FOREWORD

The year 2020 will remain – for those who lived it and for history – the year of a global health tragedy, of a planetary war against the common enemy that is COVID-19. This disease struck the whole world, spreading death, disease, insecurity, uncertainty. The most vulnerable people have suffered particularly, due to the lack of means necessary to face this crisis and the consequences of this crisis: poverty, loss of employment, illness. It is with this in mind that our movement has committed itself with determination not only to continue the projects underway as best as possible, but also - and above all - to put in place targeted responses to this complex situation by strengthening, as much as possible, teamwork and our unique approach of working with local partners and facilitating local actions from a distance. For example, in Tajikistan, we were able to develop action plans to help the population cope with COVID-19, and to provide financial and technical assistance to youth-led projects to help isolated local communities.

Despite the difficult period, we also wished to continue to strengthen the institutional positioning of our movement: we were thus able to renew our commitment in Central Asia, and were selected by the International Climate Cooperation Program of the Government of Quebec which will allow us to strengthen our commitment in West Africa.

But for the ISW-SWE, the year 2020 was also the year of the adoption of our institutional Strategy 2021-2025 which will guide us towards our Vision 2035. The road ahead will certainly not be easy and we will face challenges that we are determined to overcome, the first being the recovery from the COVID-19 crisis. Our determination and commitment has always been shared and supported by our most faithful partners such as the Swiss government (SDC), the Quebec government, and the French Water Agencies, to whom we are grateful.

The year 2020 was particularly difficult and we are proud to have been able to meet some of the challenges it posed. The merit of this period has certainly been to strengthen our determination to put our commitment, our solidarity and our energy at the service of the cause of water and the most vulnerable populations.

ANTONELLA CAGNOLATI  President

SARAH DOUSSE  Executive Director
A STRONG
IDENTITY
AND VALUES

We are a bold, change-accelerating, accessible, committed organization with the ability to facilitate relationships.

The following values guide our actions:

Openness
To put forward respect for singularity and otherness. To be at the service of other actors to facilitate concerted actions, guided by a willingness to collaborate within the framework of common and unifying objectives.

Complementarity
Accompanying the action of other actors (BY), putting ourselves at their service (FOR) and acting with them in a spirit of complementarity and increased influence (WITH). The ISW-SWE catalyzes partnerships between different actors, by their geography, their experiences, their approaches or their themes.

Audacity
Putting creativity and innovation at the heart of our actions by not being afraid to think outside the box. Our movement is the source of many innovative ideas that have now progressed, and we intend to continue along this path, always seeking to contribute in a different way.

Commitment
Leading with conviction and fully committed to the transparent and effective implementation of the mission.

To place gender equality and intergenerational cooperation as transversal values in all actions.
In 2020, the ISW-SWE adopted its institutional strategy for the period 2021-2025. Through consultations with our Board of Directors, surveys and specific meetings with members of our networks and teams, this strategy was born, aiming at a more systemic approach to water-related issues for rapid and sustainable change.

The 2021-2025 strategy represents a structuring framework on which the ISW-SWE will rely on in the face of a high level of uncertainty, numerous possible scenarios, and the need to be flexible at the operational level while being guided by the desire to implement the organization’s mission and respect its values.

This new strategy will allow us to seize new opportunities and think outside the box to maximize the organization’s impact in the coming period. The ISW-SWE's commitment to being a bold and flexible organization that contributes to sustainable and systemic change is more relevant than ever.

READ THE FULL STRATEGY ON OUR WEBSITE
Facilitate

We serve civil society, youth and citizen movements that want to be a force for change in the water sector.

Explore

We want to be a “first mover” acting creatively, whether it be by involving citizens in the design and management of infrastructure or services, empowering young people, strengthening water governance, mobilizing, connecting and supporting stakeholders, or carrying out influential actions.

Accelerate

We act with a sense of urgency and a willingness to scale up that is needed today.

Our Approach

We initiate, facilitate and contribute to systemic changes for a sustainable governance of water from a local to a global level and promote the empowerment of stakeholders involved in its management and protection. Through our mission and approach, we contribute to the following systemic changes:

- The advancement of sustainable water management as a central issue connected with the other major issues of the planet.
- The acceptance of water as a common good, managed in a sustainable manner and taking into account the most vulnerable.
- The use of water as a vector for socio-economic development, democracy and peace.
- The respect and defense of the human right to water, beyond issues related to drinking water.
- The promotion of decentralized solutions involving local actors.
Our Organization

Founded in 1991, the International Secretariat for Water has an international management based in Montreal (Canada) and two permanent representations in Montreal (ISW-Canada) and Strasbourg (Solidarity Water Europe). Interventions in Central Asia, Eastern Europe, Latin America and West Africa mobilize national representations or partners who share our vision and mission.

General assembly

Board of directors / Executive office
(strategy, piloting, control)

GLOBAL / REGIONAL

Europe representation
Strasbourg
NGO registered in France

International management
Montreal

North America representation
Montreal
NPO registered in Canada

Governance Board
(innovations, monitoring, connections)

RELATED National Structures

EAST-WEST AXIS
Partners in Central Asia
(Uzbekistan, Tadjikistan and Kazakhstan)

Partners in Eastern Europe
(Moldova)

NORTH-SOUTH AXIS
Partners in Latin America
(Peru)

Partners in West Africa
(Senegal, Burkina Faso)
In 2020, the COVID-19 health crisis shook all societies and provided a stark reminder of the precariousness of access to clean water and sanitation for millions of people – threatening to roll back the hard-won progress of recent years. The pandemic has reinforced the importance of our mission, which is to improve governance, access to water and support systemic change. It has also reinforced our belief in the strength of a network of partners working towards common goals, and it has forced us to adapt, to be agile and innovative in meeting these new challenges.

We have adapted to the transfer of part of our activities online by mobilizing our vast network of partners, allowing us on the one hand to continue some of our activities, including international meetings and project coordination, and on the other hand to increase our local impact tenfold by working with our partners present on the ground.

We have also mobilized our network to assist communities most vulnerable to COVID-19 by launching a global call for projects and deploying an action plan against the spread of the virus in Tajikistan.
The Youth for Water and Climate Platform aims to support the implementation of local youth-led projects. The platform brings together resources that provide technical support to foster the quality of youth-led projects, as well as funding opportunities through a call for projects mechanism.

Global Youth Take Action: Youth fight against COVID-19

The launch of the Global Youth Take Action call for projects has resulted in a significant increase in youth engagement: more than 290 new projects have been submitted from around the world, and 49 projects have been quality assured and are now listed on the platform.

→ 294 PROJECTS SUBMITTED
→ 50 COUNTRIES REPRESENTED

→ 38 000 VIEWS on the website in the first month of the call for projects.

→ 49 PROJECTS projects certified of quality and published on the YWC platform.

→ 294 SOLUTIONS submitted from more than 50 countries, 45% of which are led by young women or mixed teams.

→ 9 PROJECTS projects supported financially and technically.
Dozens of marginalized and vulnerable communities have benefited from the 9 projects selected and supported by the ISW through this call, which was launched in response to numerous requests from young people who wanted to contribute to the responses to the challenges posed by COVID-19.

**Benin**

In Benin, the projects *"Hygiene drives out the coronavirus"* and *"STOP CO-VID-19"* at the head of the Mékrou watershed carried out respectively by JCI Natitingou Baobad and the NGO Tandeme Generations have helped educate and raise awareness about COVID-19 in over 1,000 households.

**Madagascar**

In Madagascar, the EauSYTECH project, led by the Tihary Association, trained 19 young people regarding water filters and water purification methods. They then taught over 300 households how to build their own water filters.

**Togo**

In Togo, the Youth Support Project for Food Security and Income Improvement led by the Groupe d'entraide agricole des jeunes increased food security and income from the sale of market garden produce.

**Indonesia**

In Gudang Agen, Indonesia, the Millennials Fight Covid-19 project led by the youth organization Youth with Sanitation Concerns has helped 106 families learn about the importance of handwashing and 15 families now have access to adequate sanitation facilities.

**Kyrgyzstan**

In Kyrgyzstan, the Green Rangers project, led by Nursultan Karabaev, strengthened youth participation in water resource management through the participation of more than 50 youth in a training camp on transboundary water resource management.

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**Ghana**

In Accra, Ghana, the Kyensu Project, led by the Ghana Youth Environmental Movement, has built a water sharing kiosk that now provides access to clean water for over 700 people. An all-youth (mostly young women) water council was democratically elected to ensure the sustainability of the kiosk.

The young Ivy Nego, a beneficiary of the Kyensu project, is a good example of the positive impact that access to clean water can have on the lives of many young people: “Now I can leave for school on time because I don’t have to walk more than a kilometer and at the end of the day I have enough time for my books.”
**Fighting the spread in Tajikistan: Awareness and preventive measures**

At a time when 4.5 billion people worldwide were confined in response to the rapid spread of the COVID-19 virus, the ISW, with the support of the Swiss Cooperation, joined forces with Tajikistan’s Ministries of Health and Education to implement a rapid action plan to prevent the spread of the virus.

Seeking to act quickly in a situation where every day lost can lead to disastrous results, a two-pronged approach was developed to provide essential materials for virus prevention and to raise awareness of good hygiene practices.

The rapid and effective rollout was made possible in part by ISW’s previous work in Tajikistan, we drew on a pre-existing team of trainers – consisting of representatives from the Ministries of Health and Education – trained under our large-scale rural water and sanitation program in the Ferghana Valley.

- **Awareness messages** broadcasted on local and national radios
- **500,000** participants in an outbreak identification survey
- **4,000** posters and informative stickers distributed
- **10,000** masks
- **5,000** disinfectants
- **300** sterile suits
- **300** respirators distributed in hospitals, schools and public places
- **1,300** awareness messages broadcasted on local and national radios

**Strengthened civil society movements**

The realization of the 2035 vision of the ISW-SWE involves facilitating civil society movements and networks, participatory development of powerful messages to advance the major challenges facing our planet and our societies, sharing information on opportunities in the sector, connecting with decision makers, and providing resources to take action.

Our ability to leverage our work has been demonstrated through the mobilization of local partners who have adapted and mobilized to meet the needs of their communities.

The network has also worked on the development of an action plan aimed at ensuring an active presence before, during and after the Forum. This participation will include information and mobilization activities, the design and dissemination of advocacy messages, and the follow-up of commitments made by the various stakeholders at the end of the Forum.

**The Butterfly Effect (BE) is a global network of approximately 140 international and local CSOs/NGOs that advocate for effective local solutions that have a lasting impact on improving access to water and sanitation and water resources management. Our mission is to bring the voice of our members to the international arena and to coherently influence the international policy agenda on water and sustainable development.**

In 2020, the Butterfly Effect acted as a catalyst for a strong mobilization of civil society for the next World Water Forum in Dakar (March 21-26, 2022) – the largest event in the water sector that takes place every three years and that was postponed a year due to the COVID-19 pandemic. This year of postponement has allowed the network to position itself within the preparatory process of the Forum, by integrating the working group devoted to the issue of “Ensuring universal access to drinking water in rural areas”. The Butterfly Effect has been an active contributor to these discussions, whose results will influence the definition of the various thematic sessions of the Forum.

Finally, the network has continued its role of relaying information to its members, mainly through its regular newsletter relaying news and opportunities on the main priority areas of the Butterfly Effect, namely the World Water Forum, the United Nations Agenda 2030 and the Water and Climate issues.
The World Youth Parliament for Water

The World Youth Water Parliament (WYPW) is a network of committed young people from over 80 countries who aim to create waves of change in the water sector. Through various working groups and activities around the world, the network helps prioritize water issues and uses its platforms to ensure that youth expertise is recognized.

In 2020, the activities carried out by the WYPW advanced youth advocacy on international and local platforms by proposing solutions to bridge the gap between science, policy and generations and by supporting the importance of youth participation in the management of river, lake and aquifer basins.

Supported by the ISW, and with the valuable support of the Swiss Agency for Development and Cooperation (SDC) and the Artois Picardie Water Agency, WYPW members have played a key role in several international movements including the Blue Peace movement where youth have used their voices to advocate for water and peace at all levels, from local communities to the global stage. Members of the WYPW have begun the process of developing a toolkit entitled “Blue Peace Youth Calculations” that will allow youth to explore the complexities of transboundary water cooperation issues. Youth also contributed to the Global Water and Peace Observatory report, influencing the direction and priorities of decision makers for sustainable water management. In addition, at the UN High Level Political Forum, WYPW youth positioned themselves as the only youth partner in this UN coordination mechanism, being given the mandate to moderate this important event.

In view of the 9th World Water Forum, which will be held in Dakar in March 2022, the WYPW is an active member of the youth working group that aims to coordinate the presence of youth within the Forum, to exchange good practices and to take a stand on common messages. The ISW supports the functioning of the committee as an organization working with youth alongside the Global Water Partnership and UNESCO-IHP.

In addition, the 5th General Assembly of the WYPW, whose preparatory work was started in 2020, has officially been recognized as a “Road to Dakar 2022” event.

Over the past few years, the growth and evolution of the Sudananese Youth Parliament for Water has been most significant. I have seen a real change regarding the approach to water management by putting our youth at the forefront. Being part of the creative process that we went through to get to the core of who we are as an organization has been challenging, but at the same time, I see our voices are now being heard!

OLA MOHAMED
Member of the Sudanese Youth Parliament for Water

An innovative and interactive new website was launched in April 2020 for the World Youth Parliament for Water. Adapting the new visual identity of the WYPW, the website will serve to increase the visibility of the network, improve connections between regional parliaments and encourage more youth to become members. It will also serve as a platform for disseminating good practices, members’ research and actions.
Bringing the voice of civil society and youth to the world stage

The health crisis having imposed an almost complete halt to all international travel, and thus put a stop to the normal course of activities in the field and international events, the importance of civil society and youth movements was highlighted by their proximity to water and sanitation issues as well as their capacity for local impact.

It is in this unprecedented context that we have continued to facilitate the participation of civil society and youth in international meetings, organizing with our partners several thematic sessions and intergenerational dialogues and positioning them in the major decision-making spheres related to water and its transversal issues.

For instance:

Intergenerational dialogue on the role of water in environmental peacebuilding at the Geneva Peace Week

In an intergenerational dialogue, the panelists we brought together discussed the role of water as an instrument of peace and cooperation, and the role of youth as a driver of change. Over 100 participants attended this first online edition.

Interactive intergenerational session “Solving the water-climate puzzle by connecting the experiences of youth and decision makers” at Stockholm World Water Week

We were present at the virtual edition of the Stockholm World Water Week, a global meeting for actors from all spheres of the water sector, where we organized a session bringing together young water professionals. In a dynamic and interactive format, they presented their stories and discussed with decision makers the best ways to bridge the gap between science, policy and generations.

THREE MEMBERS OF OUR NETWORKS BRING THE VOICE OF YOUTH TO THE “WATER, MEGACITIES AND GLOBAL CHANGE” 2020 CONFERENCE

David Lindao, Flavien Vaille (EYPW) and Hisseine Ngague (WYPW) were selected as members of the youth steering committee of the UNESCO conference “Water, Megacities and Global Change”. They were involved in the entire preparatory process of the event where their mission was to ensure the positioning of the voice of youth in the discussions and to promote a better consideration of the messages and solutions brought by youth.

Although the conference has been postponed to January 2022, a virtual pre-conference was held from December 7-11, 2020 to initiate discussions and maintain the commitment and momentum related to the preparation of the event.

THEMATIC SESSION WITH THE INTERNATIONAL NETWORK OF BASIN ORGANIZATIONS (INBO)

The ISW-SWE co-organized the webinar “River, Lake and Aquifer Basins: Involving Stakeholders, Civil Society and Youth”. The management of freshwater resources, structures and services requires cooperation among a wide range of stakeholders.

The webinar provided a space for a dynamic discussion on mobilizing these actors by bringing together a panel of experts from all spheres of activity in the water sector. In particular, we presented the GOSSA approach implemented in Peru and showcased the challenges of youth engagement in the water sector in Central Asia.

The role and importance of the contribution of youth in the water and climate sector is paramount for greater resilience.

HISSEINE NGAGUE — World Youth Parliament for Water
We act within a network of partners on five continents, seeking complementarities. According to the situation of local organizations, we develop specific partnerships to enhance local capacities and create synergies. We strengthen the capacities of local actors without ever replacing them.
Regional Action for Change
In 2020, ISW was awarded a new contract for an initiative to be implemented in the Tajik part of the Ferghana Valley: "Integrated Water Supply and Sanitation in Rural Areas of the Sughd Region". Based on the results achieved in Tajikistan – as well as in Uzbekistan – this project document was developed in close cooperation with local and regional authorities and supported by Switzerland (SDC). The COVID-19 crisis posed some challenges, particularly in terms of organizing meetings, but it also highlighted the importance of water at the very particular time of pandemics and thus contributed to giving a high level of priority to improving access to water and sanitation in rural areas. It was during this period that two pilot districts were selected to launch the new project.

This new project will be carried out in cooperation with the district authorities, and will use the validated elements of the previous projects on water and sanitation in the Ferghana Valley. It will start with the development of a water use master plan in the two selected districts, taking into account the different water users and uses, the sanitation situation in the district and its constraints, the different actors at district, regional and national level, and we will develop a step-by-step strategy to achieve SDG6 in the territory of the two districts. This strategy will allow for the selection of villages where funds available for the construction of water and sanitation systems will be combined with government and community funding, paving the way for diversified financing of the sector.

The new project places equal emphasis on sanitation and water access, and the main objective is to ensure that district authorities acquire the capacity and skills to develop their own water and sanitation (WSS) plans in the future. Based on the previously developed approaches on full cost recovery tariff and active community participation in the implementation and financing of WSS projects, development banks can be approached to help develop smart solutions for the issue of financing WSS construction.

Regional Actions

One of the key issues for Central Asia is that the effects of climate change are already being felt, and there is a need to adapt to them – something that is not easy for a number of services, which were planned a long time ago, during the Soviet Union. They have to completely change their way of operating. Of all the possibilities, there will be less water available – so they will have to use it better. Planning is important, but it is not always easy in a region where 5 countries share the same water source without necessarily talking to each other.

OLIVIER NORMAND
Program Director for Central Asia

One of the key issues for Central Asia is that the effects of climate change are already being felt, and there is a need to adapt to them – something that is not easy for a number of services, which were planned a long time ago, during the Soviet Union. They have to completely change their way of operating. Of all the possibilities, there will be less water available – so they will have to use it better. Planning is important, but it is not always easy in a region where 5 countries share the same water source without necessarily talking to each other.
In Central Asia, ISW mobilizes, connects and empowers youth in the 5 countries of the region with the objective of giving them a voice, encouraging them to take concrete action and providing a wide reach for the voice and activities of the new generation to foster open dialogue, particularly on issues of water, peace and cooperation.

This commitment to youth from Central Asia is reflected through support given to the Central Asia Youth for Water Network (CA4W). Although the year of 2020 has seen many upheavals - confinements, event cancellations, border closures, etc. - Central Asian youth have seized the opportunity to explore new ways of working together and mobilizing youth differently. In total, 16 workshops were held online, reaching out to youth in more remote areas that are harder to reach in person. We also took advantage of this period to conduct consultations with more than 800 youth (surveys, 5 national virtual forums) to develop the network’s new strategy.

Our organization has also accompanied the reflections of the youth regarding watershed water management and the sharing of water between countries and different uses. To this end, we have supported the Green Ranger project, an initiative that targets the transboundary area between Kyrgyzstan and Tajikistan, and also contributed to the Geneva Water Hub’s Global Water and Peace Observatory report that will be published in 2021.

In 2020, to encourage young people to take action, we supported technically and financially 6 projects on different topics, such as ecological production of textiles or the mapping of access to drinking water in Kazakhstan.

Climate is an integral part of the water cycle, with which it operates in complex systems. Youth understanding of this complex system is key to sustainable water and climate management.

NATALIYA CHEMAYEVA
World Youth Parliament for Water
West Africa faces enormous water challenges, which are exacerbated by climate change, a precarious economic context and a deteriorating security situation. The model that ISW is developing with its partners in this region – “TonFuturTonClimat” – aims to strengthen the capacities of Burkinabe, Togolese and Beninese youth in rural areas to combine environmental responses and socio-economic development, through the deployment of entrepreneurship projects and the strengthening of young professionals associations.

The first phase of “TonFuturTonClimat” launched in 2018 – thanks to the Government of Quebec (International Climate Cooperation Program), the Global Water Partnership, the Swiss Agency for Development and Cooperation and the Artois Picardie Water Agency – was finalized as planned in 2020 thanks to the strengthened commitment of our local partners. This modality of action favored by the ISW has proven to be particularly impactful in the context of the COVID-19.

At the local level, three closing workshops and a regional meeting were organized. The main objective was to strengthen the dialogue between local authorities and the initiative’s bearers to disseminate this model which aims to build the resilience of rural communities. In the local communities, the following activities were finalized: the installation of drip irrigation on a 1.5 hectare area, the construction of 168 improved stoves and the development of more efficient market gardening and livestock practices.

West Africa

<table>
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<tr>
<th>436 citizens directly affected</th>
<th>155,000 people impacted</th>
<th>26,500 trees planted, most of them with economic value</th>
<th>9,363 kg of compost produced</th>
<th>18 training sessions organised</th>
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In 2020, we also saw the renewal of the trust granted by our same donors for the implementation of phase 2 of “TonFuturTonClimat” (2021-2023 / 499,000 CAD). This will allow us to continue testing and scaling the approach in new communities.

“TFTC has allowed me to learn the best production techniques and the advantages of using compost instead of chemical fertilizers. Before, I was unaware of the measures to take for the use of phytosanitary products as well as the risks on my health and the environment.”

TIEMTORE SAÏDOU
Member of the Sidwaya Association of Ramitenga, Burkina Faso
2020 was a challenging year in the Americas. Whether in the Andes or in North America, the indigenous communities that ISW works with barricaded themselves to limit the spread of COVID-19. Despite this, we were able to move forward and continue to promote sustainable change in both territories.

Latin America

Through our program in Latin America, we have developed and tested our solution for sustainable water governance and access to improved sanitation services (the “GOSSA” approach). After completing the work in the Andean community of Wariperqa, ISW launched a new project in the community of Choccoro in 2020 that will improve the socio-economic conditions of its inhabitants, notably through the construction of a drinking water network.

Still with the support of the Agence de l’Eau Seine-Normandie and the foundation “Les Ailes de l’Espérance”, the work continued. The drinking water network will be completed in 2021.

In Ayacucho, Peru, the Bibliotheca Sonora del Agua project, implemented by Pachapaq for the Earth, has reduced the transmission of COVID-19 in the rural communities of Quispillacta and Chungui by providing access to reliable information to indigenous communities in their native language.

“The value of this project lies in the exchange of knowledge between different sectors of society and in the promotion of intercultural communication with a simple and effective language. It aims to create a more inclusive and just society.”

— PACHAPAQ, FOR THE EARTH - TEAM

Left behind and particularly vulnerable to water and climate challenges, indigenous communities living in the Andean highlands have a key role to play in protecting water resources for future generations. Together with our local partners, our approach aims to facilitate the implementation of sustainable water governance. Integrating water and sanitation infrastructure, land use planning, source water protection, and ecosystem service management, while putting indigenous peoples at the heart of water governance, our model helps increase the resilience of citizens to ongoing changes while combining a national and regional approach to create systemic change.

At the national level, we have continued our advocacy work through the Blue Book Committee, aiming to develop synergies between civil society, the private sector and the government for the development of more sustainable water policies. We have facilitated various public policy workshops to this effect.

"We thank the International Secretariat for Water (ISW) for their commitment and work with our community, supporting the improvement of our quality of life through clean water and sanitation infrastructure and governance, as well as their work to address water and climate related constraints in our communities.

— NORMA CUBA, Mayor of the Designated Indigenous Municipality of Milpo, Ayacucho, Peru"
North America

In North America, we continued our work with the Mohawk Council of Akwesasne (MCA) in 2020, based on the belief that strengthening the environmental leadership of youth in the Mohawk community is a force for lasting change.

Earlier this year and as part of the MCA's World Wetlands Day, ISW hosted a booth to share our approaches and also facilitated an environmental negotiation workshop to build the advocacy capacity of Mohawk youth to present their proposals to community and municipal officials.

In mid-2020, the project reached out to Mohawk youth by hosting a virtual workshop on environmental and water project formulation. We also provided training on how to advocate for water rights and influence community public policy through youth. The workshop was based on an advocacy guide developed by ISW exclusively for this project, which was also translated into Mohawk.

At the end of the year, Mohawk youth also enjoyed their first intergenerational meetings on water and the environment.

Furthermore, our project “Akwesasne Mohawk Youth Leadership for Water and the Environment” has been recognized and rewarded by the renewal of funding from the Quebec government’s Secrétariat à la jeunesse for the period 2021-2022, which will allow us to continue our mobilization and awareness efforts.

For the future of climate change and the protection of our waters, I see more interaction and inclusion of individual First Nations communities. It’s important to reach out to those communities and advise them on their particular situation, because you can’t bring all First Nations communities under one solution. I think it’s a good thing that we work directly and very interactively with the ISW because it really helps to build a strong relationship between us.

ISW has partnered with the Mohawk Council of Akwesasne to build capacity in environmental governance and advocacy. Using an intergenerational and traditional knowledge-sharing approach, we seek to strengthen environmental policy through ongoing “cross-generational”, “cross-institutional” and “cross-border” dialogue. We aim to make the resources and experiences developed in this project available to other communities in Quebec and Canada.
For more than 20 years, the European Youth Parliament for Water (EYPW) has created a vast network of young people acting and influencing water-related decisions throughout Europe. Aiming to position young people as influential actors in the water sector, it contributes to building their capacity to take action for water, based on an active citizenship approach.

For the European Youth Parliament for Water (EYPW), the year 2020 has been one of strategic development and influence.

For its first year of activity since its election in 2019, the new presidency (composed of the president, Hasmik Barseghyan and two vice-presidents, Stas Peters and David Lindao Caizaguano) has positioned the EYPW within several networks and working platforms (Water Europe, EU Water Alliance), allowing the voice of young people to be heard at higher levels. These platforms have allowed the EYPW to discuss directly with several representatives of the European Commission and to question the decision-makers on key issues related to climate, research, local democracy and the environment.

Furthermore, in connection with the “Blue peace” initiative, the EYPW initiated a new project “Youth for water and peace” having for objective to develop a platform of dialogue between Turkish, Georgian and Armenian youth, around the Kura-Araks river, in the Caucasus region. On this same theme and with the help of the Geneva Water Hub, the EYPW has also been able to make the voice of young people heard through the publication of a tribute on the role of youth in the issues of Water and Peace, comparing the action of young people at the European level with that of young Russian activists.

Thus, despite the constraints imposed by the sanitary context, the EYPW has capitalized on the possibilities offered by the development of online activities to create new opportunities for action and has increased its presence with strategic water actors at the level of the European Union and its close neighbors.
SWE has been present in Moldova for several years, with its partners (Rhine-Meuse Water Agency, Artois Picardy Water Agency, GESCOD, SDEA), it is committed to ensuring sustainable access to water and sanitation for the villages of the Nirnova river basin. Through the implementation of governance tools and the mobilization of water stakeholders at all levels, we are working to ensure sustainable water management on a human scale and to provide quality services.

In Moldova, the Water and Sanitation Master Plan for the Nirnova river basin was completed in cooperation with the European project EUWI+. Thanks to its strong local anchorage and its knowledge of the needs of the municipalities, the ISW-SWE will have allowed the full and complete participation of the local stakeholders (in particular the mayors of the municipalities of the basin) in the implementation of this Master Plan, thus guaranteeing the inclusiveness of the process.

Eighteen communes (thirty localities) will benefit from this planning tool, thus providing local administrations with a clear overview of the water and sanitation sector, as well as proposals for concrete solutions to problems and challenges mainly related to water sources, quantity and quality, technical solutions and investment strategies for the next 15 years.
Communication for Change

The ISW-SWE mobilizes audiences that reflect its mission and helps to spread the word and highlight the committed citizens who contribute to a better world.

+ 100 000 visitors to our website
+ 5 000 political decision-makers, influencers, citizens and engaged youth receive our newsletters
+ 600 000 people engaged in our social networks
+ 2 000 subscribers to our social networks
Multiplying the impact of our actions through partnerships

In 2020, the ISW joined the “Association québécoise des organismes de coopération internationale” (AQOCI), a network that represents more than 60 organizations from 13 regions of the province of Quebec that work abroad. As a group, AQOCI represents and supports the international cooperation actions of its members with Canadian and Quebec governmental authorities.

As our head office is located in Montreal (Canada), it is essential for us to develop partnerships with international cooperation actors based in Quebec and Canada. This new collaboration will allow us to multiply our efforts for a more sustainable and equitable world.
STRATEGIC PLATFORMS COALITION

18 FINANCIAL PARTNERS

ISW-SWE

20 000 CITIZENS

15 500 YOUTH

Butterfly Effect
Influence, 140 ONG

National Platforms
PFE, SWP, AQOCI

UN-Water, OIF, WWC, UNESCO

Global Water Partnership

Geneva Water Hub

Government of Quebec and Canada

Swiss Agency for Development and Cooperation

Montréal International

Local and regional governments

French water and decentralized cooperation agencies
Artois Picardie; Seine Normandie, Rhin Meuse, Local communities (Dieppe, St-Omer, ...)

Global Water Partnership

INBO and river basin organizations

Projects partners
Peru, Moldova, Uzbekistan, Tadjikistan, West Africa

Youth for Water and Climate

Ton Futur, Ton Climat

WaterGeneration and partners
- YWS, WYN, AJPEAS, CEWAS, ETC.

Youth Parliaments for Water
- Global, European, national, cross-border

INBO and river basin organizations

Blue Peace

Global Water Partnership

Local and regional governments

Partnerships

Partnerships
Governance

EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE
- Antonella Cagnolati President
- Pierre-Marie Grondin Vice-President
- Jean-Bosco Bazié Vice-President
- Dominique Mostert Treasurer and Secretary
- François Münger Member

CONSEIL D'ADMINISTRATION
- Antonella Cagnolati President
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MEMBRES
- Lindsey Aldaco-Manner
- Hasmik Barseghyan
- Christophe Brachet
- Sonja Behmel
- Manuel Fulchiron
- Suren Gevinian
- Georgy Simeonov
- Olivier Thibault
- Luc Vescovi
- Elisabeth Wild

EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE
- Sarah Dousse Executive director

Team

MONTREAL/CANADA
- Elysa Vaillancourt
- Laurie Fourneaux
- Mathieu Pagé
- Radouane Lamqaddam
- Sophie Gonthier
- Vladimir Arana

FRANCE
- Anne-Catherine Mercuri

MOLDOVA
- Svetlana Duca

CENTRAL ASIA
- Lyazzat Syrylybayeva
- Nekbakht Orzu
- Makhfirat Abdullaeva
- Olivier Normand
- Rahhbar Homidova
- Tatyana Tsogoeva
Financial Report

IN 2020, THE COMBINED BUDGET OF THE ISW-SWE AMOUNTED TO ALMOST 900,000 EUROS OR 1,300,000 CANADIAN DOLLARS.

During 2020 we strengthened cooperation with our long-standing partners such as the Swiss Agency for Cooperation and Development (SDC), the French Water Agencies and the Government of Quebec. Our efforts to diversify financially have continued and we have signed a new project with the European Union's Erasmus+ program. In the context of the COVID-19, we were also able to count on the support of the Government of Canada as a financial partner for the year of 2020.

In-kind contributions from our project partners are now recognized in our financial statements, allowing us to more accurately measure the indirect contribution our partners make to the achievement of our mission. In 2020, the in-kind contribution received by ISW-SWE was 140,000 Euros or 220,000 Canadian dollars.

→ In 2020, the development of a new institutional strategy 2021-2025 was finalized.

→ During the year, the process of consolidating internal protocols continued and the new administrative and financial operations manual was updated.

The financial statements of the ISW-SWE offices are consolidated in a common audit, allowing for a comprehensive understanding of the resources committed by the organization.

→ All of the ISW-SWE offices are subject to an annual accounting and financial audit that meets international auditing standards, and ensures the compliance and regularity of the organization’s accounts.

The financial statements of the International Secretariat for Water (Canada) were audited by the auditors of Petrie Raymond. The financial statements of Solidarité Eau Europe (France) were audited by the auditor Laurence Schwob.
Contribute to the action

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