ALLIANCE FOR WATER STEWARDSHIP

# AWS International Water Stewardship Standard




*International Conference on Watershed Governance for Sustainable Development*

*Drakensberg, South Africa, 7th November 2012*

*Adrian Sym, Executive Director, AWS*

Water Environment Federation · The CEO Water Mandate · CARBON DISCLOSURE PROJECT · EWP The Voice of Water · WWF · The Nature Conservancy Protecting nature. Preserving life · PACIFIC INSTITUTE · Water Stewardship Australia · IWMI International Water Management Institute · water witness because we're all downstream · UNEP

"Sustainable solutions to balance the competing demands from growing cities, populations and diets, and to provide adequate and clean water for agriculture, human use and ecosystems, will require innovative but grounded approaches."

--Stockholm International Water Institute
December 2009 Quarterly Report

# AWS Introduction: Board Organizations

ALLIANCE FOR WATER STEWARDSHIP



The Nature Conservancy
Protecting nature. Preserving life.™

PACIFIC INSTITUTE

WWF

water witness

Water Stewardship Australia

Water Environment Federation
the water quality people®

IWMI
International Water Management Institute

The CEO Water Mandate

EWP
The Voice of Water

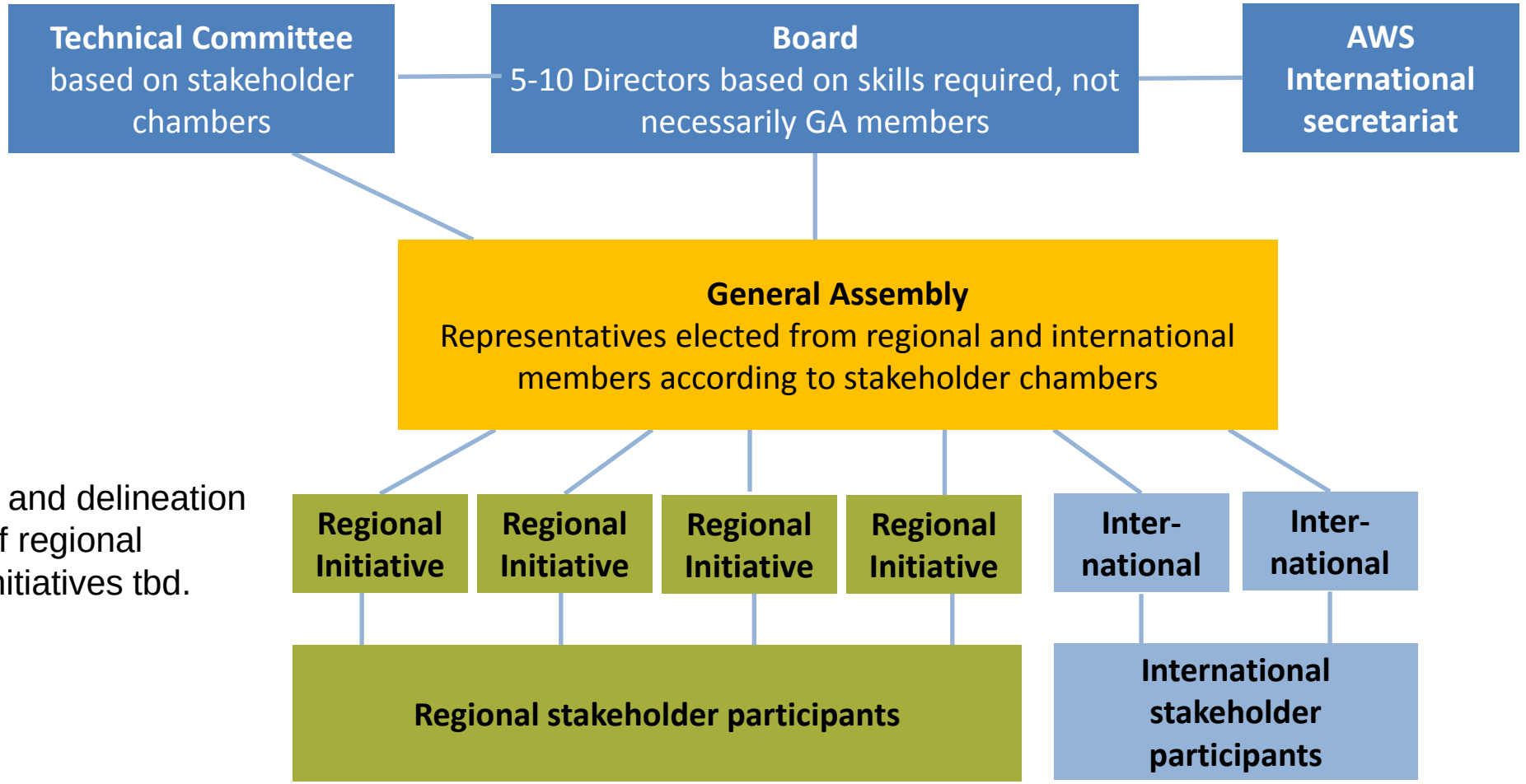
CARBON DISCLOSURE PROJECT

UNEP

# AWS Introduction: Governance



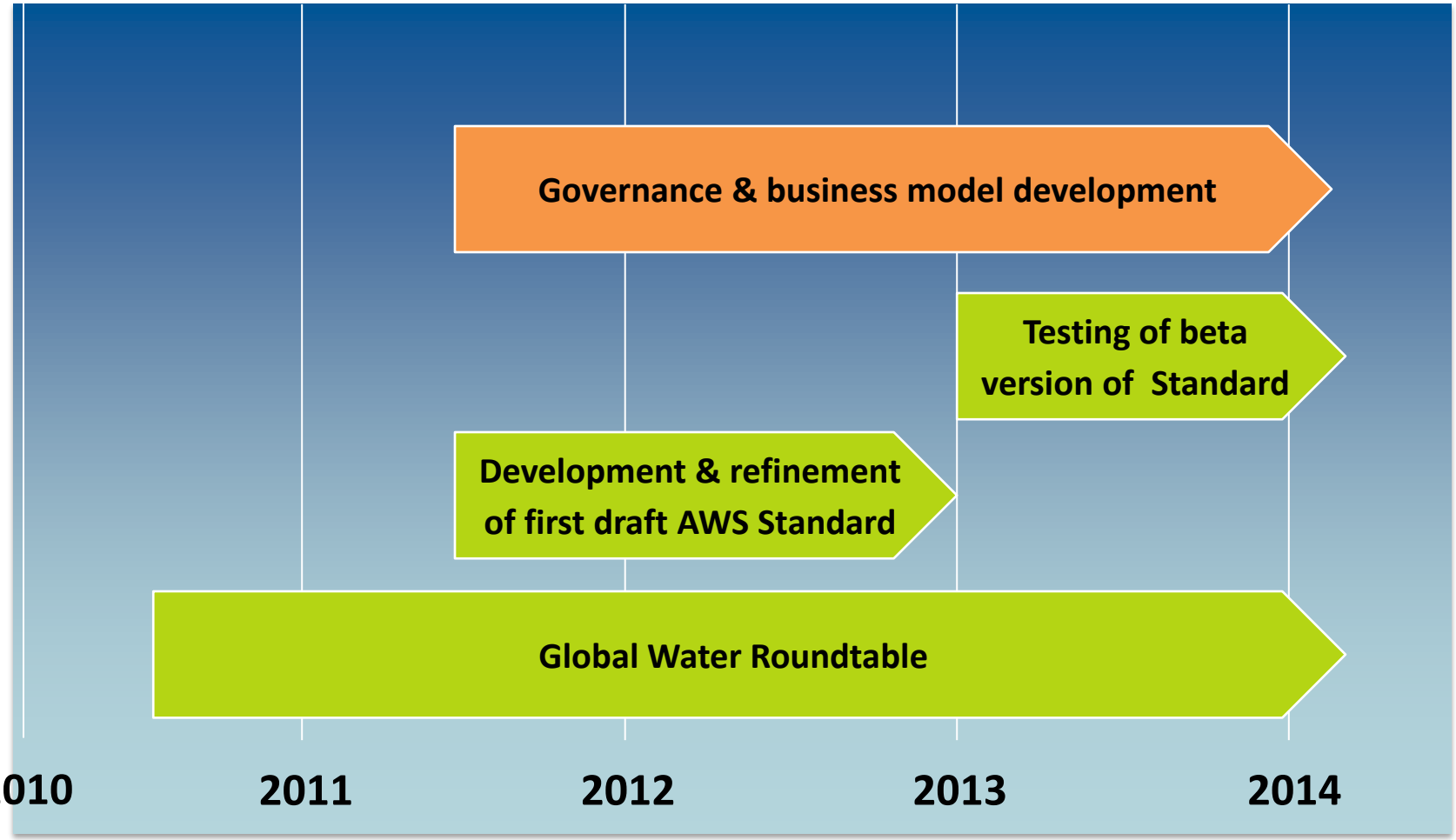
## AWS International




# and delineation of regional initiatives tbd.

# AWS Introduction: Development timeline





# Water Stewardship: Definition



## Definition

*"The use of freshwater that is socially and economically beneficial as well as environmentally sustainable"*


## Achieved through

- Responsible on-site water use
- Understanding shared water risks
- Consensus-based responses

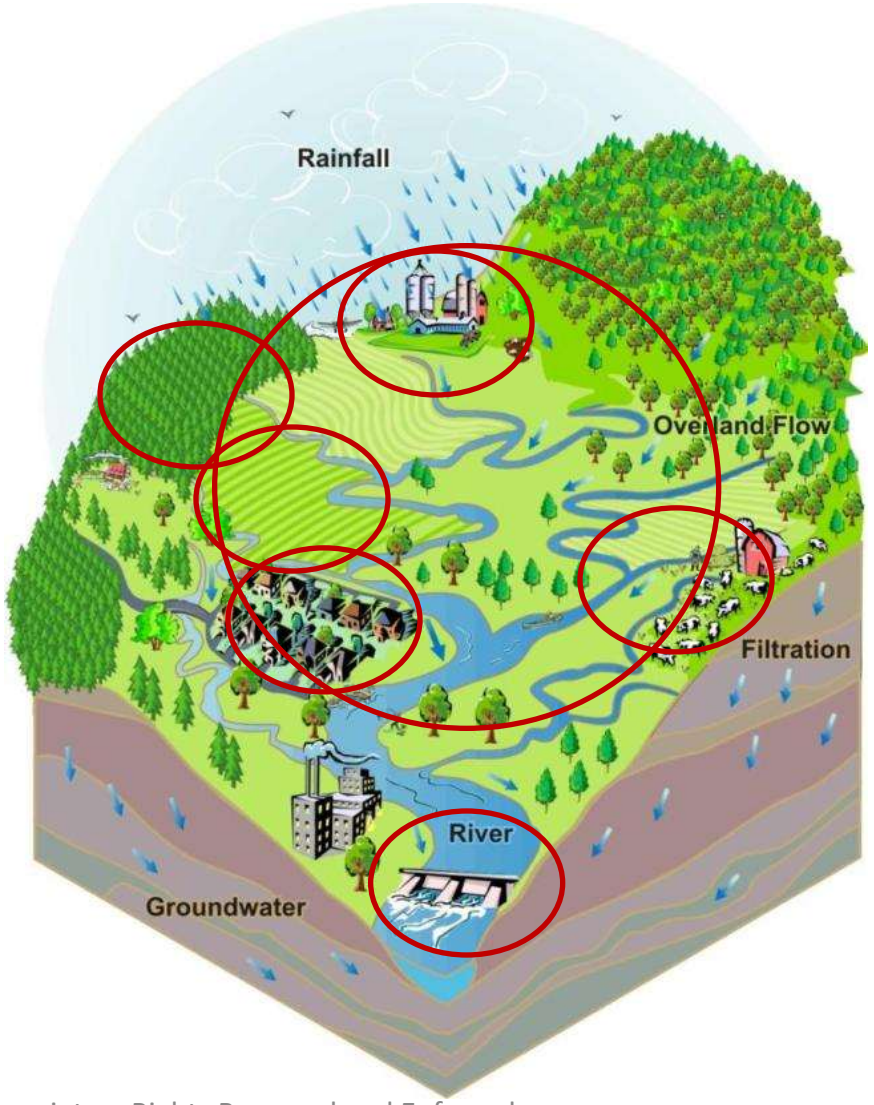
# AWS Standard: Catchment-level impacts



**Implementation/verification**
- Site/facility

**Sphere of influence**
- Forestry
- Crops
- Livestock
- Water services to communities

**Also affected**
- Energy



# AWS Standard: Value for implementers



**Business benefits: water risk mitigation**

- Identify and respond to physical water risks
- Remain in legal compliance
- Enhance community standing and brand value

**Business benefits: operational improvements**

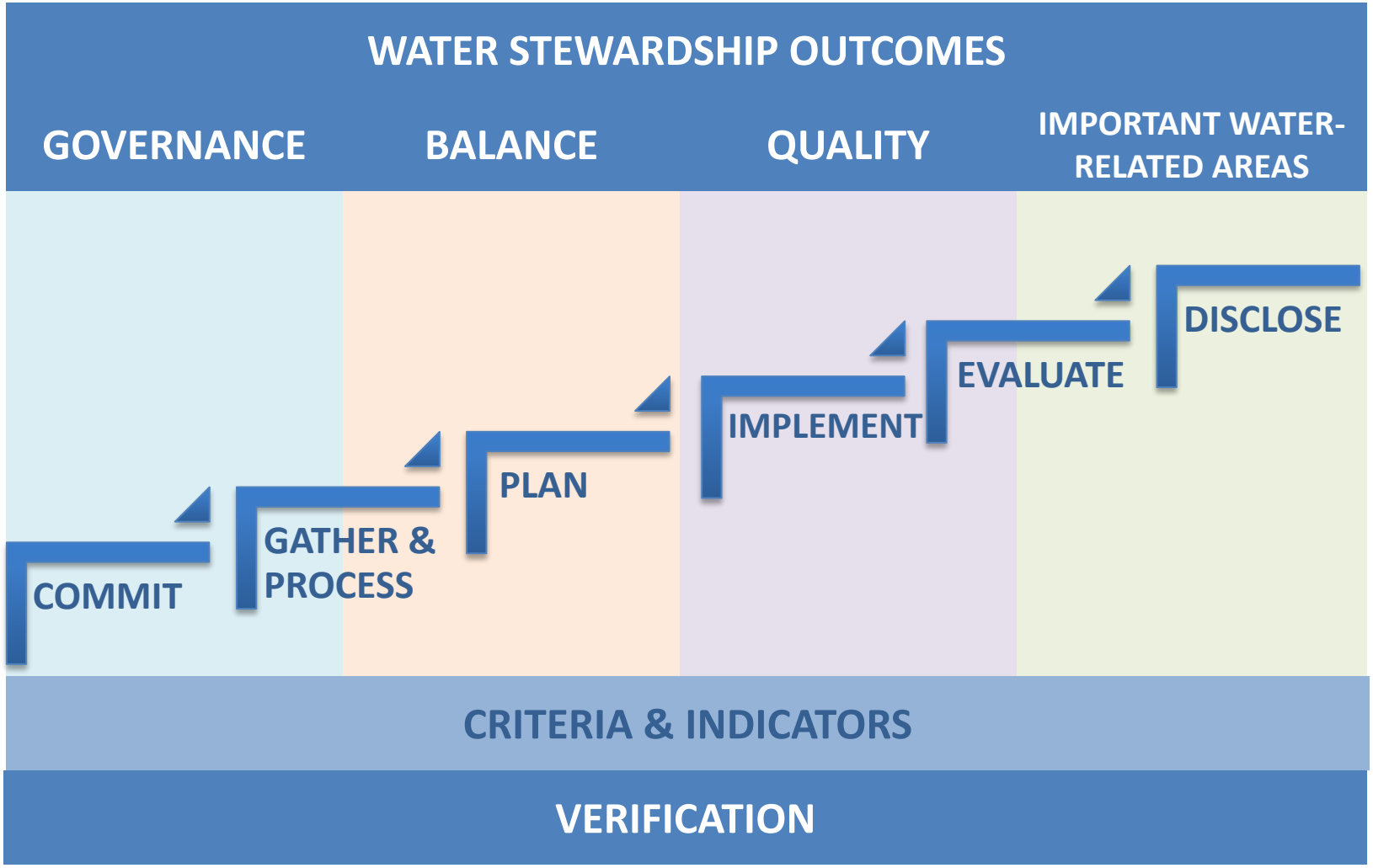
- Drive innovation and new skill/technology development
- Engage and motivate staff

**Business benefits: strategic opportunities**

- Potential for strategic partnerships and alliances
- Improved access to finance
- Improved access to socially and environmentally responsible markets

# AWS Standard: Structure





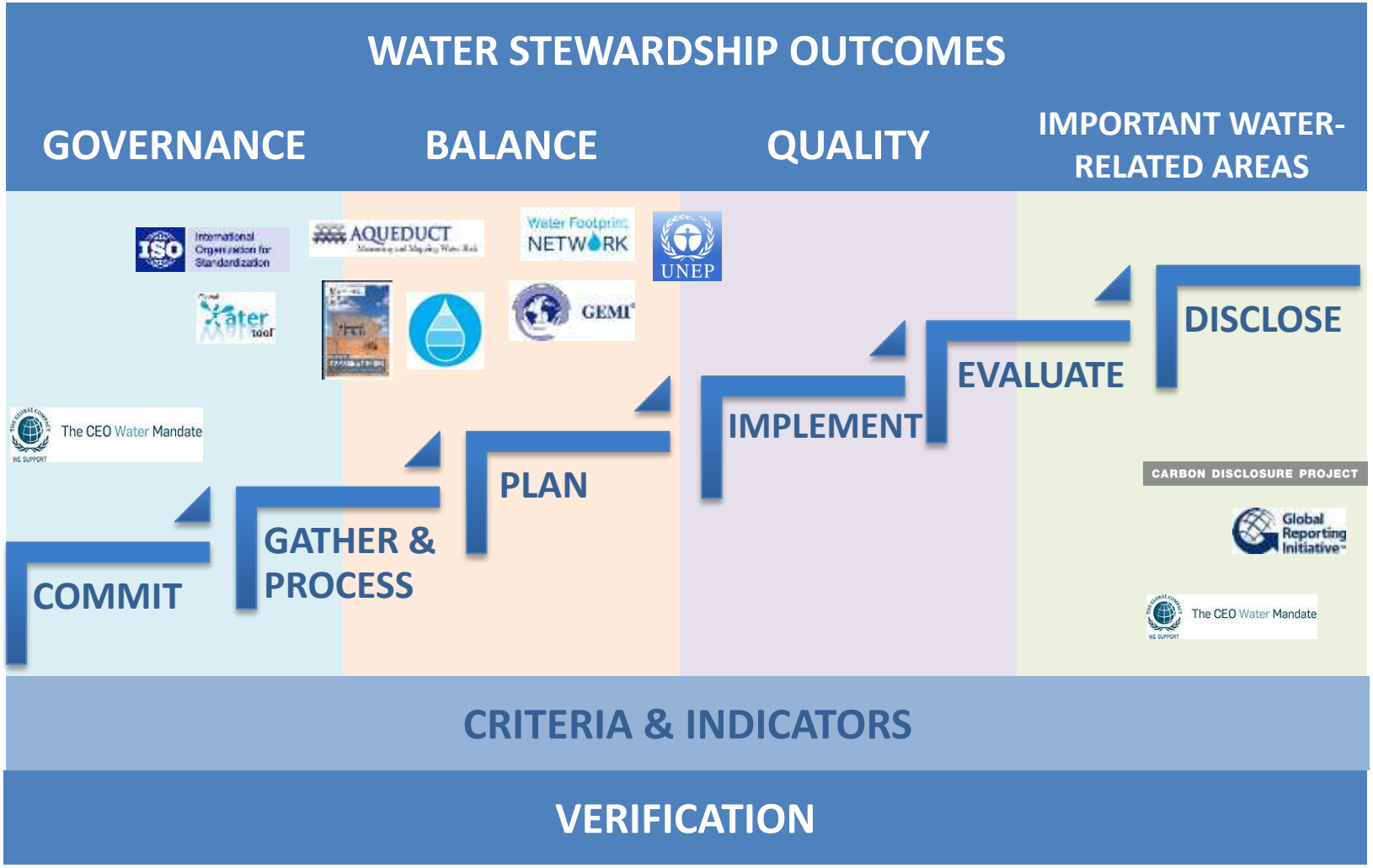
# AWS Standard: Content



| STEP | EXAMPLES OF CORE CRITERIA |
|---|---|
| 1. Commit | Leadership commitment including legal compliance |
| 2. Gather and process | Identify stakeholders<br>Define boundaries & water sources<br>Determine site's water quantity, quality status & IWRAs<br>Identify legal and regulatory requirements<br>Establish site's water balance & use, effluent discharge quality<br>Determine indirect water use<br>Identify catchment plan |
| 3. Plan | Develop water stewardship policy and site action plan<br>Contribute to the catchment plan |
| 4. Implement | Improve water balance, quality and status of IWRAs<br>Contribute to catchment plan and water monitoring<br>Drive improvements in indirect water use |
| 5. Evaluate | Review and update plan<br>Consult with stakeholders |
| 6. Disclose | Disclose plan, governance, risks and legal compliance |

# AWS Standard: Creating coherence





# AWS Standard: Next Steps



**AWS Standard**

- Beta version of AWS Standard expected in Q1 2013
- Implementation of beta version throughout 2013
- Confirmed & potential implementation sites in South Africa
  - Fruit growers in Western Cape
  - Mining sector
  - Beverage industry
- Test verification options

**Governance**

- Establishment of regional initiatives as per governance model

# Our Vision

**Water users and managers are responsible water stewards, who protect and enhance freshwater resources for people and nature.**

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