

W0. Introduction

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W0.1

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**(W0.1) Give a general description of and introduction to your organization.**

Abbott is a global healthcare company that helps people live fuller lives with our life-changing technology. Since 1888, our business has brought new products to market for 130 years, creating more possibilities for more people at all stages of life. Today, 99,000 of us are working to help people live not just longer, but better, in the more than 150 countries we serve. We have four major businesses.

**MEDICAL DEVICES** More advanced medical devices mean faster, more effective and less invasive treatments for people with serious diseases. While Abbott was already a leader in important segments of the medical device market, the addition of St. Jude Medical in 2017 expands our offerings in cardiovascular and neuromodulation treatments. Whether it's glucose monitoring systems, cardiovascular therapies or treatments for chronic pain or movement disorders, our medical device technologies enable better and healthier lives for more people, in more places, than ever before.

**NUTRITION** Abbott understands that proper nutrition is the foundation for full and healthy lives. That's why we develop science-based nutrition products for people of all ages. With a focus on consumers and healthcare professionals, Abbott develops products that help babies and children grow, keep bodies strong and active, and support the unique nutrition needs of individuals with chronic illnesses. We work to make every stage of life a healthy one.

**DIAGNOSTICS** Our innovative instruments and tests help diagnose and monitor a range of health conditions with speed, accuracy and efficiency. Our diagnostics solutions range from automated immunodiagnosics systems and blood analyzers to sophisticated molecular diagnostics and point-of-care devices. After acquiring Alere Inc. in 2017, Abbott is now the global market leader in point-of-care testing, making diagnostics more accessible to people through remote and home testing, pharmacies and clinics. All of our solutions are designed to deliver information that helps improve decision making and patient care across the entire healthcare system.

**ESTABLISHED PHARMACEUTICALS** We offer high-quality, affordable and trusted medicines that help millions of people around the world lead healthier lives. Through such product enhancements as new formulations, delivery methods and packaging, we tailor our offerings to address the specific needs of the regions we serve.

W0.2

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**(W0.2) State the start and end date of the year for which you are reporting data.**

	Start date	End date
Reporting year	January 1 2017	December 31 2017

W0.3

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**(W0.3) Select the countries/regions for which you will be supplying data.**

- Argentina
- Brazil
- Canada
- Chile
- China
- Colombia
- Costa Rica
- Germany
- India
- Ireland
- Malaysia
- Mexico
- Netherlands
- Pakistan
- Peru
- Puerto Rico
- Russian Federation
- Singapore
- Spain
- Switzerland
- United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland
- United States of America
- Viet Nam

W0.4

(W0.4) Select the currency used for all financial information disclosed throughout your response.

USD

W0.5

(W0.5) Select the option that best describes the reporting boundary for companies, entities, or groups for which water impacts on your business are being reported.

Companies, entities or groups over which operational control is exercised

W0.6

(W0.6) Within this boundary, are there any geographies, facilities, water aspects, or other exclusions from your disclosure?

Yes

W0.6a

(W0.6a) Please report the exclusions.

Exclusion	Please explain
Small offices and warehouses where water use is minimal, typically limited to drinking water and sanitary use.	Water use in manufacturing and R & D activities is the predominant water impact and risk for Abbott. Water use at small offices and warehouses is estimated to be very small (less than 5% of total use) and typically metering and distribution is controlled by a third party.

W1. Current state

W1.1

(W1.1) Rate the importance (current and future) of water quality and water quantity to the success of your business.

	Direct use importance rating	Indirect use importance rating	Please explain
Sufficient amounts of good quality freshwater available for use	Vital	Important	Direct Use: Access to water is essential for our manufacturing operations and products. Being a manufacturer of medical, nutritional and pharmaceutical products it is vital to have high quality water for use as an ingredient in our products and during the manufacturing process, in accordance with Good Manufacturing Practices. Indirect Use: Water also plays a critical role in the use of many of our products. As a healthcare company, to use our products customers need access to quality fresh water. Suppliers and third party manufacturers must also have access to quality fresh water to ensure that they deliver products that meet our quality standards.
Sufficient amounts of recycled, brackish and/or produced water available for use	Important	Important	Direct Use: We must operate our facilities to meet water quality standards specific for the activity, thus allowing us to utilize various qualities of water. For example, a water conservation project at our facility in California supplies 10 million gallons of reclaimed water from manufacturing processes to the site's cooling towers and irrigation system; reducing fresh water consumption by 60%. To employ good water management practices for cost and conservation purposes the availability of alternative water sources are important. Indirect Use: Our value chain uses various qualities of water to employ good water management practices, thus the availability of alternative water sources is important. Through our Supplier Responsibility Guideline and Water Position Statement we encourage suppliers to embed sustainable water management principles, including alternative water sources, into their own operations and supply chains.

W1.2

**(W1.2) Across all your operations, what proportion of the following water aspects are regularly measured and monitored?**

	% of sites/facilities/operations	Please explain
Water withdrawals – total volumes	100%	100% of our manufacturing sites report water withdrawal data into our environmental database on at least a quarterly basis. To facilitate performance improvement, Abbott evaluates water withdraw data across all operations. Progress toward achieving the 30 percent reduction of water intake, by 2020, is evaluated and reported back to our sites on a quarterly basis, along with other key water data. This process allows us to monitor progress and make any adjustment to stay on track with the goal. Abbott’s Environmental Database also flags any data that is greater than 10% from the previous quarter. This allows us to quickly respond to issues that might negatively impact our performance in water.
Water withdrawals – volumes from water stressed areas	100%	On an annual basis, Global EHS Governance evaluates and identifies Abbott manufacturing sites that are operating in water stressed areas using Global Water tools. 100% of our manufacturing sites operating in water stressed areas enter water withdraw data into our environmental database on at least a quarterly basis.
Water withdrawals – volumes by source	100%	100% of our manufacturing sites report water withdraw data on an annual basis. Overall exposure to potential water risks can be quickly evaluated on a site by site basis with detailed information on the source. Volume by Source data could be used to further refine goals in the future.
Produced water associated with your metals & mining sector activities - total volumes	<Not Applicable>	<Not Applicable>
Produced water associated with your oil & gas sector activities - total volumes	<Not Applicable>	<Not Applicable>
Water withdrawals quality	100%	The quality of incoming potable water and water used in the manufacturing process are required to be evaluated per quality requirements and requirements outlined in Abbott’s Global Technical Standard for Water.
Water discharges – total volumes	100%	100% of our manufacturing sites report impaired and non-impaired water discharge data into our environmental database on at least a quarterly basis. The environmental database flags any data that is greater than 10% from the previous quarter. This functionally allows sites to understand and quickly respond to those trends.
Water discharges – volumes by destination	100%	100% of are manufacturing sites report water discharges by destination on an annual basis. Volume by Source data could be used to identify priority areas of focus and to further refine goals, in the future. In addition, overall exposure to potential water risks can be quickly evaluated on a site by site basis with detailed information volume by destination.
Water discharges – volumes by treatment method	1-25	This data is currently tracked as part of our risk assessment process at our pharmaceutical manufacturing operations which represents about 15% of our sites. Since treatment and compliance with local regulations is managed at the local level, the benefit of collecting this data company-wide does not justify the cost of bringing this functionality to our database. However, compliance to regulatory discharge effluent standards is a requirement in our Global Technical Standard for Water and sites are required to report any exceedances into our global database.
Water discharge quality – by standard effluent parameters	1-25	Compliance to regulatory discharge effluent standards is a requirement in our Global Technical Standard for Water and sites are required to report any exceedances into our global database.
Water discharge quality – temperature	Not relevant	Compliance to regulatory discharge effluent standards is a requirement in our Global Technical Standard for Water and sites are required to report any exceedances into our global database.
Water consumption – total volume	100%	All manufacturing sites (100%) are required to report all water consumption data into our environmental database on at least a quarterly basis. The environmental database flags any data that is greater than 10% from the previous quarter. This functionally allows sites to understand and quickly respond to those trends.
Water recycled/reused	100%	100% of are manufacturing sites report water recycled/reused on an annual basis. Recycling data could be used to further identify water reduction opportunities in the future.
The provision of fully-functioning, safely managed WASH services to all workers	100%	100% of all Abbott facilities provide fully-functional WASH services for all workers.

**W1.2b**

**(W1.2b) What are the total volumes of water withdrawn, discharged, and consumed across all your operations, and how do these volumes compare to the previous reporting year?**

	Volume (megaliters/year)	Comparison with previous reporting year	Please explain
Total withdrawals	12880	About the same	100% of our manufacturing sites report water recycled/reused on an annual basis. Total withdrawals decreased 3.9% from previous year. Consistent reductions across our nutritional operations was the primary reason for the reduced intake. Decreases of less than 5% compared to the previous year were considered to be about the same.
Total discharges	10088	About the same	100% of our manufacturing sites report water recycled/reused on an annual basis. Total discharges for the year decreased 3.5% from the previous year. Consistent reductions in intake across our nutritional operations was the primary reason for the reduced discharge. Decreases of less than 5% compared to the previous year were considered to be about the same.
Total consumption	2793	Lower	100% of our manufacturing sites report water recycled/reused on an annual basis. Total consumption decreased 5.3% from previous year. Consistent reductions across our Established Pharmaceutical operations from optimization projects was the primary reason for the reduced consumption. Decreases of between 5 - 25% from the previous year were considered to be lower.

**W1.2d**

**(W1.2d) Provide the proportion of your total withdrawals sourced from water stressed areas.**

	% withdrawn from stressed areas	Comparison with previous reporting year	Identification tool	Please explain
Row 1	17	About the same	Other, please specify	The WRI Aqueduct and WBCSD Global Water Tool are used in concert to identify sites that are operating in water-stressed basins; both current and projected future water stress is evaluated. Sites identified as operating in a water-stressed region are required to perform a more detailed local water risk analysis to characterize the degree of water risk, identify opportunities to reduce these risks and develop a water strategy.

**W1.2h**

**(W1.2h) Provide total water withdrawal data by source.**

	Relevance	Volume (megaliters/year)	Comparison with previous reporting year	Please explain
Fresh surface water, including rainwater, water from wetlands, rivers, and lakes	Relevant	552	Much lower	100% of our manufacturing sites report water recycled/reused on an annual basis. Freshwater use decreased 29% from the previous year. Decreases of greater than 25% compared to the previous year were considered much lower
Brackish surface water/seawater	Relevant	0	About the same	100% of our manufacturing sites report water recycled/reused on an annual basis. There was not change for brackish surface water/seawater compared to the previous year.
Groundwater – renewable	Relevant	2078	Lower	100% of our manufacturing sites report water recycled/reused on an annual basis. Groundwater renewable decreased 7.7% from the previous year. Decreases between 5 and 25% Compared to the previous year were considered to be lower.
Groundwater – non-renewable	Relevant	134	Much lower	100% of our manufacturing sites report water recycled/reused on an annual basis. Groundwater non-renewable decrease 51% from the previous year. Decreases of greater than 25% compared to the previous year were considered to be much lower.
Produced water	Relevant	20	Higher	100% of our manufacturing sites report water recycled/reused on an annual basis. Use of produced water increased 14.8% from the previous year. Increases between 5 and 25% are considered to be higher when compared to the previous year.
Third party sources	Relevant	10096	About the same	100% of our manufacturing sites report water recycled/reused on an annual basis. Third Party Source water increased 0.2% from the previous year. Increases of less than 5% compared to the previous year were considered to be about the same.

**W1.2i**

**(W1.2i) Provide total water discharge data by destination.**

	Relevance	Volume (megaliters/year)	Comparison with previous reporting year	Please explain
Fresh surface water	Relevant	1657	Lower	100% of our manufacturing sites report water recycled/reused on an annual basis. Fresh surface water discharge decreased 15% from the previous year. Decreases of between 5 and 25% were considered to be lower when compared to previous year.
Brackish surface water/seawater	Relevant	0	Much lower	100% of our manufacturing sites report water recycled/reused on an annual basis. Discharge of Brackish water decreased 100% from the previous year. Decreases of greater than 25% when compared to the previous year were considered to be much lower.
Groundwater	Relevant	162	Higher	100% of our manufacturing sites report water recycled/reused on an annual basis. Groundwater discharge increased 12.5% from the previous year. Increased of 5 to 25% compared to previous year are considered to be higher.
Third-party destinations	Relevant	8268	About the same	100% of our manufacturing sites report water recycled/reused on an annual basis. Third Party discharge decreased 3.1% from the previous year. Decreases of less than 5% when compared to the previous year were considered to be about the same.

**W1.2j**

**(W1.2j) What proportion of your total water use do you recycle or reuse?**

	% recycled and reused	Comparison with previous reporting year	Please explain
Row 1	2-10	This is our first year of measurement	100% of our manufacturing sites report water recycled/reused on an annual basis. We have identified water recycling and reuse as a significant opportunity for our next round of water withdraw reductions. For example, in 2017 our plant in Rio de Janeiro installed an innovative reverse osmosis wastewater treatment technology that allows the site to reuse water for their cooling towers thus reducing water withdraws 24% annually. A cooling water recirculation project at our plant in Tlalpan resulted in an annual water savings of 490 thousand gallons.

**W1.4**

**(W1.4) Do you engage with your value chain on water-related issues?**

Yes, our suppliers

## W1.4a

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**(W1.4a) What proportion of suppliers do you request to report on their water use, risks and/or management information and what proportion of your procurement spend does this represent?**

### Row 1

#### **% of suppliers by number**

Less than 1%

#### **% of total procurement spend**

1-25

#### **Rationale for this coverage**

Abbott makes significant efforts to gain greater visibility into our supply chain to better understand sustainability-related risk exposure and mitigate those risks, which are supported by our global policies and procedures for evaluating the potential risks of new and existing suppliers. In 2017, water performance and risk data was solicited from key suppliers through our Social Responsibility and API supplier audit programs; suppliers are surveyed at least every 3 yrs. and audited based on survey responses and/or criticality. In 2017 Abbott had over 82,000 tier 1 suppliers globally. Only 11,000 suppliers had spend greater than \$50,000 and about 11% of suppliers provided materials and services that directly or indirectly impact regulated product. Thus, when evaluating suppliers which pose sustainability-related risk to our supply chain, they become a small subset of our overall suppliers by count.

#### **Impact of the engagement and measures of success**

Like Abbott, our suppliers' operations are affected by and contribute to environmental issues, such as climate change, greenhouse gas emissions, waste generation and natural resource availability. Understanding these environmental impacts, risks and opportunities is key to ensuring a sustainable and resilient supply chain. Through our Supplier Social Responsibility program, we first assess suppliers based on their operating region and industry classification to determine their level of sustainability risk exposure, and then send a supplier questionnaire, including water performance and management practices, to ensure that they are ethically and responsibly managing their water risk exposures. The success of our engagements is measured through the percent of high-risk suppliers that we engage with -- which has resulted in increased awareness, performance monitoring, and minimization of environmental exceedances/fines levied on these suppliers related to water management.

#### **Comment**

Abbott uses a risk-based approach to determine the level of supplier engagement required based on supplier industry classification, operating region, and supplier spend. These suppliers are then evaluated and monitored for sustainability risks using the DHL Resilience 360 tool. The calculation for sustainability index uses an inverted geo-means formula and category weightings (e.g. worker rights, environment) to indicate the overall sustainability risk.

## W1.4b

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**(W1.4b) Provide details of any other water-related supplier engagement activity.**

#### **Type of engagement**

Innovation & collaboration

#### **Details of engagement**

Other, please specify (1:1 Collaboration/Partnerships)

#### **% of suppliers by number**

Less than 1%

#### **% of total procurement spend**

1-25

#### **Rationale for the coverage of your engagement**

In 2017, Abbott Global Procurement and Environment, Health and Safety (EHS) piloted one-on-one customer supplier relationships with three of our strategic suppliers. Two were selected through their relationships with our nutrition division's Supplier Relationship Management (SRM) team; the third was a third-party manufacturer for our medical devices and diagnostics businesses.

#### **Impact of the engagement and measures of success**

Through these relationships, we identified opportunities to work together to enhance both Abbott's and the suppliers' sustainability programs. Considerations included product sourcing and manufacturing, alternative (more sustainable) products and product take-back at end of life. Among such opportunities were information and best-practice sharing for sustainability-related programming and initiatives, exploring collaborative projects to improve product sustainability, and supply chain mapping to validate the sustainable and ethical sourcing of current purchases. These supplier engagements clarified that 1:1 supplier-customer relationships can be valuable to participating companies for three purposes: mentoring to grow the potential and quality of a supplier; ensuring sustainability and ethical procurement of goods and services; and identifying and exploring additional opportunities, such as reduced costs, improved efficiencies and/or reduced environmental footprint of Abbott products.

#### **Comment**

We will continue to foster relationships like these in 2018.

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## W2. Business impacts

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### W2.1

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**(W2.1) Has your organization experienced any detrimental water-related impacts?**

Yes

## W2.1a

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(W2.1a) Describe the water-related detrimental impacts experienced by your organization, your response, and total financial impact.

**Country/Region**

Puerto Rico

**River basin**

Please select

**Type of impact driver**

Physical

**Primary impact driver**

Severe weather events

**Primary impact**

Other, please specify (Short reduction/disruption in production)

**Description of impact**

Abbott has facilities in Caguas, Barceloneta, San Juan and Arecibo, Puerto Rico that were exposed to Hurricane Maria in 2017. While Abbott's facilities had relatively minor damage due to its risk-focused capital investments, there was significant damage to the island's infrastructure resulting in many issues including limited workforce availability.

**Primary response**

Other, please specify (Activation of business continuity plans)

**Total financial impact**

**Description of response**

The series of natural disasters that occurred in 2017 exhibited the effectiveness of Abbott's business continuity planning, loss prevention efforts and Executive Crisis Management Team (ECMT). After Hurricane Maria devastated Puerto Rico and parts of the Caribbean, re-establishing communication with the island was imperative — and very challenging — as Abbott began the work of confirming the well-being of employees and assessing the state of its facilities and suppliers. The ECMT took immediate action to get support on the ground in Puerto Rico. Its initial focus was ensuring the safety of Abbott's employees and their families. Its second phase focused on business recovery efforts, including work to repair critical infrastructure, engaging with key suppliers and recommencing production. As a result of Abbott's rapid response, Abbott's facilities were all up and running within 4 weeks of the disaster. Furthermore, through use of remote facilities all operations continued amid the difficult situation on the island.

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**Country/Region**

United States of America

**River basin**

San Antonio River

**Type of impact driver**

Physical

**Primary impact driver**

Severe weather events

**Primary impact**

Supply chain disruption

**Description of impact**

20% of a manufacturing process component supply was disrupted from September through October due to Hurricane Harvey and destroyed railways in Texas. However, Abbott was able to receive partial deliveries from the supplier until the situation was resolved, this removed any impacts to Abbott's operations.

**Primary response**

Engage with suppliers

**Total financial impact**

**Description of response**

Mitigation included: 1) Maintained daily communication with supplier and was able to receive partial deliveries from the supplier until the situation was resolved, this removed any impacts to Abbott's operations. 2) Requesting supply options from other suppliers for contingency purposes.

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## W2.2

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(W2.2) In the reporting year, was your organization subject to any fines, enforcement orders, and/or other penalties for water-related regulatory violations?

No

## W3. Procedures

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## W3.3

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**(W3.3) Does your organization undertake a water-related risk assessment?**

Yes, water-related risks are assessed

W3.3a

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**(W3.3a) Select the options that best describe your procedures for identifying and assessing water-related risks.**

**Direct operations**

**Coverage**

Full

**Risk assessment procedure**

Water risks are assessed as part of other company-wide risk assessment system

**Frequency of assessment**

Annually

**How far into the future are risks considered?**

>10 years

**Type of tools and methods used**

Tools on the market  
Enterprise Risk Management  
Databases  
Other

**Tools and methods used**

WRI Aqueduct  
Internal company methods

**Comment**

To have a top-line understanding of water risk across our geographies, we prioritize our efforts and focus resources by mapping our direct operations using WBCSD Global Water and WRI Aqueduct tools to identify sites operating in water stressed basins. These sites are required to perform a comprehensive local-site water risk assessment using an internal Water Management tool, of which existing and future water risks are evaluated.

**Supply chain**

**Coverage**

Partial

**Risk assessment procedure**

Water risks are assessed as part of other company-wide risk assessment system

**Frequency of assessment**

Annually

**How far into the future are risks considered?**

2 to 5 years

**Type of tools and methods used**

Tools on the market  
Enterprise Risk Management  
Databases

**Tools and methods used**

Other, please specify (DHL Resilience 360)

**Comment**

Abbott has global policies and procedures for evaluating the potential risks of new and existing suppliers, as well as the overall supply chain resilience. Abbott's Supply Chain Council and Business Continuity Group worked together to identify our critical suppliers across our four businesses and to map them in Supplier mapping risk matrix tool, DHL Resilience 360.

**Other stages of the value chain**

**Coverage**

None

**Risk assessment procedure**

<Not Applicable>

**Frequency of assessment**

<Not Applicable>

**How far into the future are risks considered?**

<Not Applicable>

**Type of tools and methods used**

<Not Applicable>

**Tools and methods used**

<Not Applicable>

**Comment**

W3.3b

(W3.3b) Which of the following contextual issues are considered in your organization's water-related risk assessments?

	Relevance & inclusion	Please explain
Water availability at a basin/catchment level	Relevant, always included	Water quantity and water source availability risks are evaluated in the risk assessment survey associated with our water management plan. If risks are identified sites are required to investigate opportunities to mitigate the risk.
Water quality at a basin/catchment level	Relevant, always included	Water quality risks are evaluated in the risk assessment survey associated with our water management plan. If risks are identified sites are required to investigate opportunities to mitigate the risk.
Stakeholder conflicts concerning water resources at a basin/catchment level	Relevant, always included	Reputational and political risks are evaluated in the risk assessment survey associated with our water management plan. The evaluation includes determining any impacts of the sites water usage on the local community.
Implications of water on your key commodities/raw materials	Relevant, always included	Abbott proactively identifies suppliers in high-risk industries, geographies and spend categories, conducting intensive screening in emerging markets. We assess sustainability risk through our Supplier Classification Model (SCM), which guides our Supplier Social Responsibility Program, and through the Supplier mapping risk matrix tool, which has a Sustainability Index as a component of its wider risk index. Through this process, we are able to identify which industries and suppliers are more likely to have water related risks that could have a substantive impact to allow us effective monitor and manage these accounts.
Water-related regulatory frameworks	Relevant, always included	Regulatory risks are evaluated in the risk assessment survey associated with our water management plan. The evaluation includes determining how regulatory changes could influence the sites' operations so they can pro-actively mitigate future risks associated with regulatory change.
Status of ecosystems and habitats	Relevant, always included	For pharmaceutical manufacturing facilities the status of ecosystems is evaluated relative to pharmaceuticals in the environment.
Access to fully-functioning, safely managed WASH services for all employees	Relevant, always included	Our Global EHS Technical Standards require safe potable water as well as proper treatment of wastewater at all of our facilities. Abbott provides a work environment to ensure a safe and healthy workforce so all employees have access to fully-functioning waster, sanitation and hygiene (WASH) services.
Other contextual issues, please specify	Relevant, always included	Internal Water Management Plan also requires site to evaluate operating efficiency as it relates to water. Examples include; active leak management and maintenance programs to ensure sites are operating efficiently.

W3.3c



**(W3.3c) Which of the following stakeholders are considered in your organization's water-related risk assessments?**

	Relevance & inclusion	Please explain
Customers	Relevant, always included	Our customers are also factored in our risk assessments to the extent that they expect high-quality products and our access to quality water is important. In addition, our customers need access to clean water to use our products. Our water risk assessment process evaluates quantity, quality, reputational/political, regulatory and efficiency risks at the local level. Our customers draw from the same watershed areas where our plants operate. Abbott is committed to maintaining sustainable, efficient, and comprehensive water management programs that are respectful of the needs and concerns of the communities where we operate.
Employees	Relevant, always included	We provide a work environment to ensure a safe and healthy workforce. Therefore, our Global EHS Technical Standards require safe potable water as well as proper treatment of wastewater. Our water risk assessment process evaluates quantity, quality, reputational/political, regulatory and efficiency risks at the local level. Our employees draw their water from the same watershed area where our plants operate. Abbott is committed to maintaining sustainable, efficient, and comprehensive water management programs that are respectful of the needs and concerns of the communities where we operate.
Investors	Relevant, always included	Abbott water risk assessment process allows sites to identify and take action to mitigate risks, which is key to maintaining sustainable operations. Investors are interested in investing in successful companies that have a proven track record of sustainability. A sustainability-related materiality assessment was completed in 2015 which highlighted the importance of water to our stakeholders. The assessment was conducted with a variety of stakeholders, including investors.
Local communities	Relevant, always included	Our water risk assessment process evaluates quantity, quality, reputational, regulatory and efficiency risks at the local level. Sites reliant on municipal water services will engage with local stakeholders to ensure alignment on water management issues, risks and management practices. Furthermore, site employees volunteer in their local communities, participating in local waterway cleanups and even taking ownership of maintaining a portion of local waterways.
NGOs	Relevant, always included	We use tools from different NGOs, such as WRI, WWF, and WBCSD, to help perform our risk assessments. We also look to these and other NGOs for emerging trends related to water risk
Other water users at a basin/catchment level	Relevant, always included	Our water risk assessment process evaluates quantity, quality, reputational/political, regulatory and efficiency risks at the local level.
Regulators	Relevant, always included	All sites must comply with local regulatory requirements, as outlined in the water global technical standard. Our water risk assessment process evaluates regulatory risks at the local level.
River basin management authorities	Relevant, always included	In our water management plan assessment of risk is evaluated. Sites operating in water-stressed areas are required to evaluate risks associated with water source stakeholders which could include River basin management authorities, special interest groups, local regulatory agencies, etc.
Statutory special interest groups at a local level	Relevant, always included	In our water management plan assessment of business risk is evaluated (reputational). Sites operating in water-stressed areas are required to evaluate risks associated with water source stakeholders which could include River basin management authorities, special interest groups, local regulatory agencies, etc.
Suppliers	Relevant, always included	Abbott proactively identifies suppliers in high-risk industries, geographies and spend categories, conducting intensive screening in emerging markets. We assess sustainability risk through our Supplier Classification Model (SCM), which guides our Supplier Social Responsibility Program, and through the Supplier mapping risk matrix tool, which has a Sustainability Index as a component of its wider risk index. Critical suppliers are then mapped against water stress using the WRI Aqueduct Tool. Through this process, we are able to identify suppliers which are more likely to have water-related risks that could have a substantive impact to allow us effectively monitor and manage these accounts.
Water utilities at a local level	Relevant, always included	In our water management plan assessment of risk is evaluated for both quantity and quality of water intake and discharge. Sites operating in water-stressed areas are required to evaluate risks associated with all water supply and water discharge sources used by the facility including water utilities.
Other stakeholder, please specify	Not considered	

**W3.3d**

**(W3.3d) Describe your organization's process for identifying, assessing, and responding to water-related risks within your direct operations and other stages of your value chain.**

Abbott has an established Enterprise Risk Management Process that supports Abbott's Board in risk oversight and leadership in risk management. The process is designed to identify potential events that could impact the company and manage risk within our risk tolerances. Identified risks and opportunities are communicated to management where they are factored into the annual business and strategic plans. The planning process is conducted annually where high-level or broad-based major risks and opportunities are assigned action plans. Key action plans to address critical risks and opportunities are typically managed as goals and progress is monitored throughout the year with formal performance reviews. Issues that could impact current business operations are elevated and dealt with immediately while longer term risks and opportunities are managed through an annual business planning process.

Abbott's Global Technical Standard for water requires an annual assessment of water stress at all manufacturing locations. The WBCSD Global Water and WRI Aqueduct tools are used in concert to identify sites that are operating in water-stressed basins; both current and future water stress (through 2020, 2030 and 2040) is evaluated. Sites identified as operating in a water-stressed region are required to perform a more detailed local water risk analysis to characterize the degree of water risk, identify opportunities to reduce these risks and develop a water strategy. Potential water-related risks are also considered for new plant or site expansion projects. Local water concerns are evaluated as part of the site due diligence process.

Abbott has global policies and procedures for evaluating the potential risks of new and existing suppliers, as well as the overall supply chain resilience. Abbott's Supply Chain Council and Business Continuity Group identify our critical suppliers across our four businesses and to map them in the Supplier Mapping Risk Matrix Tool, DHL Resilience 360.

**W4. Risks and opportunities**

**W4.1**

**(W4.1) Have you identified any inherent water-related risks with the potential to have a substantive financial or strategic impact on your business?**

No

W4.1a

**(W4.1a) How does your organization define substantive financial or strategic impact on your business?**

Substantive change is defined as any event which could impact our direct operations or supply chain to a degree that it would significantly interrupt product flow to our customers in any of the global markets that we serve. Abbott's established Enterprise Risk Management Process evaluates risks based on the impacts of margin combined with reputational risk and impact on other segments of the business.

While water is a key resource for our operations and supply chain, geographic diversification helps to mitigate this risk. Abbott's diversified business model has wide geographical distribution designed to significantly mitigate the impact of any single event. Abbott constantly shapes its portfolio to ensure that we are in the right markets and success is not over reliant on a single therapy, technology or country. In 2017, Abbott had over 80 manufacturing sites located throughout the World and over 82,000 suppliers.

Abbott's Enterprise Risk Management Process supports the Board in risk oversight and Abbott leadership in risk management. The process is designed to identify potential events that could impact the company and manage risk within our risk tolerances. Risks related to weather or other natural events are monitored and responded to daily, while regulatory and customer issues are managed at a frequency consistent with the issue. Key action plans to address critical risks and opportunities are typically managed as goals and progress is monitored throughout the year with formal performance reviews. Any issue with immediate business impact is quickly elevated to senior management levels while long-term business risk and opportunity issues are managed and elevated to the appropriate level of management as part of structured annual planning processes.

For our direct operations, we use the WBCSD Global Water and WRI Aqueduct tools are used in concert to identify the risk level for sites on an annual basis as follows: Sites that are "Extreme Scarcity" or "Scarcity" for renewable water supply are classified as water stressed. In 2017, 36% of Abbott's manufacturing sites operated in water-stressed regions, with their water use representing 17% of our total (absolute) water intake. These sites reduced their water intake by 8% from 2016 to 2017. The limited amount of water consumed in water-stressed regions reflects that most of our sites operating in water-stressed basins are relatively low-water-intensity operations.

Abbott also proactively identifies suppliers in high-risk industries, geographies and spend categories, conducting intensive screening in emerging markets. We assess sustainability risk through our Supplier Classification Model (SCM), which guides our Supplier Social Responsibility Program, and through the Supplier mapping risk matrix tool -- DHL Resilience 360, which has a Sustainability Index as a component of its wider risk index. Critical suppliers are then mapped against water stress using the WRI Aqueduct Tool. Through this process, we are able to identify which suppliers are more likely to have water-related risks that could have a substantive impact to allow us effective monitor and manage these accounts.

W4.2b

**(W4.2b) Why does your organization not consider itself exposed to water risks in its direct operations with the potential to have a substantive financial or strategic impact?**

	Primary reason	Please explain
Row 1	Risks exist, but no substantive impact anticipated	While water is a key resource for manufacturing, the company is not exposed to significant water risk at a corporate level. Interruption of water supply to any single manufacturing site or locale would have a local impact; however, operating contingencies and geographic diversification limit these risks to Abbott's business, operations, revenue, and expenditures. In 2017, we used the WBCSD Global Water and WRI Aqueduct tools to identify the risk level for direct operations on an annual basis to identify sites operating in water stressed areas. Having a clear definition for water stress allows us to identify sites that require a more intensive local water risk assessment, which in turn allows us to proactively address those risks to prevent them from becoming substantive. 36% of our manufacturing sites are currently classified as operating in water-stressed areas and these sites represent only 17% of Abbott's total water intake. Limited water use by these sites reflects the fact that most of our sites operating in water-stressed basins are relatively low water intensity operations. Water Management Planning Tools, Global Technical Standard for Water and Water Efficiency Guidelines provide water-stressed sites direction and support for reducing local risk.

W4.2c

**(W4.2c) Why does your organization not consider itself exposed to water risks in its value chain (beyond direct operations) with the potential to have a substantive financial or strategic impact?**

	Primary reason	Please explain
Row 1	Risks exist, but no substantive impact anticipated	While water is a key resource for many suppliers, the company is not exposed to significant physical risks that will impact the company at a corporate level. Interruption of water supply to any single supplier could have a local impact; however, operating contingencies and geographic diversification limit these risks. Abbott proactively identifies suppliers in high-risk industries, geographies and spend categories, conducting intensive screening. We assess sustainability risk on an annual basis through our Supplier Classification Model, which guides supply chain visibility and resilience efforts. In cases where Abbott utilizes single source suppliers, additional screening and contingency plans are employed to reduce risk to the site. Abbott's Supply Chain Council and Business Continuity Group identifies critical suppliers and map them in supplier mapping risk matrix (DHL Resilience 360) to determine sustainability-risk hot spots, track events in real-time and automatically alert key stakeholders to risks with the potential to affect supply chains.

W4.3

**(W4.3) Have you identified any water-related opportunities with the potential to have a substantive financial or strategic impact on your business?**

No

W4.3b

**(W4.3b) Why does your organization not consider itself to have water-related opportunities?**

	Primary reason	Please explain
Row 1	Opportunities exist, but none with potential to have a substantive financial or strategic impact on business	While water-related opportunities exist at site and regional levels, there are no substantive opportunities that will impact Abbott at a corporate-level, and the associated opportunities are therefore not considered substantive. Furthermore, Abbott constantly shapes its portfolio to ensure that we are in the right markets and success is not over-reliant on a single therapy, technology or country. This positions our company to address potential market changes due to water risks. At a site level, Abbott's Global Technical Standard for Water requires that water-stressed sites and significant water users complete a comprehensive local water risk assessment every five years that includes identifying opportunities. Similarly, Abbott works to award high-performing sites and to share best practices across our operations to encourage a culture of continuous improvement, this includes a High Performance Award for Water Management as well as Communities of Practice which work to find solutions through sharing knowledge and understanding. In 2017, over 10 water efficiency projects were implemented, including utility modifications and process management changes. For example, in 2017: Through the implementation of multiple water reduction activities, our facility in Canada reduced water use by 4% while production increased 26% between 2015 and 2016. A project to recirculate cooling water and prevent unnecessary water use at our facility in Ireland reduced water use by 18 percent. Water efficiency projects, including a new cleaning process for manufacturing tanks and equipment, were implemented at our facility in Mexico which reduced water intake by 1.5 million gallons per year. While these projects are important they aren't deemed as having a significant impact on overall company performance.

**W6. Governance**

**W6.1**

**(W6.1) Does your organization have a water policy?**

Yes, we have a documented water policy that is publicly available

**W6.1a**

**(W6.1a) Select the options that best describe the scope and content of your water policy.**

	Scope	Content	Please explain
Row 1	Company-wide	Description of business dependency on water Description of business impact on water Description of water-related performance standards for direct operations Description of water-related standards for procurement Company water targets and goals Commitments beyond regulatory compliance Commitment to water-related innovation Commitment to stakeholder awareness and education Commitment to water stewardship and/or collective action Acknowledgement of the human right to water and sanitation	Abbott's Water Policy on Access to Clean Water publicly recognizes that water is a critical natural resource essential to sustaining life, human health, economic growth, and ecosystems. Clean, safe water is becoming increasingly scarce in many parts of the world due to factors such as growing populations, climate change/drought, industrial expansion, water pollution and intensive agriculture. Our Water Policy highlights the importance of water as a resource and our company-wide commitment to maintain sustainable, efficient, and comprehensive water management programs that are respectful of the needs and concerns of the communities where we operate. Abbott has a company-wide water strategy implemented through its policies, standards, and goals. In 2017, we updated our Water Policy to reinforce our desire to work with suppliers to ensure they are transparent in their water management practices and embed sustainable water management principles into their operations and supply chains. Abbott_Water_Position_Statement_6-2017.pdf

**W6.2**

**(W6.2) Is there board level oversight of water-related issues within your organization?**

Yes

**W6.2a**

**(W6.2a) Identify the position(s) of the individual(s) on the board with responsibility for water-related issues.**

Position of individual	Please explain
Director on board	The Public Policy Committee of the Board of Directors is composed of several board members, with one appointed as the Chairman. This Committee has responsibility to review social, political, economic and environmental trends and public policy issues that affect or could affect Abbott's business activities, performance, and public image, and review them with the Board as appropriate. The Public Policy Committee Charter, which details the Committee's Authority and Responsibilities, is available at: <a href="http://dam.abbott.com/en-us/documents/pdfs/investors/public-policy-committee-charter-672018.pdf">http://dam.abbott.com/en-us/documents/pdfs/investors/public-policy-committee-charter-672018.pdf</a>

**W6.2b**

**(W6.2b) Provide further details on the board's oversight of water-related issues.**

	Frequency that water-related issues are a scheduled agenda item	Governance mechanisms into which water-related issues are integrated	Please explain
Row 1	Sporadic - as important matters arise	Please select	Our environmental impacts are closely interconnected – and our approach to managing them must be integrated as well. Our management and governance systems reflect our environmental targets and incorporate them within our day-to-day planning and business processes. Improving our performance requires clear lines of accountability and senior-level leadership and support. A key role is taken by the Divisional Vice President, Compliance and Operational Services who then elevates matters, as needed, to the Senior Vice President, Quality Assurance, Regulatory and Engineering Services, a senior corporate officer who reports to our Chairman and CEO, as needed. Additionally, the Global Operations Council is responsible for developing and maintaining our climate targets, programs, initiatives, and performance. Local level climate-related issues are monitored and responded to daily, while regulatory and customer issues are managed at a frequency consistent with the issue.

**W6.3**

**(W6.3) Below board level, provide the highest-level management position(s) or committee(s) with responsibility for water-related issues.**

**Name of the position(s) and/or committee(s)**

Other C-Suite Officer, please specify (SVP Quality, Regulatory & Engineering)

**Responsibility**

Both assessing and managing water-related risks and opportunities

**Frequency of reporting to the board on water-related issues**

Not reported to board

**Please explain**

Ensuring we meet our short- and long-term environmental performance targets through continuous performance improvement requires clear lines of accountability and senior-level leadership and support. A key role is taken by the Divisional Vice President, Compliance and Operational Services who then elevates matters, as needed, to the Senior Vice President, Quality Assurance, Regulatory and Engineering Services, a senior corporate officer who reports to our Chairman and CEO, as needed. The Senior Vice President, Quality Assurance, Regulatory and Engineering Services oversees our environmental strategy (including climate-related risk identification and mitigation strategies), reviews environmental metrics, key programs and progress regularly, and reports key developments to our Chairman and CEO, as needed.

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**Name of the position(s) and/or committee(s)**

Other committee, please specify (Global Operations Council)

**Responsibility**

Both assessing and managing water-related risks and opportunities

**Frequency of reporting to the board on water-related issues**

Not reported to board

**Please explain**

This body oversees the strategy for all Abbott operations (manufacturing, supply chain, engineering, and environment, health and safety) and prioritizes and distributes the necessary resources, based on internal assessment, risk profiles and industry best practices. This includes identifying water-related priorities throughout Abbott's value chain and tracking progress on specific targets and initiatives. The council is chaired by our Senior Vice President, Quality Assurance, Regulatory and Engineering Services, and comprises four corporate officers and 20 divisional vice presidents, representing division and corporate operations.

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**Name of the position(s) and/or committee(s)**

Safety, Health, Environment and Quality committee

**Responsibility**

Both assessing and managing water-related risks and opportunities

**Frequency of reporting to the board on water-related issues**

Not reported to board

**Please explain**

Environment, Health and Safety Leadership Council – This council manages programs and sets targets in accordance with the priorities set by the Global Operations Council and the Commercial EHS Executive Council. Led by the Divisional Vice President, Compliance and Operation Services, the council consists of EHS leads from each of our operating businesses and the corporate EHS team. The council meets regularly to share best practices and discuss EHS issues with companywide implications. It also builds awareness of EHS performance and improvement initiatives, promotes our EHS awards program, and supports EHS training and conferences.

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**Name of the position(s) and/or committee(s)**

Other, please specify (AVP Compliance & Operational Services )

**Responsibility**

Both assessing and managing water-related risks and opportunities

**Frequency of reporting to the board on water-related issues**

Not reported to board

**Please explain**

Ensuring we meet our short- and long-term environmental performance targets through continuous performance improvement requires clear lines of accountability and senior-level leadership and support. A key role is taken by the Divisional Vice President, Compliance and Operational Services who then elevates matters, as needed, to the Senior Vice President, Quality Assurance, Regulatory and Engineering Services, a senior corporate officer who reports to our Chairman and CEO, as needed.

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**W6.5**

**(W6.5) Do you engage in activities that could either directly or indirectly influence public policy on water through any of the following?**

Yes, trade associations

**W6.5a**

**(W6.5a) What processes do you have in place to ensure that all of your direct and indirect activities seeking to influence policy are consistent with your water policy/water commitments?**

All participation in trade associations have to be approved by the Director of Global EHS Governance. Part of the approval process is to ensure that the associations mission statement and objectives are in alignment with Abbott's water management practices and policies. Abbott's EHS management system, including water, is developed and regularly updated by technical and management experts with consideration for current and future global requirements and emerging issues; this includes consideration of current and emerging policy and guidance provided by global thought leaders, such as NGOs, academic and governance organizations.

## W7. Business strategy

### W7.1

(W7.1) Are water-related issues integrated into any aspects of your long-term strategic business plan, and if so how?

	Are water-related issues integrated?	Long-term time horizon (years)	Please explain
Long-term business objectives	Yes, water-related issues are integrated	5-10	Evaluation of all sites to identify those operating in water-stressed regions is conducted annually using global water risk mapping tools. This process allows us to focus on the manufacturing sites with greatest risk of water supply interruptions. Sites identified to be operating in water-stressed regions and significant water users are required to complete a comprehensive water risk assessment and participate in a water management planning process at least every five years. Through this required due-diligence process, water stressed sites and significant water users must also identify the impact of their water use on communities and the environment and develop a water management plan, including strategies and performance targets for reducing their water risks. In addition, potential water-related risks are considered for new plant or site expansion projects. This approach positions Abbott to address potential market changes due to water scarcity-related risks. Our current water reduction target is to decrease Abbott's total water intake by 30 percent by 2020, compared to 2010 and adjusted for sales. During 2017, we succeeded in reducing our water use by nearly 190 million gallons compared to 2010, lowering our total worldwide water intake by 5 percent, on an absolute basis, and 24 percent, on a sales-adjusted basis, since 2010.
Strategy for achieving long-term objectives	Yes, water-related issues are integrated	5-10	Evaluation of all sites to identify those operating in water-stressed regions is conducted annually using global water risk mapping tools. This process allows us to focus on the manufacturing sites with greatest risk of water supply interruptions. Sites identified to be operating in water-stressed regions and significant water users are required to complete a comprehensive water risk assessment and participate in a water management planning process at least every five years. Through this required due-diligence process, water stressed sites and significant water users must also identify the impact of their water use on communities and the environment and develop a water management plan, including strategies and performance targets for reducing their water risks. In addition, potential water-related risks are considered for new plant or site expansion projects. This approach positions Abbott to address potential market changes due to water scarcity-related risks. Our current water reduction target is to decrease Abbott's total water intake by 30 percent by 2020, compared to 2010 and adjusted for sales. During 2017, we succeeded in reducing our water use by nearly 190 million gallons compared to 2010, lowering our total worldwide water intake by 5 percent, on an absolute basis, and 24 percent, on a sales-adjusted basis, since 2010.
Financial planning	Yes, water-related issues are integrated	5-10	

### W7.2

(W7.2) What is the trend in your organization's water-related capital expenditure (CAPEX) and operating expenditure (OPEX) for the reporting year, and the anticipated trend for the next reporting year?

	Water-related CAPEX (+/- % change)	Anticipated forward trend for CAPEX (+/- % change)	Water-related OPEX (+/- % change)	Anticipated forward trend for OPEX (+/- % change)	Please explain
Row 1	-40		1.67		In 2017, 10 significant water efficiency projects were implemented, including: 1. A cooling water recirculation project in Mexico, resulted in annual water savings of about 490 thousand gallons; this system helps to reduce the site's water discharge and the process cooling time. 2. Implementation of various water efficiency, reclamation and reduction projects at a site in Ohio resulted in annualized savings of \$250,000 at an implementation cost of less than \$40,000; these projects resulted in a water use reduction of about 12.5 million gallons (10%) and reduced biological oxygen demand by almost 70%. 3. Installation of an innovative reverse-osmosis wastewater treatment technology allows cooling towers to reuse treated water in Brazil; this system is expected to decrease water intake by about 4.5 million gallons (24%) annually and already reduced water discharge by more than 42% in 2017.

### W7.3

(W7.3) Does your organization use climate-related scenario analysis to inform its business strategy?

	Use of climate-related scenario analysis	Comment
Row 1	Yes	In 2017, Abbott contracted with WRI, a member of the SBT Initiative, to complete a 2-degree scenario analysis, based on 2015 performance data for Abbott's direct operations, i.e. scope 1 and 2 data (not including our 2017 acquisitions of St. Jude Medical and Alere). In order to align the analysis with the COP21 Paris Agreement's 2-degree target, the IPCC's Representative Concentration Pathway (RCP) 2.6 was chosen as the scenario. The analysis included consideration for the Sector Decarbonization Approach (SDA), assuming the "other Industry" segment, and the absolute contraction approach, for scope 1 and 2 emissions. The analysis also included consideration for Scope 3 emissions, as they are a substantial portion of value chain emissions for companies in the various sectors Abbott operates in (nutrition, pharmaceuticals, medical devices, diagnostics).

### W7.3a

(W7.3a) Has your organization identified any water-related outcomes from your climate-related scenario analysis?

No

### W7.4

**(W7.4) Does your company use an internal price on water?**

**Row 1**

**Does your company use an internal price on water?**

No, and we do not anticipate doing so within the next two years

**Please explain**

**W8. Targets**

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**W8.1**

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**(W8.1) Describe your approach to setting and monitoring water-related targets and/or goals.**

	Levels for targets and/or goals	Monitoring at corporate level	Approach to setting and monitoring targets and/or goals
Row 1	Company-wide targets and goals	Targets are monitored at the corporate level	

**W8.1a**

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**(W8.1a) Provide details of your water targets that are monitored at the corporate level, and the progress made.**

**Target reference number**

Target 1

**Category of target**

Water withdrawals

**Level**

Company-wide

**Primary motivation**

Corporate social responsibility

**Description of target**

Our 2020 water reduction target is to decrease Abbott's total water intake by 30 percent by 2020, compared to 2010 and adjusted for sales.

**Quantitative metric**

% reduction in total water withdrawals

**Baseline year**

2010

**Start year**

2012

**Target year**

2020

**% achieved**

80

**Please explain**

During 2017, we succeeded in reducing our water use by nearly 190 million gallons compared to 2010, meaning we have now lowered our total worldwide water intake by 5 percent, on an absolute basis, and 24 percent, on a sales-adjusted basis, since 2010. There were 16 water efficiency and reduction projects in 2017 that contributed to more than 68 million gallons of intake water reductions annually.

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**W9. Linkages and trade-offs**

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**W9.1**

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**(W9.1) Has your organization identified any linkages or tradeoffs between water and other environmental issues in its direct operations and/or other parts of its value chain?**

Yes

**W9.1a**

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**(W9.1a) Describe the linkages or tradeoffs and the related management policy or action.**

**Linkage or tradeoff**

Linkage

**Type of linkage/tradeoff**

Other, please specify (Climate change and water scarcity)

**Description of linkage/tradeoff**

Climate pattern changes linkage to water scarcity: Abbott's manufacturing operations depend on a consistent supply of water. Changes in temperature, precipitation patterns and intensity can result in water shortages and inconsistent water availability. Furthermore, climate change could concentrate snowmelt and precipitation into shorter time frames, making water releases more extreme and drought events more sustained. Current infrastructure often does not have the capacity to fully capture this larger volume of water, and therefore may be inadequate to meet water demands in times of sustained drought. For example, Abbott has multiple sites which are located in hurricane regions (e.g. Puerto Rico), as well as those impacted by drought (e.g. Brazil). These facilities, have adapted to these situations through the installation of additional water storage and recycling infrastructure onsite, and implementing water conservation measures and practices to reduce water usage.

**Policy or action**

Abbott Governance incorporated a water stress determination analysis for its global operation using the WBCSD Global Water and WRI Aqueduct tools. The determination is made on an annual basis to address the dynamic nature of water scarcity due to climate change and quickly react to potential water risks. Abbott Global Technical Standard for Water requires that all sites identified as operating in water-stressed areas develop a Water Management Plan. Water Management Plan elements include an evaluation of external risks and business risks, identification of opportunities to reduce identified risks and development of an overall water strategy complete with targets and goals to drive risk reduction.

**Linkage or tradeoff**

Linkage

**Type of linkage/tradeoff**

Increased energy efficiency

**Description of linkage/tradeoff**

Energy and water are inextricably linked – we need “water for energy” for cooling, storage, biofuels, hydropower, etc., and we need “energy for water” to pump, treat and cool. As Abbott moves to increase its energy efficiency it is important to recognize the relationship between the type of energy selected and water intensity. It is also important to make the connection that it takes energy to pump, heat, cool and treat water.

**Policy or action**

Environmental issues are inextricably interconnected and, as a result, so are the solutions. Recognizing this, we have developed comprehensive management and governance systems that reflect our three priorities of climate change, water usage, and waste management. The focus on these priorities enable us to ensure that they are fully integrated into our day-to-day planning and business processes. Decisions on energy generation will always be evaluated based on balancing the three priorities. By reducing water use we have recognized that there are in many cases a corresponding reduction of energy requirements. Evaluating the effectiveness of water capital projects incorporates not only the cost of water but also the cost of treatment, pumping, cooling and heating, etc. Our goal of reducing water usage by 30% not only drives water reductions and savings, but also reductions and savings in energy usage.

**W10. Verification**

**W10.1**

**(W10.1) Do you verify any other water information reported in your CDP disclosure (not already covered by W5.1d)?**

Yes

**W10.1a**

**(W10.1a) Which data points within your CDP disclosure have been verified, and which standards were used?**

Disclosure module	Data verified	Verification standard	Please explain
W1. Current state	2017	ISAE3000	Bureau Veritas North America, Inc. (BVNA) conducted an independent assurance of selected environmental, health and safety data included in Abbott's 2017 Global Sustainability Report. An independent verification of the accuracy of the data for water intake, water consumption, wastewater discharge: impaired and non-impaired and Biological Oxygen Demand (BOD) concentration in wastewater was conducted as part of the assurance.

**W11. Sign off**

**W-FI**

**(W-FI) Use this field to provide any additional information or context that you feel is relevant to your organization's response. Please note that this field is optional and is not scored.**

Additional information about Abbott's EHS (including water) management practices, policies and program outcomes can be found on pages 71-90, additional details about water performance are available on pages 112, 122-123, of Abbott's 2017 Global Sustainability Report, available at the following link: <http://dam.abbott.com/en-us/documents/pdfs/abbott-citizenship/2017-Global-Sustainability-Report.pdf>



W11.1

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(W11.1) Provide details for the person that has signed off (approved) your CDP water response.

	Job title	Corresponding job category
Row 1	Divisional Vice President, Compliance and Operational Services	Other, please specify (DVP reporting to C-Suite Officer)

W11.2

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(W11.2) Please indicate whether your organization agrees for CDP to transfer your publicly disclosed data on your impact and risk response strategies to the CEO Water Mandate's Water Action Hub [applies only to W2.1a (response to impacts), W4.2 and W4.2a (response to risks)].

Yes

Submit your response

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In which language are you submitting your response?

English

Please confirm how your response should be handled by CDP

	Public or Non-Public Submission	I am submitting to
I am submitting my response	Public	Investors

Please state the main reason why you are declining to respond to your Customers

Prefer to work directly with customer, not through a third party

Please confirm below

I have read and accept the applicable Terms