

# UNICEF

## AID PRIORITIES

The United Nations Children's Fund (UNICEF) is a leading humanitarian and development agency working globally for the rights of every child. In support of the overall focus on "Leaving No One Behind", the Water, Sanitation & Hygiene (WASH) Section is within the Programme Division (PD). PD provides programme leadership to achieve results for the most disadvantaged and excluded children everywhere within the overall framework of the UNICEF Strategic Plan 2018–2021 and in response to the universal scope of the Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs) and the international commitments related to the Convention on the Rights of the Child.

UNICEF aims to consolidate and scale up past advances (e.g. child health, stunting and wasting, sanitation, safe water and hygiene), accelerate work (e.g. social protection, leveraging of domestic resources, reduction of open defecation, addressing harmful practices, public health emergencies, and gender), and at the same time spearhead new innovative programming and multi-sectorial approaches (e.g. urbanization, migration, adaption to climate change) – all with a focus on a strengthened level of field engagement in support of results at country level, and in collaboration with appropriate headquarters divisions.

## WASH PROGRAMME TARGETS

The WASH results statements under Goal 4 of the Strategic Plan – Safe and Clean Environment – are linked to the SDGs. UNICEF's targets are related to basic sanitation and elimination of open defecation, and to different elements of safe water supply (basic access, quality and sustainability). During the 2018–2021 period, the WASH programme will (1) increase universal and equitable access to safe and sustainable drinking-water and (2) increase adequate, equitable and sustainable sanitation and hygiene, and end open defecation, paying special attention to the needs of women and girls and those in vulnerable situations. It is expected that by 2021 though UNICEF programmes:

- 250 million fewer people will be practicing open defecation;
- 30 million additional people will be living in certified open defecation free communities;
- 60 million additional people will be accessing basic sanitation services;
- 60 million more people will have access to a safe drinking-water services;
- 60 000 schools will have separate sanitation facilities for girls and boys;
- 11 000 schools will have menstrual hygiene management services; and
- 5 000 health centres will have basic WASH facilities.

These results will be delivered through the following programmatic approaches under the Global WASH Strategy 2016–2030:

- (1) strengthening enabling environments;
- (2) utilizing evidence to promote child rights;
- (3) leveraging sustainable financial resources;
- (4) building sustainable markets for the poor;
- (5) empowering communities; and
- (6) delivering services and supplies.

## WASH STRATEGY/ACTIVITIES

UNICEF published its new 15-year WASH Strategy 2016–2030 in August 2016. UNICEF's vision for WASH is the realization of the human rights to water and sanitation for all. The WASH Strategy's objectives align with the SDG 6 targets for drinking-water, sanitation and hygiene, including an increased focus on WASH in institutions, in particular WASH in schools and WASH in health care facilities. UNICEF also recognizes that in the absence of efforts by stakeholders to address all aspects of SDG 6, including water quality, water efficiency, water resources management and the protection of eco-systems, then safely managed drinking-water and sanitation will always be at risk. UNICEF remains committed to providing cluster leadership and preparedness and response in humanitarian situations. Strengthening national systems and capacity will be focus of UNICEF support for ensuring safe and sustainable services.

More recently UNICEF prepared its open defecation free game plan and its water game plan, which identify a core set of countries with the greatest number of people without services and the greatest potential to make a difference, in order to target greater financial resources and technical assistance.

Seven programming principles guide all of UNICEF's efforts to contribute to the realization of the human rights to water and sanitation and the achievement of the SDG 6: reduce inequality; sustain access to quality services at scale; promote resilient development; strengthen accountability at all levels; contribute across all SDGs; integrate humanitarian and development programming; and strengthen national systems.

### ADDITIONAL INFORMATION

#### UNICEF Strategy for Water, Sanitation and Hygiene 2016–2030

[https://www.unicef.org/wash/files/UNICEF\\_Strategy\\_for\\_WASH\\_2016\\_2030.PDF](https://www.unicef.org/wash/files/UNICEF_Strategy_for_WASH_2016_2030.PDF)

#### UNICEF Strategic Plan 2018–2021

[https://www.unicef.org/publications/files/UNICEF\\_Strategic\\_Plan\\_2018-2021.pdf](https://www.unicef.org/publications/files/UNICEF_Strategic_Plan_2018-2021.pdf)

### BUDGET

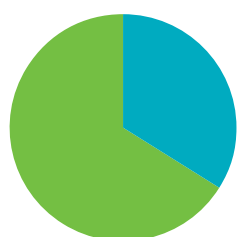
Programming is conducted in four-year cycles of the UNICEF Strategic Plan (current cycle 2018–2021), five-year country programme plans, with annual or biannual operational workplans co-signed with government.

### TIME PERIOD

15 years

## WASH AID PRIORITIES: DISTRIBUTION OF AID DISBURSEMENTS

### By activity type in 2017

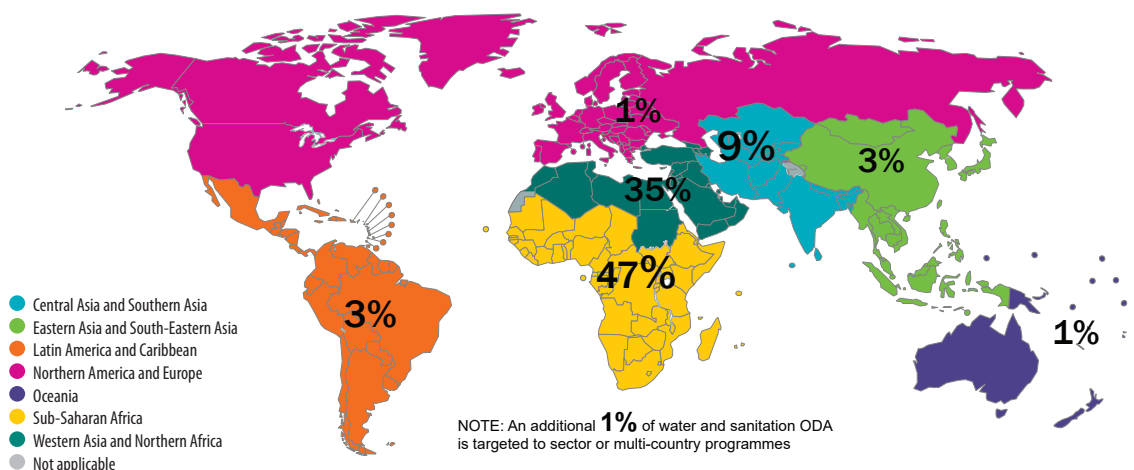


- Sanitation (34%)
- Sanitation and drinking-water (66%)

Note: These figures relate only to UNICEF expenditure from private financing. To avoid double-counting with funds source from bilateral aid agencies, the latter have been excluded from the figures shown here. When assessing UNICEF aid in totality, the proportions shown may differ and will include aid for drinking-water activities separate from sanitation.

Source: OECD-CRS, 2018

### By region in 2017

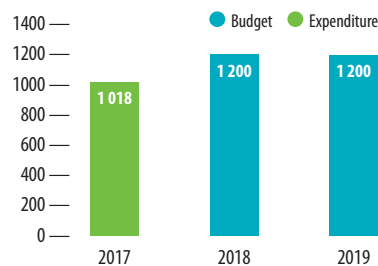


NOTE: An additional 1% of water and sanitation ODA is targeted to sector or multi-country programmes

Source: GLAAS 2018/2019 ESA Survey

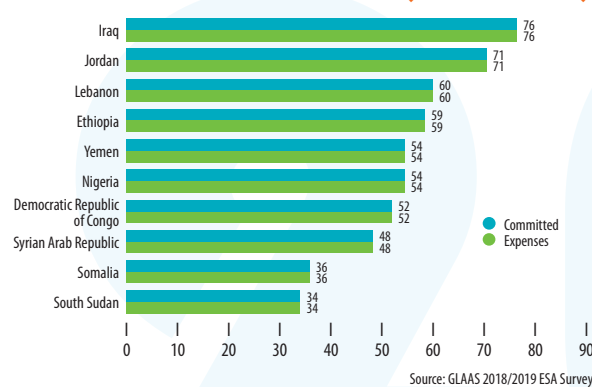
## WASH AID BUDGET AND EXPENDITURE (2017–2019)

US\$ millions



Source: GLAAS 2018/2019 ESA Survey

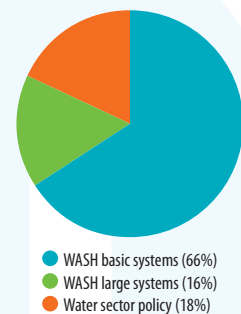
## TOP TEN AID RECIPIENTS (2015–2017)



Source: GLAAS 2018/2019 ESA Survey

## FUNDING ACTIVITIES

A breakdown of ODA disbursements for 2017 is provided below:



Source: OECD-CRS, 2018

Note: These figures relate only to UNICEF expenditure from private financing. To avoid double-counting with funds sourced from bilateral aid agencies, the latter have been excluded from the figures shown here. When considering the total spend under UNICEF WASH country programming of just over US\$ 1 billion in 2017, there is a significantly lower proportion of spending on sector policy support.

Six programming approaches deliver lasting results for children (see above). The selection and relative weight of each of these approaches within a particular country are determined jointly with government partners through the UNICEF country programme development process, and are informed by UNICEF's technical programming guidance materials. UNICEF's results areas cover (1) water; (2) sanitation; (3) hygiene; (4) WASH in institutions; and (5) WASH in emergencies.

## FUNDING CHANNELS

UNICEF spending channels for WASH are divided primarily among funding for programmes and projects via: 1) direct assistance, 2) multi-lateral partners, and 3) NGO partners.

## WASH PROGRAMME OUTCOMES

The UNICEF WASH programme continued to expand in 2017 to meet the ambitious SDG targets for WASH, and in response to major emergencies around the world. WASH programmes were delivered in 113 countries across all the UNICEF regions, with expenditures exceeding US\$1 billion for the first time. From UNICEF's support, there were 45 million beneficiaries of water supply and 22 million beneficiaries of sanitation, which was direct support across both development and emergency contexts. Over 50 000 communities (comprising 39 million people) attained open defecation free status through the direct support of UNICEF in 2017. UNICEF strengthened its promotion of climate-resilient WASH programming in 2017 by releasing new advocacy and guidance materials, and providing technical assistance at country level. With UNICEF support, government partners are mainstreaming climate resilience principles into national policies and emergency preparedness planning. Furthermore, technologies such as drought resistant deep boreholes, solar pumping systems and flood resistant toilets are becoming more common.

## LEVERAGING OF AID

UNICEF leverages resources in a number of ways, including support to the budget cycle, investment cases, private sector engagement and obtaining co-financing of donors. In the Eastern and Southern Africa Region, UNICEF published child-focused 'budget briefs' (assessments of national budgets from the perspective of the social and economic rights of children) with WASH components in 19 countries. In Kenya, a comprehensive public expenditure review in the health and WASH sectors was produced with the World Bank, and a WASH sector financial tracking (TrackFin) study in Mali was conducted with WHO. An investment case for WASH was conducted in Madagascar with findings on the benefit-cost ratios for WASH over the SDG period, and a study on the economic impact of sanitation in India to support the goals of Swachh Bharat Mission was also conducted. In Indonesia, funds from the original donor for a menstrual hygiene management project in schools of four provinces were leveraged to gain additional funding from Brunei and Germany along with Indonesian Government sources.

## LESSONS/IMPACTS

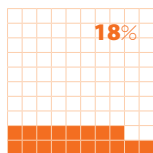
UNICEF WASH has been supporting countries over recent years to implement the WASH Bottleneck Analysis Tool (BAT). The WASH BAT enables countries to systematically identify the constraints on sector progress, shedding light on a range of systemic issues. It is implemented jointly with government and development partners, and allows a prioritized list of activities that, if implemented and according to the theory of change, should catalyze the removal of critical bottlenecks and hence accelerate sector progress. A revised online version of the tool is now being rolled out and has covered over 25 priority countries between mid-2016 and early 2019. In some countries it is being implemented with special emphasis on accountability and governance, drawing on an accountability framework and tool also developed by UNICEF in collaboration with SIWI.

## COLLABORATIVE BEHAVIOURS FOR MORE EFFECTIVE DEVELOPMENT COOPERATION

UNICEF continues to work towards strengthening the five key areas under WASH enabling environment including i) policy and strategy, ii) institutional arrangements, iii) sector financing, iv) planning, monitoring and review, and v) capacity development. On policy and strategy, to illustrate this, UNICEF has led advocacy and technical support leading to major new legislation, policy and standards in several countries, including for water: the Democratic People's Republic of Korea, India (state level), Indonesia, Sierra Leone, and Sudan; for sanitation and hygiene: Bangladesh, Bhutan, Cameroon, Democratic Republic of the Congo, Djibouti, India (state level), Niger, Nigeria, and Pakistan (state level); and for WASH in schools: Cameroon, China, Fiji, Indonesia and Papua New Guinea.

### Enhance government leadership of sector planning processes

Proportion of water and sanitation ODA allocated to water and sanitation policy and administration education and training (%), based on private sector contributions from the OECD database (other contributions omitted)



The median for all donors is 9%. See note under Funding Activities for additional information on the 18%.

Source: OECD-CRS, 2018

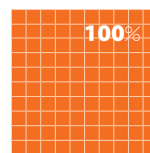
### Strengthen and use country systems

Percentage of WASH ODA spending using country procurement systems (%)

Data are not available on the use of government procurement systems within recipient countries.

### Use one information and mutual accountability platform

Active participation in mutual assessment exercises/reviews (% of countries)

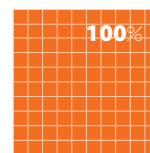


UNICEF participates in all countries that have a sector performance review, often leading it from the partner side and often (co-)financing it.

Source: GLAAS 2018/2019 ESA survey

### Build sustainable WASH sector financing strategies

Percentage of WASH funding published/information shared with Ministry of Finance (%)



The UNICEF WASH Annual Results Report is shared with all key stakeholders and resource partners, donors and UNICEF National Committees, and is available online.

Source: GLAAS 2018/2019 ESA Survey

## FUTURE OUTLOOK

As stated in the UNICEF Strategic Plan 2018–2021, the focus remains on core areas of UNICEF WASH support including improving access to safe water supply, sanitation (ending open defecation), WASH in institutions and WASH in emergencies. Further focus will be placed on equity and inclusion, in line with the overarching goal of "Leaving No One behind", and emerging areas such as climate resilience, risk informed programming, urban WASH, and WASH financing.

Developed and coordinated by the Water, Sanitation, Hygiene and Health (WSH) Unit of the World Health Organization (WHO). Results contained in the ESA Highlights have been compiled by the ESA and GLAAS using data from the Organisation for Economic Development and Cooperation (OECD) Creditor Reporting System (CRS), estimates and text provided in the responses to the GLAAS 2018/2019 ESA survey.

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