**OUR COMMITMENT**
We will minimise the amount of water we use in our value chain, establish a water sustainable operation and set the standard for water efficiency.

**INTRODUCTION**
Water is a precious resource, critical to our communities, our ecosystems and the sustainability of our business. It is also essential for growing many of the ingredients we use, central to our manufacturing and the main ingredient in our products. We are committed to being the leader in water efficiency and our target is to use 1.2 litres for every litre of product we make by 2020.

**HIGHLIGHTS 2015**
- **1.29 litres** of water used on average to make 1 litre of drink.
- **3.125 million m³** litres of water used in 2015, relative to output.
- **£45,000+** invested in water saving technologies.

**HOW WE’RE DOING IT**
We’re reducing the amount of water we use by:

**Water stewardship**
- Becoming more water-efficient
- Treating and returning our wastewater
- Investing in water-saving technology

**Protecting and replenishing the water we use**
- Protecting the water sources that supply our manufacturing operations and communities
- Replenishing our watersheds in areas of water stress by returning to nature the water used in our drinks through community-based partnerships
- Minimising the water impact of our value chain through sustainable sourcing programmes

**WATER STEWARDSHIP**

**Becoming more water-efficient**
Being water-efficient is vital to our stewardship strategy. In 2015, our total water consumption in Great Britain was 3.125 million litres (m³).

We monitor water efficiency by calculating our water use ratio – the amount we need to produce a litre of one of our drinks. In 2015, we used 1.29 litres/litre, 16.27 percent down on 2007.

While we can’t reduce the amount of water in our products we’re working hard to ensure our manufacturing and cleaning processes are more efficient. In Great Britain in 2015, we invested more than £45,000 in technologies such as water meters, water mapping and monitoring and targeting systems, saving 13,920 m³ of water. We also introduced a new high-speed canning line at our Sidcup site which now delivers a 20 percent reduction in water usage as a result of new air powered can rinsers, replacing the water rinsers along the line. In 2016, we are replacing our water treatment plant at our East Kilbride facility which is used to process the incoming mains water. We estimate the savings will exceed 5 million litres of water per year compared to the old plant.

With these improvements in place, each further step becomes more challenging and progress in the future will depend on sharing best practice across the business.

**Treating and returning our wastewater**
We have high standards for all water returned to the environment and we’re committed to ensuring that 100 percent of our wastewater is returned to nature.

As we consume less water in our manufacturing processes, the amount of wastewater needing to be treated also reduces. In 2015, our wastewater volume was 734,823 m³, a decrease of more than 42 percent since 2007. At our manufacturing sites we closely monitor our wastewater, carrying out pre-treatment as necessary before sending it to municipal treatment plants.

**Investing in water-saving technology**
In 2015, we began using the technology to re-use water from the regeneration and rinsing of resin granules at our Edmonton site. This project alone will save 11,520 m³ of water per year.

**PROTECTING AND REPLENISHING THE WATER WE USE**

**Protecting water sources**
Most of the water we use comes from municipal sources and the majority of the remainder from on-site wells, all of which are licensed.

As part of protecting our water for the future, all our manufacturing operations have carried out source water vulnerability assessments (SVAs) to assess potential risks in terms of water quality and future availability for our business, the local community and the wider ecosystem.

Drawing on the findings of the SVAs, all our sites have Source Water Protection Plans (SWPPs) that take account of future water needs and identify any mitigation plans that may be required. These plans are reviewed and updated as necessary.

At the end of 2014, all of our sites took part in a survey by The Coca-Cola Company to assess the global vulnerability of our water supply. The results support the findings of our SVAs and SWPPs.
Replenishing our watersheds in areas of water stress
The Coca-Cola system around the world is working to replenish the water used in its finished drinks through community projects such as river revitalisation, particularly in areas of water stress. As part of this global approach, we invested in a three-year replenishment programme in the south and east of England, in partnership with WWF-UK, to protect and replenish two English rivers – the Cray near our manufacturing operations in Sidcup, Kent and the Nar in Norfolk, where much of the sugar beet we use is grown. Each project involved working with partners to develop local catchment plans and on-the-ground initiatives to restore water and improve its quality. The work improved over 7km of river and replenished 286.3 million litres of water. The partnership also supported WWF’s water advocacy work and notably after several years of campaigning alongside other conservation groups, the Water Act 2014 included a series of environmental measures to protect rivers.

In July 2015, WWF-UK, Coca-Cola Great Britain and Coca-Cola Enterprises announced a new partnership that will help to ensure a thriving future for England’s rivers. The partnership will see us significantly scale up our previous partnership to tackle the impacts of agriculture on water and promote sustainable farming to protect England’s unique chalk streams (see case study).

Minimising the water impact through sustainable sourcing programmes
We aim to sustainably source 100 percent of our key agricultural ingredients by 2020, focusing primarily on those ingredients that we source directly from suppliers. Our ingredients account for one of the largest shares of water, and are the third-largest source of carbon emissions across our value chain. To ensure the long-term availability of our key ingredients, we need to work with our suppliers to improve agricultural practices to protect soil, ensure that our ingredients are grown and harvested in ways that protect working conditions and workplace rights.

The majority of the sugar we use comes from sugar beet, a root crop grown in East Anglia in particular. It is a critical part of our supply chain and we are working with our suppliers to enable them to comply with our Sustainable Agriculture Guiding Principles (SAGPs). These set out expectations for suppliers across 14 main agricultural ingredients and explain what we mean by ‘sustainable sourcing’ and include standards and criteria including environment and sustainable farm management practices.

We have set up several routes through which sugar beet suppliers can comply with our SAGPs and meet third-party standards. Our preferred method is the Sustainable Agriculture Initiative’s (SAI’s) Farmer Sustainability Assessment (FSA). The FSA allows farmers to self-assess the sustainability of their agricultural practices against a range of environmental, social and economic indicators. Our aim is that all our sugar beet suppliers will achieve compliance with our SAGPs through the SAI’s FSA or similar programmes by 2020.

CASE STUDY
Following the success of our first three-year partnership with WWF-UK to protect and replenish the River Nar and River Cray, we decided to apply the lessons learned in other river catchments. The partnership has recently begun a new three-year project in the Cam-Ely-Ouse and Broadland river catchments in East Anglia. These catchments include important chalk river habitats and are located in areas that are intensively used for sugar beet production. However, like many other river catchments in the UK, they suffer from agricultural pollution and many of the rivers within the catchments fail to meet European Water Directive targets.

The new three-year partnership will support farmers to improve the way they manage their land and reduce the impacts of production on the freshwater environment. Improved practices will aid the resilience of agricultural supply chains. These exemplar projects will be showcased to drive further collective action by communities, the Government and other businesses. The partnership will convene and communicate with supply chain businesses to support widespread adoption of water sensitive farming and promote the positive role that businesses have to play in water stewardship.

As well as replenishing water, the project will further our commitment to sustainable agriculture. Given that these catchments are within sugar beet growing areas, and that agriculture accounts for one of the largest shares of water used in our value chain, we hope that we and our partners can learn more about the water footprint of sugar beet production and reduce the impact by developing more sustainable farming practices.

We’re using what we learn from our replenishment projects to promote good water stewardship across the country and to support the implementation of the European Water Framework Directive which requires all rivers in England and Wales to achieve ‘good ecological status’.