Ceres Investor Water Hub

Investors are increasingly aware that the 21st century economy will be shaped by powerful environmental, social and governance (ESG) factors such as climate change, population growth, energy demand and declining freshwater resources.

Ceres’ Investor Water Hub, a working group of Ceres’ Investor Network, undertakes activities that help drive greater consideration of water in investment decision-making. This group offers peer-to-peer sharing of leading ESG and water integration and engagement practices. The Hub serves as a collective action forum dedicated to developing more effective research methods to assess water risks and opportunities. Investor Water Hub members are also exploring ideas that help drive investing in solutions that support sustainable water resources for generations to come.

WHO CAN JOIN
The Investor Water Hub is open to asset owners and asset managers interested in the topic of water risk integration in investment decision-making. The Hub undertakes activities useful to members that help drive greater consideration of water in investment decision-making. The Hub engages actively with affiliated investment, NGO and water experts. Hub membership is open to all members of the Ceres Investor Network. Non-Investor Network members may be part of the Investor Water Hub for one year, after which firms will be requested to consider joining the larger Ceres Investor Network. Please contact Robin Miller at miller@ceres.org if you are interested in joining.

HOW OFTEN DOES THE HUB MEET
The group meets quarterly via conference call. Additionally, the Hub hosts investor-led peer learning sessions throughout the year. These “Speaker Series” webinars are a forum for members to share ESG and water-related practices, ideas, research and integration methods with the group. Special guests are also regularly invited to help the Hub gain a deeper understanding of specific ESG and water integration methods and issues.

“Investors need guidance to better understand their exposure to water-related risks and opportunities. The Ceres Investor Water Hub provides that guidance while offering an invaluable opportunity for peer-to-peer learning on the latest approaches to mitigating the business value at risk.”

PIET KLOP
SENIOR ADVISER OF RESPONSIBLE INVESTMENT
PGGM
INVESTOR WATER TOOLKIT AND CERES WATER PROGRAM

The Investor Water Toolkit is a recent project of the Hub and the first-ever comprehensive resource to evaluate and act on water risks in investment portfolios. This how-to guide includes links to resources, databases, case studies and other tools for equity, fixed income and private equity investors to use, from pension funds to endowments to asset managers. The Toolkit was developed in collaboration with more than 40 institutional investor Hub members and is the ultimate resource on water integration written for investors by investors.

Other Ceres-affiliated resources and initiatives around water include:

- Ceres Water Program
- An Investor Water Handbook for Water Risk Integration
- Connect the Drops: A Campaign Showcasing the Leadership of California Companies and Policymakers to Advance Resilient Water Solutions
- Feeding Ourselves Thirsty: Tracking Food Companies Progress Toward a Water-Smart Future
- Aqua Gauge: A Comprehensive Assessment Tool for Evaluating Corporate Management of Water Risk

GOVERNANCE OF GROUP

Ceres' Water and Investor Program staff guide the strategy and agenda of the Investor Water Hub with advice from an Advisory Committee of investors in addition to member input. The Advisory Committee meets semi-annually and includes:

- Breckinridge Capital Advisors
- California State Teachers’ Retirement System (CalSTRS)
- Interfaith Center for Corporate Responsibility
- Impax Asset Management
- KBI Global Investors
- Norges Bank Investment Management
- PGGM
- Principles for Responsible Investment
- The Park Foundation
- University of California Regents
- Water Asset Management

FOR MORE INFORMATION OR TO JOIN, PLEASE CONTACT:

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