

UNICEF

AID POLICY FOR WASH

Two overarching corporate strategies guide UNICEF's intervention in the WASH sector: the Strategic Plan for 2014–2017, which identifies seven outcome areas including WASH, and the UNICEF WASH Strategy for 2006–2015 both of which are approved by the Executive Board. The overall objective is to contribute to the realization of children's rights to survival and development through promotion of the sector and support to national programmes that increase equitable and sustainable access and use of safe drinking water, basic sanitation services, and promote improved hygiene.

UNICEF's WASH strategy 2006–2015 prioritises 60 countries for WASH programming. Within these, differing levels of programming inputs and strategies are recommended. Prioritisation is based on key critical indicators relating to child welfare indicators and levels of access to water and sanitation.

ASPECTS OF WASH AID/TARGETS

The WASH Strategy is founded on interdependent pillars: interventions to increase safe water and sanitation coverage, the promotion of behavioural change, and support to an enabling policy and institutional environment. Over the course of implementing the strategy, the nature and focus of intervention has evolved in response to the growing evidence base, sector priorities and partner needs and expectations. UNICEF is giving higher priority to the elimination of open defecation, sustainability, monitoring and sector analysis – including the rollout of the WASH Bottleneck Analysis Tool – and cross-sectoral programming, especially WASH and nutrition.

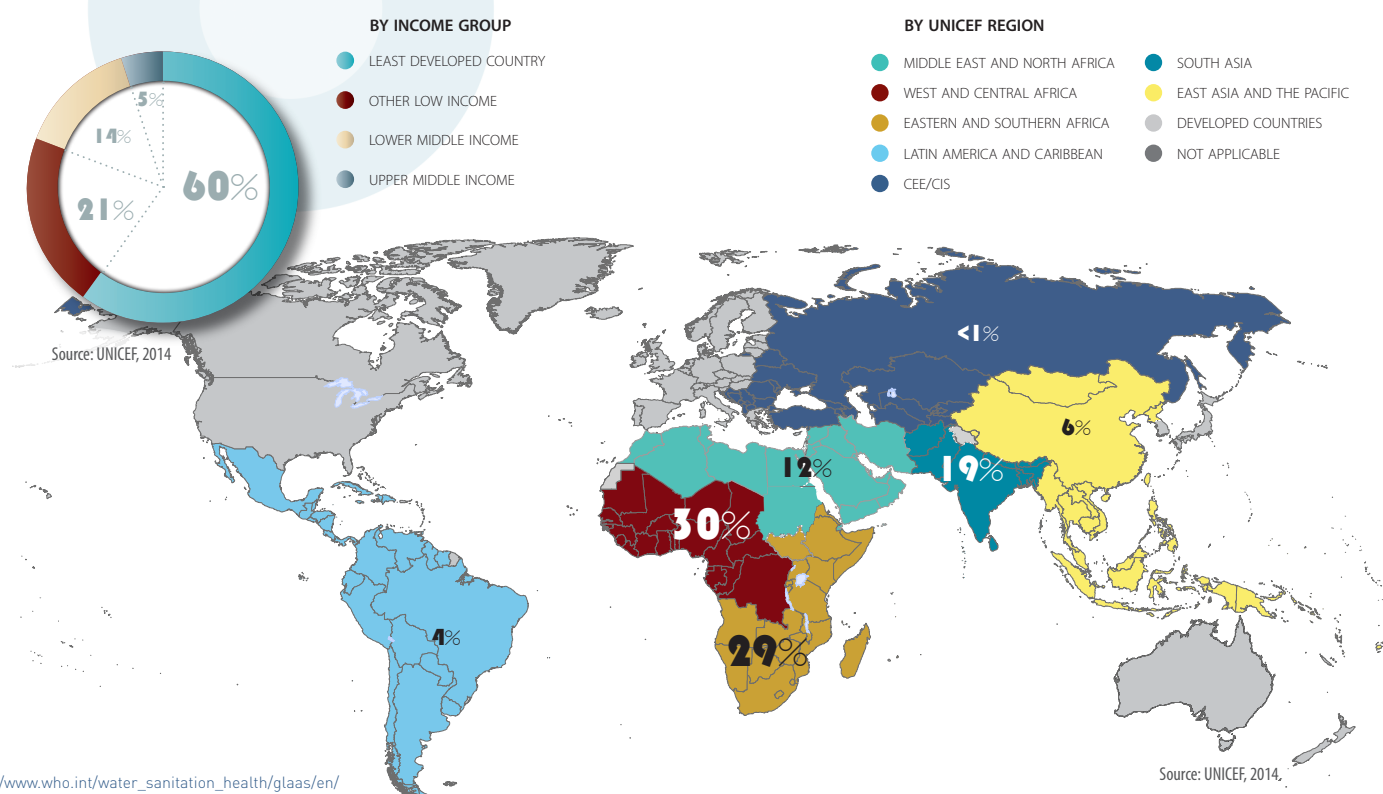
Specific Target

The WASH Strategy is aligned with two international targets: the MDG target to halve the population without access to safe drinking water and basic sanitation, and secondly to ensure that all schools have child-friendly WASH facilities and hygiene education programmes. Within the Strategic Plan (2014–2017), a set of quantitative targets are provided that cover access to drinking water and sanitation, elimination of open defecation, hand-washing, WASH in Schools, and access to WASH in humanitarian situations.

EXAMPLES OF SUCCESS

In 2008, UNICEF began a radical shift in its approach to sanitation: from supply-driven, focused on construction and education, to demand-led, founded on bringing about a new social norm, in which the practice of open defecation is no longer acceptable either to an individual or to society. This approach is known as Community Approaches to Total Sanitation, and has seen exponential growth in the numbers of communities being certified as open defecation free (ODF). The cumulative total ODF population as a result of UNICEF's direct intervention is approximately 25 million. Another success has been the development of the sustainability check, the purpose of which is to ensure that outputs are sustainable beyond the end of the projects by systematically auditing key sustainability criteria. The sustainability check has been further developed to become the sustainability compact, which identifies key responsibilities and roles of the line ministry, UNICEF and other stakeholders.

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



ACCOUNTABILITY

Reporting

WASH programming, including humanitarian action, is reported in the Executive Director's Annual Report, annual thematic reports, and in a dedicated annual report. In addition, an annual humanitarian WASH report is produced separately.

Mutual Assessment Exercises

UNICEF's Evaluation Office supports country programmes to design and implement internally-managed evaluations, and develop terms of reference to contract external providers to undertake independent evaluations.

PREDICTABILITY

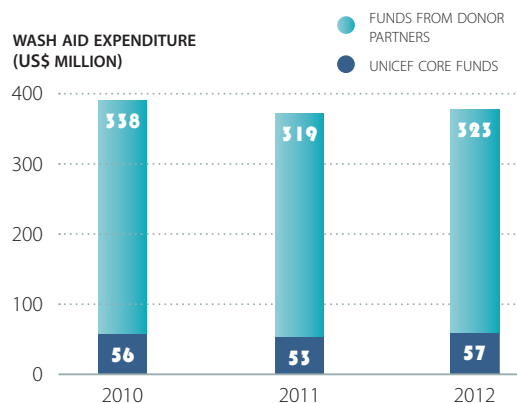
Typically UNICEF's WASH programmes have a duration of 3–4 years; the duration is primarily determined by donor partners. More often than not these relatively short-term agreements run consecutively and there are many examples of UNICEF WASH programmes that have been running uninterrupted for decades e.g. Bangladesh, Nigeria, Zambia.

FOCUS ON EQUITY

UNICEF supports national partners to progressively develop their data collection methods to collect data disaggregated by various parameters for making monitoring and tracking of indicators meaningful for the purpose of reaching the most disadvantaged. UNICEF has developed a 'monitoring results for equity system' (MoRES) that facilitates situation analysis to identify the most marginalised populations, analyse barriers and bottlenecks to service delivery, and develop a programme of real-time monitoring to ensure that programmes can be best managed to deliver the most equitable results possible.

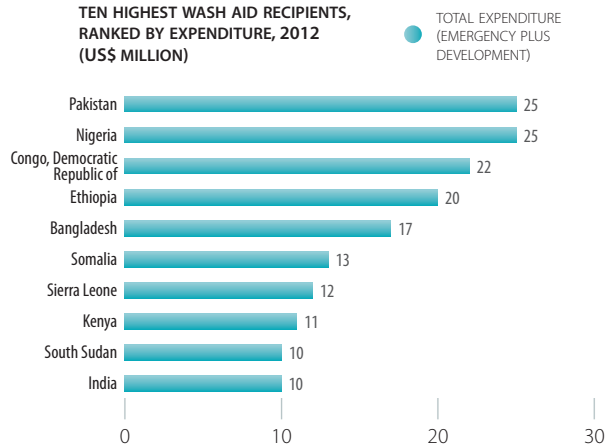
OPERATIONAL EFFICIENCY

UNICEF disburses against an annual plan and carries out joint annual reviews to help keep multi-year disbursements on track. Over the period 2002 to 2010, UNICEF's disbursements of its own resources to the water and sanitation sector have either met or exceeded concurrent commitments.



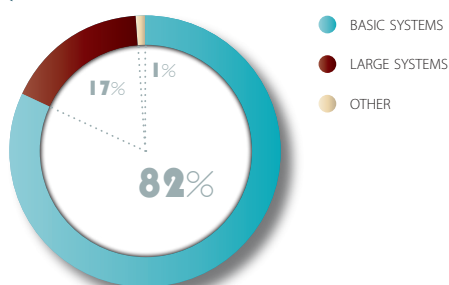
Source: UNICEF, 2014

TEN HIGHEST WASH AID RECIPIENTS, RANKED BY EXPENDITURE, 2012 (US\$ MILLION)



Source: UNICEF, 2014

BASIC VS. LARGE SYSTEMS (2010–2012)

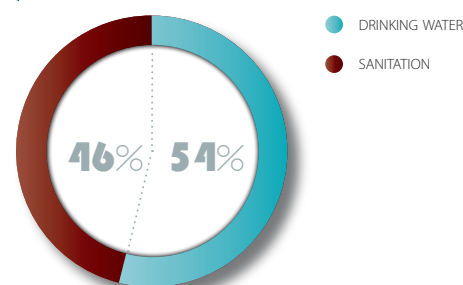


Source: OECD-CRS, 2014

NEW VS. EXISTING SERVICES (2012)

[No disaggregated data available.]

WATER VS. SANITATION (2010)



Source: UNICEF, 2014

ALIGNMENT AND HARMONISATION

GRANT VS LOAN

100% Grants.

USE OF COUNTRY RESULTS FRAMEWORKS

UNICEF develops 5-year Country Programme Documents, defining the results framework, in consultation with and for approval by national government.

USE OF COUNTRY PROCUREMENT SYSTEMS

UNICEF is a decentralised organisation that procures goods and services at the country level through internal UNICEF systems or through NGOs, CSOs or government systems that follow public procurement principles and have the necessary procurement expertise, capacity and control environment.

FUTURE OUTLOOK

UNICEF has played an active role in the development of recommendations for post-2015 targets and indicators, specifically through the JMP-facilitated consultation of WASH sector partners, and which largely reflects UNICEF's forward-looking priorities e.g. elimination of open defecation, risk management approaches to drinking water safety, sustainability, and the progressive reduction of inequalities in access to WASH services.

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 estimates and text provided in the responses to the 2013/2014 GLAAS ESA survey, financial data provided by UNICEF and from the Organisation for Economic Development and Cooperation (OECD) Creditor Reporting System (CRS)¹, and interviews conducted with UNICEF 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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