7.6

United Nations Water Mandate

Progress report

Siemens became a signatory to the United Nations CEO Water Mandate in 2008. Our continuing support for the CEO Water Mandate reflects our commitment on two fronts: Firstly, managing water efficiently in our own facilities and placing similar expectations on our supply chain partners. Secondly, providing solutions that help our customers and societies handle water and wastewater more economically.

Our own activities

For more information about the resource conservation and water consumption at Siemens locations, see the section ↗ ENVIRONMENT in this report. We are pursuing a new approach to water resources management that was developed in 2012. At locations where there are increased water-related risks – for example, as a result of aridity, high wastewater loads, or poorly developed technical infrastructures – goals that are matched to local circumstances need to be defined. This enables us to effectively reduce risks and negative impacts on the environment. With the Siemens Water Strategy, we aim to reduce the local negative impact of our water use, taking water stress and other risks into account, such as water pollution or flooding of environmentally relevant areas.

We use all our resources carefully and avoid waste of resources wherever it is possible. Amongst others, through Leadership in Energy and Environmental Design (LEED) certification for all our new buildings, where efficient use of water is a key element of the building design. This certificate we ask for all of our new construction projects.

Our supply chain partners

Environmental protection requirements for our supply chain partners are included in our Code of Conduct for Siemens Suppliers and Third Party Intermediaries. For more information on these requirements and on supply chain management please refer to ↗ SUPPLY CHAIN MANAGEMENT in this report.

Our customers

Examples where we provide water management solutions to support our customers include:

Modern water extraction

Siemens has been commissioned by the A3C consortium to equip eight seawater desalination plants in Saudi Arabia with process automation, drive technology, process instrumentation, and communication technology. This is a follow-on order to an earlier contract, where Siemens were appointed as the the main Electrical Instrumentation and Control Engineering (EI&A) contractor for construction of the first large-scale solar-powered water desalination plant near the Saudi Arabian city Al Khafji. At that plant, efficient use of solar energy significantly reduces operational carbon dioxide (CO_2) emissions compared to plants using electricity from non-renewable sources. In addition to this, the Siemens technology ensures a plant availability of approximately 98%.

Partnership to reduce water losses, secure water supply and increase efficiency

Siemens and BuntPlanet have signed a sales distributorship agreement: enabling the two companies to provide a comprehensive portfolio on equipment, software, and services, offering advanced solutions for the water industry. Particularly in the area of leakage detection within water distribution networks, this partnership will allow Siemens customers to reduce water losses, secure water supply, and increase efficiency significantly. With this cooperation, both partners will make a major contribution toward securing sustainable water supplies worldwide.

Social commitment

As a member of various international organizations, we're involved in numerous initiatives and programs, including the Action 2020 Water Project of the World Business Council for Sustainable Development. We initiate and implement projects in various regions that promote efficient use of water.

In addition, the Siemens Stiftung drives an entrepreneurial approach to supply clean drinking water to communities. The Safe Water Enterprises is the flagship program for such initiatives, and a recent example includes:

Safe Water Enterprises – Kenya

The Migori region in western Kenya is one of the regions south of the Sahara where people lack access to clean drinking water. A Siemens Stiftung water kiosk provides 20,000 liters of affordable filtered drinking water in the community of Wath Onger. The kiosk provides a source of income for women and since its installation no new cases of cholera were reported. The kiosk is one of 20 Safe Water Enterprises initiated by the community group LAVISO (Lake Victoria AIDS Support Organization).

For more information with regards to the projects of the Siemens Foundation, please refer to:

WWW.SIEMENS-STIFTUNG.ORG/EN/PROJECTS