Water Stewardship Projects

Call for Expressions of Interest

The Netherlands

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Water Stewardship

Call for Expressions of Interest

The Netherlands

Agenda

- Water Stewardship Program Overview
- Replenishment
- Volumetric Water Benefit Accounting (VWBA)
- Project Types and Categories
- Project Eligibility
- Timeline
- Discussion

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Water Stewardship Program Overview

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Water Stewardship

Google's water stewardship strategy is centered on advancing responsible water use in our operations, **benefiting watersheds and communities**, and supporting water security with technology.

Replenishing water

We're taking a local approach to water stewardship

Google

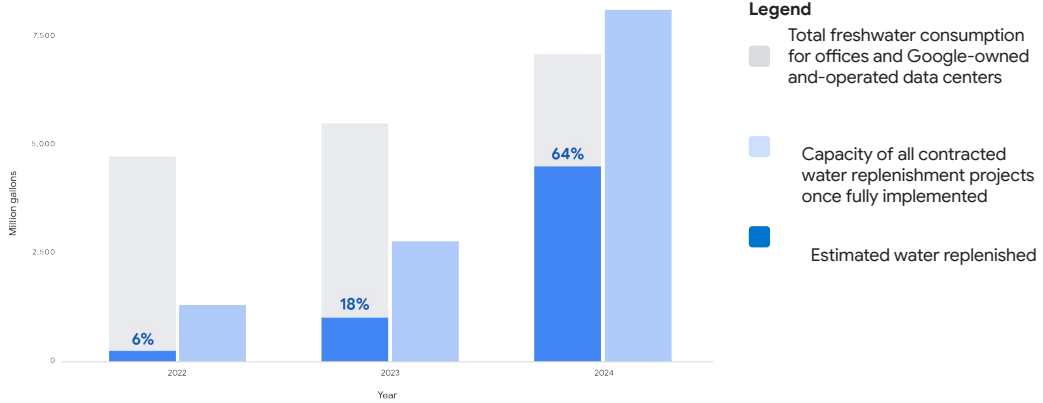
Google's 2024 **water highlights**

Ambition

We aim to replenish **more** water than we consume across our offices and data centers **by 2030**.

Progress

In 2024, our water stewardship projects replenished approximately **4.5 billion gallons** of water, roughly **64%** of our 2024 freshwater consumption.

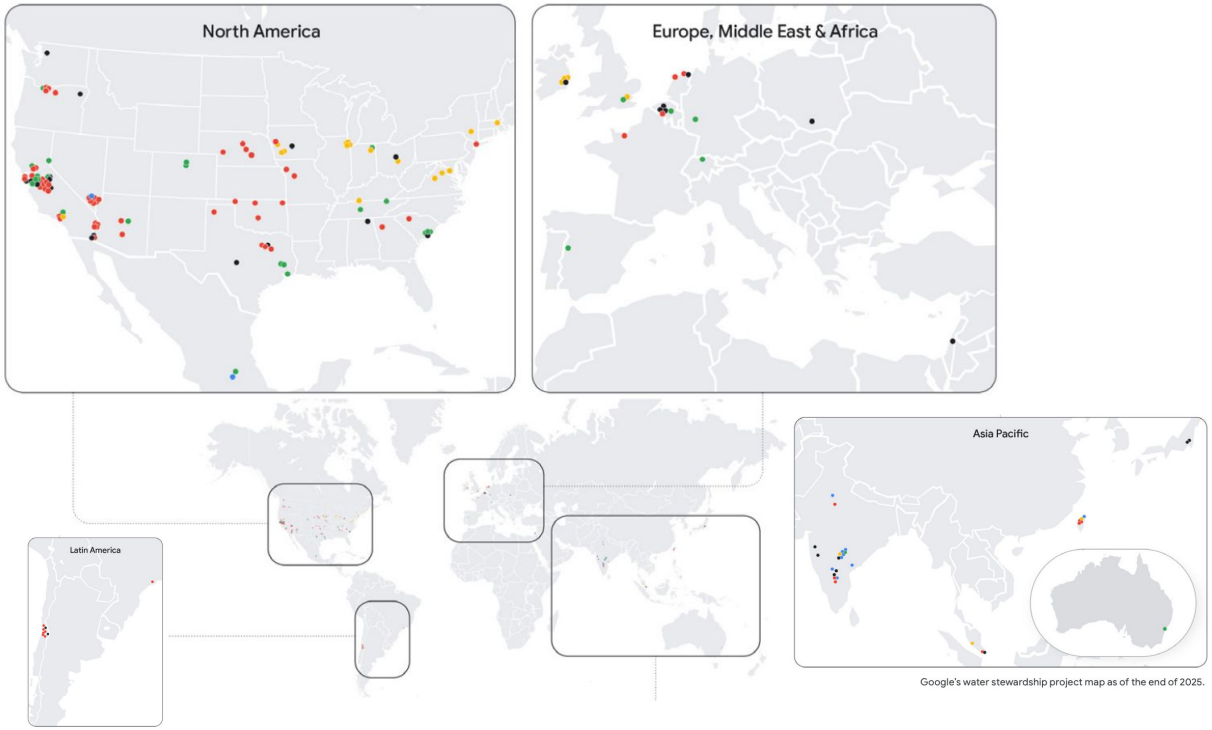


Google

Google's 2025 **water highlights**

We have supported over **165** projects, spanning **98** watersheds through the end of 2025.

Google **replenished over 26 billion liters (7 billion gallons)** in 2025. Our portfolio is estimated to replenish more than **71 billion liters (19 billion gallons) by 2030**.



Google's water stewardship project map as of the end of 2025.

Legend

Project category	Total
Land conservation & restoration	29
Water supply reliability	68
Water, sanitation, & hygiene (WASH)	11
Aquatic habitat restoration	34
Water quality	23
Total projects	**165**

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EMEA Program | Roles & Responsibilities

Owner

Google

Partners/Facilitators

BONNEVILLE ENVIRONMENTAL FOUNDATION

ARUP

Third-Party Validator

LimnoTech

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Replenishment

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What is Replenishment?

Any project that conserves, restores, or retains water in the watershed where it would otherwise be lost, flow out of the watershed, or be inaccessible due to water quality issues, may be considered “replenishment.”

Reservoir repair and canal lining to improve water security in the Maipo River Basin in Chile.

Aquifer storage and recovery system on the island of Texel in the Netherlands to provide water resilience.

Lining of the primary water supply canal to conserve water for the Quechan Indian Tribe in the Lower Colorado River Basin, US.

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Projects - General Categories

INFRASTRUCTURE

These projects involve engineered solutions and "gray" infrastructure to improve water efficiency, supply, or quality.

AGRICULTURE

These projects focus on farm-level practices and technology to reduce agricultural water demand and improve soil health.

NATURE

These projects preserve or restore elements of natural systems, such as forests, rivers, and wetlands, to improve the hydrologic cycle.

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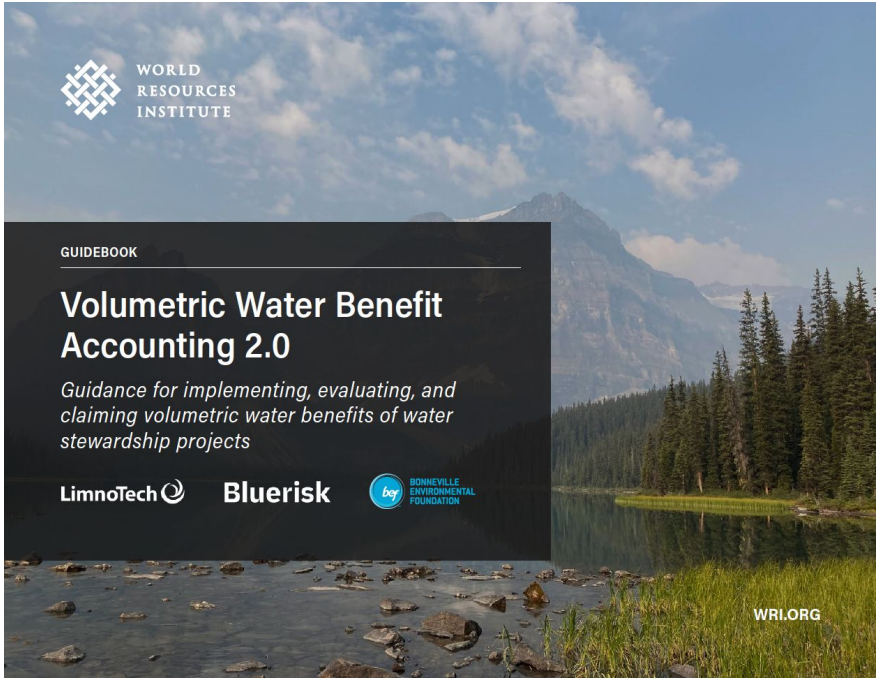
Volumetric Water Benefit Accounting (VWBA)

Volumetric Water Benefit Accounting

"VWBA 2.0…aims to help companies and practitioners make consistent, credible, volumetric benefit claims across diverse geographies and water stewardship activities.."



Source: Volumetric Water Benefit Accounting 2.0 - WRI (https://www.wri.org/research/volumetric-water-benefit-accounting-2-0)

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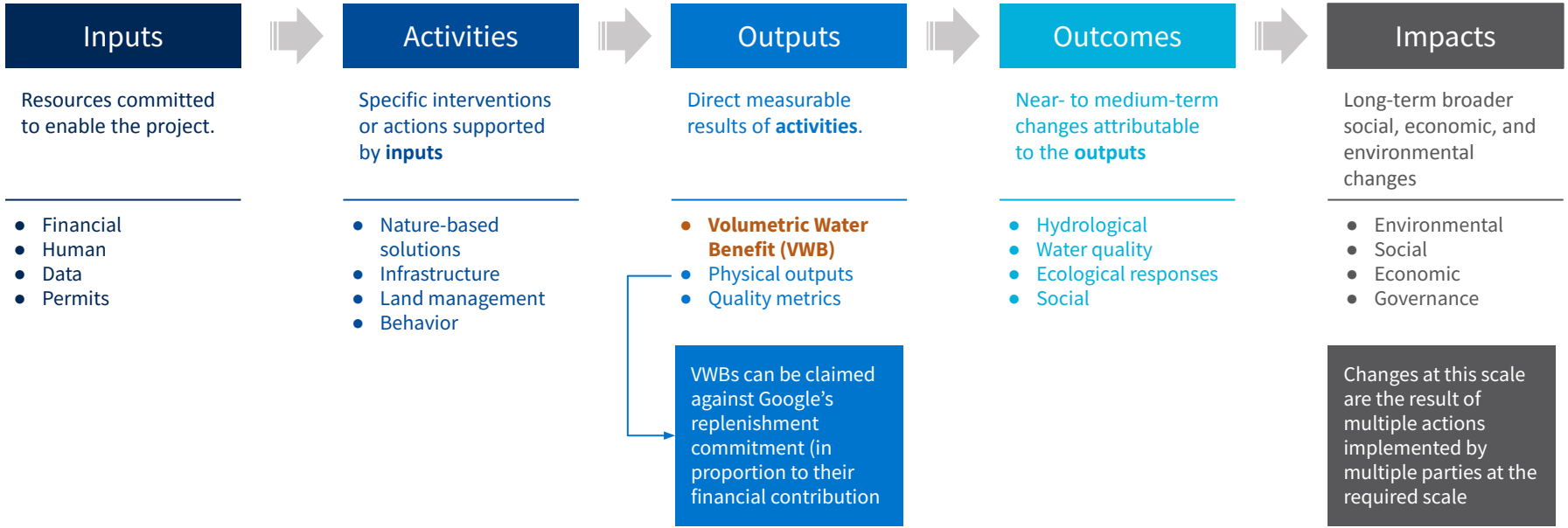
VWBA - Impact Pathway



Adapted from Volumetric Water Benefit Accounting 2.0 - WRI

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VWBA - Impact Pathway - Hypothetical Example

Inputs	Activities	Outputs	Outcomes	Impacts
Resources committed to enable the project.	Specific interventions or actions supported by **inputs**	Direct measurable results of **activities**.	Near- to medium-term changes attributable to the **outputs**	Long-term broader social, economic, and environmental changes

Hypothetical Green Stormwater Infrastructure

Inputs	Activities	Outputs	Outcomes	Impacts
• €2,250,000 construction & materials • €90,000 annual maintenance over 6 years • Engineer design • Municipal partnership and permitting • Baseline runoff data	• Installation of systems to capture and infiltrate stormwater, e.g., permeable paving, bioswales, rain gardens • Monitoring and maintenance	• **Total Volumetric Water Benefit (VWB): 400,000 m3/year of water captured or infiltrated** • Square meters of permeable surface installed • Meters of bioswale constructed	• Decreased frequency and magnitude of urban flooding • Increased groundwater recharge • Improved water quality	• Reduced urban flood damage • Improved stormwater quality • Reduced pressure on stormwater management systems

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Volume Accounting and Allocation

Hypothetical Example

	2026	2027	2028	2029	2030	2031	2032	2033	Total
CapEx	€1,500,000	€750,000							**€2,250,000**
OpEx and Reporting			€15,000	€15,000	€15,000	€15,000	€15,000	€15,000	**€90,000**
VWB (m^3)		300,000	350,000	400,000	400,000	400,000	400,000	400,000	

Summary

Total project cost (CapEx + OpEx) = **€2,340,000**

Google contribution = €1,000,000 (**42.74%** of total project cost)

Total VWB = **400,000 m^3/year** (2030 goal)

Google VWB allocation (400,000 m^3 x 42.74%) = **170,960 m^3**

Cost per unit volume = **€5.63/m^3**

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Project Types and Categories

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Project Types

Feasibility

Up to €100,000 · Up to 3 projects

Support development of innovative solutions expected to lead to future pilot or implementation projects

KEY CONDITIONS

- Clear pathway to a pilot or implementation project
- Complete by end of 2030
- Downstream project begins construction by 2035
- Cost proportionate to anticipated water benefit

EXAMPLES

- Hydrological/hydrogeological studies
- Feasibility assessments
- Engineering design and cost estimates
- Stakeholder engagement and co-design processes
- Monitoring framework development

Pilot

Up to €300,000 · Up to 3 projects

On-the-ground proof-of-concept projects testing a new concept or innovation, often following a feasibility study, with rigorous data collection to evaluate effectiveness and inform scale-up.

KEY CONDITIONS

- Clear pathway to an implementation project
- Complete by end of 2030
- Downstream project begins construction by 2035
- Cost proportionate to anticipated water benefit

EXAMPLES

- Small-scale peatland rewetting trials
- AI-managed water control structures
- Innovative application of closed-cycle water reuse at the local scale

Implementation

€300,000 and up · Up to 3 projects

Shovel-ready projects that conserve, restore, or retain water and will be operational before 2030, delivering quantifiable volumetric water benefits.

KEY CONDITIONS

- Operational by 2030
- Preliminary VWB estimate required at EOI stage
- Measurable benefits for minimum 5 years after completion
- VWBA 2.0 methodology applies

EXAMPLES

- Large-scale peatland or wetland restoration
- Managed aquifer recharge systems
- Green stormwater management systems

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Project Categories

Agriculture Projects

- **Precision Drip Irrigation Conversion:** Replacing high-water use irrigation with high-efficiency systems.
- **AI for Irrigation Management:** Utilizing satellite and field sensors data to optimizing water use.
- **Regenerative Agriculture Practices:** Implementation of cover crops and conservation tillage to restore water resources and soil health.

Nature Projects

- **Wetland Restoration and Protection:** Filling artificial drainage systems to retain water.
- **Floodplain Reconnection:** Removing levees to allow rivers to regularly inundate their historic floodplains.
- **Green Stormwater Infrastructure:** Installation of rain gardens, bioswales, and planter boxes to capture and filter urban runoff.

Infrastructure Projects

- **Toilet Leak Detection:** Installation of sensors in housing to detect and alert management to leaks.
- **Rural Water System Repairs:** Replacement of a segment of a leaking water main to reduce water loss.
- **Aquifer Storage and Recovery:** Rehabilitation of production wells to equip them with the capacity to store excess drinking water underground during periods of low demand.

For specific examples of funded projects see the 2026 Google Water Stewardship Project Portfolio (https://sustainability.google/reports/water-stewardship-project-portfolio/)

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Project Eligibility

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Eligibility Criteria

- Located within the Netherlands - a preference for projects in the Rijn and Eems
- Addresses relevant water challenges
- Entities with technical capacity to design, implement, and report progress
- Operational by 2030 (implementation projects)
- Voluntary actions - not required under law, regulation, or legal settlement

Preference will be given to projects with

- Cost per volume ~ €5.60/m^3
- VWBs VWB between 250,000 m^3/year and 750,000 m^3/year (implementation projects)
- Duration of 7 to 10 years (implementation projects)

Priority locations and watersheds.

Preference will be given to projects occurring within the Rijn and Eems basins. However, other areas with a clear hydrological connection to the priority basins, or feasibility or pilot projects that can be expanded into these basins may also be considered.

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Timeline

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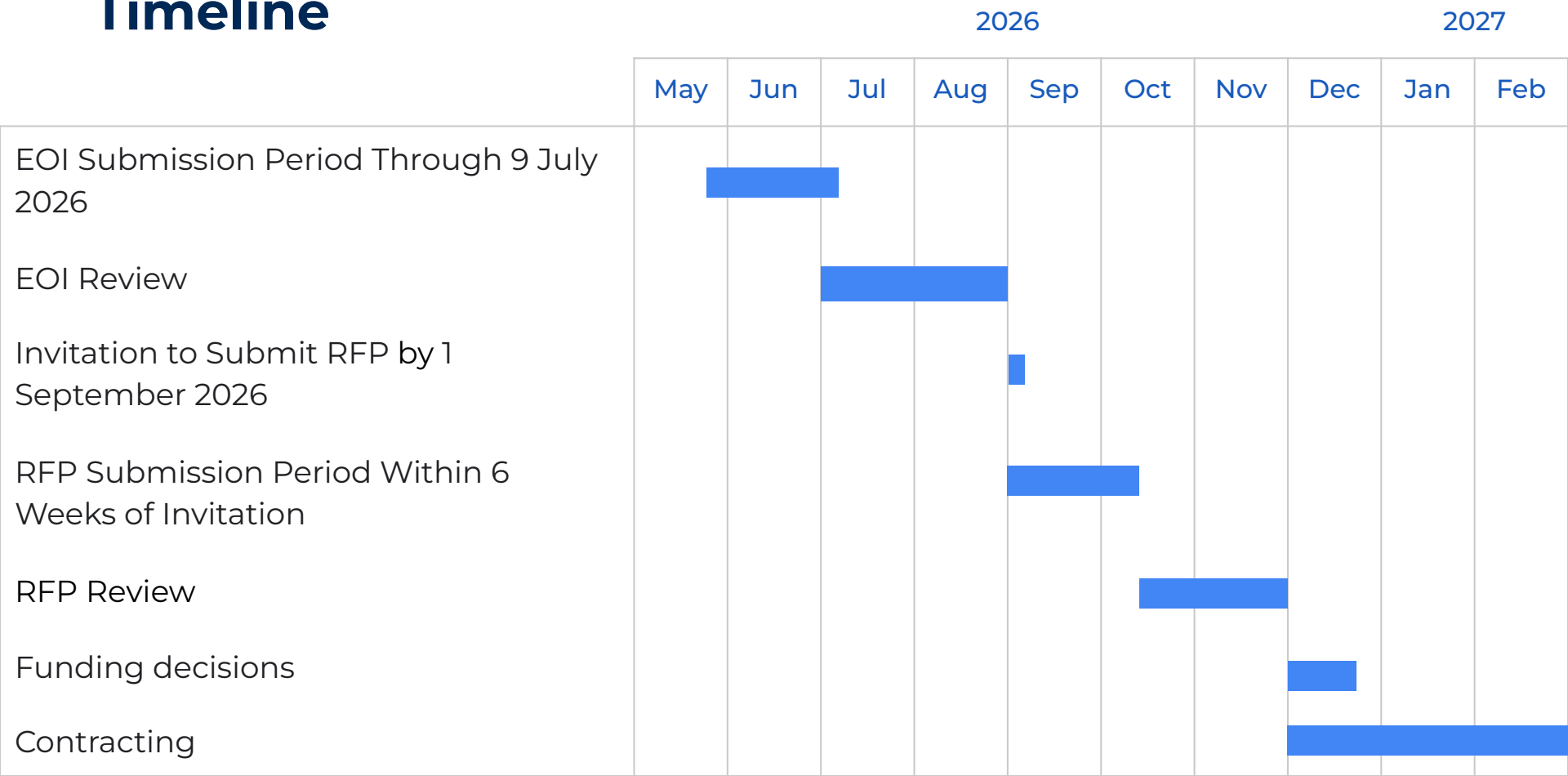
Timeline


2026
2027
May
Jun
Jul
Aug
Sep
Oct
Nov
Dec
Jan
Feb
EOI Submission Period Through 9 July 2026
EOI Review
Invitation to Submit RFP by 1 September 2026
RFP Submission Period Within 6 Weeks of Invitation
RFP Review
Funding decisions
Contracting

Next Steps

How to Respond

Applicants must submit all information via the dedicated online form linked below:

SUBMIT EOI

Informational Webinar

To join an informational webinar about the EOI on June 11, 2026 15:00 CET, please rsvp below.

RSVP TO WEBINAR

Resources

Organizations interested in responding to this RFI are encouraged to review:

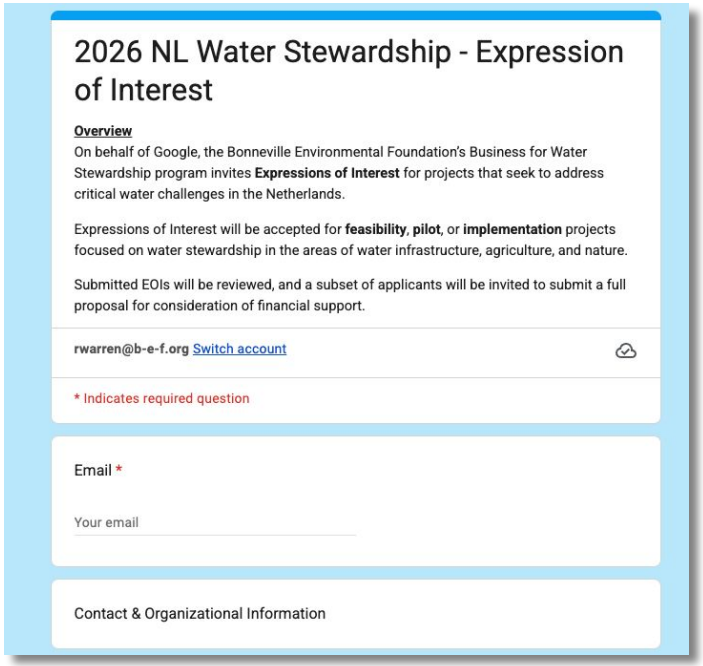
- Volumetric Water Benefit Accounting (VWBA) 2.0 Guidance — World Resources Institute (wri.org)
- Google's 2026 Water Stewardship Project Portfolio.
- Webinar slide deck (to be provided after the informational webinar)

Frequently Asked Questions

- To see frequently asked questions, click here to enter the FAQ page.

If you have questions, please contact:

- bws-eoi@b-e-f.org



2026 NL Water Stewardship - Expression of Interest

Overview

On behalf of Google, the Bonneville Environmental Foundation's Business for Water Stewardship program invites **Expressions of Interest** for projects that seek to address critical water challenges in the Netherlands.

Expressions of Interest will be accepted for **feasibility**, **pilot**, or **implementation** projects focused on water stewardship in the areas of water infrastructure, agriculture, and nature.

Submitted EOIs will be reviewed, and a subset of applicants will be invited to submit a full proposal for consideration of financial support.

rwarren@b-e-f.org Switch account

* Indicates required question

Email *

Your email

Contact & Organizational Information

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Discussion

Questions: bws-eoi@b-e-f.org