

GLAAS Strategy 2016 – 2020

BACKGROUND DOCUMENT

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Introduction

As GLAAS enters a new strategy period (2016–2020), considerable discussion has already taken place on its future in the light of present experience. This document makes proposals for moving GLAAS forward in the new landscape of Sustainable Development Goal (SDG) WASH monitoring, while taking into account its original mandate.

GLAAS objectives are defined as monitoring the inputs (in terms of human resources and finance) and the enabling environment (in terms of laws, plans and policies, institutional and monitoring arrangements), required to sustain and extend WASH systems and services to all, and especially to the most disadvantaged population groups. It is also mandated to analyse the factors associated with progress, in order to identify drivers and bottlenecks, highlight knowledge gaps and assess strengths and challenges within and across countries. It aims to facilitate the work of government-led platforms to enhance coordination across the various sectors, institutions and actors influencing and requiring WASH service delivery. See Annex 1 for the list of GLAAS Key Principles.

To summarize the core challenges outlined in the 2014 GLAAS Report, despite strong commitment from governments in terms of political will, the WASH sector continues to confront critical gaps in monitoring, weak implementation capacity, and inadequate funding. These are symptoms of inadequate institutionalization. GLAAS's work identifies where institutions need strengthening and can then assist in strengthening them.

GLAAS was intended, at its inception, to evolve into the most comprehensive report on the state of the WASH sector – the “apex” global monitoring platform covering institutional aspects and encapsulating essential information at global, regional and country levels. It would achieve this primarily by partnering with and utilizing data obtained by other monitoring bodies, complementing this approach only where necessary by undertaking primary data-gathering.

Following three rounds of the GLAAS process and many lessons learned, it has become clear that various constraints – largely in the area of data availability at country level – require primary data gathering to remain an essential part of GLAAS's work. In its efforts to fill data gaps, GLAAS has perforce become, and is often perceived as, yet another primary data-gathering mechanism. It is therefore timely to assess the present situation in the light of GLAAS's original mandate and lessons learned.

In doing so, particular attention is drawn to GLAAS's unique role in follow-up and review across the SDGs – particularly with respect to Goal 6 – regarding the provision of evidence on inputs and processes (i.e. the enabling environment).

The requirements of the SDG era may drive a proliferation of new monitoring platforms, partnerships, and approaches. This may provide opportunities for new partnerships with potential data-providers that can assist GLAAS to revert to its

original mandate, while concurrently strengthening and reaffirming collaboration with key partners such as the African Ministers' Council on Water (AMCOW), and the Sanitation and Water for All (SWA) High-Level Commitment Dialogue (HLCD).

With the new strategy period, it is appropriate to revisit the principle that GLAAS harvests data from a variety of sources and partners in order to generate comparable information, based on a set of key agreed parameters, suitable for regional and global aggregation. Through strengthened partnerships and cooperation, GLAAS should aim to evolve away from the direct generation of data except where these cannot be obtained through existing analytical tools. However, past experience has shown that this may not be entirely feasible during this strategy period.

GLAAS is widely perceived as fulfilling a unique role within a complex global monitoring landscape, providing data on inputs to the sector in an environment that has to date focused largely on outcomes and outputs. GLAAS information is not available in any other forum, and is considered by many countries as essential to the achievement of better WASH outcomes. In countries with weak sector review mechanisms, GLAAS information facilitates planning and policy decisions. It contributes to strengthening transparency and accountability, identifies issues and challenges common to many developing countries, and has been instrumental in mobilizing funding for the WASH sector. However, it is not yet sufficiently known and utilized as a tool to inform decision-making processes, for reasons that need further elucidation. If used as envisaged, GLAAS can play a significant role in supporting a variety of country-led processes, including but not limited to joint sector review and planning processes. This in turn will assist in the crucial work of strengthening institutions.

With these considerations, a revised orientation is proposed.

Proposed GLAAS Strategy

A revised approach will pay better dividends both to GLAAS and the countries it seeks to assist, as the world moves to the new SDG environment.

During the next strategy period (2016-2020), GLASS will focus on establishing its core identity as a key partner within existing monitoring and country support platforms. This necessitates more effective alignment and harmonization with other monitoring initiatives, particularly those of great strategic and political significance such as SWA and AMCOW, in the interests of mutual support, greater opportunities to leverage information, avoidance of duplication, and beginning to move aside from the unintended role of primary data generator.

Similarly, moving away from a perceived “top-down” approach, by involving stakeholders more closely in the process and identifying more clearly what they most require from GLASS, will better orient its activities and generate a stronger sense of national ownership of both process and products. Clearer response from users is needed in terms of their expectations of GLAAS, how it could better respond to their needs, and where it fails to meet needs. In this way, the expectations already created in contributing countries can be better met.

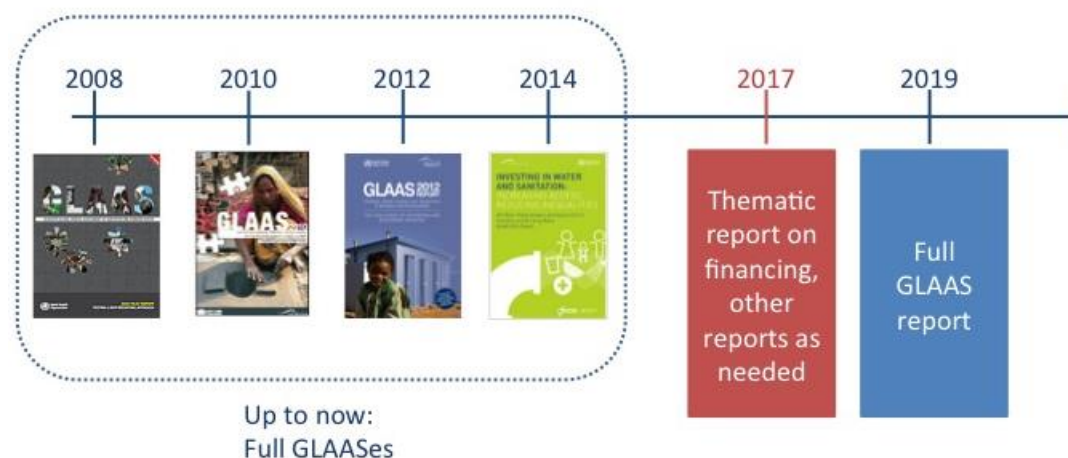
In these circumstances, future needs and all parties involved – countries, External Support Agencies (ESAs),¹ partner organizations, and GLAAS itself – may be better served by a dual approach.

It is proposed that the biennial GLAAS reports should alternate between a thematic approach – initially on WASH financing – and a full report covering all four themes habitually addressed. While certain years will have a narrower focus, all of the GLAAS topics (governance, human resources, monitoring and finance) will be available as full modules online that countries may complete if they would chose to during each GLAAS cycle.

The forthcoming strategy period will generate a more profound understanding of the financial state of the sector, as well as greater clarity, of the state of the other areas GLAAS monitors. By 2030, if this approach is systematically followed, a more sharply-defined picture of all GLAAS areas should emerge, facilitating policy and planning options.

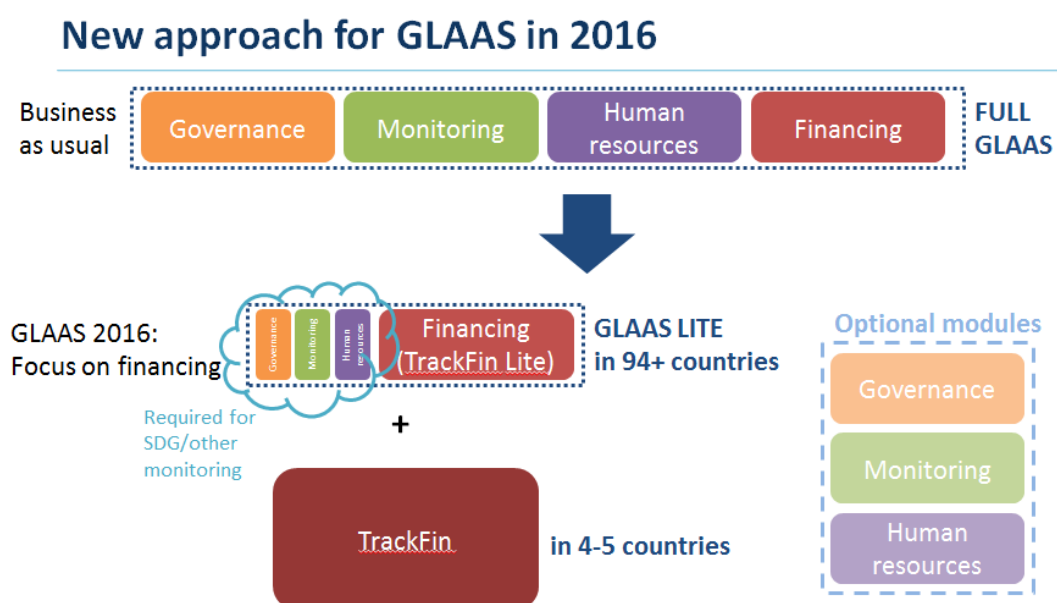
¹ Defined as bilateral donors, multilateral organizations, foundation, financing institutions and external agencies that support countries’ work in the attainment of achieving sanitation and water for all.

Figure 1 Alternating GLAAS Reports, 2016-2020



The alternating approach envisages that countries will be asked to complete a full finance module in every reporting cycle plus a few key required questions from the other sections, which will help to support SDG and SWA collaborative behaviour monitoring (Figure 2). In the following reporting cycle, countries would complete all four modules online in the usual way, and a full GLAAS report would ensue (Figure 1). A constant flow of information on finance is therefore obtained.²

Figure 2 New Approach for GLAAS 2016



² Complemented by detailed information from countries undertaking the full TrackFin exercise.

Giving countries the option to complete all GLAAS modules each cycle will allow for all the enabling factors monitored by GLAAS – policies, plans, institutions, and human resources – to continue to be addressed. Data will be obtained through the survey and supplemented by analysis of secondary data obtained through more effective collaboration with national and regional bodies as well as external support agencies and development partners. An added incentive to complete the full optional modules will be the automatic production of summary analysis sheets, modelled on the GLAAS Country Highlights produced for the 2014 report.

As a more finely-tuned range of information becomes available, it will be possible for GLAAS to clarify resource targeting and use across its four themes, and to provide more specifically-tailored automated tools to assist countries in providing their data and identifying bottlenecks, blockages, and feasible ways forward.

All information derived from this modular approach will feed into a global database that will comprise the main information repository for the GLAAS reports. To ensure that information is available on a timely basis, the WHO Secretariat will request countries to complete the survey during a given period prior to report preparation. Finally, in a future strategy period, the focus of the in-depth approach could be changed.

Rationale for a revised approach

The following key principles helped to guide the development and rationale for the new GLAAS strategy.

Maintaining breadth while increasing depth

Accepting that the present approach must now evolve, but that the range of the original mandate must be respected, GLAAS needs to both maintain its current breadth while finding ways to address its focus areas in more depth. This also constitutes an appropriate response to the more complex era of the SDGs, where monitoring and data provision across the “enabling environment” spectrum is required.

Finance as the first focus area

UN-Water GLAAS estimates that in 77% of countries, public finance is still insufficient to meet SDG targets 6.1 and 6.2.³ Not only is finance the most crucial aspect influencing any sectoral planning, but it is also a strong driver of progress or constraints in all other dimensions GLAAS is mandated to monitor. Questions of governance, monitoring, and human resources are strongly influenced by overall levels of finance available to the sector. The rationale for making finance the focus of a more in-depth examination is therefore strong.

The three GLAAS cycles to date have clarified that financing is a core obstacle to more rapid advancement, and that despite progress, many data gaps in this area remain. The WASH sector is heavily fragmented, and it is difficult to centralize data from many national institutions and supporting partners. However, encouraging countries to report on the sector’s financial situation at global level has motivated efforts to dig into the data and learn from it. While it was very difficult to obtain a picture of sector finance for the 2010 report, 30% of participating countries submitted data on sources of funding for the 2012 GLAAS report, and 52% of participating countries provided budget data for the 2014 report. This included expenditure data provision by 35% of countries. In addition, 20% of respondents in 2014 were able to provide data on household expenditure from tariffs, compared to only 5% in 2012.

GLAAS has responded to the findings with the development and piloting of the TrackFin (tracking financing) methodology. In seeking a new and more effective direction, it is logical to focus first on the area identified as the principal constraint, and for which GLAAS has now developed a comprehensive tool. The TrackFin pilot exercises in Brazil, Ghana and Morocco show that it is possible to obtain detailed financial data for the WASH sector, identify data gaps, produce estimates and progressively improve data collection and systems to increase reliability.

³ UN-Water GLAAS Report (2014), “Investing in Water and Sanitation: Increasing Access, Reducing Inequalities”. Available at http://www.who.int/water_sanitation_health/glaas/2014/en.

In addition, the early focus on finance issues in greater depth will strengthen GLAAS contributions to SDG Target 6.a: Means of Implementation Monitoring on International Cooperation (amount of WASH-related ODA that is part of a government-coordinated spending plan).

Continuing to monitor other elements of the enabling environment

Placing an initial in-depth focus on finance does not imply losing touch with the remaining themes. As the GLAAS objectives include monitoring the inputs (in terms of human resources and finance) and the enabling environment (in terms of laws, plans and policies, institutional and monitoring arrangements), these topics will still be addressed in GLAAS reports. Additionally, these topics are critical in GLAAS's efforts to strengthen partnerships and play a role in SDG monitoring.

Responding better to country processes

While GLAAS is a global monitoring tool, it is also designed to help countries, rather than be seen as an additional burden. Therefore, GLAAS will work to respond better to country processes during the 2016-2020 strategy period.

To help countries conduct more effective and systematic review processes, GLAAS plans to focus on those aspects of the enabling environment requiring stronger institutionalization, such as finance. GLAAS will play a stronger role in coordinating efforts among monitoring bodies to enhance institution-building and hence increase national capacity to fill present data gaps; in due course GLAAS will benefit from this process by harvesting data from these institutions.

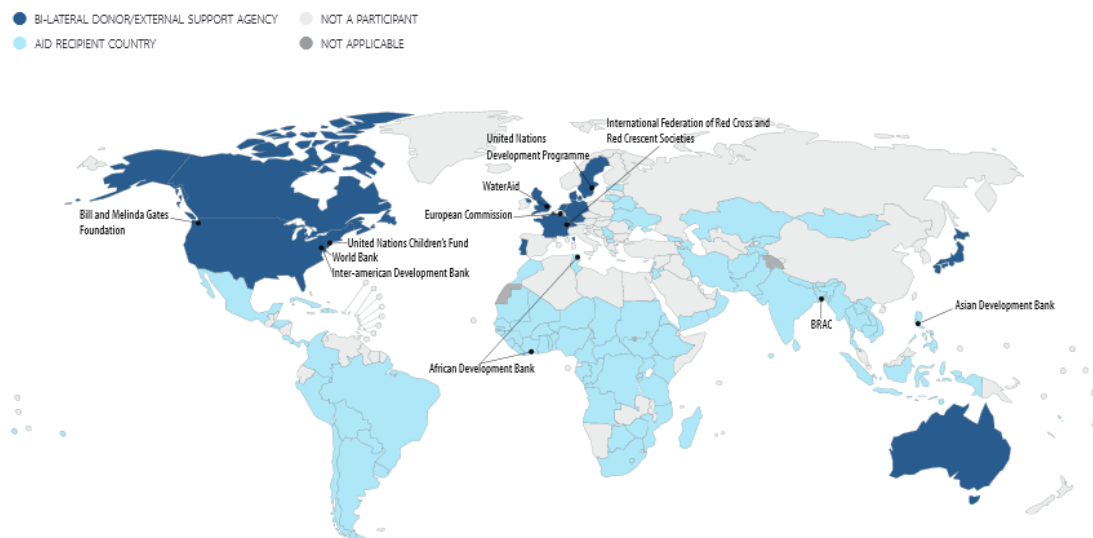
The data gaps consistently noted are unsurprising given continuing institutional weaknesses and the challenge of identifying the main blockages to progress faced by many developing countries. Throughout the MDG era, global monitoring work traditionally focused on output and outcome indicators (i.e. the JMP focus) rather than the inputs and processes indicators that are the focus of GLAAS's work. The wider range of indicators in terms of inputs and processes required by the SDG framework is better suited to providing a more comprehensive understanding, and to guide future work on strengthening institutions and capacity.

Maintaining commitment and quality

Finally, it must be acknowledged that any change of direction involves risks as well as benefits. It is also critical that the existing momentum and commitment is not lost through a change in orientation. Considerable effort has been expended to achieve the status-quo, particularly on the part of countries that have provided their data. It is hoped that countries will understand and support the proposed change; however, some may prefer to pursue the full GLAAS menu in the accustomed way. Care will be taken to underline that the multi-dimensional questionnaire covering all four elements will be available online for use by countries preferring to stay with the original approach. The sole difference will be some changes to "compulsory" Section D on financing.

Figure 3 Countries Participating in the 2014 GLAAS Cycle

PARTICIPATION IN 2013/2014 GLOBAL ANALYSIS AND ASSESSMENT OF SANITATION AND DRINKING-WATER (GLAAS)



Elements of the Proposed GLAAS Strategy, 2016-2020

I. GLAAS Country and ESA Surveys

GLAAS will continue using the country and ESA surveys for primary data collection, as other sources will likely be unable to provide information on the over 90 countries that participated in the 2013/2014 GLAAS cycle (Figure 3). However, where GLAAS can use data from other sources (such as WASH Bats or country joint sector reviews) it will do so.

The GLAAS country survey will be revised to align with the new strategy. The revision includes choosing the questions from the other sections that will be mandatory as well as ensuring that the questions cover the information needed to monitor the SDG means of implementation and SWA collaborative behaviours. The survey will also be made available online using LimeSurvey, in addition to having paper copies available.

The remaining modules the survey will also be provided online, and countries will be able to respond to those sections of interest to them in addition to the few required questions. Production of Country Highlights will be automated as much as possible to enable quick feedback to countries to allow for review and use of the data.

The ESA survey, which has been part of GLAAS since the pilot report of 2008 and complements the data received from countries and other sources such as the OECD, is also being adapted for the new strategy period. It is currently being reviewed and revised by an outside expert group consisting of representatives from NGOs, multilateral and bilateral donors. The objectives of the revision are to bring the survey into line with the SWA collaborative behaviours, adapt it to the SDG era, and make it more suitable for different types of ESAs to complete.

The 2016 round of the GLAAS country and ESA surveys will be sent out to countries in Q1 2016. For the mandatory portion of the survey on financing, a more extensive guidance document will be developed to enable countries to better capture WASH financing data (that can be obtained without undergoing a more extensive TrackFin-like exercise). Finally, an update guidance note will also be provided for the new format of the ESA survey.

Data collection is expected to take up to six months, with data review and validation with countries to occur concurrently as data are submitted. The assumption is that information from between one and four modules will be obtained from the over 90 countries that contributed to the 2014 GLAAS Report.

After the data collection and analysis, a detailed thematic report on financing, which will include data from any countries that have completed TrackFin as well as GLAAS country and ESA survey data, will be released in 2017.

The 2018 round of the GLAAS survey will be a full survey covering all four themes.

II. TrackFin: Strengthening the monitoring and reporting of financial information at country level

In addition to providing financial information regularly through a revised Section D of the GLAAS questionnaire, detailed information will be available throughout this strategy period from approximately 20 countries implementing the full TrackFin methodology.

Trackfin is a comprehensive methodology that tracks financial flows into and throughout the WASH sector, applicable at both national and sub-national levels. Tracking finance in this way enables a comprehensive understanding of what funding is available for what specific purposes, through what providers and funding channels, to identify where financial flows are going and for what they are used. Examples of the type of indicators TrackFin can produce, and the policy questions they answer, are attached as Annex 2.

With specific information of this kind available, evidence-based policy and programming decisions can be taken, and interventions more accurately targeted. Deep-rooted institutionalization lies at the core of TrackFin, so successful application of the method depends, first and foremost, on willingness to build and strengthen the institutions required.

The method has been fully tested in three countries in 2014/2015 (Brazil, Ghana, and Morocco) and has been revised on the basis of feedback and lessons learned. Mali and Madagascar have now started a first exercise, Burkina Faso will shortly begin, and Ghana is now starting a second round. It is expected that six countries will apply TrackFin in 2016, and up to 12 by 2017-18. During the forthcoming GLAAS strategy period (2016-2020), detailed information from approximately 15-20 countries is anticipated. The WHO Secretariat will provide support to countries that are interested in pursuing TrackFin.

As TrackFin is a new initiative, fostering collaboration amongst the countries implementing the methodology will contribute to its success. To accomplish this, a global coordination platform will be created. The purpose of the TrackFin Support Framework is to establish a global platform, through a network of actors, to provide direct support to countries that are implementing or would like to implement TrackFin. It works particularly with national/international consultants to organize Training of Trainers workshops and to make available guidance material along with practical examples and tools. In the future, the platform will also facilitate exchanges between countries on specific issues – for example on ways of improving data collection from local governments. It will also serve as a forum for exchanges between donors and development partners on financial support, coordination of supporting activities, (particularly to avoid duplication) and to encourage collaboration in the implementation of TrackFin in countries. An example of this cooperation is the implementation of TrackFin in Mali by UNICEF in collaboration with WHO.

Benefits of TrackFin include detailed understanding on the part of participating countries and ESAs of financial flows throughout the WASH sector, a stronger institutional base (a prerequisite for the exercise), more coordinated cross-sectoral approaches, more systematic links between technical and policy levels, and clear answers to a set of key policy questions posed at the outset of the exercise. Experience shows that the cost per country of implementing the TrackFin method is approximately US\$ 50-60K.

By the end of the forthcoming strategy period, the combination of Section D questionnaire responses plus the results of up to 20 countries' TrackFin results will have generated a significant body of in-depth information on the financial dimensions of WASH. Outstanding data gaps and typical blockages and bottlenecks to progress will be significantly clearer, particularly in the countries implementing TrackFin. Moreover, as the method has an inbuilt feedback mechanism, obtaining systematic information on user needs and issues in this area of GLAAS's mandate will be facilitated.

This approach also feeds into calls by international organizations and monitoring bodies for more data and information on the financial situation of the WASH sector, in an effort to better respond to the new SDG landscape, including for the monitoring of the means of implementation. In particular, it can be seen as in line with the 2015 Ngor Declaration that calls for the establishment and tracking of sanitation and hygiene budget lines that consistently increase annually to reach a minimum of 0.5% GDP by 2020. It also aligns with SWA's activities with respect to the collaborative behaviours for development effectiveness, specifically the behaviour on WASH financing.

III. Monitoring SDG Water and Sanitation Means of Implementation Targets

The 2030 Sustainable Development Agenda⁴ includes a dedicated goal on water and sanitation, which comprises six technical targets and two on means of implementation (MoI). As the most established global source of data on the WASH enabling environment, GLAAS is uniquely placed to provide key data to measure the two MoI indicators for Goal 6.

In particular, for target 6.a, GLAAS provides information on coordination of WASH funding between bilateral/multilateral donors and government, as well total WASH budget in a government-coordinated spending plan, and is committed to working with OECD and other partners to provide a consistent definition and methodology for this indicator. For target 6.b, GLAAS provides information at the national level on mechanisms in place to ensure user participation in planning WASH activities. Currently, this is the best information available on this indicator.

⁴ United Nations (2014). The road to dignity by 2030: Ending poverty, transforming lives, and protecting the planet.

To provide a concrete and practical demonstration of the data that GLAAS can provide for SDG monitoring, a mock-up of results for 6.a and 6.b will be developed in Q1 2016 using existing GLAAS data and shared with partners. In addition, a methodological note providing indicator definitions and detailed methodology will be made available in Q1 2016.

Finally, existing GLAAS indicators (shown in Annex 3) will need to be examined and adjusted as appropriate in accordance with the new strategy and in alignment with the new SDG formulations. This will also be part of the revision of the GLAAS country and ESA surveys.

IV. Increased harmonization and alignment with partners: AMCOW and SWA

The expanded WASH agenda under the SDGs will require strong and coordinated monitoring systems serving multiple stakeholders. The ground is therefore prepared for greater levels of partnership and coordination than were feasible during the MDG era.

The new SDG environment makes more effective partnerships a necessity rather than a question of choice. This must be a priority for GLAAS throughout the new strategy period, and is a prerequisite to GLAAS's role as a global-level instrument drawing on the data of others and taking a lead in work to ensure data quality and comparability. Two of the partnerships that GLAAS will work to strengthen during the next strategy period are with AMCOW and SWA.

GLAAS has a positive history working with AMCOW. In May 2015, GLAAS produced the Special Report for Africa, which was presented at 4th AfricaSan Conference, in collaboration with AMCOW. Moreover, WHO may be in a position to facilitate stronger links with AMCOW through the consultant services of an African monitoring expert.

In Africa, greater synergy with AMCOW will facilitate capitalization on Sharm-el-Sheikh commitments, the Ngor Declaration, and AfricaSan's work. This way of working could be replicated in other regions where specific bodies, declarations or other instruments have been adopted to advance WASH.

The SWA Partnership aims to increase the political prioritization, promote the development of a strong evidence base and strengthen government-led national planning processes to accelerate WASH services for all. GLAAS's position at the global level enables it to provide data and evidence on WASH issues for key decision-makers at global, regional and national levels. Evidence from GLAAS is presented at SWA High-Level Meetings and forms the basis of government commitments and decisions. GLAAS gains considerable strength from its close association with SWA, which in turn relies extensively on GLAAS information to discharge its own political dialogue. The mutually reinforcing nature of this partnership serves as a model for GLAAS's work.

GLAAS has worked closely with SWA throughout its history, including preparing a Special Report for the SWA High-Level Meeting in March 2014, and the relationship is mutually supportive and politically strategic.

To expand collaboration with SWA, GLAAS has taken a lead role in developing indicators for SWA's four collaborative behaviours that are recommended for countries and development partners to jointly adopt to improve long-term sector performance and sustainability.⁵ GLAAS is ideally positioned to be the monitoring mechanism for these behaviours as previous versions of both the ESA and country survey have addressed these issues. For the 2016 March SWA Sector Ministers Meeting, GLAAS will provide a draft of the indicators and examples of the data GLAAS can provide to monitor them.

GLAAS's contribution to these and other partnerships will include sharing of the tools it has currently developed, and others for which needs are identified during this strategy period. These currently include all TrackFin tools and the survey modules, while tools to assist capacity building are envisaged.

V. In-depth studies on WASH bottlenecks and drivers

GLAAS has shown that in countries where monitoring capacity is weak, sector reviews are not regularly conducted and data are weak or lacking. Again, more effective institutionalization is the key to unblocking this impasse and enhancing national capacity to undertake sector reviews. As a core tool for sector planning and programming, such reviews should constitute a principal source of GLAAS data.

Sector reviews, often supported by external agencies and the tools they provide such as the Service Delivery Assessment, WASH Bats, and the Poverty Diagnostic, provide essential information on institutional bottlenecks and drivers throughout the sector. These may include lack of policy or strategy, weak institutions, and lack of human and financial resources. However, these tools are often not on a global scale and overall sector reviews remain weak.

Therefore, without more detailed information of this nature, it is not possible to ascertain why, despite major investment to date, greater progress is not occurring in certain countries, or whether human and financial resources are being targeted to, and used for, the intended or the most appropriate purposes.

To strengthen country capacity to undertake systematic sector reviews, and hence to foster national capacity to feed back into GLAAS data-harvesting processes, a limited number of studies will be undertaken, in collaboration with appropriate partners, in approximately eight countries.

⁵ The behaviours are: 1) Enhance government leadership of sector planning processes; 2) Strengthen and use country systems; 3) Use one information and mutual accountability platform built around a multi-stakeholder, government led cycle of planning, monitoring and learning; and 4) Build sustainable water and sanitation sector financing strategies that incorporate data on all 3Ts (taxes, tariffs and transfers), as well as estimates for non-tariff household expenditure.

The findings will generate in-depth understanding of the bottlenecks and drivers governing improvements in access to WASH services in those countries, and can shed light on issues affecting other countries facing similar developmental and climatic challenges.

VI. Developing a communications strategy

While GLAAS has a strong history of communication with participating countries and regional and global partners, communication with a broader audience has been weaker. Additionally, with the shift to the focus on finance, it will be key to have clear communication with stakeholders at the regional and national levels. To address these issues, a communications plan will be developed and rolled out in the course of this strategy period.

In the short-term, GLAAS will need to urgently communicate to national authorities the rationale for taking a different approach from this point. Countries will need reassurance that efforts to date have been essential in informing the present decision, and that support and assistance will continue through the provision of technical, analytical, and capacity-building tools, and web-based assistance.

To explain the new GLAAS strategy to stakeholders at the regional and national levels, the GLAAS team will hold webinars and training sessions on the new financial focus. Additionally, guidance on completing the mandatory finance section of the survey will be shared with countries.

To raise the profile of GLAAS within WHO and the broader WASH community, GLAAS will provide updates for the Public Health and Environment (PHE) newsletter and other WHO newsletters. To reach an audience outside WHO, GLAAS will use the @GLAAS_TrackFin and @WASH_FOR_HEALTH Twitter accounts to provide updates and share links to new publications. Finally, a “Friends of GLAAS” listserv will be created and updates on GLAAS, news and new publications will be periodically shared with the list. The first update will be sent out in February 2016 and will be a summary of GLAAS activities in 2015 and an overview of where GLAAS is going in the next year.

At country level, more intensive work is needed during this strategy period, together with partners, to ensure that GLAAS findings are converted into easily assimilated messages targeted to national policy and decision-makers.

VII. Shifting away from data generation

Although GLAAS was never intended to be a primary data collection tool, the lack of available data caused GLAAS to collect data at the country level. While GLAAS will still rely on its country and ESA surveys for data in the 2016 GLAAS cycle, efforts are being made to use data from other sources and move away from data generation.

This process is on going and will take time to complete. The help with the shift, GLAAS is strengthening collaboration with UNICEF and the World Bank to ensure that their analytical tools, including WASH Bats and CSOs, are aligned with the information necessary for GLAAS. However, neither WASH Bats nor CSOs have reached a global scale and will thus not be able to provide data for over 90 countries. Where WASH Bats and CSOs have recently taken place, GLAAS will use data from those exercises.

In addition to aligning with other monitoring initiatives, GLAAS will support initiatives by partners to provide guidance to and strengthening capacity of countries to conduct joint sector reviews (including standardizing input/procceses/enabling environment indicators that should be reported on) that can then provide data for GLAAS. Finally, the GLAAS in depth studies will also help to strengthen country sector review processes, which will contribute to GLAAS having stronger data sources in future strategy periods.

Annexes

Annex 1

List of GLAAS key principles

Key Principles

- ① To be a resource for all stakeholders interested in extending and sustaining WASH services
- ② To strengthen national processes that contribute to improving WASH status
- ③ To minimize the burden of data collection wherever possible and maximize the use of existing data
- ④ To focus on areas where GLAAS is well-positioned for impact to uniquely complement – and not duplicate – the roles of other WASH sector actors
- ⑤ To ensure the highest quality data
- ⑥ To align and leverage off the SDGs, including integration of SDG principles of universality and equity
- ⑦ To be inclusive of information from different perspectives, including national governments and development partners
- ⑧ To work with other sectors, including education and health, to learn from their experience and analyse the complementarities between them and WASH

Annex 2

Key WASH Accounts Indicators

1. Total WASH expenditure at the national level
2. Total WASH expenditure per capita at the national level
3. Total WASH expenditure in the country as a percentage of GDP (This can be compared to the total health expenditure as a percentage of GDP.)
4. Expenditure on sanitation as a percentage of total WASH expenditure
5. WASH expenditure in the urban sector as a percentage of total WASH expenditure
6. Public expenditure on WASH as a percentage of total public expenditure (Public expenditure includes funding from national, regional and local authorities, bilateral and multilateral donors for all domestic public transfers, international public transfers, and public loans.)
7. User expenditure as a percentage of total WASH expenditure
8. Domestic public transfers as a percentage of total WASH expenditure
9. International public transfers as a percentage of total WASH expenditure
10. Total maintenance and operating costs as a percentage of total WASH expenditure

Link between WASH Accounts information and policy questions

WASH Accounts Tables (T)	WASH Accounts Indicators (I)	Policy questions answered by this data
1. What is the total expenditure in the sector?		
Total from Table WA 10 (CxS) and Table WA 5 (SxFT)	<p>Comparison of total WASH expenditure estimated from the Financing Type and Cost-based Approaches</p> <p>Total WASH sector expenditure (at the national level)</p> <p>Total WASH expenditure per capita (at the national level)</p> <p>Total WASH expenditure in the country as a percentage of GDP (this can be compared to total health expenditure as a percentage of GDP)</p>	<p>What is the total funding to WASH? Is current funding sufficient?</p> <p>What is the trend in funding? Is it increasing or decreasing?</p> <p>How does the level of funding compare to countries with a similar level of income, or with neighbouring countries?</p> <p>How does the level of funding compare with other social sectors such as health or education?</p>
2. How are funds distributed to the different WASH services and expenditure types?		
Table WA 1 (SxR) – WASH expenditure by main WASH service and regional subdivision (urban/rural)	<p>Expenditure on (rural/urban) sanitation as a percentage of total WASH expenditure</p> <p>Expenditure on (rural/urban) water as a percentage of total WASH expenditure</p> <p>WASH expenditure in the urban sector as a percentage of total WASH expenditure</p> <p>WASH expenditure in the rural sector as a percentage of total WASH expenditure</p>	<p>What is the urban/rural, water/sanitation split in spending?</p> <p>Is spending allocated to the WASH subsectors that need it most?</p> <p>Is funding going to regions/areas that need it most?</p>
Table WA 2 (SxU) – WASH expenditure by type of WASH service and use	Total expenditure per type of service use	Which types of use are benefiting from the financial resources allocated to the WASH sector?
Table WA 10 (CxS) – WASH expenditure by type of cost and main WASH service	<p>Maintenance and operating costs as a percentage of total WASH expenditure</p> <p>Investment costs as a percentage of total WASH expenditure</p>	Is sufficient spending allocated to operations and maintenance as opposed to investment?
Table WA 11 (ASxP) – Fixed asset stocks by type of WASH provider	Total WASH asset stocks per capita	<p>What is the stock of fixed assets for WASH services and for each subsector?</p> <p>Is the fixed asset stock being increased or run down?</p>

WASH Accounts Tables (T)	WASH Accounts Indicators (I)	Policy questions answered by this data
3. Who pays for WASH services and how much		
Table WA 5 (SxFT) – WASH expenditure by type of WASH service and financing type	Public expenditure on WASH as a percentage of total public expenditure User expenditure as a percentage of total WASH expenditure Domestic public transfers as a percentage of total WASH expenditure International public transfers as a percentage of total WASH expenditure	By whom is each type of service financed? What is the financial burden on households? Are policies and utilization of public funds effective at leveraging private investment, including from households? What is the share of public vs. private expenditure? What is the share of donor contribution? How much is donor spending in relation to the total government budget? Are government and donor commitments on WASH financing respected?
4. Which entities are the main funding channels for the WASH sector		
Table WA 6 (SxFU) – WASH expenditure by type of WASH service and financing unit	Focus on WASH expenditure by financing units that channel funds	How is funding in the WASH sector channelled? What percentage of WASH public expenditure is channelled via local governments and how can they be supported?

Annex 3

Summary table of key indicators for WASH – GLAAS 2014

VALUE	INDICATOR	PAGE
CONTEXT		
2.5 billion	People lacking basic sanitation (JMP 2014)	1
1 out of 7	Proportion of world population practising open defecation (JMP 2014)	1
NATIONAL PLANNING AND COORDINATION		
29% / 23% / 20%	Percentage of countries reporting they have plans that are costed, funded, implemented and regularly reviewed for <i>drinking-water / sanitation / hygiene</i>	4–5
One third	Countries with a human resource strategy in sanitation, drinking-water and hygiene (covering urban and rural areas)	10
74% / 67%	Percentage of countries recognizing <i>water / sanitation</i> as a human right by law	14
79% / 41%	Percentage of countries with: a WASH policy which explicitly includes populations living in poverty / a monitoring system that tracks progress for populations living in poverty	15
MONITORING AND USE OF PERFORMANCE INDICATORS		
Approx. 50%	Percentage of countries reporting to have undertaken a national assessment for water/sanitation (e.g. Joint Sector Review) since 2012	17
>60% / <50%	Percentage of countries with formal service providers that report to regulatory authority and use results of their internal monitoring to trigger a corrective action for <i>urban / rural</i> drinking-water	19
Approx. 70% / Approx. 40%	Percentage of countries reporting independent surveillance of <i>urban / rural</i> drinking-water quality against national standards	20
31% / 45%	Percentage of countries reporting use of indicators to track expenditure against established baseline data for sanitation / drinking-water	20–21
21% / 30%	Percentage of countries reporting to track functionality against established baseline data for sanitation / drinking-water	20–21
NATIONAL FINANCING		
35%	Percentage of countries able to provide detailed WASH expenditure	23
80%	Percentage of countries reporting insufficient financing	23–24
73%	Average percentage of WASH financing derived from households	25
57% / 43%	Breakdown between drinking-water and sanitation country expenditure	33
82% / 18%	Breakdown between urban and rural country expenditure	33
<1%	Average expenditure on hygiene promotion (as % of total WASH)	33
>50% / >35%	Percentage of countries with domestic / external absorption rates greater than 75%	36
>70%	Percentage of countries with less than 80% cost recovery for O&M	38
>60%	Percentage of countries indicating that affordability schemes exist	39
EXTERNAL SUPPORT²		
US\$ 10.9 billion	Official development assistance commitments for water and sanitation	42
6.1%	Percentage of total ODA commitments for water and sanitation	43
US\$ 6.7 billion	Official development assistance disbursements for water and sanitation	43–44
73% / 27%	Breakdown between drinking-water and sanitation aid commitments	48
21%	Proportion of aid commitments directed to basic services	49
73% / 27%	Breakdown between urban and rural external aid disbursement	50
45%	Average proportion of external financing allocated for new services	51
59% / 41%	Breakdown between concessional ODA loans and ODA grants	51–52