



INTEGRATED WATER RESOURCES MANAGEMENT AT WINROCK:

Solutions for People, Ecosystems, and Economies

The Global Water Crisis

Water sustains all life on Earth. It is critical for human health, food systems, economies, and ecosystems. Yet in many regions, access to clean, reliable water remains out of reach. Changing precipitation patterns, pollution, and overuse are accelerating water scarcity, degrading water quality, threatening livelihoods, and deepening the global water crisis. Tackling these challenges requires coordinated, science-based solutions that protect water resources and long-term water security for people and nature.

WINROCK'S APPROACH

Winrock International is a leader in developing and implementing integrated water resources management (IWRM) strategies to address interconnected water management challenges across communities, ecosystems, and industries.

Our work improves access to clean and safe drinking water, increases efficient use of water for agriculture, and restores landscapes and watersheds to reduce drought and flood risk, protect water quality, and support long-term economic productivity – including benefits for tourism and other natural resource-based livelihoods and human well-being. Our IWRM approaches bridge technical innovation and local knowledge, strengthen institutions, and engage the

private sector to realize market-driven solutions that promote water stewardship, healthy ecosystems, and resilient communities across Africa, Asia, and Latin America.

Water for Agriculture

Availability of and access to water for agriculture is one of the most pressing global water challenges. Winrock's Agriculture & Water practice combines our IWRM capabilities and our renowned agricultural development portfolio, allowing us to seamlessly integrate water management strategies into all our agriculture work—a critical approach to strengthening food systems across the world. We engage the private sector and develop markets to increase adoption of high-efficiency irrigation systems and manage irrigation infrastructure improvements. We provide technical assistance and capacity building to farmers and agricultural institutions to scale up use of soil

RESULTS AT A GLANCE



Improved water services for more than **2 million people**



Improved management practices on **500,000+ hectares**



Developed Municipal Water Security Plans across **3 countries**



Leveraged **\$12+ million** through cost share and co-financing



and water management practices that reduce impacts of drought and extreme precipitation and improve long-term productivity. In addition to field-scale interventions, we work at landscape and watershed scales to implement nature-based solutions that restore more natural hydrology to agroecosystems, improve temporary water storage and supply reliability, and help reduce natural disaster risk to productive lands.

Watershed Management & Ecosystem Restoration

We work with local stakeholders to rehabilitate degraded landscapes, reduce soil erosion and sedimentation, restore and protect headwaters and riparian zones, and better manage water flow through soils and landscapes. Through physical and green infrastructure, our efforts strengthen ridge-to-reef water management and help communities and ecosystems balance water use for livelihoods, public health, and ecosystem conservation.

Water Access, Supply & Quality

Winrock manages water infrastructure construction and rehabilitation and co-designs sustainable service delivery models that expand reliable, equitable water access. We promote affordable and market-aligned technologies, such as solar-powered pumps and decentralized water treatment, to serve remote and underserved areas, paired with innovative business models for dependable, long-term service delivery.

Disaster Risk Management & Climate Adaptation

By aligning water resources planning with climate adaptation goals, we help communities, governments, and the private sector save money and protect infrastructure investments by reducing vulnerability to floods, droughts, and seasonal variability. Our work includes developing early warning systems, increasing agricultural water efficiency, and building capacity for national and subnational adaptation and disaster risk planning.

Governance

We deliver technical assistance and build the capacity of rural water boards, user associations, and local governments to plan and carry out sustainable water management. Our programs facilitate multi-stakeholder platforms and improved data mapping and visualization to support governance and planning.

Financing

We help unlock sustainable financing for water and ecosystem management by supporting innovative mechanisms like Payment for Ecosystem Services (PES) and public-private investment models. We work with communities, governments, and the private sector to design and implement context-specific financial strategies that reward conservation, sustain service delivery, and scale climate-resilient solutions.

FEATURED INITIATIVES

Upper Lempa Watershed Project: Winrock led integrated watershed planning across a strategic Central American transboundary watershed in El Salvador, Guatemala, and Honduras. We worked with governments, basin authorities, and communities to develop water security plans, facilitate cross-border cooperation, and implement nature-based solutions that reduce watershed degradation and build climate resilience across the tri-national basin.

TerresEauVie: Winrock supported communities in Burkina Faso and Niger to improve water security, land management, and resilience to climate shocks. Operating across 40 communes, the project restored degraded land, rehabilitated water points, strengthened water governance, and reduced water-driven conflict.

Improved Access to Safe Drinking Water in Liberia: Winrock worked with public utilities, private operators, and local authorities to construct drinking water infrastructure in four communities, strengthen water sector governance, create scalable models for equitable water service delivery, and increase adoption of positive water use behaviors. This work helped advance Liberia's efforts to increase sustainable water access, improve public health, and build resilience in underserved communities.

Sustainable Water Partnership: Winrock led global efforts to strengthen water security in water-stressed regions around the world. From Kenya's Mara River Basin to Cambodia's Stung Chinit Watershed, SWP worked with governments, communities, and private sector partners to assess water risks, improve watershed governance, and implement IWRM solutions. By combining technical tools with stakeholder-driven planning, SWP built local capacity to manage water for people, ecosystems, and economic growth, reducing conflict and strengthening climate resilience in some of the world's most vulnerable basins.