

SACHSEN WASSER PROJECT UPDATE

World Water Day * 2026



OUR CURRENT PROJECTS * OUR CURRENT TOPICS



Dear partners, companions,
associates and friends,

Water in a Changing World.

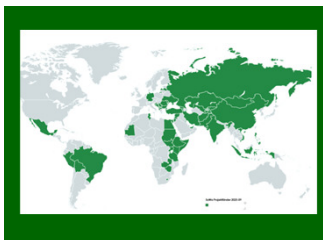
Water is one of the most precious resources of the 21st century. Access to safe drinking water affects health, economic development, food security and stability around the world.

Yet in many regions water is becoming increasingly scarce. Over the past decade, the amount of renewable water available per person worldwide has fallen by around seven percent. At the same time, demand continues to grow – especially in dry regions.

Climate change is intensifying the situation. Extreme weather events, pollution and rising demand from agriculture, industry and cities are putting increasing pressure on water resources and groundwater reserves. As a result, different users - from house - holds and farmers to industries and ecosystems - are competing for the same limited resource. Addressing these challenges requires water management systems that are resilient, efficient and adapted to local conditions.

Through its international projects, Sachsen Wasser (SaWa) contributes to strengthening water utilities, improving water services and supporting sustainable water management.

Together with partners, clients and civil society, the SaWa team works to ensure that water remains safe, reliable and accessible. The map shows our project countries to date. In this Newsletter, we present a selection of our 2025 activities.



A Personal Note.

After 25 years as founder and managing director of SaWa, I have decided to hand over the company to new ownership. Since establishing the company in 2000, it has been a privilege to work with a dedicated team and to build a company known for its reliability, expertise and strong partnerships.

Many of our partners and clients have accompanied us on this journey for many years - some even for decades. For this trust and cooperation I would like to express my sincere gratitude.

In the first quarter of 2026, my shares in the company will be transferred to Fichtner GmbH & Co. KG. This step will also bring a new management structure. I am particularly pleased that Ulf Hermel, a long-standing member of the SaWa team, will lead the new management. I am confident that under this leadership the company will continue to deliver the high-quality services our partners expect. A smooth transition is being carefully prepared so that ongoing assignments and future projects can continue without interruption.

I look back with gratitude on the past 25 years and wish the company continued success in the future.

Dr. Jürgen Wummel



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ETHIOPIA, SUDAN, SOMALIA

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

Strengthening Water Utilities for Communities and Refugees

From 2021 to 2026, SaWa supported the **R-WASH Programme**, implemented with UNICEF. The Programme aimed to strengthen water utilities serving both local populations and refugee communities in Ethiopia, Somalia and Sudan. The Project focused on establishing and strengthening water utilities, improving management structures and providing training, equipment and modern operating tools.

Ethiopia

In Ethiopia, we supported the establishment of legally recognised water utilities in **Kabribeya** and **Awbare**. The utilities received support in setting up management structures, recruiting staff and securing land for permanent facilities. Digital systems for billing and financial management were introduced, enabling regular billing to commence in Kabribeya in 2025. The utilities were also equipped with IT systems, solar power units and water quality testing equipment, helping them operate more independently and safely.

Somalia

In Somalia, the Project focused on strengthening the **Doolow Water Management Company (DWMC)**. Training workshops, on-the-job coaching and a one-year mentoring programme helped staff improve their technical and administrative skills. New operational manuals and management tools were introduced. As a result, reporting and financial management improved, billing became more reliable and efficient and outstanding debts were reduced.



Somalia: Tariff Setting Training Session held in Doolow



Somalia: Handover of Water Quality Testing Kits to DWMC

Sudan

In Sudan, about 90 staff were trained in technical, financial, commercial, human resource and governance areas. Key tools, including a Business Plan, Financial Tariff Model, and billing, accounting, and commercial software, were deployed. The Project supplied O&M, IT, solar, and water quality testing equipment, strengthening **Kassala State Water Corporation** in Girba and Wad Sherifey, and facilitated partnerships with stakeholders such as universities to support future service improvements.

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PALESTINE

Jenin Governorate

National Programme
to Develop Regional
Water Utilities

Establishment of Water Utility in North-Eastern Jenin

SaWa supports the **Palestinian Water Authority (PWA)** in establishing a water utility in the **Marj Ibn Amer** area north-east of Jenin. The Project is part of a national reform programme aimed at improving the organisation and efficiency of water services.

The work focuses on developing institutional structures, governance mechanisms and operational frameworks. It also includes preparing a transition plan towards an integrated regional water utility.

The goal is to create a stronger and more sustainable water service system that can deliver reliable water supply for the population in the region.

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PWA, Ramallah



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JORDAN

Mafraq

Water Loss Reduction Programme
Yarmouk Transaction Advisory

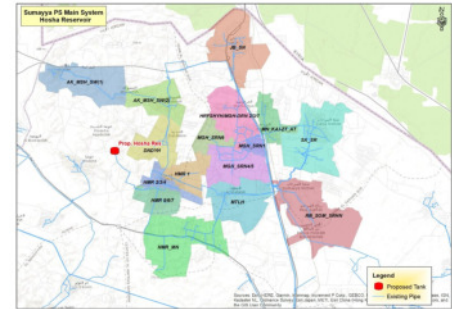
Reducing Water Losses in Mafraq

Water losses in distribution networks are a major challenge in many countries. In Jordan, reducing these losses is a key priority for improving water security.

Since November 2025, SaWa is part of a joint venture to implement the **Mafraq Water Loss Reduction Programme**. The programme is funded by KfW Development Bank and supported by the German and Jordanian governments.

Under Part A, the Inception Phase and the Preliminary NRW Situation Report have been successfully completed. Coming up is the NRW Reduction Concept and the preparation of a Transaction Concept and Performance-Based Contract (PBC), to bind a qualified Contractor to implement targeted investment measures to reduce water losses and thus improve service reliability in Mafraq.

Parts B of the Programme will address supervision of network rehabilitation, metering upgrades, pressure management and establishment of District



Map of District Metered Areas (DMAs) in Mafraq, Jordan

Metered Areas (DMAs) to ensure transparent and measurable NRW reduction.

Part C includes Operational Monitoring and Capacity Building: Performance monitoring during the PBC operational phase and targeted training for Yarmouk Water Company (YWC) staff to strengthen leak detection, data management, and institutional capacity.

The project is scheduled to run until 2033 and aims to significantly improve water management and service delivery.

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UKRAINE

Lviv

Felicity II - Eastern Partnership and Central Asia Programme:
Roadmap/Tariff Reform

Supporting Tariff Reform in Lviv

The city of **Lviv**, one of the largest cities in western Ukraine, is preparing a reform of its water and wastewater tariffs.

For many years, low tariffs and under-investment have placed heavy pressure on the municipal utility **Lviv Vodokanal**. Outdated infrastructure and high water losses – currently more than 30 percent of treated water – are major challenges. The ongoing war has further complicated the situation.

SaWa was commissioned to develop a roadmap for tariff reform.

The proposed system introduces a more transparent tariff structure similar to those used in Germany. It combines a basic fixed charge with a consumption-based fee.

Tariff adjustments are planned to be introduced gradually and will be accompanied by social support measures for vulnerable households.

If successfully implemented, the reform could strengthen the financial sustainability of Lviv's water services and serve as a model for other Ukrainian cities.

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Meeting with Counterpart Experts at Lviv Vodokanal



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NORTH MACEDONIA

Radovich, Kichevo, Strumica, Prilep, Berovo, Kumanovo, Bitola & Tetovo

Technical Audit of WW collection & treatment systems in North Macedonia, preparation of documents for Supply of Water Equipment

Improving Wastewater Management and Energy Efficiency

Over an 18-month period, SaWa carried out a comprehensive **Technical Audit of Wastewater Collection and Treatment Systems** in 12 municipalities in North Macedonia. Six of these municipalities had previously received EU funding for wastewater treatment plants, while others are preparing for future investments.

The project assessed whether existing facilities are operating in accordance with EU and national standards and evaluated the readiness of utilities that will receive new investments. In addition, SaWa conducted detailed **energy-efficiency assessments** for selected utilities. Based on the findings, practical recommendations and training programmes were developed to help utilities reduce energy consumption and operating costs.

Together with national stakeholders, a priority investment plan was prepared to guide the use of **€4 million in EU funds**. These investments will address critical equipment shortages and improve energy performance in participating utilities.

The project results were presented to representatives from government



Presentation Workshop Skopje (top), WWTP Strumica

institutions, the EU Delegation and local utilities, highlighting clear pathways to improve efficiency and sustainability in the country's water sector.

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MOLDOVA

Călărași, Strășeni

Water Supply and Sanitation in Moldova Centre

Phase 2

Supporting Regional Water Services

In 2025, SaWa successfully finalised work on the first Phase of the Accompanying Measures Component (AMC), on behalf of the water utilities of **Călărași** and **Strășeni** that are to be taking over responsibility as regional water operators with the completion of a Main Transmission Pipeline (MTP). The pipeline is currently under construction; additional water supply investments are foreseen in the adjacent towns and villages.

Phase 2 of the AMC has commenced only recently (February 2026). During an additional 3 years (until 2029), SaWa will continue to assist in the operationalisation of the newly founded regional water companies (JSCs) in technical and commercial matters, including e.g. support in the field of asset inventory, population of the procured GIS databases, NRW reduction and improvements in billing and collection.

SaWa will also accompany the further institutional build-up of the companies and facilitate a training programme on behalf of the utility staff. Likewise, SaWa will advise the various involved stakeholders in the *de facto* conclusion of drafted Contracts, such as necessary Delegation Contracts.

SaWa is happy to resume and enhance activities in Central Moldova.



Steering Committee Meeting in Chișinău, May 2025

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LESOTHO

Maseru / Lowlands

Consultancy Services to undertake the Cost-of-Service and Tariff Study of Lesotho Bulk Water Authority

Developing a Tariff System for Bulk Water Supply

From September 2025 to February 2026, SaWa carried out the Cost-of-Service Study for the future Lesotho Bulk Water Authority (LBWA). The study was commissioned by the Ministry of Natural Resources under LLWDP-II (PIU) and financed by the World Bank.

SaWa experts developed a complete regulatory framework, including a Tariff Policy, Tariff Determination Procedures, Regulatory Accounting Guidelines, and a Governance Mechanism. The study also delivered a Cost-of-Service Model, an integrated Revenue Requirement and Tariff Determination Model, and a Financial Model. An Affordability and WTP analysis was conducted, and KPI monitoring templates were developed for both the Regulator (LEWA) and LBWA.

Training workshops and coaching sessions were conducted, with a combined total of around 40 attendees. A study visit to Rand Water and DWS in South Africa further provided practical insights into bulk water tariff-setting mechanisms and operations.

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Stakeholder Workshop, Maseru, December 2025



SaWa On-Site Team during the Policy WS, Maseru, October 2025



Study Tour DWS & Rand Water, South Africa, January 2026

Looking ahead

Across the world, the challenges facing water management are growing. Climate change, population growth and increasing demand for water require new approaches and stronger institutions. At the same time, international

Cooperation and technical innovation offer real opportunities for improving water services.

SaWa remains committed to working with partners worldwide to support reliable, efficient and sustainable water management.



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