



### **AWS at Stockholm International Water Week**

Together with the CEO Water Mandate, AWS hosted a dedicated session on “Measuring and Disclosing Water Stewardship Practice” at Stockholm International Water Week. One of its aims of the session was to get feedback on how AWS is proposing to integrate existing water accounting and disclosure approaches into its water stewardship program. The second half of the session focused on the Global Water Disclosure Guidelines that are being developed by the CEO Water Mandate in partnership with several stakeholder groups.

The audience for the session was very diverse: the majority of attendees were from the private sector with many CEO Water Mandate endorsing companies present, but there were also representatives from the public sector, NGOs and international organizations. Some of the main messages to come out of the session were the need for AWS to continue to focus on meaningful local engagement, to work towards convergence of the various accounting tools and methodologies currently available, and to ensure processes are transparent and credible.

As well as co-hosting this session, AWS Secretariat and Board members participated in several other workshops and sessions during the week, which is one of the most significant on the global water calendar.

### **First AWS International Standard Development Committee Meeting**

An important milestone for AWS was achieved with the first meeting of AWS’s International Standard Development Committee (ISDC) which took place in Colombo, Sri Lanka, in July. The ISDC is the multi-stakeholder governance body charged with integrating regional input from businesses, water service providers, civil society and the public sector. The 15 member committee has been selected from the original 40+ nominees from all regions.



Three full days were spent in deliberations, focusing first on the overall AWS program, what success would look like, and beginning discussions on a draft framework for the Standard. The meeting was held at the headquarters of AWS Board organization, the **International Water Management Institute**.

The ISDC will next meet in late October in Milwaukee, USA to discuss and develop a framework for the Standard which will then be put out for public review and commentary. Should you have any thoughts or comments on the process, AWS welcomes your feedback, which can be sent to Nicole Tanner, Assistant Water Roundtable Coordinator ([nicole.tanner@wwfus.org](mailto:nicole.tanner@wwfus.org)).

In addition, the AWS is pleased to announce the selection of the final three members of the ISDC: Jiseon Matilda Park (a researcher with the National Institute for Disaster Prevention, South Korea), John Langford (Director of UniWater, Australia), and (to be confirmed) Sanjib Bezbaroa (Head, Corporate Environment Health & Safety at ITC Ltd., India).

For full article and meeting conclusions visit:

[http://www.allianceforwaterstewardship.org/water\\_roundtable](http://www.allianceforwaterstewardship.org/water_roundtable)

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## **AWS Around the World**

### **Africa**

**AWS launches report “Exploring the Value of Water Stewardship Standards in Africa” at 2011 World Water Week.**

AWS released its report “Exploring the Value of Water Stewardship Standards in Africa during the 2011 World Water Week in Stockholm. The report describes results and learning gained from testing of both European and Australian draft water stewardship standards around Lake Naivasha in Kenya. Lake Naivasha was chosen for its environmental, social

### **North America**



**AWS to Present at Milwaukee Water Council Water Summit V**

AWS is pleased to have the opportunity to present at the Milwaukee Water Council Water

Naivasna was chosen for its environmental, social and economic significance. The lake is an important wetland ecosystem and home to more than 400 bird species, and also provides irrigation for agriculture which generates over 10% of Kenya's export revenue, contributes 2.1% of the national GDP and provides employment for 75,000 people.

The pilot sites were farms operated by suppliers of leading UK retailer Marks & Spencer who, alongside the Deutsche Gesellschaft für Internationale Zusammenarbeit (GIZ) GmbH, partnered with AWS in this project.

This is the first exploration of how a water stewardship standard could work in a developing country. As well as some insightful recommendations, the report illustrates how, working closely with public and private sectors, a water stewardship standard can provide a practical tool to prevent negative water impacts arising through global trade. The report is available to download here

[http://allianceforwaterstewardship.org/regional\\_africa](http://allianceforwaterstewardship.org/regional_africa)



## Asia Pacific

### WSA Commits to Two Field Trial Workshops

Water Stewardship Australia has committed to undertake at least two field trial workshops over the next few months. The first is scheduled for the Goulburn Valley on September 22, 2011. Hosted by Goulburn Broken Catchment Management Authority, and including Northern Victoria Irrigation Renewal

### Summit V: Achieving Harmony with Water.

The Summit will be held at Discovery World in Milwaukee, Wisconsin on September 19-20, 2011. AWS-North America Coordinator Lisa Downes will speak on AWS's regional efforts and the work to develop an International Water Stewardship Standard.

This thought-provoking conference will address creating harmony in three distinct areas of the energy-water nexus through a focus on problem-solving and conflict resolution. Leaders in industry, government, non-profits and academia will learn strategies for collaborating in addressing water issues and participate in mapping blueprints for the future of water-related industries. For more details and to learn how to attend the Summit, please visit: [www.thewatercouncil.com](http://www.thewatercouncil.com).

### AWS-NARI to Host Its First Public Meeting

October 25th, 2011 in Milwaukee, Wisconsin  
Details are forthcoming.

[Click here](#) for more information on these events and other events in the region.

Or, you can contact Lisa Downes, AWS-NARI Coordinator at [ldownes@tnc.org](mailto:ldownes@tnc.org).

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## Latin America and the Caribbean

**AWS-LAC Workshop in Brazil:** The last in the series of 5 workshops that the AWS-LAC is organizing in the Latin America and the Caribbean Region will be held in the 2nd week of November, in Sao Paulo, Brazil. The main objective of this workshop is to gather stakeholders from the Brazilian industrial, academic, water utilities, civil society, public, private and academic sectors, and start defining criteria within water stewardship concepts such as water quality and quantity,

and including Northern Victoria Irrigation Renewal Project - as well as other stakeholders, the workshop is intended to design a substantial field trial that will test the application of the water stewardship standard in one of Australia's major irrigation areas. A second workshop will be scheduled shortly for elsewhere in the Murray Darling Basin.

Also, WSA is putting in place a series of actions that will lead to the development of Draft 2 of the Australian Water Stewardship Standard over the coming months. Draft 2 will take into account substantial stakeholder comment that was received following release of Draft 1 two years ago. It will incorporate local feedback, as well as feedback gathered from international trials. Any additional feedback gained during the coming field trial workshops will also be considered. For further information contact Michael Spencer ([michael@waterstewardship.org.au](mailto:michael@waterstewardship.org.au)).

As an AWS Board Organization, Water Stewardship Australia plays an important role in informing the development of the International Water Stewardship Standard. To learn more of WSA's efforts, visit [www.waterstewardship.org.au](http://www.waterstewardship.org.au)

transparency and governance, biodiversity and ecosystem, and equity access to the resource.

The inputs to be derived from this workshop will be discussed by AWS-LAC leaders and partners, at the 2nd Regional Forum.

**2<sup>nd</sup> AWS-LAC Regional Forum:** The 2<sup>nd</sup> AWS-LAC Regional Forum, scheduled for late November 2011 in Monterrey, Mexico, will gather participants from the 5 workshops held throughout 2011 in Brazil, Chile, Costa Rica, Ecuador and Mexico, and also representatives from other Latin-American and Caribbean countries involved and/or interested in the process.

Among the main objectives are: to establish regional working groups and add more active members to the Regional Initiative, exchanging information and reports from the national workshops and developing the regional input to contribute to the development of the International Water Stewardship Standard (IWSS).

[Click here](#) for more information on these events and other events in the region.

Or, you can contact Ricardo Monsivais, AWS-LAC Coordinator at [monsivais@tnc.org](mailto:monsivais@tnc.org).

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## Europe

### European Water Stewardship Launch Event

The European Water Partnership (EWP) has announced the European Water Stewardship (EWS) Launch, a flagship event for sustainable water users in agriculture and industry, to be held on 24 November 2011 at the Royal Academy of Belgium in Brussels. EWS is the tool to assess, verify and communicate your water performance. EWS makes "business sense" to adherents and reinforces the implementation of European legal frameworks. The EWS launch event allows you to meet high level representatives from civil society, business, agriculture, the European Commission and the European Parliament

As an AWS Board Organization, the European Water Partnership plays an important role in informing the development of the International Water Stewardship Standard, and the EWS is a vital piece towards ensuring that the IWSS is implementable in Europe.

Detailed information will be available soon on the EWP website [www.ewp.eu](http://www.ewp.eu). For further questions and registration, please contact: Lisa Struebbe, EWP Communications Manager (Email: [l.struebbe@ewp.eu](mailto:l.struebbe@ewp.eu); phone: +32 2 735 06 81).

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### **Upcoming events in September and October**

- The next meeting of the ISDC is scheduled for October 26<sup>th</sup> – 28<sup>th</sup> in Milwaukee, USA
- AWS-LAC's Brazil workshop, 2nd week of November
- In the next two months, AWS will be presenting at several seminars and conferences around the world, including:

Workshop on Voluntary Sustainability Standards: promoting sustainable agricultural production, food quality and safety, environmental protection and trade in the Arab Region. This event will be held in Beirut, Lebanon, and is being co-organized by the Economic and Social Commission for West Asia and GIZ.

Conference on the Role of Green Industries in Enhancing Social and Economic Development in the Arab Region, also in Beirut and being co-organized by ESCWA, the Arabic Industrial Development and Mining Organization (AIDMO), GIZ and Plan Bleu

The 6th Annual China International Water Business Summit, being held in Beijing, China, and will be co-organized by Department of Water Resources Management of the Ministry of Water Resources of the People's Republic of China and Chinese Hydraulic Engineering Society

Power and Water Leaders' Forum: Developing Sustainable Business Practices, being held in Abu Dhabi in partnership with the Abu Dhabi Water and Electricity Authority

Water Summit V: Achieving Harmony with Water, organized by the Milwaukee Water Council

For more information on AWS events, please email [adrian@allianceforwaterstewardship.org](mailto:adrian@allianceforwaterstewardship.org).

[www.allianceforwaterstewardship.org](http://www.allianceforwaterstewardship.org)

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