

**Delivering the
Glasgow Declaration
for Fair Water Footprints**
*Technical Advisory Group – Terms of
Reference (DRAFT)*



1. Background

- 1.1 Each of the current 28 signatories to the Glasgow Declaration for Fair Water Footprints has made a public pledge to deliver against a range of shared and constituency specific commitments by 2030 (See Annex 1). To support the Signatories to plan, deliver and report progress against these, to attain the goal of the Declaration in line with agreed principles (see [Governance - Discussion Paper 1](#)), consistent technical guidance is a priority.
- 1.2 The nature of technical guidance and priorities among it were discussed at the first Signatory meeting in Dec 2021, supported by the [Technical Guidance - Discussion Paper 2](#).
- 1.3 This Terms of Reference sets out the interim arrangements for the Technical Advisory Group to support guidance development during ‘Kick-start’ Year 1 of the initiative to January 2023 at which point functions/arrangements will be reviewed.

2. Objectives of the Technical Advisory Group

To support the development of appropriate Technical Guidance, the Programme Management Unit and Signatories have requested that a Technical Advisory Group be established to:

- 2.1 Develop and refine guidance to support delivery of the Declarations commitments. A series of Technical Guidance Papers and case studies will be developed to assist Signatories to achieve the commitments made within the Declaration. These will provide consistent and credible advice needed to fulfil requirements for transparency, accountability, inclusion, integrity, and efficient delivery. Guidance Papers may include the following:
 - I. **Delineating the scope for action:**
 - a. what is meant by ‘business operations, services, and supply chains associated with significant water and climate-related risks over which we have control and influence’?
 - b. how can this scope be defined consistently and efficiently for each constituency group?
 - c. how should the scope be expanded between Yr 1 and Yr 10?
 - d. How can delineating the scope be supported by existing data on water footprints?
 - II. **Defining the Declaration’s common requirements: indicators, baselines and verifying change**
 - a. Zero pollution
 - b. Sustainable withdrawal and equitable allocation of water

- c. Protection of nature
- d. Access to safe water, sanitation, and hygiene
- e. Resilience to drought, floods, climate variability, and water conflict

III. Defining constituency specific requirements

- a. What do the commitments mean in practice for each constituency?
- b. Governments
- c. Business
- d. Finance Institutions
- e. Civil Society Organisations
- f. External Support Agencies

IV. Developing a Transition Plan

- a. Contents
- b. Development process with examples
- c. Reporting requirements and frequencies

V. Putting knowledge and system change at the centre: a strategic approach to Monitoring, Evaluation and Learning.

- 2.2 Draw on best available techniques, evidence, and sectoral / constituency experience to guide and advise Signatories on technical queries and challenges arising in Year 1.
- 2.3 Support the development of indicators, metrics, and systems to enable Signatories to demonstrate compliance with the Declaration.
- 2.4 Develop case studies, illustrative examples and pilots.
- 2.5 To track impacts, benefits and document lessons emerging.
- 2.6 Support and catalyse alignment with relevant initiatives, systems, and standards.

Note that in Year 1 at least, the TAG will work in an advisory capacity, and will defer formal decision making to the Signatories Committee / Governance Group.

3. Composition of the Technical Advisory Group

- 3.1 All Signatories will be invited to contribute individuals with appropriate expertise.
- 3.2 Additional members, consultants and experts will be co-opted to provide support as necessary.
- 3.3 Whilst a balanced composition representing the mix of constituencies and geographies of the Declaration Signatories is desirable, there will be no formal requirement for this during the interim Yr 1 phase. However, a record of participation at each meeting will be available.
- 3.4 Participation will be voluntary, and no remuneration will be received for participation in the TAG meetings. Work done by members in support of the TAG outside of meetings can be resourced either in kind by signatories, seconded staff time, or via contractual arrangement where appropriate.

4. Functioning of the Technical Advisory Group

- 4.1 The TAG will appoint co-Chairs who will be responsible for effective functioning of the group in line with this ToR.

- 4.2 The TAG will meet at a frequency agreed by its members to input to and review guidance for signatories, and will submit this to the Signatories for review.
- 4.3 Sub-groups and individual assignments may be assigned tasks and asked to report back to the main TAG.
- 4.4 The TAG will submit guidance material for review by the PMU and Signatories and recommend adoption once finalised.
- 4.5 Recommendations for adoption will be made by consensus and note made when consensus has not been reached, to be reported to the Signatories to support their deliberations.
- 4.6 Meeting proceedings will be documented, and minutes made available.

5. Confidentiality and transparency

- 5.1 Proceedings, inputs and outputs are not considered to be confidential and will be available in the public domain.
- 5.2 Documents that may be considered confidential include draft documents that the TAG has not concluded discussion on, or any commercially sensitive information relating to a Signatory that may be shared with the TAG in the course of its work.

Annex 1. Summary of Declaration Commitments – shared and by specific constituency

Declaration commitments						
Item	Commitment	Government	Business	Financial Inst	CSOs	ESAs
ALL CONSTITUENCIES						
7	Transformative action for FWF which has durable benefit for our communities, ecosystems, economies	x	x	x	x	x
8	ID water footprints controlled & influenced, & business operations, services, & supply chains associated with significant water & climate risk	x	x	x	x	x
	Within these ensure and demonstrate that, by 2030					
8a.i	Zero water pollution: no adverse impacts on the aquatic environment, other uses & functions through	x	x	x	x	x
8a.ii	Zero water pollution: control of diffuse pollution to improve the aquatic environment	x	x	x	x	x
8b.i	Sustainable withdrawal: within the limits of hydrological sustainability	x	x	x	x	x
8b.ii	Sustainable withdrawal: equitable* allocation, not compromising the HRW, environment, communities	x	x	x	x	x
8c.i	Protection of nature: Ecosystems, landscape & services, protected & sustainably managed	x	x	x	x	x
8c.ii	Protection of nature: Nature-based & regenerative solutions prioritised	x	x	x	x	x
8d.i	Access to WASH: universal access & adequate provision in the workplace	x	x	x	x	x
8d.ii	Access to WASH: collective action to reach underserved communities	x	x	x	x	x
8e.i	Resilience: effective plans, policies, governance & investment to mitigate water, climate (floods and	x	x	x	x	x
8e.ii	Resilience: legal compliance	x	x	x	x	x
8e.iii	Resilience: secure tenure for all	x	x	x	x	x
9	Act with integrity, tracking and reporting performance on:					
9.i	balanced participation & inclusion	x	x	x	x	x
9.ii	transparency & accountability	x	x	x	x	x
10	Transformative action					
10a.	effect to requirements	x	x	x	x	x
	Meet annually to report & review progress & implement & abide by mutual accountability mechanism					
10b.	& build a community of learning, practice & leadership	x	x	x	x	x
10c.	Mobilise adequate resources, capacity & leadership	x	x	x	x	x
10d.	Proactively champion FWF & recruit others	x	x	x	x	x
	Scale-up and accelerate credible water stewardship at farms, factories, facilities, supply chains, cities,					
11	catchments, company operations & investment portfolios	x	x	x	x	x
12	Advocate, contribute & engage for FWF by 2030	x	x	x	x	x
13	INDIVIDUAL CONSTITUENCY COMMITMENTS					
14	Government					
14a.	Strengthen the capacity, investment mechanisms, leadership, inter- and intra-ministerial and cross-	x				
	sectoral coordination, knowledge, and international collaboration required.					
14b.	associated with significant water and climate-related risk are subject to effective regulation and	x				
	enforcement, and publicly disclosed compliance monitoring.					
14c.	Review institutional and corporate governance frameworks, and international agreements, and	x				
	institute appropriate policy, statutory, procedural, and market-based measures, including the					
14d.	strengthening of safe guarding, due diligence, disclosure, and responsible procurement by government,	x				
	to fulfil their key roles, including communication, participation, convening, consumer choice, and					
14d.	accountability monitoring for fair water footprints.	x				
15	Business					
15a	Identify all sites and supply chains associated with significant water and climate-related risks, set		x			
	meaningful targets, and plan, implement, and disclose credible actions to mitigate these					
15b	Strengthen communication, due diligence, and safe guarding throughout business operations and supply		x			
	chains to support progress, including via public grievance and redress mechanisms.					
15c	Support suppliers to achieve Fair Water Footprints by strengthening capacity,		x			
	knowledge, and collaboration.					
16	financial institutions					
16a	Ensure that all companies that we finance which face significant water and climate-related risks			x		
	achieve fair water footprints by setting meaningful targets, and planning, implementing, and disclosing					
16b	Develop and deploy metrics and mechanisms to incentivise investment towards			x		
	companies which have a fair water footprint, and away from unsustainable practices,					
16c	including via strengthened due diligence, disclosure, and where appropriate, sanctions			x		
	Stimulate investment in companies, products, and services that support the					
16c	achievement of fair water footprints and SDG 6 by 2030.			x		
17	Civil society organisations					
17a	Elevate the public and political profile of water, and advocate for fair water footprints,				x	
	and the means through which they can be achieved.					
17b	Work to ensure that the voices and perspectives of communities, citizens, and in				x	
	particular women, youth, the marginalised, future generations, and the needs of nature					
17c	are represented and responded to in action to deliver a fair water footprint.				x	
17c	Provide objective reporting and oversight and hold other constituencies to account for				x	
	fair water footprints, and strengthen participation and integrity in all related processes.					
18	External Support Agencies					
18a	Produce and share evidence, learning, and knowledge to monitor, evaluate, and support the transition					x
	to fair water footprints, and its outcomes and impacts.					
18b	Collaborate to create, strengthen, and scale-up the incentives, information, tools,					x
	mechanisms, and action needed to transition to fair water footprints.					
18c	Convene, challenge, communicate with, and seek alignment and complementary					x
	strategies to enable efficient delivery of a fair water footprint and SDG 6 by 2030.					