AWS Standard Revision

Update
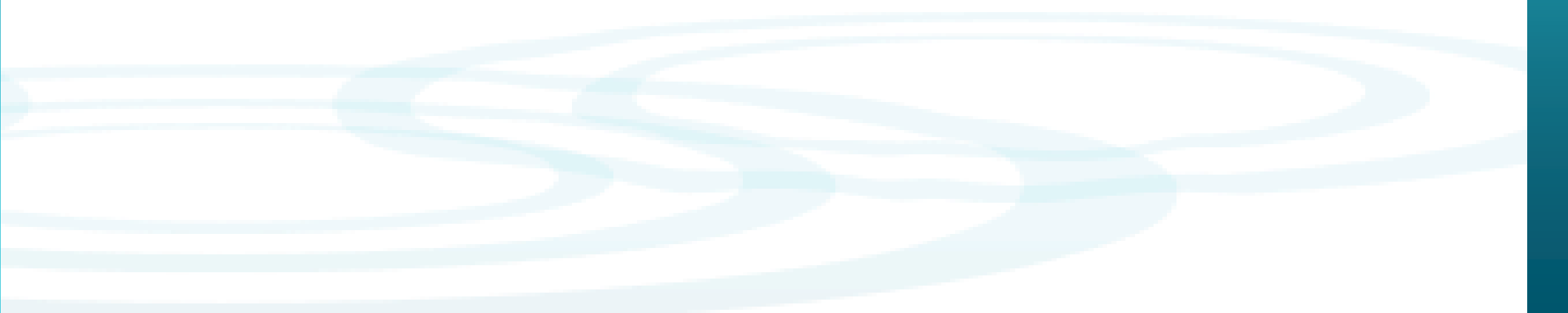
AWS STANDARD PROCESS TO-DATE

ALLIANCE FOR WATER STEWARDSHIP

Phase 1: AWS Standard Development

2008	2009	2010	2011	2012	2013	2014
Foundation of AWS	Strengthened governance	Standard dev begins	ISDC formed	D1 Standard	D2 Standard	V1.0 Standard

Phase 2: AWS System Development & roll-out under multi-stakeholder governance

2015	2016	2017	2018
Certification requirements	First AWS certifications	Standard revision process	
Accreditation system	AWS membership		
	Technical c'ttee		

STANDARD REVISION TIMELINE 2018

Task	Jan	Feb	Mar	Apr	May	Jun	Jul	Aug	Sep	Oct	Nov	Dec
Review of Standard v1.0 (2017)												
Draft #1	■	■	■	■								
Consult #1					■	■						
Draft #2						■	■	■				
Consult #2									■			
Final Drafting										■	■	
Member Approval											■	
Transition to Revised Standard												■

INTENDED OUTCOMES OF REVISION

- Refinement and streamlining of current standard

- Improvements to the certification and accreditation programs

- Continual improvement – consider if this can be built in to the system?

- Integration of European standard

- Tailoring to enhance engagement with other standards systems

----

- Regional stakeholder engagement

- Innovations in IT to improve implementation and uptake.

PROGRESS TO DATE

The AWS Technical Committee has undertaken the following activities:

- Review consultation early 2017

- Analysis of review and draft comments

- Identification of the major Themes

- Discussion of Themes and Proposed Resolution

- Draft 1 in person meeting week of 5th March 2018

- Draft 2 in person meeting week of 18th June 2018

- Draft 1 - 8 week consultation 23rd April – 17th June

- Expert Groups for WASH, Engagement & Agriculture

The following slides provide an overview of the 12 themes identified through the consultation process:

1. Structure and suggested improvements to Guidance
2. Impacts and Theory of Change
3. Step 1: Commitment
4. Stakeholder Engagement
5. Catchments
6. Agriculture: Smallholders and Group Certification
7. Important water-related areas to Water-related High Conservation Values
8. Water, Sanitation and Hygiene (WASH)
9. Thresholds & Scoring
10. Indirect Water Use
11. Transparency
12. Water-related Costs

Theme 1: Structural changes

Draft 1:

- Reduction in repetition

- Simplification of language and concepts

- Tie in of remaining concepts to the flow of the standard

- Streamlined guidance

- Options for sector and regional guidance

For Draft 2:

- Very positive feedback from consultation

- Ensure consistent application of rules on structure and content

- Complete streamlined Guidance for all Steps

- Move all Advanced Criteria to Advanced Indicators

- Develop rules for sector and regional guidance

Theme: 2. Theory of Change

Draft 1:

- Stronger links to Theory of Change in the Standard
- Icons from the Theory of Change incorporated into Draft
- Data template to support implementation and implementers will be developed

For Draft 2:

- Maintain strong links and icons
- Develop data template to support implementation and implementers
- AWS Secretariat to further develop ToC to show how key concerns are reflected, such as WASH and Social issues.
- Professional designer to work on graphic

Theme 3. Step 1: Commitment

Draft 1:

- Step 1 has been and integrated into Step's 2, 3 and 6
- Include WASH in the supply chain
- Include Water Stewardship within an organization's sustainability program
- Include commitment to indigenous and cultural values
- Strengthened stakeholder engagement components
- Include Implementation commitments

For Draft 2:

- Steps renumbered 1-5 since no push back from stakeholders.

- Strengthen the reference to Commitment in the preamble and Guidance.

- Use the term 'organisation' consistently in place of 'corporate', as more ISO consistent.

Theme 4. Stakeholder Engagement

Draft 1:

- Improvements to Guidance on stakeholder engagement required
- A Stakeholder Engagement Expert Group to develop improvements
- Focus on principles, mapping stakeholders and priorities
- Guidance to be integrated into criteria 2.2 as a recommended approach
- Guidance to include examples from case studies

For Draft 2:

- Stakeholder Engagement Expert Group still needed – ToR and call for members
- Ensure involvement of women, marginalised groups, indigenous groups, and government/regional platforms are included at 2.1.1
- Consider upstream and downstream stakeholders
- Add water dispute resolution requirement
- Remove sphere of influence concept and replace with more appropriate system
- Develop guidance on consensus and consensus building

5. Catchments

Draft 1:

- Improved definition of terminology and of size and scale of catchment
- Recommendation for inclusion in Guidance that a site adopt the 'Hydrobasin' approach if no other information to support catchment analysis available

For Draft 2:

- Need further guidance to clarify how to identify the relevant catchments that should be part of your sites physical scope and to define physically separated catchments.

- Further consideration is required for Fossil Water.

- Paper on Catchments to be finalised and published

- Hydrobasins to be included as an example since still in development for public use.

6. Agriculture: Smallholders and Group Certification

Draft 1:

- No changes to Standard
- Improvements to Guidance for smallholders, Ag. and group certification
- An Agriculture Expert Group made recommendations

For Draft 2:

- Improved sector specific guidance is required in relation to non-point source pollution in the Guidance at the appropriate time.
- Group certification requires additional specific information and guidance to support implementation and uptake.
- Water footprinting calculator and water balance tool requires further guidance for small holders.
- Agriculture Working Group to review and provide input into the revisions of the Guidance material with a focus on improving Group Certification. This activity is recommended as a priority for 2019.

ALLIANCE FOR WATER STEWARDSHIP

7. Important water-related areas to Water-related High Conservation Values

Draft 1:

- Important Water-Related Areas' to 'Water-related High Conservation Values'
- Expand definition to full Water Related HCV concept
- Not to include non Water Related HCVs for users of the AWS Standard

For Draft 2:

- Update WRHCV paper shared during Draft 1 consultation to address any remaining issues raised by stakeholders
- Develop full definition and list of example WRHCVs for all values, including cultural values
- Address how to conserve less 'important' ecological, environmental, social and cultural values

8. Water, Sanitation and Hygiene (WASH)

Draft 1:

- WASH as a 5th AWS Outcome rejected
- Improving impact against challenges better achieved by strengthening the Guidance
- WASH sector guidance required to strengthen AWS Guidance to be identified
- WASH Advisory Group to provide leadership on this

For Draft 2:

- WASH as a 5th Outcome again rejected.
- This and other social aspects felt covered by the Theory of Change
- See ToC actions for Draft 2.

9. Thresholds & Scoring

Draft 1:

- Generate rules for when a criteria is Advanced e.g. catchment level?
- Incentives to drive uptake and continuous improvement
- Consider adding context based water targets
- Clarification of performance level expected for full compliance
- Improved wording on adequacy of targets
- Improvements to Guidance regarding progress between Step 4 and Step 5
- Guidance on rate of improvement to maintain certification
- Options to address these are in progress

For Draft 2:

- All Core and Advanced Indicators to be presented together. No separate Advanced Criteria
- Scoring rules to be developed based on 'plan, do, check, act' cycle and progress towards greater implementation to drive continual improvement
- Scoring then needs to be at the Indicator level

10. Indirect Water Use

Draft 1:

- Include understanding risk in 2.5.1
- Include measurable progress against targets in 4.6.1
- Amend 4.16 to improve language 'reduced'
- Amend 3.2 to make linkage explicit

For Draft 2:

- Level of water risk – add to thresholds discussion
- Set targets on supplier water 'use' or just number of suppliers talked to, or identified number of issues, switch to a supplier that uses less water
- Need to define better or add more guidance.
- Indicator – decide if it's "targets are being met" … or is it just "set targets"

11. Transparency

Draft 1:

- General company structure and at least one named point of contact
- Criteria 6.2 include public reference to targets in site's Water Stewardship Plan
- Revised Guidance to provide advice on what details should be disclosed.

For Draft 2:

- Devise list of items that can be considered commercially sensitive and therefore confidential
- Devise reporting template for consistent reporting

12. Water-related Costs

Draft 1:

- No changes to wording of criteria and indicators but proposed changes to Guidance
- Revised Guidance to provide methodologies and examples
- Company Headquarter analysis and allocating to individual site level

For Draft 2:

- Make the link to value for the implementer stronger
- Specific value to AWS, e.g. for impact communications & business case development
- Add an indicator to Step 2, but not in being too prescriptive about the form of the disclosure