WATER

ENVIRONMENT

Around two billion people worldwide do not have access to safe drinking water today. Only 0.5% of water on Earth is useable and available as freshwater, and climate change is dangerously affecting that supply. Statistics show that at least 50% of the world's population – around four billion people – live under highly water-stressed conditions for at least one month of the year. These levels of water stress put people's lives, jobs, food, and energy security at risk. Without better water management, water stress is set to worsen with population growth, economic development and climate change. Sustainable water management is pivotal to building the resilience of societies and ecosystems and reducing carbon emissions.

Infosys operations span across countries that are declared highly water-stressed based on World Resources Institute (WRI) and local studies. This has led us to recognize water security risks and we are committed to sustainable water management through enhancing our operational water conservation processes and expanding our community outreach. The details of water withdrawal in water stress zones is available in the Business Responsibility and Sustainability Report (BRSR) that forms part of the Infosys Integrated Annual Report.

Our strategies on water conservation are achieved through the 3R (Reduce, Reuse, Recycle) approach. We are determined to reduce our water footprint and enhance water availability in the communities where we operate through focused efforts on this front.

Our water strategy

We have adopted a 'Planet Positive' approach by implementing comprehensive water conservation and rejuvenation strategies. This approach encompasses several initiatives, such as efficient water management practices, rigorous reporting practices, identification and addressal of water leaks, integration of new technologies that minimize water usage, construction of rainwater harvesting structures, adoption of ponds for water storage catering to both reuse of harvested rainwater and recharge of underwater aquifers, and advocating to stakeholders on water conservation.

The various facets of our strategy

Low water design
Minimize water impacts in the design of products, services, and sites

Conservation efforts
Practices to improve site efficiencies

Wastewater management
Improve water availability, quality, and access through regenerative approaches

Rainwater harvesting
Demonstrate responsibility beyond our facilities through watershed-level management

Reduce freshwater footprint
Procurement of greywater for secondary purposes

Leadership and advocacy
Advance water management through policy, advocacy, and awareness to stakeholders

Water quality and compliance
Monitor and maintain the quality of the water that we use and discharge and ensure 100% adherence to applicable legal requirements

Incremental efforts
Towards water-positive campuses

Water intensity (KL/MUSD)

Year	Value
2021-22	80.46
2022-23	124.90
2023-24	122.17

A. Low water design

Our strategies begin with the design of our buildings, ensuring use of an integrated water management approach to ensure minimization of water impacts through operations. Water demand is minimized by measures like low-flow fixtures, dual flush toilets, pressure regulating valves and smart metering. Water savings is also achieved with:

- Incorporation of aspects such as subsoil drainage system below the basement parking to ensure no water pressure on the structure, thereby also collecting subsoil water for use in landscaping and cleaning

- Roof rainwater harvesting infrastructure to ensure utilization of harnessed water for potable purpose

- Surface rainwater recharged into the ground water tables through injection wells

- Installation of Sewage Treatment Plants (STPs) to recycle the wastewater generated in the campus, which is used for flushing, landscaping and cooling tower makeup water requirement, making our campuses a zero-discharge facility.

B. Conservation practices

Water is used for human touch purposes only at Infosys and 100% of our water withdrawal from various sources has Total Dissolved Solids (TDS), which is less than 1,000 mg/L. Thus, it is considered as freshwater and most of our withdrawal is through municipal providers. To conserve freshwater in existing buildings, we take measures to reduce demand and 100% of wastewater is recycled within our campuses. Water distribution and treatment strategies have been enhanced with re-engineering and modifications. Real-time monitoring of data is done with smart water metering systems.

1. **Smart water metering**
   Smart water meters have helped us plug leaks, identify opportunities for savings and get valuable insights for new designs. We have leveraged technology to monitor and control our water consumption leading to significant reduction in per capita consumption per day over the years.

2. **Smart irrigation systems**
   This is an initiative which helps reduce landscape irrigation by planning with lesser grass cover, use of native species and continued development of irrigation infrastructure like automated irrigation and drip irrigation, among others.

C. Wastewater management

Wastewater across our campuses is entirely recycled and used for irrigation, flushing and air-conditioning. We are retrofitting our existing systems to upgrade the quality of treated wastewater in line with applicable norms. We manage around 31 STPs across India locations to handle around 19.4 MLD of sewage. Of the 31 STPs, 28 STPs operate on the latest Membrane BioReactor (MBR) technology. The 40 KLD Sequential Batch Reactor (SBR) plant at our Gurgaon campus was converted to MBR during fiscal 2024. During the year, we recycled 100% of wastewater generated

on our campuses through STPs to the tune of 12,70,284.01 KL and have reduced the requirement of freshwater sourcing to that extent.

D. Rainwater harvesting

An important feature of our water stewardship goal is rainwater harvesting. Our India campuses are equipped with rooftop rainwater harvesting, harvesting tanks, recharge wells and artificial lakes. These reduce our external freshwater dependency and help to replenish the groundwater table in the areas we operate in. During the year, roof rainwater harvesting system was implemented at our campuses in Thiruvananthapuram, Mysuru and Bhubaneswar. Around 24,000 sq.m. area of roof was enabled with rainwater harvesting in fiscal 2024. Rainwater intake has been increased by 16% compared to fiscal 2023. Around 14% of the total consumption was met through rainwater harvesting.

Rainwater collection in India (KL)

Fiscal 2023	2,26,261
Fiscal 2024	2,62,929

Percentage rainwater usage (India)

Total water consumption-India (KL)	Rainwater collected (KL)	Rainwater usage (%)
18,75,975	**2,62,929**	**14**

31 STPs with total treatment capacity of 19.4 MLD in India campuses

Roof rainwater harvesting

Most of our buildings are enabled with roof rainwater collection and filtration mechanism. This water is being used for primary applications after necessary treatment. Rooftop rainwater harvesting systems have helped us offset freshwater purchases from external sources.

Around 18.5 lakh sq. ft. of roof area enabled with rainwater harvesting

Surface run-off water collection through artificial lakes

We have created 40 lakes across our India campuses, with a holding capacity of 430 million liters of rainwater. Water from these lakes have been reused for secondary purposes after necessary treatment.

We have observed a significant increase in water tables in the areas where we have created these lakes.

Injection wells for groundwater recharge

We have created around 405 deep injection wells across our campuses in India, having a combined recharge capacity of over 20 million liters.

E. Greywater procurement

Greywater procurement (KL)

Fiscal 2023	23,972
Fiscal 2024	55,589

We procure secondary quality water through authorized agencies / authorities to meet the demand for landscaping applications. This helps us reduce our freshwater dependency. During the year, we procured 55,589 KL of greywater at our Bengaluru and Hyderabad campuses.

F. Leadership and advocacy

Infosys is committed to addressing environmental challenges and driving change as a responsible member of the community. We exhibit our water stewardship through a combination of efforts within the organization as well as among communities, such as rejuvenation of lakes in the vicinity of our campuses. We actively engage with multiple stakeholders to not only drive awareness but also share best practices that can be replicated at scale.

G. Employee engagement

We proactively engage with our employees to create ambassadors for water conservation. On World Water Day in March 2024, we promoted awareness on the water conservation approach of Infosys as well as methods that can be adopted by employees at their homes and communities. Stalls with displays of the latest technological interventions for water conservation were organized across locations. Some of the other initiatives included water management-based site tour for employees, sessions on water management at Infosys, poster displays and communication mailers.

Stalls of water products at the campus

H. Water quality and compliance

We have made it a priority to maintain the quality of the water we use and discharge so that it will be suitable for its next use, contributing to the overall health of local watersheds. We adhere to statutory norms and regulations in all the states and countries where we operate and maintain careful monitoring systems to track the same. We have also established a real-time wastewater quality and quantity monitoring system and strengthened water quality inspection mechanism by integrating it to our online Building Management System (BMS) to monitor the data.

Going beyond legal and regulatory obligations, at Infosys, we have always been at the forefront of ensuring compliance through responsible business practices. As a global company, we abide by all international and national laws and uphold the standards of transparency and accountability. We ensure adherence to all applicable legal requirements in the regions we operate in, including India's Water (Prevention and Control of Pollution) Act, 1974 and the Central Ground Water Authority (CGWA) guidelines.

Doddathogur Lake, Electronics city

I. Incremental efforts for water positivity

Infosys regularly assesses water-related risks. In 2022-2023, CII conducted Scope-1 water footprint audit at Infosys' E-city campus in Bengaluru, defining real water resource offsets covering both quantity and quality offsets (based on direct or real water used for the plant operations) criteria as per NITI Aayog guidelines. The assessment showed that direct water use, and indirect energy water use in facilities amounts for less than 1% of E-city campus overall water footprint.

As an outcome of the audit, Infosys Bangalore DC successfully achieved the Scope 1 Certification and was recognized as an "Aspiring Water Neutral / Positive Campus" during the 9th CII Water Innovation Summit on December 12-13, 2023, at New Delhi.

Water stewardship in the community

Water is a scarce and invaluable natural resource, and we are strongly committed to its conservation. Infosys has been a signatory to the CEO Water Mandate, since 2014. We continue to strengthen our water stewardship practices in our operations and extend our efforts to the community. Here is a case study of a lake revival project in Bengaluru through the Infosys Foundation.

Doddathogur Lake, located in the south of Bengaluru; was once a vital drinking water source. However, the unchecked discharge of sewage and solid waste severely polluted its waters, disrupting the delicate balance of its ecosystem. The consequent decline in water holding capacity, compounded by silt deposition and groundwater contamination, posed significant health and environmental hazards to the local community. The stagnant sewage deposits caused an unbearable stench in the area. Additionally, the reduced capacity of the lake caused an overflow and flooding of the surroundings during the monsoon.

Today, this once-polluted lake has been cleaned and made ready for the monsoon, thanks to the Foundation's efforts. Additionally, a walking track of about 2 km, afforestation with 1,600 trees and 10,000 plants has improved the surroundings significantly. This is an example of our lake rejuvenation initiatives covering five lakes and successfully transforming 197 acres of once-neglected water bodies into thriving ecosystems. The plans included objectives of storage capacity enhancement, groundwater recharge, drinking water accessibility, agricultural support, catchment area improvement, environmental sustainability, community engagement, and creating a space to promote residents' health and wellness.

For more refer: https://www.infosys.org/infosys-foundation/about/reports/documents/infosys-foundation-report-2023-24.pdf