



# **The United Nations Global Compact: CEO Water Mandate**

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# The Global Compact



- Launched in July 2007, the CEO Water Mandate is a unique public-private initiative designed to assist companies in the development, implementation and disclosure of water sustainability policies and practices.
- Lack of access to clean water and sanitation in many parts of the world causes:
  - Great suffering in humanitarian, social, environmental and economic terms
  - Seriously undermines development goals.
- This emerging crisis presents the private sector with a range of risks (and opportunities)
- Current water-management practices are inadequate given the increasing materiality and importance of water as a resource.

# The CEO Mandate



- The CEO Water Mandate recognizes that the business sector, through the production of goods and services, impacts water resources – both directly and through supply chains.
- Endorsing CEOs acknowledge that they have a responsibility to make water-resources management a priority, and to work with governments, UN agencies, non-governmental organizations, and other stakeholders to address this global water challenge.
- The CEO Water Mandate covers six areas: Direct Operations; Supply Chain and Watershed Management; Collective Action; Public Policy; Community Engagement; and Transparency.

# Elements



- Direct Operations
  - Specific Programs, Policies or Targets for Water Performance
  - Quantified Water Quantity Data
  - Quantified Water Quality Data
  - Trend Water Performance Data
- Supply Chain and Watershed Management
  - Assess Prospective or Current Suppliers on Environmental Performance
  - Engage Suppliers on Water Impacts and Management
  - Specific Policies for Water Scarce Regions
  - Measure Supplier Water Performance

# Elements



- **Collective Action**
  - Actions with Intergovernmental Bodies
  - Actions with Civil Society
  - Peer-to-Peer Actions
  - Multi-Stakeholder Actions
- **Public Policy**
  - Commitment to Respect Internationally Recognized Human Rights
  - Participation in Water Governance and Decision Making
  - Water Sustainability Advocacy

# Elements



- Community Engagement
  - Corporate Action on Water at the Community Level
  - Local Water Infrastructure Development
- Transparency
  - Use of GRI Guidelines
  - Statement from CEO or Senior Management Regarding Water
  - Third Party Verification/Assurance Assessment

# Business Opportunities



- Water Performance Methods (Manufacturing, Assessments)
- Water System Infrastructure Design
- Water-Current Turbines:
  - Non-polluting electricity generation plants that harness the kinetic energy of natural water courses, using several kinds of rotors.
  - A channeling device, integrated into the flotation system, is used to modify flow conditions in the area of the rotor.
- Water-Powered Motors:
  - Motor for extracting raw energy from a water current and converting it to kinetic energy.
    - Rectangular in shape with a round water wheel consisting of foldable vanes.
    - The vanes receive raw energy produced by water current transforming that raw energy into usable energy for powering a pump, electric generator or as a general power source to power other equipment such as desalinization machinery.

# Business Opportunities



- The University of Michigan faculty has invented a device, named VIVACE, that converts river and ocean currents into electricity.
- Like fish, the device takes advantage of powerful phenomena called vortex-induced vibrations.
  - These vibrations occur when water flows past a round or cylindrical object.
  - Swirls of water form downstream from the object and in an alternating pattern on either side of it.
- Vortex-induced vibrations form even at slow rates of flow, and the device can adjust to capture energy at a wide range of flow speeds.