

Adrian Sym. Summarised CV for GWP Steering Committee Candidature

July 2011 – Present

CHIEF EXECUTIVE, Alliance for Water Stewardship (AWS)

In this internationally high-profile position, I lead the pre-eminent multi-stakeholder global body for water stewardship, dedicated to igniting water leadership through an innovative market-based system. This role demands in-depth knowledge of sustainable development, excellence in working with diverse stakeholders to achieve consensus-based outcomes, and an ability to develop and implement strategies connect global drivers with local impacts. I lead an internationally-dispersed team of professionals, and oversee the performance of two subsidiary organisations.

Led the development of a global Water Stewardship System, taking it from concept to reality through global collaborative processes.

- Oversaw the development of the AWS Standard, while designing and implementing assurance system, capacity development program and membership structure.
- Built a global network of members and partners from all sectors and regions, including multi-lateral agencies, governments, businesses and NGOs.
- Developed a robust business model for AWS, including designing and establishing an innovative approach to assurance through a mission-driven subsidiary company.

Led high-level engagement with key stakeholders, including negotiations with governments, international agencies and major corporations.

Led the design of an innovative multi-stakeholder governance regime.

June 2008 – June 2011

HEAD OF STRATEGIC RELATIONSHIPS AND PARTNERSHIPS, Fairtrade International, Germany

Led twenty-four member organizations of a global federation to a single approach to strategic partnerships and resource mobilization.

Led the development and implementation of the strategic framework for Fairtrade's work with partnerships and other alliances.

- Represented and promoted Fairtrade with government agencies and with other key development actors, and at international events.
- Developed the Strategic Fairtrade Funding Program, a high-level business plan for global Fairtrade movement, securing €20 million in funding commitments against this program.

November 2001 – May 2008

Various assignments with disability-focused organisations in Nepal and Bangladesh.

Education

MA, International Policy and Diplomacy (Merit), Staffordshire University, UK

BSc (Honours) Degree (First Class), International Studies, Open University, UK

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