

# Water Resilience Assessment Framework

## Corporate Guidance

When uncertainties around our water systems cause targets to shift and decision-making processes to change, resilience is the conceptual tool for survival.



### 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. They will not only impact water quantity and quality but also the access to and provision of other water-related goods and services. These drivers have exposed the vulnerabilities of the entire water system and laid bare our global connections and inter-reliance. Decisions need to be made in light of such uncertainties to build long-term resilience at every level of our water systems.



### WHY SHOULD BUSINESSES CONSIDER WATER RESILIENCE?

When uncertainties around our water systems cause targets to shift and decision-making processes to change, resilience is the conceptual tool for survival.

**The private sector can play a critical role in building system resilience, as businesses can drive resilience:**



at the local level  
(on-site resilience)



through their supply chains  
(supply chain resilience)



and beyond their operation  
(system resilience)

A resilience mindset helps businesses to plan not just how to bounce back from shocks and stresses, but how to bounce *forward*. Building long-term water resilience is essential for a business aiming to mitigate or adapt to current and future shocks and stresses.



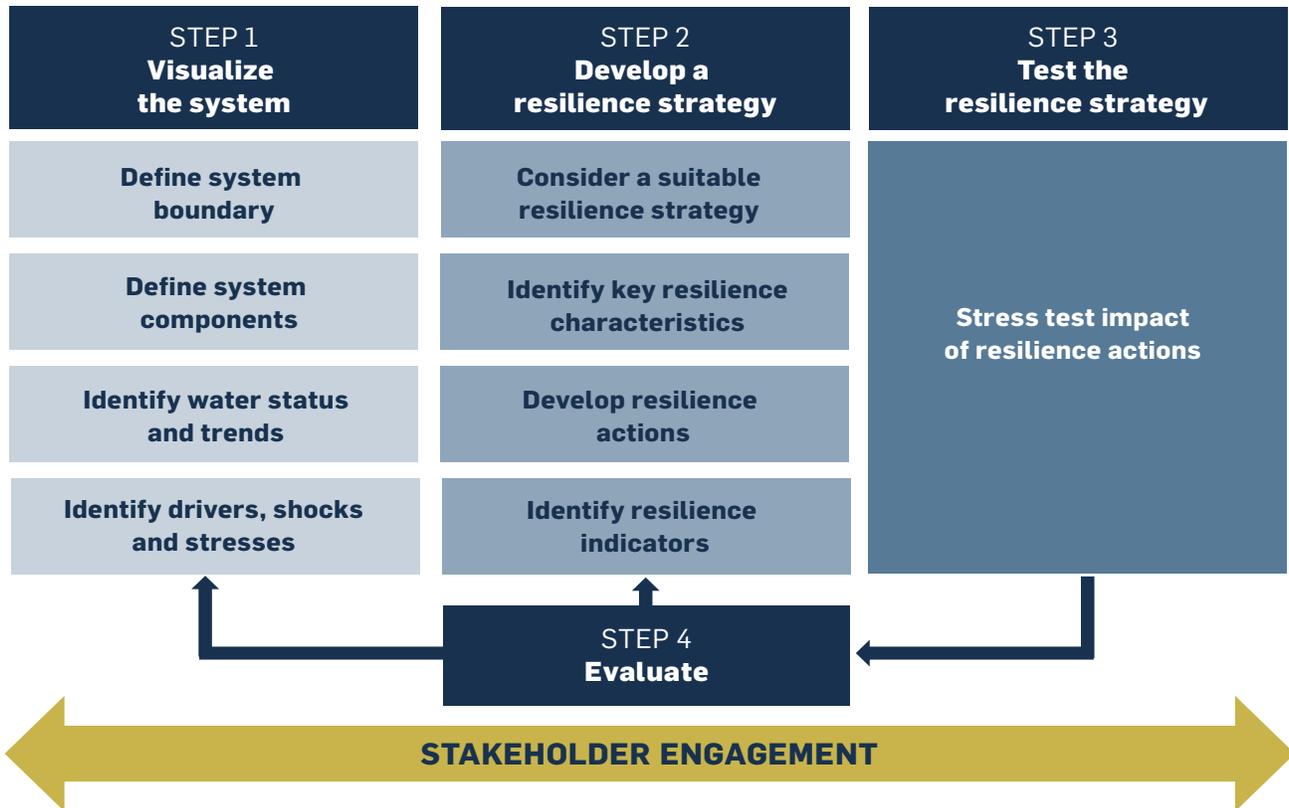
### HOW CAN BUSINESSES IMPROVE THEIR WATER RESILIENCE?

The general [Water Resilience Assessment Framework](#) (WRAF), published in 2021, is the foundation for the **WRAF - Corporate Guidance**. This guidance provides a standard, step-wise approach to measure and enhance resilience across different industries. It also provides a set of 'Water Resilience Indicators' and a 'Resilience Scoring Tool' for corporates. Practical examples are provided throughout the guidance document to showcase how each step could be implemented in practice. This guidance can be applied by small, medium and micro enterprises (SMMEs) to large multinational corporations across any sector.



CEO  
WATER  
MANDATE

## THE GENERAL WATER RESILIENCE ASSESSMENT FRAMEWORK ADAPTED FOR CORPORATES



### HOW AND WHEN TO TAKE PART?

Publishing of the **WRAF - Corporate Guidance** is programmed for 2022. During the initial phase of corporate implementation, the project team will be looking for businesses that would like support in implementing the WRAF across their site, supply chains, or water systems. This support will be conducted across a series of workshops and webinars starting after the launch of the guidance document.

Businesses can express their interest to join the piloting opportunities by contacting the project coordinator Ashok Chapagain at [akchapagain@pacinst.org](mailto:akchapagain@pacinst.org).

### WHO IS INVOLVED?

This work is being undertaken by a multi-partner project team comprising the CEO Water Mandate, the Pacific Institute, the Alliance for Global Water Adaptation, the World Resources Institute and the International Water Management Institute, funded by BHP.



The WRAF - Corporate Guidance is the first in a series of sector-specific guidance documents. Others in the series include guidance for water utilities, the agricultural sector and basin managers and planning authorities (regional and national).