

## Press Release | For immediate release

### South Africa: AWF named Project Preparation Facility of the Year by Africa investor

**Cape Town, South Africa, June 9, 2015** – The [African Water Facility](http://www.africanwaterfacility.org) (AWF) was recognized as “Project Preparation Facility of the Year” at the Africa investor (Ai) CEO Infrastructure Developers and Investment Summit 2015, during a ceremony held in Cape Town, South Africa, on Tuesday, June 2.

The award received by the AWF is part of the [Ai Infrastructure Project Developer Awards](#), a new award category introduced earlier this year, which aims at recognizing the achievements of the top ten advisors, development partners, infrastructure financiers, project developers and regulators with operations in Africa, through 14 different categories. The AWF came ahead of ten shortlisted organisations in the category “Project Preparation Facility.” The award ceremony was held before a pan-African and international infrastructure investment and development finance audience.

The Africa investor (Ai) CEO Infrastructure Investment Summit is the calendar event and premier business development forum for infrastructure investors, pension funds, sovereign wealth funds, fund managers, project developers, project sponsors and PPP policy-makers. Africa investor (Ai) is an investment holding company based in South Africa operating through Ai Capital on principal investments, and Ai Media, which produces investment research and published content.

At the end of 2014, the AWF reported highly positive resources mobilisation results through its project preparation activities. Since 2006, its bankable projects preparation initiatives have contributed to attracting up to €1.4 billion for the implementation of follow-up projects, of which two thirds have already been committed to projects.

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About the African Water Facility (AWF): The AWF is an initiative of the African Ministers' Council on Water (AMCOW) hosted by the African Development Bank (AfDB), established in 2004 as a Special Water Fund to help African countries achieve the objectives of the Africa Water Vision 2025. The AWF offers grants from €50,000 to €5 million to support projects aligned with its mission and strategy to a wide range of institutions and organizations operating in Africa. Its three strategic priority activities are (1) preparing investment projects to mobilize investment funds for projects supported by AWF; (2) enhancing water governance to create an environment conducive for effective and sustainable investments; (3) promoting water knowledge for the preparation of viable projects and informed governance leading to effective and sustainable investments. Since 2006, AWF has funded 98 national and regional projects in 52 countries, including in Africa's most vulnerable states. It has mobilized more than €1.4 billion as a result of its project preparation activities, which constitute 70 percent of its portfolio. On average, each €1 contributed by the AWF has attracted €35 in additional follow-up investments.

The AWF is entirely funded by Algeria, Australia, Austria, the Bill and Melinda Gates Foundation, Burkina Faso, Canada, Denmark, the European Commission, France, the Nordic Development Fund, Norway, Senegal, Spain, Sweden, the United Kingdom, and the African Development Bank. The AWF is governed by a Governing Council representing its 16 donors, UN-Water Africa, the AU via NEPAD, AMCOW and the AfDB.