The Alliance for Water Stewardship &
the International Water Stewardship Standard

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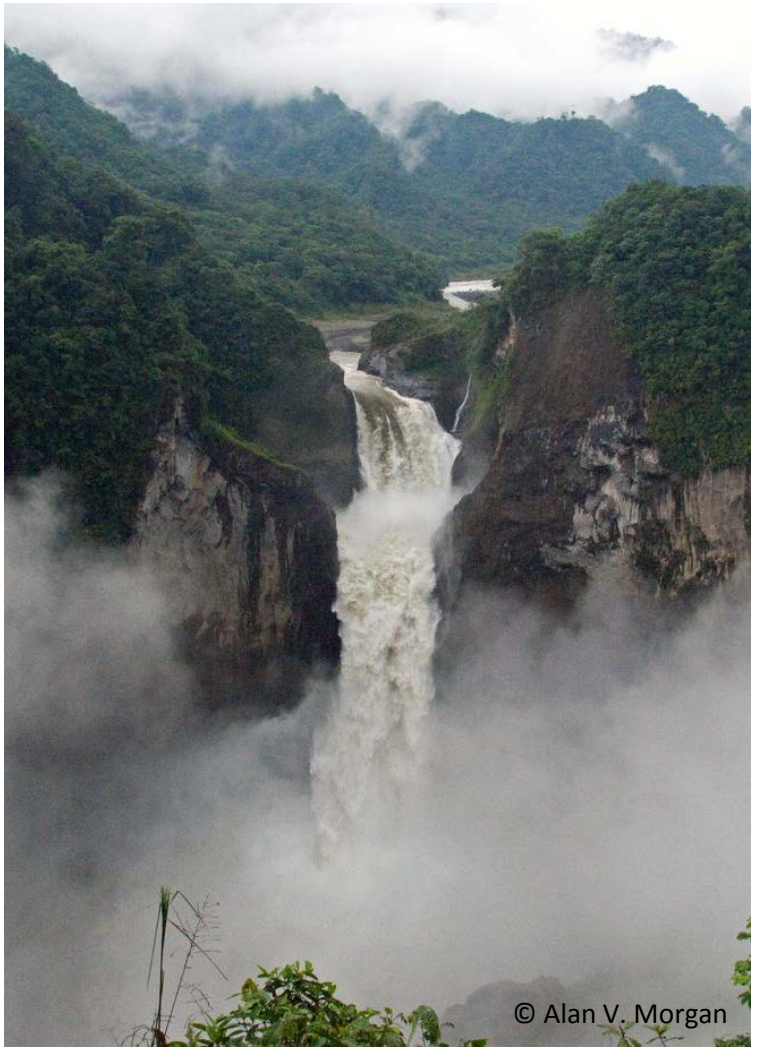
ALLIANCE FOR WATER STEWARDSHIP™

About the Alliance for Water Stewardship

- The **Alliance for Water Stewardship (AWS)** is a multi-stakeholder organization dedicated to enhancing water stewardship capacity, and guiding, incentivizing and differentiating responsible water use.



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Water Stewardship

The use of water that is socially equitable, environmentally sustainable and economically beneficial, achieved through a stakeholder-inclusive process that involves site- and catchment-based actions.

Who founded AWS?

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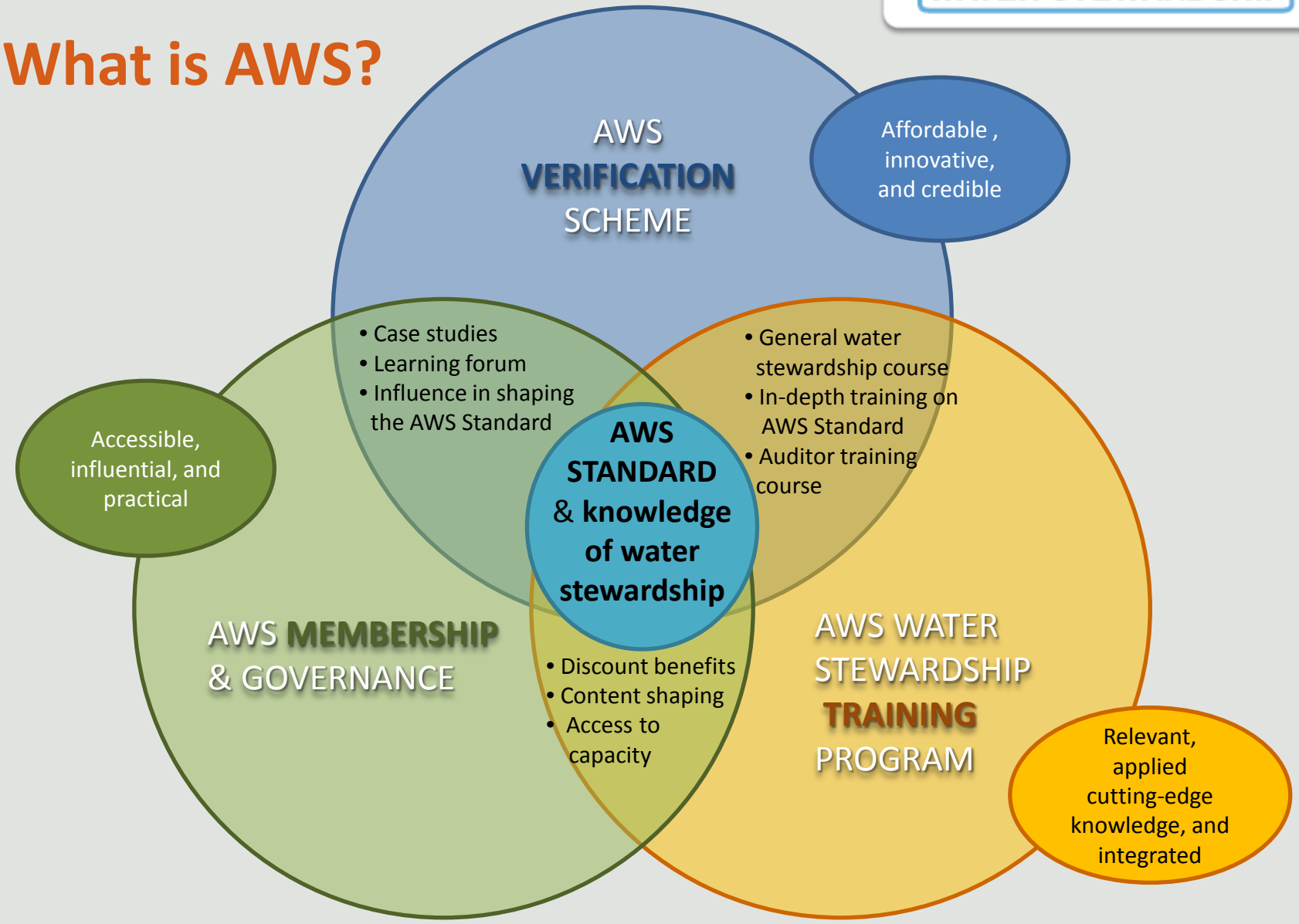
What is AWS?



Why build a standard?

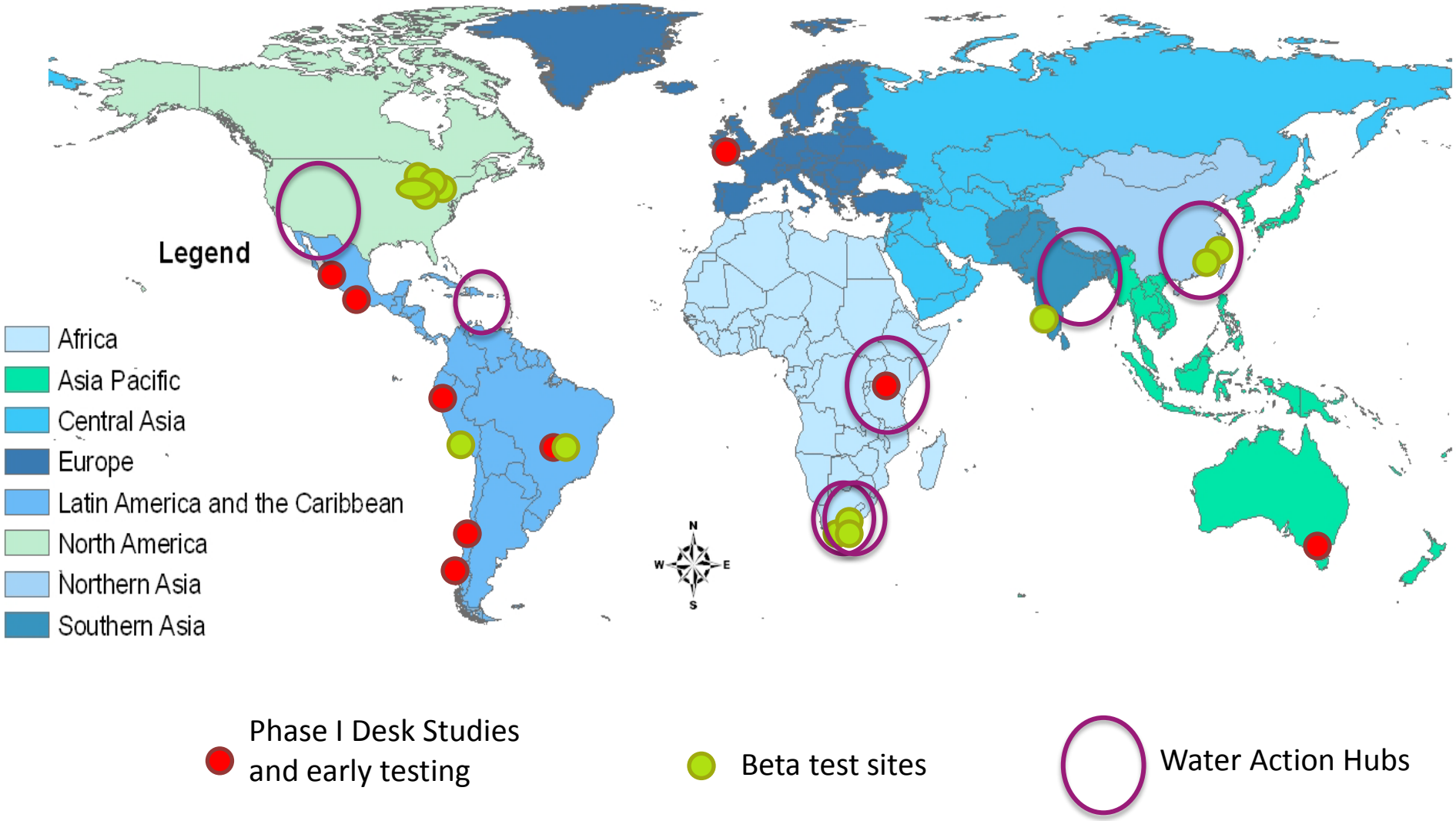
To address the need for…

- International **consistency** around a definition of what constitutes "responsible" water stewardship
- **Recognition** of leaders
- A mechanism to simplify water risk mitigation in **investment** community
- A process for brands to manage their **supply chain risks**
- Companies to validate their **claims** and protect their brands (via certification)
- A **framework** to make sense of tools
- An entity to **champion and promote** water stewardship around the world.

Standard Development Process

- Committee of 15 experts from 8 geographic regions, representing business, public sector and civil society.
- Regional public meetings.
- Two drafts for public review, comment and field testing.
- Comments from over 500 individuals in 30 countries.
- Global field tests in numerous sectors.

Field Testing the Beta AWS Standard



What is the AWS Standard?

- **A framework and set of actions** that define responsible water stewardship
- Can (but need not) be verified to "prove" responsibility (**verification & claims system**)
- **Universally** applicable
  - Anywhere
  - Anyone
- Require actions at the **SITE level**, as well as actions of the site at a catchment level
- **Aligned** with many initiatives
  - WWF Water Risk Filter & much of CDP Water request for information

The AWS Standard (version 1.0):
Core criteria

STEP 1: COMMIT
- Leadership commitment
- Water stewardship policy

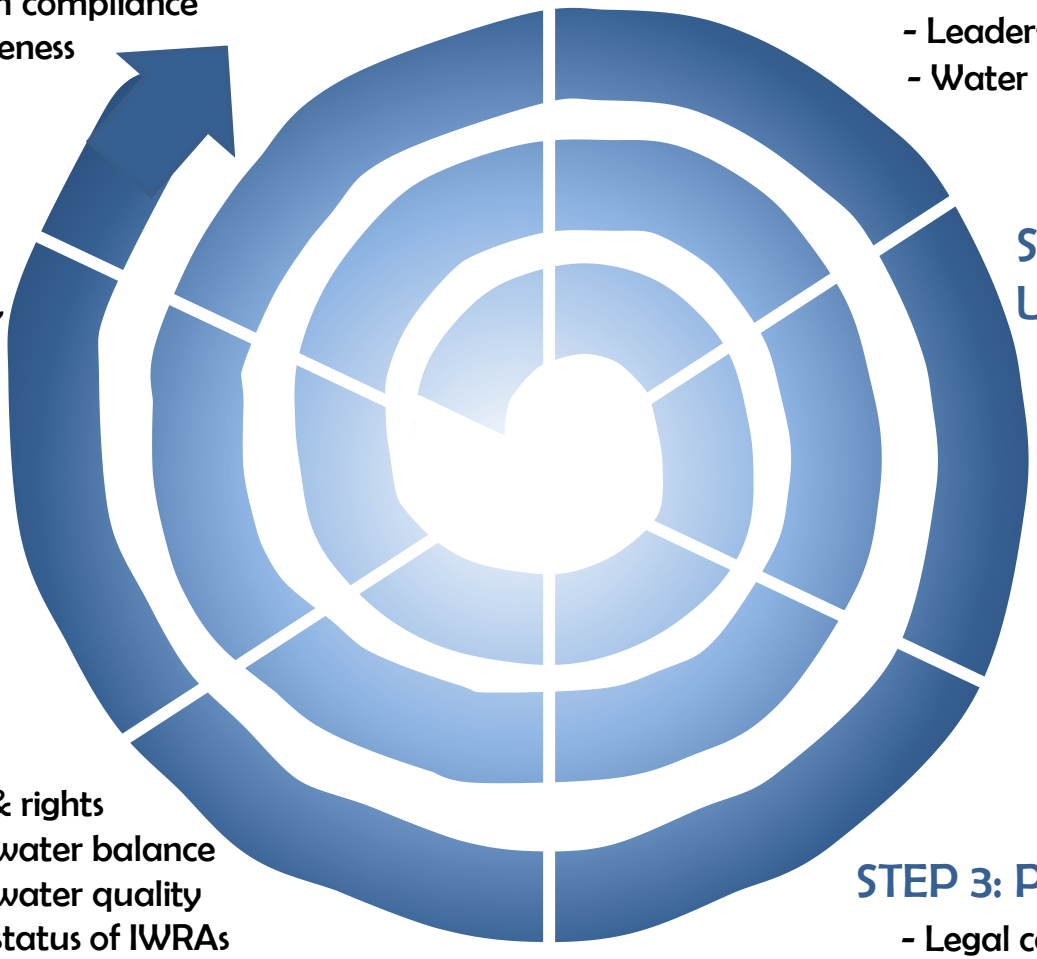
STEP 2: GATHER & UNDERSTAND
- Define scope
- ID stakeholders
- Catchment water data
- Site water data
- Indirect water use
- Shared water challenges
- Understand and prioritize water risks & opportunities

STEP 3: PLAN
- Legal compliance system
- Water stewardship plan
- Incident response plan
- Notify authorities of plans

STEP 4: IMPLEMENT
- Comply with laws & rights
- Maintain/improve water balance
- Maintain/improve water quality
- Maintain/improve status of IWRAs
- Participate in catchment governance
- Maintain/improve indirect water use
- Provide on-site WASH
- Raise concerns about shared water infrastructure

STEP 5: EVALUATE
- Evaluate performance, risks & benefits
- Evaluate incidents
- Consult stakeholders
- Update stewardship and incident response plans

STEP 6: COMMUNICATE & DISCLOSE
- Disclose internal governance
- Disclose water stewardship performance
- Disclose efforts to address shared water challenges
- Drive transparency in compliance
- Increase water awareness



The AWS Standard (version 1.0): Advanced criteria

STEP 1: COMMIT
- Further AWS initiatives
- Commit to other initiatives
- Secure a water stewardship commitment from the organization's senior-most body
- Prioritize communities' rights to water

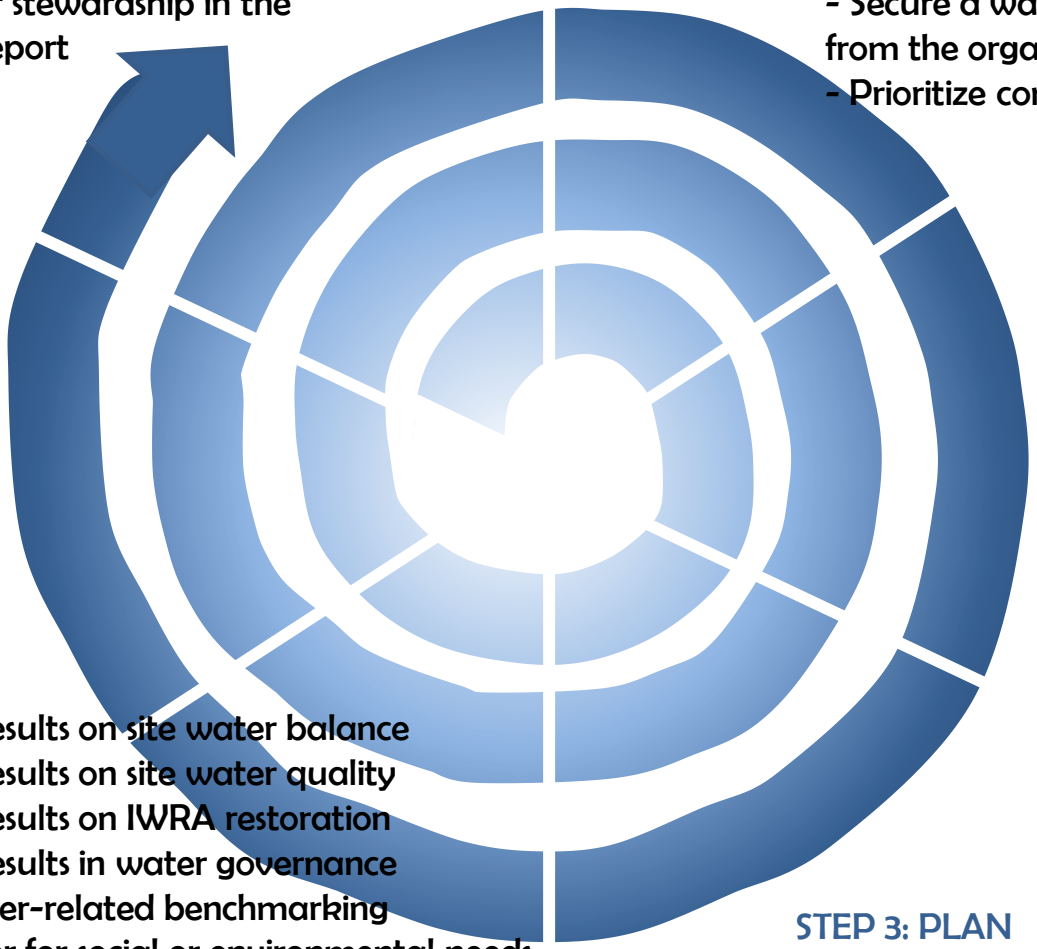
STEP 2: GATHER & UNDERSTAND
- Support joint data collection
- Gather additional water data
- Review a formal study on future water scenarios
- Conduct a detailed, indirect water use evaluation
- Understand groundwater / e-flows & site's contribution
- Complete a voluntary SIA

STEP 3: PLAN
- Gain stakeholder consensus on the site's water stewardship targets
- Develop a formal plan for climate change adaptation

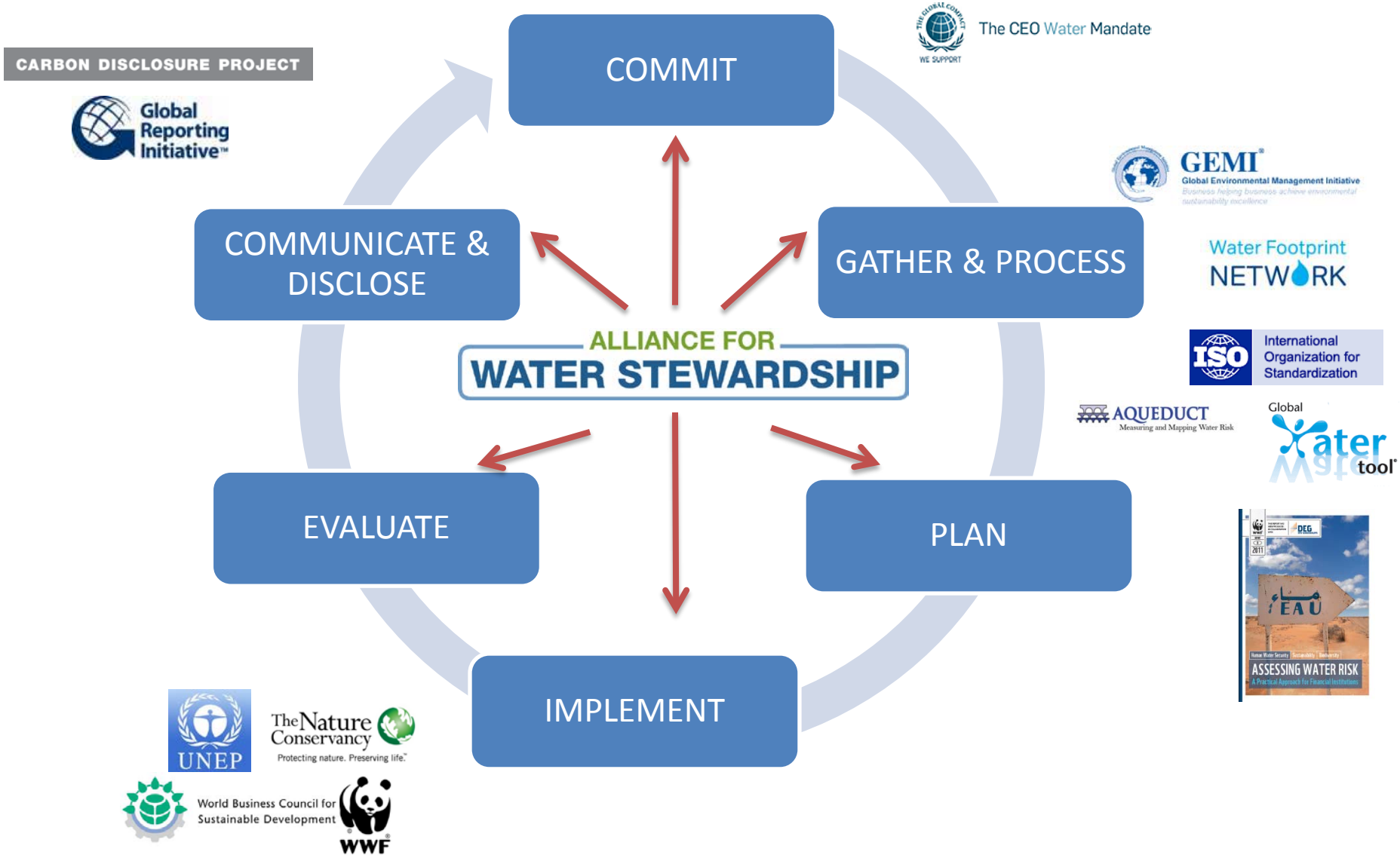
STEP 4: IMPLEMENT
- Achieve best practice results on site water balance
- Achieve best practice results on site water quality
- Achieve best practice results on IWRA restoration
- Achieve best practice results in water governance
- Advance industrial water-related benchmarking
- Re-allocate saved water for social or environmental needs
- Engage in collective action for shared water challenges
- Drive reduced indirect water use
- Complete implementation of water-related initiatives
- Provide access to WASH off-site

STEP 5: EVALUATE
- Conduct executive or governance body-level review of water stewardship efforts
- Conduct a formal stakeholder evaluation

STEP 6: COMMUNICATE & DISCLOSE
- Disclose water risks to owners (in alignment with recognized disclosure frameworks)
- Implement a program for water education
- Discuss site-level water stewardship in the organization's annual report



The Landscape of Water Stewardship: Information, Tools & Programs



Questions?

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