



**UN**  
**2023 WATER**  
**CONFERENCE**

NEW YORK  
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## **UN 2023 Water Conference Side Event**

### *Setting water targets: a roadmap for companies*

**Date:** 23 March 2023

**Time:** 3:30 pm – 4:45 pm ET

**Location:** Nature Hub (Apella, 450 E 29th St, New York, NY 10016)

**Organized by:** World Wildlife Fund, Alliance for Water Stewardship, CDP Worldwide, CEO Water Mandate/Pacific Institute, Science Based Targets Network, The Nature Conservancy, World Resources Institute

#### **Background on the event**

The science is clear. Overexploitation, climate change and mismanagement of resources have resulted in a global water crisis. More and more companies are seeing the business value in engaging in corporate water stewardship to address their impacts on freshwater and manage the significant associated risks. Setting targets is a valuable step in a company's water stewardship journey, as it aids in both tracking progress against its strategic objectives and communicating to its stakeholders the actions taken to tackle key water-related challenges. Setting tailored and meaningful water targets contribute towards safeguarding not only the long-term growth and resilience of a business (i.e., both its direct operations and value chain) but also the health and sustainability of the shared water resources and basins that the business is placed in. This official side event brought together organizations representing leading initiatives to provide companies with a corporate water target setting roadmap and share how the first release of science-based targets for nature from the Science Based Targets Network fit within the broader corporate water stewardship journey. You can view the slides and recording of our official side event [here](#).

#### **Key Issues discussed**

- Overview of the freshwater biodiversity crisis and the need for freshwater targets.
- Presentation of a corporate water target-setting roadmap supported by the sessions' organizing partners.
- The landscape of various corporate water target-setting initiatives, frameworks, and standards

- Overview of the upcoming corporate freshwater science-based targets, part of the first science-based targets for nature from the Science Based Targets Network.

**Key recommendations for action (5 - 6 bullet points)**

- Follow the [corporate water target setting roadmap](#)
- Learn more about [freshwater science-based targets](#) (blog)
- Learn more about [Science Based Targets Network](#)
- Join SBTN's [Corporate Engagement Program](#)
- Sign up to SBTN's [mailing list](#) to be the first to hear when freshwater science-based targets launch in May 2023
- For specific questions email: [info@sbtnetwork.org](mailto:info@sbtnetwork.org)