



EVERY LAST DROP

Food and Drink
Federation



Making a real difference

Saving water along the food supply chain

WHY WATER MATTERS

All of us, whether at home or in the work place, share a responsibility to use water efficiently and with due regard to the needs of others with whom we share this planet. The food and drink industry is particularly reliant on a supply of freshwater for both its raw material and processing needs. Set against this challenge, this simple guide provides a series of 'golden rules' for food and drink manufacturing businesses of all sizes – tailored for those with boardroom, supply chain and operational roles – on what can be done to save water and manage its use effectively along the supply chain, including as individuals at home. Alongside this guide we have also created a new, dedicated water page on the FDF website (www.fdf.org.uk/water) giving further sources of help and information along with best practice case studies.

The work is part of FDF's Five-fold Environmental Ambition vision to improve environmental sustainability across the supply chain and has been put together by the FDF Water Working Group. I am convinced that by taking on board these simple tips we can help make a difference to the protection of this precious resource and, in turn, contribute to the longer term sustainability of the food and drink industry.

Please therefore keep this guide handy and share it with others in your organisation. Further copies can be downloaded from the FDF website www.fdf.org.uk/water



Inder Poonaji

Chair, FDF Water Group,
Head of Safety, Health and Environment Sustainability,
Nestlé UK

“

Water is a precious resource which is coming under ever increasing pressure as the global population continues to rise and the effects of climate change become more acute. Only through careful management of this resource will we be able to ensure that future demand can be met, whilst preserving the water environment and the ecology that it supports. This is particularly crucial for the food and drink sector given its dependence on freshwater for both its raw materials supply and its manufacturing operations. I therefore warmly welcome this initiative from the members of the FDF Water Working Group to develop this simple guide as a first step to help food companies and individuals use water wisely along the supply chain. I would encourage all businesses and the people who work in the sector to take it on board.

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Rt Hon Lord Smith of Finsbury,

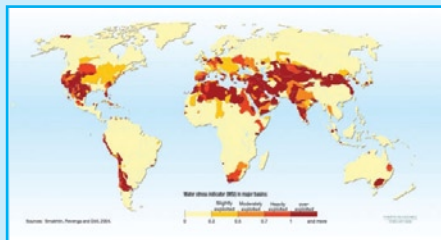
A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Chris Smith".

Chairman,
Environment Agency



Reducing the impact of water use along the supply chain

As the main impacts of water use can occur beyond a company's own operations, all food manufacturing businesses share a responsibility to work with their suppliers and customers up and down the supply chain to deliver continuous improvement in their use of water.



Global Water Scarcity Index
Source: FAO, Nations Unies, World Resources Institute (WRI)
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1

Address water security concerns by managing availability, access, use and local water catchment issues.

2

Consider the impact of water when creating new products or reformulating existing ones and look to design in maximum water efficiency at all stages of the supply chain.

3

Apply sustainable sourcing principles to your procurement practices, using established supplier and international standards, to reduce the impact of your company's water use (including the water that is embedded in products).

4

For on-site operations and in partnership with your suppliers and customers, apply the water hierarchy (reduce, reuse, recycle) to eliminate inefficiency and waste.

5

Work with your logistics and distribution providers to prevent pollution through, for example spillages, impacting the water environment.

6

Communicate to your customers and consumers the most water efficient way to use your products.

7

Engage with communities at catchment level and consider local ecosystems as part of managing the risks associated with your water abstraction, use and discharge.

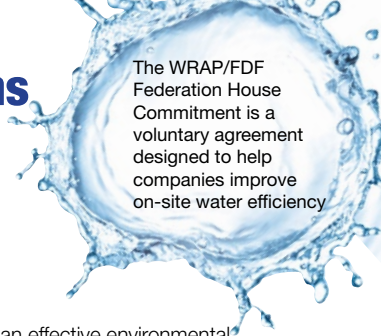
Find out more

www.fdf.org.uk/water



Managing water in your operations

Efficient use of water on-site harnesses the quality of water, reduces environmental impact, lowers costs and leads to improved compliance.



The WRAP/FDF Federation House Commitment is a voluntary agreement designed to help companies improve on-site water efficiency

1

Know your water sources for each operating site, the volume used and associated costs. Identify which other users you share your water resources with to help manage risk during times of scarcity.

2

Map your water use on-site and prepare a water mass balance, which will assess the flow of water through your plant along with effluent discharge points.

3

Identify reduction opportunities and associated cost savings, and set targets in order to deliver continuous improvement.

4

Implement an effective environmental management system such as ISO 14001, or use the Environment Agency's environmental management system (EMS) toolkit, both of which will also improve your compliance and relations with the regulators.

5

Engage employees in water reduction initiatives.

6

Investigate and share knowledge of new technologies to enable water to be recycled either on-site for non direct food contact operations or for use by third parties to assist in the management of water demand.

7

Investigate government financial incentives to improve water efficiency.



Find out more

www.fdf.org.uk/water



Making water a **boardroom** priority

Responsible water use not only contributes to environmental sustainability, it will also build long-term business resilience.

1 Evaluate how dependent your business and your supply chain is on water. Conduct a risk assessment.

2 Establish a water policy, either standalone or as part of the company's environmental policy.

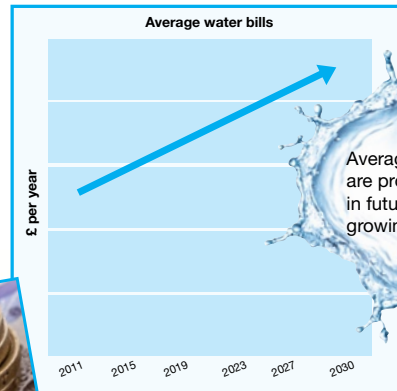
3 Encourage a water efficiency culture within your company and with your suppliers and customers.

4 Set company/site specific targets to reduce water usage and assess performance annually.

5 Get involved in collective action at local and/or national level such as via the WRAP/ FDF Federation House Commitment.

6 Include water management activities, governance and performance in the company's corporate reporting.

7 Find ways to engage constructively with your local community and regulators to build on your reputation as a responsible water user.



Find out more

www.fdf.org.uk/water

What every individual can do to save water

All of us share a responsibility to use water wisely at home as well as at work.

1 Monitor how much water you use. Installing a water meter will help you do this effectively – most homes in England and Wales may have a free one installed by their water company.

2 Fix leaks, dripping taps and don't leave taps running – it really can save you money!

3 Use water efficient appliances, devices and techniques. For example install a more efficient shower head that reduces water use.

4 Reuse water wherever possible and when it is safe to do so e.g. water used to rinse vegetables could be used to water plants.

5 Capture rainwater for garden and other outside uses and make space for rainwater to drain away naturally.

6 Be aware of the wider environmental impacts of what you are pouring down the drain.

7 Contact your water company, Waterwise or the Environment Agency for more water saving tips.



Find out more
www.fdf.org.uk/water



Making a real difference

FDF is the voice of the UK food and drink manufacturing sector.

This document was created by FDF's water working group which includes:

British Sugar

Coca-Cola Enterprises

Kellogg's

Kraft Foods

McCain Foods

Nestlé

Premier Foods

Unilever

Weetabix

William Jackson Food Group

Young's Seafood

FDF members recognise that the nation's water resources are increasingly coming under stress. This can adversely affect security of supply, local wildlife habitats and water quality. Tackling water stress is therefore an environmental priority.

For more information on FDF's water policy, please go to: www.fdf.org.uk/water