

SDG6 HOW DISCLOSURE DRIVES BUSINESS ACTION ON WATER



With the adoption of the Sustainable Development Goals, environmental sustainability and water security were put under the international spotlight. But if SDG 6 - the global goal to ensure the availability and sustainable management of water and sanitation - is to be achieved by

2030, we need robust data of the current landscape and what needs to change. With the largest corporate water dataset in the world, CDP aims to offer the insights needed to measure and track corporate progress and accelerate action towards meeting the Sustainable Development Goals.

Why business action on water matters:

Industry accounts for over **19%** of global water withdrawal and global agricultural supply chains account for **70%** more.¹

In developing countries, up to **70%** of industrial wastewater is discharged untreated.²

6.4 WATER USE EFFICIENCY

What gets measured gets managed: An increasing number of companies are tracking, managing and implementing water efficiency solutions.

66% more companies now monitor and report water withdrawals, discharge and consumption.



478 In 2017, 478 companies reported that water efficiency presents strategic, operational or market opportunities.

Paper products company, **Metsä Board** has saved an estimated US\$1.7 trillion and cut energy use by 28.9 GWh per year by reducing water consumption.

6.3 WATER QUALITY

Corporate ambition to combat worsening water quality is fostering innovation.

55% more companies are integrating water quality into their risk assessments since 2015.



61% more companies are pursuing circular economy techniques and discharging waste-water directly for other organizations use since 2016.



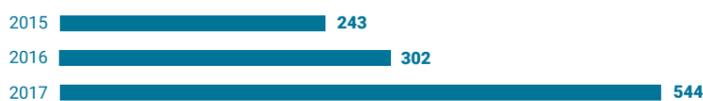
Biotechnology company, **Biogen Inc.** distributes wastewater from its manufacturing process to other organizations for further treatment or reuse as a fertilizer.



6.6 ECOSYSTEMS

River basin restoration and nature based solutions are increasingly recognized as vital to reducing water risks.

There has been an increase of **124%** in river basin restoration in response to water risk since 2015.



Ambition to preserve these irreplaceable ecosystems is high. Habitat restoration and ecosystem preservation was the top reported goal in 2017.

Brewing company, **AB InBev** has successfully reforested 100 hectares of degraded areas, and preserved 120 hectares of forests in Brazil and Bogota to reduce sedimentation.

6.2 WASH

Acting to improve WASH³ offers ways to turn business risk into opportunity, increase efficiency and reduce growth barriers.

75% more companies now integrate provision of WASH into water risk assessments.



In 2017, those companies with a water policy acknowledging the human right to WASH are more likely to have a related target or goal. (38% vs 27%).

Beverage company, **Diageo** has joined 47 other companies, in signing the WASH at the workplace Pledge and set a target to provide 100% of its employees with access to appropriate standards of water, sanitation and hygiene.



CDP's water disclosure framework tracks corporate contributions to SDG 6 across **7 targets** and **9 indicators**, and our data is used to track corporate progress in the UN SDG 6 Synthesis report.

2,025 COMPANIES

In 2017, **2,025** of the world's largest companies voluntarily reported over **7,300** water related risks to CDP. This represents shared water challenges within **149** river basins across **102** countries.

\$20.3 TRILLION

Commanding over **US\$20.3 trillion** in market capital these companies represent a powerful lever for change.

FOR FURTHER INFORMATION OR TO ACCESS CDP DATA PLEASE EMAIL: WATER@CDP.NET

¹ http://www.fao.org/nr/water/aquastat/water_use/index.stm#tables
² <http://unesdoc.unesco.org/images/0024/002475/247552e.pdf>
³ Water, sanitation and hygiene

CDP is a global environmental impact non-profit helping investors, companies and cities assess their environmental impact and take urgent action to build a truly sustainable economy.

CDP's work on water security motivates companies to disclose and manage their water risks. By working with over 650 institutional with assets over US\$87 trillion, we leverage investor and buyer power to motivate companies to take positive action towards a water-secure future.