

Indicators

G4-EN8

TOTAL WATER WITHDRAWAL BY SOURCE

- a. Report the total volume of water withdrawn from the following sources:
 - Surface water, including water from wetlands, rivers, lakes, and oceans
 - Ground water
 - Rainwater collected directly and stored by the organization
 - Waste water from another organization
 - Municipal water supplies or other water utilities
- b. Report standards, methodologies, and assumptions used.

GUIDANCE

Relevance

Reporting the total volume of water withdrawn by source contributes to an understanding of the overall scale of potential impacts and risks associated with the organization's water use. The total volume withdrawn provides an indication of the organization's relative size and importance as a user of water, and provides a baseline figure for other calculations relating to efficiency and use.

The systematic effort to monitor and improve the efficient use of water in the organization is directly linked to water consumption costs. Total water use can also indicate the level of risk posed by disruptions to water supplies or increases in the cost of water. Clean freshwater is becoming increasingly scarce, and can impact production processes that rely on large volumes of water. In regions where water sources are highly restricted, the organization's water consumption patterns can also influence relations with other stakeholders.

Compilation

Identify the total volume of water withdrawn from any water source. This includes the abstraction of cooling water. Identify whether these calculations are estimated, modelled or sourced from direct measurements. If estimation or modelling is required, identify the methods used.

This Indicator may include water that was either withdrawn directly by the organization or through intermediaries such as water utilities.

Definitions

See Glossary in *Implementation Manual*, p. 244

- [Total water withdrawal](#)

Documentation sources

Information on organizational water withdrawal may be drawn from water meters, water bills, calculations derived from other available water data or (if neither water meters nor bills or reference data exist) the organization's own estimates.