AWS Standard Revision
Update
### AWS STANDARD PROCESS TO-DATE

#### Phase 1: AWS Standard Development

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Year</th>
<th>Event</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>2008</td>
<td>Foundation of AWS</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2009</td>
<td>Strengthened governance</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2010</td>
<td>Standard dev begins</td>
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<tr>
<td>2011</td>
<td>ISDC formed</td>
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<tr>
<td>2012</td>
<td>D1 Standard</td>
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<tr>
<td>2013</td>
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<tr>
<td>2014</td>
<td>V1.0 Standard</td>
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#### Phase 2: AWS System Development & roll-out under multi-stakeholder governance

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Year</th>
<th>Event</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>2015</td>
<td>Certification requirements</td>
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<tr>
<td>2016</td>
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<td>First AWS certifications</td>
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<td>AWS membership</td>
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<td>Technical c’ttee</td>
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<tr>
<td>2017-2018</td>
<td>Standard revision process</td>
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## STANDARD REVISION TIMELINE 2018

<table>
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<tr>
<th>Task</th>
<th>Jan</th>
<th>Feb</th>
<th>Mar</th>
<th>Apr</th>
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*Legend: X represents the month when the task is completed.*
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?

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- Integration of European standard
- Tailoring to enhance engagement with other standards systems

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- Regional stakeholder engagement
- Innovations in IT to improve implementation and uptake.
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 5\textsuperscript{th} March 2018
- Draft 2 in person meeting week of 18\textsuperscript{th} June 2018
- Draft 1 - 8 week consultation 23\textsuperscript{rd} April – 17\textsuperscript{th} 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.
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