

# INDO-PACIFIC WATER STEWARDSHIP PARTNERSHIP COLLABORATION FOR BUILDING SUSTAINABLE WATER IMPACTS

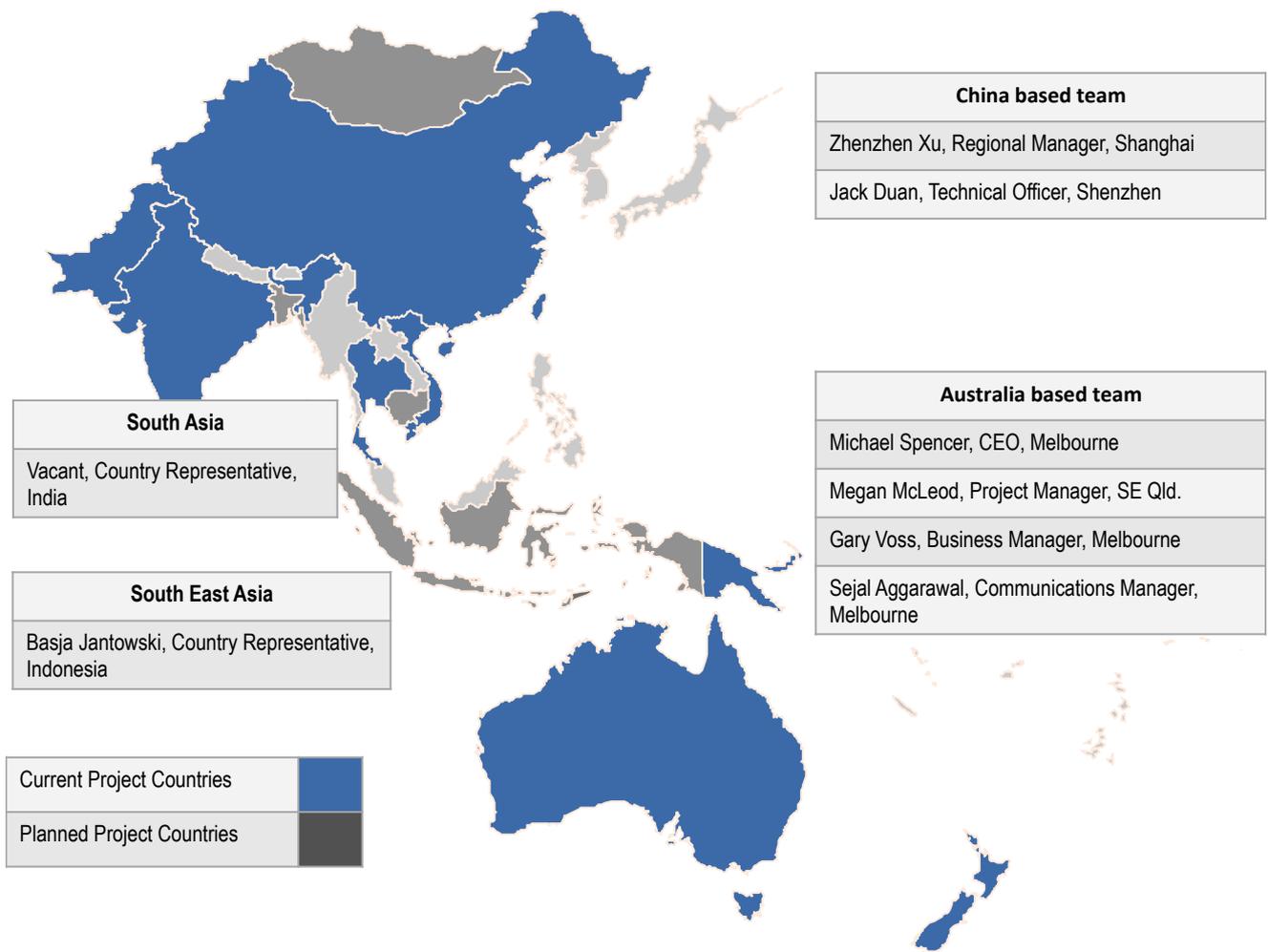
October, 2017



THE  
AUSTRALIAN  
WATER  
PARTNERSHIP



ALLIANCE FOR  
WATER STEWARDSHIP  
ASIA PACIFIC



## ABOUT AWS ASIA-PACIFIC

AWS Asia-Pacific is the Asia-Pacific arm of the global Alliance for Water Stewardship (AWS). AWS has developed a system for supporting credible claims of responsible water management by major water users (industrial, agricultural, commercial, institutional, etc.). AWS’s vision is that water users & managers are responsible water stewards, who protect and enhance freshwater resources for people and nature. It is a not-for-profit, multi-stakeholder membership-based organization registered as a charity in Australia.

In pursuit of its vision, AWS supports the development of water stewardship projects throughout the Asia-Pacific Region, particularly projects that can pilot or demonstrate the water stewardship system and increase the adoption of good water stewardship by private and public entities. We currently have active projects in China, India, Pakistan, Thailand, Vietnam, PNG, Australia and New Zealand. The program will further extend to Bangladesh, Indonesia, Cambodia and Mongolia in 2018.

AWS Asia-Pacific currently has offices in Shanghai, Shenzhen, Brisbane, Melbourne, Delhi and Bogor. Its staff have extensive experience in the development and application of water stewardship in different types of projects. They have backgrounds in industry, multi-lateral agencies, government and the not-for-profit sector and skills in water engineering and technology, hydrology, hydrogeology, environment, economics, marketing and communication.

## WHAT IS WATER STEWARDSHIP?

Stewardship is about taking care of something that we do not own. AWS Water Stewardship is defined as: “The use of water that is socially equitable, environmentally sustainable and economically beneficial, achieved through a stakeholder-inclusive process and that involves site and catchment-based actions.”

## BACKGROUND

Water is a significant development issue and business risk for the region. Large parts of the region face growing water stress due to scarcity, pollution and weak water governance. Good water stewardship is fundamental to sustainable economic growth, healthy and prosperous communities.

*"Asia-Pacific cannot sustain economic growth unless water is brought into the equation"*  
(ADB, 2016, *Water Outlook*)

## INDO-PACIFIC PARTNERSHIP

With Australian Aid as a founding partner, the Indo-Pacific Water Stewardship Partnership set out to engage industry in addressing the region's substantial water challenges by utilising the tools of good water stewardship: enabling water users to better understand and take actions that respond to catchment challenges; facilitating collaboration between government, industry and community; training and capacity building; and recognition and reward to incentivise industries and businesses that demonstrate leadership.

## THEORY OF CHANGE

With Asia becoming a global hotspot for water stress all stakeholders – government, industry and civil society – are increasingly looking for alternative approaches to water management; change to the way business thinks about water use and the engagement of all water users in innovative demand-side programs. The AWS Standard provides a framework for consideration of site water risks and shared catchment challenges. It provides an incentive for water users to develop site water stewardship plans, collaborate on water and strive for continuous and ongoing improvement. If sufficient water users within a catchment are engaged in good water stewardship this will lead to better management of water scarcity, water quality, water governance and important water-related areas. In short, healthier catchments with better, more equitable and transparent management of scarce resources.

## ONE FOUNDATION AND FOUR PILLARS



## COMMITMENT AND INTENDED OUTCOMES

3 Water Intensive Sectors

6 Priority Catchments

50+ Entities Engaged

200+ Participated in Accredited Training

3 Regional Networks



**Sustainable  
water balance**



**Good water  
quality**



**Improved  
water  
governance**



**Healthy water-  
related areas**

# SUPPLY CHAIN WATER STEWARDSHIP INITIATIVES - DRIVING SECTORAL GOOD WATER STEWARDSHIP

The Fashion and Textile Council has devoted considerable attention to labour issues and the AWS partnership represents a new phase in its work on environmental issues. Water, particularly wet processing of textiles (dyeing and printing) is a major challenge for the fashion industry.

When AWS Asia-Pacific recently trained five auditors from Australian-based retailer Cotton On Group it represented a new level in our relationship with the Council and an important step in the Australian industry addressing supply chain water challenges.

The auditors, three from China and two from Bangladesh, along with the Group's Head of Sustainability, were trained to be able to use the AWS Water Stewardship approach in their work with suppliers to help wet processing plants move to best industry practice on water.

## OUR APPROACH CREATES AWARENESS AND DRIVES BEST PRACTICE PERFORMANCE

**Step 1** – Mapping the Supply Chain Water Risk

**Step 2** – Training the Core Team

**Step 3** – Supplier Capacity Building & Continuous Improvement

**Step 4** – Performance Evaluation & Reporting

## BUILDING FASHION SUPPLY CHAIN PARTNERSHIPS

***"Cotton On has a strong set of corporate values and like most retailers is interested in the sustainability and reliability of its supply chain. Water Stewardship offers a chance to better understand risk, mitigate those risks, protect and enhance reputation."***

Corporate Sustainability Manager

COUNCIL OF  
TEXTILE & FASHION



**COUNTRY ROAD**

**J E A N S W E S T**

**COTTON ON**

**DAVID JONES**

**PACIFIC B R A N D S**

## OTHER SUPPLY CHAIN INITIATIVES UNDER DEVELOPMENT

Food & Beverage (including Agri. Business)

Information and communications technology (ICT Sector)



# WATER STEWARDSHIP IN INDUSTRIAL PARKS

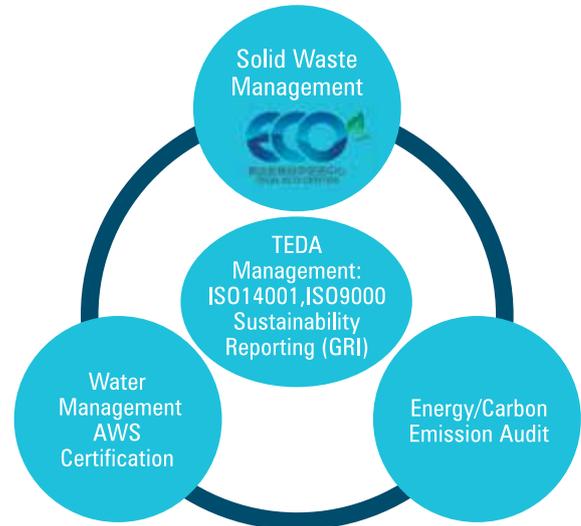
## Two Pilots in China: Tianjin TEDA and Kunshan

Tianjin TEDA, one of China's earliest development zones, is known for its unmatched economic scale and its good investment environment.

In 2016, AWS Asia-Pacific and TEDA Eco-Centre signed a partnership agreement to develop a program that would address the need for increasing water security and pollution reduction while demonstrating a model for Industrial Park Management Committees to engage major water-using industries in good water stewardship.

The program helped TEDA to finally develop an integrated "Solid Waste-Energy-Water" management system. It will fundamentally change the way that water is understood, used and disposed by industries, institutions and communities located in this area.

## TEDA'S "SOLID WASTE-ENERGY-WATER" MANAGEMENT SYSTEM



Source: TEDA Eco Centre

- 1 **Adopting AWS at the TEDA Level:** to thoroughly evaluate the potential water risks and challenges based on the status quo, and recognise the opportunities that may comprehensively improve economic and environmental benefits;
- 2 **Launching a long-term AWS certification and recognition scheme in TEDA:** to help enterprises augment efficiency of water utilisation based on voluntary standards and market mechanism; and
- 3 **Developing necessary mechanisms and infrastructures to support the AWS framework,** such as relevant supporting policy, data system and communication platforms.

**In 2014, 115 National Hi-tech Industrial Development Zones and 218 National Economic and Technological Development Zones generated RMB 14 trillion (AUD 2.5 trillion), accounting for 22.5% of China's GDP.**

### Kunshan Pilot

Phase 1 was led by WWF China under the HSBC Water Program (HWP) with AWS Asia-Pacific as a collaborating partner.

Phase 1: 12 key demonstration enterprises were selected from 137 industrial discharge units...

...covering three key industries: circuit boards, chemical, and



Wastewater Treatment Plant in Qiandeng town (photo by Ningjie Zheng)

# ACHIEVEMENTS AND HIGHLIGHTS 2015 - 2017

Since the partnership was created in 2015, rapid progress has been made throughout the region:

- Regional centre established in Shanghai with local staff now in Shanghai, Shenzhen, Delhi, and Indonesia
- Water Stewardship Networks established in China, India and Pakistan involving corporate representatives, government and civil society
- More than 100 service providers completed AWS Accredited Training Program in Greater China, India, Pakistan, Thailand, Vietnam, Cambodia, and Bangladesh
- Four Certification Bodies accredited by AWS to provide services in the region
- Supply chain water risk mapping undertaken for two major fashion brands, and risk mapping supported for industrial sites in China, Thailand and Vietnam
- Companies from three key sectors engaged in adoption of water stewardship approach: apparel, ICT, and food and beverage
- Two major industrial areas engaged in China; ongoing capacity building and networking to 29 major polluters in Kunshan and Top 30 water users in Tianjin TEDA
- More than 15 companies committed to progress toward AWS certification; regions include China, India, Thailand, Vietnam, Korea, PNG, and Pakistan as well as Australia and New Zealand
- Two early adopters certified: Nestle Pakistan and Ecolab China
- Outreach to almost 2,000 people through public events, conferences, workshops and seminars
- Collaborative partnerships formed with WWF in China, Greater Mekong and India; TEDA Eco-Centre and China Water Risk in China; and Centre for Responsible Business in India
- Small-scale agriculture projects initiated and farmers engaged in China and India



AWS training in Bangkok in February 2017



AWS training in Shanghai in February 2016



AWS training in Bangkok in September 2017



Chinese Delegates visiting Ingham in Australia

# BUILDING PARTNERSHIPS AND COLLABORATION

We welcome the following originations to join our partnership:

- **Water Using Sites** to become pilot sites for implementing the AWS water stewardship standard
- **Industrial Park Management Committees / Local Governments** to jointly design and implement industrial park water stewardship programs
- **Global Brands and Retailers** to join one of our ongoing sector initiatives or to develop with us a new sector-level supply chain program
- **Development Agencies** to support one of our ongoing programs to create impact, or to support knowledge development in water stewardship
- **Water Consultants and Conformity Assessment Bodies** to become accredited AWS service providers



WSCN meeting during Taihu Forum (photo by WWF)



MOU signing between AWS and TEDA Eco Centre (photo by AWS)

## Strategic Partners



## Accredited Conformity Assessment Bodies



Cover photo: AWS Training in Nanjing in December 2015 (photo by Michael Spencer)

## JOIN US NOW FOR A SECURE WATER FUTURE FOR PEOPLE AND NATURE

### CONTACT

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The Alliance for Water Stewardship (AWS) is the global umbrella organisation for AWS Water Stewardship and has a network of regional partners to assist local implementation of the system. Water Stewardship Australia Limited trading as AWS Asia-Pacific is the regional partner managing AWS Water Stewardship operations in Australia, New Zealand, the Pacific, South East Asia, East Asia including China, and collaborates with AWS international in South Asia.