

Acknowledgements

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WHO Water Safety Plan portal – includes case studies, tools and other information on developing water safety plans:
<http://www.who.int/wsportal/en/>, <http://www.wsportal.org>.

Glossary

The following represents terms used in GDWQ and other documents such as Codex Alimentarius and other guiding materials used throughout this Manual.

Term	Definition
Control (noun) (for instance control of water safety):	The state wherein correct procedures are being followed and criteria are being met.
Control (verb) (for instance control of a hazard):	To take all necessary actions to ensure and maintain compliance with criteria established in the WSP.
Control Measure:	Any action and activity that can be used to prevent or eliminate a water safety hazard or reduce it to an acceptable level.
Control Point:	A step at which control can be applied to prevent or eliminate a water safety hazard or reduce it to an acceptable level. Some plans contain key control points at which control might be essential to prevent or eliminate a water safety hazard.
Corrective Action:	Any action to be taken when the results of monitoring at the control point indicate a loss of control.
Critical Limit:	A criterion which separates acceptability from unacceptability.
Deviation:	Failure to meet a critical limit.
Flow Diagram:	A systematic representation of the sequence of steps or operations used in the production or manufacture of a particular water item.
HACCP:	Hazard Analysis and Critical Control Point.
Hazard Analysis:	The process of collecting and evaluating information on hazards and conditions leading to their presence to decide which are significant for water safety and therefore should be addressed in the WSP.
Hazard:	A biological, chemical, physical or radiological agent in, or condition of water; with the potential to cause an adverse health effect. Another word for hazard includes "contaminant".
Hazardous Event:	A process whereby a hazard/contaminant is introduced into a water supply.
Monitor:	The act of conducting a planned sequence of observations or measurements of control parameters to assess whether a control point is under control or whether the water meets quality criteria.
Risk Assessment:	For the purposes of this Manual, risk assessment has the same meaning as hazard analysis.
Risk Score:	The score assigned to a hazard based on the risk analysis process.
Step:	A point, procedure, operation or stage in the water supply chain including raw materials, from primary production to final exposure.
Supporting Programmes/ Supporting Requirements:	The foundation activities required to ensure safe water including training, raw material specifications and general good water management practices. These programmes can be just as important as control points in controlling water quality risks but are used where application tends to cover long timeframes and/or broader organizational or geographic areas. Includes general organizational supporting programmes as well as specific programmes targeted to particular risks.
Validation:	Obtaining evidence that the elements of the WSP can effectively meet the water quality targets.
Verification:	The application of methods, procedures, tests and other evaluations, to determine compliance with the WSP, i.e. checking whether the system is delivering water of the desired quality and whether the WSP is being implemented in practice.
WHO:	World Health Organization.
WSP:	Water Safety Plan.



The most effective means of consistently ensuring the safety of a drinking-water supply is through the use of a comprehensive risk assessment and risk management approach that encompasses all steps in water supply from catchment to consumer. In these Guidelines, such approaches are called water safety plans (WSPs).

WHO Guidelines for Drinking-water Quality, 3rd Edition, 2004

