

News flash



safety



integrity



respect



responsibility



innovation



delivery

Gold Fields gets an A for water stewardship

Our company has been recognised for leadership in water stewardship and reporting transparency by environmental NGO CDP. CDP placed us on its 'A List' for tackling water security, one of only 106 high-performing companies out of 5,800-plus that were scored.



Recycled water stored for reuse at our Tarkwa mine in Ghana

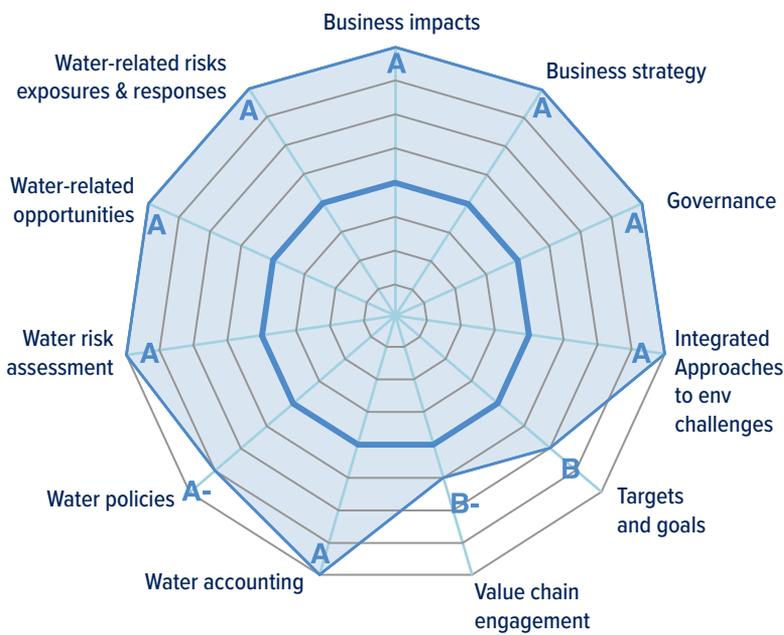


This is the first time Gold Fields has achieved an A ranking. Our ranking in previous years ranged from B to A-. The average score by mining companies surveyed by CDP was B-, while the global average of all companies was B.

During 2020, Gold Fields finalised development and implementation of a group water strategy and implemented the water stewardship policy. We have also set two key targets to manage our water usage effectively:

- Reduce Group freshwater usage by 3% – 5% a year by 2023. We achieved that in 2019 and in Q1 – Q3 this year.
- Increase water recycling/reuse above 70% of all the water utilised in our processes by 2023, which is well above the ICMM recommendation of 60%. In 2019 we achieved 66% and in Q1 – Q3 2020 72%.

The CDP score – shown in the diagram below – shows two areas for improvements: engagement with our suppliers in the value chain and more ambitious targets and goals:



The ranking is a credit to our Group Head of Water Management, Nosimo Macatsha, and the regional environmental and operational leads who oversee and implement water management at our mines.



Comment by our CEO Nick Holland:

“Not only is water a significant input for our mines, it also has a marked impact on the environment around us. Three of the countries in which we operate are classified as water-stressed. Managing water responsibly is therefore critical and our inclusion on the CDP A-List shows that we are on the right track.”

Comment by Stephen Osei-Bempah, GM of our Tarkwa mine in Ghana:

“Access to clean water is a fundamental human right and a vital resource for Tarkwa’s mining and ore processing activities. We are committed to responsible water use and ensuring that our activities do not impact negatively on the mine’s catchment stakeholders. We have developed and implemented a 3-year water management plan, which has helped to reduce our freshwater withdrawal by 44% and increase our water recycling/reuse for processing to 80%.”



WHAT IS THE CDP?

CDP’s annual environmental disclosure and scoring process is driven by over 515 investors with US\$106-trillion in assets, who have requested companies to disclose data on environmental impacts, risks and opportunities through CDP’s platform. The full list of companies that made this year’s CDP A List is available here, along with other publicly available company scores: <https://www.cdp.net/en/companies/companies-scores>

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