How does Viatris approach water and wastewater management?

Access to clean, readily available water is critical to our mission. That said, we recognize that water is a scarce resource in some of the communities where we live and work. That is why we are committed to working proactively to protect water resources and continue to improve our water management practices and systems.

We have formalized our commitment to water stewardship as a signatory of the UN Global Compact (UNGC) and the UNGC CEO Water Mandate — a platform for business leaders to address global water challenges in collaboration with the UN, governments, civil society organizations and other stakeholders.

We perform water risk assessments for locations in high or extremely high water stress areas as identified by the World Resource Institute. Water risk assessments are primary components of our water stewardship strategy and are a part of our commitment to the UNGC CEO Water Mandate.

Our target:

To perform water risk assessments for all 15 Viatris site locations in high or extremely high water stress areas as identified by the World Resource Institute and to identify appropriate water conservation initiatives by 2025.

Our Progress: In 2022, we performed five water risk assessments—four in our India facilities and one in Türkiye. The remaining locations are on target for completion in 2023 and 2024, keeping us on track to meet our overall goal by 2025.

From the water risk assessments, sites will develop water conservation plans that address opportunities and risks, with vertical leaders owning the goals. All operations sites are periodically audited to ensure compliance with local regulatory and internal standards.

The production requirements of our operations, coupled with local regulations and infrastructure, guide the type of water and wastewater management techniques applied. We have controls, technologies and containment strategies to minimize the amount of potential pharmaceutical ingredients that could enter wastewater. We treat all wastewater streams to ensure compliance with local regulatory and internal standards. In India, multiple sites apply zero liquid discharge (ZLD) technology, which eliminates wastewater discharge. To help ensure our ZLD-equipped plants operate effectively, we conduct independent, third-party assessments and will continue to conduct additional evaluations.

We strive to maintain all applicable permits and authorizations for wastewater discharge issued by governing authorities and comply with all local discharge limits. Per our technical requirements, sites must minimize the amount of pharmaceutical ingredients released to the environment and must conduct manufacturing effluent risk assessments to confirm that management practices adequately reduce risk.

More information is presented in Viatris' 2022 Sustainability Report.