

The Well

UN sustainable goals

In 2019, we joined the United Nations Global Compact, which helps implement universal sustainability principles and supports achieving the Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs).

UN Global Compact

The Global Compact is the world's largest corporate sustainability initiative with more than 9,500 businesses and 4,000 non-business participants globally.

As a participant, we are actively involved in achieving the SDGs. There are more than 190 Australian businesses and organisations supporting the Global Compact with 39 signed up as participants, and the remainder as signatories. Participants pledge to:

- operate responsibly, in alignment with universal sustainability principles
- take actions that support the society around them
- commit to the effort from the organisation's highest level
- report annually on their ongoing efforts
- engage locally where they have a presence.

To ensure we act responsibly, we follow the ten principles of the UN Global Compact. These principles guide our decision making and are derived from:

- the Universal Declaration of Human Rights
- the International Labour Organization's Declaration on Fundamental Principles and Rights at Work
- the Rio Declaration on Environment and Development
- the United Nations Convention Against Corruption.

Sustainable Development Goals

The SDGs describe what we want the world to be like by 2030. They are universal and apply to communities around the world. The aim is to reduce poverty, inequality, unrest and environmental stress across the globe.

Our work has a strong connection to goal number six: [clean water and sanitation](#).

The United Nations wants every person on the planet to have clean accessible water and proper sanitation. That means water to drink, water to wash your hands, and water to flush away our waste.

In South Australia we're really lucky that we can turn on a tap, flush a toilet, swim in a pool or even have a water fight. But not everyone around the world is so lucky.

In delivering drinking water and sewerage services to South Australians, we look after our customers and the natural environment. Our production and treatment activities ensure drinking water is safe and clean and that sewage and used water is treated to be recycled or returned to the environment.



We also contribute to other goals, including:



Did you know?

- For more than 160 years we have been working to ensure South Australians have safe, clean drinking water and a dependable sewage system.
- About 4 billion people, almost two-thirds of the world's population, experience severe water scarcity for at least one month every year.
- 2.4 billion people lack access to basic sanitation services, such as toilets.
- More than 80 per cent of wastewater from human activities ends up in rivers and oceans without being treated, creating pollution.
- 900 million school children around the world don't have access to handwashing facilities – that's more than 35 times Australia's population.
- 1.8 billion people get their drinking water from a source contaminated with faeces, also known as poo. This means they risk contracting diseases like cholera, dysentery, typhoid, polio and more.

