

Water for a Sustainable Society

Michael Spanos

Member of the Expert Group
on the “Follow-up to Rio+20,
notably the Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs)”

Managing Director, Global Sustain
michael.spanos@globalsustain.org

June 21-23, 2016
Brussels, Belgium

Water Innovation 
Europe 2016 







HORIZON 2020

The EU Framework Programme for Research and Innovation



The Role of Science, Technology and Innovation Policies to Foster the Implementation of the Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs)

Report of the Expert Group "Follow-up to Rio+20, notably the SDGs"



The role of science, technology and innovation policies to foster the implementation of the Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs)

This report presents the conclusions of the independent Expert Group on the "Follow-up to Rio+20, notably the Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs)" that was established by the European Commission (EC) to provide advice on the role of science, technology and innovation (STI) for implementing the new global sustainable development agenda (2030 Agenda).

<https://ec.europa.eu/programmes/horizon2020/en/news/role-science-technology-and-innovation-policies-foster-implementation-sustainable-development>

The members of the Expert Group : Professor Enrico Giovannini (chairperson), Dr Ingeborg Niestroy (rapporteur), Dr Måns Nilsson, Dr Françoise Roure and Mr. Michael Spanos.

SDGs and the Role for Business

Business is a vital partner in achieving the Sustainable Development Goals. Companies can contribute through their **core activities**, and we ask companies everywhere to assess their **impact**, set ambitious **goals** and **communicate** transparently about the **results**.

Ban Ki-moon, United Nations, Secretary-General

The Business Case for Water



The CEO Water Mandate

Launched in 2007 in a partnership between companies and the UN Global Compact, the CEO Water Mandate is a business initiative dedicated to advancing corporate water stewardship.

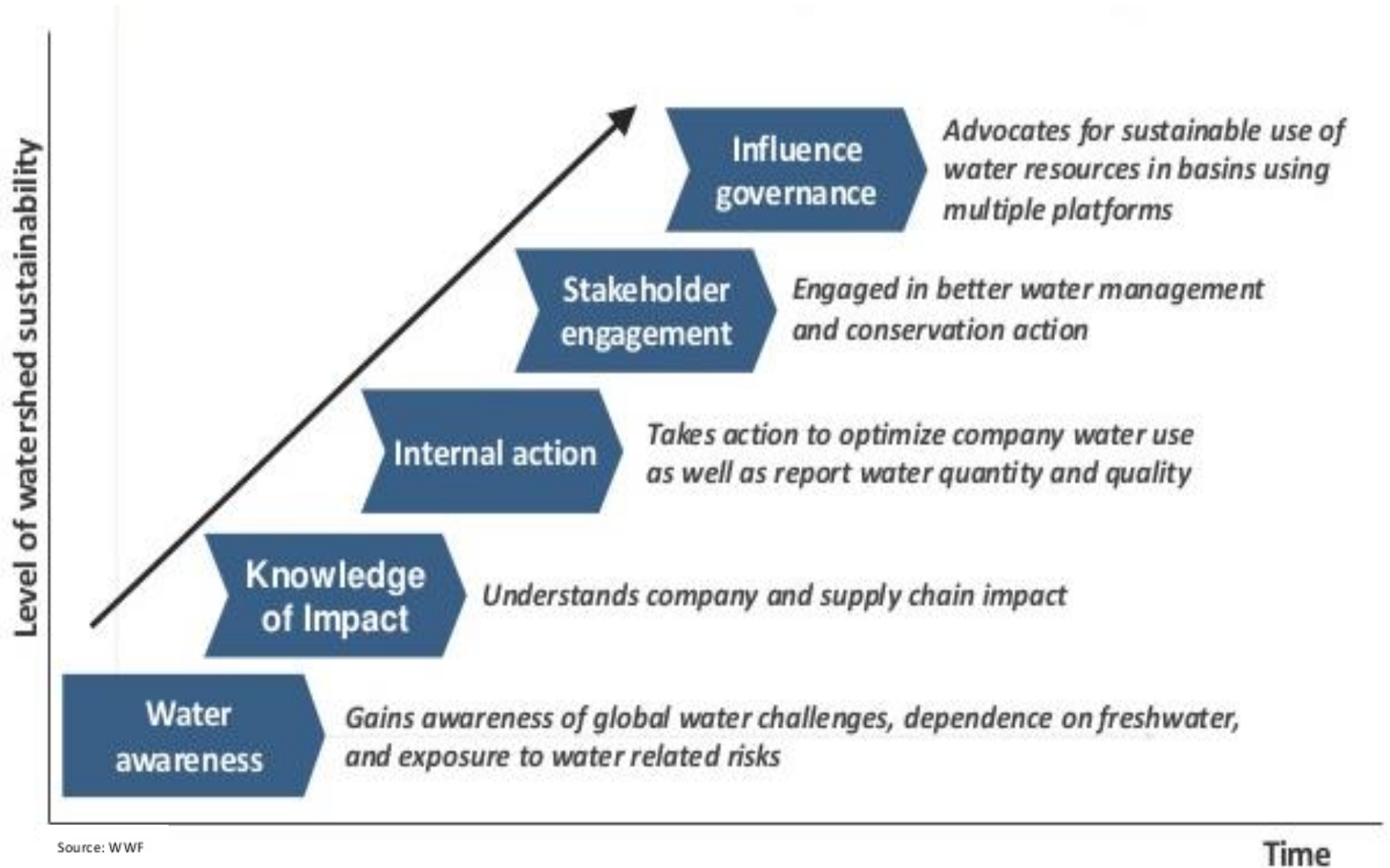
Function

1. The Mandate constitutes a call-to-action for companies to proactively advance their water stewardship practices
2. It also provides a strategic framework, research, guidance, and tools designed to help guide this process

Values and Assumptions

- ✓ Water crisis is increasingly a business issue
- ✓ Comprehensive sustainability strategies will be needed
- ✓ Sound implementation can benefit business and societies
- ✓ Collective action will be necessary

Corporate Water Stewardship



Incorporating SDGs in Business Strategy



United Nations
Global Compact



wbcspd



United Nations
Global Compact



Step 01
Understanding
the SDGs

Step 02
Defining
priorities

Step 03
Setting
goals

Step 05
Reporting and
communicating

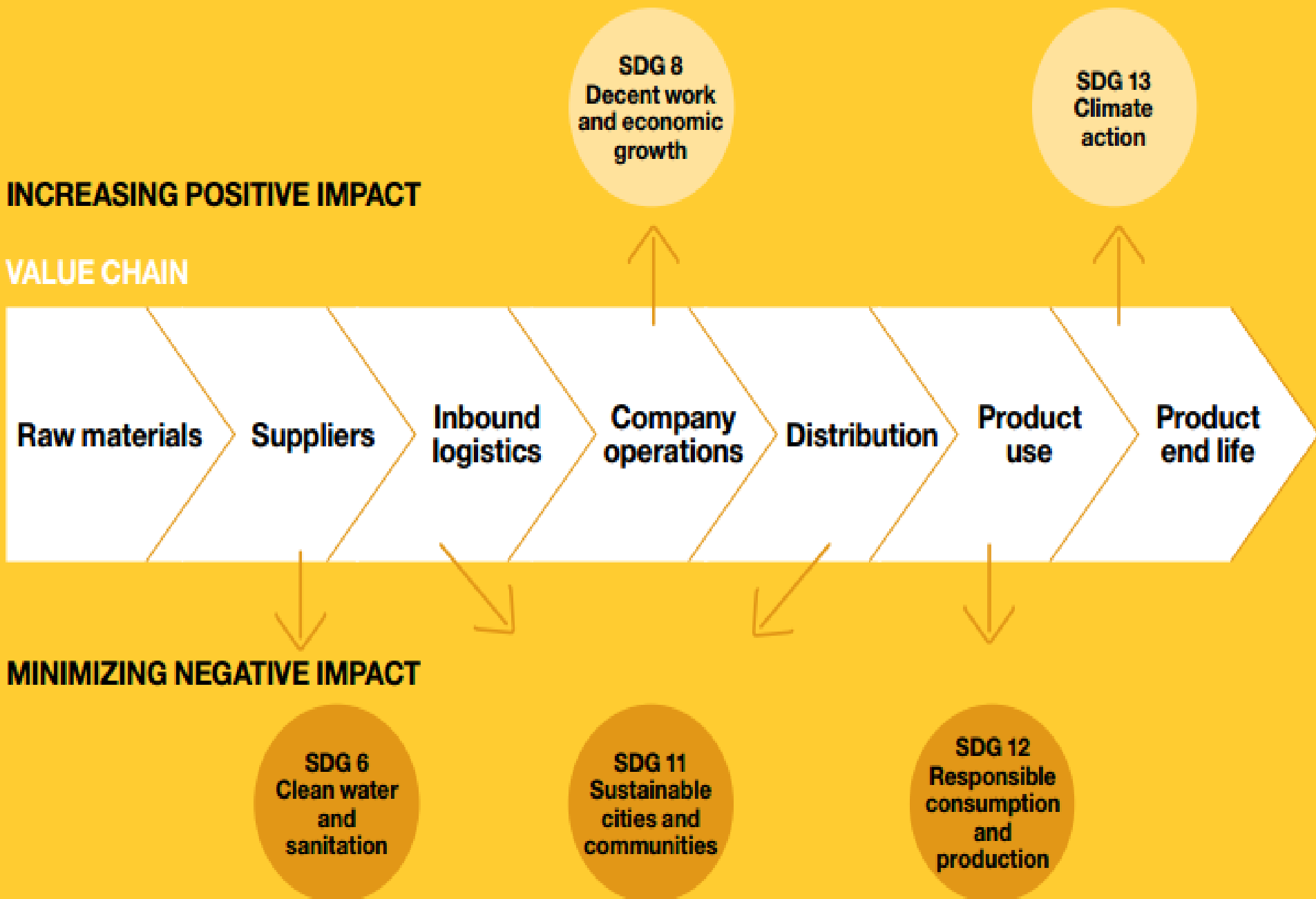
Step 04
Integrating

Tools applied to specific SDGs:

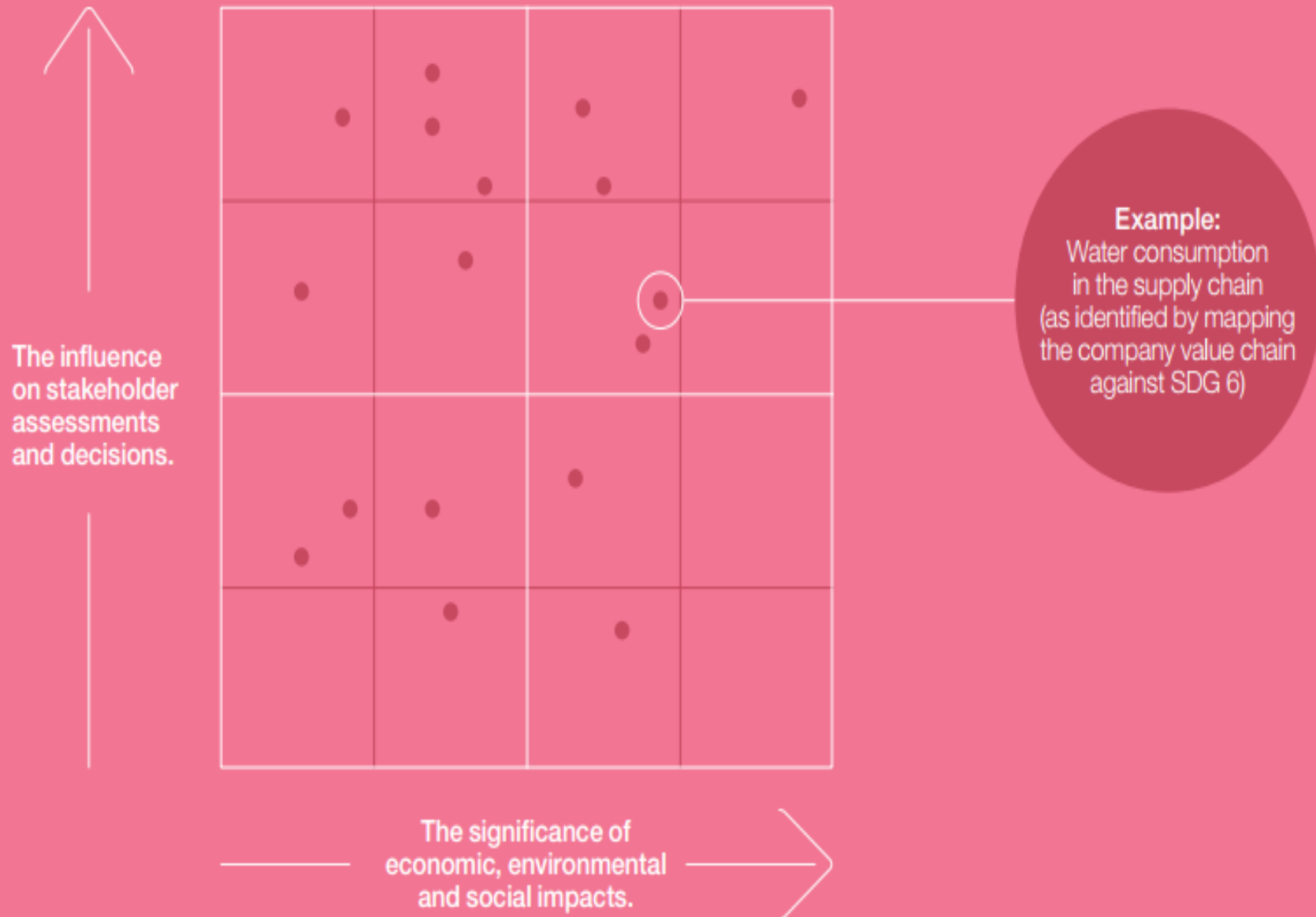
- ✓ GHG Protocol Scope 3 Evaluator
- ✓ Social Hotspots Database
- ✓ Poverty Footprint Tool
- ✓ **WBCSD Global Water Tool**
- ✓ Human Rights & Business Country Guide

www.sdgcompass.org

In action: Mapping the SDGs against the value chain



In action: Mapping SDG reporting priorities through materiality



12 RESPONSIBLE
CONSUMPTION
AND PRODUCTION



Goal 12: Ensure sustainable consumption and production patterns

Target 12.6: encourage companies, especially large and trans-national companies, to adopt sustainable practices and to integrate sustainability information into their reporting cycle.



SDG-12-6 Home > World Map

Policies refer to national government initiatives such as market regulations, policies, and legislation in which companies disclose or report on non-financial factors. Please note that the map is an illustrative representation and is not exhaustive.

Countries with national sustainability reporting policies

■ Policy (Yes) ■ Policy (No) ■ No Information

Search the world map



http://database.globalreporting.org/SDG-12-6/Global-Tracker?dm_i=1VZV,3P877,DPT8IV,DBB6W,1



Water material to Businesses, Investors and Cities

Corporate water risk

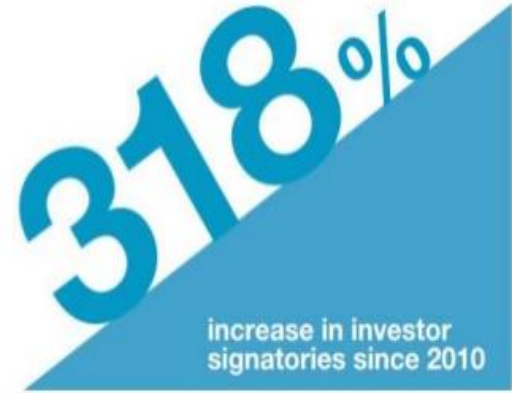
Respondents reporting that water poses a substantive risk to their business

68%

Number of risks reported

853

Investor interest in water is rising

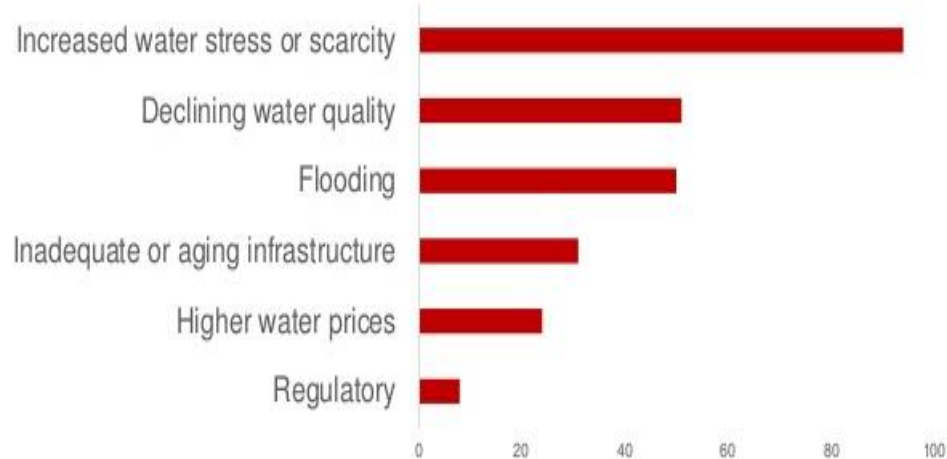


Water risks in global cities

72%

City respondents reporting significant risks to their water supplies

Water risks in global cities



Water & the EU Circular Economy Action Plan

...**Water scarcity** has worsened in some parts of the EU in recent decades, with damaging effects on our environment and economy. In addition to **water-efficiency measures**, the reuse of treated **wastewater** in safe and cost-effective conditions is a valuable but under-used means of increasing **water supply** and alleviating pressure on over-exploited **water resources** in the EU. **Water reuse** in agriculture also contributes to nutrients recycling by substitution of solid fertilisers. The Commission will take a series of actions to promote the reuse of treated **wastewater**, including legislation on minimum requirements for **reused water**...

[Closing the loop - An EU action plan for the Circular Economy](#)

