

5 lessons to make meaningful Water Stewardship happen in agricultural supply chains



1. Capacity on water is key!

Water Stewardship can only happen if supply chain partners and stakeholders understand fundamental concepts about water, like: catchments, water balance, environmental flow, water abstraction and consumption, water allocation, water risks or multi-stakeholder processes.



2. Fully grasp your local farm and catchment water situation!

Water Stewardship can only be meaningful if founded in an understanding of the local water situation in which water use takes place. Coupling remote sensing data with local datasets is an effective way to generate consistent data on the local water situation.



3. Collaborate and share, it is the only way!

Water Stewardship only happens through collaborative efforts between supply chain partners and stakeholders. Sharing information, strategies and experiences enable effective design and implementation of stewardship actions.



4. Water is the linking pin!

Water Stewardship can only be impactful if farm level action is coupled and aligned with catchment level action and vice versa. This can be done by linking the farm water balance with the catchment water balance.



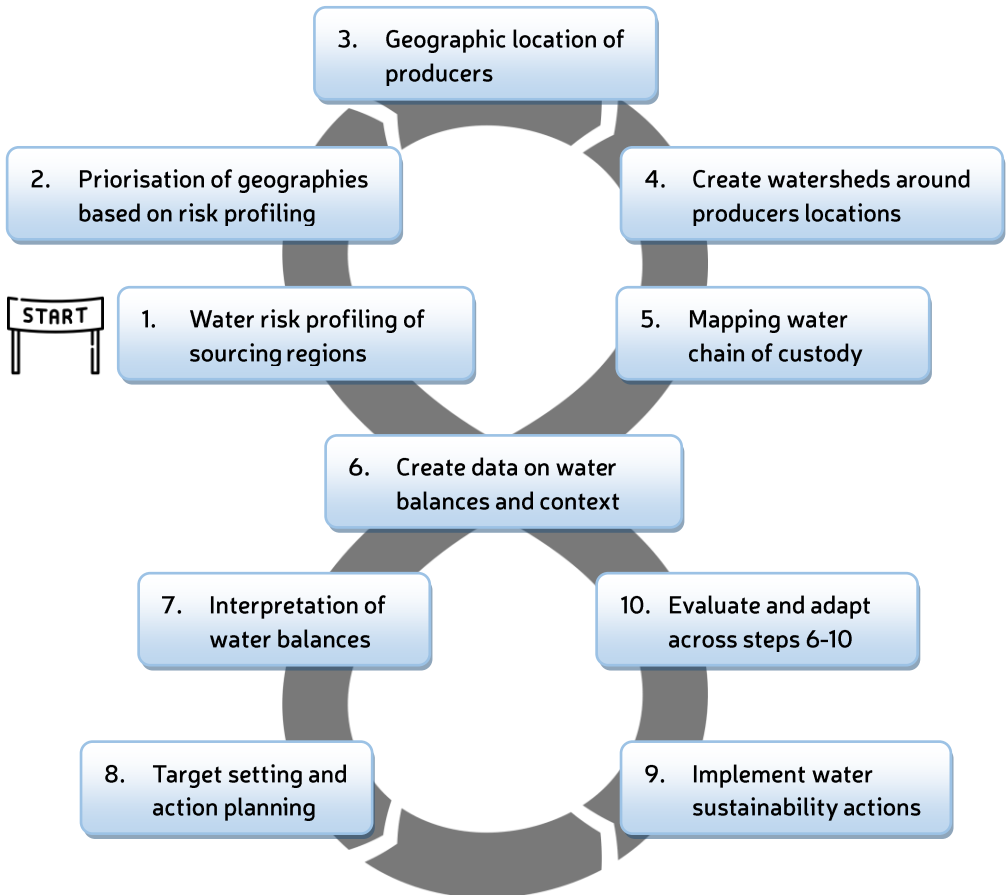
5. Catchment-level action should be the focus!

For Water Stewardship to have any impact, the ultimate objective should always be catchment level action and results. For this to happen, most of times a new organizational/institutional infrastructure is required.

We use data and information as tools to stimulate stakeholder engagement, in order to define and take concrete actions across agricultural supply chains, for sustainable water use in catchments.

For this, we use the WaterData4Action (WD4A) approach.

WD4A provides a logical 10-step approach that structures a process of joint learning and empowerment of supply chain partners. WD4A is an approach fully aligned with AWS, and supports AWS implementation.



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