

Reducing our environmental footprint continued

WATER STEWARDSHIP

Our southern African operations are located in water-stressed regions. Implats' water stewardship efforts focus on maximising water recycling/re-use at operations and reducing freshwater withdrawals to increase resilience against water scarcity at each operation and the surrounding communities.

Highlights



- Achieved a CDP Water Disclosure Project score of A- (A- rating in 2023)
- No water-related incidents (level 3) were recorded
- Begun aligning our water reporting to the best-in-class International Council on Mining and Metals (ICMM) guidelines
- Above target water recycled/re-used performance (55%)
- Commissioned a 25MI reservoir at Impala Rustenburg constructed at a cost of R130 million.

Lowlights/challenges



- Capital constraints have led to a 41% reduction in planned spend on water-related projects over the next five years.

Performance against key indicators



- **Freshwater withdrawn:** 27 175MI (2023: 17 525MI)
- **Water recycled or re-used:** 55% (2023: 52%) against a Group target water recycled or re-used of 54% in 2024
- **Water-related level 3 environmental incidents:** 0 (2023: 4) against a Group water-related level environmental incidents target of zero by 2025.

Responsible water stewardship is a strategic priority. Our water stewardship framework consists of six pillars, which are aligned with global frameworks and provide guidance on managing water-related risks and associated capital allocation decisions. Our stated 2030 goals, which aim to increase water resilience at our operations and in host communities, are to:

- Minimise freshwater withdrawals in water-stressed catchments
- Implement infrastructure that improves access to water at operations and communities in water-stressed catchments (also part of our social performance strategy, see [page 62](#))
- Achieve zero uncontrolled releases of contaminated water to the environment
- Achieve 60% water recycling/re-use by 2030 – this target is restated from 70%, in line with changes made to capital allocation and the reduced life-of-mine at Impala Canada, and includes Impala Bafokeng.

Our water stewardship framework



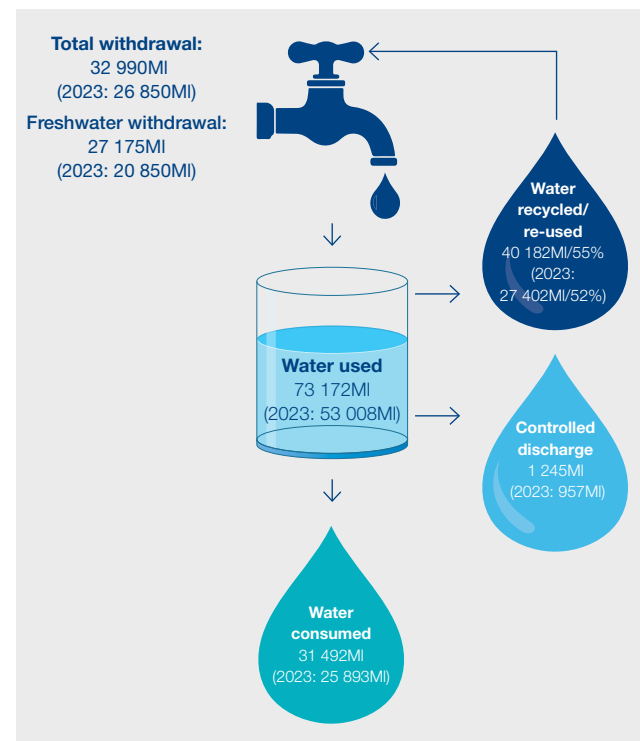
We strive to achieve socially and commercially beneficial water use that is in line with best-practice environmental standards. Our water stewardship strategy calls for the Group to align its practices to the ICMM water reporting guidance, to conduct catchment-level water-risk assessments, and to develop dynamic water-balance models for all operations by 2025.

Change in water reporting guidelines

In 2024, our operations' water reporting began to align with best-in-class ICMM guidelines. The definitions of our water-related key indicators as well as their basis of calculation are available on [page 108](#). The only parameter materially impacted by this recent change in reporting guidance is water consumed. Previously, this was defined as the sum of water withdrawn and water recycled or re-used and is now termed water used. The ICMM water reporting guidance defines water consumed as water that is retained within the Group's boundaries for operational use and not discharged back to the receiving environment, therefore remaining unavailable for the catchment and other users (calculated as total water withdrawn less total water recycled). This change in definition has been applied prospectively from the current year and as such, our water consumption performance in 2024 is not comparable to previous years. All other parameters are not materially affected. Here, the difference in operational performance is largely due to the maiden inclusion of Impala Bafokeng to Group reporting.

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Water-performance indicators as at 30 June 2024



Other water-performance indicators GRI 303-5

	2024	2023	2022	2021	2020
Freshwater withdrawal (MI): All operations	27 175	23 525	21 530	21 322	19 402
Freshwater withdrawal (MI): Operations in water-stressed catchments*	25 440	21 202	19 460	19 396	19 402
Water recycled MI: All operations	40 182	27 402	27 551	25 869	19 094
Water recycled MI: Operations in water-stressed catchments	33 255	19 758	20 134	18 153	16 282
Total water consumed** (MI): All operations	31 492	53 008	51 504	50 671	43 122
Total water consumed** (MI): Operations in water-stressed catchments	29 986	44 078	42 666	41 029	39 390

* Operations in water-stressed regions: Impala Rustenburg, Impala Refineries, Impala Bafokeng, Marula and Zimplats.

** Not comparable year-on-year. Definition of water consumed revised to align with ICMM guidelines.

Water-related risks and opportunities

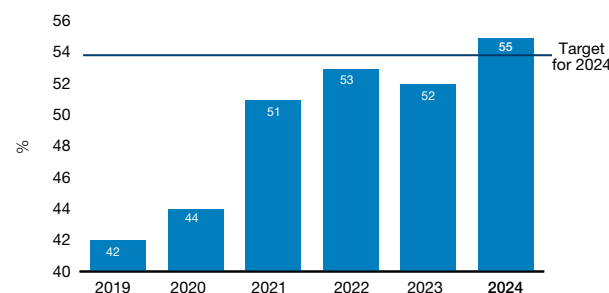
Water-related risk-management disclosure plays a key role in our stakeholder engagements and Implats participates in the CDP's Water Disclosure Project, achieving an A- score for the latest submission.

In most parts of southern Africa, El Niño events are associated with prolonged dry spells, reduced rainfall and increased temperatures. These conditions often lead to droughts, water shortages and crop failures, posing significant challenges to health, agriculture and food security. Our operations in South Africa and Zimbabwe received average rainfall in December 2023 and January 2024.

However, from February 2024, most of Zimbabwe experienced a catastrophic dry spell. The effects of this drought are compounded by existing water shortages and socio-economic vulnerabilities. The El Niño events – and the increasingly unpredictable and extreme weather conditions brought about by climate change – foretell future water-related risks for our operations and our host communities who are reliant on rain-fed agriculture. As such, each of our operations has fit-for-context plans in place to build resilience, including social performance initiatives to help communities access water and improve their food security (see [pages 56 to 59](#)). Capital curtailment has led to a 41% decrease in funds allocated to water stewardship projects. The projects being implemented to achieve our 2030 goals and mitigate risks are summarised below.

Recycle/re-use % of water used

as at 30 June 2024



Maseve tailings dam at Impala Bafokeng

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Operation	Initiative	Objective	Budget	Estimated completion date
Impala Rustenburg	Construction of stormwater catchment dam	Improved stormwater storage and greater resilience to extreme weather events (floods, droughts)	R800 million	July 2026
	Construction of an additional 25MI water reservoir (following the commissioning of a 25MI reservoir at the site in August 2023)	Improved water storage and resilience to water supply disruptions (electricity and mechanical)		June 2029
Impala Refineries	Effluent treatment plant and nickel wash water optimisation projects	Improved water recycling and re-use capacity and reduced freshwater intake		June 2029
	Installation of a flow metering on the tailings thickener	Improved water accounting		June 2025
Marula	Tailings dam water plume remediation	Prevent pollution of water ways		June 2027
Zimplats	Turf and SMC sewage water recycling study	Improved security of water supply for operations and reduced freshwater intake		June 2028
Impala Bafokeng	Upgrade of Maseve pump station	Improved water reticulation and use efficiency		June 2026

Improving resilience to water supply disruptions

To mitigate water supply disruptions and water quality deterioration, Impala Rustenburg committed to installing two 25MI potable water reservoirs. The project is being implemented in two phases. Phase 1 was completed in August 2023 and commissioned in March 2024 at a cost of R130 million, and involved constructing a 25MI reservoir, pump station and water treatment plant, which provides potable water buffer capacity to the operation's northern shafts and minerals processing facility. Phase 2 of the project will see the construction of a second 25MI reservoir, pump station and water treatment plant, which will offer similar buffer capacity for the operation's southern shafts, once completed.

Water – Every drop counts

Zimplats is implementing process improvement initiatives to reduce freshwater consumption at its mining and mineral processing activities.

Factors influencing the availability of water at Zimplats:

- Water-stressed region with frequent droughts and/or prolonged dry spells
- Climate-change induced water-supply challenges

- Weather phenomena, such as El Niño-induced droughts
- Increased water demands for irrigation requirements from new mining developments and growing urban and rural councils
- Siltation in water bodies due to land clearing and agricultural activities.

Zimplats achieved a 35% reduction in freshwater consumption at the Selous Metallurgical Complex (SMC) concentrator plant after it commissioned its new mills lubrication system cooling towers. Recycling and re-using treated sewage effluent to suppress dust, water lawns and flower gardens is being actively promoted at both the mining and processing divisions. The volume of treated effluent recycled increased by 60% year-on-year. In addition, in the first quarter of 2024, the 3.3km extension of the water pipeline from Chitsuwa Dam to the Ngezi Weir was commissioned, which will prevent unauthorised abstraction and evaporative losses along the Ngezi River tributary. Zimplats' security department monitors water sources and infrastructure to detect and deter illegal water abstraction, with drones used to increase coverage and improve monitoring. Zimplats officials are active participants in the two catchment councils within which the operations are located. Water conservation awareness sessions are conducted regularly and employees are encouraged to carry water-saving principles and initiatives to their respective homes and communities.

Stakeholder engagements on water

Impala Rustenburg continues to avail up to 2MI per day of its freshwater allocation from regional water suppliers to surrounding communities and at Impala Refineries, we continue to engage with authorities on the renewal of our water-use licence. Due to financial constraints, Marula has changed its participation level in the regional water supply project for mines and mine communities to non-committed member status, but continues to engage with government and regional participants on developments and may rejoin the initiative as a contributing member in future. Due to the drought in Zimbabwe, Zimplats partnered with local authorities to conduct education campaigns on water conservation.

Implats supports World Water Day in line with UN SDG 6: Water and sanitation for all by 2030.

Implats helps to create a better future by implementing measures to ensure access to clean water for employees and local communities. On World Water Day, all Implats operations take part in water awareness drives in local communities.

WE RESPECT Access to clean water is a basic human right and is required for economic growth and to maintain the integrity of ecosystems. We conduct annual water-risk assessments and continuously implement projects to reduce freshwater intake and monitor surface and groundwater around our facilities for any anomalies

WE CARE We play a crucial role in contributing to the good health and wellbeing of our employees and surrounding communities by participating in catchment-level water management engagements and awareness initiatives

WE DELIVER We implement projects geared towards water stewardship. In the past three years, we have increased our water recycle/re-use rates from 44% to 54% and completed projects to improve water scarcity resilience in our communities (supplying boreholes, upgrading pumping equipment and water infrastructure) and mitigate extreme and climate change-related weather events, including floods (building roads, safe bridges and stormwater infrastructure).