Water Resilience Assessment Framework
Piloting Opportunities

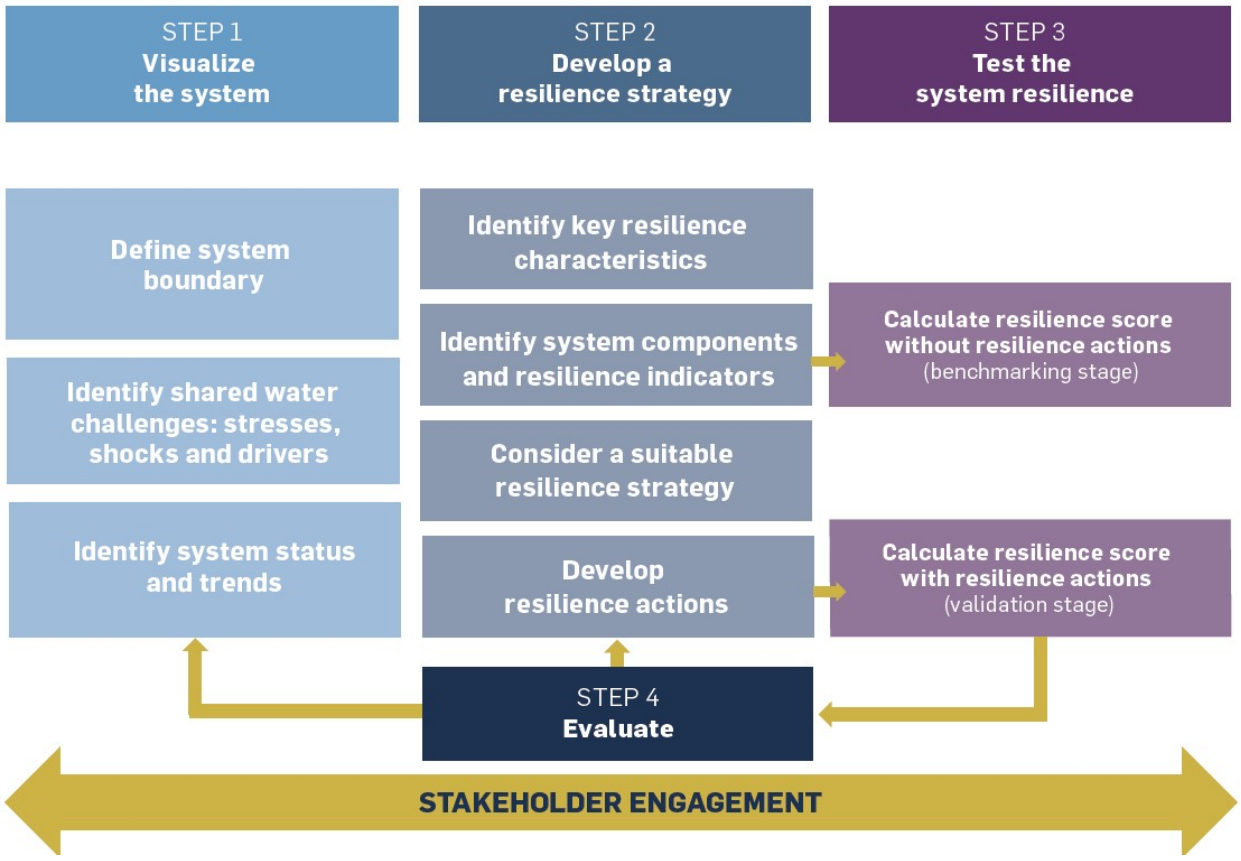
> To thrive in times of uncertainty, water systems must cultivate and enhance their core resilience characteristics to achieve the goals of water security, sustainability and beyond.

WHAT CHALLENGES ARE WATER SYSTEMS FACING?

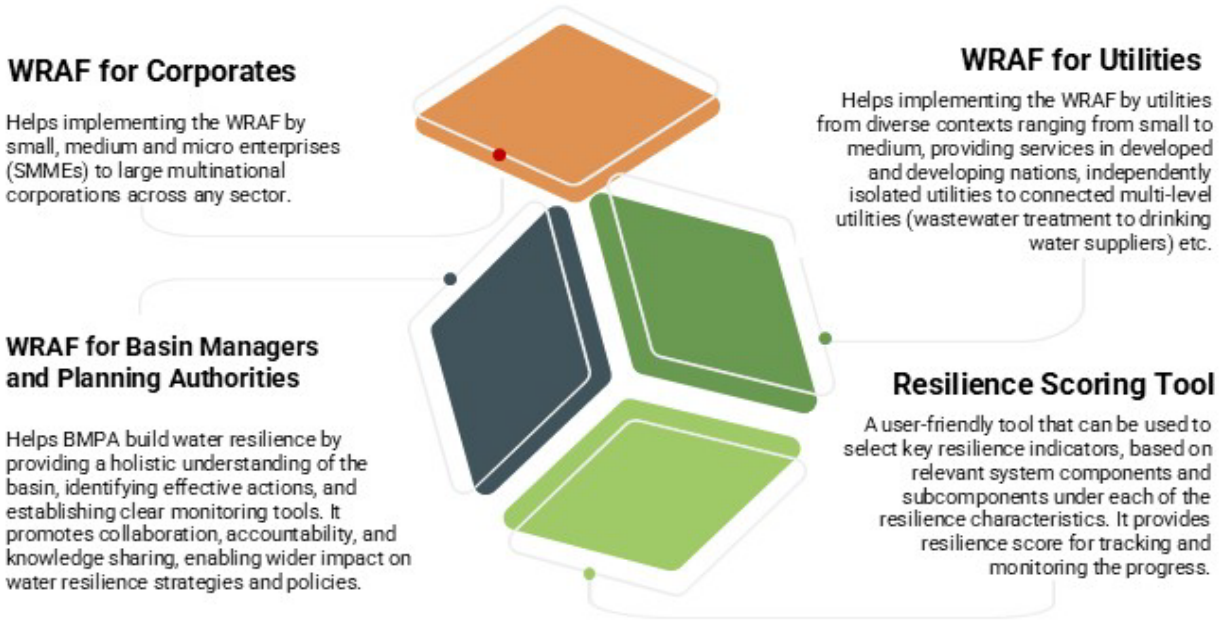
The climate crisis, political upheaval, pandemics, and other shocks and stresses are causing abrupt, gradual, and long-term changes in water systems. These changes are increasing both in intensity and frequency. Climate change is further exacerbating the magnitude and scale of the crisis. These drivers are not only impacting water quantity and quality but also the access to and provision of other water-related goods and services The entire water system has become vulnerable to these changes due to global connections and inter-reliance. Decisions need to be made considering such uncertainties to build long-term resilience at every level of our water systems.

WHAT IS THE WRAF?

Effective decision-making in an uncertain future necessitates a resilient mindset. This goes beyond simply bouncing back from challenges to adapting and transforming. When uncertainties shift targets and decision-making processes, resilience becomes a critical tool for survival. This is where the Water Resilience Assessment Framework (WRAF) enters the picture, offering a practical guide for navigating these complexities. The WRAF provides an overarching modular approach to building resilience across different scales. It has four distinct steps underpinned by stakeholder engagement at relevant levels.



WHAT RESOURCES ARE AVAILABLE FOR THE WRAF IMPLEMENTATION?



The WRAF is further elaborated in three sector-specific guidance documents that provide a standardized, stepwise approach to measuring, assessing, and enhancing resilience across socio-economic, institutional, and biophysical system components. These guidance help corporates, utilities, and basin managers and planning authorities in developing resilience strategies, focusing on the relevant water challenge it is experiencing, and developing or selecting appropriate resilience indicators (Resilience Scoring Tool) that can go beyond regulations and traditional performance mechanisms to tangibly define resilience in a way that can be both tracked and communicated to important stakeholders.

These guidance documents also provide a set of 'Water Resilience Indicators' and a 'Resilience Scoring Tool' for all three sectors. Practical examples are provided throughout the guidance document to showcase how each step could be implemented in practice.

HOW AND WHEN TO TAKE PART?

The project team is looking for active collaboration opportunities to implement the framework within all three sectors from diverse contexts ranging from small to large organizations, operating in developed and developing nations, independently isolated business units and utilities to connected multi-level corporates and utilities (wastewater treatment to drinking water suppliers), and from regional water basin to national and transboundary basins. All are welcome to implement the WRAF!

Express your interest to join the implementing opportunities by contacting the project coordinator Ashok Chapagain at akchapagain@pacinst.org.

WHO IS INVOLVED?

This work is being undertaken by a multi-partner project team comprising the CEO Water Mandate, Pacific Institute, Alliance for Global Water Adaptation, World Resources Institute, and the International Water Management Institute. The lead sponsor for this project is BHP, with other CEO Water Mandate endorsing companies and the Swiss Development Corp. also contributing financial support.

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