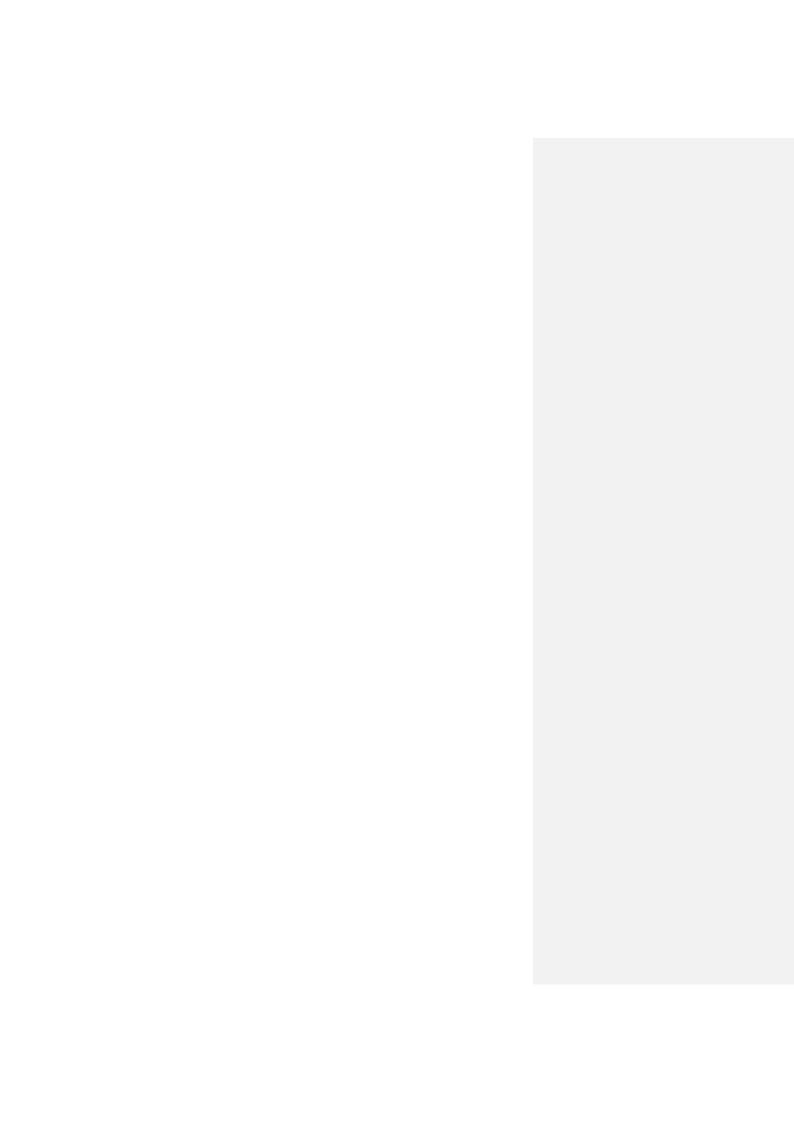
AWS Water Performance Report [WITCO]

Date: 25/09/2024

Location: Trinidad, Champ Fleur.

Factory Manager



Introduction

The West Indian Tobacco Company Limited is committed to the implementation of good water management practices defined by AWS – Alliance for Water Stewardship, aimed at achieving good water governance, sustainable use of water resources, maintenance of good water quality, conservation of important water-related areas, and support for WASH (Water, Sanitation, and Hygiene).

This report will address the site's performance when it comes to achieving the goals set out in the water stewardship plan. This report will highlight the water performance and the gaps that need to be addressed to ensure that we meet the objective of the AWS Standard is to drive water stewardship, which is defined as: the use of water that is socially and culturally equitable, environmentally sustainable and economically beneficial, achieved through a stakeholder-inclusive process that involves site-and catchment-based actions.

The objectives of the WSP (Water Stewardship Plan) and the actions that lead to the generation of social, environmental and economical values are as follows:

GOAL	TARGET	ACTIONS	GENERED VALUE
Ensure compliance with all legal requirements of the site.	Fully comply with the guidelines issued by the authority regarding water usage, maintenance, and handling of infrastructure and substances with contaminant potential on the site within the deadlines stipulated by regulations.	 Identify all applicable legal requirements. Conduct all necessary measurements and monitoring to meet legal requirements. Maintain a system or record of legal compliance verification. 	Environmental and social.
Enhance the site's resilience to potential water supply interruptions.	Identify at least 1 alternative water source for the site.	- Incorporate the interruption of supply by WASA into the water contingency plan Identify potential alternative sources, such as groundwater, tanker trucks capable of bringing water from other basins, among others.	Environmental, Social and Economic.
Keep stakeholders aligned and engaged regarding issues related to sustainable water management.	Successfully complete 100% of the actions	- Identify stakeholders. - Update the Stakeholder Engagement Plan. - Execute the actions outlined in the Stakeholder Engagement Plan.	Environmental, Social, Economic and Cultural.

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engaged regarding issues related to	Successfully complete 100% of the actions outlined in the Communication Plan.	- Update the Communication Plan. - Execute the actions outlined in the Communication Plan.	Environmental, Social and Economic.
Keep stakeholders aligned and engaged regarding issues related to sustainable water management.	Organize at least one event per year to share issues related to good water stewardship with stakeholders.	- Plan the event and invite all stakeholders Present to stakeholders: the site's water strategy, the shared challenges, the main actions taken, the progress of the WSP and the outcomes achieved Create a form to collect stakeholders' perceptions of the shared challenges identified, what good practices they have adopted, whether they believe BAT's actions are effective in achieving the 5 AWS outcomes and leave a space open for suggestions for actions, new shared challenges and partnerships.	Environmental, Social, Economic and Cultural.
To optimize water usage at the site, making it more efficient.	Ensure that all possible losses can be identified and solve.	- Identify locations for the installation of water meters (hydrometers) at key points throughout the site Install water meters at the identified locations Perform measurements Maintain records of measurements Perform a water balance analysis and identify potential losses Address any leaks or malfunctions in the water distribution system.	Environmental, Social and Economic.
To optimize water usage at the site, making it more efficient.	Increase water reuse and recycling by 30% by 2025 , compared to 2020 .	- Identify projects to reuse and/or recycle water for the site Implement the identified projects Measure the impacts generated.	Environmental, Social and Economic.

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usage throughout	Reduce the site's water footprint by 20% vs 2020 by 2025.	 Identify projects to reuse and/or recycle water for the site. Implement the identified projects. Measure the impacts generated. 	Environmental, Social and Economic.
	monitoring of the volumes	- Take measurements, record reservoir levels - Do the balance the input and output to check that there are no leaks.	Environmental and social.
site does not affect the water quality	Ensure 100% compliance with the legislative parameters for effluent disposal.	treatment plant.	Environmental, Social and Economic.
Ensure that the site does not affect the water quality of the region.	potential spillage of hazardous substances affects local water resources.	- Identify and classify any substance potentially hazardous to water resources Perform preventive maintenance on all infrastructures that may pose risks of contaminating water resources, such as oil and lubricant containers, diesel tanks, septic tanks, effluent pipes, among others identified in the previous action Develop/update a hazardous substance spill contingency plan for the site.	Environmental and social.
Ensure adequate access to WASH	Ensure monthly quality tests of the water supplied by WASA to maintain high standards of drinking water for all employees.	- Conduct water quality tests provided by WASA. - Check the results of the water	Environmental and social.

		conformities in water quality parameters.	
			Environmental, Social and Economic.
Ensure adequate access to WASH for employees.	maintenance of WASH facilities for employees, including bathrooms,	 Identify and list all WASH infrastructures on the site. Perform maintenance activities on all identified infrastructures. Maintain records of performed maintenance activities. 	Environmental and social.
Engage in monitoring and actively contribute to the preservation of IWRAs.	Implement or provide financial support for at least one project in one of the IWRA off site.	 Identify existing projects in need of support or new projects applicable to the IWRAs. Determine which of the IWRAs would benefit from the identified project(s). Implement the project. Measure the impacts generated. 	Environmental, Social, Economic and Cultural.
Engage in monitoring and actively contribute to the preservation of IWRAs.	Maintain internal IWRAs preserved, without degradation or removal of existing vegetation cover.	- Conduct preventive maintenance. - Prohibit construction in areas identified as IWRAs on site.	Environmental and social.

Status of objectives/targets

The following table shows the status and targets:

GOALS -		Target		
		Not started	In progress	Completed
1 Ensure compliance with all legal requirements of the site.	1	0%	100%	0%
2 Enhance the site's resilience to potential water supply interruptions.	1	0%	100%	0%
3 Keep stakeholders aligned and engaged regarding issues related to sus	3	0%	100%	0%
4 To optimize water usage at the site, making it more efficient.	2	0%	100%	0%
5 Incentivize efficient water usage throughout the production chain.	1	0%	100%	0%
6 Ensure that the site does not affect the water quality of the region.	3	67%	33%	0%
7 Ensure adequate access to WASH for employees.	3	33%	33%	33%
8 Engage in monitoring and actively contribute to the preservation of IV	2	0%	100%	0%

Actions taken

• Ensure compliance with all legal requirements of the site.

The legal and sustainability team keeps abreast of any new legislation to ensure that we are fully compliant. There is a record of the company's legal register which is updated as necessary. We adhere to the guidelines set out in the water pollution permit that is issued by the Environmental Management Authority by monitoring the parameters specified within the document, and, by reporting on a monthly basis the results of this monitoring.

• Enhance the site's resilience to potential water supply interruptions.

The water contingency plan takes into consideration the interruption of the water supply and addresses the alternative source of supply to site. Water and Sewerage Authority, the country's sole water provider, is responsible for trucking water in the event of a disruption to the regular supply at no cost.

 Keep stakeholders aligned and engaged regarding issues related to sustainable water management.

All stakeholders were identified and enlisted in the stakeholder engagement plan. Although initial communication was established, we are still in the process of creating a plan for continued communication and future investments as part of achieving water stewardship goals and as such the communication plan will continue to be developed by out team. An essential action item on the communication plan will be to organize at least one event per annum to share issues related to good water stewardship with stakeholders.

• To optimize water usage at the site, making it more efficient.

The installation of several water meters throughout the site allows for the identification of potential losses by taking measurements, keeping records of these measurements and using the site's water balance. The site's water map shows the strategic layout of the water meters.

Several projects were activated to reuse and/or recycle water for the site and the impacts generated have been significantly beneficial. One of the major projects involved the recovery of steam in the form of condensate from the Primary Manufacturing Department which is reused in the boilers for generating steam.

Commented [NS1]: I suggest that you include the exact number.

Water Recycling Process and Implementation





• Incentivize efficient water usage throughout the production chain.

The key suppliers of inputs and service providers were identified, and our target is to reduce the site's water footprint by 20% vs 2020 by 2025.

• Ensure that the site does not affect the water quality of the region.

Monthly monitoring of the diesel consumed and replenished via the means of purchase invoices is our sole means of balancing the input and output to ensure that there are no leaks. We are currently in the process of establishing methods for obtaining measurements to record the levels daily to support with the input and output balance.

To ensure that we are **100%** compliant with the legislative parameters for sewage effluent disposal we have concrete plans to upgrade the existing sewage treatment plant. There is a contract already in place and although the works are to commence, each step of the project is mapped out and is being tracked to ensure timely delivery and execution of the upgrade works.

To ensure that **no** potential spillage of hazardous substances affects local water resources we have developed and implemented a hazardous substance spill contingency plan for the site. All hazadous substances were identified and classified as part of the development of the plan and the SDSs for each substance has been strategically located to ensure that they are readily available to all employees wherever applicable.

• Ensure adequate access to WASH for employees.

We are presently pursuing discussions with WASA (The water and sewerage authority) to ensure **monthly** quality tests of the water supplied by WASA to maintain high standards of drinking water for all employees.

The site conducts **monthly** maintenance of WASH facilities for employees, including bathrooms, sinks, water fountains, among others. Records of maintenance activities are maintained by the Engineering department.

• Engage in monitoring and actively contribute to the preservation of IWRAs.

The site has identified one IWRA off site that would benefit significantly from a reforestation project. As such, we reached out to the **Fondes Amandes Community Reforestation Project**, a highly recognized team who has the expertise and experience to support us with the execution of this project. We received a quotation for the fundamentals to launch the project and internally we are engaging with our employees to bring as many persons on board as possible to ensure that the project is a success.



With regards to our IWRAs onsite, the preventative maintenance plan serves to ensure preservation of these areas. All construction activities in these areas are prohibited.

Shared challenges

Shared water challenges are those shared by the site and one or more of its relevant stakeholders. Shared challenges provide an opportunity for collective action in the catchment and to guide the water stewardship plan. The identified shared challenges are listed and prioritized in terms of their significance and urgency.

The following table shows the shared water challenges that were identified and some of the mitigation measures that are currently in place and some that are future goals of the organization:

Unknown quality of the supplied water	- Improper maintenance of drinking water treatment structures Contamination of soil and groundwater due to leaks.	Engagement with WASA (water and sewerage authority) to obtain water quality results for the water supplied to organization is ongoing. Existing reports show that the water quality complies with the set standards by the World Health Organization (WHO). The Trinidadian government is authority for water-related infrastructure improvement, costs and quality assurance measures and other stakeholders can get involved which contributes to the minimization of soil and subsurface contamination.
		and subsurface contamination.
Insufficient capacity for wastewater treatment.	- Old infrastructures Improper maintenance of wastewater treatment structures Lack of control of effluent discharges.	Currently the wastewater rehabilitation program is being implemented aimed at enhancing the condition of the water related infrastructures.
Conflicts over water supply	 Rationing of water resources during times of drought. Quantitative water stress. Qualitative water stress 	Although WASA cuts back the supply of water throughout the entire country during periods of potential drought, they have a contingency plan in place to ensure that the water supply is never entirely cut.
Bad Quality of Rivers in Caroni Basin	- Illegal discharge of effluents into the rivers Urban invasion in areas of water runoff	River quality monitoring programs are ongoing examples of mitigation measures.

Low index of basic	-Lack of awareness	UNICEF reports have released reports
sanitation in Trinidad	regarding the consequences	that the levels have significantly
	of not implementing WASH	increased up to 94%.
	measures.	

Conclusion

Understanding the critical need for effective water stewardship we will ensure the prevention and minimization of impacts on natural resources derived from our operation.

For each goal, at least one target was established with specific actions to achieve it. The goals set forth are designed to ensure that the site meets all of the criteria specified by AWS:

- Good water governance.
- Sustainable water balance.
- Good water quality.
- Important Water-Related Areas (IWRA).
- Clean water, sanitation and hygiene for all (WASH).

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In addition, each objective contributes to the generation of at least one of the following values:

- Social.
- Cultural.
- Environmental.
- Economic.

The site has a commitment to maintain communications with all stakeholders. Engaging with our stakeholders, we will promote good water governance, setting as an objective to continuously reduce the amount of water extracted and increase recycled water.

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