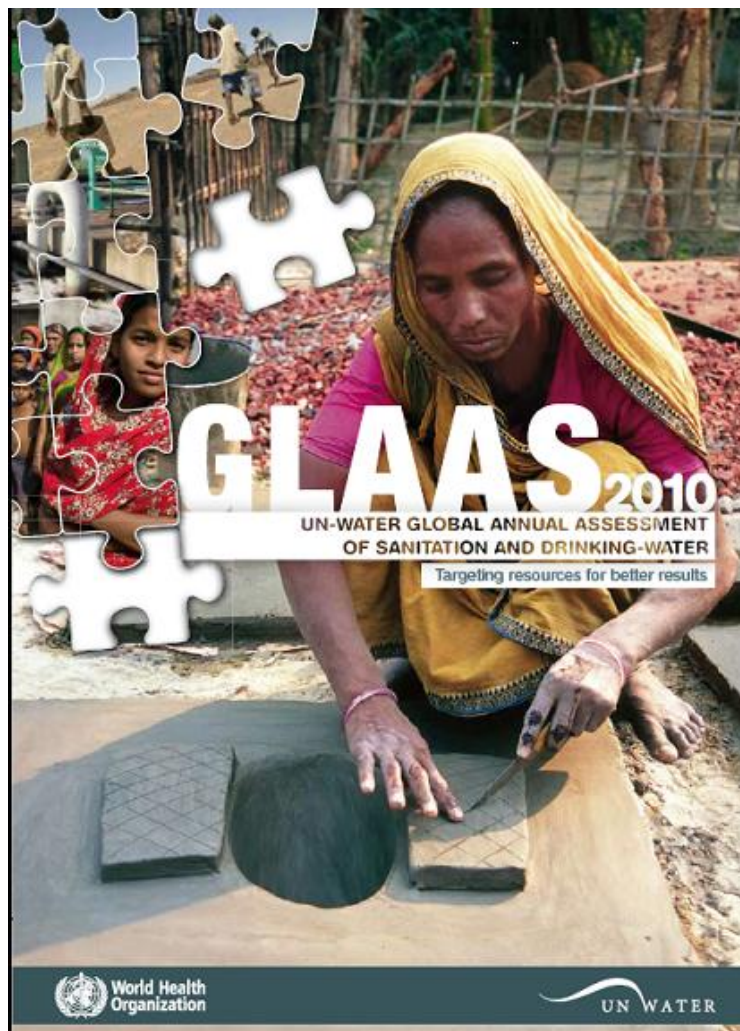


***'THE POWER OF EVIDENCE'***

**The UN-Water GLAAS Strategy 2010-2015**

***UN-Water GLAAS led by WHO***



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<b>LIST OF ACRONYMS</b>	
AfricaSan	African Conference on Sanitation and Hygiene
AICD	Africa Infrastructure Country Diagnostic
AMCOW	African Ministers Council on Water
AWDO	Asian Water Development Outlook
CSO	Country Status Overview
EASAN	East Asia Ministerial Conference on Sanitation and Hygiene
ESA	External Support Agency
EUWI AWG	EU Water Initiative Africa Working Group
GLAAS	Global Analysis and Assessment of Sanitation and Drinking-Water
HAP	Hashimoto Action Plan
HDR	Human Development Report
HLM	High level Meeting
JMP	Joint Monitoring Programme
Latinosan	Latin American Sanitation Conference
MDG	Millennium Development Goal
OECD	Organisation for Economic Co-operation and Development
SACOSAN	South Asian Conference on Sanitation
SAG	Strategic Advisory Group
SEEA	System of Environmental-Economic Accounting for Water
SWA	Sanitation and Water for All
UNDP	United nations Development Programme
UNESCAP	United Nations Economic and Social Commission for Asia and the Pacific
UNICEF	United nations Children Fund
UNSGAB	United Nations Secretary General Advisory Board
WHO	World Health Organization
WSP	Water and Sanitation Programme

## 1 SUMMARY

1.1 This document sets out the **strategy** for the UN-Water Global Analysis and Assessment for Sanitation and Drinking-Water (GLAAS), led by the World Health Organization, for the period 2010 to 2015. It allows for the publication of a biennial full GLAAS report that includes a detailed, in depth analysis of a specific theme.

1.2 GLAAS is a relatively new addition to the sanitation and drinking-water monitoring landscape, with the first GLAAS report published on 21 April 2010. Yet, it responds to a long-standing, strongly felt need for more information. Since its publication, it has made its mark with many stakeholders. The call continues to be strong for the kind of information that GLAAS has demonstrated it can provide. The target readership of GLAAS is made up of senior technical and administrative staff in developing country governments and donor organizations who are in a position to advise their ministers and the most senior policy and decision makers. It is also a useful resource for stakeholders involved in sanitation and drinking-water projects and programmes. It is important that the momentum built up during the preparation of GLAAS 2010 is not lost. Therefore, this strategy and associated proposal have been prepared to set out the goal, objectives and modus operandi for GLAAS over the next five years.

1.3 GLAAS is one of a number of initiatives and mechanisms populating the sanitation and drinking-water monitoring landscape. Others include:

- The WHO/UNICEF Joint Monitoring Programme for Water Supply and Sanitation (JMP) which has provided critical data on access and use of safe drinking-water and basic sanitation in all countries in the world since 1990. GLAAS builds on and complements the JMP report, by providing data on the inputs into sanitation and drinking-water, in terms of financial and human resources, policy frameworks and political capital, made available by developing countries and external support agencies (donors and nongovernmental organizations).
- Regional initiatives such as the World Bank's Africa Infrastructure Country Diagnostic (AICD) and the Asian Water Development Outlook (AWDO) and in particular with the World Bank's Water and Sanitation Program (WSP) which is carrying out, on behalf of the African Ministers' Council on Water (AMCOW), a second round of Country Status Overviews in 32 African countries. GLAAS and WSP have collaborated closely to avoid duplication of data collection efforts in Africa.

1.4 Many countries do have some kind of regular review process to gauge the trends with respect to some of the factors driving progress in sanitation and drinking-water. There is, however, no report that puts this into a global context, covers all factors comprehensively and looks at the issues from the perspectives of the developing countries, the industrialized countries and the international donor community, joined as they are in their commitment to meet the MDG target for safe drinking-water and basic sanitation. GLAAS aims to be a reference for all stakeholders and a key tool for policy and decision-makers at all levels. The first GLAAS report was a significant step in achieving this objective.

1.5 Questions such as *'what works?'*, *'what has to happen to accelerate and sustain +progress?'* or *'how can successful initiatives be scaled up?'* are frequently raised in international and regional fora. The suggested solutions or ways forward are sometimes based on relatively small 'pilot studies' for which it is hard to demonstrate whether they can work at large scale or in different contexts. To make a step change in progress, decision-makers need to have evidence of what has worked in whole regions of countries or, better still, in whole countries, rather than in some sub-district where a local champion has made a difference at a scale and in a way that cannot be easily replicated. The GLAAS report has

demonstrated that some answers to these critical questions can be provided in a relatively short space of time.

1.6 GLAAS is a useful report in its own right. It has gained considerable strength, however, from its association with Sanitation and Water for All (SWA). This new initiative has a strong political element that calls for the type of high-level decisions that can only succeed if they are based on the kind of evidence that GLAAS makes available. The results from this first High Level Meeting as described in Annex 1 include significant commitments by developing countries to make more resources available, especially for sanitation and an understanding from a number of donors that their resources could be better targeted to meet the needs of the currently un-served populations. The two initiatives have a great potential to mutually reinforce one another, as was shown by the catalysed interest in GLAAS at the SWA High Level Meeting and its immediate aftermath. This resulted in a greater response to the GLAAS survey by countries represented at the SWA High Level Meeting, while having the evidence from GLAAS ensured an increased attendance, especially by developing countries. Both the SWA and the UN-Water GLAAS initiatives are examples of the leadership provided by UN agencies in the field of sanitation and drinking-water.

1.7 An evaluation of GLAAS 2010 was carried out at a two-day meeting hosted by the Netherlands Ministry of Foreign Affairs on 21/22 June 2010 at which a number of key points were made and advice provided for future GLAAS reports and activities. Issues relating to the frequency of GLAAS, the existence of data gaps that need to be filled, the importance of credible data, the right balance between a broad coverage of relevant issues and in-depth analyses of the most critical ones, and how the report can increasingly be recognized as one that is truly global, were all discussed at this meeting.

1.8 A meeting of the Strategic Advisory Group (SAG) for the JMP and GLAAS was held on 29 July 2010 at which advice on the different options for the GLAAS strategy was provided. The recommendations of the SAG have been taken into consideration in the preparation of this strategy.

1.9 The UN-Water GLAAS programme consistently aims to ensure good value for money and cost effectiveness. By linking with strategic partners such as WSP and AMCOW in Africa and with UNESCAP and the Asian Development Bank in Asia, GLAAS has been able to share some of the costs and ensure a more effective product. WHO's outreach to national governments through the in-country WHO Representatives is key to ensuring access to data and to further country ownership. WHO also has strong convening power that is important when hosting national and regional meetings. Such meetings are vital for linking to national processes such as annual sector reviews, improving the efficiency and effectiveness of data collection, and when comparing data across countries.

## **2. BACKGROUND**

### **The HEWG impact of WASH on development**

2.1 Safe drinking-water and adequate sanitation have a major impact on **H**ealth, **E**ducation, **W**ealth creation, and **G**ender equity. The **H**ealth impact is well documented by WHO in their reports on the leading contributing factors to poor health. WHO estimates that diarrhoeal disease is the second leading contributor to the global burden of disease. For children under five, this burden is greater than the combined burden of HIV/AIDS, malaria and tuberculosis: nearly one in five child deaths is due to diarrhoea. Africa and South Asia are home to 80% of child deaths in the world; they are also the regions where access to sanitation in particular is lowest. As a result of its work on the impact of WASH, WHO estimates that more than 2.2 million deaths of children per year could be prevented by the

reduction of diarrhoea and improvements in nutrition directly related to safer water, improved sanitation and better hygiene.

2.2 **E**ducation is strongly influenced by the availability of decent sanitation and water supply in both the home and in schools. As the 2010 Education for All<sup>1</sup> report states:

‘What happens beyond the education sector is also crucial. Progress in education is inevitably influenced by developments in other key areas, including child and maternal health, and water and sanitation.’

The same report highlights the important part that improving school sanitation played in increasing the attendance of girls in Senegal. Similarly, improving school sanitation, along with the general physical environment of schools, is considered in the report to be an important part of raising education achievement levels.

2.3 **W**ealth creation is a major factor in the drive to reduce the number of people living below the poverty line. Freeing up time for income generating activities is one of the direct ways that improving access to safe water and basic sanitation impacts on poor people. Investing in sanitation and water is increasingly recognized as being extremely cost-effective. WHO estimates that achieving the water and sanitation MDG target could bring economic benefits, ranging from US\$3 to US\$34 per US\$1 invested, depending on the region. The World Bank estimates that improving sanitation could increase the gross domestic product of a range of developing countries by between 2% and 7%, based on work carried out in Asia.

2.4 **E**nhancing **G**ender equity is the fourth specific impact that better access to safe drinking-water and improved sanitation can have. Women, as the main managers of water and sanitation at the household level bear the brunt of the burden when these facilities are not accessible. A recent report by Amnesty International<sup>2</sup> highlights the impact of a lack of sanitation facilities in densely packed slum areas with inadequate housing and limited public services, which is considerably more serious for women and girls than for men and boys, given their greater need for privacy. In addition to the exposure to diseases, lack of dignity and inconvenience of not having sanitation facilities close to the home, women and girls are exposed to violence, including rape, especially at night. Examples of the relationship between a lack of sanitation and the exposure of women and girls to violence can be found in many countries and in both urban and rural settings.

2.5 For the last 20 years the WHO/UNICEF Joint Monitoring Programme for Water Supply and Sanitation (JMP) has provided information on progress in countries and MDG regions towards expanding access to and use of safe drinking-water and basic sanitation. The JMP presents this information globally, regionally and nationally, and it disaggregates the national datasets into populations in urban and rural areas. The JMP is the recognized mechanism for monitoring MDG Target 7.C: *"To halve, by 2015, the proportion of people without sustainable access to safe drinking water and basic sanitation"*. The latest JMP report, launched in March 2010<sup>3</sup>, focuses on the disparities in the use of safe water and basic sanitation between urban and rural populations and between wealth quintiles. The report takes a closer look at the ‘water and sanitation ladders’ and the diverse trends in moving up the ladders in different regions.

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<sup>1</sup> EFA Global Monitoring Report 2010 - Reaching the marginalized

<sup>2</sup> **INSECURITY AND INDIGNITY** WOMEN’S EXPERIENCES IN THE SLUMS OF NAIROBI, KENYA (Amnesty International, July 2010)

<sup>3</sup> PROGRESS ON SANITATION AND DRINKING-WATER - 2010 UPDATE (WHO/UNICEF, 2010)

2.6 Increasingly, however, there has been a demand for information on the drivers and obstacles behind the JMP figures, especially since the sanitation target is considerably off-track. Questions are frequently asked along the lines of 'what needs to happen' in order to accelerate progress towards the MDG 7.C target in countries that are seriously off-track, or how lessons learned in countries that are on-track can be applied in others. Are the answers related to political leaders giving sanitation and drinking-water greater priority, or to increasing financial investment, or to developing and implementing better policies, or to improving the capacity of the institutions responsible for delivering services? Or, is it a combination of all these things? In its report, GLAAS addresses these issues and the current strategy foresees that it will increasingly be in a position to provide evidence-based answers to these questions.

### **The UNDP Human Development Report 2006**

2.7 In 2006 the UNDP Human Development Report<sup>4</sup> (HDR) focused on water and sanitation, highlighting the importance of the political process and power relationships when it comes to issues relating to water. The HDR set out four key recommendations including the need to develop a Global Action Plan (see box below). The report also had important messages on the human right to water, the 'vast deficit in sanitation', and the need to reduce the inequalities when it comes to access to safe water and basic sanitation between different groups within countries.

*Develop a global action plan.* International efforts to accelerate progress in water and sanitation have been fragmented and ineffective, with a surfeit of high-level conferences and a chronic absence of practical action. In contrast to the strength of the international response for HIV/AIDS and education, water and sanitation have not figured prominently on the global development agenda.

*From HDR 2006*

2.8 In their reaction to the HDR report some donors considered ways to render the international architecture more responsive to the needs of the powerless, un-served and vulnerable populations. A perceived need for a 'global framework' led to what is now referred to as *Sanitation and Water for All: a Global Framework for Action* which includes a call for periodic High Level Meetings on sanitation and drinking-water for senior decision-makers who can determine how resources can be made available for WASH. These biennial meetings are targeted at Ministers of Finance / Planning from developing countries and Ministers of International Development from the donor countries. The global High Level Meetings, and the associated preparatory regional meetings, need the kind of global and regional data that GLAAS is able to provide. An example of this is the use made of the first GLAAS report, published on 21 April 2010 just before the first High Level Meeting on 23 April in Washington DC, as a basis for a number of 'calls and commitments' made and recorded in the Chairman's Summary of this event<sup>5</sup> - see Annex 1.

### **The Hashimoto Action Plan II**

2.9 In January 2010 the United Nations Secretary-General's Advisory Board on drinking-water and sanitation (UNSGAB, chaired by His Royal Highness Prince Willem-Alexander of the Netherlands) published the Hashimoto Action Plan II (HAP II). Section 3 of this report covers 'Monitoring and Reporting' and highlights the important role played by monitoring including by the JMP in assessing progress against MDG target 7.C. This section of the

<sup>4</sup> Beyond scarcity: Power, poverty and the global water crisis - Human Development Report 2006

<sup>5</sup> Summary by the Co-Chairs of the High Level Meeting on April 23rd 2010

report sets out five objectives for global monitoring and reporting that included a call to enhance '*the knowledge of water and sanitation economics at the global and national levels, by close collaboration with OECD, GLAAS, the UN-System of Environmental-Economic Accounting for Water (SEEA) and the World Bank*'.

2.10 The emphasis on water and sanitation economics in HAP II is welcome. In addition, however, there is a clear need to monitor issues related to the enabling environment that is so instrumental in translating financial inputs into access and use outcomes. Elements include the level of conduciveness of the policy environment to a process aimed at increasing access to the un-served (both at national levels and at the level of the international development community), the capacity of institutions to respond to the demands of their customers for services and enter into intersectoral decision-making dialogues, the human resources available especially at the sub-national level and the funding flows that are underlying all of these phenomena. In addition the political drive to overcome the challenges faced by sanitation and drinking-water systems and services is a critical factor for accelerating progress towards the MDG target and towards sustaining progress beyond 2015.

### **The role of UN-Water**

2.11 UN-Water is a mechanism to strengthen coordination and coherence among all United Nations bodies dealing with the development and management of freshwater resources and with a variety of water-related issues, such as health, farming, environment, energy, food, climate, sanitation and disasters. UN-Water was set up in 2003 through a decision by the High Level Committee on Programmes of the UN Chief Executive Board for Coordination. UN-Water is not another UN agency; rather, it adds value to existing UN programmes and projects and fosters more cooperation and information sharing among UN agencies and their partners.

2.12 In 2007 UN-Water mandated WHO to implement GLAAS. WHO was chosen among the UN-Water Members because health is one of the main ultimate outcomes of improved water and sanitation, and because of WHO's comparative advantage in providing an independent and authoritative source of evidence for policy making.

2.13 While UN-Water does not have a day-to-day role in managing GLAAS, it plays an important part in ensuring the UN organizations are aware of what GLAAS is doing and that all members of UN-Water endorse the GLAAS report. The coordination and inclusiveness provided by GLAAS being a UN-Water product is important for its success.

### **Achievements of GLAAS to date**

2.14 In its relatively short life GLAAS has earned its place in the monitoring landscape and the information it yields is increasingly used as the basis for more informed decision-making. The pilot GLAAS report launched in 2008 demonstrated that conceptually its objectives and approach were both appropriate and feasible. It was a report that provided information on both developing countries and donors, one that looked back to what had happened in the recent past and forward to plausible future scenarios, and one that tried to analyse the drivers of and constraints to progress towards expanded access to safe drinking-water and basic sanitation. The **guiding principles** of the pilot report were maintained for GLAAS 2010. The GLAAS report should:

- be a resource for all stakeholders working to enhance access and use of basic sanitation and safe drinking-water in developing countries;
- complement the work of other agencies and not duplicate their efforts;
- look at sanitation and drinking-water from the viewpoint of both developing countries and external support agencies (ESAs) that include donors (bilateral and multilateral) and non governmental organizations;



- minimize the burden of data collection from responding countries and organizations while capturing the main factors influencing the way that sanitation and drinking-water coverage can be increased;
- work with other organizations and initiatives to ensure quality of analysis of the data;
- work with other sectors, including education and health, to learn from their experiences and analyse the complementarities between them and sanitation and drinking-water.

2.15 In keeping with these guiding principles the GLAAS team has worked closely with the WHO/UNICEF JMP team and with the WSP team working on the Country Status Overviews for Africa (CSO), joining the CSO and GLAAS questionnaires and sharing resources to assist with in-country processes. Similarly the GLAAS questionnaires were used by UNESCAP for their study that contributed to the Asian Water Development Outlook Report 2010. The GLAAS 2010 report was also influenced by other sectors, particularly the education sector.

2.16 The GLAAS Report 2010 was launched on 21 April 2010 under the title '**Targeting resources for better results**'. GLAAS 2010 includes data from 42 developing countries and most main donors. The report presents four key recommendations:

- (a) increase the political commitment and prioritization of sanitation and drinking-water;
- (b) target resources better to meet the needs of the un-served;
- (c) strengthen national and sub-national systems to plan, implement and monitor the delivery of sanitation and drinking-water;
- (d) strengthen partnerships to support the development and implementation of national sanitation and drinking-water plans.

2.17 As part of the preparation work for the High Level Meeting, a number of developing country governments prepared short reports on the status and the main priorities for reaching the MDG target on basic sanitation and safe drinking-water. At the same time a number of ESAs prepared short statements on their priority regions and countries and their priority actions. GLAAS data were used as the basis of these reports and statements.

2.18 The GLAAS 2010 report has rapidly become an advocacy tool accepted by many stakeholders. Requests for GLAAS reports at international and regional conferences is high and the key messages of the report are used to gain more support for sanitation and drinking-water. The GLAAS report is frequently referred to in regional and international fora...

2.19 The link between GLAAS and *Sanitation and Water for All* (SWA) has clearly proved its value. The response to the GLAAS questionnaires was strengthened as a result of the need for those countries who planned to attend the High Level Meeting to have some data to present. Similarly the High Level Meeting itself gained from having the evidence from developing countries and ESAs to guide the discussions and prepare the statements of commitments. The SWA initiative brings together stakeholders from national governments, donors, international and national civil society and the UN family to discuss the key issues relating to basic sanitation and safe drinking-water. Such a forum needs the global picture provided by GLAAS to help determine what are the key priorities for making progress, while GLAAS itself benefits hugely from the combined knowledge and experience of the SWA partners.

### **Maintaining and enhancing the quality of GLAAS reports**

2.20 To ensure that the quality of the GLAAS reports is maintained to the highest standards as well as meeting the needs of stakeholders, a multi-stakeholder evaluation meeting was held in the Netherlands on 21-22 June 2010. The aim of this meeting was to review the process leading to the first GLAAS report and to provide advice on how GLAAS might develop over the next few years. The main conclusions were:

- important that the data presented by GLAAS are 'credible' and can stand up to being challenged;
- need to build closer links between GLAAS and existing national WASH monitoring processes;
- the frequency of GLAAS should be reviewed along with the balance between the breadth of issues covered and the depth of the analysis of individual issues;
- need to get more data on the financial resource flows within developing countries;
- important to make the link between WASH and health outcomes where the data are available;
- important to build on the limited data on human resources provided in the GLAAS 2010 report;
- need to communicate positive messages where progress has been made as well as highlighting the challenges.

2.21 The development of GLAAS is also, along with the JMP, a subject for discussion in the JMP/GLAAS Strategic Advisory Group (SAG) for monitoring sanitation and drinking-water up to 2015 and beyond, until universal access is achieved. Developing new outcome indicators for sanitation and drinking-water will be important for the JMP. Developing more sophisticated indicators for inputs and process, such as the qualitative ones of 'effective advocacy', "overcoming fragmentation", 'leadership' and 'credible national plans', will be important for GLAAS. The SAG is expected to play a key role in guiding the strategic approaches towards achieving JMP and GLAAS goals. Advice from the SAG was provided during its second meeting on 28 and 29 July 2010 and this has been taken on board in the preparation of this first complete draft of the strategy. The name of the GLAAS report will also be reconsidered. A technical support group to assist JMP and GLAAS was established to provide technical advice. Members drawn from this group will meet towards the end of 2010 to provide more detailed advice and guidance to the GLAAS Team.

2.22 The GLAAS report relies on the constitutional contacts between WHO and its Member States. WHO's extensive in-country presence and access to senior officials combine to ensure a strong convening power which will be used by the GLAAS team to organize national and regional meetings at the highest level. These meetings / workshops will be vital for improving and maintaining effective data collection and for sharing information within the different regions. GLAAS will build on these relationships and on those with other relevant organizations such as the World Bank and UNICEF. GLAAS will establish a small global network (6 or 7 people) of WASH specialists who can work at a regional level, maintain high-level contacts with country stakeholders and ensure 'institutional memory' within the GLAAS team. These WASH regional specialists will assist with GLAAS consultations, coordinated with other events as appropriate, and will help to increase outreach to countries where expanding access to safe drinking-water and basic sanitation continues to be a key development priority. They will also serve as a source of information on what the in-country needs are for further evidence of '*what works*' and for the further assessment of country needs.

### **Ensuring value for money**

2.23 UN-Water and WHO are conscious of the need to deliver value for money within the GLAAS programme. WHO will use its extensive in-country resources to maximize the efficiency of data collection. UN-Water will continue to use its convening power through the regular Senior Programme Managers meetings to receive comments on, and inputs to the GLAAS reports. , the cost of GLAAS is comparable to, or somewhat less than, the cost of other reports in the water sector, such as the JMP and the World Water Development. The WHO in-house team will increase in size, by one professional post over the period, but will remain small. Meetings will, where practicable and appropriate, be dovetailed with existing meetings or conferences to minimize travel costs and ensure efficiency and effectiveness of

data gathering and analysis. The connection to ongoing processes and initiatives such as the Sanitation and Water for All Initiative, the EU Water Initiative Africa Working Group (EUWI AWG) and the WSP Country Status Overviews and to regional conferences on sanitation and water provide good opportunities for GLAAS to both present the data and connect to country and regional processes.

2.24 The UN-Water GLAAS process collects a wealth of data. It is a key principle of the GLAAS programme that this data is made as freely available to stakeholders as possible. Currently the EUWI AWG is undertaking a report on European donor activity in Africa on sanitation, and GLAAS data has been passed to the authors of this report. This is just one example of how GLAAS plans to ensure that the maximum use is made of the valuable data it collects from its partners.

### **3 RATIONALE FOR THE STRATEGY**

#### *Recognizing that GLAAS is 'young'*

3.1 The strategy recognizes that GLAAS is a relatively 'young' initiative and as a result there is much to learn. It is therefore important not to restrict the way that GLAAS might grow in the future; maintaining flexibility and a reasonable level of ambition will be important for the long-term success of the GLAAS initiative.

#### *Building on the early success of GLAAS*

3.2 Based on its products up to now, GLAAS is perceived as a success. It is influencing some of the discussions that take place within the policy dialogue around sanitation and drinking-water and provides a 'global view' that has thus far been lacking. It is important that the momentum built up since 2008 is maintained if GLAAS is to continue achieving its goal of decisively influencing senior policy makers.

#### *Ensuring linkage to developing countries*

3.3 For GLAAS to be credible it is important to ensure strong links to national level stakeholders within governments and civil society. WHO has considerable outreach to high levels of government staff, in and through ministries of health. Such connections are invaluable for ensuring local buy-in to the GLAAS data gathering, and they add credibility to messages emerging from the report. GLAAS also uses the in-country connections of other organizations, such as UNICEF and WSP. The regional WASH specialists are expected to help strengthen GLAAS linkages to developing country governments.

#### *Providing a resource to decision-makers*

3.4 The main goal of GLAAS is to be a valued and credible resource to decision-makers, providing the evidence for decisions to accelerate progress against the MDG target up to 2015 and sustain progress until universal access to basic sanitation and safe water is achieved. The effectiveness of GLAAS in achieving this goal is the main criterion by which the programme will be judged. Similar to JMP, GLAAS should be considered a global common good to be maintained through public investment, providing credible, robust and relevant information pertaining to the public domain.

#### *Learning from and informing other sectors, including education and health*

3.5 The GLAAS team recognizes that public sectors do not exist in isolation. All sectors require resources, sound institutions, and political support if they are to meet the needs of those benefiting from their work. GLAAS wants to take on board lessons learned in other public sectors such as education and health and to use this knowledge and experience to make faster progress in the area of sanitation and drinking-water. GLAAS does recognize, however, that while it can learn from other sectors, sanitation and drinking-water have their own specific context, opportunities and challenges. The challenges relate in particular to the

fragmented nature of responsibilities and essential functions for sanitation and drinking-water over a range of sectors, often changing over time. GLAAS recognizes that improved sanitation and safer drinking-water outcomes contribute significantly to overall development. Capturing the linkages to, and impacts on, other sectors will be an important part of future GLAAS reports.

*Rationalizing reporting*

3.6 There is no shortage of sanitation and drinking-water reports. It is therefore important that GLAAS does not produce 'just another report' collecting dust on a shelf. The holistic and comprehensive nature of GLAAS, with its view of both sides of the 'development coin' - the situation in developing countries and the allocating of support by ESAs - makes it different from other documents. It is recognized that there are gaps in the GLAAS analysis at present. The role played by non-OECD donors, the private sector and households (through their domestic purchases) in funding sanitation and drinking-water requires more investigation. The human resource needs to increase and maintain coverage levels require more information. GLAAS aims to rapidly start filling these knowledge gaps. The data collected by GLAAS will be freely available on the GLAAS website and the data gathering mechanisms will be shared with others wherever practical in the way that was done for GLAAS 2010 with WSP and UNESCAP.

## 4 THE STRATEGY

4.1 GLAAS shares its **vision** with that of the WHO/UNICEF Joint Monitoring Programme (JMP) for water supply and sanitation, namely: *To accelerate progress towards universal, sustainable, access to safe water and basic sanitation by 2025<sup>6</sup>, including the achievement of the MDG targets by 2015 as a key milestone.*

4.2 As a contribution to achieving that vision the GLAAS **mission** is to be the trusted source of global, regional and national data on the resource inputs into sanitation and drinking-water. This includes data on: prioritization by developing country governments and donors; resource flows to ensure acceleration of sustainable access; the enabling environment, including policy development and implementation, institutional capacity at national and sub-national level and multi-stakeholder participation.

4.3 To fulfil its mission, GLAAS has four **strategic objectives**:

1. Setting the gold standard in the collection of data on the drivers and obstacles to making progress in drinking-water and sanitation
2. In-depth analysis of the driver and obstacle datasets collected with a view to supporting informed decision-making for accelerating progress
3. Serving as a global common good with methods, procedures, outputs and best practice for all to share
4. Monitor compliance with commitments made at global and regional High Level Meetings

4.4 To achieve its strategic objectives GLAAS has four **specific outputs**:

1. Reliable and up-to-date national, regional and global data on prioritization, resource flows, and the enabling environment for accelerating and sustaining progress towards the MDG target for sanitation and drinking-water, collected on a regular basis.
2. Data analysed, evidence corroborated and main constraints to, and drivers for, progress identified and translated into recommended policy and institutional changes.
3. GLAAS data made available through periodic reporting, to support global, regional and national decision-making.
4. Periodic appraisal reports on compliance with commitments made at High Level Meetings (international and regional)

### **A full GLAAS report published every two years**

4.6 A comprehensive GLAAS report will be published every two years, consisting of a data update section produced along the lines of the 2010 GLAAS report and a thematic section covering a selected subject in-depth. Two parallel lines of activities will lead to the production of the report: the established process of collecting existing datasets, sending out questionnaires to Member States and external support agencies, checking and analysing the survey results, integrating all datasets, an independent procedural and technical evaluation of outcomes and conclusions and UN-Water clearance of the final manuscript; and, design and commissioning of thematic research, commissioning of working papers, the organization of a technical consultation on the theme subject, and the production and peer review of the thematic section of the report to ensure scientific rigour and credibility of the results.

4.7 The two GLAAS reports scheduled for the period covered by this strategy are GLAAS 2012 and GLAAS 2014, published in January/February 2012 and 2014, respectively. This schedule will allow the information generated by GLAAS to feed into the 2012 and 2014

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<sup>6</sup> This year chosen as the date fixed by Vision 21 of WSSCC and by the African Water Vision adopted by the AU, AfDB and the Economic Commission for Africa

global High Level Meetings and, thus, support the goals of Sanitation and Water for All. This implies that there will be no annual reporting cycle, allowing more time to focus effectively on both lines of activities. A 'special report' is also planned for 2015 in the run-up to the Summit at the conclusion of the MDG period.

4.8 A number of themes are under consideration, including financial resource flows to the sub-national level, finance needs to reach and maintain universal coverage, human resource needs and gaps, gender equity, and the impact of WASH on development. It is planned to start work on one of these themes by the third quarter of 2010, using the regional resources available including the WHO regional offices and the regional GLAAS consultants. Linking to existing networks such as UNICEF and WSP offices, the Global Water Partnership, and the Water Supply and Sanitation Collaborative Council will provide access to valuable sources of information.

4.9 Work will also be carried out during 2010 and 2011 to develop core indicators that will be used for future reporting on the inputs into sanitation and drinking-water made by developing countries and donors. These core indicators will enable GLAAS reports to establish trends in resource flows at different levels that should lead towards universal coverage.

4.10 In addition to the biennial reports, specific products for regional meetings would be developed in response to demand from countries and organizations leading these initiatives. The regional sanitation meetings, such as AfricaSan, SACOSAN, EASAN and Latinosan, will all be opportunities to provide specific products focused on these regions. The development of such products will be closely coordinated with the WHO/UNICEF JMP and its efforts to produce snapshots for regional events. Information products will also be posted on the GLAAS web site at regular intervals.

#### **Output descriptions and costing**

4.11 Four outputs, related to the four strategic objectives, are described below, with the associated cost estimates, based on the scope and focus described in the previous five paragraphs.

#### **Output 1 - Reliable and up-to-date national, regional and global data on prioritization, resource flows, and the enabling environment for accelerating and sustaining progress against the MDG target for sanitation and drinking-water, collected on a regular basis.**

4.12 To achieve Output 1 GLAAS will work to both increase the number of countries participating in the report and ensure that fuller data sets are collected. In particular, the data on in-country financial flows needs strengthening. This will require GLAAS to work more closely with national coordination groups and ministries responsible for sanitation and drinking-water. The regional GLAAS consultants who are part of the GLAAS team will be an important factor to ensure success in this endeavour.

4.13 It is planned to prepare regular updates of the GLAAS report enabling stakeholders to have the benefit of data relevant to their current situation. It is expected that GLAAS will become a fixed point of reference for policy making in sanitation and drinking-water and that it will respond to the needs of the stakeholders working in sanitation and drinking-water. It is important that updated GLAAS information will be available in good time to inform the dialogue at the global High Level Meetings and that GLAAS data are also available, maybe in a suitably adjusted format, for regional meetings.

4.14 In the next few years GLAAS is expected to expand the number of participating developing countries so that the report becomes truly global in nature, enabling comparisons

to be made across regions and different categories of countries, for example those that receive relatively large amounts of aid and those that rely mainly on internal resources. Data gathering from countries that have already participated in the first GLAAS survey will be made 'lighter' than for new countries, rendering the process altogether more manageable. The principle of 'minimizing the burden of data collection' will always be maintained when determining how to implement future GLAAS reports. GLAAS will take a more in-depth look into specific themes, through separate published papers and by dedicating a section of the main report to a selected theme. The aim is to ensure that better data are made available in a timely manner for the issues that are crucial to making faster progress in the sustainable provision of sanitation and drinking-water services.

**Output 2 - Data analysed, evidence corroborated and main constraints to, and drivers for, progress identified and translated into recommended policy and institutional changes.**

4.15 Specific themes will be introduced into dedicated sections of the GLAAS reports, and a number of options for such themes are mentioned in paragraph 4.8. This will be an important approach for GLAAS to identify those factors that have the most positive or negative impact on progress. Case studies of success at scale is expected to be a feature of future GLAAS reports as these are likely to provide the most useful signposts to success in other countries where progress is not so noticeable.

4.16 The GLAAS report will retain its 'balanced position' of a report that looks at the role and opportunities and challenges faced by both recipient countries and donors and other external support agencies. This overall view of "the enabling environment" for sanitation and drinking-water is an important part of GLAAS' uniqueness.

**Output 3 - GLAAS data made available through periodic reporting, to support global, regional and national decision-making.**

4.17 The GLAAS reports will provide regular assessments of the inputs that are being provided by developing countries and their development partners for sanitation and drinking-water. It will outline the impacts of better sanitation and drinking-water and assist stakeholders in the identification of trends in progress towards the eventual goal of universal coverage. GLAAS will focus on specific themes that are considered to be major contributory factors in achieving improved coverage. These themes will be included as a specific section in the global assessment, backed up by technical papers.

4.18 GLAAS's impact gains considerably through its connection to high level political processes at the global and regional level. Its relevance to stakeholders is strengthened by these links and future GLAAS reports will aim to maintain and strengthen them. At the recent High Level Meeting, the GLAAS team provided templates for the individual donor overviews that helped to explain the priorities of each individual donor / ESA. Similarly the GLAAS data were used to help participating developing countries to prepare their summaries. This kind of briefing material is helpful for ministers of finance and ministers responsible for drinking-water and/or sanitation when reaching key decisions on future commitments. GLAAS will continue to play its part in supporting these briefings. The data from GLAAS are, however, also relevant to all stakeholders involved with sanitation and drinking-water, including those advocating for better and more equitably delivered services.

4.19 GLAAS will proactively communicate the results of its analysis in a way that is useful for stakeholders. A website will publish the data from the questionnaires so that information is accessible and will build up a strong evidence base that provides examples of where

initiatives have been successful, particularly those working at scale, and will analyse the reasons for the success.

#### **Output 4 - Periodic appraisal reports on compliance with commitments made at High Level Meetings (international and regional).**

4.20 The Chair's Summary of the April 2010 High Level Meeting on Sanitation and Drinking-Water set out a number of commitments and aspirations of developing countries and their partners. Many of these commitments, such as the better targeting of aid and of developing country government resources can be monitored by GLAAS. Other commitments of a more qualitative nature, such as increased political prioritization, sector advocacy, or developing credible sanitation and drinking-water plans, can also be monitored using suitable criteria that will need to be developed and agreed. GLAAS would seem to be a suitable mechanism for capturing the progress against these commitments and reporting on this at the global High Level Meeting.

4.21 GLAAS will work with the main regional events to provide briefings and data where this is in demand. GLAAS will also endeavour to track the commitments made at these meetings, always working within the existing framework established for these meetings.

#### **The GLAAS Team in WHO**

4.22 To implement the GLAAS initiative a relatively small team is maintained in WHO to manage the data collection and analysis process, the publication of the GLAAS reports, and to maintain the links to other programmes and initiatives including the WHO/UNICEF Joint Monitoring Programme and Sanitation and Water for All, as well as to the health sector and the education sector. The JMP/GLAAS Strategic Advisory Group that WHO and UNICEF have established provides strategic advice on monitoring to both the JMP and the GLAAS teams. The JMP/GLAAS Technical Support Group provides a pool of independent experts from which GLAAS can draw for regular technical advisory group meetings. The GLAAS team manages a range of consultancies that are essential in the data gathering and analysis process.

4.23 Communication of the evidence emerging from GLAAS is an important aspect of the initiative. The GLAAS team will make information available through reports, briefings, website data in a proactive way. A communications strategy will be developed within the next year to ensure that the messages are broadcast in an effective way.



## THE LOGFRAME

Project: UN-Water Global Analysis and Assessment of Sanitation and Drinking-Water (GLAAS), 2010-2015, led by the World Health Organization

NARRATIVE SUMMARY	OVI <sup>s</sup>	MOV	ASSUMPTIONS (EXTERNAL RISKS ONLY)
<p><b>Goal:</b> To accelerate progress towards universal, sustainable, access to safe water and basic sanitation by 2025<sup>7</sup>, including the achievement of the MDG targets by 2015 as a key milestone.</p>	<p>Global trends in coverage of sustainable access in safe drinking water and basic sanitation.</p> <p>Global trends in resource allocation to sustainable access to safe drinking-water and basic sanitation.</p>	<p>Biennial GLAAS reports</p>	
<p><b>Purpose:</b> Evidence provided by GLAAS supports international efforts to achieve universal access to safe drinking-water and basic sanitation by 2025 and to accelerate progress towards MDG WASH targets by 2015.</p>			<p>WHO receives adequate funding for the GLAAS activities indicated in this LFA and related proposal.</p>

<sup>7</sup> In line with the JMP Goal and with the date fixed by Vision 21 of WSSCC and by the African Water Vision adopted by the AU, AfDB and the Economic Commission for Africa

NARRATIVE SUMMARY	OVI	MOV	ASSUMPTIONS (EXTERNAL RISKS ONLY)
<b>Outputs</b>			
<p>1 Reliable and up-to-date national, regional and global data on prioritization, resource flows, and the enabling environment for accelerating and sustaining progress against the MDG target for sanitation and drinking-water, collected on a regular basis.</p>	<p>Number of countries included in GLAAS reports increases from 42 in 2010 to over 100 by 2015.</p> <p>National data 'triangulated' with national coordination groups and annual review reports.</p> <p>GLAAS data progressively broadened to cover all key aspects of sustainable access to safe drinking-water and basic sanitation.</p>	<p>GLAAS reports</p> <p>GLAAS reports and reports of national and regional conferences</p> <p>GLAAS reports and web site.</p>	
<p>2. Data analysed, evidence corroborated and main constraints to, and drivers for, progress identified and translated into recommended policy and institutional changes.</p>	<p>One main driver for, or constraint to, progress identified and evidence of action to overcome the constraint or use the driver by end of 2011 to accelerate progress.</p> <p>Three such drivers / constraints identified by end of 2012.</p>	<p>Research based on in-country experiences.</p>	

<b>NARRATIVE SUMMARY</b>	<b>OVI</b> s	<b>MOV</b>	<b>ASSUMPTIONS (EXTERNAL RISKS ONLY)</b>
<p>3. GLAAS data made available through periodic reporting, to support global, regional and national decision-making.</p>	<p>GLAAS reports published in 2012 and 2014, including background papers in support of specific themes. Special report published in 2015 at end of MDG period.</p> <p>Communications strategy developed and implemented by end of 2011.</p> <p>Website developed by December 2010.</p> <p>High quality briefings for HLMs (global and regional) prepared.</p>	<p>Communications materials</p> <p>Website hits and feedback</p> <p>Feedback on briefings. Use of briefings in HLM commitments.</p>	
<p>4. Periodic appraisal reports on compliance with commitments made at High Level Meetings (international and regional).</p>	<p>HLM tracking methodology established in collaboration with UNICEF, by end March 2011, using GLAAS data.</p>	<p>Tracking tool</p>	

## ANNEX 1

### **Results from the Sanitation and Water for All High Level Meeting and related Preparatory Process**

The first High Level Meeting of the Sanitation and Water for All global partnership was hosted by UNICEF on 23<sup>rd</sup> April, 2010 in Washington, DC. Finance and water sector ministers representing 18 countries met with representatives of 13 donors, seven UN agencies and several civil society organizations, sharing in dialogue that focused on steps to target donor aid and co-ordination, and enhance accountability and action on the ground.

#### *Preparatory Activities*

In preparation for the High Level Meeting, both countries and donors underwent a three to six month preparatory process in an effort to bring concrete commitments to the High Level Meeting and go beyond ‘business as usual.’

Finance and water/sanitation sector ministers in 20 countries off-track to achieve water and sanitation MDG targets engaged in inter-ministerial dialogue. The preparatory process sparked renewed political interest in the sector in several countries, inspired closer coordination among stakeholders, and lent momentum to ongoing initiatives. In Chad, for instance, the High Level Meeting preparatory process brought together the Ministers of Finance and Water in unprecedented discussions about the need for sound sanitation policy, strategy and investment. In Nepal, the opportunity of the preparatory meeting reinvigorated a national stakeholder process to prepare for an annual Joint Sector Review.

The preparatory process utilized information from, and drove greater interest in, the Country Status Overview (CSO) and Global Analysis and Assessment of Drinking Water and Sanitation (GLAAS). In Ghana, CSO/GLAAS data and the High Level Meeting preparatory process catalyzed the preparation of the Ghana Compact on water and sanitation, drafted by various ministries and development partners working together.

Donors increased coordination and held a workshop, led by the European Union Water Initiative-Africa Working Group. Together the donors identified areas for increased support and targeting of aid.

Governments identified actions that their country should take in three key areas: increasing political prioritization, promoting evidence-based decision making, and supporting strong national processes. Each developing country and donor brought individual commitments in each of these areas to the High Level Meeting in the form of a written statement. Additionally, a smaller number of countries stated other commitments at the High Level Meeting.

#### *Political Prioritization*

The High Level Meeting brought renewed political focus to water and sanitation. The participating developing countries made specific commitments intended to secure political prioritization for the sector.

- All the 18 developing countries declared that they were committed to Sanitation and Water for All and endorsed its guiding principles.
- Six countries committed to increase their domestic spending on the water and sanitation sector. (*Bangladesh, Burkina Faso, Ethiopia, Ghana, Mauritania, Senegal*)

- Eight governments announced specific measures aimed at improving co-ordination between different sectors of their governments (*Burkina Faso, Ethiopia, Liberia, Nepal, Sudan (National Unity), Sudan (Southern), Senegal, Zimbabwe*)

Participants also restated key commitments they had made earlier: Mauritania, Liberia and Mozambique, for instance, reiterated their resolve to honor their pledge made under the African Ministers' Council on Water (AMCOW) e-Thekwini Declaration to allocate 0.5% of GDP to water and sanitation.

A number of participating countries agreed to increase their budget allocations for the sector. For instance, Burkina Faso said it would allocate 1 billion CFA francs (US \$2 million) to sanitation, and launch a national-level campaign of sanitation and hygiene promotion in households under the leadership of the President – a decision directly related to the Minister of Agriculture, Water and Water Resources attending the High Level Meeting. Ghana committed to invest up to \$150m to sanitation and water annually to address its widespread water pollution. Recognizing the importance of behavior change, the country is initiating nationwide hand-washing and Community-Led Total Sanitation (CLTS) campaigns. The Senegalese government has committed itself to financing 20% of its funding gap (newly identified under the CSO process) as a result of High Level Meeting preparatory discussions, and also to enhancing the importance of water and sanitation in Senegal's new economic and social policy document.

Donors agreed to support the High Level Meeting initiative by attending future meetings and aligning their strategies with country processes. Many donors mostly reiterated their commitments to mobilize resources to increase access to water and sanitation. For example, the second phase of the African, Caribbean and Pacific-European Union (ACP-EU) water facility was launched in February 2010 with a budget of 200 million Euros (US \$241 million). Japan committed to providing grants and technical assistance in the amount of JPY 30 billion (US \$ 328 million) on water and sanitation until 2013. The Netherlands declared that it will support partner countries to provide access to drinking water and sanitation for 50 million people. The United States was represented at the High Level Meeting by Under Secretary of State Maria Otero, demonstrating its strong political support for the goals of Sanitation and Water for All.

#### *Evidence-Based Decision Making (EBDM)*

The information emerging from GLAAS and the CSO process were essential to push the dialogue forward and bring commitments to the High Level Meeting. However the preparatory process for the High Level Meeting also highlighted the need for stronger evidence on investment flows, institutional and human resource capacity, and coverage and results. Inadequate monitoring can deter efforts to target services to those who need them the most. At the High Level Meeting, the participating developing countries asserted separately that they would improve monitoring of the sector by strengthening the production of quality information and analyses.

- 14 developing countries committed to respond to future GLAAS surveys.
- Ten countries said they are using and/or will use coverage data to ensure that they were targeting unserved populations. (*Ethiopia, Ghana, Lesotho, Liberia, Mauritania, Nepal, Sudan (National Unity), Senegal, Timor-Leste, Uganda*)

- Seven governments outlined specific measures they were taking to improve their national monitoring systems. (*Bangladesh, Burkina Faso, Ethiopia, Lesotho, Nepal, Sudan (National Unity), Sudan (Southern)*)

In addition, many countries also spoke of other measures they had adopted to refine their monitoring strategies. Bangladesh, for instance, said it plans to conduct a sanitation census in 2010 to better understand gaps in coverage. On similar lines, Burkina Faso said it would carry out a situation analysis on the safe disposal of wastewater and excreta. Zimbabwe plans to conduct annual sector reviews which will be discussed at joint sector meetings with government and support agencies.

Some countries also pointed to the progress they have made in improving monitoring in the sector. Lesotho established a new monitoring and evaluation unit in the Water Commissioner's office to guide the water and sanitation sector, while Nepal had set up a similar unit in its sector Ministry. Sudan (National Unity) has created database management systems for water, sanitation and hygiene in each state.

Donors participating in the High Level Meeting said they would support the establishment of better monitoring systems. Four donor countries (Germany, Sweden, the Netherlands, United Kingdom) and three multilateral agencies (African Development Bank, Asian Development Bank, Bill and Melinda Gates Foundation) committed to participate in future GLAAS surveys. The African Development Bank, Germany, Japan, the Netherlands and United Kingdom also said they would continue to use JMP data to track progress in the sector.

#### *National Planning Process (NPP)*

Comprehensive planning frameworks formulated at the national level are crucial in ensuring adequate investments in the sector and sustainable delivery of services. Several countries at the High Level Meeting emphasized the steps they were taking to improve their planning processes.

- Ten developing countries announced that they were creating or strengthening actionable national plans relating to water and sanitation. (*Bangladesh, Ethiopia, Ghana, Liberia, Nepal, Mauritania, Sudan (National Unity), Senegal, Timor-Leste, Zimbabwe*)
- Four countries elaborated on measures they were adopting to address human resource capacity gaps in the sector. (*Ethiopia, Sudan (National Unity), Senegal, Timor-Leste*)
- Five countries outlined efforts to decentralize water and sanitation services to provide better service delivery. (*Bangladesh, Burkina Faso, Ethiopia, Sudan (National Unity) and Senegal*)

Several countries expressed their commitment to use planning frameworks to strengthen investments in the water and sanitation sector. For example, Senegal committed to expand the use of its participatory decentralized planning approach to strengthen local authorities' involvement in project planning. Liberia is completing a five-year water and sanitation sector strategic plan, while Zimbabwe and Sudan (National Unity) will incorporate water and sanitation into their national development planning processes. Directly following the High Level Meeting, Angola constituted a joint technical working group to finalize the WASH policy and strategic plan.

A few countries presented other initiatives they were launching to improve leadership in the sector and accelerate progress towards MDG water and sanitation target. Ethiopia plans to develop a national hand-washing communications strategy aimed at schoolchildren. Lesotho is currently creating an independent regulator for water services to improve accountability of institutions in the sector. Bangladesh announced that it was committed to creating a \$200 million fund to provide arsenic-safe water.

Several donors committed to provide technical assistance to strengthen national plans and planning frameworks. The Asian Development Bank, for example, said it would use its Water Financing Partnership Facility to offer financial and knowledge resources for preparing projects and implementing policy reform and capacity development. The Netherlands committed itself to providing technical assistance via bilateral co-operation and through multilateral channels. Germany said it would continue to provide multi-level support to partner countries, from federal to district and community levels.

#### *Looking forward*

The High Level Meeting provided an important platform for developing countries and donors to reiterate existing commitments to improving access to sanitation and water, and make new ones. The preparatory process acted as a catalyst in several countries, giving momentum to prospective policy measures and accelerating their approval. GLAAS is a useful tool for monitoring, and further systematic monitoring of the commitments made at the High Level Meeting is under development.

With many countries and donors committing themselves to responding to future GLAAS surveys and attending High Level Meetings, the Sanitation and Water for All partnership promises to be highly influential on accelerating progress towards universal access to sanitation