

Water

Objective, Purpose, and Context

Kinross’ business *purpose* is to deliver value through operational excellence, balance sheet strength, disciplined growth, and responsible mining.

Water is a critical aspect for our operations, projects, and reclamation sites and a key focus for our stakeholders. Our *objective* is to protect the quality of water and optimize water efficiency throughout all phases of the mine life cycle to conserve on-site and off-site water resources.

The water *context* is unique at each of our sites, which draw upon sources of fresh and/or salt/brackish water. Each operation is responsible for meeting a broad range of environmental regulations, complex permit requirements and reporting obligations specific to their jurisdiction. In parallel, they must also meet Kinross’ company-wide requirements for regulatory compliance, water efficiency and conservation, water quality, and stakeholder engagement on topics pertaining to water as a shared resource.

This sustainability policy statement describes:

- Scope and application: who is affected and where they can find information
- Material Impacts, Risks and Opportunities (IROs) and IRO Management
- Commitments and Strategy: how we aim to meet the policy statement objective
- Governance and Accountability: who is responsible from site level to Board of Directors

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Scope and Application

- This sustainability policy statement applies to:
- All Kinross geographies and assets and operations and projects
 - The upstream components of our value chain

Our stakeholders have been considered in this policy statement as described below.

Stakeholder	Policy value for stakeholders	Consideration of stakeholder in setting this policy statement
Own Workers	To provide clarity on company commitments and approach	Alignment with Company’s values-based approach to sustainability and responsible mining culture
Investors/ Financial	To provide clear governance information	Outreach on Sustainability topics
Local Communities	To provide clarity on company commitments and approach	Effective management of this topic is essential for relationship quality
Media	To provide transparency about our commitments and approach	Response to requests and/or proactive outreach
Governments	To provide transparency about our commitments and approach	Adherence to applicable reporting, compliance and regulatory obligations is expected
Insurers	To provide clear governance information	Outreach on sustainability topics
Refiners	To provide clear governance information	Through conformance with the Responsible Gold Mining Principles
Suppliers/ Contractors	To provide clarity on company commitments and approach	Engagement on Supplier Standards of Conduct and Sustainability topics
Civil Society	To provide transparency about our commitments and approach	Through partnerships and engagement

Material Impacts, Risks and Opportunities

This sustainability policy statement relates to the following material IROs pertaining to this topic.

Impact	Risk	Opportunity
Mismanagement of water resources can result in toxic chemicals leaking into surrounding communities, damaging the environment and harming human health	Site operating in water-stressed regions face regulatory risks, including potential inability to obtain permits, or loss of permits, required for continued operation	No financially material opportunities
Consumption of water resources by mining activities can lead to periodic water scarcity, which can negatively impact the quality of life among surrounding communities and may lead to conflicts among water users	Poor water management can expose Kinross to legal and regulatory costs, operational delays, and reputational damage	



IRO Management

The potential effects of material IROs pertaining to this topic and Kinross’ measures to effectively manage.

Potential Effects of Sustainability-Related Impacts, Risks and Opportunities			Short-term (1 year)	Medium (2-5) and Long-term (>5 years)
		Financial performance	Extreme	Extreme
		Society and environment	Major	Major
IRO Management	Risk Assessment	- Updated quarterly through Kinross ERM Program - Corporate oversight of water balance calculation for each site		
	Due Diligence	- Corporate-level risk-based safety and sustainability audits are conducted at each site every three years, covering all areas of environmental performance - Corporate Environmental function maintains ongoing engagement with site teams to review risk trends, performance, and mitigation measures		
	Recognized Standards	Responsible Gold Mining Principles		
	Training	- Roll-out of EMS Water Standards across sites - Training on the Water Management Standard via Kinross University to ensure site level understanding and engagement to implement the standardized water management requirements across sites		
	Monitoring and Reporting	- Quarterly reporting to sites (internal to corporate) - Tailings reviews, including tailings scorecard, which includes Engineer of Record responsibility for the water balance - Annual submission of sitewide water balance models, supported by centralized and auditable data management (internal) - Annually via the Kinross Sustainability Report (external)		

Commitments and Strategy

As a senior gold company, Kinross is *committed* to the membership requirements of the World Gold Council through its **Responsible Gold Mining Principles**. This includes **Principle 10**, which refers specifically to water (10.1 Water efficiency; 10.2 Water access and quality).

We are also *committed* to supporting progress towards the **Sustainable Development Goals** (SDGs). Kinross is focused on **SDG 6** (Clean Water and Sanitation), specifically sub-goals pertaining to water quality, recycling and safe reuse (6.3), water efficiency pertaining to freshwater withdrawals and water scarcity (6.4), and the protection and restoration of water-related ecosystems (6.6).

Our *approach* to water management is linked to our strategic business objectives and regulatory compliance, providing a framework for consistent and effective water stewardship across Kinross’ operations and assets. Aligned with international standards and integrating robust governance and accountability structures, our approach to water management support clear lines of accountability from corporate to site level, integrates closure planning and climate considerations, transparency and reporting, and ensures active engagement with stakeholders.

Our approach to water is driven through our Environmental Management System, Water Management Standard. Our sites are required to have water management systems in place to maintain a reliable water supply for operations and to accommodate the range of conditions they encounter, including extreme precipitation or extended drought, or water scarcity. The standard sets forth clear expectations, roles and responsibilities, and guidance across all aspects of water management over the life of mine. It requires that the performance of the site water management system is sustainable within natural watersheds and groundwater resources throughout the mine life cycle. It also states the importance of integrating regulatory drivers, procedures for operations and maintenance, and emergency plans in the context of water management. Water management is also integral to Kinross’ nature strategy, and connects our Water Management Standard, our Biological Resource Management Standard, and our integrated mine closure program to actively work to protect, restore and enhance aquatic ecosystems including fish habitat, wetlands and aquifers.

Using the Water Management Standard, our sites are responsible for developing and implementing a *water management plan*, in accordance with the following key principles:

- Maximize the use of recycled process water while minimizing the extraction of off-site freshwater.
- Protect water quality through various mine water management principles including treatment with technologies that ensure applicable standards are met for discharge.
- Conduct regular water quality monitoring at sites as well as in receiving waters.
- Mitigate water-related impacts on local watersheds and groundwater aquifers.

- Offsetting impacts where necessary through site specific measures.
- The water management plan takes into consideration:
 - Stakeholder locations, needs, and concerns.
 - Opportunities, risks, and constraints of the available water resources, applying the mitigation hierarchy to prevent, minimize, restore, or offset water related impacts.
 - Trends that lead to at-risk water supplies, physical scarcity, and excess water scenarios, with considerations of how and where these characteristics may change over time.
 - Appropriate operational and conservation strategies to manage freshwater, engaging with local communities and partners in water quality monitoring and the shared stewardship and long-term resilience of local water resources.

Specific operational requirements include:

- Annual submission of site wide water balance models, supported by centralized and auditable data management
- Establishment of water quality and quantity targets and monitoring programs relevant to the current phase of operation.
- Assessment and mitigation of potential conflicts pertaining to freshwater access for local communities.

Metrics and Targets

We track and measure our performance in line with the metrics and progress against targets.

Water Metrics and Targets

Topic	Metrics	Targets
Water	• Water intensity – total water consumed (m³/tonne of ore processed) • Water intensity – total water consumed (m³/Au eq. oz.) • Freshwater withdrawn from water-stressed areas as a percentage of total water withdrawn (%) • Total water withdrawn (m³) • Total water consumed (m³) • Total water recycled (%)	• Water intensity (m³/tonne of ore processed) within 10% of five-year average • Achieve water recycle rate of >74% • Ensure ongoing access to Water, Sanitation and Hygiene (WASH) facilities and programs for all employees and contractors • Ensure that all employees continue to have access to managed drinking water services, maintaining a 100% service rate

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Governance and Accountability

Board oversight and governance are the responsibility of the Corporate Responsibility and Technical Committee of the Board of Directors.

The Executive Vice-President and Chief Technical Officer has management responsibility and is a member of the Senior Leadership Team. Functional responsibility for water resides with the Vice-President, Environment.

Accountability

Accountability is achieved through updates to the Sustainability Steering Committee, Sustainability Executive Committee, and transparency through the annual publication of the Kinross Gold Sustainability Report.

Document control

This sustainability policy statement will be reviewed annually in parallel with our sustainability reporting cycle to ensure it accurately describes what we do in practice to manage our sustainability impacts, risks and opportunities. It forms an integral part of Kinross’ 2025 Sustainability Disclosures, approved by Board resolution on 27-May 2026, and replaces prior document – Sustainability Policy Statement, Water, dated May 2025.



To learn more about our performance and initiatives to manage water, see our most recent [Sustainability Report](#).

