Water Stewardship Maturity Progression

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Bring together and build on the experiences of water disclosure-related initiatives so as to advance a common approach to corporate water disclosure:

• Offer common corporate water disclosure metrics that can begin to harmonize practice
• Provide guidance for determining report content relevance and aligning water disclosure to stakeholder expectations

Available online at www.ceowatermandate.org

2. Stakeholder consultation & drafting (2012) - COMPLETED


4. Road testing of Public Exposure Draft (Q1-Q3 2013)

5. Development and release of final draft of Corporate Water Disclosure Guidelines (Q4 2013)

Given that corporate water management and disclosure practice are rapidly evolving, the CEO Water Mandate plans to revisit and amend the Guidelines and issue an updated version within the next three-to-five years.
According to the Guidelines, robust corporate water disclosure includes the following types of information:

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Current state</th>
<th>Implication</th>
<th>Response</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Context</td>
<td>Business risks</td>
<td>Policies, targets, and governance</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Performance</td>
<td>Business opportunities</td>
<td>Internal actions</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Compliance</td>
<td>External impacts</td>
<td>External engagement</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

- Linkages across sustainability issues (e.g., food, energy)
- Connections between sections and sub-sections
What about companies that cannot report all of this information?

• However, in developing the Guidelines, the project team acknowledged that a small percentage of companies are currently able to report this wide range of information.
• Indeed, most companies simply do not yet conduct relevant activities in these areas.
• This led us to ask:
  — Are there certain types of information that many companies at the beginning of their “stewardship journey” are typically able to report?
  — Similarly, are there types of information that only the most experienced corporate water managers typically answer?
  — Lastly, is there a common (though not universal) “water stewardship maturity progression” that can articulate the typical steps in a companies’ water management (and disclosure) activities?
Water Management Maturity Progression

The Public Exposure Draft put forth a preliminary maturity progression, and linked it to the sections of the Disclosure Framework...

- **Improve operational water performance**
  - Performance
  - Compliance
  - Internal actions

- **Understand how the company interacts with basins**
  - Context
  - Business risks
  - External impacts

- **Develop a comprehensive water strategy**
  - Business opportunities
  - Policies, governance & targets

- **Leverage improved performance in the value chain**
  - Performance (Value chain)
  - Business risks (Value chain)
  - Internal actions (Value chain)

- **Advance sustainable water management and collective action**
  - External engagement
Questions

• Does this present maturity progression represent your company’s stewardship journey?
• How could it be improved? What is it missing or conflating?
• Is it helpful (or possible) to reach consensus among water stewardship initiatives on this progression, such that a standardized model is shared among tools?
• How might the progression need to be refined to come into alignment with other tools?
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www.ceowatermandate.org