

Alliance for Water Stewardship (AWS) Policy

Our Approach to Water Stewardship

Water is vital to human and community development. It is also the primary ingredient of our Tobacco leaf processing and treatment, which is central to our manufacturing process and necessary to grow the agricultural ingredients we use. Ensuring good quality safe water in sufficient quantities, as well as access to clean water and sanitation are essential to the health of people and ecosystems and vital for sustaining communities and supporting economic growth.

Conversely, climate change and excessive water consumption can have a profound impact on the availability of groundwater in a catchment area. Along with local water communities, national and local regulators as well as international organisations, the Tobacco industry has a key role in finding solutions for sustainable watersheds.

Therefore, our policy at British American Tobacco (Nigeria) supports the creation of a more positive impact on society and communities by:

- Continuously decreasing the amount of water we withdraw from the ground and use annually;
- Ensuring that our water is fully treated in line with the local regulations and to levels that sustain aquatic life;
- Allocating resources to implement the AWS Standard;
- Implementing water stewardship programmes to achieve improvements in AWS water stewardship plan and outcomes;
- Assessing the future availability of water in relevant catchment areas and eliminating or mitigating environmental and social risks linked to our use of water;
- Ensuring continued access to fresh drinking water for local communities and helping improve access to water for this and other purposes where necessary and beneficial;
- Engaging with communities and other stakeholders in an open and transparent way, to increase the awareness of water protection measures and we foster initiatives related to this;
- Establishing water stewardship partnership with local/international organisations, CSOs, NGO, etc;
- Exchanging non-competitive water stewardship practices and promoting the ongoing review and development of water standards and policies; and
- Disclosing and reporting our activities and progress comprehensively and transparently.

This Water Stewardship Policy is approved and endorsed by the Area Operations Director and it applies to all British American Tobacco employees in Ibadan Factory Operations, regardless of level and function.

Alberto Kauer

Area Operations Director,
British American Tobacco Nigeria Ltd.