



Water Policy

Introduction

As a leading partner in the way we live and move -safe, smart and sustainable, we understand water is life.

Water conservation is crucial because it preserves freshwater resources, supports ecosystems, reduces water use, and ensures a sustainable supply for future generations.

At Bekaert, we are committed to reduce our impacts related to water withdrawal, consumption and discharge, especially in water stressed regions.

Water use and impact

At Bekaert, water is used both directly in our production processes and indirectly for evaporative cooling purposes. As a result of the latter, a substantial fraction of the water that is withdrawn is consumed and only the remaining part is discharged after use.

In order to minimize our impact, we are monitoring our water withdrawal closely and are implementing best practices to reduce our water usage, especially, but not exclusively, in water stressed areas. After use and reuse many times over, water that cannot be further recycled is treated to be compliant with local discharge requirements before it leaves our premises.



Governance

This policy applies to all consolidated Bekaert operations and businesses. The Chief Operations Officer (COO) oversees formulating the policy at Bekaert. Divisional CEOs with the support of functions are responsible for ensuring this policy is implemented in their respective business and operations.



Policy objectives

At Bekaert, we are committed to the following:

- Monitoring water withdrawal, especially, but not exclusively, in water stressed areas;
- Building internal awareness on the importance of water conservation;
- Implementing programs to reduce our water usage in both production processes and supporting cooling processes, including reuse and recycling of water;
- Providing sufficient facilities for drinking water, sanitation, and hygiene at all Bekaert locations.



International standards and disclosures

Bekaert supports the UN Sustainable Development goal for clean water and sanitation.



Related policies, standards and processes

- Bekaert Code of Conduct;
- Report an integrity concern Policy;
- Bekaert Safety, Health & Environment Policy;
- Bekaert Resource and Circular Economy Policy;
- Bekaert Environmental Policy;
- ISO14001 Standard.