



# Water Efficiency Labeling and Standards (WELS) Schemes: Concept and Opportunity

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clasp

Efficient Appliances for People & the Planet



CLASP improves the energy and environmental performance of the appliances & equipment we use every day, accelerating our transition to a more sustainable world.

# What We Do



**Energy & Quality Standards** to keep inefficient, low-quality products off the market



**Policy Compliance, Testing & Quality Assurance** to ensure products perform & markets are fair to all



**Product Labeling & Consumer Education** to attract consumers to good products & inspire demand



**Awards & Product Recognition** to reward early-movers & accelerate markets



**Procurement, Incentives & Bulk Buys** to incentivize innovative manufacturers, reduce risks for all & saturate markets with efficient, high quality products



**Global Collaboration & Knowledge Sharing** to leverage cutting edge & collective knowledge and forge productive partnerships





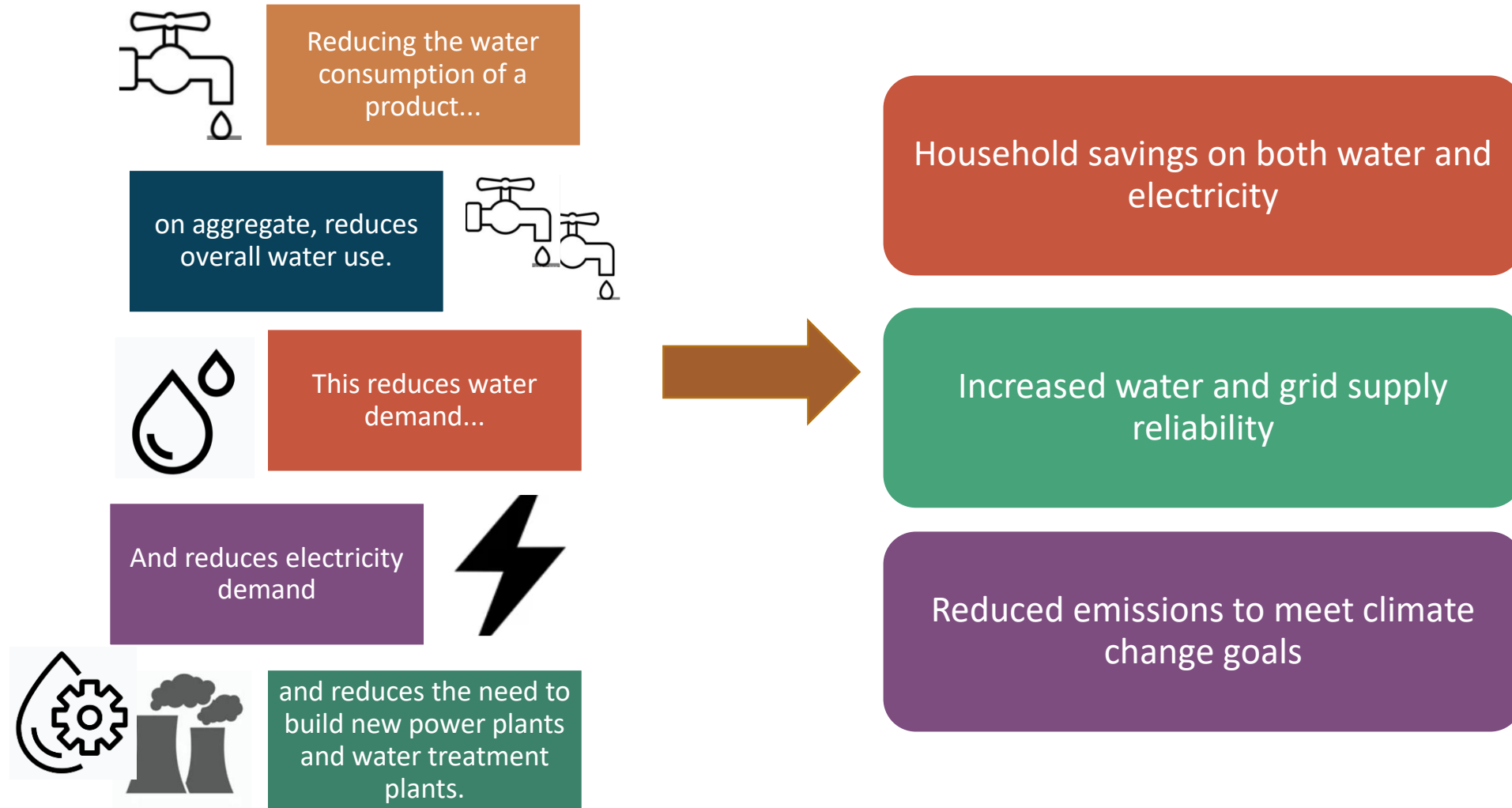
What are WELS?

WELS schemes promote water efficiency by informing consumers about the performance of water using products.

**GOAL:** provides consumers with information on the water efficiency of both water using fixtures such as taps & showers and appliances such as washing machines, dishwashers. It allows consumers to make quick comparative assessments of the water efficiency of a product by viewing the water rating labels



# Benefits of Adopting a WELS Scheme to Utilities and Consumers



Country	Scheme Name/ Year Started
Australia	WELS, 2006 Smart Approved Watermark, 2006
New Zealand	WELS, 2010
USA & Canada	Water Sense, 2006
China	Water Conservation Certificate, 2002 China Water Efficiency Label, 2018
Singapore	Mandatory WELS, 2009
United Arab Emirates	ESMA Water Efficiency Label, 2013
United Kingdom	Water Technology List(2018-2020)

- Other countries include India, Malaysia, Portugal
- Can be government led or private sector/NGO led
- Can be voluntary or mandatory





## ISO 31600:2022

<https://www.iso.org/standard/76401.html>

- Provides a set of best practices and guidance for the preparation and implementation of a water efficiency labelling program for plumbing products and water using appliances
- Aims to
  - globally encourage the development of national standards for water efficiency labelling
  - encourage development and marketing of water efficient products,
  - enable consumers to make informed choices,
  - positively influence manufacturers to improve the performance of their products through consumer demand.

# WELS Schemes Case Studies

## Objectives

- conserve water supplies by reducing water consumption;
- provide information for purchasers of water using and water saving products;
- promote the adoption of efficient and effective water use and water saving technologies.

**Products Covered:** Dishwashers, flow controllers, showers, taps , toilets, urinals, washing machines



Star rating lets you quickly compare the water efficiency of different products.

Rate of water consumption such as flow rate, liters per flush or liters per wash lets you estimate how much water the product will use.

Registration and product details including license number and registration number and, for washing machines and dishwashers, the model name and cycle used for testing.

# Impact of Australian WELS Scheme

	2017	2026	2036
Annual Water Saving(Gl/yr)	112.18	184.81	230.92
Cumulative GHG Saved(Mt CO2-e)	11.00	31.45	55.90
Annual total household utility bill saving(\$M/Yr)	1047.93	1765.68	2638.15

*Adopted from Evaluation WELS Scheme 2018, page 5*

A voluntary partnership program sponsored by the U.S. Environmental Protection Agency (EPA),

WaterSense-labeled products and services are certified to use at least 20 percent less water, save energy, and perform as well as or better than regular models.

**Products Covered:** residential toilets, showerheads, bathroom taps, commercial toilets, urinals, sprinkler bodies and irrigation controllers



	Since 2006
Water and Energy Saving(USD)	87 billion
Water Saving(Gallons)	4.4 trillion

# Singapore Water Efficiency



Kicked off in 2006 on a voluntary basis. Was made mandatory in 2009

**Products Covered:** taps and mixers, dual-flush low capacity flushing cisterns, urinal flush valves, waterless urinals, clothes washing machines intended for household use, dishwashers and showerheads(voluntary)



**A GUIDE TO LIVING 'WELS'**

Purchasing new water fittings? Here's a quick guide on why it's important to choose products that are registered under PUB's Water Efficiency Labelling Scheme (WELS).

**WHY IS IT IMPORTANT TO USE WELS-REGISTERED PRODUCTS?**

A WELS-registered water fitting protects public health and safety. This means that the product is certified to be water efficient, fit and safe for use in Singapore.

**RISKS OF GETTING NON-WELS REGISTERED PRODUCTS**

- It poses a risk to the water quality and may cause water contamination
- It could cause water wastage
- It may affect the reliability and durability of the water fitting

**HOW TO CHOOSE A WELS-REGISTERED WATER FITTING**

**STEP 1:** Look out for the WELS label on your chosen water fitting.

**STEP 2:** Check for tell-tale signs of poor quality when you receive the fittings.

All water fittings are required to be registered and labelled under PUB's Water Efficiency Labelling Scheme (WELS) before they can be sold and installed in Singapore. These include:

1. Basin taps and mixers
2. Sink/kitchen taps and mixers
3. Bib taps
4. Shower taps and mixers
5. Water closet flushing cisterns

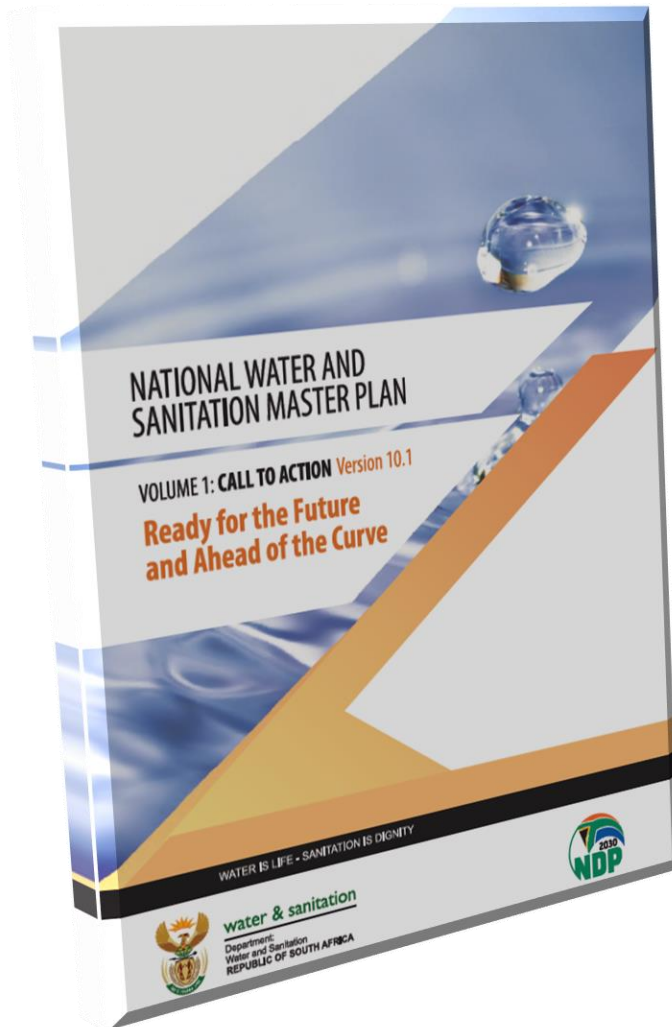
**SPOT A NON-COMPLIANT WATER FITTING?**

Report any non-WELS registered or non-compliant water fittings to PUB at [pub\\_waterfittings@pub.gov.sg](mailto:pub_waterfittings@pub.gov.sg)

**IF YOU'RE BUYING ONLINE:**

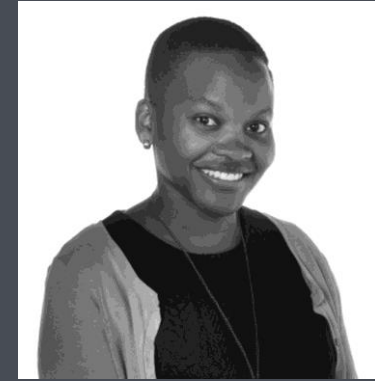
Ask your supplier, retailer or seller for the brand and model number of the product. Then check if the product is WELS-registered at [pub.gov.sg/wels/welsproducts](http://pub.gov.sg/wels/welsproducts)

# South Africa and WELS



- Water efficient taps and showerheads could reduce South Africa's water use by over 1 trillion liters per year, reducing energy consumption by 18 TWh per year and CO2 emissions by 16Mt per year.

Thank you!  
Any questions?



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