



Dutch Water Operators



Vacaturebundel Projectmanagers 2027 NL



Introductie

Beste lezer,

Elke dag werkt VEI aan iets dat de basis van het leven raakt: schoon en betrouwbaar drinkwater en sanitatie. Samen met lokale waterbedrijven en partners in Nederland, Afrika, Azië en Latijns-Amerika bouwen we aan sterke, toekomstbestendige waterdiensten. Wil jij daar aan bijdragen? Dan is dit jouw kans om te solliciteren als projectmanager in het buitenland.

In deze bundel vind je een overzicht van de huidige en aankomende vacatures voor de rol van projectmanager bij VEI. De meeste vacatures zijn al concreet uitgewerkt en geven een helder beeld van het project, de verantwoordelijkheden en de gevraagde expertise. Voor een beperkt aantal functies zijn nog niet alle details bekend. Ook bij deze vacatures hebben we geprobeerd je alvast zo goed mogelijk inzicht te geven in wat je kunt verwachten. We delen deze mogelijkheden nu al, zodat je voldoende tijd hebt om je te oriënteren en een weloverwogen keuze te maken die aansluit bij jouw ambities, ervaring en interesses.

De vacatures hangen samen met de afronding van WaterWorX fase 2 op 31 december 2026 en de start van WaterWorX fase 3. Daarnaast biedt ook het programma UWCI (Urban Water Catalyst Initiative) interessante kansen voor projectmanagers. Om je een duidelijk en compleet overzicht te bieden, hebben we alle mogelijkheden in dit document samengebracht.

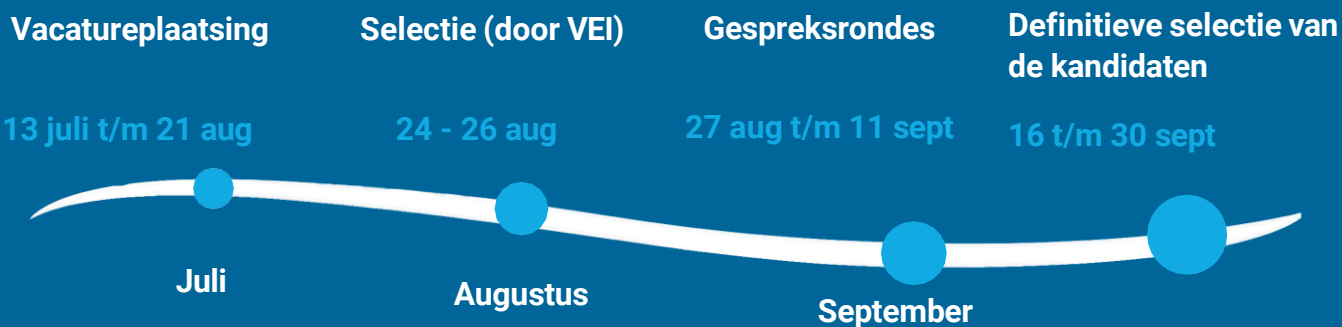
Hoe kun je solliciteren?

Wanneer je solliciteert, horen we graag waar jouw voorkeur ligt. Je kunt daarbij aangeven of je:

- Solliciteert op één specifieke vacature
- Solliciteert op één of meerdere vacatures, en daarnaast openstaat voor andere landen die goed bij jou passen
- Solliciteert vanuit jouw interesse in de rol van projectmanager, waarbij je flexibel bent in het land waar je wordt ingezet

De contactgegevens van de persoon die inhoudelijk meer weet staan vermeld in de vacaturetekst.

Indicatieve tijdlijn



Land	Vacature status	Startdatum
Filipijnen WWX	Dit betreft een lopend project waarvoor het gewenste profiel van de projectmanager duidelijk is, zie vacaturetekst op pagina 2-3.	Zo snel mogelijk
Bangladesh WWX	Dit betreft een lopend project waarvoor het gewenste profiel van de projectmanager duidelijk is, zie vacaturetekst op pagina 4-5.	Zo snel mogelijk
Indonesië (WWX of UWCI)	Voor deze vacature is een meer algemene vacaturetekst opgesteld, omdat nog niet bekend is of de functie onderdeel wordt van een WaterWorX- of UWCI-project, zie vacaturetekst op pagina 6-7.	Januari 2027
Zimbabwe	Dit betreft een lopend project waarvoor we op locatie een assistent-projectmanager zoeken die nauw samenwerkt met de huidige projectmanager, zie vacaturetekst op pagina 8-9.	Januari 2027
Benin WWX	Dit betreft een nieuw project waarvoor het gewenste profiel van de projectmanager vrijwel volledig is uitgewerkt. zie vacaturetekst op pagina 10-11.	Q1 2027
Egypte WWX	Dit betreft een lopend project waarvoor het gewenste profiel van de projectmanager al gedeeltelijk is uitgewerkt, zie vacaturetekst op pagina 12-13	Q1/Q2 2027
Kenia UWCI, Tanzania WWX/ UWCI en Colombia UWCI	We verwachten deze projecten in 2027 te starten. Je kunt alvast laten weten of je geïnteresseerd bent in een van deze posities, zie de gezamenlijke tekst op pagina 14-15.	Kenia Q1 2027 Tanzania Q2/Q3 2027 Colombia Q3 2027

Vacancy



 **Project manager (senior)**

 **Philippines**

 **Fulltime**

About the role

As project manager, you will be responsible for continuing VEI's Water Operator Partnerships (WOP) programme in the Philippines. In this central and visible role, you ensure that the programme remains well positioned within a dynamic national and international stakeholder landscape.

You will operate at a senior level, actively building strong relationships with water utilities, government institutions, and international partners. As the primary point of contact and face of the programme, you create support, trust, and continuity among stakeholders.

You will lead the project team and coordinate short-term experts, while coaching local team members and coordinators to strengthen ownership, collaboration, and performance. You bring structure and stability, and provide direction within a culturally diverse environment.

Key responsibilities

- Strategically position and safeguard the programme within the WaterWorX portfolio
- Build and maintain strong relationships with utilities, government bodies, and partners
- Lead the project team and coordinate short-term experts
- Coach and develop team members
- Steer focus, quality, and impact of interventions
- Manage expectations and priorities within a growing partner network
- Represent the programme towards stakeholders
- Ensure clear, consistent, and strategically relevant communication

Project and country context

You will play a key role in the further development of the programme towards 2030, as well as in shaping its positioning and continuity beyond that period. The programme is currently in a crucial phase, focusing not only on delivering results with existing and new utilities and partners, but also on actively developing new relationships and business opportunities to secure its future beyond 2030.

This requires strong coordination, consistency, and relationship management across multiple locations and contexts. The teams are spread across several utilities (7) and islands (2), making clear leadership and connectivity essential. You will therefore regularly travel between locations to support teams and partners.

You will operate in a setting where the number of partners is growing while resources remain limited. This requires strong prioritisation, effective expectation management, and the ability to maintain focus and impact. At the same time, stable and consistent leadership is essential to achieve sustainable results.

What you bring

- At least 5 years of relevant professional experience
- Minimum of 2 years' experience in project management
- Experience in an international context is preferred
- Strong leadership and team management skills
- Ability to operate in dynamic, multi-stakeholder environments
- Strong relationship management and communication skills
- Ability to drive results while remaining attentive to people and context
- Excellent command of English

Who you are

- A stable and confident leader who provides direction and structure
- Able to influence without formal authority
- Culturally aware and adaptable in your approach
- Comfortable having clear and constructive conversations and managing expectations
- A connector who brings teams and partners together
- Able to work independently while actively fostering collaboration

Terms of employment

- Start date: mid-November / December 2026, for a duration of 4 years
- Secondment through VEI, while retaining your current Dutch employer
- Upon completion, you will return with valuable international experience
- Employment conditions in line with VEI's long-term secondment policy
- Position graded in scale 12 (Collective Labour Agreement – Dutch Water Companies)
- Work area: multiple locations in the Philippines (Based in Carcar City and Cebu), but with flexibility in duty station

Why this role?

This role offers a unique opportunity to contribute to a strategically important and growing programme within VEI. You will work in a complex international environment where strong collaboration, clear direction, and cultural awareness are key to success.

At VEI, you will be part of a professional and collaborative organisation, offering room for personal development and meaningful societal impact.

More information

For further information, please contact Mireia Tutusaus at mireia.tutusaus@vei.nl or +31 6 34025635.

Please submit your application letter and CV before August 21st to HR@vei.nl.

Vacancy



Project manager (senior)



Bangladesh, Dhaka & Chattogram



Fulltime

About the role

As Project Manager, you will be responsible for continuing VEI's Water Operator Partnerships (WOP) programme in Bangladesh, based in Dhaka. You will play a central and visible role within a complex and politically sensitive environment, where you strategically position the programme and ensure its continued relevance for both utilities and the wider donor landscape.

We are looking for an experienced and resilient project manager who can operate effectively in a complex international setting. You will engage at senior level, proactively building strong relationships with the management of water utilities, government institutions, and international partners. With your expertise and professional presence, you establish credibility and act as a trusted adviser.

Key responsibilities

- Strategically position and steer the WOP programme in Bangladesh
- Build and maintain strong relationships with senior stakeholders
- Lead the project team and coordinate short-term experts
- Coach and develop team members
- Monitor programme progress, results, and impact
- Identify and prioritise high-impact interventions at system level
- Ensure clear, consistent reporting and communication
- Actively contribute to business development and strategic positioning within the donor landscape

Project and country context

You will play a key role in further developing the programme towards 2030. The programme addresses one of the most pressing challenges in Bangladesh's water sector: the transition from groundwater to surface water. This takes place in a complex and dynamic environment, working with large urban water utilities in Dhaka, while also expanding activities to Chattogram. This expansion requires a balance between scaling up and ensuring long-term sustainability (Chattogram is approximately a four-hour flight from Dhaka).

You will operate in a context characterised by relatively unstable leadership, alongside ongoing institutional developments requiring flexibility and strong strategic insight. In addition, the programme operates within a donor-rich and competitive sector, where clear positioning and effective collaboration are essential.

What you bring

- At least 5 years of relevant experience in the drinking water sector
- Minimum of 2 years' experience in project management
- Proven experience in an international (preferably development) context
- A relevant completed higher education degree (HBO/WO equivalent) with a technical background
- Strong strategic insight combined with a pragmatic, results-oriented approach
- Ability to operate in politically sensitive and hierarchical environments
- Experience with senior-level stakeholder management
- Excellent communication skills and full professional proficiency in English

Who you are

- A natural leader who provides direction and encourages ownership
- Able to influence without formal authority
- Culturally aware and comfortable working across different contexts
- Capable of combining technical expertise with strategic decision-making
- Entrepreneurial mindset, able to maximise impact with limited resources

Terms of employment

- Start date: mid-November / December 2026, for a duration of 4 years
- Secondment through VEI, while retaining your current Dutch employer
- Upon completion, you will return with valuable international experience
- Employment conditions in line with VEI's long-term secondment policy
- Position graded in scale 12 (Collective Labour Agreement – Dutch Water Companies)
- Duty station: Dhaka, Bangladesh; VEI has a project office in DWASA to enable side-by-side collaboration

Why this role?

This position offers a unique opportunity to contribute to large-scale urban water challenges in a dynamic international environment. You will work towards sustainable impact within a professional organisation where collaboration, development, and social relevance are key.

More information

For further information, please contact Mireia Tutusaus at mireia.tutusaus@vei.nl or +31 6 34025635.

Please submit your application letter and CV before August 21st to HR@vei.nl.

Vacancy



 **Project manager**

 **Indonesia**

 **Fulltime**

About the role

As Project Manager, you will be responsible for the implementation of one of Vei's Water Operator Partnerships (WOPs) in Indonesia. You will ensure that activities are delivered according to plan, the right expertise is mobilised, and agreed results are achieved.

You will work closely with Indonesian water utilities, Dutch water companies, government institutions, financing partners, and other relevant stakeholders, making use of the extensive network that Vei has built in Indonesia over the years.

The exact assignment will depend on programme and project needs and may be within the WaterWorX programme or the UWCI programme. Depending on the programme, you may work in a highly structured environment with clear objectives and predefined interventions, or in a setting where results largely depend on stakeholder engagement, organisational change processes, and jointly exploring new opportunities.

In all cases, you will be the person who maintains oversight, nurtures relationships, mobilises experts, and ensures that collaboration translates into tangible results. You will work closely with an experienced colleague who has been active in Indonesia for many years, making effective coordination, collaboration, and clear role division essential.

Key responsibilities

- Coordinate the implementation of programme activities in Indonesia.
- Translate programme objectives into annual plans and operational work plans.
- Organise, support, and follow up on the deployment of short-term experts.
- Maintain relationships with partner utilities, government institutions, financiers, and other stakeholders.
- Monitor progress, results, risks, and opportunities.
- Ensure timely, high-quality reporting.
- Identify opportunities for business development and further programme growth.
- Contribute to team development, knowledge sharing, and collaboration within Vei.
- Coordinate with other programmes and initiatives in Indonesia to create synergies.

Project and country context

VEI has been active in Indonesia for many years and works with various water utilities and sector partners to strengthen the performance and sustainability of the drinking water sector. Depending on the programme, activities may focus on institutional strengthening, operational performance, service expansion, financial sustainability, or innovative financing. Programmes may involve multiple utilities requiring strong coordination, or a single utility undergoing complex change processes where stakeholder engagement and a shared long-term vision are essential. We are looking for a project manager who can provide structure, build stakeholder support, and adapt to changing circumstances in complex and evolving environments.

What you bring

- At least 5 years of relevant professional experience in the drinking- or wider watersector.
- A minimum of 2 years' experience in project management.
- International work experience is an advantage.
- A completed higher education degree (HBO/WO equivalent).
- Experience working in complex multi-stakeholder environments and building support for change.
- Excellent command of English. Knowledge of Bahasa Indonesia is an advantage.
- Ability to work effectively in both structured and evolving project environments.
- Demonstrated ability to achieve results through collaboration and influence rather than direct hierarchical authority.

Who you are

We are looking for a professional who excels at building relationships and connecting people. You:

- Are organisationally aware and culturally sensitive.
- Combine strategic thinking with a pragmatic approach and can easily switch between operational delivery, stakeholder management, and adaptive ways of working when required.
- You provide direction and create clarity in complex situations, influence stakeholders effectively, and build support while empowering others to take ownership.
- View feedback as a tool to help individuals and organisations grow.
- Are independent, proactive, and entrepreneurial, with a solution-oriented and flexible mindset. You thrive in a dynamic environment while actively seeking collaboration.

Terms of employment

- A unique international management role with direct societal impact.
- Secondment through VEI for a period of four years with retention of your employment contract with your current Dutch water company.
- Collaboration with a broad network of Dutch and international water professionals.
- Valuable international experience within a strategic programme.
- Employment conditions in accordance with VEI's long-term secondment policy.
- Position graded in Scale 12 of the Collective Labour Agreement for Dutch Water Companies.
- Preferred start date: December 2026.
- Work area: multiple cities across Indonesia, including Semarang, with flexibility regarding the duty station.

Why this role?

This role offers a unique opportunity to contribute to large-scale urban water challenges in a dynamic international environment. You will work towards sustainable impact within a professional organisation where collaboration, development, and societal relevance are at the heart of everything we do.

More information

For further information, please contact Mireia Tutusaus at mireia.tutusaus@vei.nl or +31 6 34025635.

Please submit your application letter and CV before August 21st to HR@vei.nl.

Vacancy



-  **Deputy Junior/Medior Project Manager**
-  **Zimbabwe (WaterWorX)**
-  **Fulltime**

About the role

VEi is looking for a Deputy Junior/Medior Project Manager to support the implementation of the WaterWorX programme in Zimbabwe. In Zimbabwe we work with three partners, Mutare, Harare and Bulawayo. In this role, you will work closely together with the current Project Manager and the local coordinators. You will play a key role in the day-to-day coordination and implementation of Water Operator Partnerships (WOPs) with our partner utilities.

Your primary focus will be on the delivery of technical assistance activities at utility level, supporting the planning and coordination of Dutch, regional, and local experts, monitoring progress against agreed objectives, and ensuring high-quality project reporting. You will work directly with utility management and operational staff to translate improvement plans into concrete actions and results.

The current Project Manager will retain primary responsibility for the enabling environment component of the programme, including engagement with ministries, regulators, financiers, development partners, and sector-wide initiatives. You will support these efforts where relevant and ensure strong alignment between utility-level interventions and broader sector developments.

Key responsibilities

- Coordinate and support the implementation of Water Operator Partnerships with the utilities of Mutare, Harare, and Bulawayo.
- Monitor progress against programme objectives, indicators, annual plans, investment activities, identifying risks, challenges, and opportunities and proposing practical solutions.
- Lead project reporting and contribute to donor reporting requirements.
- Maintain strong relationships with partner utilities and stakeholders at operational and management levels.
- Contribute to knowledge sharing, lessons learned, and documentation of programme results.
- Work closely with the Project Manager to ensure alignment between utility-level activities and enabling environment interventions.

Project and country context

VEI has been supporting water utilities in Zimbabwe since 2017 through a country-wide Water Operator Partnership (WOP) with the cities of Mutare, Harare, and Bulawayo, funded by the WaterWorX programme. Together with utilities, government institutions, financiers, and sector stakeholders, we work to improve utility performance and expand access to safe and reliable water services. Zimbabwe faces significant political and economic challenges, affecting infrastructure, public services, and staff motivation. Through professional development opportunities and targeted investments, the WOP supports service improvements while helping to strengthen engagement and capacity within the utilities.

As Junior/Medior Project Manager, you will coordinate and monitor day-to-day WOP activities, working closely with utility staff, Dutch and regional experts, and VEI colleagues in Zimbabwe and the Netherlands. Regular travel within Zimbabwe is part of the position. You may support operational improvement initiatives in the field one week and facilitate workshops with utility managers and experts the next, always contributing to programme objectives and sustainable utility performance.

What you bring

- At least 2 years of relevant professional experience in the water sector, infrastructure sector, or international development.
- Experience in project coordination or project management.
- Affinity with capacity development, organisational strengthening, and utility performance improvement.
- International work experience, preferably in Africa, is an advantage.
- A relevant completed higher education degree (HBO/WO equivalent).
- Excellent command of professional English, both written and spoken.

Who you are

- Strongly interested in improving the performance of water utilities and creating sustainable impact.
- An effective communicator who builds constructive working relationships.
- Analytical, well-organised, and attentive to detail.
- Comfortable working in an international and multicultural environment.
- Capable of translating plans into practical actions and measurable results.
- Flexible and adaptable in dynamic circumstances.
- Willing to travel regularly within Zimbabwe and occasionally internationally.
- A team player who enjoys working closely with colleagues while taking ownership of assigned responsibilities.

Terms of employment

- Start date: To be determined with a contract duration: Until December 2030.
- Secondment through VEI while retaining your employment contract with your current Dutch employer.
- Employment conditions in accordance with VEI's long-term secondment policy.
- Position graded in Scale 10-11 (Collective Labour Agreement for Dutch Water Companies), depending on experience.
- Work area: Zimbabwe. Duty station to be agreed upon.

Why this role?

This position offers a unique opportunity to gain hands-on experience in international utility strengthening while working alongside an experienced Project Manager and a broad network of water professionals. You will play a central role in delivering Water Operator Partnerships that contribute to tangible improvements in utility performance and service delivery. At VEI, you will be part of a professional and collaborative organisation where learning, innovation, and impact are at the heart of our work.

For further information, please contact: Emma Lesterhuis, emma.lesterhuis@vei.nl or call +31 6 53933240.

More information

Please submit your application letter and CV before August 21st to HR@vei.nl.

Vacancy



-  **Project Manager**
-  **Benin (WaterWorX)**
-  **Fulltime**

About the position

As Project Manager, you will lead the development and implementation of Vei's new Water Operator Partnership (WOP) in Benin. Together with the national water utility, Wereld Waternet, ministries, sector organisations, and other stakeholders, you will strengthen the drinking water sector through technical assistance, knowledge exchange, and strategic investments.

As the WOP is still in its start-up phase, you will play a key role in shaping the partnership, defining priorities, and building strong relationships with stakeholders. This requires flexibility, entrepreneurship, and the ability to work effectively in an evolving environment.

You will connect Dutch and regional experts with utility staff to support capacity development, manage strategic investments (€50,000–400,000), and help mobilise additional funding opportunities. Regular travel within Benin is part of the role, including visits to project locations and investment initiatives.

Your responsibilities

- Shape and establish a Water Operator Partnership in Benin.
- Have overall responsibility for achieving project objectives, reporting on progress, and identifying and managing risks and opportunities related to the WOP in Benin.
- Manage the interests of the Beninese water utility, Dutch water companies, and local and international financiers.
- Provide functional leadership and support the development of the project team in Benin, as well as Dutch and regional experts.
- Build and maintain strong relationships with the water utility, stakeholders, and partners.
- Promote the vision and added value of Water Operator Partnerships.
- Initiate and support business development, acquisition, and lobbying activities, in close collaboration with Wereld Waternet, to ensure the continuity and further development of Vei's activities in Benin and potentially the wider region.

Project and country context

As Project Manager, you are responsible for the implementation and further development of the Water Operator Partnership (WOP) in Benin, funded through the WaterWorX programme. Working closely with the water utility and sector stakeholders, you will contribute to strengthening the performance and service delivery of the drinking water sector. Benin is a French-speaking country in West Africa where the water sector is undergoing significant change due to recent reforms. In this dynamic environment, you will play an important role in building partnerships, creating local ownership, and further shaping the development of the WOP.

As VEI's WOP approach is based on peer-to-peer cooperation between water utilities, building trust, encouraging ownership, and working effectively across cultures are essential for success. The Dutch Embassy is an important partner within the programme and a key link to international financiers such as the World Bank, the European Union, and AFD. Wereld Waternet acts as the primary point of contact for these relationships. In close collaboration with Wereld Waternet and the water utility, you will contribute to mobilising investments and exploring opportunities for further cooperation and business development. You will work closely with colleagues in Benin, the region, and the Netherlands, overseeing programme progress, budgets, and reporting. In addition to the day-to-day implementation of the WOP, you will contribute to VEI's long-term development and presence in Benin beyond 2030.

What do you bring?

- At least 5 years of relevant professional experience in the (drinking) water sector, preferably including experience with WOPs and project management.
- Demonstrated international work experience, preferably in Africa.
- A completed relevant Bachelor's or Master's degree.
- Experience leading teams and professionals.
- Proven experience and affinity with stakeholder management in complex environments.
- Understanding of political and institutional dynamics and the ability to navigate them effectively.
- Ability to deal with uncertainty, take initiative, and identify opportunities.
- Excellent command of professional French and English.

Who are you?

- You are an inspiring project manager who connects, coaches, and motivates others, and can effectively build support and influence without formal authority.
- You are proactive, impact-driven, and take ownership in delivering results, even under challenging circumstances.
- You are culturally sensitive, adaptable, and comfortable working in an international environment, continuously seeking opportunities to increase impact.
- You combine strong analytical skills with a pragmatic approach.
- You can perform under pressure, set priorities, and establish clear boundaries when needed.

Terms of employment

- Expected start date (subject to approval): January 2027 through December 2030.
- Secondment through VEI while retaining employment with your current Dutch employer.
- Employment conditions in accordance with VEI's long-term mission regulations.
- Position graded in Scale 12 (Dutch Water Companies Collective Labour Agreement).
- Duty station: Cotonou, Benin.

Why this role?

This role offers a unique opportunity to contribute to a strategically important programme within VEI. You will work on innovative forms of cooperation with water utilities and make a tangible contribution to complex water challenges such as asset management, non-revenue water (NRW) reduction, and securing drinking water availability. At VEI, you will work in a professional and collaborative environment that offers room for personal development and where societal impact is central.

For further information, please contact: Emma Lesterhuis, emma.lesterhuis@vei.nl or call +31 6 53933240.

Please submit your application letter and CV before 21 August 2026 to: HR@vei.nl

Vacancy



-  **Project Manager**
-  **Egypt (WaterWorX)**
-  **Fulltime**

About the role

As Project Manager, you will be responsible for the implementation of Vei's Water Operator Partnerships (WOPs) in Egypt. The primary focus of this role is the successful establishment and development of new WOPs within the WaterWorX programme in Egypt. This requires strong stakeholder management and active promotion of the WOP approach, combined with the achievement of concrete project objectives. You will monitor progress and quality of interventions and ensure that knowledge exchange within the partnerships is effectively organised and utilised.

You will operate in a complex and dynamic environment involving multiple water utilities and stakeholders, ensuring effective alignment between technical content, planning, and the deployment of expertise. You will work closely with local utilities, Dutch water companies, and other partners.

You will provide functional leadership to the project team and coordinate short-term experts, while coaching team members on ownership and performance. At the same time, you will work within an established structure alongside experienced colleagues, requiring sensitivity to cultural differences, roles, and organisational dynamics, with the aim of positioning Vei effectively within this environment.

Key responsibilities

- Strategically position the programme within the WaterWorX portfolio.
- Build and maintain strong relationships with utilities, stakeholders, and partners.
- Lead the project team and coordinate short-term experts.
- Coach and develop team members.
- Drive focus, impact, and results-oriented interventions.
- Contribute to business development and strategic positioning.
- Monitor programme quality, progress, and impact.
- Ensure clear and strategically relevant reporting and communication.
- Represent Vei and the Dutch drinking water sector towards partnerships and stakeholders in Egypt.

Project and country context

The WaterWorX programme in Egypt focuses on strengthening the operational and technical performance of water utilities. The emphasis is on achieving tangible improvements in service delivery and organisational capacity. This requires a structured and technically sound project approach, with planning, coordination, and follow-up at its core.

You will work in an environment involving a wide range of stakeholders, including national authorities, partner organisations, and international programmes. Within this context, it is essential to maintain a strong focus on results while remaining flexible and responsive to local dynamics and cultural considerations.

What do you bring?

- At least 5 years of relevant professional experience in the drinking water sector.
- Minimum of 2 years' experience in project management.
- International work experience is preferred.
- A relevant completed higher education degree (HBO/WO equivalent).
- A technical background, preferably in engineering, hydrology, or a related field.
- Strong strategic insight combined with practical implementation skills.
- Ability to operate effectively within existing structures and stakeholder environments.
- Experience working in multi-stakeholder settings.
- Excellent communication skills and full professional proficiency in English. Knowledge of Arabic is an advantage.

Who are you?

- A relationship builder who collaborates effectively in complex environments.
- Able to influence without formal authority.
- Culturally and organisationally aware.
- Able to combine technical expertise with the practical translation of interventions.
- Self-reliant while actively seeking collaboration.
- Flexible, entrepreneurial, and comfortable adapting to change.
- Willing to travel regularly within Egypt and occasionally internationally.

Terms of employment

- Start date to be determined; assignment duration until the end of 2030.
- Secondment through VEI, while retaining your employment contract with your current Dutch employer.
- Upon completion, you will return with valuable international experience.
- Employment conditions in accordance with VEI's regulations for long-term assignments.
- Position graded in Scale 12 (Collective Labour Agreement for Dutch Water Companies).
- Work area: Egypt. Duty station to be agreed upon.

Why this role?

This position offers a unique opportunity to contribute to the further development of water utilities in Egypt, with a strong focus on technical improvement and sustainable impact. You will work within an international programme where knowledge exchange, collaboration, and tangible results are central. Within VEI, you will have the opportunity to further develop yourself in a professional and socially relevant environment.

For further information, please contact Reinder van den Brink at: Reinder.vandenBrink@vei.nl or +31 6 1066 4443

Please submit your application letter and CV before 21 August 2026 to: HR@vei.nl

Vacancy



-  **Project Managers Urban Water Catalyst Initiative (UWCI)**
-  **NAWASSCO (Kenya), DUWASA (Tanzania) and Aquavalle (Colombia)**
-  **Fulltime**

About the roles

VEI is seeking several (3) Project Managers for potential Water Operator Partnerships (WOPs) under the Urban Water Catalyst Initiative (UWCI). UWCI is a joint initiative of VEI and the German water sector, aimed at strengthening the resilience of water utilities by enhancing their financial independence and investment capacity.

Important to note: the projects listed are currently still in a preparatory phase. Final approval, scope, funding arrangements and start dates have not yet been confirmed. This vacancy is therefore being published to identify suitable candidates in advance of the anticipated project start dates, currently expected between March and July 2027. The requirement for the project manager for UWCI are yet to be determined.

Four utilities are currently participating in the so-called Early Engagement Phase: NAWASSCO (Kenya), DUWASA (Tanzania) and Aquavalle (Colombia). During this phase, activities focus on business planning, creditworthiness assessments and institutional strengthening to prepare utilities for investment. Subject to the successful completion of this phase and the availability of follow-on funding, the utilities may progress to the next stage: a technical assistance programme of approximately 3 to 4 years with an anticipated budget of €3 to €5 million per programme. For the project in Kenya, implementation is currently expected to commence following UWCI approval, anticipated at the end of 2026. For Tanzania and Colombia, a procurement process is expected to take place, with implementation potentially starting in mid-2027 if contracts are successfully awarded. You will work closely with the management and operational teams of the partner utility, supporting them in translating strategic ambitions into practical actions and tangible results. In addition, you will collaborate with UWCI financial advisers and engage with a broad network of stakeholders, including financiers, government institutions, regulators and sector partners.

Key responsibilities

- Lead the planning, implementation, monitoring and reporting of the UWCI programme.
- Coordinate technical assistance activities and operational investments aimed at improving utility performance.
- Work alongside UWCI financial advisers to support the utility's journey towards greater financial sustainability and investment readiness.
- Facilitate collaboration between utility management, operational departments and external stakeholders.
- Identify opportunities to strengthen the utility's creditworthiness and attract additional commercial and non-commercial financing.
- Manage stakeholder relationships in complex institutional and governance environments.
- Ensure that programme activities align with VEI's approach to sustainable organisational development and capacity strengthening.

Project and country context

The Urban Water Catalyst Initiative focuses on utilities that are willing to implement reforms to become financially stronger and more resilient. The programmes address areas such as operational performance, financial management, governance, investment planning and access to finance.

As the projects remain in a preparatory phase, the final programme content, geographical focus and scope may still change. The ultimate implementation and start dates are dependent on the successful completion of the current preparation phase, UWCI decision-making processes and, for some projects, successful procurement procedures. Future Project Managers should feel comfortable working in an evolving environment, where programmes are still being shaped and where flexibility, entrepreneurship and the ability to create opportunities are essential.

What do you bring?

- At least 5 years of relevant professional experience.
- A minimum of 2 years' experience in project management.
- Demonstrated experience managing complex development, infrastructure or organisational change projects.
- Strong understanding of organisational development, utility performance improvement and financial sustainability.
- Experience working in multi-stakeholder environments involving utilities, government institutions, financiers and development partners.
- The ability to translate strategic objectives into practical interventions and measurable results.
- A proactive and entrepreneurial mindset, with the ability to work independently and drive progress.
- For Colombia, proficiency in Spanish is highly desirable.

Who are you?

- A results-oriented project manager with strong execution skills.
- Able to connect people and organisations effectively.
- Organisationally aware and comfortable operating in complex stakeholder environments.
- Able to combine strategic thinking with a pragmatic approach.
- Entrepreneurial and constantly looking for opportunities to increase impact.
- Comfortable providing direction in situations where not all parameters have yet been defined.
- Flexible and able to thrive in an international and dynamic environment.
- Capable of influencing others and building support without formal authority.

Terms of employment

- Expected start date between March and July 2027, depending on project approval and contracting procedures. Expected assignment duration: approximately 3 to 4 years.
- Secondment through VEI while retaining your employment contract with your current Dutch employer. Employment conditions in accordance with VEI's long-term secondment policy.
- Position graded in Scale 12 (Collective Labour Agreement for Dutch Water Companies).
- Duty station and project location will depend on the programme to which you are ultimately assigned.

Why this role?

This is a unique opportunity to become involved from the outset in innovative programmes that support water utilities in strengthening their performance and improving access to finance. You will work at the intersection of technical assistance, organisational development, investment readiness and stakeholder management. At VEI, you will work in a professional and collaborative environment that offers room for personal development and where societal impact is central.

Would you like to learn more about these potential opportunities? Please contact Emma Lesterhuis, emma.lesterhuis@vei.nl or call +31 6 53933240 for further information regarding the status of the different projects and the anticipated timeline.

Please submit your application letter and CV before 21 August 2026 to: HR@vei.nl