

# SACHSEN WASSER PROJECT UPDATE

## World Water Day \* 2024



### OUR CURRENT PROJECTS \* OUR CURRENT TOPICS

#### ARMENIA

Yerevan

Assistance Project for the Water Committee of Armenia and its main Structures

The Assistance Project for the Armenian Water Committee (WatCom) and its main structures came to a close in 2023.

The project was a substantial effort between August 2021 and August 2023 to build up capacities within the WatCom as a major sector stakeholder, including in the fields of internal strategy and organisation, increased know how in the operational and technical management for the water sector, financial management and planning, asset management and water supply demand management.

Sachsen Wasser (SaWa) experts implemented workshops, training sessions and knowledge-sharing programmes to enhance the expertise of Wat-Com staff. In addition, the Committee was supported in the update of the national Water Sector Strategy.

Whereas the services were well received, on the Armenian side there is still ground to cover - in cooperation with the involved Ministries and stakeholders - regarding the final strategic positioning of WatCom and the factual implementation of the Water Sector Strategy.



Lake Sevan, Armenia

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#### BOLIVIA

Sucre

Complementary Measures for Sucre IV

The main objective of the project is to contribute to ensuring the integral sustainability of the service operator ELAPAS and the infrastructure to be carried out within the framework of the Sucre III and Sucre IV drinking water supply project.

After finalizing the major activities in Sucre, the project is on its final chapter and will be finished by mid-year 2024.



Meter Reading

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## ETHIOPIA, SUDAN, SOMALIA

UNICEF:  
R-WASH Programme:  
Capacity Building and  
Support for Water Utility  
Companies in Somalia,  
Ethiopia and Sudan

Since October 2021, SaWa has been engaged in the R-WASH Programme for Capacity Building and Support for water utility companies in Somalia, Ethiopia and Sudan, which aims to support local utilities manage their water and sanitation facilities and reach 100% cost recovery for the targeted refugee and internally displaced persons camps and host communities.

Despite facing some unforeseen challenges over the past year, such as the outbreak of civil war in Sudan and intense flooding in Somalia, SaWa has largely been able to implement its capacity building programme for the Doolow Water Management Company (DWMC) in Somalia and the Kassala State Water Corporation (KSWC) in Sudan. Training modules have included topics covering technical operations, internal and external accountability, commercial and financial planning and reporting. Furthermore, SaWa has developed and installed a comprehensive billing and accounting system at DWMC, for which user-training is currently being conducted.

In Ethiopia, SaWa is supporting the establishment of the water utilities in Kabribeya and Awbare. Thus far, SaWa has created a road map for utility establishment, drafted job descriptions for the recruitment of utility staff,



Renovation of planned utility office in Kabribeya, Ethiopia

supported in the identification of suitable office buildings for the utilities, procured IT hardware and solar energy equipment, and has finalized the development of a robust billing and accounting software.

In the coming months the respective general managers and utility staff will be hired, after which SaWa will conduct its planned capacity development programme and commence with the installation of procured equipment. Moving forward, SaWa will be supporting the utilities at each project site in the integration of water supply schemes currently operated by NGOs, representing an important step towards reaching the overall programme goal of achieving full cost recovery.

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## KOSOVO

Peja

Sewage Disposal in Southwest  
Kosovo Programme,  
Phase IV

SaWa has formally closed the chapter on Accompanying Measures – Support in Improving the Capacities of the RWC Hidrodrini, which signifies the successful completion of SaWa objectives, achievement of the key milestones, and the valuable lessons learned along the way.

Accompanying Measures – Support in Improving the Capacities of the RWC Hidrodrini commenced on January 25th, 2018 with the main goal to support the RWCH in developing an improved provision of wastewater services for the residents of the serviced area in Peja, and for public health and environmental protection for those parts of the Drini i Bardhë River Basin in Kosovo.

The project scope encompassed development and implementation of sustainable business strategies, control and supervision structures and processes as well as suitable technical and financial operations. Also, SaWa provided training measures to RWCH in order to ensure a continuation of the new practices and systems after the end of the project.

SaWa diligently adhered to the established timeline, concluding SaWa activities on December 31st, 2023. Throughout of the project, SaWa successfully delivered a range of critical milestones and key deliverables, showcasing the commitment to excellence.



Final Workshop, December 2023



A project's success is a testament to the collaborative spirit of all actors involved. SaWa extend the deepest gratitude to every team member, stakeholder, donors and partners who played a vital role for this project. Their contributions, dedication and tireless efforts have been integral to SaWa success.

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## LEBANON

### WAMA Project

Consulting Services in  
Supervision of Wastewater  
Treatment Plants and Capacity  
Development

In the last Quarter of 2023, SaWa started a new Technical Assistance Project in Lebanon, for which SaWa was contracted by GIZ. Under the Programme Enhancing Water Resources Management (WAMA), SaWa experts support the wastewater sector in Lebanon that suffered negligence for considerable time not least due to the economic crisis in the country. SaWa intervention runs in parallel with a UNICEF-funded support towards selected Wastewater Treatment Plants (WWTPs) in the whole country. Aided by a team of 4 Process Engineers that are deployed directly into the four Water Establishments (WEs) of the country (Bekaa, Beirut & Mount Lebanon, North Lebanon, South Lebanon), SaWa act in the following fields:

- Work Package 1: Supervise Operations of up to 30 WWTPs at the locations of four Water Establishments (BWE, NLWE, BMLWE, SLWE)
- Work Package 2: Develop Resident Capacity on WWTP Processes and Supervision
- Work Package 3: Revise / propose Performance-Based WWTP Private Operator Contracts.
- Work Package 4: Energy Audits for selected WWTPs.

SaWa work has commenced in October 2023 and is expected to last until end 2024. SaWa hopes that the geopolitical situation will allow service provision as planned.

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## MOLDOVA

### Călărași, Strășeni

Water Supply and  
Sanitation in Moldova  
Centre

In 2023, SaWa continued their work in central Moldova for the water utilities of Călărași and Strășeni. A first positive signal on the institutional side was the formal foundation of a Joint Stock Company (JSC) in Călărași, to assume the responsibilities of a Regional Operator.

Also, the national stakeholders signed a renewed Association Agreement thus solidifying the institutional set-up. Still, a number of contractual and formal steps need to be taken - the mills of bureaucracy move slow at times.

On the investment side, the design and tender documents with regard to the Main Transmission Pipe (MTP) from Chisinau to the regional water supply systems in Călărași and Strășeni has been approved.

During 2023, SaWa experts were involved in developing a number of concepts for implementation by/and with) the water utilities, including a Non Revenue Water Reduction Concept, a PR and Communication Concept, Organisational Structure and HR Procedures at the transformed utilities, Financial and Commercial Procedures, as well as Asset Management Guidelines.

Services under Phase 1 will be rendered until mid 2025. The primary Beneficiaries of the financial, commercial, technical and O&M assistance and training will be the newly established JSCs at Călărași and Strășeni.

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## MOLDOVA

Cahul

Detailed Design and Construction Supervision: Accompanying Measure for Water Supply and Sanitation

2023 saw the commencement of three works contracts in and around Cahul, one for the rehabilitation and extension of water supply infrastructure and two regarding the wastewater facilities (sewer networks and the WWTP). SaWa institutional support and technical assistance to the water utility Apa-Canal of Cahul (ACC) continued during the year, and has been further extended until mid 2024.

In 2023, SaWa supported ACC in several fields, e.g. in practical trainings with regard to the application of newly procured equipment including a jetting vehicle as well as Leak Detection equipment. Coaching of the financial staff continued throughout the year including focus on new relevant laws and guidelines. An inventory procedure was tailored, urgently needed for asset management purposes, and a pre-condition for determining so-called "concession fees" that could eventually be applied to fill up Development Funds e.g. for renewal / rehabilitation measures. A number of SOPs were introduced regarding Preventive Maintenance.



ACC Electrician during Power Analysis Training at Pump Station 3, Cahul, November 2023

One of the activities comprised an assessment of energy efficiency at Pumping Stations and went along with a training on energy measurements, applying the procured power analyser. The study also contributed to a number of suggestions for needed efficiency improvement measures.

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## NORTH MACEDONIA

Technical Audit

of WW collection & treatment systems in North Macedonia, preparation of documents for Supply of Water Equipment for Radovish, Kichevo, Strumica, Prilep, Berovo, Kumanovo, Bitola & Tetovo"

SaWa was assigned to conduct the "Technical Audit of WW collection and treatment systems in North Macedonia, preparation of documents for Supply of Water Equipment for Radovish, Kichevo, Strumica, Prilep, Berovo, Kumanovo, Bitola & Tetovo".

The scope of work includes three overarching areas: 1. Examine a sample of urban wastewater systems that received IPA funding and see how they treat municipal wastewater and handle sewage sludge. 2. Examine level of progress in addressing systemic issues that

affect long-term sector sustainability on wastewater treatment infrastructure development assistance projects that are still at planning, or at procurement or at an early phase of implementation. 3. Preparing a priority investment plan for improving the management of the urban wastewater system in eight selected agglomerations.

The commencement of the assignment is expected to be in April 2024.

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## TANZANIA

Simiyu

Simiyu Climate Resilience Project

The Simiyu Climate Resilience Project in Northern Tanzania extended into the third Project year, a major water, sanitation and agricultural project in the semi-arid region between Victoria Lake and the Serengeti.

SaWa is part of the Implementation Consultant consortium, and the focus during the last year has been on the commencement and continuation of works. The central construction item is the Bulk Water Pipeline from Lake Victoria with its associated infrastructure including treatment works, reservoirs and delivery points to Municipalities and villages (CbWSOs).

Following the early involvement in PMU set-up, ESHS management and the organisation of the community-driven approach that underlies parts of the project, SaWa experts continue to work in supporting the build-up of the needed



Community Information Meeting, Simiyu, July 2023

institutions to operate the new systems. This includes various capacity building and training measures on institutional, financial/tariff and commercial management as well as technical/O&M fields.

Phase 1 of the Project is foreseen to last until August 2025.

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