

BILL & MELINDA GATES FOUNDATION

AID POLICY FOR WASH

The Bill & Melinda Gates Foundation's Water, Sanitation & Hygiene program focuses on developing innovative approaches and technologies that can lead to radical and sustainable improvements in sanitation in the developing world. This includes issues across the entire sanitation service chain, including waste containment (toilets), emptying (of pits and septic tanks), transportation (to sewage treatment facilities), waste treatment, and disposal/reuse.

BMGF also seeks to support cross-sectorial work in an effort to enhance impact across various health and development programs at the foundation. Examples of joint grants include instances where WASH program goals complement the goals of other foundation programs such as Maternal, Neonatal & Child Health; Vaccine Delivery, and Enteric and Diarrheal Disease.

Specific Targets

Investments target South Asia and Sub-Saharan Africa, where the burden of inadequate sanitation is greatest.

ASPECTS OF WASH AID/TARGETS

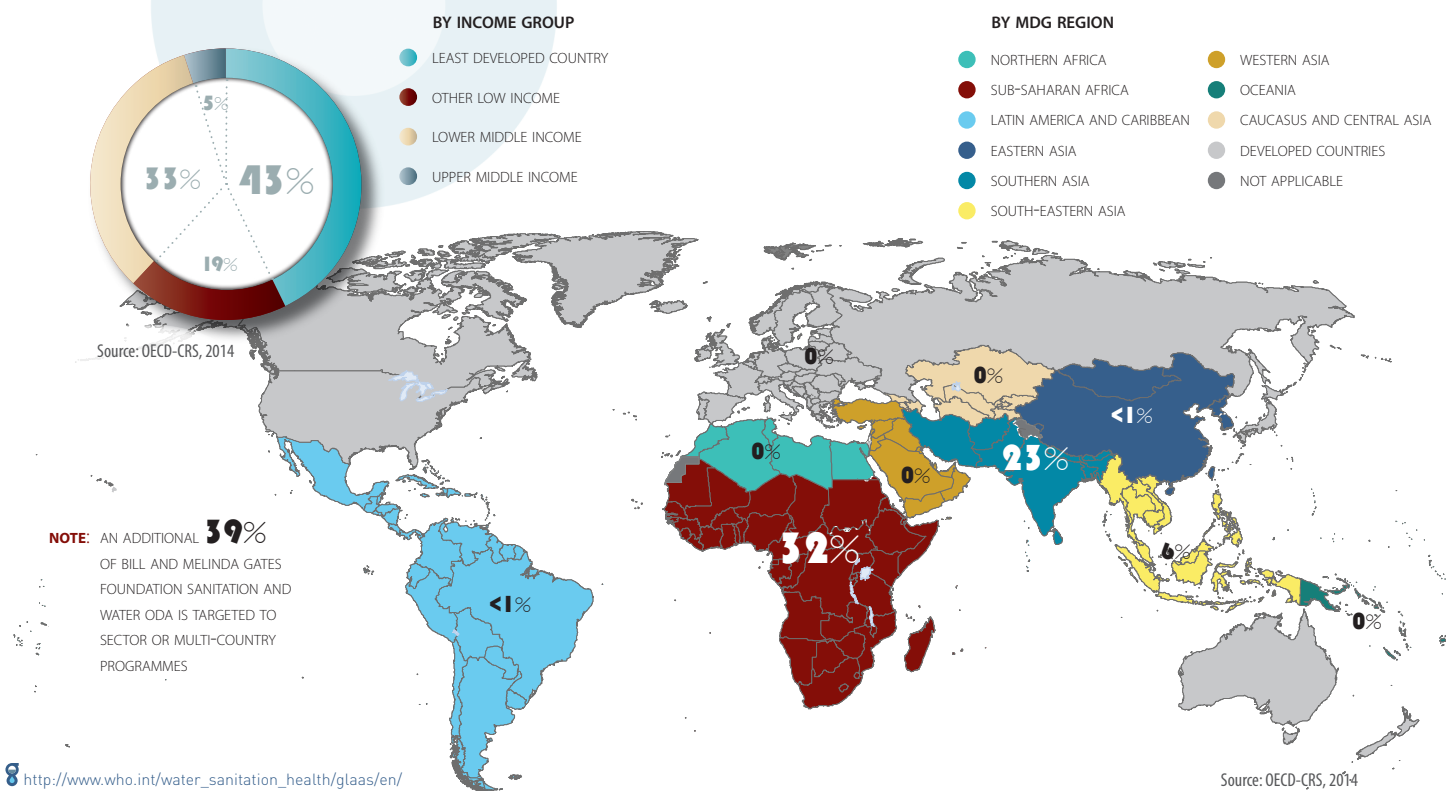
BMGF supports innovations that can be most immediately valuable in densely populated areas, therefore a majority of BMGF investments aim to improve urban sanitation. Priorities include developing non-sewered sanitation approaches, identifying new delivery models, and advocating for public policies that support improved sanitation in densely populated areas.

BMGF focuses funding in five complementary areas: transformative technologies, urban sanitation markets, building demand for sanitation, policy and advocacy, and monitoring and evaluation. BMGF has specific programs that address fecal sludge management in both formal and informal urban settings.

EXAMPLES OF SUCCESS

Through support for the Government of Senegal's urban sanitation priorities, the Sanitation Office introduced an innovative approach (a call in centre that matches demand to supply) to increase competition among septic tank emptying operators, thus reducing the cost born by households. While the program is still on-going, early findings suggest that it is possible to use market mechanisms, and not rely exclusively on regulation, to drive down prices for sanitation services.

WASH AID PRIORITIES: DISTRIBUTION OF AID COMMITMENTS (2010–2012)



ACCOUNTABILITY

Reporting

BMGF reports WASH aid activities and financial flows to the OECD and to the U.S. government.

PREDICTABILITY

Most of BMGF programs are delivered through NGOs and academic institutions and are of less than three years duration.

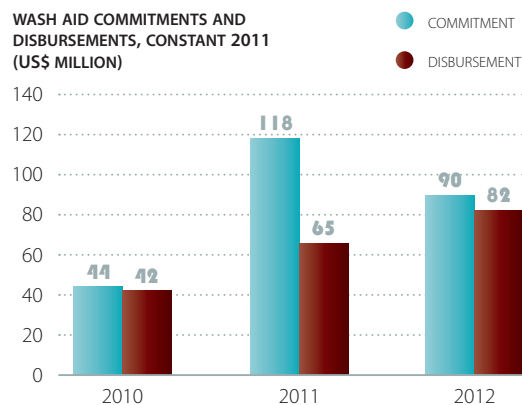
FOCUS ON EQUITY

BMGF's WASH program focuses on improving sanitation solutions for the poor, including ethnically disadvantaged groups and women and girls.

OPERATIONAL EFFICIENCY

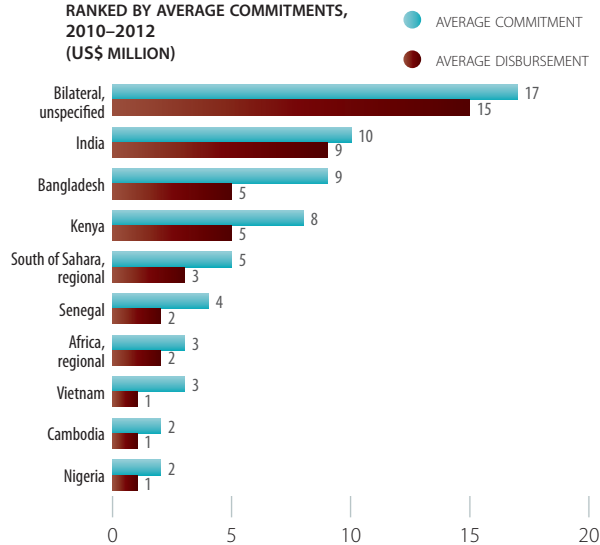
BMGF's strong focus on results and sharing of lessons learned ensures efficiency of its operations. Disbursements and outputs generally meet or exceed set targets.

WASH AID COMMITMENTS AND DISBURSEMENTS, CONSTANT 2011 (US\$ MILLION)



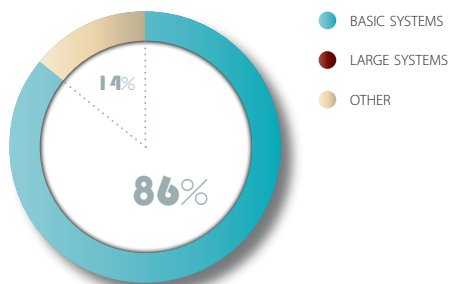
Source: OECD-CRS, 2014

TEN HIGHEST WASH AID RECIPIENTS, RANKED BY AVERAGE COMMITMENTS, 2010–2012 (US\$ MILLION)



Source: OECD-CRS, 2014

BASIC VS. LARGE SYSTEMS (2010–2012)

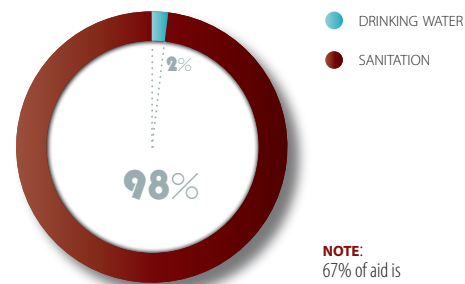


Source: OECD-CRS, 2014

NEW VS. EXISTING SERVICES (2012)

[No disaggregated data available.]

WATER VS. SANITATION (2012)



Source: OECD-CRS, 2014

NOTE: 67% of aid is disaggregated between sanitation and water

ALIGNMENT AND HARMONISATION

GRANT VS LOAN

100% Grants.

FUTURE OUTLOOK

The Bill and Melinda Gates Foundation committed to spend US\$400 million on WASH from 2010 to 2015, with approximately 90% dedicated to sanitation. Spending is on track to meet this target. Although the Foundation reviews program strategies on an annual basis, there is no planned increase or decrease in focus of WASH investments at this time.

Developed and coordinated by the Water, Sanitation, Hygiene and Health (WSH) Unit at the World Health Organization (WHO) in preparation for the Sanitation and Water for All (SWA) High-Level Meeting (HLM), April 2014.

Results contained in this 'ESA Highlights' have been compiled by the GLAAS External Support Agency (ESA) Focal Point and the GLAAS Team using data from the Organisation for Economic Development and Cooperation (OECD) Creditor Reporting System (CRS)¹, estimates and text provided in the responses to the GLAAS 2013/2014 ESA survey, and interviews conducted with ESA representatives at World Water Week in Stockholm, September 2013.

The designations employed and the presentation of the material in this publication do not imply the expression of any opinion whatsoever on the part of the World Health Organization concerning the legal status of any country, territory, city or area or of its authorities, or concerning the delimitation of its frontiers or boundaries. Dotted lines on maps represent approximate border lines for which there may not yet be full agreement.

¹ OECD-CRS (2014) online database available: <http://stats.oecd.org/>

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