

RULINDO WATER FOR THE PLANET INITIATIVE

Programme of Activities (PoA) Key Information Document Water for the Planet Initiative (GS23532)

Version for Stakeholder Engagement

1. Objective of the PoA

The **Water for the Planet Initiative** aims to expand access to safe drinking water across Rwanda by:

- Rehabilitating defunct or underperforming community water supply (CWS) systems
- Installing **in-line chlorination** and other appropriate **community water treatment (CWT)** technologies
- Ensuring continuous water quality monitoring and community awareness
- Reducing greenhouse gas (GHG) emissions by eliminating the need for households to boil unsafe water using non-renewable biomass

The initiative directly contributes to Rwanda's national climate goals, safe water access targets, and Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs).

2. Entities Involved

Coordinating and Managing Entity (CME): Water Access Rwanda (WAR)

- Responsible for PoA management, monitoring, carbon certification, VPA inclusion and sale of carbon credits.

Key Project Participant: WASAC Group

- Rwanda's national water utility, responsible for installation/rehabilitation, operation and maintenance of CWT and CWS systems, water quality monitoring and long term operational sustainability.
- Provides access to existing water infrastructure and ensures alignment with national water service standards
- Leads installation, operation, and maintenance of CWT and CWS systems
- Conducts water quality monitoring and community awareness activities
- Supports system rehabilitation, expansion, and long-term operational sustainability

Other Stakeholders

- District authorities
- Private operators of water systems in districts (Where present)
- Local village and cell leadership
- Local residents employed as water sellers, technicians, and support staff

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3. Geographical Boundary and Scale

The PoA covers the entire territory of the Republic of Rwanda.

- **Latitude:** -1.9403
- **Longitude:** 29.8739

All VPAs must fall within Rwanda's national boundary and will have specific focus areas within the country. GPS coordinates will be used to verify the location of each CWT/CWS system and all end-users.

All VPAs included within the PoA will be small scale and not expected to issue more than **60,000 tCO₂e** per year in credits.

4. Duration of the PoA

- **Start Date:** 15 April 2026
- **Start of Crediting Period:** 15 April 2026
- **PoA Duration:** 20 years, 0 months- As per Gold Standard rules for community service activities

5. Implementation Plan

The PoA will be implemented through multiple VPAs across Rwanda. Key activities include:

a. Rehabilitation and Expansion

- Repairing non-operational or underperforming CWS infrastructure
- Extending distribution networks to ensure water access within **1 km** of all users
- Adding pipelines for private household connections

b. Water Treatment Technologies

- Installation of **in-line chlorination**
- Additional filtration (e.g., sediment removal, membrane filtration) where needed
- Ensuring compliance with **RS EAS 12 Potable Water Standard**

c. Distribution Network Components

- Public standpipes and kiosks
- Storage tanks, pressure regulators, air release valves
- Gravity-fed or electric-powered pumping systems

d. Operations & Maintenance

- Continuous O&M by WASAC Group and contracted private operators.
- Logging of downtime, repairs, and maintenance events
- Regular water quality testing before commissioning and throughout operation

e. Monitoring & Data Management

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- Unique IDs for each CWT/CWS system and each user connection
- GPS mapping of all assets and households
- Annual monitoring surveys
- Carbon monitoring and reporting by the CME

6. Interaction With Other Similar Initiatives

The PoA complements Rwanda's national water sector programs, through technological and financial additionality. The PoA will **not** duplicate other carbon projects but given the scale of carbon projects in Rwanda, this is a possibility.

To ensure there is no double-counting and duplication, the CME will identify at each VPA other existing carbon projects existing within the same geographic 1-km radius of a CWS/CWT included in each VPA. This exercise will be done through consulting District leadership, Rwanda DNA (REMA), and finally contacting any other carbon project developer identified to compare shapefiles and location of beneficiaries.

Each VPA by this project will include declarations ensuring **no double counting** and exclusive inclusion under this PoA.

7. Target End-Users

The PoA targets:

- Full time premises such as Households or boarding schools relying on unsafe water sources.
- Half-time premises such as day-schools or health centers.

Only users located **within 1 km** of a CWT/CWS access point will be counted for carbon monitoring.

8. Contribution to Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs)

SDG 13 – Climate Action (Mandatory)

- Reduction of GHG emissions by avoiding boiling of water with non-renewable biomass

SDG 1 – No Poverty

- Indicator 1.4.1: Increased access to basic services and improved water sources

SDG 5 – Gender Equality

- Indicator 5.4.1: Reduced time spent by women on unpaid domestic work (fetching water, collecting firewood)

SDG 6 – Clean Water and Sanitation

- Indicator 6.1.1: Increased number of people using safely managed drinking water services

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9. Safeguards Compliance

- Full compliance with RS EAS 12 Potable Water Standard
- Full Compliance with RURA regulations for water supply services
- Full compliance with Rwanda Water Board Water Abstraction Permits.
- No conflict with national or local water policies

10. Planned Consultations

PoA-Level Consultations

- National-level stakeholder engagement with WASAC, RURA, MININFRA, REMA, RWB, MINALOC, MIGEPROF, WASAC, National Land Authority, National Youth Council, National Council of Persons with Disabilities, NGOs in the water sector, Association of Private Water Operators, and other civil society.
- Feedback on PoA design provided through online form open for 34 days from 4 Feb 2026 to 10 March 2026.

VPA-Level Consultations

Each VPA will include:

- A physical meeting of all identified national stakeholders and local stakeholders (especially those Local people, communities and/or representatives who are expected to be directly or indirectly by the project or may have an interest in the project & Those with land tenure rights that may be affected by the project).
- A one-month feedback round following the physical meeting.

11. Additional Relevant Information

- The PoA is funded by **Water Access Rwanda and WASAC Group**.
- No Official Development Assistance (ODA) has been received or will be used for this PoA and any included VPA.
- Carbon revenues will subsidize technology costs and cover monitoring and implementation expenses; towards a drinkable tap water situation.
- The PoA applies the methodology "**Emission reductions from safe drinking water supply – Version 1.0.**"
- Annual hygiene education campaigns will be conducted to reinforce safe water handling and reduce boiling behavior.