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# Boldly pursuing water innovation in African cities

VIA Water is a Dutch programme that aims to identify innovative solutions for water problems facing cities in seven African countries: Benin, Ghana, Kenya, Mali, Mozambique, Rwanda and South Sudan.

It connects curious researchers with creative entrepreneurs, innovative NGO's and progressive policy makers. It is a programme with the courage to do things differently. It strives for less bureaucracy and more creativity. It wants to tap into bright ideas of young people. It financially supports innovative projects. And it creates an inspiring and active learning Community.

## Who are we looking for?

VIA Water puts as few restrictions on the programme as possible. Everyone is welcome, whether you work for an NGO, a knowledge/academic institute, a governmental agency, a business or you work outside the water sector. We look for partners who have innovative solutions for water issues in Africa. We are in search of people who enjoy looking at old problems in a new way and would like to share their innovative knowledge with others.

## What's in it for you?

- You can join the VIA Water learning Community.

It will:

- ... enrich your ideas
- ... offer you a place to find and share knowledge
- ... offer you a place to find partners all over the world

- You can submit your ideas to the VIA Water Fund

- Link with us through subscription to the VIA Water Update, through our website, Facebook, Twitter or LinkedIn. Face to face events will be organised regularly both in the Netherlands and in Africa.

## What's important for us?

- Innovations from Africa
- Focus on urban areas in seven African countries
- Ideas at the start of the chain of innovation
- Small-scale innovations
- Willingness to share and learn
- Inspiration from other sectors

## What do we ask?

- Integrated projects
- One of the partners has to be African
- Projects not exceeding 200.000 Euro
- Practical and results-oriented
- Co-funding or fund-matching
- Strong contribution to the VIA Water Community

*'Never a failure, always a lesson'*

