new 2019-2023 Strategy in development



GWOPA Guiding Principles

- A. **Inclusiveness:** GWOPA shall be as inclusive as possible and reach out to all stakeholders in the water supply and sanitation sector including public and private water operators, nongovernmental organizations and representatives of civil society, academia, and private sector players at the global, regional, and national levels.
- B. **Non-profit based partnerships:** Partnerships established between water operators under the WOPs umbrella shall be built on a not-for-profit basis. Therefore, funding of partnerships – mainly done in the format of “twinning” of utilities – should cover direct costs only without profit of any sort for any participating party.
- C. **Mutuality of benefit:** Mutuality of benefit shall be promoted whenever possible in implementing “twinning” and other activities of exchange of experience and expertise among utilities. Such mutuality shall be used as an incentive, whenever possible, for utility cooperation on non-profit basis.
- D. **Transparency:** GWOPA shall promote transparency in the water and sanitation sector on the global, regional, and national levels. The Alliance shall conduct its own activities in a transparent manner, providing clear and regular updates on activities, and equal opportunities for stakeholders to influence Alliance direction.
- E. **Learning from the Past and Others:** GWOPA shall draw lessons and learn from past experiences to promote best practices for utility partnerships and capacity building.
- F. **Supporting WOPs Processes Worldwide:** GWOPA shall not seek to recreate, but to reinforce, efforts worldwide to strengthen mutual exchange between water operators. In this sense, the Global WOPs Alliance supports all regional and global initiatives that champion WOPs activities and principles.
- G. **Fostering Sustainable Change:** GWOPA shall support efforts to build lasting positive change within water utilities using mechanisms that are increasingly independent of external financial support.
- H. **Building a Culture of Solidarity:** GWOPA shall embrace and promote a spirit of solidarity and mutual support between water operators and all other water sector actors working towards the goals of the Alliance.

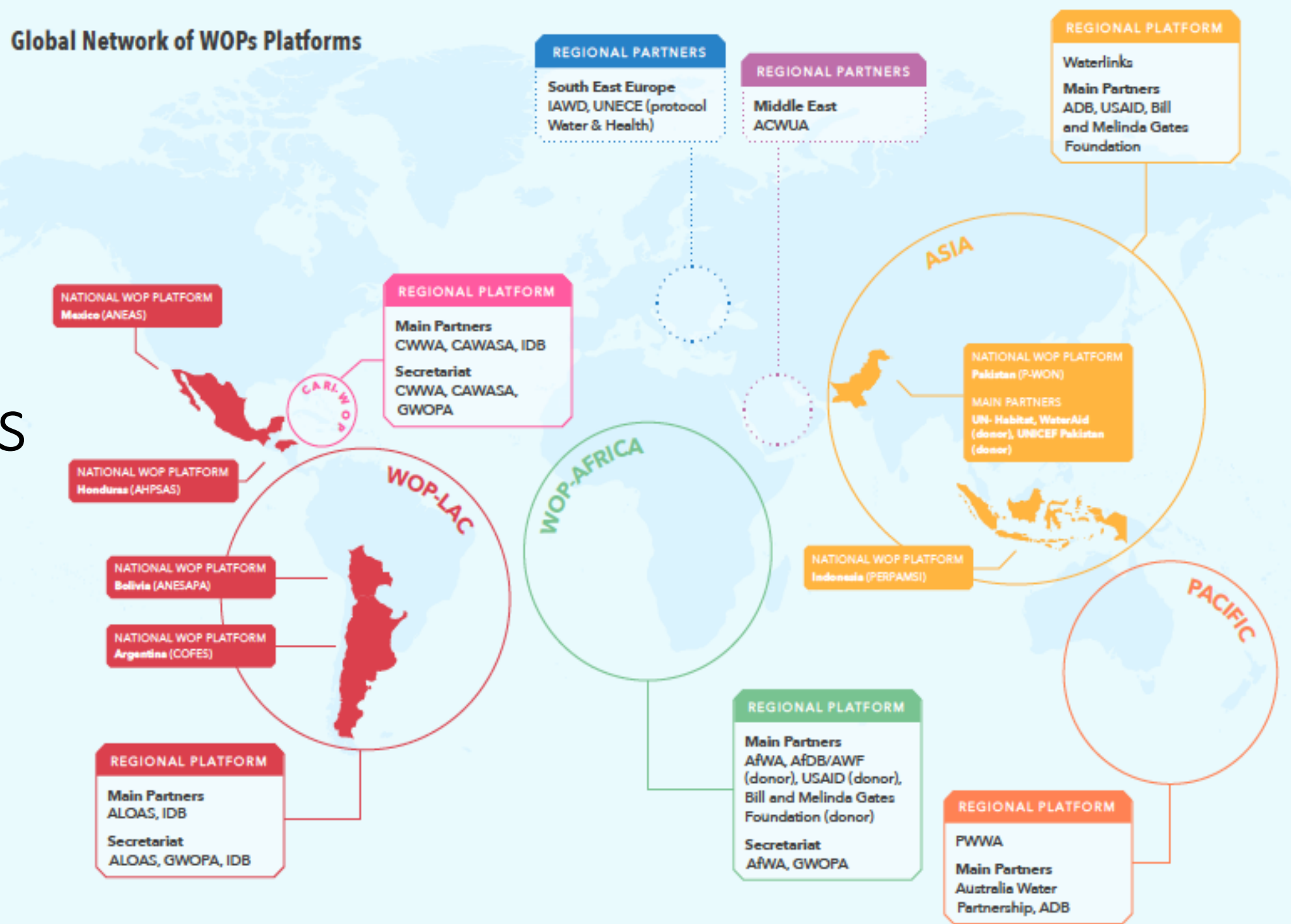


- Documenting and Researching practice
- Guiding Effective WOPs
- Guiding Sustainable Utilities
- Global WOP Observatory

- Advocacy for enabling
 - Policies
 - Funding
- Awareness & Promotion

- Mobilizing, connecting and leveraging involvement of:
- Members
 - Partners
 - WOP Platforms & Programmes

GWOPA Network of WOP Platforms

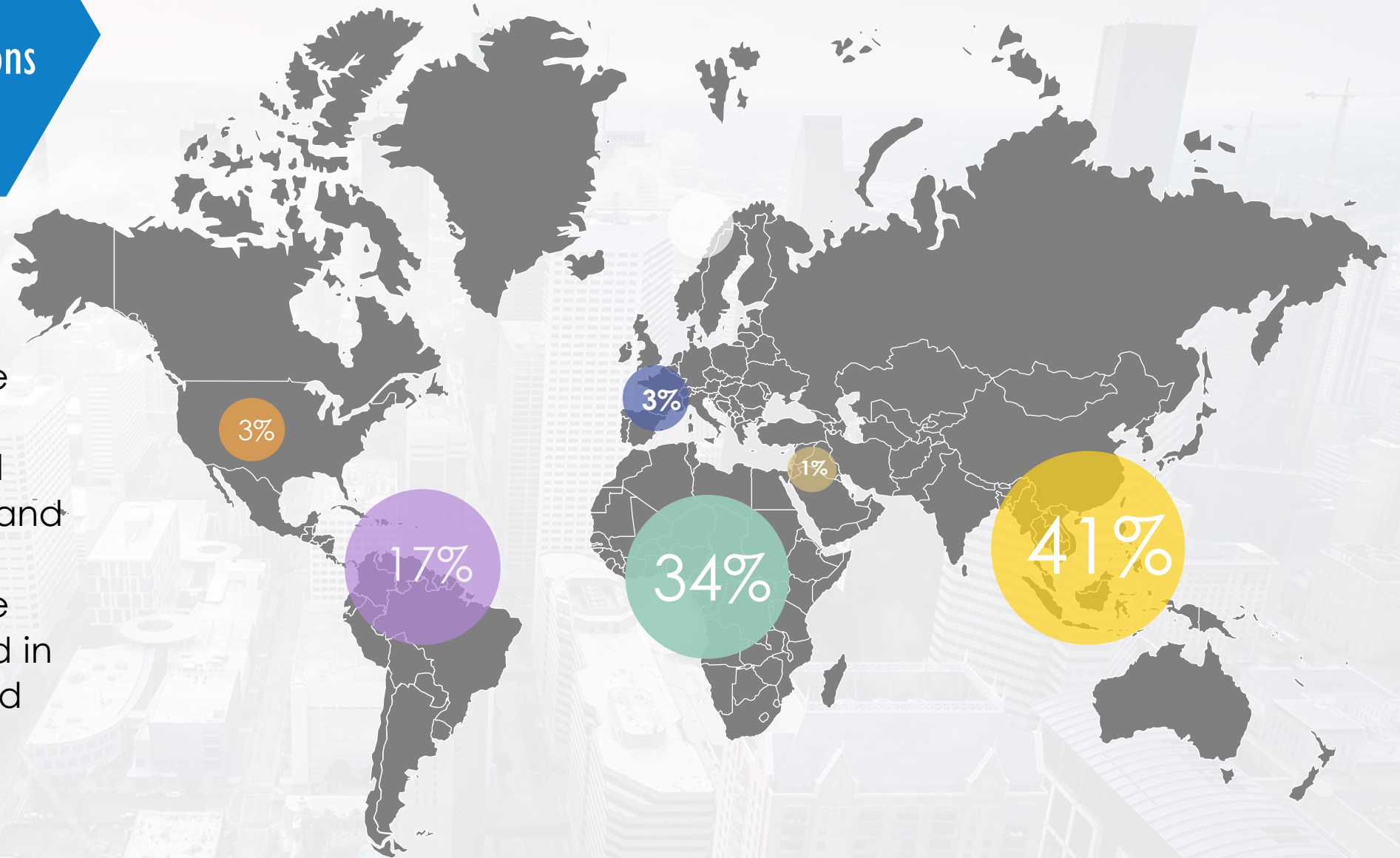


WOPs

Mentee (Beneficiary) Regions

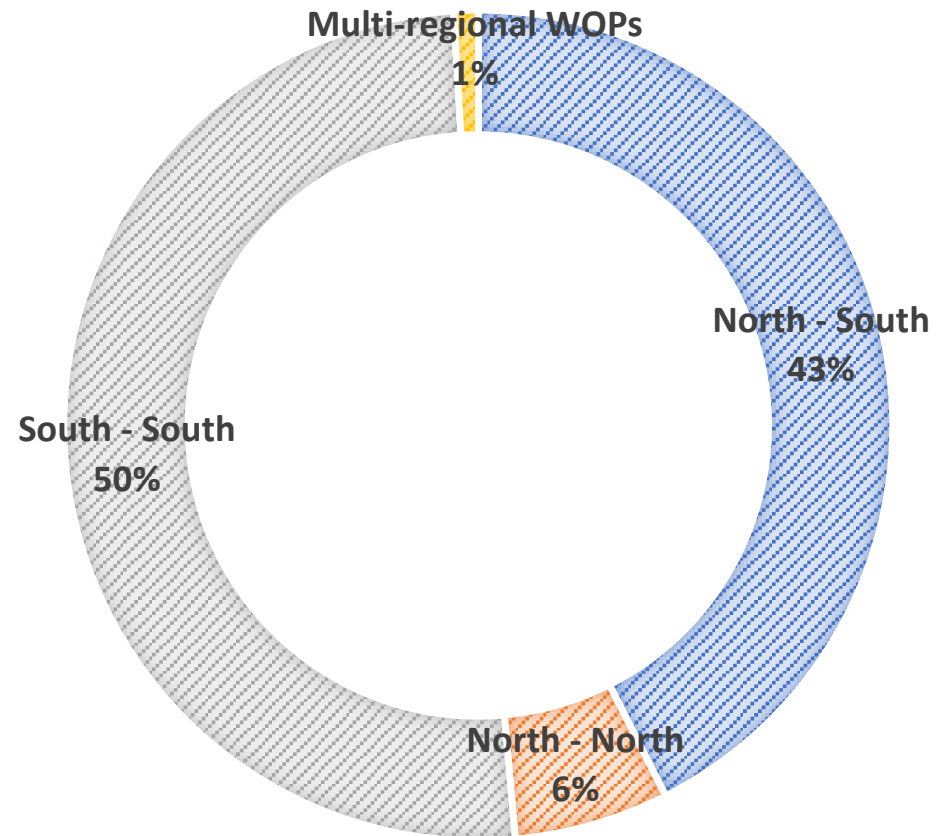
GWOPA Database (315)

Asia is the region where most WOPs have been implemented, followed closely by Africa, then and Latin America and the Caribbean. WOPs have also been documented in Europe, Middle East and North America.

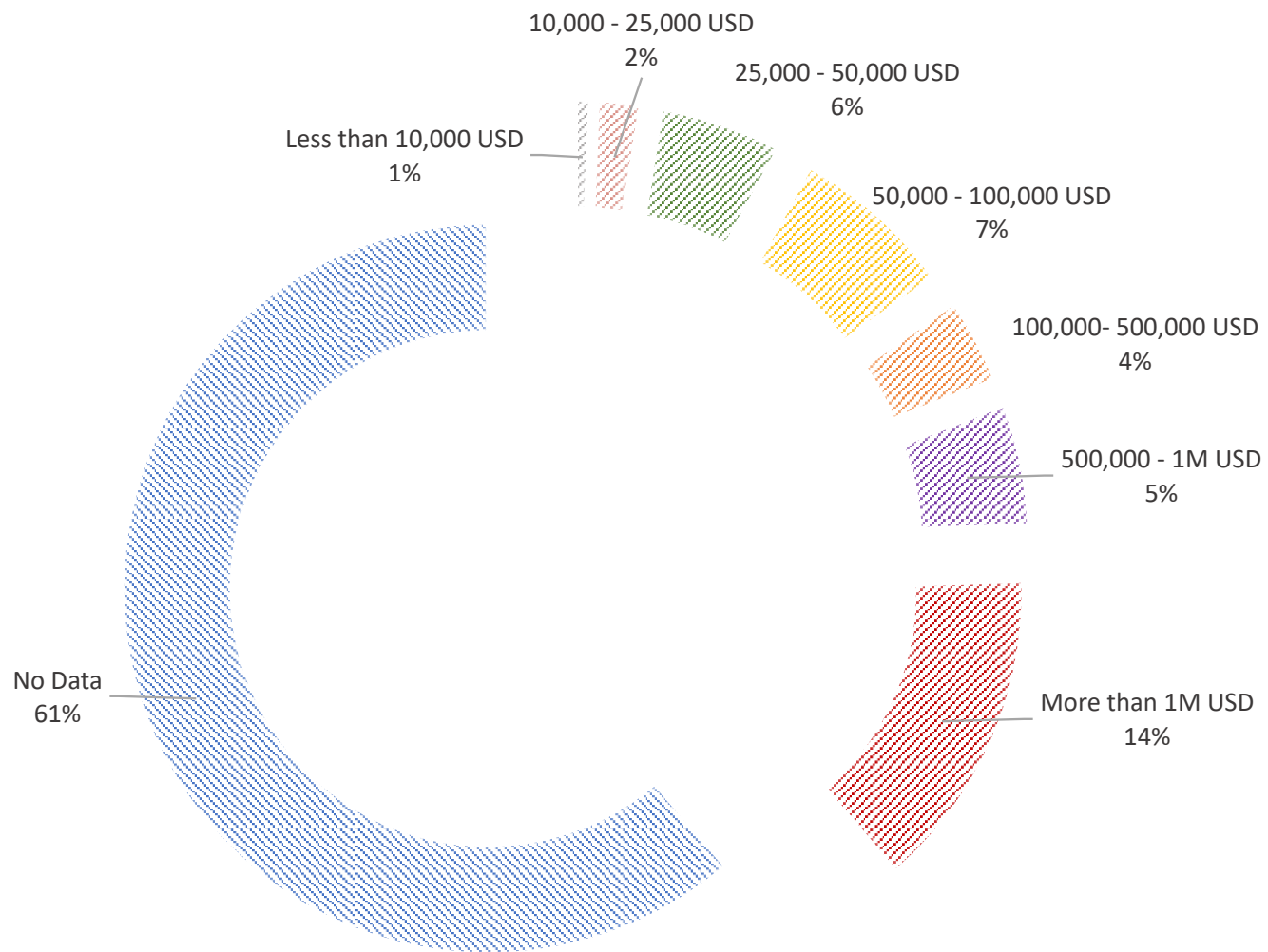


SOUTH AND NORTH MATCH OF PARTNERS IN WOPS (315 WOP PROFILES)

■ North - South ■ North - North ■ South - South ■ Multi-regional WOPs

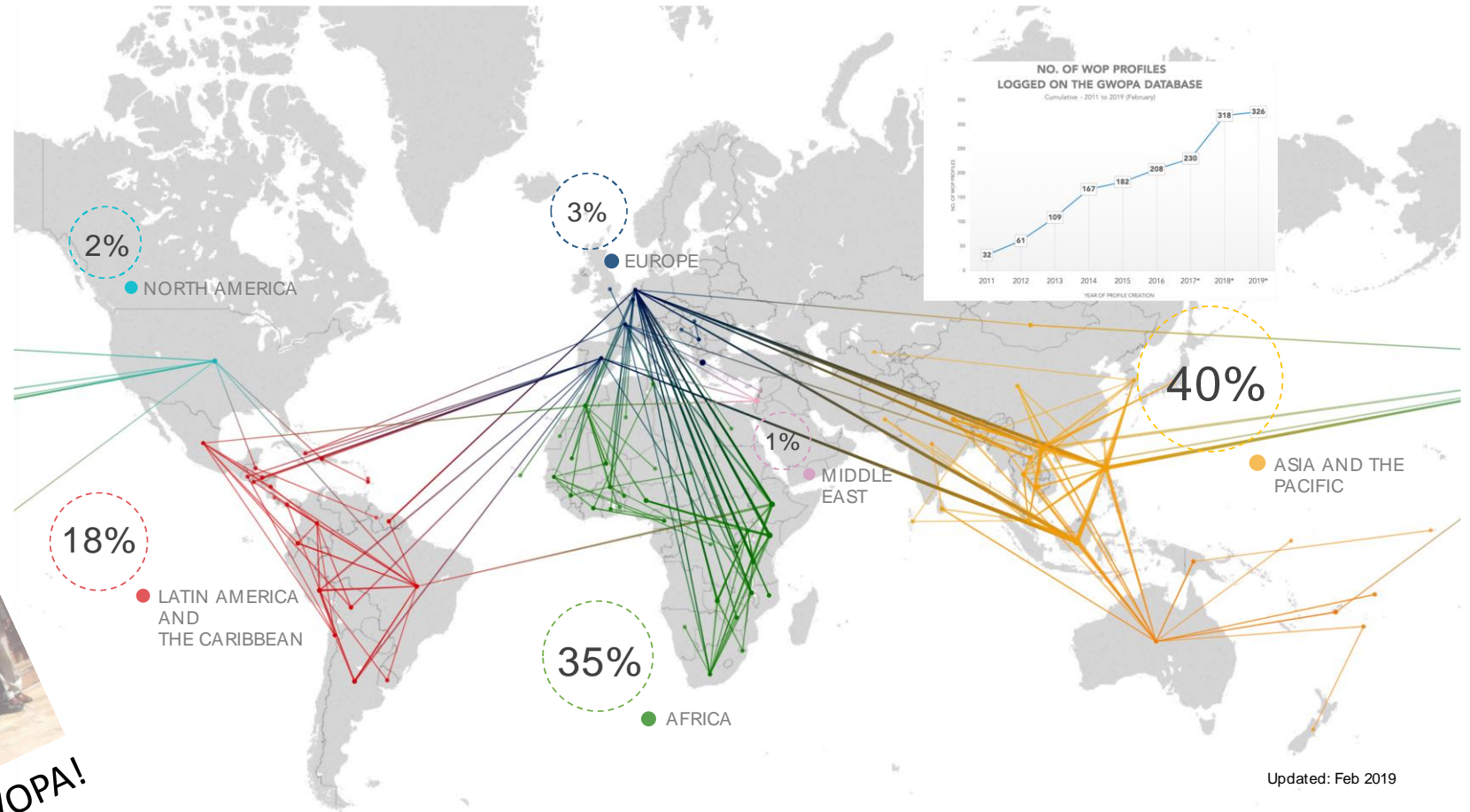


COST OF WOPS (GWOPA WOP DATABASE - 315 WOPS)



GWOPA Achievements

- Catalyzing a flourishing global practice – 320 partnerships on record
- Established network – Regional and WOP platforms and programmes and nearly 500 members and partners
- Credibility and Buy-In - Expanding Knowledge and Guidance – WOPs Case Studies, Research, and Guidance

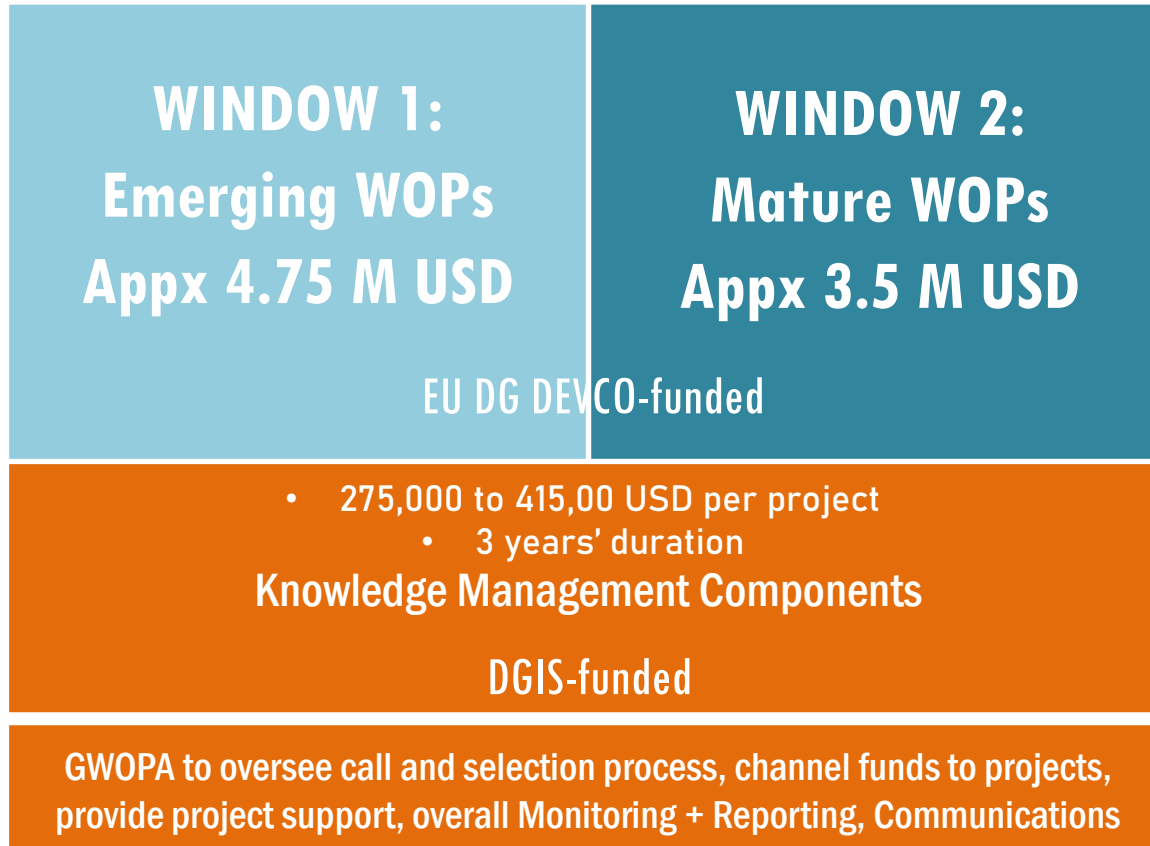


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EU-WOP Programme

2020 **Updates** → 2024



20-30 WOP projects led by water and sanitation utilities, identified through open call process

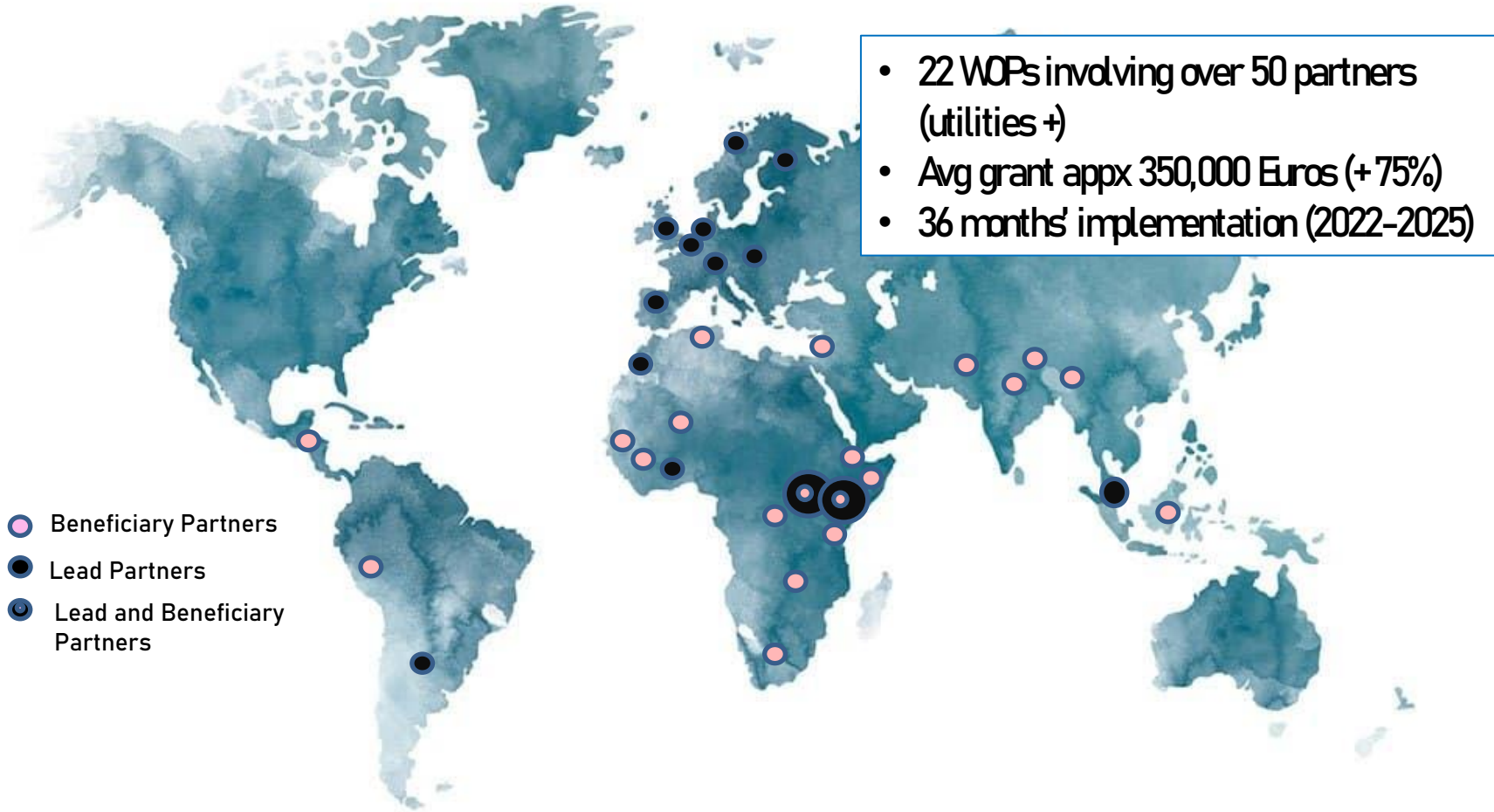
2 phase Selection Process
Concept Note: outline of project, partners identified (3 months)

If concept successful>>>

Full Proposal: fuller detail, commitments in place (6 weeks)





NB: English, Spanish or French (but not the reporting!)

EU-WOP Projects



EU—WOP PROGRAMME

14th GWOPA ISC Meeting

- **LAC**
WOPs: 2
Av. Cost per WOP: \$824 Thousand
Total grant amount in LAC:+640 K
- **Africa**
WOPs: 13
Av. Cost per WOP: \$645 Thousand
Total grant amount in Africa:+ 4 Million
- **Arab States**
WOPs: 2
Av. Cost per WOP: \$644 Thousand
Total grant amount in the Arab States:+780 K
- **Asia Pacific**
WOPs: 5
Av. Cost per WOP: \$ 519 Thousand
Total grant amount in Asia Pacific: +1.9 Million



www.gwopa.org



Thank You!

