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Alliance for Water Stewardship Assessment Report

as per AWS Standard Version 2.0

For

Suzhou Industrial Park Administrative Committee

No.999, Xiandai Avenue, Suzhou city, Jiangsu Province, China

Prepared by: TÜV Rheinland
AWS Reference Number: AWS-000425
Version: 2.0
Date: November 15-17 2021

System
CSS-Corporate Sustainability Service

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Contents

1. Client and Certification Details

Client Name:	Suzhou Industrial Park Administrative Committee
Audit location:	No.999, Xiandai Avenue, Suzhou city, Jiangsu Province
Country:	China
Activities/Processes:	NA
Contact person:	Hou Daoli
Contact email:	hdl@sipac.gov.cn
Company website:	http://www.sipac.gov.cn/
AWS Reference Number:	AWS-000425
Type of audit:	Certification Audit
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Audit report completed by:	Layla Chen, Lingyun Yu
Contact email:	Layla.chen@tuv.com, Lingyun.yu@tuv.com

2. Executive Summary

The scope of service covers the conformity assessment of water management and usage for Suzhou Industrial Park Administrative Committee (SIPAC). The assessment was completed in compliance with the AWS Standard Version 2.0 dated on Mar 2019.

Suzhou Industrial Park is located in the east of Suzhou City, bordering Gusu District, Wuzhong District, Xiangcheng District and Kunshan City. The administrative area is 278km2, and the water area is 72.337km2.

SIPAC coordinates the management of the park's water environment, water ecology, water resources, water safety, and water culture related management work. Including supervision, control and implementation of the policy formulation and implementation, water distribution and supply for residents and enterprises in the area, water treatment and reuse, pollution control and water quality management, public facility planning and construction, water and soil conservation and protection, flood and drought risk emergency response, public health, and water conflict arbitration, education and publicity network work and information exchange and etc.

The site boundaries are the administrative activities related to the development, utilization and protection of water resources performed by functional departments within the administrative area of the SIPAC, including the lakes, rivers and directly managed water-related facilities covering the whole administrative divisions. Water-related infrastructure such as pump gates, public toilets, and greening facilities directly managed by SIPAC are operated by New Suzhou Industrial Park Municipal Public Development Group Co., Ltd. and Suzhou Industrial Park Municipal Service Group Co., Ltd.

TÜV Rheinland performed a pre-assessment for SIPAC’s facilities and activities as per AWS Standard (Version 2.0) on 15 October 2021. During the pre-assessment, TÜV-Rheinland conducted the site tour covered the water supply company, document review and interview.

On November 15-17 2021, TÜV Rheinland conducted the on-site conformity assessment for SIPAC facilities and activities as per requirement of the AWS Standard (Version 2.0). During the audit, a half-day stakeholder meeting was held on 16 November 2021. About 5 stakeholders participated in the meeting covering NGO, Factory, Waste Treatment company, Municipal Group water conservancy Branch, WWTP and water supply company etc.

TÜV Rheinland also performed an evaluation for SIPAC’s performance against the AWS advance criteria. The score of the evaluation is 71 points, which fulfills AWS Gold-level requirement.

Findings summary:

- Total: 1
- Major non-conformities: 0
  Minor non-conformities: 1
- Observation: 0

Client's response:
SIPAC responded to the findings raised with root cause analysis and action plans. It is confirmed that all corrective action plans are acceptable.

Certification level: Gold
After thorough evaluation of the non-conformance, in compliance with the AWS Certification Requirement V2.0. TÜV Rheinland auditor team would recommend to reward SIPAC AWS Gold Certified status. Surveillance audit should be conducted on an annual basis.

3. Scope of Assessment

Client factories main products	NA
Client factories production processes	NA
Assessment preparations activities include:	Document review, stakeholder comments collecting
Assessment on-site activities includes:	Document review, management interview, stakeholders interview, onsite tour
Assessment follow-up activities includes (in any):	Non-conformity follow up

4. Description of the Catchment

The centralized drinking water sources in the Suzhou Industrial Park are the Taihusiqian water source and the Yangcheng Lake water source. The two water sources are adjacent to each other, and dual-source water supply has been realized. The two water source types are surface water sources.

Suzhou Industrial Park adopts a rain-sewage diversion system, and the rainwater is collected by rainwater pipes and discharged into the river nearby, and finally discharged into the Yangtze River through the Loujiang River and Wusong River. The domestic sewage and industrial waste water generated by all users in the Park are treated and incorporated into the urban effluent pipe network, and pumped by the pumping station to the effluent treatment plant (the first effluent treatment plant, the second effluent treatment plant) for centralized treatment and then discharged into Wusong Jiang.

Based on the geographical location of the Suzhou Industrial Park, the location of water source and final discharge, the Outer Boundary of Suzhou Industrial Park is Taihu Lake Catchment.

5. Summary of the Stakeholder meeting

Stakeholder name	Stakeholder type	Summary
Mr. Li Ning	Municipal Group water conservancy Branch	It is the water administrative department directly under the park, responsible for the scheduling and operation of the park's water conservancy projects, the maintenance of rivers and lakes, the installation, operation, maintenance and management of water conservancy facilities, etc. The water quality of the river body is gradually improving, and it often participates in meetings,

		training, etc. on environmental protection held by the SIPAC. SIPAC provide corresponding support if they needed.
Mr. Zhang	Sludge treatment plant	Engaged in the collection, treatment and reuse of sludge in the park. The sludge drying facility is one of the water facilities directly managed by the Suzhou Industrial Park, it is operated by the company. The SIPAC invests in the maintenance of water-related facilities and equipment every year, and also invests in new facilities. SIPAC provide corresponding support if they needed.
Mrs. Zhang Qianqian	NGO	It is NGO organization on environmental protection, established in 2017. It held about 400 environmental protection activities. About 100,000 people were affected. There were volunteer teams of 200 to 300 people. The SIPAC provides support in terms of funds, venues, personnel, etc.
Mrs. Ding Xiang	Factory	The factory produces industrial waste water. At present, there is zero discharge of industrial waste water. Domestic waste water discharge into the municipal pipe network. The main water used by the factory is domestic water. The SIPAC provided financial subsidies to the factory for environmental protection.
Mr. Chen Yong	Water service company	Responsible for the construction and operation management of the tap water and effluent plant network in the administrative area of Suzhou Industrial Park. The water supply pipe network and effluent pipe network have fully covered the Suzhou Industrial Park. The current effluent discharge standard is the highest implementation standard in the province. The SIPAC supervises its operation. And SIPAC provide corresponding support if they needed.

6. Summary of Shared Water Challenges

Water-related challenges	Initiatives by related public institutions	Relevance to stakeholders	Relevance to site	Priority 1 to 5 (high to low)	Reason for prioritization
River and lake water pollution	Establish a long-term salvage mechanism and formulate a work plan for the prevention and control of cyanobacteria and aquatic plants to reduce the impact of cyanobacteria and aquatic plants.	Administrative risks, water safety, hygiene and health, causing diseases	Water safety, hygiene and health, cause diseases	High	Frequent occurrence of cyanobacteria in Taihu Lake, perennial pollution-induced water shortage, and serious drinking water source safety issues.
Insufficient local water resources in the catchment	(Suyuan Guangui Zi [2019] No. 2) Special Funds Administrative Measures for Environmental Protection Guidance in Suzhou Industrial Park	Administrative risks, water safety, domestic and industrial water security	Water safety, domestic and industrial water security	High	The ability to divert water resources from the Yangtze River is low, Seasonal engineering water shortage is serious in dry years，while water demand continues to increase.
Water ecological environment problems are increasingly prominent	Carry out comprehensive treatment of the water environment, comprehensively promote the prevention and control of water pollution and water ecological protection of Yangcheng Lake, Jinji Lake, and Dushu Lake, and continue to improve the water quality of the lakes.	Sustainable water ecological environment	Sustainable water ecological environment	High	The prevention and control of water pollution is lagging, the quality of the water environment is declining, and the water quality of the river network exceeds the standard
Water efficiency is low in the catchment	Carry out the "Green Partner" environmental management capacity	Water safety, compliance	Water safety, compliance	Middle	Extensive water management and low water

	improvement plan implementation plan to improve water use efficiency.				efficiency
Extreme weather	Formulate the park drainage and waterlogging prevention plan, relying on the catchment and region to provide the safety guarantee of flood control and drainage for the park, and through engineering and non-engineering measures, to achieve the flood control goal of the park.	Production and life safety	Production and life safety	Low	Greenhouse gas emissions lead to climate warming and cause natural disasters such as torrential rains and floods, but the probability of occurrence is low

7. Indicators Checklists

Per requirements set from the AWS certification requirements V2.0, below is a checklist of all the CORE AWS indicators. The documents reviewed/ processes reviewed are also indicated.

Criteria	Documents Reviewed
STEP 1: Gather and Understand	
1.1 Define the physical scope: 1.1.1 Map site boundaries; 1.1.2 Water-related infrastructure, including piping network, owned or managed by the site or its parent organization 1.1.3 Any water sources providing water to the site that are owned or managed by the site or its parent organization 1.1.4 Water service provider (if applicable) and its ultimate water source 1.1.5 Discharge points and waste water service provider (if applicable) and ultimate receiving water body or bodies 1.1.6 Catchment(s) that the site affect(s) and is reliant upon for water	☒ Documentation or map of the site's boundaries ☒ Names and location of water sources ☒ Names and location of effluent discharge points ☐ Other : SIPAC's water management boundary is the administrative management activities related to the development, utilization and protection of water resources performed by the functional departments in its administrative area, covering the entire administrative area of 278 square kilometers. An administrative boundary map is available, which includes the municipal water supply infrastructure and its water source, municipal wastewater treatment facilities and the final receiving water body of the treated municipal wastewater, and the main municipal water supply and drainage network Evidences: SIPAC's administrative boundary map
1.2 Understand relevant stakeholders: 1.2.1 Stakeholders and their water-related challenges shall be identified. The process used for stakeholder identification shall be identified 1.2.2 Current and potential degree of influence between site and stakeholder shall be identified	☒ List of stakeholders ☒ Water-related challenges ☒ Current and potential degree of influence ☐ Other : SIPAC has established a stakeholder engagement procedure, including establishing communication channels with stakeholders. SIPAC has identified stakeholders such as the Higher government departments, NGOs, Public infrastructure operation and management unit, Residents, enterprises and institutions in the park, and has established diversified communication channels with different stakeholders. Stakeholder's water-related interests and challenges were collected Evidences: SIPAC's Water Management Stakeholder Analysis

Criteria	Documents Reviewed
1.3 Gather water-related data for the site: 1.3.1 Existing water-related incident response plans 1.3.2 Site water balance, including inflows, losses, storage, and outflows 1.3.3 Site water balance, inflows, losses, storage, and outflows, including indication of annual variance in water usage rates. An indication of annual high and low variances shall be quantified for risky water-related challenge 1.3.4 Water quality of the site's water source(s), provided waters, effluent and receiving water bodies. An indication of annual, and where appropriate, seasonal, high and low variances shall be quantified for risky water-related challenge 1.3.5 Potential sources of pollution, including chemicals used or stored on site 1.3.6 Mapping on-site Important Water-Related Areas, including a description of their status including Indigenous cultural values 1.3.7 Annual water-related costs, revenues, and a description or quantification of the social, cultural, environmental, or economic water-related value 1.3.8 Levels of access and adequacy of WASH at the site	☒ Water-related incident response plans ☒ Site water balance (in Mm^3 or m^3) ☒ Water quality of the site's water source(s), provided waters, effluent and receiving water bodies, such as water test reports ☐ Other : A series of emergency plans for water-related/environmental emergencies have been formulated。 SIPAC draws and quantifies the water balance in its administrative area in terms of municipal annual water supply and drainage SIPAC has identified the potential risks of the water source of Yangcheng Lake (within the scope of the park); SIPAC also maintains a list of key water, soil, and gas supervision units SIPAC has identified the cost of water management-related activities (water quality monitoring, environmental remediation, infrastructure renovation, etc.)
1.4 Gather data on the site's indirect water use: 1.4.1 The embedded water use of primary inputs, including quantity, quality and level of water risk within the site's catchment 1.4.2 The embedded water use of outsourced services shall be identified, and where those services originate within the site's catchment, quantified	☐ List of primary inputs ☐ List of outsourced services ☐ Other : SIPAC, as a government agency, exercises administrative supervision and management responsibilities within its jurisdiction. Discussions on indirect water use topics within its administrative boundaries are not applicable

Criteria	Documents Reviewed
1.5 Gather water-related data for the catchment: 1.5.1 Water governance initiatives shall be identified, including catchment plan(s), water-related public policies, major publicly-led initiatives under way, and relevant goals to help inform site of possible opportunities for water stewardship collective action 1.5.2 Applicable water-related legal and regulatory requirements shall be identified, including legally-defined and/or stakeholder-verified customary water rights 1.5.3 The catchment water-balance, and where applicable, scarcity, shall be quantified, including indication of annual, and where appropriate, seasonal, variance 1.5.4 Water quality, including physical, chemical, and biological status, of the catchment shall be identified, and where possible, quantified 1.5.5 Important Water-Related Areas shall be identified, and where appropriate, mapped, and their status assessed including any threats to people or the natural environment, using scientific information and through stakeholder engagement 1.5.6 Existing and planned water-related infrastructure shall be identified, including condition and potential exposure to extreme events 1.5.7 The adequacy of available WASH services within the catchment	☒ Water governance initiatives ☒ Applicable water-related legal and regulatory requirements ☒ Catchment water balance (in Mm^3 or m^3) ☒ Documentation identifying Important Water-Related Areas (IWRAs) ☐Other : SIPAC has established a legislation and regulatory requirement collection procedure. The legislation and regulatory is reviewed and updated regularly. SIPAC can identify the catchment plan(s), water-related public policies, major publicly-led initiatives, and legal requirements. SIPAC collected the water resource public report of Suzhou and water quality public report of Taihu Lake catchment, which contained the water-balance and water quality information of the catchment. Important Water-Related Areas in the Park are identified by SIPAC, including Yangcheng Lake, Dushu Lake, Jinji Lake. Main lakes and rivers: Dongsha Lake, Wusong River, Sushen Waigang Line, Loujiang, Qingqiupu, Jiepu River, etc., Ecological parks and wetlands and Taihusiqian water source. SIPAC revised and issued the "Suzhou Industrial Park Emergency Plan for Environmental Incidents", "Suzhou Industrial Park Water Supply Emergency Plan", and "Suzhou Industrial Park Centralized Drinking Water Source Site Emergency Plan for Environmental Incidents" in 2021, including condition and potential exposure to extreme events and etc. The centralized treatment rate of urban sewage and water supply rate in the park have reached 100%. It indicates that the WASH services in the Park are adequate. Evidences: t Suzhou Industrial Park（SIP) Sustainable Water Management Assessment Report

Criteria	Documents Reviewed
1.6 Understand current and future shared water challenges in the catchment: 1.6.1 Shared water challenges shall be identified and prioritized from the information gathered 1.6.2 Initiatives to address shared water challenges	☒ List of shared water challenges ☐ Other : SIP Sustainable Water Management Assessment Report identified 5 shared challenges in the catchment, and addressed initiatives are also established. Evidences: SIP Sustainable Water Management Assessment Report
1.7 Understand the site's water risks and opportunities: 1.7.1 Water risks faced by the site shall be identified, and prioritized, including likelihood and severity of impact within a given timeframe, potential costs and business impact 1.7.2 Water-related opportunities shall be identified, including how the site may participate, assessment and prioritization of potential savings, and business opportunities	☒ List of water risks facing the site ☒ List of water-related opportunities ☐ Other : SIPAC has identified its water risks and opportunities covering factors inside of the SIP, stakeholder and catchment effects. Based on risk and opportunities analysis, SIPAC has prioritized its water risks and opportunities according to potential impact, likelihood within a given time and difficulty of detection. Meanwhile, corresponding response strategies and implementation plan are also identified. Evidences: Water risk and opportunity assessment analysis record of SIPAC.

Criteria	Documents Reviewed
1.8 Understand best practice towards achieving AWS outcomes: 1.8.1 Relevant catchment best practice for water governance 1.8.2 Relevant sector and/or catchment best practice for water balance (either through water efficiency or less total water use) 1.8.3 Relevant sector and/or catchment best practice for water quality, including rationale for data source 1.8.4 Relevant catchment best practice for site maintenance of Important Water-Related Areas 1.8.5 Relevant sector and/or catchment best practice for site provision of equitable and adequate WASH services	☒ Relevant catchment best practices ☐ Other : SIPAC has identified relevant catchment best practice for water governance, water balance, water quality, IWRAS and WASH. Best practice for water governance identified by SIPAC: - Implement AWS management on the site and carry out AWS certification; - Implement ISO 14001:2015 management system on site and carry out certification; Best practice for water quality identified by SIPAC: - Regarding the water quality assessment indicators in the jurisdiction, 100% of the water body sections (3 in total) assessed at the provincial and municipal levels meet the Class 3 standard of surface water; - Municipal wastewater treatment facilities implement discharge standards that are stricter than GB 18918-2002, Level 1A, namely DB32-1072-2018 "Emission Standards for Major Water Pollutants for Urban Sewage Treatment Plants and Key Industrial Industries in Taihu Region" and "Suzhou Special Discharge Limits" Best practice for IWRAS identified by SIPAC: - Conduct biodiversity surveys in the jurisdiction every 3 years; and carry out ecological restoration work Best practice for WASH identified by SIPAC: - The coverage of water supply and drainage pipe network in the jurisdiction reaches 100% Evidences: Best practice for water governance, water balance, water quality, IWRAS and WASH, including the benchmarking standard.
STEP 2: Commit and Plan	

Criteria	Documents Reviewed
2.1 Commit to water stewardship: 2.1.1 A signed and publicly disclosed site statement OR organizational document	☒ Statement ☐ Other : A water stewardship commitment to follow all the AWS core criteria has been signed by the director of SIPAC. The commitment has been displayed on SIPAC's official WeChat public account "Park Ecological Environment". Evidences: SIPAC's official WeChat public account "Park Ecological Environment"
2.2 Develop and document a process to achieve and maintain legal and regulatory compliance: 2.2.1 The system to maintain compliance obligations for water and wastewater management shall be identified	☒Documented description of system ☐Other : SIPAC has established a procedure to ensure it to meet the provisions of relevant laws, regulations and collect, implement the requirements communicated by superior authorities Evidences: Procedure for Compliance Evaluation of Laws and Other Requirements

Criteria	Documents Reviewed
2.3 Create a water stewardship strategy and plan: 2.3.1 A water stewardship strategy shall be identified that defines the overarching mission, vision, and goals of the organization towards good water stewardship in line with this AWS Standard 2.3.2 A water stewardship plan shall be identified	☒ Water stewardship strategy ☒ Water stewardship Plan ☐ Other : SIPAC has formulated the "14th Five-Year" Ecological Environmental Protection Plan for Suzhou Industrial Park, with the basic principles of: - green efficiency; - reform and innovation; - integration and co-governance; - openness and leadership. And formulated a five-year action plan around the following topics: - The natural ecological environment is well restored; - Green development continues to maintain the leading level in the country; - Environmental quality is improving steadily; - Environmental risks are well controlled; - Continue to improve ecological environment governance capabilities Evidences: "14th Five-Year" Ecological Environmental Protection Plan for Suzhou Industrial Park
2.4 Demonstrate the site's responsiveness and resilience to respond to water risks: 2.4.1 A plan to mitigate or adapt to identified water risks developed in co-ordination with relevant public-sector and infrastructure agencies	☒ Water risk mitigation plan ☐ Other : A series of emergency plans for water-related/environmental emergencies have been formulated. SIPAC draws and quantifies the water balance in its administrative area in terms of municipal annual water supply and drainage
STEP 3: Implement	

Criteria	Documents Reviewed
3.1 Implement plan to participate positively in catchment governance: 3.1.1 Evidence that the site has supported good catchment governance 3.1.2 Measures identified to respect the water rights of others including Indigenous peoples, that are not part of 3.1	☒ Good catchment governance evidence ☒ Identified measures ☐ Other : SIPAC collects and implements the policy requirements issued by the superior authorities in a timely manner, E.g: - Implement ecological red line governance - Implement the most stringent water resources management system - Implement a cross-regional river chief system Evidences: Report on the work of water environment treatment in Yangcheng Lake, Report on the implementation of the work of the river chief system in the park, Report on the prevention and control of cyanobacteria in Suzhou Industrial Park, etc.
3.2 Implement system to comply with water-related legal and regulatory requirements: 3.2.1 A process to verify full legal and regulatory compliance 3.2.2 Where water rights are part of legal and regulatory requirements, measures identified to respect the water rights of others including Indigenous peoples	☒ Legal and regulatory compliance verification process ☒ Identified measures (if applicable) ☐ Other : SIPAC has established a procedure to ensure it to meet the provisions of relevant laws, regulations and collect, implement the requirements communicated by superior authorities The superior department evaluates the performance of SIPAC's water management policy implementation every year. SIPAC submits the water management system assessment technical data to its superior department every year, and reports on its water management performance. SIPAC regularly cooperate with superior departments to carry out environmental protection inspections, and follow up and rectify problems found Evidences: Technical data for the assessment of the most stringent water resources management system in the industrial park in 2020, Follow-up rectification records of environmental protection inspectors finding points

Criteria	Documents Reviewed
3.3 Implement plan to achieve site water balance targets: 3.3.1 Status of progress towards meeting water balance targets set in the water stewardship plan 3.3.2 Where water scarcity is a shared water challenge, annual targets to improve the site's water use efficiency, or if practical and applicable, reduce volumetric total use shall be implemented 3.3.3 Legally-binding documentation, if applicable, for the re-allocation of water to social, cultural or environmental needs	☒ Status of progress ☒ Water use efficiency annual target (if applicable) ☒ Legally-binding documentation (if applicable) ☐ Other : Technical data for the assessment of the strictest water resources management system in the industrial park in 2020-January 2021, Suzhou Industrial Park Water Affairs Bureau
3.4 Maintain or improve site water quality: 3.4.1 Status of progress towards meeting water quality targets set in the water stewardship plan 3.4.2 Where water quality is a shared water challenge, continual improvement to achieve best practice for the site's effluent shall be identified and where applicable, quantified	☒ Status of progress ☒ Site's effluent best practice (if applicable) ☐ Other : SIPAC has developed a monitoring plan to monitor the water bodies in its jurisdiction (about 282 monitoring points) and monthly evaluate the water quality of each monitored water body SIPAC has formulated and implemented a series of measures to improve the water quality of water bodies within its jurisdiction, such as carrying out beautiful river and lake construction projects, lake blue algae prevention and control projects, etc. Evidences: Water quality monitoring plan and monthly assessment records, implementation plan for blue algae salvage in 2021, beautiful river and lake construction projects
3.5 Implement plan to maintain or improve the site's and/or catchments IWRAs: 3.5.1 Practices set in the water stewardship plan to maintain and/or enhance the site's IWRAs shall be implemented	☒ Practices set in the water stewardship plan ☐ Other : SIPAC implemented the protection plan for the ecological red line area of the Suzhou Industrial Park and the 2021 lake blue algae prevention and control plan to maintain and improve the IWRAs it identifies Evidences: Protection plan for the ecological red line area of the Suzhou Industrial Park, 2021 lake blue algae prevention and control plan

Criteria	Documents Reviewed
3.6 Implement plan to provide access to WASH: 3.6.1 Evidence of the site's provision of adequate access to safe drinking water, effective sanitation, and protective hygiene (WASH) for all workers onsite shall be identified and where applicable, quantified 3.6.2 Evidence that the site is not impinging on the human right to safe water and sanitation of communities through their operations, and that traditional access rights for indigenous and local communities are being respected, and that remedial actions are in place where this is not the case, and that these are effective	☒ Evidence of site's provisions of WASH ☒ Evidence of site operations not affecting water rights of surrounding environment ☐ Other : The water supply and drainage network coverage of Suzhou Industrial Park has reached 100% Evidences: Technical data for the assessment of the strictest water resources management system in the industrial park in 2020-January 2021, Suzhou Industrial Park Water Affairs Bureau
3.7 Implement plan to maintain or improve indirect water use within the catchment: 3.7.1 List of suppliers and service providers, along with the actions they have taken as a result of the site's engagement relating to indirect water use 3.7.2 Evidence of engagement with suppliers and service providers, as well as, when applicable, actions they have taken in the catchment as a result of the site's engagement related to indirect water use, shall be identified	☐ List of suppliers and service providers ☐ Evidence of engagement with suppliers and service providers ☐ Other : SIPAC, as a government agency, exercises administrative supervision and management responsibilities within its jurisdiction. Discussions on indirect water use topics within its administrative boundaries are not applicable
3.8 Notify the owners of shared water-related infrastructure of any concerns: 3.8.1 Evidence of engagement, and the key messages relayed with confirmation of receipt	☒ Evidence of engagement ☐ Other : A series of emergency plans for water-related/environmental emergencies have been formulated SIPAC draws and quantifies the water balance in its administrative area in terms of municipal annual water supply and drainage SIPAC, in conjunction with water-related infrastructure, carried out emergency drills on environmental emergencies in water sources in June 2020 Evidences: Emergency drill records for environmental emergencies in water sources

Criteria	Documents Reviewed
3.9 Implement actions to achieve best practice towards AWS outcomes: 3.9.1 Actions towards achieving best practice, related to water governance 3.9.2 Actions towards achieving best practice, related to targets in terms of water balance 3.9.3 Actions towards achieving best practice, related to targets in terms of water quality 3.9.4 Actions towards achieving best practice, related to targets in terms of the site's maintenance of IWRAs 3.9.5 Actions towards achieving best practice, related to targets in terms of WASH	☒ Actions related to water governance ☒ Actions related to water balance ☒ Actions related to water quality ☒ Actions related to IWRAs ☒ Actions related to WASH ☐ Other : SIPAC has collected the best practices for AWS outcomes, actions were also implemented to achieve these outcomes. Evidences: Detailed Rules for the Implementation of Sustainable Water Management in Suzhou Industrial Park
STEP 4: Evaluate	
4.1 Evaluate the site's performance: 4.1.1 Performance against targets in the site's water stewardship plan and the contribution to achieving water stewardship outcomes shall be evaluated 4.1.2 Value creation resulting from the water stewardship plan shall be evaluated 4.1.3 The shared value benefits in the catchment shall be identified and where applicable, quantified	☒ Performance against targets ☒ Value creation ☒ The shared value benefits (if applicable) ☐ Other : SIPAC has established targets, the SIPAC has: Established the AWS management system. Established Suzhou Industrial Park "14th Five-Year" Ecological Environment Protection Plan November 2021 The value created by each project was evaluated, it was also including the value benefits in the catchment.
4.2 Evaluate the impacts of water-related emergency incidents: 4.2.1 A written annual review and (where appropriate) root-cause analysis of the year's emergency incident(s) shall be prepared and the site's response to the incident(s) shall be evaluated and proposed preventative and corrective actions and mitigations against future incidents shall be identified	☒ A written annual review and root-cause analysis ☐ Other : No water-related emergencies or extreme events occurred at the site in recent years. SIPAC has developed several water-related incident response plans, which contained the analysis and improvement procedure. Evidences: SIPAC's website, Environmental Emergency Plan and drill records.

Criteria	Documents Reviewed
4.3 Evaluate the stakeholders' consultation feedback: 4.3.1 Consultation efforts with stakeholders on the site's water stewardship performance shall be identified	☐ Stakeholder feedback ☐ Other : **Minor non-conformities:** The site did not engage stakeholders at least once every year to review its water stewardship performance and provide written commentary from identified stakeholders on the site's performance. Evidences: Management interview.
4.4 Evaluate and updated the site's water stewardship plan: 4.4.1 The site's water stewardship plan shall be modified and adapted to incorporate any relevant information and lessons learned from the evaluations in this step and these changes shall be identified	☒ Modification of water stewardship plan ☐ Other : The site updated the water stewardship plan for 2020-2021. Evidences: Water Stewardship plan 2020-2021
STEP 5: Communication and Disclosure	
5.1 Disclose water-related internal governance of the site's management: 5.1.1 The site's water-related internal governance, including positions of those accountable for compliance with water-related laws and regulations shall be disclosed	☒ Summary of governance ☐ Other : SIPAC's Organization Chart of Integrated Management System clearly shows the manager representative of environment and water stewardship, the responsible department and person. The Organization Chart is available on Suzhou Industrial Park Administrative Committee's website: sipac.gov.cn Evidences: Website
5.2 Communicate the water stewardship plan with relevant stakeholders: 5.2.1 The water stewardship plan, including how the water stewardship plan contributes to AWS Standard outcomes, shall be communicated to relevant stakeholders	☒ Documented evidence of communicating ☐ Other : The water stewardship plan is available on SIPAC's website: http://public.sipac.gov.cn/gkml/gbm/gwgwh/201612/t20161222_516980.htm Evidences: Website

Criteria	Documents Reviewed
5.3 Disclose annual site water stewardship summary: 5.3.1 A summary of the site's water stewardship performance, including quantified performance against targets, shall be disclosed annually at a minimum	☐ Water stewardship performance summary ☐ Other : The site just introduced the AWS system at the beginning of the 2021, the annual review has not been reviewed. So no performance was disclosed. Evidences: NA
5.4 Disclose efforts to collectively address shared water challenges: 5.4.1 The site's shared water-related challenges and efforts made to address these challenges shall be disclosed 5.4.2 Efforts made by the site to engage stakeholders and coordinate and support public-sector agencies shall be identified	☒ Disclosure evidence ☐ Other : Efforts to collectively address shared water challenges are available on SIPAC's Official Accounts: Evidences: SIPAC's Official Accounts
5.5 Communicate transparency in water-related compliance: 5.5.1 Any site water-related compliance violations and associated corrections shall be disclosed 5.5.2 Necessary corrective actions taken by the site to prevent future occurrences shall be disclosed if applicable 5.5.3 Any site water-related violation that may pose significant risk and threat to human or ecosystem health shall be immediately communicated to relevant public agencies and disclosed	☐ List of water-related compliance violations with corresponding corrective actions ☐ Other : No water-related compliance violations occurred at the site to date. Evidences: Website

Advance indicators

Criteria	Evidences	Score
1.5.8 Efforts by the site to support and undertake catchment level water-related data collection shall be identified. (4-7 points)	SIPAC participated in monitoring the water quality of Taihu Lake once per month, the report is provided for review. A biodiversity report is made by a third-party organization every 5 years in the SIPAC. Evidences: Biodiversity report, Taihu Lake monitoring report.	5
1.6.3 Future water issues shall be identified, including anticipated impacts and trends. (3 points)	SIPAC has collected the information of future water issues, anticipated impacts and trends. A review is undertaken of the impacts these may have on the organization, catchment population and natural environment.	3
2.1.2 A statement that explicitly covers all requirements set out in Indicator 2.1.1 and is signed by the organization's senior-most executive or governance body and publicly disclosed shall be identified. (1 point)	A water stewardship commitment to follow all the AWS core criteria has been signed by the director of SIPAC. The commitment has been displayed on SIPAC's official WeChat public account "Park Ecological Environment". Evidences: SIPAC's official WeChat public account "Park Ecological Environment"	1
2.3.3 The site's partnership/water stewardship activities with other sites within the same catchment (which may or may not be under the same organisational ownership) shall be identified and described. (4 points)	SIPAC unites various stakeholders to carry out a wealth of activities on sustainable water management, such as: - Implementation of the cross-regional river chief system - Carrying out the beautiful river and lake construction project: Participating in the joint management of water bodies in the Suzhou area - Implementation of the Environmental Partnership Program: Promote environmental management cooperation and joint improvement between companies - Environmental protection publicity activities initiated in cooperation with NGOs Evidences: Suzhou Industrial Park Environmental Management Partnership Plan Implementation Plan, Suzhou Industrial Park beautiful river and lake construction plan, etc.	4
3.1.3	SIPAC implement AWS management within its boundary and carry out AWS certification.	2

Evidence of improvements in water governance capacity from a site-selected baseline date shall be identified. (2 points)	Evidences: Procedures and records established based on AWS standards	
3.1.4 Evidence from a representative range of stakeholders showing consensus that the site is seen as positively contributing to the good water governance of the catchment shall be identified. (2 points)	SIPAC has developed a wealth of water management practices in its jurisdiction and has been recognized by stakeholders Evidences: Suzhou Environmental Management Partnership Program---Top Ten Ecological Environmental Protection Reform and Innovation Cases in Jiangsu Province in 2019; River Chief System Assessment; Blue Sky Defense Battle Assessment; Beautiful River and Lake Construction Project Assessment	2
3.5.2 Evidence of completed restoration of non-functioning or severely degraded Important Water-Related Areas including where appropriate cultural values from a site-selected baseline date shall be identified. Restored areas may be outside of the site, but within the catchment. (6 points)	SIPAC carried out restoration work on water bodies with impaired functions in its jurisdiction. And the Heyunzhong River was restored from Class 5-water quality (worse than Class 5) to Class 3 water quality SIPAC launched Yangcheng Lake ecological restoration project	6
3.5.3 Evidence from a representative range of stakeholders showing consensus that the site is seen as positively contributing to the healthy status of Important Water-Related Areas in the catchment shall be identified. (2 points)	The comprehensive treatment project of Jinji Lake and surrounding water environment in Suzhou Industrial Park was selected as one of the “Top Ten People's Support Projects in Suzhou” in 2020 Evidences: “Top Ten People's Support Projects in Suzhou” of 2020	2
3.9.6 Achievement of identified best practice related to targets in terms of good water governance shall be quantified. (8 points)	SIPAC has implemented AWS standards within its jurisdiction. SIPAC has obtained ISO 14001: 2015 certification. Evidences: Detailed Rules for the Implementation of Sustainable Water Management in Suzhou Industrial Park, ISO 14001: 2015 certification of SIPAC	8
3.9.7		8

Achievement of identified best practice related to targets in terms of sustainable water balance shall be quantified. (8 points)		
3.9.8 Achievement of identified best practices related to targets in terms of water quality shall be quantified. (8 points)	1. 100% of the surface water monitoring points meet the assessment requirements of the superior department, that is, the Class 3 water quality standard for surface water 2. The discharge standards of municipal effluent treatment facilities are in compliance with the "Suzhou Special Discharge Limits", and some parameters meet the Class 4 water quality standards for surface water	8
3.9.10 Achievement of identified best practices related to targets in terms of WASH shall be quantified. (4 points)	The water supply and drainage network coverage of Suzhou Industrial Park has reached 100%	4
3.9.12 A list of collective action efforts, including the organizations involved, positions of responsible persons of other entities involved, and a description of the role played by the site shall be identified. (8-14 points)	SIPAC implemented and summarized the rich collective actions it carried out, such as: 1. Implement the environmental management partnership plan, formulate guidelines for corporate social responsibility assessment, and conduct assessments on enterprises. And create a platform to help companies improve the level of environmental management; 2. Carried out a wealth of environmental protection publicity activities in conjunction with communities, schools, and NGOs 3. Implement the cross-regional river chief system, and cooperate with other regions to carry out the monitoring and management of important water bodies	12
3.9.13 Evidence of the quantified improvement that has resulted from the collective action relative to a site-selected baseline date shall be identified and evidence from an appropriate range of stakeholders linked to the collective action (including	SIPAC launched the Environmental Management Partnership Program of Suzhou Industrial Park in 2020 to improve the environmental performance of enterprises within its jurisdiction through the processes of enterprise evaluation, expert guidance, project promotion, and performance evaluation. SIPAC compiled a work summary and quantified the results of the project	3

both those implementing the action and those affected by the action) that the site is materially and positively contributing to the achievement of the collective action shall be identified. (3-10 points)		
4.1.4 A governance or executive-level review, including discussion of shared water challenges, water risks, and opportunities, and any water-related cost savings or benefits realized, and any relevant incidents shall be identified. (3 points)	The Top management discussion of shared water challenges, water risks, and opportunities, and any water-related cost savings or benefits realized, and relevant incidents. Evidences: Evaluation record	3
Total		**71**
AWS Level		**Gold**

Assessment Non-conformities:

During audit. One non-conformity was raised.

Minor non-conformities:

NO.	AWS Expectations	Description of non-conformity	Client's response and Documentation provided	Auditors' assessment
1	4.3.1	The site did not engage stakeholders at least once every year to review its water stewardship performance and provide written commentary from identified stakeholders on the site's performance.	Cause analysis: SIPAC did not fully understand the requirement due to initial certification. Corrections and Corrective Action: Established procedure to ensure to communicate with stakeholders through questionnaire at least once per year. The questionnaire contains review its water stewardship performance and etc.. Proposed finished time: May 2022	Accepted

8. Summary and Conclusion of the Assessment

In assessment of the water stewardship performance of the Suzhou Industrial Park Administrative Committee, it is apparent that the sites put considerable efforts to adopt the AWS standard into the management system.

One minor non-conformity was identified in this audit. SIPAC has been requested to make some improvement plans to address the Non-conformity to be fully compliant to the standard.

All evidences provided to TÜV Rheinland to address the non-conformity was reviewed and evaluated to ensure the compliance to the AWS standard. All actions were accepted as sufficient to close the non-conformity. Therefore, all AWS core criteria are satisfied.

The advance-level criteria evaluation was performed and the score is 71 point, which fulfils the requirement of Gold Level (40-79 points).

In conclusion, Suzhou Industrial Park Administrative Committee met the AWS Standard (Version 2.0) Gold Level.