

# (Corporate) Water Stewardship

## A Study on the Critical Success Factors and Financing Mechanisms for Water Stewardship Projects at the Field Level

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Water is life – it is the basis for humans and nature on this planet. Water is key for human well-being, needed for drinking, sanitation, agriculture, transport, electricity generation and recreation. It is critical for sustainable development, including environmental integrity and the eradication of poverty and hunger. Against the background of population growth, evolving consumption patterns and climate change, the excessive use and pollution of water has led to water stress on a global level. As a response, the concept of "Water Stewardship" has emerged. The concept emphasizes collective accountability and bottom-up collective action by water users towards a sustainable and responsible management of water resources. Given the popularity of Water Stewardship, this paper focuses on the concrete implementation of initiatives at the field level and aims at discussing two different, specific aspects of Water Stewardship: critical success factors and potential financing mechanisms.

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- Conceptual Clarifications: Water Stewardship & IWRM
- Overview of existing Standards and Certifications

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- Model Critical Success Factors
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#### PART III: WATER STEWARDSHIP IN PRACTICE

- Insights from Practical Examples: Nestlé (Henniez), Ferdoñana Project of the SAI Platform (Huelva, Spain), Helvetas (WAPRO Project)
- Synthesis and Practical Recommendations

### Key Findings



- Concrete and valuable benefits need to be present to motivate actors to engage in Water Stewardship
- Complexity of the water situation matters, holistic approaches are needed
- Public funding and integrated water resources management is needed to establish water governance
- More attention should be paid to the collection of reliable data