



Water Security through Stewardship

An Action Platform of the CEO Water Mandate (2018 – 2020)

Draft: December 2017

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Mandate's Substantive Work Program and Governance will Occur within the Action Platform

- **Workstreams**: All current workstreams of the CEO Water Mandate (and their corresponding working groups) will be transitioned over to the water stewardship Action Platform.
 - WASH and Human Rights
 - Direct Operations and Supply Chain
 - Indicators, Metrics, and Disclosure
 - Collective Action and Policy Engagement
- Membership to the working groups will only be open to Action Platform participants, all Action Participants must be Mandate Endorsers
- **Governance**: Steering Committee members will be derived from the Action Platform participants keeping in place the geographic diversity as outlined by the current TOR for the Steering Committee
- **Important note**: All leadership thinking, guidance, and best practices will be shared widely with endorsing companies, regardless of whether they are in the Action Platform, in order to benefit the full endorser base

Value of participation

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By participating in this platform, companies will be able to:

- Be on the leading edge of water stewardship practice, addressing critical social, economic, and environmental aspects of water and sanitation
 - Develop, pilot test, and implement cutting-edge guidance and tools that help address pressing water and sanitation challenges globally
 - Work jointly on collective action and partnership opportunities to improve water security in water stressed regions
 - Engage with policy makers and scope out solutions that support broader policy outcomes on water and sanitation
 - Engage in cross-sectoral peer learning on water-related risks, challenges, and solutions
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Proposed Water Action Platform Objectives

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The *Water Security Through Stewardship* Action Platform brings together companies, UN entities, governments, NGOs, and other stakeholders to:

- Mobilize business action by both leaders and learners to adopt increasingly more advanced water stewardship practices that tackle all dimensions of water and sanitation.
- Work with leading companies to test, refine, and scale cutting-edge water stewardship practices, including setting context-based water targets, pioneering WASH solutions, and innovating climate resiliency measures.
- Develop a global framework and foster local partnerships, collective actions, or policy engagements that advance more sustainable water management in support of SDG6 and its touchpoints with other SDGs; and develop systems to measure contributions and outcomes.
- Contribute to efforts underway by the UN Global Compact to track business contributions in support of SDG6 and embed water and sanitation into other relevant Action Platforms.

Platform Elements

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Goal and Key Aspects	Support achievement of Sustainable Development Goal 6 and its impact on other SDGs		
	Facilitate effective, impactful, and equitable collective actions and public policy engagement		
	Increase uptake of good water stewardship practice by companies of all types and sizes		
Elements	Building Capacity of Learners and Leaders	Facilitating On-the Ground Collective Action	Developing Metrics and Reporting
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Develop tools, resources, and guidance that help enable greater adoption of water stewardship practice across environmental, social, and economic realms Prioritize, implement and scale basic water stewardship for farms and facilities for Local Network companies and others to move along the stewardship progression 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Foster cross sectoral coalitions to implement place-based projects across thematic areas Engage in policy discussions to reinforce the role that water stewardship plays for meeting the SDGs. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Develop guidance and test the implementation of context-based metrics and water targets Develop metrics to measure the impacts of water stewardship collective actions Contribute to efforts to track business contributions to SDG6 and its touchpoints with other SDGs

Human Rights and WASH

- Focus on water access, sanitation, and hygiene (WASH) in the workplace, supply chain, and communities where companies operate.
- Continuation of flagship projects [WASH4WORK](#) and [WASH in the Supply Chain](#).

Prospective Activities include:

- Scoping good practice guidance for promoting WASH in the supply chain and begin its development
- Incubate pioneering WASH practices with 2-3 groups of companies in strategic regions of interest
- Release and undertake targeted outreach around a study on making the business case for WASH investments
- Develop a consensus document elucidating connections between WASH and stewardship
- Explore potential for integration of WASH in sustainability standard systems
- Undertake joint activity with the International Labor Organization to implement WASH@work toolkit
- Host a series of high-profile strategic events including at World Water Forum 2018, High Level Political Forum, and Stockholm World Water Week to advance and showcase business contribution to the WASH agenda

Metrics, Impacts, and Disclosure

- Focuses on exploring opportunities to set targets and report real-world impacts of water stewardship collective actions that improve the health of at-risk watersheds.
- Flagship project is context-based water targets. (CBWT)

Prospective Activities include:

- Develop and pilot test a context-based approach with companies and establish a project advisory group to provide technical and strategic guidance
- Host strategic events and webinars with industry associations and other stakeholders to raise awareness and refine thinking on CBWT best practice
- Lead multi-stakeholder discussions geared toward aligning corporate water stewardship frameworks/metrics/measurement systems with SDG6 and other water-related SDGs
- Develop and test collective action impact metrics and their alignment with SDG6 and national/local government policy objectives
- Undertake work to drive greater harmonization in Water reporting focusing on common definitions and language

Collective Action and Policy Engagement

- Focuses on facilitating stewardship partnerships and exploring opportunities to work together across public, private, and nonprofit sectors locally and internationally
- Flagship projects include [Business Alliance for Water and Climate](#) (BAFWAC) and the [California Water Action Collaborative](#) (CWAC)
- Newly launched apparel industry-focused initiative led by Mandate-endorsing brands

Prospective Activities include:

- Develop a web platform highlighting business best practice on water and climate
- Host strategic events at Stockholm Water Week and the World Water forum on climate-resilient supply chains to raise awareness around water and climate
- Work within BAFWAC to bring corporate perspectives to UNFCCC discussions and the Global Climate Action Agenda
- Map joint apparel sector locations and analysis of current water stewardship tools and resources as applicable to the apparel sector
- Develop a metrics framework to evaluate the impact and efficacy of CWAC on-the-ground partnerships (cross linked with Metrics working group)
- Begin the development of a white paper on good water policy and catchment governance connected to the SDGs and the NDCs.

Engagement at the Local Level – From Learners to Leaders

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- Expand water stewardship to key geographies through engagement with UNGC Local Networks (LNs)
- Develop “water stewardship playbooks” and personalized engagement opportunities with Local Networks to help companies of all sizes on water stewardship journey
- Catalyze and support partnerships with Local Networks in Latin America, Africa, and Asia, particularly where Mandate endorsing companies have operations, suppliers, or other strategic interests, and where local capacity exists to broker and administer water stewardship initiatives.

Activities include:

- General outreach and awareness raising (i.e., stewardship playbooks) to be pursued across the UNGC network
- Identification and engagement with key LNs where there is a strategic interest and local capacity. Current LNs identified for deep levels of engagement include South Africa, Brazil, and India.
- *Other potential regions of focus:* Colombia, Southeast Asia, the United States, China

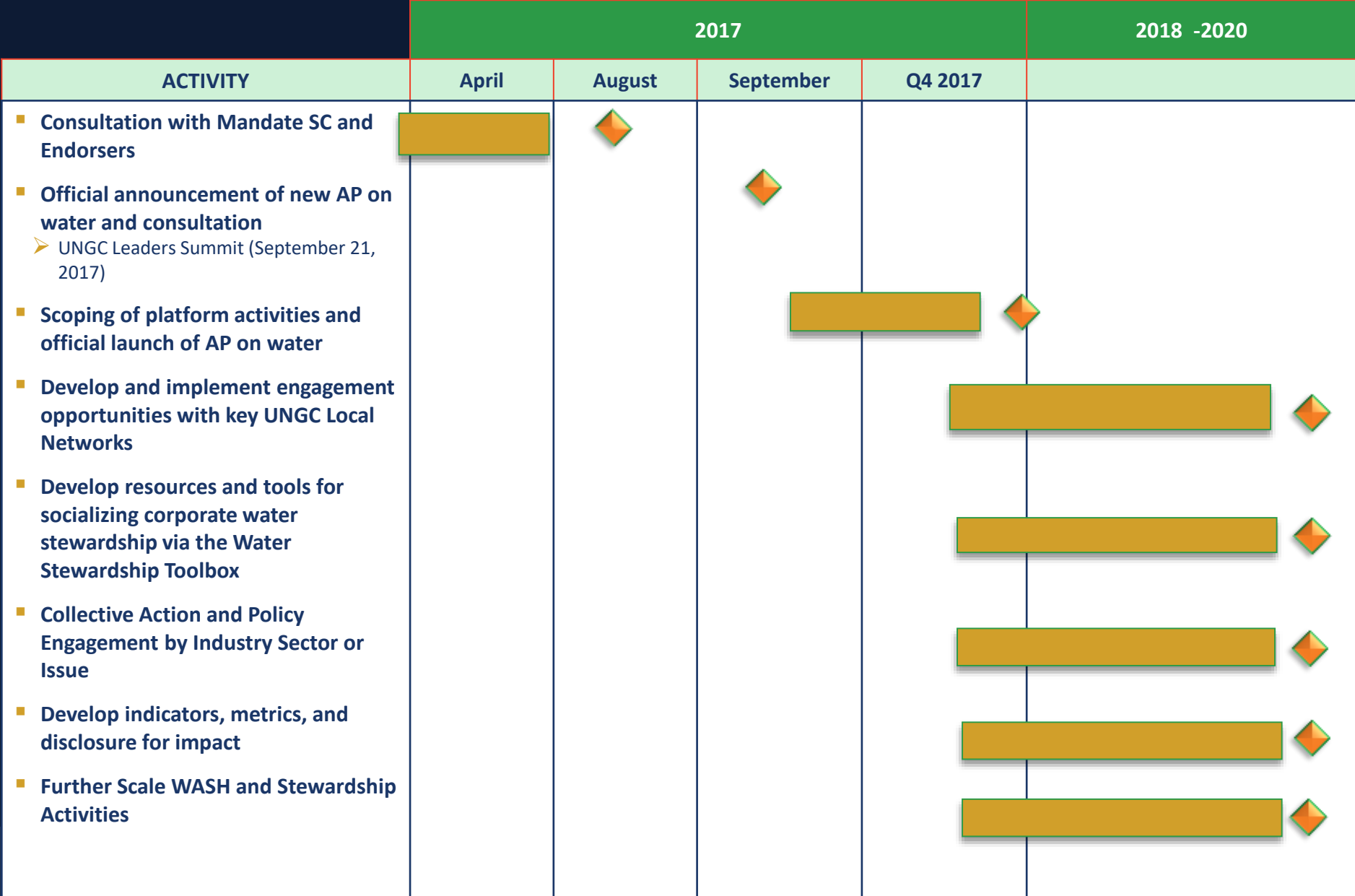
Tools Development for Operations and Supply Chain Stewardship

- Focus on bringing water stewardship to farms, manufacturing, and enterprises of all sizes.
- Flagship project is the [Water Stewardship Toolbox](#) – connecting businesses to over 160 resources that help them advance water stewardship.

Activities include:

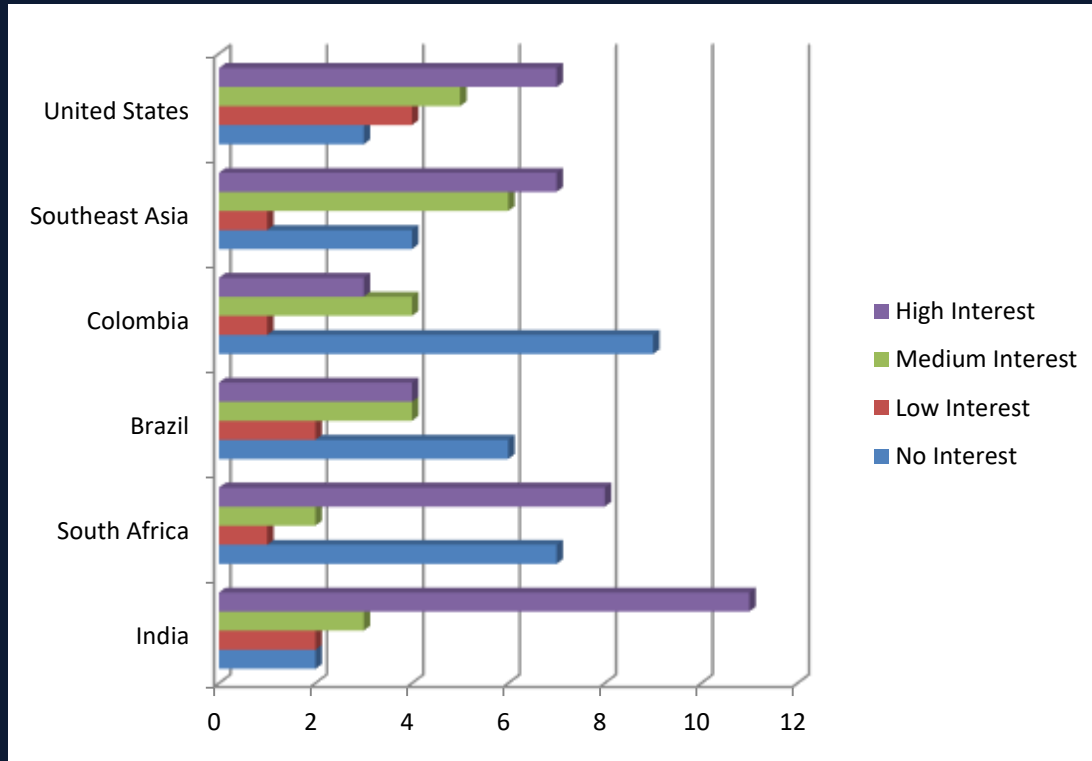
- Expanding tools, best practices, case studies, guidance, and more on Toolbox
- Integrating Toolbox with Water Action Hub
- Building issue-and-initiative-specific portal(s)
- Curated content and guidance in the Toolbox
- Working with Mandate endorsers to test and promote the Toolbox
- Expansion of WAH to include projects and organizations working on operations and supply chain engagement, among other aspects of the journey

Activities Timeline – to be refined



Endorser Company Interest – Regional Interests

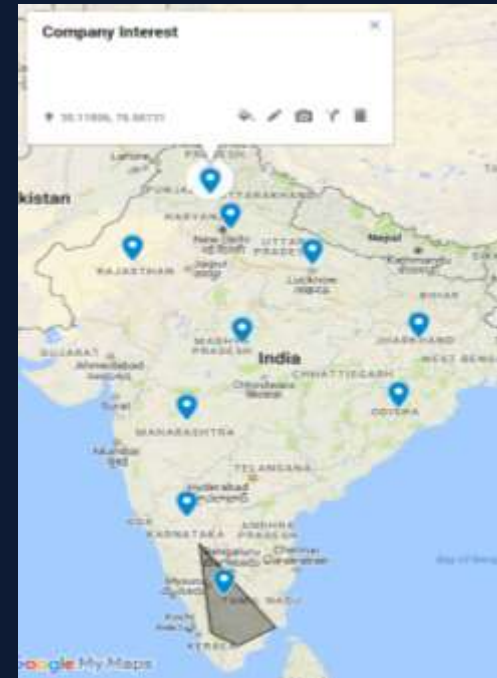
Regional Interest



High Areas of Interest:

India, South Africa, Southeast Asia, United States,

Interests in India



Regions: Rajasthan, Karnataka, Maharashtra, Haryana, Uttar Pradesh (Agriculture) Madhya Pradesh and Cauvery Basin (Apparel/Textile – Ag & Manufacturing) Jharkhand and Odisha: Heavy industry (Steel)

Other Regions of Interest

- China
- Chile (Mining)
- Sub-Saharan Africa – Specifically Ethiopia for a few companies

Endorser Company Interest – Thematic Areas

WASH & Human Rights	Direct Operations & Supply Chains	Metrics, Indicators, and Disclosure	Collective Action & Policy Engagement
<p>Interest in WASH in manufacturing and agriculture (13 companies interested)</p>	<p>Multiple companies highlighted interest in Sustainable Agriculture</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Smart water management <p>(17 companies interested)</p>	<p>High level of interest in CBT work across the base</p> <p>Updates to disclosure guidelines and harmonization work</p> <p>(12 companies interested)</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Interest in water security and watershed collaboration - Effective water policy <p>(14 companies interested)</p>

Key Expected Outputs & Outcomes

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Outputs:

- 1) The launch of a new portals and tools building on from the Water Stewardship Toolbox for socializing water stewardship good practice
- 2) The launch of guidance around Context Based Water Metrics and a number of pilots
- 3) The development of collective action impact metrics for local water stewardship initiatives
- 4) The implementation of the apparel sector initiative including a supply chain analysis and management tool and local collective action opportunity
- 5) Engagement, implementation, and documentation of innovative activities on water and climate, as well as WASH by leading companies

Outcomes

- 1) Increased uptake of water stewardship in a number of key geographies by companies new to stewardship through use of the Mandate's tools and resources
- 2) Ascertain efficacy of context based water metrics through pilots and adoption of the methodology by a number of action platform companies.
- 3) Increased uptake of WASH, climate resiliency measures, and water activities including increased documentation around the evidence for business interventions on these themes
- 4) Better understanding of how to measure the impacts of local water stewardship initiatives
- 5) Increases public sector understanding of benefits of stewardship for achieving SDG6 and other policy priorities

Draft KPIs for Key Outcomes

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- 5) Increased public sector understanding of benefits of stewardship for achieving SDG6 and other policy priorities

Draft KPIs for 2018-2020

of companies from local networks that have adopted water stewardship strategies

of companies that endorse the CEO Water Mandate's six commitments

of industry associations adopting water stewardship in guidelines *(introduce in 2019)*

of river basin pilots implementing CBT and reports on outcomes

of examples of pilots for calculating company contributions to SDGs *(introduce in 2019)*

of companies citing CBT in reporting or # of examples of organizations integrating CBT in reporting *(introduce in 2019 or 2020)*

of case studies added to Toolbox for companies taking action on thematic areas/issues (including on WASH, water and climate)

of public sector that have adopted water stewardship components into strategy and programs (Country level) *(introduce in 2019 or 2020)*