Syrian Arab Republic

glaas UN-Water Global Analysis and Assessment of Sanitation and Drinking-Water

Highlights based on country-reported GLAAS 2018/2019 data

The data presented in this UN-Water Global Analysis and Assessment of Sanitation and Drinking-Water (GLAAS) country highlight are country government responses to the GLAAS 2018/2019 country survey. Since 2008, GLAAS has monitored key elements of national drinking-water, sanitation and hygiene (WASH) systems with a focus on governance, monitoring, human resources and finance. The data presented in this highlight are a snapshot of the WASH systems in the country and do not cover all aspects of the WASH sector. For more information, see https://www.who.int/water_sanitation_health/monitoring/investments/glaas/en/

I. To what extent has the government assumed responsibility for WASH and made themselves accountable?

NATIONAL POLICIES AND PLANS: EXISTENCE AND IMPLEMENTATION

	Policy status	Policy shared via public notice?	Year policy approved/ expected	Plan status	Plan costed?	Sufficient finance for plan?	Human resources assessed for plan?	Sufficient human resources for plan?	Year plan approved/ expected	Estimated cost
Urban sanitation	●	✓	2011	◔	✓	○	✓	○	Yearly	
Rural sanitation	●	✗	2011	◔	✓	○	✓	○	Yearly	
Urban drinking-water	◑	✗	2011	◔	✓	◑	✓	◑	Yearly	
Rural drinking-water	◑	✗	2011	◔	✓	◑	✓	◑	Yearly	

Policy status: ○ No national policy; ◑ Policy under development; ◕ Existing policy undergoing revision; ● Policy formally approved.
Plan status: ○ No plan; ◔ Under development; ◑ Approved, not implemented; ◕ Approved, partially implemented; ● Approved, fully implemented.
Policy shared, Plan costed and **Human resources assessed:** ✓ Yes; ✗ No.
Sufficient finance and **Sufficient human resources:** ○ Less than 50% of what is needed; ◑ Between 50% and 75% of what is needed; ● More than 75% of what is needed.

SYSTEMS IN PLACE TO TRACK FUNDING FLOWS TO WASH

	Financing plan	Availability of WASH budgets	Expenditure reports	Traceable donor funding channels	Tracking of expenditure sources
Urban sanitation	◕	○		○	○
Rural sanitation	◕				
Urban drinking-water	◑				○
Rural drinking-water	◑				
Hygiene promotion	◕				○

Financing plan: ○ No plan; ◔ Under development; ◑ Agreed, insufficiently implemented; ◕ Agreed, used in some decisions; ● Agreed and consistently used.
WASH budgets: ○ No WASH budget data available; ◔ Fewer than half of ministries listed have budget data; ◑ Budget totals available for over half of ministries listed; ● Total and disaggregated data available for ministries listed.
Expenditure reports: ○ No reports available; ◑ Some donor, NGO or government reports available; ● Donor, NGO and government reports available.
Donor funding channels: ○ No information; ◑ Total funding known, but no disaggregation by funding channel; ● Total funding known with disaggregation by funding channel.
Tracking expenditure sources: ○ No expenditure data; ◔ Some exenditure data provided but not disaggregated by subsector; ◑ Expenditure data available for some sources; ● Expenditure data available for all sources.
NOTE: More information on budgets and finance is available in section IV of this highlight.

MONITORING PROGRESS TOWARDS NATIONAL TARGETS

	Monitoring WASH targets
Government-led process for monitoring	✓
Frequency of assessment	●
Sufficiency of human resources for monitoring	○

Government-led process: ✓ Yes; ✗ No.
Frequency of assessment: ○ Ad hoc; ◔ Every 4+ years; ◑ Every 2 to 4 years; ● Annually.
Sufficient human resources: ○ Less than 50% of what is needed; ◑ Between 50% and 75% of what is needed; ● More than 75% of what is needed.

PROGRESS TOWARD NATIONAL TARGETS

	Baseline value	Baseline year	Current value	Current year	Target value	Target year	Target description
Urban sanitation					80%	2025	Percentage of urban population with access to improved sanitation services
Rural sanitation					80%	2025	Percentage of urban population with access to improved sanitation services
Urban drinking-water					100%	2030	Percentage of beneficiaries with access to drinking-water
Rural drinking-water					98%	2030	Percentage of beneficiaries with access to drinking-water
Hygiene promotion							

UN WATER

World Health Organization

II. What regulatory framework has been developed to support the quality and sustainability of services?

REGULATIONS AND STANDARDS

SANITATION			DRINKING-WATER	Urban	Rural
Formal national treatment standards - on-site sanitation	✓		Formal national standards - drinking-water	✓	✓
Formal national treatment standards - faecal sludge	✓		Surveillance requirements defined in formal instruments	✓	✓
Formal national treatment standards - wastewater	✓		Roles and responsibilities for drinking-water safety defined	✓	✓
Formal national treatment standards - safe reuse	✓		Service delivery requirements beyond water quality	✓	✓
Surveillance requirements defined in formal instruments	✓				
SANITATION RISK MANAGEMENT	Urban	Rural	**DRINKING-WATER RISK MANAGEMENT**		
Sanitation safety planning	●	●	Water safety planning	●	●

✓ Yes; ✗ No.

Risk management: ○ No such instrument; ◔ Instrument anticipated; ◑ Instrument under development; ● Instrument fully approved.

REGULATORY AUTHORITIES

SCOPE OF RESPONSIBILITIES	Urban sanitation	Rural sanitation	Urban drinking-water	Rural drinking-water
Responsible for setting tariffs	✓	✓	✓	✓
Oversee drinking-water quality			✓	✓
Oversee effluent quality	✓	✓		
Oversee service coverage and quality of service delivery	✓	✓	✓	✓
REGULATORY AUTHORITY MANDATE				
Established by law	✓	✓	✓	✓
Located in different institution than service providers	✓	✓	✓	✓
Can publish findings independently without clearance	✗	✗	✗	✗

✓ Yes; ✗ No.

FUNCTIONS OF REGULATORS

SANITATION	Urban	Rural	DRINKING-WATER	Urban	Rural
Collect population service coverage data from operators	✓	▲	Collect population service coverage data from providers	▲	▲
Set standards and monitor design, construction, use of plants/sewers	✓	▲	Collect water quality data from service providers	▲	▲
Set standards and monitor design, construction, use of on-site systems	✓	▲	Publish accessible reports on drinking-water quality	▲	▲
Set standards and monitor faecal sludge management	✓	✗	Publish accessible reports on water service delivery	▲	▲
Publish accessible reports on flows and sludge volumes	✓	▲	Take corrective action against nonperformers	✓	✓
Publish accessible reports on quality of on-site sanitation services	▲	▲			
Take corrective action against nonperformers	▲	✓			

✓ Yes; ▲ Partially; ✗ No.

INDEPENDENT SURVEILLANCE

SANITATION	Sewered wastewater effluent quality	On-site facilities	DRINKING-WATER	Urban	Rural
Testing of effluent and sludge quality against national standards	◑	●	Testing of water quality against national standards	●	●
Independent assessment of risk management approaches	○	○	Independent assessment of risk management approaches	◑	◑
Independent sanitary inspections at premises to assess risks	●	◑	Independent sanitary inspections to assess risk	○	○
Collection and review of service provider monitoring records	◑	●	Collection and review of service provider monitoring records	◑	◑

○ Not done or insufficiently performed; ◑ Performed but data not used; ● Performed and informs remedial action.

SANITATION	Urban	Rural	DRINKING-WATER	Urban	Rural
Adequacy of testing frequency	◑	◑	Adequacy of testing frequency	◑	◔
Sufficiency of human resources for surveillance activities	◑	○	Sufficiency of human resources for surveillance activities	◑	○

Adequacy of testing frequency: ○ No frequency requirement; ◔ Less than 50%; ◑ Between 50% and 75%; ◕ Between 75% and 100%; ● 100% of required frequency.

Sufficiency of human resources: ○ Less than 50% of what is needed; ◑ Between 50% and 75% of what is needed; ● More than 75% of what is needed.

III. To what extent are stakeholders coordinated and what data are available for evidence-based decision-making?

INSTITUTIONAL ROLES - NUMBER OF LEAD AGENCIES

	Govern / Regulate	Provide Service	Monitor / Surveillance
Drinking-water	1	1	3
Hygiene promotion	1	2	2
Basic sanitation	0	1	1
Municipal wastewater	0	1	0
Faecal sludge collection and treatment	0	1	0

NOTE: Number indicates number of lead ministries and national institutions.

LIST OF MINISTRIES / INSTITUTIONS WITH ROLES IN WASH

Ministry of Education; Ministry of Water Resources; Ministry of Health

INSTITUTIONAL WASH IN NATIONAL POLICY AND PLANS

	Included in policies / plans	Year that policy was approved or is expected
WASH in health care facilities	✓	Five Year Plan
WASH In schools	✓	Yearly plan
Infection prevention and control	✓	Yearly plan

✓ Yes; ✗ No.

COORDINATION BETWEEN ACTORS

	Formal or informal coordination process
Mechanism to coordinate work of different ministries exists	●
○ No; ◑ In development; ◕ Informal mechanism exists; ● Formal mechanism exists.	
The coordination mechanism:	
· includes all ministries/agencies influencing service delivery	✓
· includes non-governmental stakeholders	▲
· includes donors that contribute to WASH activities nationally	✗
· includes mutual review and assessment	✓
· applies evidence-based decision-making	✓
· bases work on agreed sectoral framework or national plan	✓
· includes documentation of processes and activities	✓
· has a budget line allocated for coordination activities	▲

✓ Yes; ▲ Partially; ✗ No.

JOINT SECTOR REVIEW

	Conducted	Year of most recent JSR	Title of JSR	Sectors covered					
				Sanitation	Drinking-water	Hygiene	WASH in health care facilities	WASH In schools	Other
Joint sector review (JSR)	✓								

✓ Yes; ✗ No.

DATA AVAILABILITY FOR DECISION-MAKING

SANITATION AND DRINKING-WATER	Sanitation	Drinking-water	Health sector
Sector review and/or planning processes	◔	◔	
Resource allocation	◔	◔	
National standard or regulation development	◑	◑	
Targeting surveillance activities	◔	◑	
HEALTH SECTOR			
Identifying public health priorities for reducing WASH-related diseases			◑
Responding to WASH-related disease outbreaks			●
Identifying priority health care facilities needing WASH improvements			◑

○ Limited data collection and availability; ◔ Partial availability and little use of data; ◑ Data available and used for minority of decisions; ● Data available and used for majority of decisions.

IV. How sufficient are current resources and what actions are being taken to close resource gaps?

SUFFICIENCY OF HUMAN RESOURCES

	Sanitation	Drinking-water	Hygiene	WASH in health care facilities	WASH in schools
Achieving national targets	○	●	○	◑	◑
	WASH sector				
Operations and maintenance	◑				
Design/construction of WASH facilities and networks	◑				

○ Less than 50% of what is needed; ◑ Between 50% and 75% of what is needed; ● Over 75% of what is needed.

UTILIZATION OF AVAILABLE FUNDS (ABSORPTION)

	Urban sanitation	Rural sanitation	Urban drinking-water	Rural drinking-water
Domestic commitments				
Donor commitments				

○ Less than 50%; ◑ Between 50% and 75%; ● Over 75%.

COST RECOVERY STRATEGIES

	Urban sanitation	Rural sanitation	Urban drinking-water	Rural drinking-water
Operations and basic maintenance covered by tariffs				
Cost recovery addressed in financing plan/budget				

Operations and maintenance covered by tariffs: ○ Less than 50%; ◑ Between 50% and 80%; ● Over 80%.
Cost recovery addressed in plan: ✓ Yes; ✗ No.

SUFFICIENCY OF FINANCIAL RESOURCES

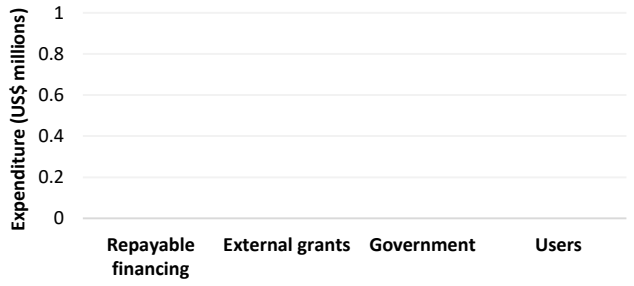
	Urban sanitation	Rural sanitation	Urban drinking-water	Rural drinking-water	Hygiene	WASH in health care facilities	WASH in schools
Implementation of national plan	○	○	◑	◑	○		
Achievement of national targets		◑	◑				◑
Estimated annual need to reach national targets (US$ millions)	Quantitative data on specific financial needs by subsector are not available.						
Identified available finance from all sources (US$ millions)	Quantitative data on funds available for subsectors are not available.						

○ Less than 50% of what is needed; ◑ Between 50% and 75% of what is needed; ● Over 75% of what is needed.

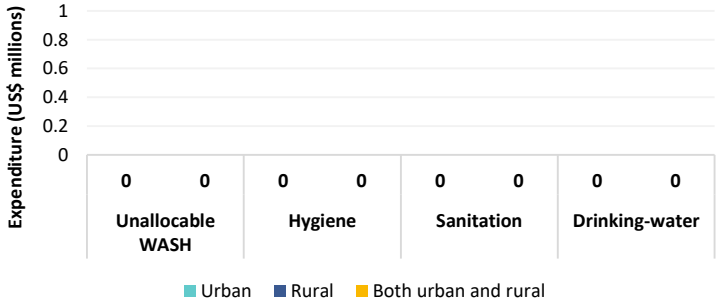
WASH BUDGETS AND EXPENDITURES

Government WASH budget (US$ millions, current US$)		
Government WASH budget per capita (current US$)		
Government WASH budget as a percentage of GDP		
National WASH expenditure (US$ millions, current US$)		
National WASH expenditure per capita (current US$)		
National WASH expenditure as a percentage of GDP		

REPORTED WASH EXPENDITURE BY SOURCES OF FINANCE



REPORTED WASH EXPENDITURE BY SUBSECTOR



V. What actions are being taken to leave no one behind?

HUMAN RIGHTS

	Sanitation	Water
Does the constitution recognize the human rights to water and sanitation?	✓	✓
Do laws recognize the human rights to water and sanitation?	✓	✓
Has a court recognized the human rights to water and sanitation?	✗	✗

✓ Yes; ✗ No.

REACHING VULNERABLE GROUPS

	Sanitation					Drinking-water				
	Measures to extend services to group included in policies or plans	Level of implementation of measures	Specific coverage targets for group	Progress for group is monitored	Financing plan includes measures to target resources to reduce inequities	Measures to extend services to group included in policies or plans	Level of implementation of measures	Specific coverage targets for group	Progress for group is monitored	Financial plan includes measures to target resources to reduce inequities
Poor populations	✓	●	✗			✓	●	✗		
Populations living in slums or informal settlements	✓	●	✗			✓	●	✗		
Populations living in remote or hard-to-reach areas	✓	◑	✗			✓	◑	✗		
Indigenous populations	✓	◑	✗			✓	◑	✗		
Internally displaced persons and/or refugees	✓	◑	✗			✓	◑	✗		
Women	✓	◑	✗			✓	◑	✗		
Ethnic minorities	✓	◑	✗			✓	◑	✗		
People living with disabilities	✓	◑	✗			✓	◑	✗		
Populations with a high burden of disease	✓	◑	✗			✓	◑	✗		
Other:										

Measures included in plans, Specific coverage targets, and **Progress is monitored**: ✓ Yes; ✗ No; NA = Not applicable.
Level of implementation: ○ Not yet implemented; ◑ Partially implemented; ● Fully implemented.
Measures in financing plan to reduce inequities: ○ No; ◑ Yes, but not consistently applied; ● Yes and measures applied.

AFFORDABILITY

	Urban sanitation	Rural sanitation	Urban drinking-water	Rural drinking-water
Financial schemes to make access to WASH more affordable for vulnerable groups			●	

○ No schemes exist; ◑ Schemes exist, but not widely used; ● Schemes exist and are widely used.

SDG means of implementation target 6.b aims to support and strengthen the participation of local communities in improving water and sanitation management. WHO, in collaboration with partners, monitors this target through the GLAAS initiative, looking at existence of participation procedures, participation of women and availability of resources for participation.

PARTICIPATION PROCEDURES ESTABLISHED AT NATIONAL LEVEL

	Participation procedures defined in laws or policy	Extent of participation by the service users	Women's participation specified	Extent of women's participation
Urban sanitation	✓	◑	✗	◑
Rural sanitation	✓	◕	✗	◕
Urban drinking-water	✓	◕	✗	◕
Rural drinking-water	✓	◕	✗	◑
Hygiene promotion	✓	◑	✗	◕
Water resources management	✗	◕	✗	◕

Participation procedures in law/policy and **Women's participation specified**: ✓ Yes; ✗ No.
Extent of participation: ○ Very low; ◔ Low; ◑ Medium; ◕ High; ● Very high.

GOVERNMENT RESOURCES FOR PUBLIC PARTICIPATION

	Financial resources	Human resources	Agency responsible for monitoring extent and effectiveness of participation
Urban WASH			
Rural WASH			
Water resources management			

Financial and human resources: ○ Less than 50% of what is needed; ◑ Between 50% and 75% of what is needed; ● Over 75% of what is needed.
Responsible agency: ✓ Yes; ✗ No.

VI. To what extent have countries pursued the ambition of SDG 6?

The Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs) establish global aspirational targets leading up to 2030. Goal 6 aims to ensure the availability and sustainable management of water and sanitation for all. Governments are expected to set their own national targets guided by the global level of ambition while taking into account national circumstances. This section presents findings on the extent to which countries are pursuing the ambition of SDG 6 by incorporating elements of safely managed services and other SDG themes into national WASH policies, plans and coverage targets. In addition, WHO is a co-custodian of SDG 6 means of implementation targets 6.a and 6.b through the GLAAS initiative.

NATIONAL POLICIES AND PLANS: INCORPORATING SDG 6 ELEMENTS

#VALUE!	Urban sanitation	Rural sanitation	DRINKING-WATER	Urban drinking-water	Rural drinking-water
Access to safely managed services	✓	✓	Access to safely managed services	✓	✓
Access to improved sources or facilities	✓	✓	Access to improved sources or facilities	✓	✓
Climate resilience of WASH technology	✓	✓	Climate resilience of WASH technology	✗	✗
Open defecation	✗	✓	Affordability measures	✓	✓
Reuse of municipal wastewater and faecal sludge	✓	✓	Household connections	✓	✓
Municipal wastewater and sewerage	✓	✓	**HYGIENE**		
Faecal sludge collection and transport	✓	✓	Promotion of handwashing with soap	✓	
Faecal sludge treatment	✓	✓	Safe menstrual hygiene management	✓	

✓ Yes; ✗ No.

NATIONAL COVERAGE TARGETS: INCORPORATING SDG 6 ELEMENTS IN NATIONAL COVERAGE CRITERIA

SANITATION	Urban sanitation	Rural sanitation	DRINKING-WATER	Urban drinking-water	Rural drinking-water
Excreta is transported via a sewerage network and treated off-site	●	●	Minimum volume of water per day	●	●
Excreta is temporarily stored, emptied, and treated off-site	○	○	Minimum service hours per day	●	●
Excreta is treated and disposed of on-site	○	○	Maximum roundtrip collection time, including queuing	●	●
Improved sanitation facilities	●	●	Maximum roundtrip distance	●	●
Shared sanitation facilities between two or more households	○	○	Drinking-water is accessible on premises	●	●
			Drinking-water is free from contamination	●	●
Target year	2025	2025	Target year	2030	2030
Target value	80%	80%	Target value	100%	98%
HYGIENE					
Handwashing facility on premises	○				
Soap and water on premises	○				

○ Not included in target; ◑ Included in target, but monitoring data not available; ● Included in target and monitoring data available.

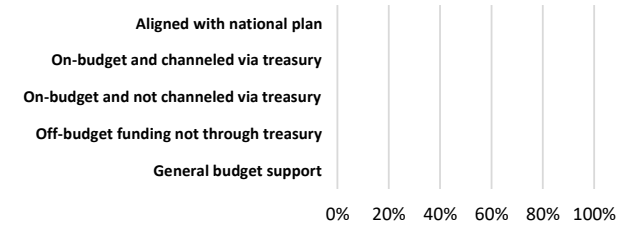
TARGET-SETTING PROCESSES: ARE THE FOLLOWING ELEMENTS INCLUDED?

	Sanitation	Drinking-water	Hygiene	WASH in health care facilities
Inclusion of stakeholders	✓	✓	✓	✓
Baseline analysis	✓	✓	✓	✓
Financial analysis	✗	✓	✗	✗
Human resources needs assessment	✓	✓	✓	✓
Public consultation	✗	✓	✗	✗
Revisions based on public consultation	✓	✓	✓	✓
Political endorsement	✓	✓	✓	✓
Public sharing of final targets	✗	✗	✗	✗

✓ Yes; ✗ No.

SDG means of implementation target 6.a aims to expand international cooperation and capacity-building support for water- and sanitation-related activities and programmes. WHO monitors international cooperation between donor and recipient governments for this target.

INTERNATIONAL COOPERATION - DONOR FUNDS



WHO/CED/PHE/WSH/19.129
© World Health Organization 2020. Some rights reserved.
This work is available under the CC BY-NC-SA 3.0 IGO licence.