CDP's Water A List

In 2015, CDP published its first Water A list highlighting eight companies that achieved an 'A' rating in accordance with our water scoring methodology. This year, we welcome 25 companies to our A list.

The methodology is based on four consecutive levels, representing the steps a company takes as it progresses. These are: disclosure; awareness; management; and leadership. A company needs to achieve a minimum score on each level in order to be assessed on the following one.

Every element in the questionnaire is scored for disclosure, with sections of most importance to data users carrying more weight. The awareness score measures how comprehensively the company has evaluated the ways in which water intersects with its business. Companies should consider the impacts of their activities on water, how these impacts affect people and ecosystems and, conversely, the impacts of water security on its business activities. These will influence the degree of risk that a particular company faces.

Management points are awarded for evidence of actions associated with good water management, such as the ability to account for water at the facility level, having company-specific targets and goals around water, or incorporating best practice elements in water policy. For leadership status, the company must demonstrate it is pursuing best practice, as understood by CDP and informed by other institutions we are working with to advance water stewardship, including the **Alliance for Water Stewardship, Ceres**, the **UN CEO Water Mandate, World Resources Institute** and **WWF**. CDP's water score is an indicator of a company's commitment to transparency around their environmental risks, and the sufficiency of their response to them. These are both essential for the collaborative stewardship of water. CDP's water score is based solely on activities and positions disclosed in their CDP response. However, RepRisk, a business intelligence provider specializing in ESG risks, provides CDP with additional risk research and data into the proposed A List companies to assess whether any severe reputational issues could put their leadership status into question.

Companies eligible for an A are those that achieve 75% of the points available in the leadership band and have submitted a public response. However, not all companies requested to respond to CDP do so. Companies who are requested to disclose their data and fail to do so, or fail to provide sufficient information will receive an F, which signifies their failure to provide sufficient information to CDP to be evaluated for this purpose. An F does not indicate a failure in environmental stewardship.

Ultimately, the methodology aims to recognize companies that understand that the sustainable management of water is a business imperative and are acting to improve water security for all. For a summary of the leadership indicators, and breakdown of company responses by sector, please see Appendix III.

The continued development of CDP's water program and risk-related response data, together with the introduction and testing of scoring in 2014, is an important milestone in helping investors secure valuable information in their investment decision process.

Norges Bank Investment Management (US\$852 billion)





Consumer Discretionary

Fiat Chrysler Automobiles NV (Italy) Ford Motor Company (USA) Sony Corporation (Japan) Toyota Motor Corporation (Japan)



Consumer Staples

Coca-Cola European Partners (UK) Colgate-Palmolive Company (USA) Diageo plc (UK) KAO Corporation (Japan) Kirin Holdings Co Ltd (Japan) L'Oréal (France) Suntory Beverage & Food (Japan) Unilever plc (UK)



Health Care

AstraZeneca (UK) Bayer AG (Germany) GlaxoSmithKline (UK)



Industrials

Mitsubishi Electric Corporation (Japan)



Information Technology

LG Display (South Korea)



Materials

Anglo American Platinum (South Africa) BASF SE (Germany) Harmony Gold Mining Co Ltd (South Africa) Kumba Iron Ore (South Africa) Metsä Board (Finland) Royal Bafokeng Platinum Ltd (South Africa)



Utilities

Acciona S.A. (Spain) Centrica (UK)