

Fact Sheet Analysis

Corporate water stewardship

South Pole Group is partnering with CDP to carry out the world’s first global assessment of corporate efforts to manage water risks. As CDP’s Lead Water Scoring Partner, South Pole Group can assist you in managing pressing water risks.

Context

According to JP Morgan “Corporate disclosure of water-related risk is seriously inadequate. The financial impact of water shortages on sectors and companies is unclear, because information on water use data and impacts is spotty and partial.” In addition, a methodology to comprehensively assess corporate water management has been missing.

CDP’s water program

In 2015, over 2,300 companies globally received a request from investors to provide data on their water management via CDP. Companies that have responded include Nestlé, Diageo, Holcim, Coca Cola, Johnson & Johnson and Kimberly-Clark Corporation. The self-reported data covers corporate water risk assessments, water risk exposure and mitigation and governance strategies. The data collection is mainly investor driven, as investors are increasingly considering water risks to secure future financial returns.

Milestones of CDP’s work on water security

1
Water scoring methodology pilot case

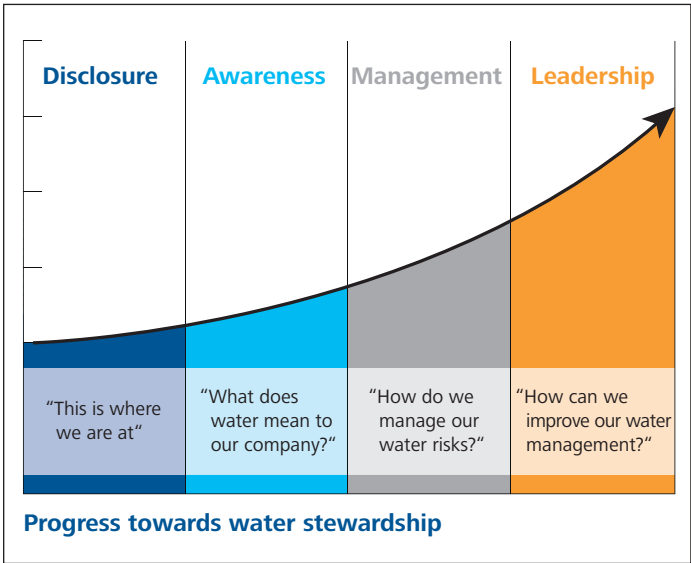
In 2014, CDP piloted a scoring methodology for assessing water corporate responses to worsening water security. The methodology has since then been refined with the help of scoring partners, responding companies, investors, NGOs and other partners.

2
Launch of the first public water scoring methodology

In 2015, CDP launched the world’s first water scoring methodology and is partnering with SPG to implement it. Disclosure requests were sent out to over 2,300 companies in the most water dependent sectors including apparel, chemical, food & beverage, metals & mining, oil & gas, pharmaceutical, power generation and semiconductor industries.



As of June 2015, South Pole Group will act as CDP’s Lead Water Scoring Partner. Together, CDP and South Pole Group will evaluate the water management practices of companies operating in 112 countries across the most water dependent industry sectors based on the strict application of CDP’s publicly available water scoring methodology. The evaluations will help stakeholders and investors to better understand corporate resiliency amid pressing water challenges. Corporate water stewardship is assessed according the following four topics: disclosure, awareness, management and leadership.



Solution

South Pole Group's water scoring partnership with CDP makes us the best possible partner to support your company throughout the CDP reporting cycle. In order to avoid a conflict of interests, we do not assess companies that we have supported in the reporting process.

South Pole Group can support you by:

- 1 Analysing your water-related physical, regulatory and reputational risks in the pre-reporting phase. This is done by applying tools such as the Water Risk Filter or tools recommended by the Water Footprint Network, ISO or Global Reporting Initiative.
- 2 Helping you answer CDP's water questionnaire in the reporting phase. The aim is to ensure that your disclosure of water resource management satisfy internal goals, as well as investor, shareholder and consumer demand.
- 3 Comparing your performance and risks through benchmarking against CDP responses of your peer companies. This is critical in identifying best practices of managing water risks on a corporate level.

Your benefits

- Become a leader in your field by developing a successful water management strategy
- Drive change and satisfy stakeholder demand by contributing towards improving data quality and reliability for water-related risks
- Increase your awareness of the current state of global water issues and identify investment risks and commercial opportunities
- Develop and share best practices to improve your water risk management and help peers move in the same direction

"The introduction of corporate water scoring and associated benchmarking represents a significant milestone for the program. We are proud to be working with South Pole Group as our lead water scoring partner. Covering six continents, South Pole Group brings both a global perspective, as well as rich local knowledge. It is the ideal partner to support us and the companies we work with to mitigate risks and capitalise on opportunities."

Cate Lamb

Head of Water at CDP

In a nutshell

As CDP's Lead Water Scoring Partner, SPG is best positioned to help you maximise your response to shareholders via CDP and develop a long-term water management strategy.



Why work with us

Global team

We are a truly global provider of sustainability solutions and services. Our team is made up of over 130 skilled and enthusiastic professionals from over 20 different countries, based in offices spanning 6 continents.

Proven impact

Since 2006, we have measured the climate impact of countless companies and products worldwide. We have screened USD 200 bn+ of investments for their climate impact and we have developed 270+ projects in renewables, forestry, agriculture, industry and households. Through our efforts, 50 million tonnes of CO₂ have been saved, almost as much as the annual CO₂ emissions of the country of Portugal. We have enabled the production of 35,000 GWh of renewable energy (more than the annual electricity consumption of the country of Denmark), and mobilised over USD 6 bn for clean energy investments in emerging markets. In total, our projects have helped create almost 20,000 jobs in developing countries; this roughly corresponds to the number of employees of the British Broadcasting Corporation (BBC). We have also saved 17,000+ hectares of forest from deforestation, about the size of 24,000 soccer pitches and managed water projects in more than 10 countries spanning 3 continents.

Added value

We help you grow with groundbreaking solutions that benefit your business, the environment and society.

A partner of



**thesouthpolegroup.com /sustainability-solutions/
water-assessment-and-disclosure
cdp.net/water**

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