



# Partnering for Impact: Corporate Water Stewardship with Winrock International

Winrock International delivers Integrated Water Resources Management (IWRM) solutions that strengthen ecosystems, support communities, and create value for partners. Forward-looking companies recognize that water is critical to successful and sustainable operations. Winrock partners with visionary companies to meet global water stewardship goals while driving measurable social, environmental, and economic impact tailored to each local context.

## OUR WATER STEWARDSHIP APPROACH

Water stewardship requires an understanding of water needs for multiple users, the broader catchment context, and water resources management challenges—from governance and water balance to water quality, access for human consumption, productive uses, and ecosystem integrity. Our water stewardship projects align with global frameworks such as the **Alliance for Water Stewardship (AWS) Standard 2.0** and Science-Based Targets initiative (SBTi), and deliver measurable benefits for water quality and supply, biodiversity, and climate change mitigation and adaptation.

## OUR CORPORATE SERVICE OFFERINGS

### Water Stewardship Analysis

We evaluate your company's water use, risks, and opportunities through water footprinting, life cycle analysis, and catchment-scale risk assessments—providing the evidence necessary to identify and prioritize the most cost-effective interventions. Our experts develop customized water stewardship roadmaps outlining options to reduce operational and reputational risk, strengthen supply chains, and guide measurable progress toward global sustainability goals. Each roadmap aligns with leading frameworks like the Corporate Sustainability Reporting Directive (CSRD) and the Alliance for Water Stewardship (AWS) Standard, enabling transparent and accurate ESG reporting and climate disclosures.

### Gray and Green Infrastructure Solutions

Our integrated infrastructure solutions combine engineered and nature-based solutions to deliver reliable, climate-resilient water management at scale. We design and implement hybrid approaches, such as check dams and streambank stabilization, bioswales, and effluent treatment systems that reduce water pollution, recharge aquifers, improve ecosystem health, and protect investments from flood and drought impacts.

### Supply-Shed and Catchment-Wide Solutions

We partner with producers, suppliers, and local stakeholders across your sourcing regions to implement integrated water-smart practices that build resilience from the ground up. Our agricultural solutions include water-efficient irrigation, soil moisture management strategies, and regenerative

farming practices that enhance year-round availability of agricultural commodities. These interventions reduce water risk, strengthen farmer livelihoods, and help your value chain withstand climate and supply disruptions. Beyond supply chains, we design landscape-scale interventions that contribute to corporate goals such as net-positive water, watershed restoration, and disaster risk reduction. From reforestation and recharge zones to community water access programs, our work delivers shared value across the basin.

### **Multi-User Water Management & Mediation**

In water-stressed geographies, we facilitate consensus-building approaches that bring together multiple water users—including industry, communities, and governments—to manage shared resources fairly and sustainably.

### **Rapid Remediation with Long-Term Gains**

In collaboration with BlueGreen Water Technologies, we support rapid clean-up of harmful algal blooms from freshwater lakes, followed by long-term ecological maintenance and impact monitoring. These interventions improve water quality, protect biodiversity, restore community access, and present an opportunity for voluntary carbon market participation by sequestering sunken algae.

## **WHY PARTNER WITH WINROCK?**

**We combine global technical expertise with local presence to deliver practical, high-impact solutions. Our track record spans Asia, Africa, and Latin America, with proven experience helping companies advance resilient supply chains and sustainable water systems.**

In El Salvador, Guatemala, and Honduras, Winrock enhanced water security across 4,700+ km<sup>2</sup>. Working with farmers, municipalities, and other water users, Winrock co-developed solutions tailored to local priorities and capacities. Through hydrological modeling, remote sensing, and water risk mapping, we identified high-risk hotspots and targeted interventions. As a result, communities reduced watershed degradation, improved access to safe water, and strengthened cross-border resource management systems.



Winrock led a comprehensive, basin-wide study of 125 coffee mills to identify options to improve coffee processing wastewater management and reduce water pollution from one of the region's most important industries. We supported market-responsive approaches by aligning watershed restoration with agricultural production priorities and facilitating public-private collaboration for long-term water governance.



In Vietnam, Winrock expanded the country's Payment for Forest Environmental Services (PFES) system to include industrial water users, such as beverage companies, steel manufacturers, and agricultural producers, who rely on clean water for their operations. Working with national and provincial authorities, Winrock piloted a policy and payment mechanism, establishing contracts with 34 companies and generating new forest protection revenue. The project's success informed national policy, contributing to a new Forestry Law decree and laying the groundwork for scaling PFES to over 700 companies across 28 provinces, helping safeguard water resources and sustain more than 200,000 hectares of forest.

In Nigeria, Winrock partnered with the Nigerian Ministry of Agriculture and local agribusinesses to scale climate-smart maize and soybean production. Co-designed with smallholder farmers, the project used soil moisture mapping and precision input strategies to increase yields by 30% while reducing water and fertilizer use. Market-responsive strategies connected farmers to input suppliers and regional buyers, improving supply chain resilience and farmer incomes.

Winrock led USAID's flagship water security program, developing catchment-level water stewardship plans in Kenya, Cambodia, and Nepal. The project engaged local businesses and utilities to co-invest in watershed protection and governance, demonstrating scalable, AWS-aligned approaches to shared water risk management and collective action.