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**National Water Safety Plans:
What Are They, How Do They Help, & What
Can U.S. Learn From Countries Where They
Are Already in Place?**

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Outline

- What is a National Water Safety Plan?
- How does a National Water Safety Plan help?
- What can we learn from countries where they are already in place?
- What is the plan in the U.S.?
- How can you get involved?






What is a National Water Safety Plan?





*outshell, is my marketing
my questions?*

How does a National Water Safety Plan help?

- Raise **awareness**
- Build **consensus** around solutions
- Develop a coherent effective response involving **relevant partners**
- Provide **strategic direction** and a framework to align and guide multisectoral efforts
- Set **priorities**
- **Coordinate** action
- Monitor action, including obtaining **better data and reporting** on drowning and prevention



Essential Steps for Developing a National Water Safety Plan (Source: WHO)



Learning from other countries...

- Australia
- Canada
- Ireland
- New Zealand
- United Kingdom



Australia...

- Strong leadership
- Data driven priorities
- Setting targets and monitoring progress
- Aligning agency strategy and community action
- Identifying key research questions



Canada...

- Stakeholder matrix
- Data holds us hostage
- Working groups on key focus areas
- Establish groundwork and demonstrate progress to increase likelihood of government engagement



Ireland...

- Government mandate to develop plan
- Stakeholder consultation
- Challenge stakeholders to take ownership and play their part in delivering it



New Zealand...

- Data driven priorities
- Importance of changing culture
- Once priorities identified communities take the lead
- Sector influence, capability and capacity



United Kingdom...

- National strategy and framework to guide work of local authorities
- Community-level risk assessment and water safety planning
- Key role for recreational activity organizations



Commonalities...

- Well thought out planning process
- Effective decision making process
- Support of relevant stakeholders including government / government agencies
- Open communication
- Opportunities for input, reflection and feedback



Area/Focus	Australia	Canada	Ireland	New Zealand	United Kingdom
Target high risk populations	X	X	X	X	X
Address different water settings	X	X	X	X	X
Address equipment and environments	X	X	X		X
Research	X	X	X		
Policy / Advocacy	X		X	X	
Workforce / Training / Sector capability and capacity	X		X	X	
Water Safety Education	X		X children	X	X children
Community-level risk assessment and water safety planning			X	X	X
Public awareness	X	X	X	X	X

What about the U.S.A.?

- Water Safety USA
- National Water Safety Plan development process
- Launching this fall
- <https://www.watersafetyusa.org/>



Questions?

