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WaFNE Project: Overview

Overall Goal:

- To enhance water efficiency and water quality management through the refinement of water accounting/footprint and water neutrality methodologies with support of related management tools, their testing and application in...

- (i) high water impact and water dependent industry sectors, used by their financiers and investors in due diligence and stock picking exercises, as well as

- (ii) water-stressed / scarce regions, used by public authorities in local water service and conservation operations.

Outputs:

- Methodologies, tools / guides, capacity platform, dialogue forums, country pilot tests / demonstrations, awareness raising & communications
Business & water project

Time frame: 3 years (2009/10 – 2012/13)

Partners:

- UNEP: UNEP SCP Branch (Paris), UNEP Finance Initiative - FI (Geneva), International Environmental Technology Centre - IETC (Osaka)
- UN Global Compact – CEO Water Mandate
- Business & Industry: participant companies, organizations
- Relevant UN institutions, expert institutes & networks incl. UN-Waters, Pacific Institute, Water Footprint Network and UNEP/SETAC International Life Cycle Initiative - ILCI, Global Reporting Initiative - GRI
WAFNE – Proposed activities

Component 1: Refinement, promotion of methodologies and tools for application of water accounting/footprinting related concepts/tools

Component 2: Applying water accounting/footprinting related concepts & management tools in selected industry sectors

Component 3: Using water accounting/footprint and related concepts in financial sector

Component 4: Applying water accounting/footprinting and related concepts in selected geographical locations
WAFNE project: Funding

> US$ 3 million over 3 yrs

- UNEP 500 $
- GEF 1 mill $
- GTZ 500 $
- PS 500 $
- Korea 500 $
Target geographical areas and industrial sectors to be selected on the basis of:

- level of water stress and scarcity, current and projected;
- level of national industrial output, water use and environmental inefficiencies;
- economic and environmental importance of targeted industries, considering major agricultural exporters and industrial suppliers of global supply chains;
- willingness of decision-makers and organisations in targeted areas / sectors to participate;
- assessment of potential for replication and wider adaptation in country, region.
Target countries

Pilot testing & demonstrations foreseen in various countries. Considering project criteria, to be selected from…

(i) Asia: China, India, Pakistan, Sri Lanka, Thailand, Indonesia, Cambodia, Lao PDR, Philippines, Vietnam

(ii) Africa: Algeria, Egypt, Kenya, Malawi, Morocco, South Africa, Tunisia

(iii) (resources depending), also Latin America, where countries face variation internally (scarcity in some areas, abundance in others) and have internal distributional challenges: Argentina, Chile, Mexico, Peru

(iv) (resources depending), also Eastern Europe, where countries face water challenges: Ukraine, …
1st report funded by WAFNE project launched: Corporate Water Accounting - Stocktaking Analysis

- Report prepared by the Pacific Institute and the Institute for Environmental Research and Education
- Tools serve to assess operational efficiency and product eco-design; water risk assessment; managing water-related social and environmental impacts and stewardship response; and communicating water risk and performance with stakeholder.
  - Currently claims about ‘water footprinting’ have to be scrutinized carefully; we need a shared understanding.
Other activities carried out so far

- Draft reports on “Mapping initiatives on corporate water disclosure” and “Water footprint application, policy and measures at different geographic scales”
  - Prepared respectively by GRI and WFN
- Water Accounting and Efficiency Stocktaking Workshop, Paris, 23/24 Nov 2009
  - Jointly by UNEP SCP Branch, IETC and UNEP FI
- Workshop on African Beverage Industries Water Saving Initiative (ABIWSI), Nairobi, 23/24 Mar 2010
  - Coordinated by UNEP Regional Office for Africa
- Involvement in initiatives around emerging trends & practice in water accounting & disclosure
  - Active role in ILCI, WFN, GRI and the CEO Water Mandate
- Solicitation and Coordination of Pilot Testers
  - Invitation letter soliciting CEO Mandate endorser participation in joint pilot testing projects with UNEP
- GTZ/ SABMiller Partnership on Water Footprinting
  - UNEP in Observer role
Next activities coming up

• Research for and development of knowledge management and capacity building platform for Water Accounting and Management in water stressed regions and water-intensive industries
• Organization of regional capacity building and training of trainers on the use of the water footprint management tools focusing on Asia/ Pacific and Africa (AWISI).
• Refinement of GEF proposal based on GEFSEC comments
• Consultation with GTZ on joint support for Public Private Partnerships
• Application of water footprinting, related concepts and management tools in selected industry sectors in target countries, providing co-financing to interested companies using Korean funds, GTZ support and the GEF project
• Outreach meetings on water footprinting in May/ June 2010 in Paris with IFC and Quantis and in Osaka with WFN and the Pacific Institute
• UNEP Resource Panel meeting at World Water Week in September in Stockholm to engage experts for an Assessment Report on the “Global situation of water use – The current knowledge provided by water accounting”
For more information:

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