

Identifying water stressed areas

Ricoh promotes “reduction of water usage in business activities” as part of its resource conservation and recycling initiatives.

We regularly measure and monitor water consumption at all our global business sites. The amount of water purchased from municipal water supplies by each site is confirmed by monthly or bimonthly invoices issued by the local Water Works Bureau, while the amount of ground water used is measured monthly with meters. We monitor the total amount of water consumption based on these data, and we strive to reduce it at each site. In addition, the quality of intake water is also thoroughly managed at each business site in order to comply with the laws and regulations of each country and region.

We also assess the water stress and water depletion risks at each business site by the using “Aqueduct Water Risk Atlas 3.0” offered by the World Resources Institute. This assessment covers our 32 production sites with more than 90% of the Ricoh Group’s water usage worldwide. Our definition of “water stress areas” is as follows: business areas with more than “High” in “Baseline Water Stress” and “Future Water Stress”, and “Medium to high” in “Inter-annual Variability” among the indicators on the “Aqueduct Water Risk Atlas 3.0”. As a result, the proportion of our total usage sourced from water stressed areas is less than 10%, and the total number of business sites exposed to water risks with the potential to have a substantive financial or strategic impact is 2 sites, which is less than 10% of our total business sites.

Setting targets for reducing water consumption

Ricoh sets targets for specific business sites based on the local water conditions and business characteristics.

The targeted sites are located in areas where water stress is concerned, and the government has restricted water withdrawal. We set targets using indicators to comply with the limits and measure the efficient use according to the business characteristics. For business sites using little water in the production process, the target is set based on the number of employees. For business sites using a large percentage of water in the production process, the target is set based on production volume as a basic unit.

In addition, we set water consumption reduction targets in our 19th Environmental Action Plan: “Reduce water usage proportionate to sales to improve on the previous year's level in each fiscal year”. In fiscal 2019, we decreased water usage proportionate to sales by 11.2% from fiscal 2018.

*19th Environmental Action Plan

<https://www.ricoh.com/sustainability/environment/plan/plan19th.html>