

Scaling-up the Water Footprint Project for Peru, Chile and Brazil



Country/Region
Peru, Chile, Brazil

Partners

Peru: National Water Authority, Association of Industries, Universities / Chile: Agency for Climate Change and Sustainability, Directorate of Water, Chile University / Brazil: Federation of Sao Paulo industries, Universities

Background information

Water risks and the competition for water as a productive resource are increasing. Environmental authorities and companies are eager to understand the link and reduce the effects between human consumption and impacts on freshwater systems.

Project target

- Implement Blue Certificate (Peru), standardize WF indicators in Clean Production Agreements (Chile), position the WF concept (Brazil).
- Launch innovative information campaign for behavioural change towards a sustainable water culture.
- Promote partners' institutional leadership to contribute to a regional CoP.

Target groups

Environmental authorities, research institutions, companies, business associations.

Costs

Total: CHF 3,200,000
SDC: CHF 1,600,000

Duration

10.2016 – 01.2020

The project together with relevant stakeholders aims at developing and implementing the Water Footprint (WF) concept with a life Cycle Assessment approach in order to improve water management. These activities will be implemented in Peru, Chile and Brazil, focussing on 1) an operational system (WF) combined with an online information system; 2) agreements with watershed initiatives, applying WF and Corporate Water Stewardship principles; 3) an information campaign designed to increase water responsibility; and 4) knowledge exchanges and capacity building on WF to key partners.

Context

In September 2015, countries adopted the Sustainable Development Goals (SDG) to protect the planet, end poverty, and ensure prosperity for all as part of a new sustainable development agenda 2030. The water goal (SDG 6) emphasizes the urgency of addressing the global water crises and highlights the key role of the private sector in realizing a sustainable future for humanity.

In that sense, knowing that in Peru and Chile, countries where the competition for water as a key productive resource is increasing and conflicts over water are intensifying, the Swiss Cooperation in alliance with leading companies, research institutions and public institutions implemented the "SuizAgua Andina" project (2012 to 2015) in order to contribute to a better water resource management through the application of the WF concept at national and local level. Additionally, the companies participated in knowledge exchanges and the dissemination of project achievements.

Key results / insight from previous phases

- Positioning of the WF concept in the private sector, public institutions and academia in Peru, Chile and Brazil.
- Successful implementation of the WF concept in 10 multinational companies (5 in Peru, 5 in Chile).
- Investments by companies of 10 Mio USD (2013-2016) in WF reduction and watershed actions.
- Launch of a Blue Certificate by the Peruvian Water Authority.

The project, between 2016 and 2020, seeks to build upon the previous results and scale up (as in Brazil) by enhancing the use of the corporate water stewardship focus to raise awareness and reduce impacts of water from water uses in the production of goods and services.

Objectives and intervention lines 2016-2020

- An operational corporate WF framework enhances responsible and sustainable water use.
- Members of communities with vulnerable socio-economic conditions take part in collective watershed actions.
- Through innovative behavioural change campaigns, urban citizens adopt a more sustainable water culture.
- A dynamic community of practice assures robust results and further outreach.

Additional information:

www.cooperacionsuizaenperu.org.pe