

Reliable access to clean water and sanitation is a cornerstone of sustainable development, job creation, economic growth—and a fundamental human right. Yet as of 2022, 2.2 billion people worldwide were still without access to safely managed drinking water, and 3.5 billion were without access to safely managed sanitation, which threatens human health, food security and economic development. Rising sea levels and changing weather patterns—with impacts largely felt through disruptions in the water cycle—compound this challenge. To ensure universal access to clean water and adapt to a warming world, countries, cities, and water utilities urgently need financing and innovative solutions.

UTILITIES FOR CLIMATE (U4C)

With tailored investment, advisory solutions, and access to a global knowledge-sharing network, IFC's Utilities for Climate (U4C) initiative is a comprehensive platform for water utilities in emerging markets, supporting their efforts to strengthen climate resilience and future-proof commercial water infrastructure. By fostering strategic partnerships through U4C, IFC helps utilities develop innovative solutions to address climate risks, improve service quality, and enhance sustainability.



GLOBAL NETWORK

Exclusive access to knowledge, lessons learned, best practices, and innovation from water utilities around the world.



ADVISORY SOLUTIONS

Customized pre-investment advisory services, thought leadership, and technical expertise.



INVESTMENT SUPPORT

Diverse financing options including green, blue, and sustainability-linked loans and bonds; local currency finance; equity, mezzanine, and risk mitigation instruments; and concessional finance.

IFC SOLUTION EXAMPLES



Reduction of Non-Revenue Water (NRW): Developing an action plan to reduce NRW through leak detection and repair, pressure management, theft prevention, and improved metering accuracy.









Water Quality and Treatment: Providing expertise on water quality monitoring, treatment technologies, and compliance with regulatory standards.



Innovation and Technology Development: Supporting the development and deployment of innovative water sector technologies and solutions, including use of AI, advanced treatment processes, water reuse and recycling, and desalination.

SELECT INVESTMENTS/PARTNERS

NON-REVENUE WATER REDUCTION INDONESIA 2024  Advisory	WATER SUPPLY AND WASTEWATER BRAZIL 2023  \$102 Million Advisory and Sustainability-Linked Loan	WASTEWATER AND RIVER CLEAN UP BRAZIL 2022, 2023, 2024, 2025  \$1.1 Billion Advisory and Sustainability-Linked Loan
NON-REVENUE WATER REDUCTION COLOMBIA 2022  Advisory	WATER LOSS REDUCTION TÜRKİYE 2021  \$30 Million Sustainability-Linked Loan	WATER LOSS REDUCTION, ENERGY EFFICIENCY, NETWORK EXPANSION GEORGIA 2024  \$40 Million Green Bond

PROJECT EXAMPLES



Sabesp

IFC provided and mobilized a series of loans to SABESP, Brazil's largest water and sanitation service provider, to finance the Pinheiros River Clean-Up program and the Integra Tietê initiative. Totalling \$1.1 billion, these investments aim to improve water quality, expand sewage collection and treatment, and enhance climate resilience in São Paulo. The projects will benefit over 3.8 million people by 2029, create jobs, reduce emissions, and support biodiversity. Additionally, IFC's advisory services help SABESP reduce non-revenue water losses and develop sustainable sewage sludge management practices.



IZSU

IFC provided a local currency and sustainability-linked loan of \$30 million to Izmir's Water and Sewerage Administration (IZSU) for the Foça drinking water treatment plant. This project improved Izmir's water supply network, benefiting 463,000 citizens and providing better-quality drinking water for 200,000 people. The loan also supported gender equality initiatives within IZSU and helped the city address climate resilience challenges.

IFC U4C CONTACTS



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