Glossary

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Words in this document are used as defined in most standard English language dictionaries. In the European Water Stewardship Program documents, the words below are understood as follows:

A B C D E F G H I J K L M N O P Q R S T U V W

*Please note that underlined words marked with an * are also explained in this Glossary document.*

A

- **Active Substance:** Any substance or micro-organism, including a virus, having general or specific action against harmful organisms or on plants, parts of plants or plant products.

  (Source: http://www.pesticides.gov.uk/environment.asp?id=1528)

- **Area of influence:** Area defined by the water steward. It covers geographical and social zones in which the water steward has influence and impact due to its activity. This area of the water user's influence might evolve in time but has to be clearly identified as it will be required to insure that the information available covers this area of influence (in the 4 EWS principles). As a first step, the area of influence can be defined as the catchment in which the site is located. As a good water steward the aim is to increase in time this area of influence until it reaches the River Basin level.

- **Artificial water body:** A body of surface water created by human activity. *(Source: WFD, article 2)*

- **Available groundwater resource**: The long-term annual average rate of overall recharge of the body of groundwater less the long-term annual rate of flow required to achieve the ecological quality objectives for associated surface waters specified under Article 4 of the WFD, to avoid any significant diminution in the ecological status of such waters and to avoid any significant damage to associated terrestrial ecosystems. *(Source: WFD, article 2)*

- **Available water:** The network of freshwater resources (rivers, lakes, groundwater and others), used to supply human activities e.g. irrigation and industrial applications.

B

- **Basin:** A drainage area of a stream, river or lake. *(Source: http://glossary.eea.europa.eu)*

- **Best Management Practices (BMP):** Recommended methods, structures, or practices designed to prevent or reduce water pollution while maintaining economic returns. Practices that address environmental, economic and social sustainability in products processing, and result in safe and quality products, i.e. GAP, Global GAP and others. *(Source: region8water.colostate.edu/PDFs/bmps_colorado/xcm171.pdf)*

- **BMP:** Refer to Best Management Practices***.**

- **BOD: Biochemical Oxygen Demand** = the amount of dissolved oxygen (DO*) needed by aerobic biological organisms in a body of water to break down organic material present in a given water sample at certain temperature over a specific time period. It is widely used as an indication of the organic quality of water. The BOD value is most commonly expressed in milligrams of oxygen consumed per litre of sample during 5 days of incubation at 20 °C and is often used as a robust surrogate of the degree of organic pollution of water. *(Source: http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Biochemical_oxygen_demand)*

  The greater the BOD, the more rapidly oxygen is depleted in the stream. This means less oxygen is available to higher forms of aquatic life. The consequences of high BOD are the same as those for low dissolved oxygen: aquatic organisms become stressed, suffocate and die. *(Source: http://water.epa.gov/type/rsl/monitoring/vms52.cfm)*

- **BREF (the latest reference document- sector specific):** Each document generally gives information on techniques and processes used in different sectors, including current emission and consumption levels. Techniques to consider in the determination of the best available techniques (BAT). (*Source: http://eippcb.jrc.es/reference/*)

- **Buffer zone:** any (vegetation-covered) surface maintained or specifically put in place, susceptible to intercept diffuse or concentrated runoff from surfaces. The term "buffer" stresses the ability of these surfaces between plots to attenuate the negative effects from their (agricultural) production function. *(Source: ECPA)*

C

- **Connection points:** Direct links of water management and management of other resources (e.g. cooling water systems).

- **Continuous improvement:** Describes a strategy for ongoing evaluation of organization compliance with water management requirements, and should specify periodic compliance by internal or independent auditors.

- **Cross media effects:** Effects on management and use of resources directly linked to water management.

D

- **Destination:** The water body, and its related habitat, designated as receptor of the water discharges and water lost in production. Synonyms may be: sink, recipient etc.

- **Deterioration:** Process of changing to an inferior state, declining in quality.

  (Source: www.thefreedictionary.com/deterioration)

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- **Discharged water:** Refer to "water discharge*".
- **Diffuse (source) pollution**: Pollution from widespread activities with no one discrete source, e.g. acid rain, pesticides, urban run-off, etc. Primarily associated with run-off and other discharges related to different land uses such as agriculture and forestry, from septic tanks associated with rural dwellings and from the land spreading of industrial, municipal and agricultural wastes. For agriculture, the four main input pathways to water bodies are:

    1. Surface run-off and erosion.
    2. Drainage (via artificial tile drainage in soils).
    3. Leaching.
    4. Spray drift/spreading losses.

  (Source: http://glossary.eea.europa.eu and http://www.euwfd.com/html/glossary.html)
- **DO: Dissolved Oxygen:** Oxygen is measured in its dissolved form as dissolved oxygen (DO). If more oxygen is consumed than is produced, dissolved oxygen levels decline and some sensitive animals may move away, weaken, or die. *(Source: http://water.epa.gov/type/rsl/monitoring/vms52.cfm)*
- **DPSIR:** A framework (European Environment Agency) with an integrated approach for reporting driving forces, pressures, states, impacts and responses developed by EEA (based on the PSR framework by OECD). The DPSIR framework is a chain of causal links starting with '*driving forces*' (economic sectors, human activities) through '*pressures*' (emissions, waste) to '*states*' (physical, chemical and biological) and '*impacts*' on ecosystems, human health and functions, eventually leading to political '*responses*' (prioritisation, target setting, indicators). The framework is a structure for presenting indicators needed to enable feedback to policy makers on environmental quality and the resulting impact of the political choices made or to be made in the future. *(Source: http://glossary.eea.europa.eu/terminology)*
- **Drainage:** The removal of excess water from the land surface and/or from the soil profile.

    1. **Surface Drainage:** The diversion or orderly removal of excess water from the surface of the land by means of improved natural or constructed channels, supplemented when necessary by the sloping and grading of land surfaces to these channels.
    2. **Subsurface Drainage:** The removal of excess water from the soil profile by means of drain tiles, perforated pipes, or other devices.

  (Source: http://ohioline.osu.edu/aex-fact/0460.html)

E

- **Effect:** The change in the state or dynamics of a system caused by the action of an agent. *(Source: http://www.eionet.europa.eu)*
- **Effluent:** Waste water (treated or untreated) or substance that is discharged into a water body from point or non point source. *(Source: http://glossary.eea.europa.eu)*

  Note to the EWS standard: Though the terms "water discharge" and "effluent" might be used indistinctly in other contexts, here they are used with slight different meaning. "Water discharge" addresses the quantity aspect of a discharge (related to principle 1) and "effluent" refers to the quality aspect of the discharge (related to principle 2).
- **Environmental impact:** Any alteration of environmental conditions or creation of a new set of environmental conditions, adverse or beneficial, caused or induced by the action or set of actions under consideration. *(Source: http://www.eionet.europa.eu)*
- **Environmental performance:** The relationship between the production site and the environment; it includes: the environmental effects of resources consumed, the environmental impacts of the production process, the environmental implications of its products and services, the recovery and processing of products and meeting the environmental requirements of law. *(Source: http://www.epaw.co.uk/EPT/glossary.html)*
- **Environmental Flow:** Minimum volume of water in m3 that needs to be sustained for environmental and other purposes (e.g. treaties in transboundary rivers). *(Source: EEA)*
- **Environmental Flow rate:** Means the ecological flow (minimum vital flow) of the source in order to conserve the hydrological and ecological functions of its drainage networks. (definition from EEA)
- **Environmental protection expenditures:** All expenditures on environmental protection by the reporting organization, or on its behalf, to prevent, educe, control, and document environmental aspects, impacts and hazards. It also includes disposal, treatment, sanitation and clean-up expenditure.
- **Erosion:** The detachment and movement of soil and rock particles by gravity, wind, water, freezing and thawing, and/or other natural phenomena. *(Source: http://ohioline.osu.edu/aex-fact/0460.html)*
- **Europe:** Europe is used here in the sense of the WFD and is as such pointing at the European Union member states where the WFD is implemented.
- **European Water Stewardship* (EWS) program:** A voluntary multi-stakeholder process to set up and launch the Water Stewardship standard.
- **European Water Stewardship* (EWS) standard:** The guideline for Sustainable Water Management that provides, for common and repeated use, rules, guidance and characteristics for products or related processes and production

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methods, with which compliance is not mandatory. In future, it may also include terminology, symbols, packaging, marking or labeling requirements as they apply to a product, process or production method (referring to ISEAL CODE v 4.0).

- **European Water Stewardship* (EWS) system:** The entity of the standard together with the corresponding systems for its certification, communication and implementation. In detail, the EWS scheme comprises:
  - The European Water Stewardship (EWS) Standard.
  - The referring glossary and guideline.
  - The inspection and certification process.
- **Eutrophication:** The primary cause of eutrophication of water bodies is an excessive concentration of plant nutrients, especially phosphates (P) and nitrates (N), originating from agricultural run-off*, erosion*, leaching* and drainage* processes or sewage treatment outflows. These typically promote excessive growth of algae. As the algae die and decompose, high levels of organic matter and the decomposing organisms deplete the water of available oxygen, causing the death of other organisms, such as fish. Eutrophication is a natural, slow-aging process for a water body, but human activity greatly speeds up the process." Fertilizer applicators can minimize this problem by implementing Best Management Practices (BMPs) for fertilizer use. Regarding sewage treatment outflows, a functioning biological/chemical treatment step usually succeeds in reducing nitrogen and phosphorus to acceptable levels. *(Source: http://toxics.usgs.gov/definitions/eutrophication.html and http://ec.europa.eu/environment/water/water-nitrates/pdf/eutrophication.pdf).*
- **Evaporation:** The transformation of liquid water into vapour as a result of heating. *(Source: http://www.euwfd.com/html/glossary.html)*
- **EWS:** European Water Stewardship.

F

- **Flow rate (minimum and ecological flow):** The ecological quality of rivers must be maintained by maintaining a minimum flow. Rivers must not dry-up nor have their physical regimes significantly altered in order to conserve the hydrological and ecological functions of their drainage networks. This question must be borne in mind when planning and managing the water resources, especially in semi-arid zones. *(Source: http://www.eea.europa.eu/publications/92-9167-056-1/page008.html)*
- **Flow regime (environmental):** The pattern of variation in water flows and levels through rivers, wetlands, lakes and groundwater within a catchment over time. (*Source: Water Stewardship Standard Draft 00, Water Stewardship Initiative – June 2009)*
- **Fossil water:** Water that infiltrated usually millennia ago and often under climatic conditions different to the present, and that has been stored underground since that time and frequently denominated as old water and non-renewable. *(Source: http://unesdoc.unesco.org/images/0014/001469/146997e.pdf)*

G

- **Good (water) status:** A general term meaning the status achieved by a surface water body when both the ecological status and its chemical status are at least good or, for groundwater, when both its quantitative status and chemical status are at least good. *(Source: http://www.euwfd.com/html/glossary.html)*
- **Governance**: Has several dimensions, including:
  a) Creating a fair legal, policy and regulatory framework in which the rights of people to access resources are secured.
  b) Improving the effectiveness, accountability and transparency of government agencies.
  c) Ensuring the participation of the poor in decision making.
  d) Enhancing the role of civil society.
  e) Ensuring basic security and political freedoms and others.

  (Source: http://www.semide.net)
- **Grey water** (spelled alternately as greywater or gray water) is the recycling of 'waste' water that is generated in homes and commercial buildings through the use of water for laundry, dishes, or for bathing. Grey water differs from black water which is wastewater used in toilets and designated for sewage systems. Grey water can be used for a variety of purposes such as irrigation or toilet flushing and is collected from: Sinks, showers, bathtubs, Washing machines and Dishwashers. (Source: *http://www.ecolife.com/define/grey-water.html*)
- **GRI**: The Global Report Initiative including the GRI framework this framework sets out the principles and indicators that organizations can use to measure and report their economic, environmental, and social performance. *(Source: http://www.globalreporting.org)*
- **Groundwater:** All water that is below the surface that fills the pores, voids, fractures, and other spaces between soil particles and in rock strata in the saturated zone of geologic formations. (Source: *http://ohioline.osu.edu/aex-fact/0460.html*)

H

- **HCV:** Refer to High Conservation Value areas**.**
- **High Conservation Value areas:** are areas (e.g. wetland, lake or riparian zones) that are, or whose management has a critical influence on:

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a) Globally, regionally or nationally significant concentrations of rare, threatened or endangered species.
b) Rare, threatened or endangered ecosystems.
c) The provision of basic services of nature in critical situations (e.g. watershed protection, erosion control).
d) Meeting the basic needs of local communities (e.g. subsistence, health).
e) Critical to local communities' traditional cultural identity (areas of cultural, ecological, economic or religious significance identified in cooperation with such local communities).

(Source: Water Stewardship Standard Draft 00, Water Stewardship Initiative – June 2009)

- **High risk area:** All areas of land at the production site which pose a high risk for water pollution, (e.g. by run-off, erosion). by draining into waters that are affected by pollution and waters which could be affected by pollution *(Source : http://ec.europa.eu/environment/water/water-nitrates/directiv.html)*

I

- **Impact:** Consequence(s) of an event or action in terms of freshwater species health and survival, or human livelihoods and well-being. Impacts may be adverse or beneficial, may be narrow or broad (e.g. affecting few people/ species or many people/ species), may affect different people or species differently, may be short or long term, may vary in scale and importance, and may be directly or indirectly related to an event or action. *(Source: Water Stewardship Standard Draft 00, Water Stewardship Initiative – June 2009)*
- **Investment in Sustainable Water Management:** Capital investment, granting, loans and insurance services including Investments on all criteria listed in this document.

J

K

L

- **Land-sensitivity index [%]:** Area with high risk of polluting that is under production (ha)/ total cultivated area (ha).
- **Land-water-protection index [%]:** Cultivated area with high risk of polluting under water protection measures [ha] (e.g. river-bank strips, green-belt setting, wind-protection, conservation tillage) in relation to total cultivated area of the organization / farm classified as having high risk of polluting (ha).
- **Leaching:** The process that comes about when water from rain, flooding, or other sources percolates through soil and dissolves substances which are carried along into the underground water supply. Leaching is an environmental concern, when it contributes significantly to groundwater contamination.
- **LTAA**: Long Term Annual Average of freshwater resources, where data are averaged over a period of at least 20 consecutive years. Unit = % (*source: http://www.eea.europa.eu/data-and-maps/indicators/use-of-freshwater-resources*)

M

- **Main Pollutant:** Refers to the pollutants listed in Annex VIII of the WFD*****
- **Major abstractor**: Water withdrawals that account for an average of 5% or more of the renewable freshwater resources LTAA*.
- **Minor abstractor**: Water withdrawals that account for an average of less than 5% of the renewable freshwater resources LTAA*.

N

- **Nitrates Directive**: Forms integral part of the Water Framework Directive and is one of the key instruments in the protection of waters against agricultural pressures. The Nitrates Directive aims to protect water quality across Europe by preventing nitrates from agricultural sources polluting ground and surface waters and by promoting the use of good farming practices. (*Source: http://ec.europa.eu/environment/water/water-nitrates/index_en.html*)
- **Non-regulated pollutant**: Those chemical pollutants that are not (yet) regulated under various international, federal, and state programs and laws.

O

P

- **Permeability:** A measure of the relative ease with which water will move through soil or rock. *(Source: http://ohioline.osu.edu/aex-fact/0460.html)*
- **Permit (of a resource):** A permit, permission or written approval from the River Basin responsible authorities (in Europe according with the WFD, article 11) that allows the operation to withdraw a defined water volume of a specified source.
- **Plant Protection Product (PPP) or Pesticides:** An active substance or a preparation containing one or more active substances, put up in the form in which it is supplied to the user, intended to;

a) Protect plants or plant products against all harmful organisms or prevent the action of such organisms;
b) Influence the life processes of plants, other than as a nutrient (for example, as a growth regulator);

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c) Preserve plant products, in so far as such substances or products are not subject to Community law on preservatives;
d) Destroy undesired plants; or
e) Destroy parts of plants or check or prevent the undesired growth of plants.

(Source: http://www.pesticides.gov.uk/environment.asp?id=1528)

- **Point (source) pollution:** Pollution from a discrete source, e.g. a septic tank, a sewer, a discharge type, a landfill, a factory or waste water treatment works discharging to a watercourse; or spillage from an underground storage tank leaching into groundwater; or discharges from municipal wastewater treatment plants associated with population centres or effluent discharges from industry.

  (*Source: http://glossary.eea.europa.eu and http://www.euwfd.com/html/glossary.html)*

- **Pollutant:** Any substance liable to cause pollution, in particular those listed in Annex VIII of the Water Framework Directive (refer to Annex 4.II in Annexes document of the Standard)**.** *(Source: WFD, article 2)*

- **Pollutant Standard Limits:** Pollutant data and permits or requirements.

- **Polluter pays principle:** This is enshrined within the WFD requiring that the polluter of the water environment should pay, provided this is established through fair pricing policies. (*Source: http://www.euwfd.com/html/glossary.html)*

- **Pollution:** The direct or indirect introduction, as a result of human activity, of substances or heat into the air, water or land which may be harmful to human health or the quality of aquatic ecosystems or terrestrial ecosystems directly depending on aquatic ecosystems, which result in damage to material property, or which impair or interfere with amenities and other legitimate uses of the environment. *(Source: WFD, article 2)*

- **Principles, Criteria and Indicators (P/C/I):**

  Principle: Fundamental statement about a desired outcome, that outline the overarching aims of the Standard.
  Criteria: Conditions that need to be met in order to achieve a Principle. Note: Criteria add meaning to a principle and make it operational without themselves being direct measures of performance.
  Indicator: Measurable states which allow the assessment of whether or not associated criteria are being met. Note: Indicators convey a single, meaningful message or piece of information.
  Means of verification: The type of information or observations that are used to demonstrate that the required indicator state is being realised.

  (Source: ISEAL code, draft 5.3, January 2010)

- **Priority substances:** Chemical pollutants that pose a significant risk to (or via) the aquatic environment at EU level. There are currently 33 of these Priority Substances listed in Annex X of the Water Framework Directive (WFD). Member States have to monitor their concentrations in surface waters and meet the Environmental Quality Standards (EQS) set for them within a certain timeline, unless they meet conditions that allow them to apply exemptions. Among these priority substances there are 'priority hazardous substances*'

  (Source: http://ec.europa.eu/environment/water/water-dangersub/pri_substances.htm).

- **Priority Hazardous Substances**: Subset of Priority Substances, of which they are the most dangerous. They are characterized by their persistence, bioaccumulation and toxicity, or by an equivalent level of concern. Because of these dangerous properties, the WFD requires their emissions to the aquatic environment to be phased out within 20 years of their designation as "priority hazardous". *(Source: http://ec.europa.eu/environment/water/water-dangersub/pri_substances.htm).*

- **Protected area:** According to the WFD these include the following:

  a) Areas designated for the abstraction of water intended for human consumption under Article 7 of WFD.
  b) Areas designated for the protection of economically significant aquatic species.
  c) Bodies of water designated as recreational waters, including areas designated as bathing waters under Directive 76/160/EEC.
  d) Nutrient-sensitive areas, including areas designated as vulnerable zones under Directive 91/676/EEC and areas designated as sensitive areas under Directive 91/271/EEC.
  e) Areas designated for the protection of habitats or species where the maintenance or improvement of the status of water is an important factor in their protection, including relevant Natura 2000 sites designated under Directive 92/43/EEC (1) and Directive 79/409/EEC.

- **Purchased water:** Water included in products and material for production.

- **PWS:** Public Water Services = Water utilities (see also Water Services)

Q

R

- **RAMSAR Convention**: The Convention on Wetlands (Ramsar, Iran, 1971) - called the "Ramsar Convention" - is an intergovernmental treaty that embodies the commitments of its member countries to maintain the ecological character of their Wetlands of International Importance and to plan for the "wise use", or sustainable use, of all of the wetlands in their territories. *(Source: http://www.ramsar.org/).*

- **Recipient:** Water body where the water lost in production is collected.

- **Recycled water:** Water that is used multiple times by the same user (either treated or non-treated).

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- **Regulated Inputs:** Potential water-pollutants; e.g. according to legal substance classification and referring to legal target values or to RBM organizations information on main pollutants and priority substances in the river basin.
- **Renewable water resources:** Addition of internal flow and inflow of surface and groundwater (where internal flow is the total volume of river run-off and groundwater generated in natural conditions, exclusively by precipitation within the country; and the inflow of surface and groundwater refers to the total volume of actual flow of rivers and groundwater coming from neighbouring countries. *(Source: http://unstats.un.org)*
- **Renewable groundwater:** The volume of groundwater replaced by natural processes and replenished with the passage of time. Renewable resources are part of our natural environment and form our eco-system. *(Source: http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Renewable_resource)*
- **Resource permit regarding flow regime**: Written approval from the River Basin Authority (according to the WFD, article 11) that allows the production site to withdraw a defined water volume of a specified source.
- **Restored areas:** Those that were used during or affected by production site's activities, and where remediation measures have either restored the environment to its original state or to a state where it is a healthy and functioning ecosystem.
- **Returned water:** see Discharged water or Water discharge.
- **Re-used water:** Water that has undergone wastewater treatment and is delivered to a user as reclaimed wastewater. This means the direct supply of treated effluent to the user. Excluded are recycled water and waste water discharged into a watercourse and used again downstream.
- **Risk assessment:** Describes the assessment of the physical, reputational and regulatory risks related to the water management at the production site.
- **River basin*:** The area of land drained by a river and its tributaries. It encompasses the entire land surface dissected and drained by many streams and creeks that flow downhill into one another and eventually into one river or lake. The final destination is an estuary, a delta, a sea or an ocean.

  Note: Everyone lives in a river basin even if not living near the water. All land drains to a river or estuary or lake, and the actions on that land affect water quality and quantity far downstream

  (*http://www.ee.enr.state.nc.us/public/ecoaddress/riverbasinsmain.htm*).

  Note to the EWS standard: In the EWS standard is only referred to "River Basin" and not to "watershed*", as a river basin encompasses several smaller watersheds: In a river basin all the water drains to a large river, while the term watershed is used to describe a smaller area of land that drains to a smaller stream, lake or wetland.
- **River Basin Committees**: Established institutions according to the WFD 2000/60 in Europe.
- **River basin* district:** The area of land and sea, made up of one or more neighbouring river basins* together with their associated groundwater and coastal waters, which is identified under Article 3(1) in the WFD* as the main unit for management of river basins. *(Source: WFD, article 2).*

  > *Article 3(1) of WFD: Member States shall identify the individual river basins lying within their national territory and, for the purposes of this Directive, shall assign them to individual river basin districts. Small river basins may be combined with larger river basins or joined with neighbouring small basins to form individual river basin districts where appropriate. Where groundwaters do not fully follow a particular river basin, they shall be identified and assigned to the nearest or most appropriate river basin district. Coastal waters shall be identified and assigned to the nearest or most appropriate river basin district or districts.*
- **Run-off:** The portion of precipitation or irrigation water that moves across land as surface flow and enters streams or other surface receiving waters. Runoff occurs when the precipitation rate exceeds the infiltration rate. *(Source: http://ohioline.osu.edu/aex-fact/0460.html)*

S

- **Sensitive area:** Has several dimensions:

  a) Freshwater bodies, estuaries and coastal waters which are polluted or eutrophic or which may become polluted or eutrophic if protective action is not taken.
  b) Surface freshwaters intended for the abstraction of drinking water which contain or are likely to contain more than 50 mg/l of nitrates.
  c) Areas where further treatment is necessary to comply with other Council Directives such as the Directives on fish waters, on bathing waters, on shellfish waters, on the conservation of wild birds and natural habitats, etc.
  d) Water bodies recognized as sensitive by appropriate professionals due to their relative size, function, or status as a rare, threatened, or endangered system (or support endangered species of plant or animal).

  (Source: http://ec.europa.eu/environment/water/water-urbanwaste/info/glossary_en.htm#sensitivearea).
- **Sensitive period:** Critical periods of a water source characterised by scarce water availability.
- **Sensitive source:** All groundwater bodies and ll water bodies that are recognized by professionals to be particularly sensitive due to their relative size [m^3] or that are designated as a protected area* (nationally and/or internationally) (*Source: GRI version 3.0*)
- **Sensitivity:** Refer to Sensitive source*, sensitive period* or Sensitive area*.

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- **SMEs:** Small and medium-sized enterprises, as defined in EU law (EU recommendation 2003/361). The main factors determining whether a company is an SME are: number of employees and either turnover or balance sheet total. (*Source: European Commission, DG Enterprise and Industry*)
- **Sources without (legal) permit:** Refers to sources for which no permit is necessary (e.g. for surface water abstraction, in many cases no permit is necessary, only a permission is needed from owner or authority) or for those which no permit has been obtained.
- **Statutory monitoring report:** A monitoring report prescribed or authorized by a legislative body.
- **Stewardship:** An ethic that embodies responsible planning and management of resources and is linked to the concept of sustainability. Personal responsibility to look after the planet both for themselves and for the future generations. Acting irresponsibly could cause damage such as pollution, the destruction of cultural heritage, etc." *(Source: http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Stewardship)*
- **Stewardship supply chain index:** Stewardship-certified suppliers in relation with total number of suppliers [% of number of suppliers and % of weight of products purchased].
- **Substitution value:** Volume of water that is satisfied by recycled water rather than by further water abstractions.
- **Surface water:** Inland waters (rivers, lakes, etc), except groundwater; transitional waters* and coastal waters, except in respect of chemical status for which it shall also includes territorial waters. *(Source: WFD, article 2)*

T

- **Talweg:** Subterranean stream.
- **Trademark:** Distinctive marks which uniquely represent the organization. EWS owns the following trademarks:
    1. The term 'European Water Stewardship".
    2. The initials 'EWS'.
    3. The EWS Logo.
- **Total water loss:** Sum of all losses (reported in volume per time or quantity of product).
- **Transitional waters:** Bodies of surface water in the vicinity of river mouths which are partly saline in character as a result of their proximity to coastal waters but which are substantially influenced by freshwater flows. *(Source: WFD, article 2)*

U

V

- **Vulnerable zone:** Term used by the Nitrates Directive to indicate areas of land which contribute to N pollution by draining into polluted or threatened waters (such as surface freshwaters used or intended for the abstraction of drinking water, water bodies containing a concentration of more than 50 mg/l of nitrates, estuaries, coastal waters and marine waters, found to be eutrophic or that could become eutrophic).

W

- **Wastewater transport:** Losses from means of transport (e.g. via truck).
- **Water abstraction (or withdrawal):** Water removed from any sources, either permanently or temporarily. Mine water and drainage are included. Similar to water withdrawal. *(Source: http://glossary.eea.europa.eu)*
- **WaterBalance:** Accounting of the inputs and outputs of water. The water balance of a place, whether it be an agricultural field, watershed, or continent, can be determined by calculating the input, output, and storage changes of water at the Earth's surface.
- **Water body**: Any mass of water having definite hydrological, physical, chemical and biological characteristics. (Source: *http://glossary.eea.europa.eu*)
- **Water consumption:** Represents water that was used by the operation but not returned to its proximate source. It involves evaporated water, transpired, incorporated into products, crops or waste, consumed by man or livestock or otherwise removed from the local resource. Water that is polluted to an extent prohibiting its use by others wishing access is termed "consumption"**.**
  Water consumption = water lost + water in products, crops or waste + water otherwise removed from the system (e.g. by heavy pollution). It is also referred as consumptive water use. *(Source: WBCSD)*
- **Water discharge:** The volume of used water (treated and untreated) in (m^3) that is added/leached into a water body* from a point or non point source, either before use as losses or after use, e.g. hydropower. *(Source: http://glossary.eea.europa.eu)*

  Note to the EWS standard: Though the terms "water discharge" and "effluent" might be used indistinctly in other contexts, here they are used with slight different meaning. "Water discharge" addresses the quantity aspect of a discharge (related to principle 1) and "effluent" refers to the quality aspect of the discharge (related to principle 2).
- **Water Discharge Index (WDI):** This index defines the relation between the amount of water (m^3) that is returned to the water body after abstraction and the volume of water previously abstracted from this water body.

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- **Water Framework Directive (WFD):** Water Framework Directive 2000/60/EC establishing a framework for Community action in the field of water policy.
- **WaterGAP2:** A global model of water availability and water use that has been developed to assess the current water resources situation and to estimate the impact of global change on water scarcity. The model is designed to simulate the characteristic macro-scale behavior of the terrestrial water cycle, including the human impact, and to take advantage of all pertinent information that is globally available.

  The Global Water Use Model computes withdrawal and consumptive water use in four sectors:
  - Domestic
  - Industry
  - Irrigation
  - Livestock

  Sectoral water use is computed as a function of driving forces and model parameters.
  (*Source:http://www.geo.uni-frankfurt.de/ipg/ag/dl/forschung/Global_Water_Modeling/watergap2_1_water_use.pdf*)
- **Water Intensity:** refers to the water consumed per square meter of space.
- **Water loss:** A conceptual term referring to water that escapes from a system due either to natural or anthropogenic causes. *(Source: WBCSD)*
- **Water productivity:** Water needed to produce one unit of product.
- **Water recycling:** The act of processing used water/wastewater through another cycle before discharge to final treatment and/or discharge to the environment. In general, there are three types of water recycling/reuse:
  a) wastewater recycled back in the same process or higher use of recycled water in the process cycle.
  b) wastewater recycled/reused in a different process, but within the same facility.
  c) wastewater reused at another of the reporting organization's facilities.

  It is also referred as water reuse. (*Source: GRI version 3.0*)
- **Water scarcity:** Occurs where there are insufficient water resources to satisfy long-term average requirements. It refers to long-term water imbalances, combining low water availability with a level of water demand exceeding the supply capacity of the natural system. *(Source: http://ec.europa.eu/environment/water/quantity/about.htm)*
  The scarcity of a river basin at European level can be determined based on information from:
  a) groundwater bodies not at risk *(Source: http://ec.europa.eu/environment/water/water-framework/facts_figures/pdf/2007_03_22_gwb_no_risk.pdf)*
  b) surface water bodies not at risk *(Source: http://ec.europa.eu/environment/water/water-framework/facts_figures/pdf/2007_03_22_swb_no_risk.pdf)*
- **Water services:** All services which provide, for households, public institutions or any economic activity: (a) abstraction, impoundment, storage, treatment and distribution of surface water or groundwater, (b) waste-water collection and treatment facilities which subsequently discharge into surface water. *(Source: WFD, article 2)*
- **Watershed or catchment:** The term watershed is used to describe a smaller area of land that drains to a smaller stream, lake or wetland. A river basin encompasses several smaller watersheds/catchments.
- **Water steward:** A public or private entity that verifies, establishes and monitors the sustainability of its water management system according with the present EWS system. The organization committed to sustainable water management assessment.
- **Water Stewardship:** Use of freshwater that is socially beneficial, environmentally responsible and economically sustainable. *(Source: AWS Glossary)*

  a) Socially beneficial: water use recognizes basic human needs and ensures long term benefits (including economic benefits) for local people and society at large.

  b) Environmentally responsible: water use maintains or improves biodiversity and ecological processes at the watershed level.

  c) Economically sustainable: water use is secure, reliable and financially viable in the long term.
- **Water stress:** Occurs when the demand for water exceeds the available amount during a certain period or when poor quality restricts its use. Water stress causes deterioration* of fresh water resources in terms of quantity (aquifer over-exploitation, dry rivers, etc.) and quality (eutrophication, organic matter pollution, saline intrusion, etc.). *(Source: http://glossary.eea.europa.eu)*
- **Water Stress Index (WSI)**: logistic function of the ratio of total water abstracted to available water; according to Pfister, S.; Koehler, A.; Hellweg, S. (2009). Assessing the environmental impacts of freshwater consumption in LCA.
- **Water use:** The total amount of water withdrawn by an operation to produce products or provide a service. Water use includes the sum of total water consumption and water pollution regardless if the water is returned to the local resource or not.
- **Watershed:** The land area that drains into a stream; the watershed for a major river may encompass a number of smaller watersheds that ultimately combine at a common point. *(Source: http://glossary.eea.europa.eu)*
- **WDI:** Refer to Water Discharge Index*.
- **Wetland:**

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1. A land area that is inundated or saturated by surface and/or ground water with a frequency and duration sufficient to support an abundance of hydrophilic (water-loving) plants or other aquatic life that require permanently saturated or seasonally saturated soil conditions for growth and reproduction. Examples include swamps, marshes, bogs, sloughs, potholes, wet meadows, river overflow areas, mud flats and natural ponds. *(Source: http://ohioline.osu.edu/aex-fact/0460.html)*

2. According to RAMSAR Convention: "For the purpose of this Convention wetlands are areas of marsh, fen, peatland or water, whether natural or artificial, permanent or temporary, with water that is static or flowing, fresh, brackish or salt, including areas of marine water the depth of which at low tide does not exceed six metres". *(Source: http://www.ramsar.org/cda/en/ramsar-activities-cepa-classification-system/main/ramsar/1-63-69%5E21235_4000_0)*

- **Withdrawals to availability ratio (WTA):** The water abstraction as percentage of available water per source. *(Source: Pfister, S.; Koehler, A.; Hellweg, S. (2009). Assessing the environmental impacts of freshwater consumption in LCA. Environmental Science and Technology)*
  (To calculate the WSI according to the method of Pfister et al. please download the indicators under: http://www.ifu.ethz.ch/staff/stpfiste)

- **WFD:** see Water Framework Directive.

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