



African Ministers' Council on Water

AMCOW

A Review of the Progress on Ngor Commitments Baseline on Sanitation and Hygiene

Revised Version

February 2020





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Acknowledgment

This report was commissioned by the African Ministers' Council on Water (AMCOW) with the support of the AfricaSan International Task Force-Sub-Committee on Monitoring and Learning. This knowledge resource has been generated and captured from the AfricaSan Monitoring Process and learning sessions of the Fifth Africa Conference on Sanitation and Hygiene – AfricaSan5, held from February 18 – 22, 2019 in Cape Town, in South Africa.

This publication is dedicated to Piers Cross (1951 – 2017) whose energy and vision continues to inspire the AfricaSan movement.

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Foreword



Following the adoption of the eThekweni declarations in Durban, South Africa in February 2008, the Heads of State Summit in Sharm El Sheikh, Egypt in July of the same year endorsed the eThekweni by committing to, *“Raise the profile of sanitation by addressing the gaps in the context of the 2008 eThekweni Ministerial Declaration on sanitation in Africa adopted by AMCOW”*. With this impetus, the AfricaSan action plan was developed, which formed the basis for the development of the monitoring and reporting system, to ensure the progress towards achieving the commitments by member states is tracked and reported and there are periodic reviews.

Since the development of the monitoring and reporting system, two reports were produced before the end of the Millennium Development Goals (MDG) period in 2015. It is important to note that the eThekweni commitments were made to help countries achieve the MDGs target on sanitation and hygiene. The first report was presented in Kigali, Rwanda in 2011 and following that, a ministerial recommendation was made to review the eThekweni commitments monitoring, and for member countries exchange forums to develop priority action plans to realize their country targets.

In 2015, a second and last progress report was produced. Following the slow progress in meeting the MDGs target for sanitation, the more ambitious Ngor declarations were endorsed in May 2015 in Dakar, Senegal. The Ngor declarations were adopted by the continent to position it to meet the SDGs ambitious goal 6.2 which hopes to “achieve access to adequate and equitable sanitation and hygiene for all and end open defecation, paying special attention to the needs of women and girls and those in vulnerable situations by 2030”.

AMCOW has worked closely with the member states and key stakeholders within the sanitation sector in Africa to produce the baseline report of the monitoring of the Ngor commitments. The first version of this report was presented at AfricaSan5 in Cape Town, South Africa in February 2019. The first report was to give a snapshot of the enabling environment and the state of sanitation and hygiene across the continent.

This report shows that progress has been made in leadership and coordination at country level. This is a good foundation on which sector progress and a stronger coordination can be built and coordinated on.

However, Africa can make tremendous gains through innovative ways of eliminating untreated waste and encouraging its productive re-use which is currently the worst performing indicator of the Ngor commit-

ments. Interestingly, this is an area with immense potential to create jobs and improve livelihoods of the African people including food production. Similarly, financing which is the life blood for sector is also lagging. There is an urgent need to bridge the wide financing gap for increasing access to safely managed sanitation. This is a call for African Governments to prioritize sanitation and hygiene financing by ensuring that not less than 0.5% of national gross domestic product is allocated to this sector. Attention should also be paid to developing human capacities at the national and subnational levels as knowledge, skills and innovation are indispensable for any meaningful progress.

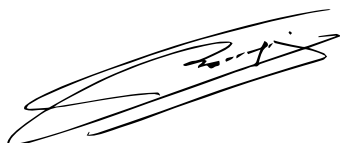
The report has been revised to reflect some specific recommendations. Some of them are for high-level decision makers and some for member states on particular action that would enable them to make progress on each commitment. It is our hope that these will help to guide decision makers at the regional and country levels to take strategic actions that will lead to the accelerated progress toward meeting the sanitation and hygiene access targets of the SDG agenda. The over-arching message is clear: Africa must intensify its efforts to accelerate progress towards these commitments in order to achieve the SDG 6.2 target.

AMCOW has prioritized sanitation in its Strategy 2018–2030 by making sanitation a strategic pillar. As part of the implementation of its strategy, AMCOW is steering the development of the African Sanitation Policy Guidelines (ASPG) that will enable member states to create a suitable enabling environment for progress in sanitation and hygiene across the continent. The ASPG aims at guiding and facilitating dialogue at national level for policy and legal reforms, and institutional re-engineering to reposition the sanitation sector and accelerate progress towards safely managed sanitation and hygiene for all.

Finally, I wish to call upon African governments at all levels, development partners, civil society organizations, the private sector, local authorities and indeed all sector stakeholders to internalize this report and take actions to implement its recommendations. The report shows that all member states are not at the same level on all indicators. Therefore, I encourage peer to peer learning, twinning actions and collaboration among countries. I urge our implementation partners to be more focused, more responsive and impactful, and to work in a synergistic manner as they support member states in transforming the sanitation sector. It is through evidence-based policies, strategies and actions that we will push the sanitation agenda forward and accelerate our pace toward SDG 6.2.

Achieving the SDGs will require a great deal of cooperation, coordination and solidarity at global, continental and national levels. I thank our development partners for their technical and financial support. The challenges are still huge, the cracks in our systems still wide, and resulting vulnerability still high.

As the COVID-19 pandemic has revealed, no one and no nation is safe until all are safe. Let's keep up our efforts and solidarity till we make the world safer through access to safely managed sanitation by all, everywhere.



Dr Canisius Kanangire

Executive Secretary of AMCOW

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List of Acronyms

AMCOW	African Ministers' Council on Water
AfricaSan	Africa Sanitation
AU	African Union
AITF	AfricaSan International Task Force
AWV	African Water Vision 2025
ASPG	Africa Sanitation Policy Guidelines
CLTS	Community-Led Total Sanitation
CSO	Civil Society Organizations
DP	Development Partners
GDP	Gross Domestic Product
HR	Human Resources
JMP	UNICEF / WHO Joint Monitoring Programme
MDG	Millennium Development Goals
LNOB	Leave No One Behind
LA	Local Authorities
M&E	Monitoring and Evaluation (used indiscriminately to refer to 'monitoring and reporting')
OD	Open Defecation
ODF	Open Defecation Free
SDG	Sustainable Development Goals
SML	Subcommittee on Monitoring and Learning
WASH	Water, Sanitation and Hygiene
WASSMO	Water and Sanitation Sector Monitoring and Reporting system
WinS	WASH in Schools

Executive Summary

The Sanitation Crisis

Sanitation and hygiene are key drivers for economic and human development. Sanitation and hygiene are critical to the achievement of not only SDG 6, but also other development goals including health, nutrition, education and gender equality. Sanitation is recognised as a human right. And yet, there is a sanitation crisis in Africa.

Throughout much of Africa, access to at least basic sanitation is below 50%. In Sub-Saharan Africa, access to safely managed sanitation is at 20% in urban areas and 18% in rural areas. Only 8% of the population are connected to formal sewer connections.

Open defecation remains high across Sub-Saharan Africa and is predominantly a rural issue. Regional averages mask countries with extremely high open defecation rates; in 14 countries, in Sub-Saharan Africa, more than half of the rural population practise open defecation.

Data to monitor hygiene is available for only 37 countries; in 35 of these, less than 50% of the population have basic hand-washing with soap facilities at home.

Institutional sanitation and hygiene is also in crisis – one in three schools in Africa have no sanitation service at all, and two in three schools have no basic hygiene services.

Whilst the burden of a lack of sanitation is currently felt most acutely in rural areas, demographic changes project a tripling of populations of African cities by 2050. This will undoubtedly lead to complex sanitation challenges which will need to be addressed in urban areas.

The Ngor Commitments

The Ngor Vision on Sanitation and Hygiene is that universal access to adequate and sustainable sanitation and hygiene services will be achieved and open defecation eliminated by 2030. This vision closely aligns with the SDG sanitation and hygiene targets.

The Ngor Declaration on Sanitation and Hygiene sets out the Ngor Commitments which recognise the areas of the enabling environment that need to be addressed in order to achieve its Vision. The Ngor Commitments are the building blocks of an effective sanitation and hygiene sector. It is only when progress is achieved across all the Ngor Commitments that the enabling environment will support accelerated access.

The Ngor Commitment Monitoring Results

AMCOW is mandated to monitor progress against the Ngor Commitments, and this regular monitoring and reporting of country progress is the cornerstone of the AfricaSan movement. The Ngor Commitment monitoring process captures the Ngor Commitments both in terms of whether the building blocks of the enabling environment are in place, and subsequently whether progress is made against country-specific targets.

The results of the 2018-19 monitoring round show that progress in the enabling environment for sanitation and hygiene is uneven. While progress is being made in commitment areas concerning leadership

and coordination, and establishing government-led monitoring and review systems, other areas of the enabling environment are being left behind and will act as a drag on sector progress.

Three Ngor Commitments in particular are highlighted as showing least progress – eliminating inequality, establishing budgets, and waste management. These commitments require a redoubling of efforts to prevent them from becoming critical bottlenecks to the achievement of the Ngor Vision.

Situation and Key Recommendations for High-Level Decision Makers in the 3 Lowest Scoring Commitments

C1: Focus on the poorest, most marginalised and unserved aimed at progressively eliminating inequalities in access and use and implementing national and local strategies with an emphasis on equity and sustainability

“Leaving No One Behind (LNOB)” underpins the Ngor Vision and Commitments and SDG targets, and yet there has been limited progress on the Ngor Commitment to eliminate inequalities in access and use.

There has been some progress on addressing the needs of the poorest and most vulnerable through strategic plans based on needs assessments, however this often doesn’t go far enough. More than half of studies to identify inequalities are not nationally representative, and where sanitation and hygiene plans include the needs of the poorest and most vulnerable half don’t include targets. Less than one quarter of countries focus on sustainability through undertaking and publishing results of evaluations. And two thirds of countries do not track user satisfaction.

To secure progress against the Ngor vision the sanitation and hygiene sector needs to get better at identifying and targeting the most vulnerable groups with strategies and interventions, including product and service innovations. While action to address inequalities is required by all actors, it is ultimately the responsibility of governments to ensure that no one is left behind.

Recommended actions to be taken by high-level decision makers to address the gaps in C1:

- Commit to ensuring that no one is left behind and assume responsibility to provide affordable and acceptable services to all.
- Include specific targets to leave no one behind into national policies and strategies, and specifically include the poorest and most vulnerable in planning targets and budgets.

C3: Establish and track sanitation and hygiene budget lines that consistently increase annually to reach a minimum of 0.5% GDP by 2020

The overall cost requirements for achieving and sustaining universal sanitation and hygiene coverage are significantly greater than current resources available; only one country reports having a budget line that has increased to reach the 0.5% GDP target. Putting in place the enabling environment for sanita-

tion and hygiene budgets remains a key challenge to the Ngor Vision across Africa.

There is limited progress on investment planning with only 6 countries having investment plans for sanitation and hygiene which define the budget required to meet country goals defined for both SDG 1.4 (basic sanitation) and SDG 6.2 (safely managed sanitation). There is also limited progress on effective and comprehensive budget tracking; less than a third of countries that have established budget-tracking mechanisms for sanitation and hygiene are able to fully capture expenditure across the entire sector.

The Ngor Vision cannot be achieved without securing and sustaining dedicated investments. Stakeholders need to unite to mobilize financial resources for sanitation and hygiene through both existing and new investments aimed at closing the financing gap.

Recommended actions to be taken by high-level decision makers to address the gaps in C3:

- Recognise the importance of the Sanitation Economy, mobilise additional resources from public financing and introduce innovative financing approaches for sanitation and hygiene.
- Work with the private sector to unlock new and promising financing streams to create scalable solutions.

C7: Progressively eliminate untreated waste, encouraging its productive use

Eliminating untreated waste, and encouraging its productive re-use is essential for safely managed sanitation targets. However, it is currently the worst performing of the Ngor commitments, with little progress made in establishing the enabling environment for the elimination of untreated waste.

Existing faecal waste management definitions, standards, and regulations are not consistent or adequately enforced. For example, 28 countries have included faecal waste management in some definitions, however it is consistently included across all ODF and sanitation service definitions in less than half of these cases. Only 6 out of 26 countries which have faecal sludge management regulations and by-laws in place, report that the regulations and bylaws are comprehensive and enforced. Essentially no country is able to track the amount of faecal waste being disposed of in the environment.

As a first step African countries need to establish a national baseline, develop a tracking mechanism and set ambitious targets to address this urgent issue. Sector stakeholders must push the sanitation agenda beyond access to basic services to ensure safely managed sanitation for all.

Recommended actions to be taken by high-level decision makers to address the gaps in C7:

- Be the driving force behind a sanitation agenda that goes beyond access to basic services to ensure that safely managed services for all become the target of national sanitation and hygiene efforts.

AMCOW Strategic Actions Towards Accelerating the Achievement of the Ngor Commitments

AMCOW's strategy 2018-2030 elaborates its strategic and cross cutting priorities in support of the organisational vision of a water secure Africa with safe sanitation for all. Under the new strategy ensuring safely managed sanitation and hygiene is one of four strategic priorities – a clear indication of AMCOW's ongoing commitment to work with others to address the sanitation crisis in Africa.

AMCOW's strategic actions support and drive progress in the Ngor Commitments for Sanitation and Hygiene including through:

- A focus on promoting and amplifying equitable and inclusive approaches to sanitation.
- Taking the lead on advocacy efforts aimed at closing the financing gap for investments in water and sanitation infrastructure .
- Developing model sanitation guidelines and policies, plans and regulations that Member States can adapt and implement covering all aspects of safely managed sanitation and hygiene.

Introduction

On the 27th May 2015, African Ministers responsible for sanitation and hygiene adopted the Ngor Declaration on Sanitation and Hygiene at the AfricaSan4 conference held in Senegal. The commitments were made in recognition of the fact that gains made in sanitation access since 1990 had not kept pace with demographic change; the understanding of the centrality of hygiene and sanitation to the existing health, economic, social and environmental burden on African countries; and to reaffirm the human right to safe drinking water and sanitation for all.

The Ngor Declaration vision focuses on universal access to adequate and equitable sanitation and hygiene services and an end to open defecation by 2030, and as such reflects the paradigm shift of the Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs).

The AfricaSan International Taskforce through its Sub-Committee on Monitoring and Learning has established a system of tracking progress against the Ngor Declaration and commitments. The Ngor Commitment monitoring process builds on the lessons learned from the eThekweni monitoring¹, notably the need to be able to distinguish between having the enabling framework in place for sanitation and hygiene and then securing progress against country targets. To this end, indicators for Ngor commitments monitoring are staged to show progressive realisation of each commitment. In general, countries progress to stage 2 indicators (which measure progress against country targets) only after related stage 1 indicators (which measure the enabling environment) have been completely met (see diagram below). This more nuanced approach will better connect the Ngor Commitments with outcomes - the progress against country targets bridging the gap between the enabling environment and the vision.

Figure 1: Levels and stages of Ngor Commitment Monitoring indicators

Vision indicators (V1 to V3) are outcome-based and refer to data from the Pan African Water and Sanitation Monitoring System (WASSMO) and SDG monitoring.

Commitment indicators (C1 to C10) monitor two stages (enabling environment, and country targets) in order to capture different levels of progress across African countries.

- **Stage 1** indicators track the enabling environment. They allow progress to be assessed through looking at whether foundational structures exist in the country.
- **Stage 2** indicators track achievement of published country targets. They are therefore specific to individual countries.

¹ The eThekweni Commitments on Sanitation were the main outcome of the 2008 AfricaSan conference. They aimed at improving sanitation and getting African countries on track to meet the sanitation MDG. The eThekweni commitments final monitoring took place during AfricaSan4, after which they were superseded by the Ngor commitments.

This report summarises the results of the Ngor Commitment Monitoring carried out by 39 countries ². The purpose of the report is to provide a baseline three years on from the Ngor Declaration on Sanitation and Hygiene. The report provides an overview of the vision and commitments themselves and recommend actions required to make progress ³.

For each commitment an example of country level action is shared – these success stories were shared by countries during the first round of Ngor commitment monitoring and help to provide insight and context as to how countries themselves are addressing sector challenges.

Ensuring safely managed sanitation and hygiene is a strategic priority for AMCOW. Analysis of progress against the Ngor Commitments on Sanitation and Hygiene provides insight for AMCOW and high-level decision makers into the actions that are required to strengthen the enabling environment in order to accelerate progress towards safely managed sanitation and hygiene for all in Africa. Priority focus areas for each commitment are included throughout the document and, in this second edition, the final section links what needs to be done with recommended actions for high-level decision makers and AMCOW's own strategic priorities.

² For a full list of countries that participated in the Ngor Commitment Monitoring Process, see endnotes.

³ Detailed country data is available in the country-specific Ngor Commitment Monitoring Country Data Reports.

The Ngor Vision

The Ngor Vision is to achieve universal access to adequate and sustainable sanitation and hygiene services and eliminate open defecation by 2030.

Although made in advance of the Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs), the vision of the Ngor Declaration closely aligns to the SDG sanitation and hygiene targets. Therefore, for the purposes of the baseline monitoring report, SDG monitoring data is used to report vision level indicators⁴. Throughout much of Africa, access to at least basic sanitation is below 50%. Data to monitor hygiene is available for only 37 countries, of these, all except two have less than 50% of the population with basic hand-washing with soap facilities at home.

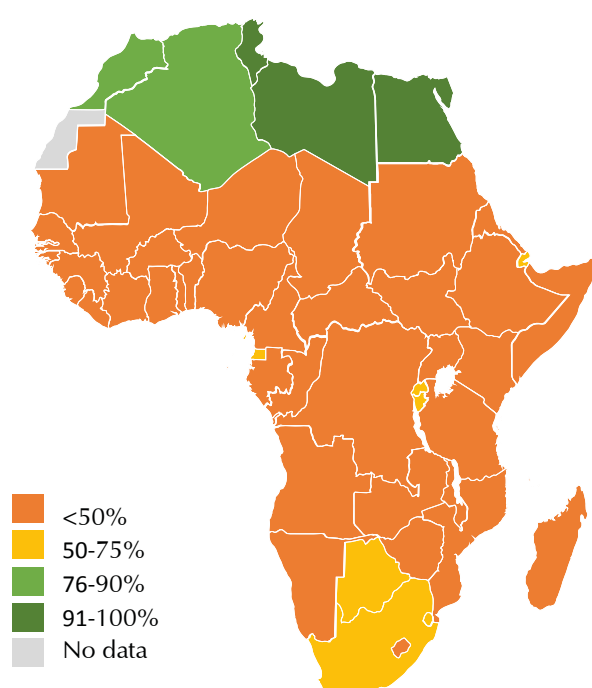


Figure 2: Proportion of the population using at least basic sanitation, 2015

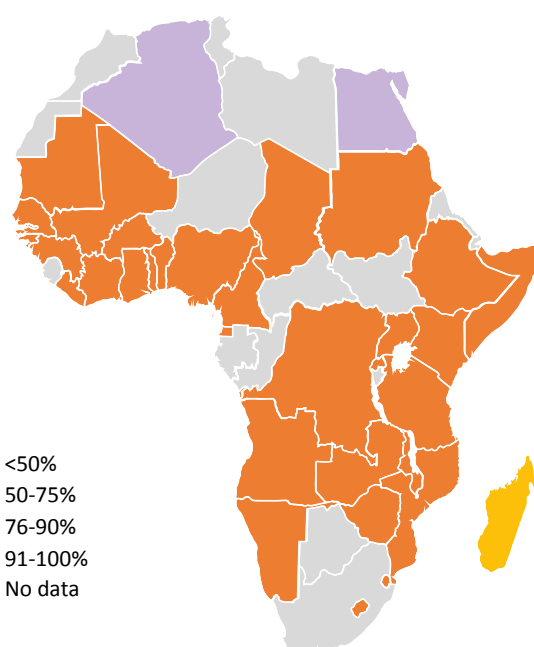


Figure 3: Proportion of the population with handwashing facilities including soap and water, 2015

countries with extremely high open defecation rates. In 14 countries in Sub-Saharan Africa, more than half of the rural population practise open defecation. The Ngor commitments recognise this situation and the need for member countries, partners and other sanitation stakeholders to focus on eliminating open defecation as a first step, whilst continuing post-ODF to progressively realise universal access to safely managed sanitation.

⁴ Progress on drinking water, sanitation, and hygiene: 2017 update and SDG baselines. Geneva: WHO and UNICEF, 2017. See <https://washdata.org/sites/default/files/documents/reports/2018-01/JMP-2017-report-final.pdf>

Whilst the burden of a lack of sanitation is currently felt most acutely in rural areas, demographic changes project a tripling of populations of African cities by 2050. Complex sanitation challenges faced by urban areas must therefore be urgently addressed ⁵.

There has been limited progress in moving populations from basic sanitation to safely managed sanitation, key to SDG 6.2 and AMCOW's strategic priorities. Safely managed sanitation is defined as the population using an improved sanitation facility that is not shared with other households, and where excreta are disposed of in situ or transported and treated off-site ⁶.

JMP estimates of access to safely managed sanitation shows that in Sub-Saharan Africa access to safely managed sanitation is at 20% in urban areas and 18% in rural areas. Connection to formal sewer connections are low in Sub-Saharan Africa, at only 8% of the population being connected, and prohibitively expensive⁷ prompting the need to identify, invest in and scale up new and innovative technologies and models.

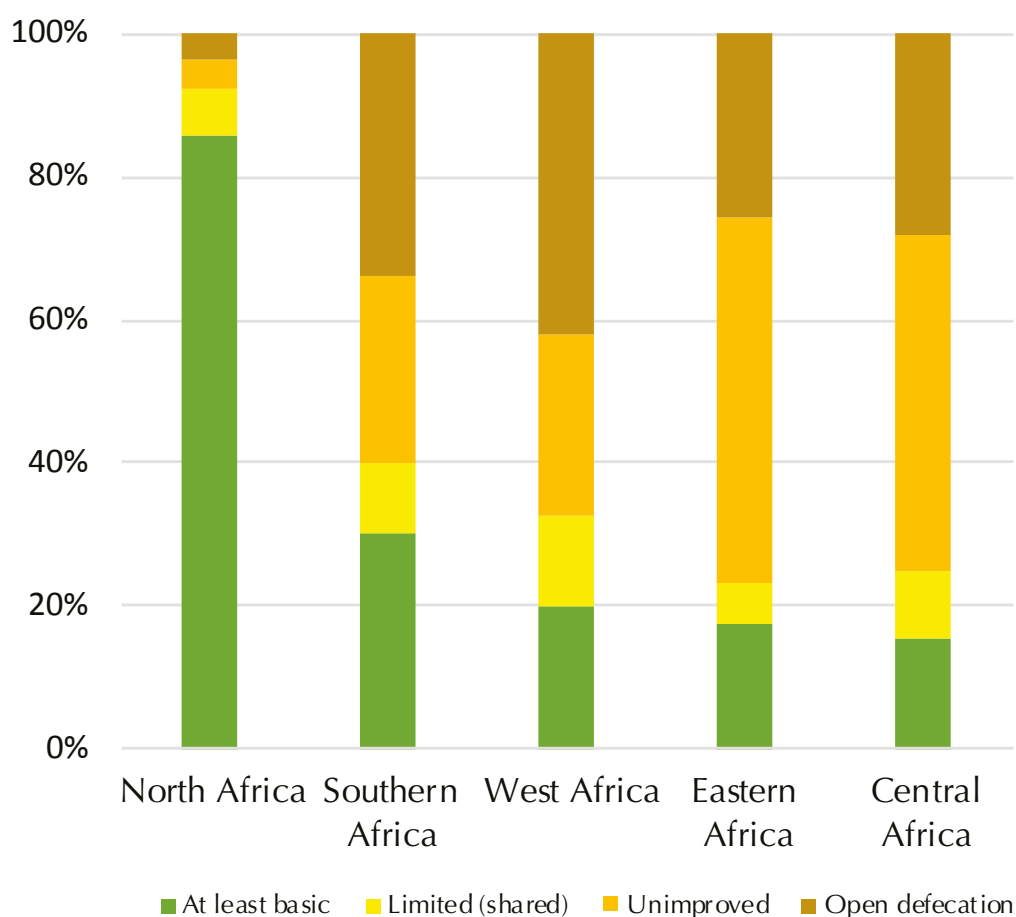


Figure 4: Rural sanitation access

⁵ AfricaSan 5 report, draft.

⁶ Ibid.

⁷ AMCOW Strategy 2018-2030

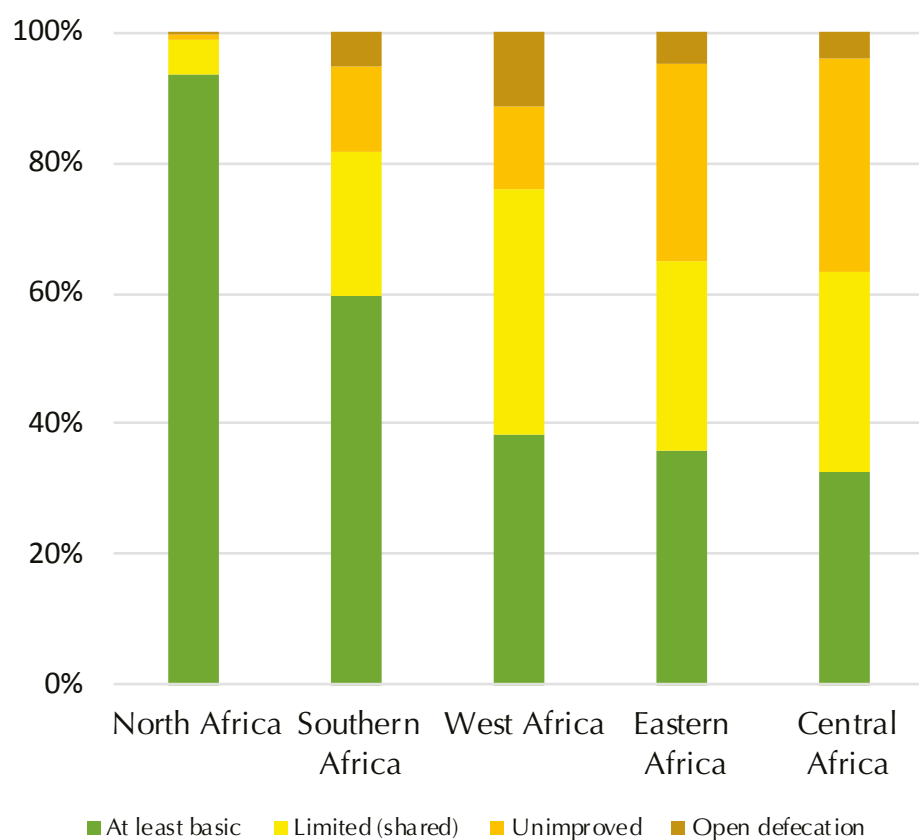


Figure 5: Urban sanitation access

The Ngor Commitments: the Whole is Greater than the Sum of the Parts

The Ngor Commitment monitoring process captures the Ngor Commitments both in terms of whether the building blocks of the enabling environment are in place, and subsequently captures progress against country-specific targets.

Enabling Environment

The 10 Ngor Commitments on Sanitation and Hygiene address the areas of the enabling environment that as a whole, need to be in place to drive sanitation and hygiene progress. The graphic below demonstrates that it is only when progress is achieved across all the Ngor Commitments that the enabling environment will support accelerated access.

The results of the Ngor Commitment Monitoring show that the enabling environment for sanitation and hygiene is currently uneven. Progress in the enabling environment for leadership and coordination, and government-led monitoring systems, is not matched for commitments such as waste management, eliminating inequality, and establishing budgets. Unless addressed, the areas of the enabling environment which are lagging behind will act as a drag on the entire sector and hinder realization of the Ngor vision.

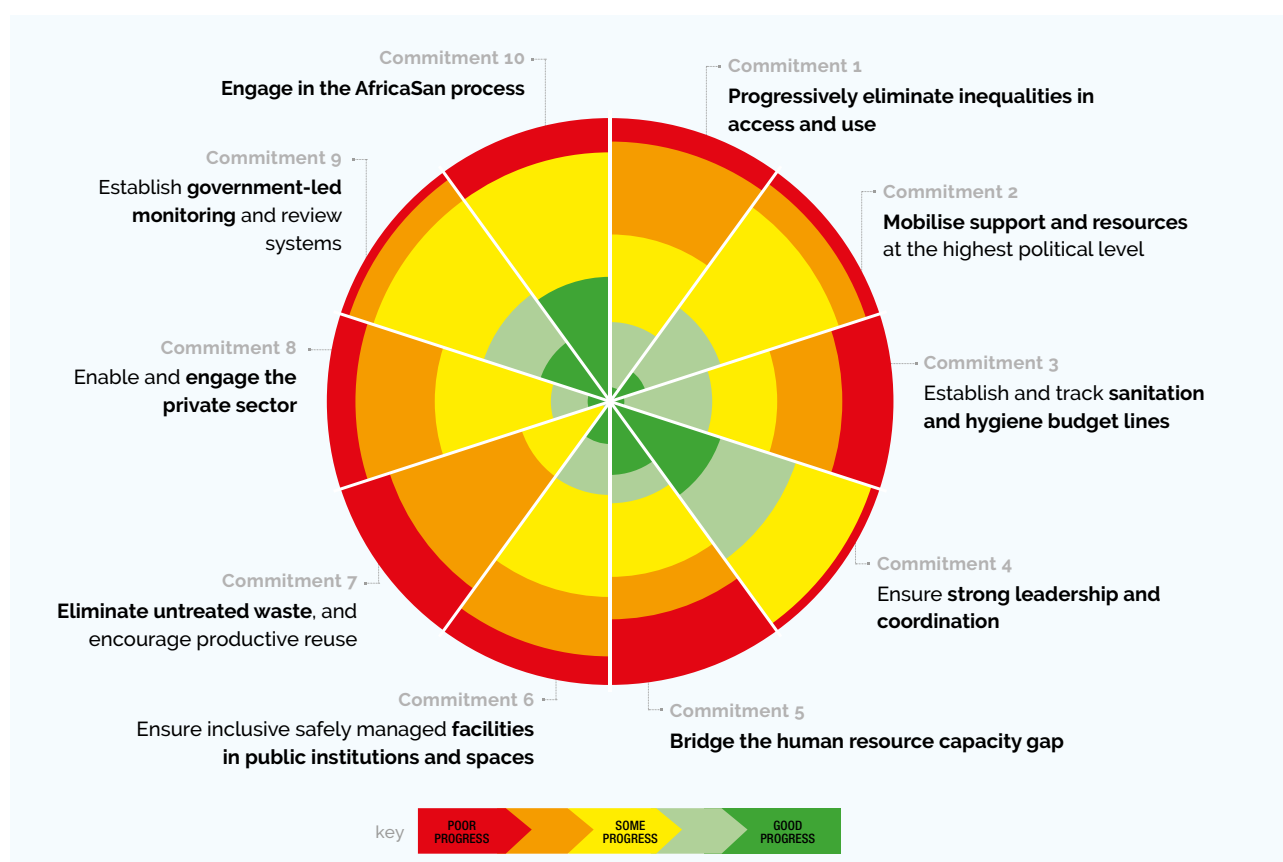


Figure 6i: Summary of the Ngor Commitment on Sanitation and Hygiene baseline (stage 1 enabling environment indicators)

- Across Africa there has been good progress against the commitment to establish leadership and coordination structures. This is a key area which drives progress in the sector⁸.
- The commitment to eliminate inequalities in access and use, and to establish budgets for sanitation and hygiene remain critical bottlenecks which threaten to undermine progress in Southern Africa. Both have been identified as necessary for enabling and accelerating progress to SDG 6 globally⁹.
- Eliminating untreated waste, and encouraging its productive re-use is essential for safely managed sanitation targets, however it is currently the worst performing of the Ngor commitments.

Country Targets

Cognisant that not all countries progress at the same rate¹⁰, the Ngor Commitments monitoring process was designed to be nuanced and allow countries to set their own priorities for working towards each commitment. Ngor commitment monitoring stage two indicators measure whether each country is on track to meet its own national targets.

The results of the Ngor Commitment monitoring show that even when countries have established national targets, few have yet made good progress against them.

- For five out of 7 of the commitments linked to stage two indicators, more than half of countries have made insufficient progress in establishing the enabling environment, to be able to monitor progress against country targets.
- No countries have made enough progress in establishing the enabling environment for eliminating untreated waste to be able to report against country targets.
- This pattern will change in the future as countries strengthen the enabling environment, and targets and tracking systems against which to measure progress are established.

⁸ Monitoring the eThekwini Commitments on Sanitation endline report (AfricaSan 4 report, 2015)

⁹ The Sustainable Development Goal 6 2018 Synthesis Report. UN-Water, 2018

¹⁰ This was a key lesson from the eThekwini monitoring process. The eThekwini Commitments on Sanitation were the main outcome of the 2008 AfricaSan conference. They aimed at improving sanitation and getting African countries on track to meet the sanitation MDG. The eThekwini commitments final monitoring took place during AfricaSan4, after which they were superseded by the Ngor commitments.

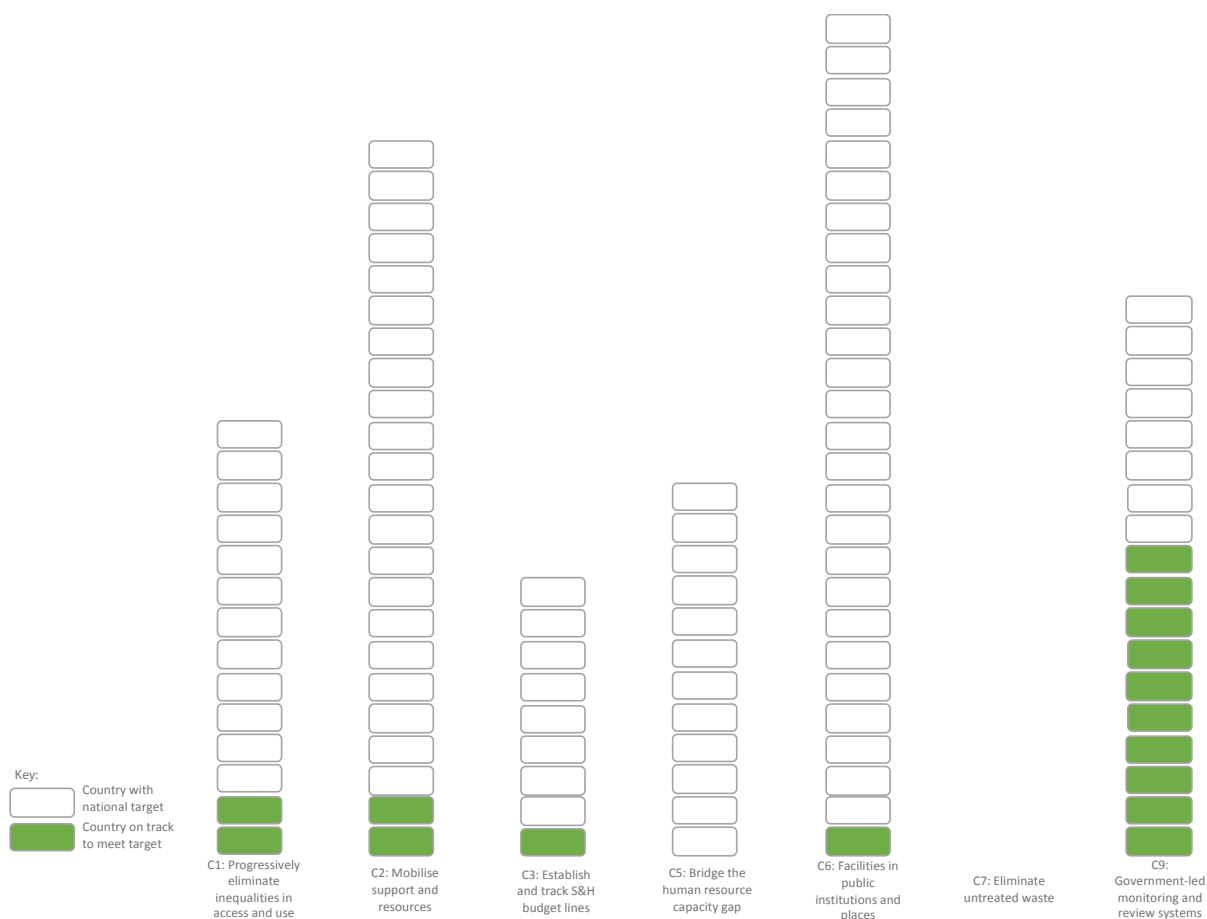


Figure 6ii: Summary of the Ngor Commitment on Sanitation and Hygiene baseline (stage 2 country target indicators)

Note that whilst this report provides an overall picture of the Sanitation Sector in Africa, countries that have participated in the Ngor Commitment monitoring process are able to use their detailed country results to guide national planning processes towards addressing identified gaps through development of specific country action plans.

Which commitments drive sector progress?

As a baseline, the results of the Ngor Commitment monitoring only reveal the situation as it currently stands. Subsequent rounds of monitoring of both enabling environment (stage one indicators) and country targets (stage two indicators) will increase our understanding of the dynamics at play between the commitments and build up a picture of how countries should organise and prioritise their activities towards making the greatest progress.

Previous sector diagnostics can provide some insight into key drivers in the enabling environment for sanitation and hygiene (table 1), but note that these do not comprehensively address all the Ngor Commitments for Sanitation and Hygiene.

Ngor Commitment	Analysis of eThekweni Commitments country reports 2011-2015 found the following commitment areas to be driving progress thus having a positive influence on overall performance ¹¹	Synthesis Report on Water and Sanitation SDG6 ¹² notes the following essential elements in meeting SDG 6 targets
Commitment 2: Mobilise support and resources at the highest political level	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Clear sanitation policy 	
Commitment 3: Establish and track sanitation and hygiene budget lines		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Finance
Commitment 4: Ensure strong leadership and coordination	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Leadership • Stakeholder coordination 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Governance
Commitment 5: Bridge the human resource capacity gap		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Capacity development
Commitment 9: Establish government-led monitoring and review systems	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Implementation of sanitation monitoring and evaluation systems and tools • Sector reviews to keep national sanitation programmes on track 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Data acquisition and monitoring

Table 1: Insights from sector diagnostics on the relative importance of commitment areas (note that non-inclusion in this table may indicate lack of inclusion in previous sector diagnostics)

In the following pages, detailed results for enabling environment (stage 1) and country target (stage 2) indicators are reported^{13,14}. Each commitment is accompanied by a country story to illustrate some of the actions being taken to achieve the Ngor Commitments at country level¹⁵.

¹¹ Monitoring the eThekweni Commitments on Sanitation endline report (AfricaSan 4 report, 2015)

¹² The Sustainable Development Goal 6 2018 Synthesis Report. UN-Water, 2018

¹³ Further detail on individual indicators, as well as urban: rural breakdowns can be found in the country-specific Ngor Commitment Monitoring Country Data Reports.

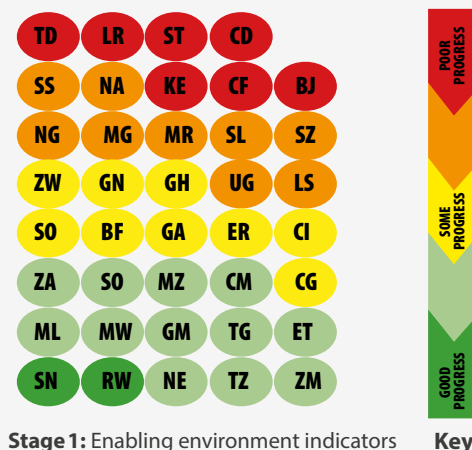
¹⁴ For a full list of country ISO codes, and graphics key see endnotes.

¹⁵ These success stories were shared by countries during the first round of Ngor commitment monitoring and were selected to help provide insight and context as to how countries themselves are addressing sector challenges.

Commitment

1

Focus on the poorest, most marginalised and unserved aimed at **progressively eliminating inequalities in access and use** and implement national and local strategies with an emphasis on equity and sustainability



*“Leaving No One Behind”*¹⁶ underpins the Ngor Vision and Commitments and SDG targets, and yet progress towards the Ngor Commitment to eliminate inequalities in access and use remains a critical bottleneck that threatens to undermine progress in both rural and urban communities in Africa.

Enabling Environment

- Across Africa there has been limited progress on this commitment. Regionally, Central Africa has seen less progress than other regions.
- Countries have made some progress on addressing the needs of the poorest and most vulnerable through strategic plans based on needs assessments:
- 28 countries have sanitation and hygiene strategic plans which address the needs of the poorest and most vulnerable, 14 of these include specific access targets and milestones.
- 29 countries have carried out an objective study of the poorest and most vulnerable populations to identify inequalities in sanitation and hygiene access and use within the last 3 years, although 16 of these are not nationally representative.
- Focus on sustainability is limited with less than one quarter of countries (8) having undertaken and published results of evaluations of institutional, financial, technical, social and/or environmental factors for the sustainability of sanitation services within the last 3 years.
- Progress on this commitment is held back by a lack of attention to user satisfaction which is not tracked in two thirds of countries (26rural/26urban).

Country Targets

- Across Africa, 14 countries are able to report on implementation progress against country targets for Commitment 1. Of these, two are on track against their own targets for reducing inequalities.



¹⁶ With the adoption of the 2030 Agenda, UN Member States pledged to ensure “no one will be left behind” and to “endeavor to reach the furthest behind first”.



Country Story for Commitment 1: Eliminating Inequalities through Better Targeting and a Comprehensive Community Approach in Niger

In Niger, having noted that the subsidized approach to sanitation did not allow the poorest and most marginalized to access basic sanitation services, the government adopted the Community-Led Total Sanitation approach (CLTS) in 2009, with the support of UNICEF.

At the community level, the adoption of CLTS has led to an approach through which community self-help supports the poorest. The CLTS approach – which encourages the community to analyze their own hygiene and sanitation situation, their defecation practices, and its consequences - has greatly helped in stopping the practice of open defecation. Construction of latrines has been carried out by the community without external subsidies.

At the national level, following the survey of the National Institute of Statistics giving the rates of access to sanitation services by region, the government of Niger has established a strategy that gives it authority to decide on intervention zones for sanitation services through the redeployment of partners, according to the principle of reducing inter and intra-regional disparities.

What needs to be done?

Government at all levels needs to commit to ensuring that no one is left behind and assume responsibility to provide affordable and acceptable services to all. National governments need to include specific targets to leave no one behind into national policies and strategies, and built to the requisite capacity within their own systems. Local governments need to specifically include the poorest and most vulnerable in their planning targets and budgets.

A greater focus on evaluating the sustainability of sanitation and hygiene services is required, whether this be ensuring that the cost of continued services is sustainably financed locally, or that potential climate change impacts on services have been taken into consideration.

2

A 5x5 grid of colored circles, each containing a two-letter code. The colors of the circles correspond to a vertical progress bar on the right side of the image. The progress bar is divided into three sections: 'POOR PROGRESS' (red, top), 'SOME PROGRESS' (yellow, middle), and 'GOOD PROGRESS' (green, bottom). The codes in the grid are as follows:

ST	CF	SO	SS	
GN	BJ	LR	CM	SL
CI	TG	LS	MR	NG
CG	NA	ER	GA	SZ
GM	ML	ZW	MG	SD
TZ	TD	KE	MW	ZM
ZA	SN	CD	UG	MZ
BF	RW	NE	ET	GH

Key

Enabling Environment

- ## Country Targets

- [illegible]

24



Country Story for Commitment 2: Putting in Place the Policy Framework for Sanitation and Hygiene in Rwanda

Strong political will in Rwanda is exhibited through the robust policy environment for sanitation and hygiene that has been established. The government considers provision of sustainable sanitation services as a key priority of its national development agenda. The 2017-2024 National Strategy for Transformation and Prosperity (NTSP 1) includes SDG-aligned targets and activities for sanitation under its “moving towards a modern Rwandan household” priority area.

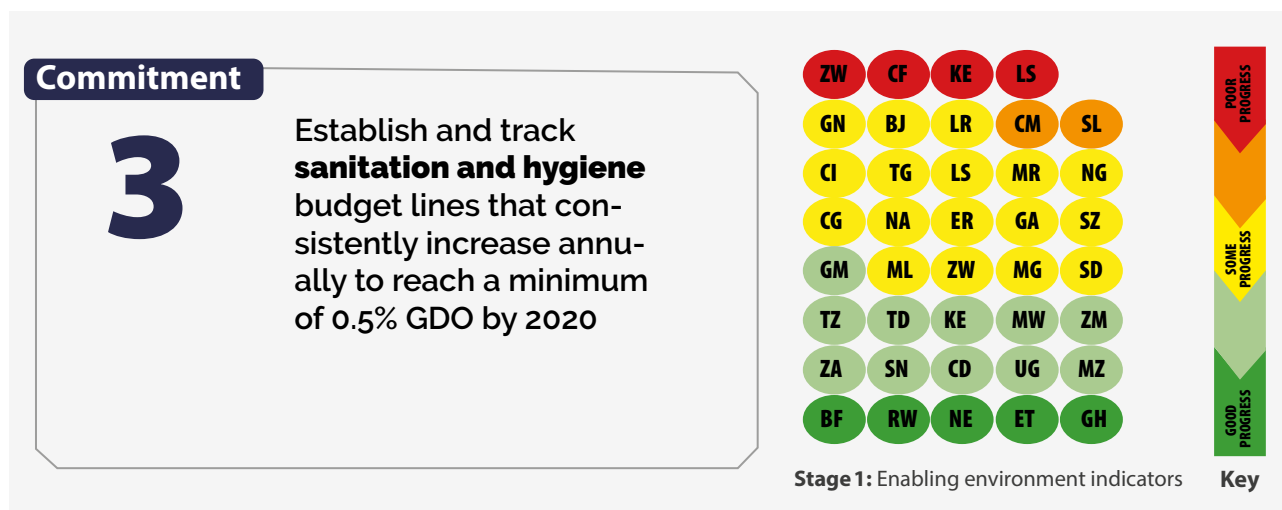
Sanitation features in several key health, nutrition, and childhood development policies and plans, and the standalone National Sanitation policy and its implementation strategy that were formally adopted in December 2016. At sub-national level also, District Development Strategies reflect the prioritization of sanitation and hygiene.

The Law Reform Commission of Rwanda’s Ministry of Justice is processing the drafts for both Water Supply and Sanitation services Laws for approval. Once in place those two laws will complete the legislative framework needed to support the achievement of the sanitation policy targets and objectives. This strong enabling environment is undoubtedly key in Rwanda having achieved the highest annual rate of change in basic sanitation of its peers in East Africa (JMP, 2017).

What needs to be done?

Strong leadership and direction from the highest political levels generates essential momentum for sanitation and hygiene that carries through to all levels. Examples can be taken from the Indian Swachh Bharat Mission as well as Nigeria, where the launch of the “Clean Nigeria: Use the Toilet” campaign to make Nigeria open defecation free by 2025 has been launched by the President.

Clear mechanisms need to be put in place to ensure that support and commitment from the top trickles down to the sub-national level, with local governments encouraged to include SDG-aligned sanitation and hygiene targets in their plans and mobilise the requisite funding for implementation.



The overall cost requirements for achieving and sustaining universal sanitation and hygiene coverage are significantly greater than current resources available - almost \$16 billion is needed annually for Africa in capital costs to reach SDG 6.2 by 2030¹⁷. Weaknesses in investment planning and budget tracking contribute to static budget lines that do not meet needs.

Enabling Environment

- Putting in place the enabling environment for sanitation and hygiene budgets remains a key challenge across Africa. The West Africa region has seen some progress and could potentially provide a source of learning for others. As a region Southern Africa is behind with little progress registered.
- There is limited progress on investment planning.
- Only 6 countries have investment plans for sanitation and hygiene which define the budget required to meet country goals defined for both SDG 1.4 (basic sanitation) and SDG 6.2 (safely managed sanitation).
- A further 3 countries have investment plans which address only SDG 1.4, and two other countries have plans which address only SDG 6.2.
- There is also limited progress on effective and comprehensive budget tracking.
- Of 27 countries that have established budget-tracking mechanisms for sanitation and hygiene, only 8 fully capture expenditure across the entire sector.

Country Targets

- Across Africa 9 countries are able to report on implementation progress for Commitment 3. Of these only one country reports having a budget which is increasing and has reached at least 0.5% of GDP.
- Four countries report that the sanitation and hygiene budget is not increasing at all.



Stage 2: Country target indicators

¹⁷ Source AfricaSan 5 report draft. Divided equally between rural and urban, not including operation and maintenance costs which more than double the resource requirement.



Country Story For Commitment 3: Investment Planning from the Bottom up in Ethiopia

Having achieved the largest reduction in open defecation globally during the MDG Period (from 92% to 29%), the sanitation sector in Ethiopia is now focussing on moving the population from unimproved sanitation to safely managed sanitation. To achieve this the Ministry of Health and the OneWASH National Programme with support from UNICEF has undertaken a comprehensive microplanning exercise.

Microplanning begins at the village level - the “lowest level of action” - to establish sanitation status, requirements to reach safely managed sanitation, and the human resources available. This information is then applied to region specific and validated unit costs. Village costs are aggregated upwards to kebele, woreda, zone, and region, and the unit costs are further validated and harmonised at national level to provide a full analysis of the financial resources required to achieve national and SDG targets for sanitation and hygiene. The same process is applied to estimate budget requirements to meet sanitation and hygiene targets for schools and health facilities.

The detailed investment plans will provide the basis for leveraging resources, and targeting and prioritising investments in Ethiopia.

What needs to be done?

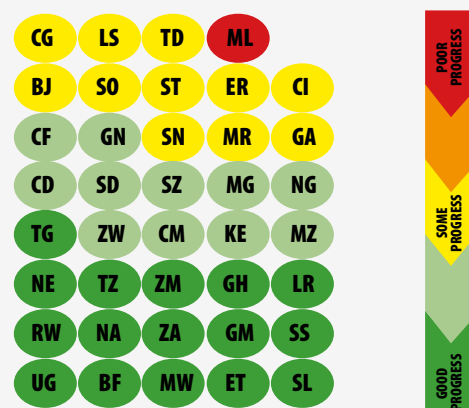
High level recognition of the sanitation economy is required in order to mobilise additional resources from public financing as well as identify and introduce innovative financing approaches and partnerships for sanitation and hygiene. Unlocking new and promising financing streams from the private sector will require governments and the private sector to work more closely together to create the necessary enabling environments and scalable solutions.

National capacity to address weaknesses in investment planning and budget tracking should be urgently bolstered through use of existing training, tools and resources.

Commitment

4

Ensure **strong leadership and coordination** at all levels to build and sustain governance for sanitation and hygiene across sectors especially water, health, nutrition, education, gender and the environment



Stage 1: Enabling environment indicators

Key

Leadership and coordination are amongst the cornerstones of a strong sanitation and hygiene sector and good progress has been achieved across the continent. Coordination is not just essential to drive sanitation and hygiene progress; development targets for health, nutrition, education, gender equality, and environment can also not be met without sanitation and hygiene.

Enabling Environment

- Across Africa, ensuring that leadership for sanitation and hygiene is clear and that coordination is effective at all levels has performed the most strongly of the all Ngor Commitments. Especially Eastern and Southern Africa have reported good progress in establishing leadership and coordination for sanitation and hygiene.
- All but one country have a designated government body with a clear mandate to lead on sanitation and hygiene.
- 23 countries have established clear leadership for both urban and rural areas, at both national and sub-national level, and have effective coordination at all levels.
- Coordination is also making progress; all except three countries have at least 3 different sectors represented in sanitation and hygiene coordination mechanisms.



Country Story for Commitment 4: Creating a Dedicated Ministry to Drive the Sanitation and Hygiene Progress in Zambia

The Government of the Republic of Zambia has emphasised the importance of sanitation and hygiene as building blocks to national development by including targets and strategic programmes for improved access to sanitation and hygiene at household, as well as institutional levels in the 7th National Development Programme.

In recognition of the need for strong leadership to drive results, the presidential address to the 12th National Assembly in 2016 announced the creation of the Ministry of Water Development, Sanitation and Environmental Protection. The same speech also underlined the need for an integrated multi-sectoral approach to implementing the 7th NDP.

The MWDSEP provides overall leadership for sanitation and drives Zambia's ODF strategy which aims to achieve 100% of the population living in ODF communities, including sanitation at schools, health centres, and other public institutions by 2030. In addition, the MWDSEP has enhanced sector coordination by providing a "one stop shop" for WASH.

What needs to be done?

While leadership and coordination have performed well, further emphasis on designating a lead at both national and sub-national level will be essential in translating the enabling environment to sector progress.

Access to sanitation and hygiene, along with water, plays a significant role across all World Bank human capital index indicators: child survival, school enrolment, quality of learning, healthy growth (absence of stunting), and adult survival life cycle¹⁸. Whilst coordination is already fairly strong, there is further opportunity to engage all relevant sectors in functioning and effective coordination mechanisms at all levels.

¹⁸ The World Bank's Human Capital Project uses the Human Capital Index (HCI) to estimate how far a generation will fall short of its potential against five cross cutting indicators – child survival, school enrolment, quality of learning, healthy growth (absence of stunting), and adult survival. Water, sanitation and hygiene underlie and impact all aspects of the human capital index across the life cycle (AfricaSan presentation).

5

Country	Progress Level
SO	Poor
NA	Poor
MR	Poor
ER	Poor
KE	Poor
BJ	Poor
ZW	Poor
SS	Poor
LS	Poor
SL	Some
RW	Some
TD	Some
SZ	Some
CI	Some
SN	Some
GM	Some
LR	Some
GH	Some
GA	Some
GN	Some
ST	Some
CF	Some
TZ	Some
MZ	Some
MG	Good
CG	Good
ET	Good
MW	Good
ZA	Good
SD	Good
BF	Good
UG	Good
CD	Good
ML	Good
NG	Good
NE	Good
CM	Good
ZM	Good
TG	Good

Stage 1: Enabling environment indicators

Key

Enabling Environment

Across Africa, there has been some progress in addressing the sanitation and hygiene capacity gap with well-defined and funded strategies. However, disaggregating the regions shows large differences - human resources remain a key challenge in Eastern Africa with limited progress, there is also limited progress in Southern Africa. However, there has been some progress in West and Central Africa - indeed, for Central Africa commitment 5 is the best performing commitment.

- 15 countries have carried out an assessment of sanitation and hygiene human resource needs within the last three years which covered both national and sub-national needs.
- However, another 16 countries have not assessed sanitation and hygiene HR needs at all.
- Only 13 countries have human resource targets included in their national sanitation and hygiene strategy (or as a standalone HR strategy).

Country Targets

- Across Africa, 12 countries are able to report on implementation progress for Commitment 5. However, no country reports that human resource actions are funded, under implementation or on track.



Stage 2: Country target indicators



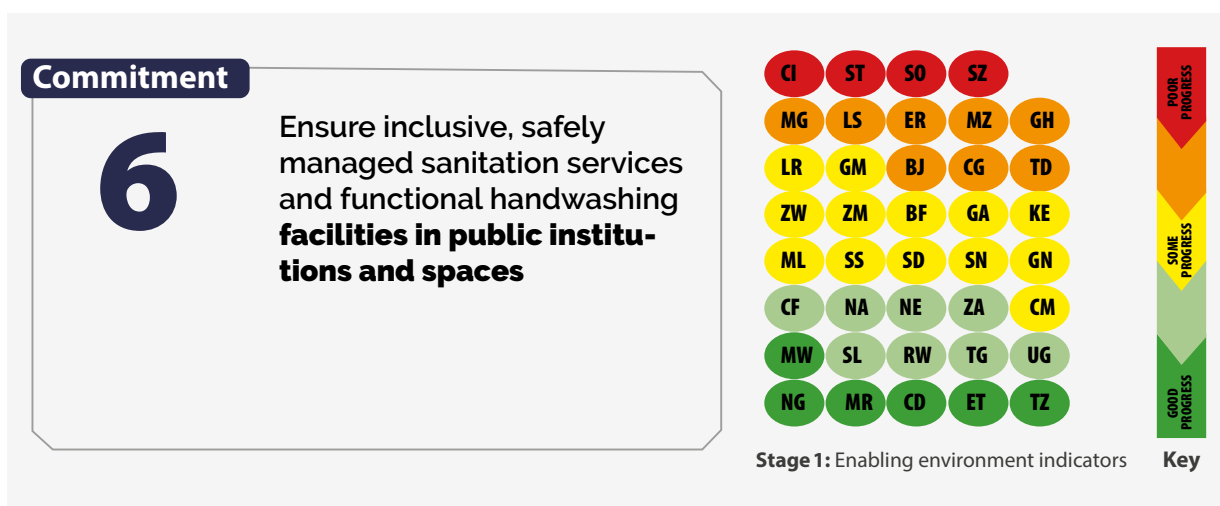
Country Story For Commitment 5: Focussing on Human Resources Planning in Uganda

Uganda has experienced challenges in attracting and retaining sufficient numbers of qualified health workers to the sanitation and hygiene sector. Institutional shortfalls including HR planning capacity have contributed to this situation.

In response, the Ministry of Health carried out a comprehensive Human Resources for Health study in 2015. The study found a large deficit in numbers of Health Inspectors and Environmental Health Officers. These findings led to a mass recruitment of all health cadres, and by 2016/17 the numbers of Health Inspectors and Environmental Health Officers had risen from 57% to 69% coverage. Lobbying for the budget necessary to recruit more Health Inspectors and Environmental Health Officers to reach 100% coverage is ongoing. In the meantime, the policy framework for sustainability planning and addressing human resource capacity is being put in place at all levels of Local Government. The Environmental Health Strategic plan 2018, which aligns to the Health Sector Development Plan 2015-2020, and the draft Uganda National Sanitation and Hygiene Investment Plan 2018-2023 all articulate clear human resource actions and targets.

What needs to be done?

While often the focus of institutional capacity is the technical training needs of staff, the Ngor Commitment baseline monitoring highlights the need to carry out a comprehensive assessment to gain a clear understanding of the gaps to be addressed under a cohesive human resource capacity development strategy. There is clear scope for south-south learning exchange spanning how to assess sanitation and hygiene human resource needs as well as how to develop, fund and implement effective HR capacity development strategies.



The SDG 6 drive for universal access to sanitation and hygiene includes WASH in all institutional settings; in addition SDG 4 on inclusive and quality education for all includes targets for sanitation and hygiene in schools. Not enough progress has been made in the enabling environment for institutional sanitation and hygiene, and countries are failing to attain national targets. This undoubtedly contributes to the institutional sanitation and hygiene crisis: one in three schools in Africa have no sanitation service at all¹⁹.

Enabling Environment

- Overall, there has been some progress in establishing the enabling environment for institutional sanitation and hygiene and ensuring inclusive, safely managed services in all settings.
- Central and Southern Africa have performed less well with only limited progress.
- Most countries have standards, targets and milestones for sanitation and hygiene services in some, if not all, institutional settings.
- 12 countries have specific, clear standards for inclusive and safely managed sanitation services, and handwashing facilities in schools, health facilities, and other public institutions. A further 19 have standards for at least one institutional setting.
- 10 countries have strategic plans with targets and milestones in all institutional settings. A further 18 have targets and milestones for at least one institutional setting.

Country Targets

- Countries reported on progress against their own targets and milestones for sanitation and hygiene in different institutional settings – schools, health facilities and other public institutions and spaces:
- For schools, 24 countries had targets and milestones to report against, none are fully on track, and half of countries (12) have less than 50% targets on track.
- For Health facilities, 23 countries had targets and milestones to report against, of which 3 countries were fully on track. However, 10 of the countries reported that less than half of targets were on track.
- For other public spaces, 21 countries had targets and milestones, one reported being fully on track and 16 countries had less than 50% of targets on track.



¹⁹ WHO / UNICEF Joint Monitoring Programme. Drinking water, sanitation, and hygiene in schools: Global baseline report 2018



Country Story for Commitment 6: Laying the Foundations for Institutional Sanitation in Chad

In Chad, inadequate access to sanitation and hygiene in schools leads to student absenteeism, especially girls over 10 years old. According to the latest statistical yearbook of the Ministry of Education, in January 2017 only 23% of schools have toilets.

In response to this situation, Chad conducted a bottleneck analysis for WASH in schools (WinS), which allowed them to better understand the shortfalls in the enabling environment for WinS that need to be addressed. Following this, the Government of Chad, with its technical and financial partners implemented major projects and programmes integrated with water, sanitation and hygiene in schools, with the aim of improving the education system.

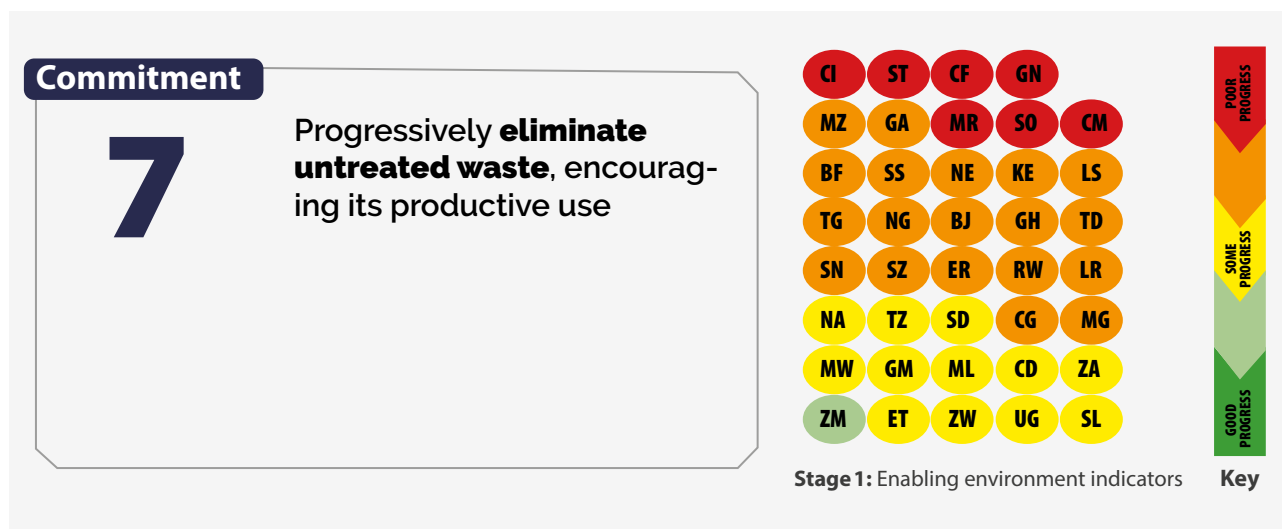
In addition, to improve health conditions in schools, the Ministry of Education, in collaboration with the Ministry of Water and Sanitation, and the Ministry of Health published the National Alliance for healthy schools in May 2017. This alliance aims to develop a national strategy for WinS, to improve access to sanitation and promote good hygiene practices in schools, through the School Led Total Sanitation approach.

What needs to be done?

High level support to institutional sanitation and hygiene is required in order to mobilise actors across multiple sectors to fund and implement existing standards and plans, and ensure that national targets and milestones for sanitation and hygiene in different institutional settings are achieved.

Research carried out by UNICEF on WASH in schools found that across the regions financing is the greatest bottleneck to progress. The sanitation and hygiene sector must also work together with others to unlock other bottlenecks including coordination and data availability²⁰.

²⁰ Reported at the AfricaSan Sub-Regional meetings 2018.



Faecal sludge management and re-use across Africa is of increasing priority. In Sub-Saharan Africa, 39% of the population use an on-site sanitation system compared to 7% connected to a sewer system; as pits fill up, the contents need to be safely managed, particularly in poorer urban and peri-urban areas. Progress in establishing the enabling environment for eliminating untreated waste has been inadequate.

Enabling Environment

- There has been little progress in putting in place the enabling environment for the elimination of untreated waste. Across Africa this commitment has shown least progress in both urban and rural areas.
- Disaggregating the regions, commitment 7 is the worst performing commitment for all regions with the exception of Southern Africa (although it is still a key challenge in the region).
- Where there has been some progress, for example in inclusion of faecal waste management (FWM) in definitions and standards, and establishing regulations, it is not consistent or adequately enforced.
- Of 28 countries that have included FWM in some definitions, only 11 report FWM is consistently included across all ODF and other sanitation service definitions.
- Of 26 countries which have fecal sludge management regulations and bylaws in place, only 6 countries report the regulations and bylaws are comprehensive and enforced.
- No country is able to track the amount of faecal waste being disposed of in the environment by having monitoring mechanisms in place, although 11 countries have carried out an assessment.
- There is also poor progress in regulating productive re-use of excreta and establishing waste reuse certification processes.

Country Targets

- No countries have made enough progress in establishing the enabling environment for eliminating untreated waste to be able to report against country targets.



Stage 2: Country target indicators



Country Story for Commitment 7: Eliminating Untreated Waste in Small Towns in Zimbabwe

Zimbabwe's Service Level Benchmarking approach spearheaded by the Zimbabwe Local Government Association in conjunction with the Ministry of Local Government & National Housing (MLG&NH) and the Ministry of Water, Environment & Climate with financial support from the World Bank Water and Sanitation Programme, compares wastewater management indicators, including collection efficiency and treatment capacity, across locations and over time. A recent report found that despite improvements in some urban areas, poor enforcement of byelaws and rapid housing construction means that houses remain off the faecal waste disposal network and adequate capacity for collection and treatment of the sewage is also critical.

In response to this situation, UNICEF with funding from the Australian Government Aid supported the Inter-Ministerial Committee on WASH working through the MLG&NH to implement a Small Towns WASH Programme for 14 towns. The programme aims to rehabilitate sewage collection and treatment infrastructure, addressing the underlying causes of non-functionality. Zimbabwe's Environmental Management Agency monitors compliance standards for wastewater treatment effluent from urban authorities. To date, some best practice has been seen in towns such as Bindura, which recycles waste water for agricultural use. This work is also critical in the fight to reduce and end the recent cholera upsurge.

What needs to be done?

Under the SDGs, high level decision makers need to push the sanitation agenda beyond access to basic services to ensure that safely managed services for all become the target of national sanitation and hygiene efforts.

Regulations and bylaws to govern safe management of faecal waste need to be urgently established, and where they already exist need to be strengthened and more consistently enforced to be effective²¹.

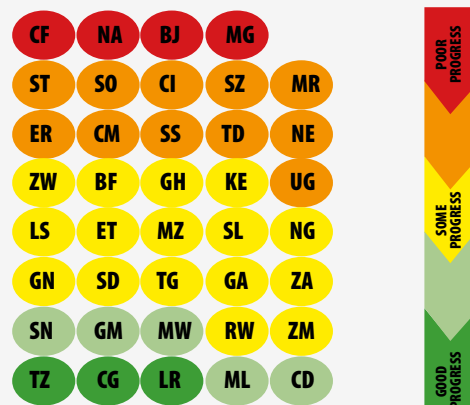
A mix of both sewer and non-sewer sanitation solutions is required and investment in new and innovative technologies and models will be necessary in order to meet the needs of increasing urban populations.

²¹ AfricaSan 5 report draft.

Commitment

8

Enable and **engage the private sector** in developing innovative sanitation and hygiene products and services especially for the marginalised and unserved



Stage 1: Enabling environment indicators

Key



Meeting SDG 6.2 requires investing in an inclusive range of existing and new sanitation technologies, innovative business models, and other creative approaches²². Effective engagement of the private sector will be crucial to this process and yet there is so far limited progress in establishing the necessary enabling environment for the private sector to engage where needs are greatest.

Enabling Environment

- Overall, there has been limited progress in securing the enabling environment for private sector engagement in sanitation and hygiene for the benefit of unserved and marginalised populations. The commitment to working with the private sector to address the needs of the poorest is a key bottleneck in Central, Southern, and Western regions.
- Whilst over three quarters of countries have private sector engagement included in their sanitation and hygiene strategies, few specifically target the marginalised and unserved.
- 31 countries have private sector engagement for sanitation and hygiene included in national strategies, of these 10 include specific targets for the marginalised and unserved.
- Where the private sector is engaged in sanitation and hygiene, their activities are thus far not addressing the needs of the marginalised and unserved.
- 23 countries provided documented examples of the private sector targeting the poorest populations, however of these only 4 reported that the activities were at scale and sustainably reaching marginalised and unserved populations.

²² AMCOW Strategy 2018-2030



Country Story for Commitment 8: Empowering and Engaging the Private Sector in the Development of Innovative Hygiene and Sanitation Products and Services in Senegal

In Senegal, the government has involved the private sector to improve its action plans, particularly with regard to the sector approach in the field of autonomous sanitation and contributed to the development of the approach of monetising sanitation by-products, such as sewage sludge after treatment and biogas.

However, the road to private sector engagement has not always been smooth and several important lessons have been learned along the way. Without a formal framework, the coordination of multiple stakeholders has been difficult. Similarly, the management of sludge collection and treatment services to effectively reach all households has been slow.

The government will continue to expand access to sanitation services by promoting the value chain approach and involving all stakeholders, including the private sector, to ensure adequate management of wastewater, excreta and rainy waters.

What needs to be done?

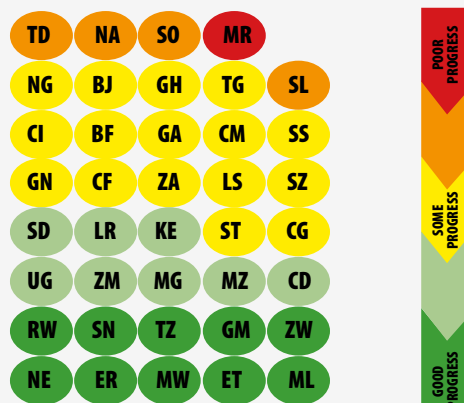
High level decision makers can be the catalyst for promoting private sector participation in sanitation and hygiene, supporting new partnerships to identify innovative solutions and harness the power and resources of the private sector to drive sanitation and hygiene progress.

Mechanisms and instruments, such as tax holidays or advance market commitments, designed to incentivise private sector engagement to expand their reach need to be established.

Commitment

9

Establish **government-led monitoring**, reporting, evaluation, learning and review systems



Stage 1: Enabling environment indicators

Key

While some progress has been achieved in establishing government-led monitoring and review systems, there remain significant challenges – especially in ensuring that data is accessible to government stakeholders and partners.

Enabling Environment

- There has been some progress in establishing government-led monitoring and review systems in Africa. East Africa has reported good progress and could potentially provide a source of learning for others.
- Sanitation and hygiene monitoring systems have been established in most countries. However, more work is required to ensure that data is fully available for use by the government and partners.
- Of the 31 countries with a sanitation and hygiene monitoring system in place, only 10 make the data available to all government stakeholders and partners at national and sub-national levels.
- All but three countries have a government-led sector review processes in place, and for more than half of countries (20) the reviews track all sanitation and hygiene SDG targets, are led by the government and involve development partners and civil society.

Country Targets

- Of 18 countries reporting on progress, 17 stated that the results of monitoring and review processes are used to adjust plans and strategies. More than half of countries (10) report that adjusted activities are then funded and implemented.



Stage 2: Country target indicators



Country Story for Commitment 9: Tracking Rural Sanitation using Real-Time Monitoring in Kenya

Kenya has set the ambitious target of becoming Open Defecation Free by 2020. In 2013 the Ministry of Health set about replacing the paper-based Monitoring Information System with a Web Based Real Time Monitoring (RTM) system that interfaced with DHIS2²³. This shift took place in phases with support from UNICEF and sector partners through initial piloting before Country wide roll-out of the system.

The open source system has transformed Kenya's rural sanitation monitoring and reporting by allowing access to data to all stakeholders, at all levels globally. The system runs analyses that generate maps, graphs and tables on trends and comparisons over time and across locations that can be exported into PDF reports.

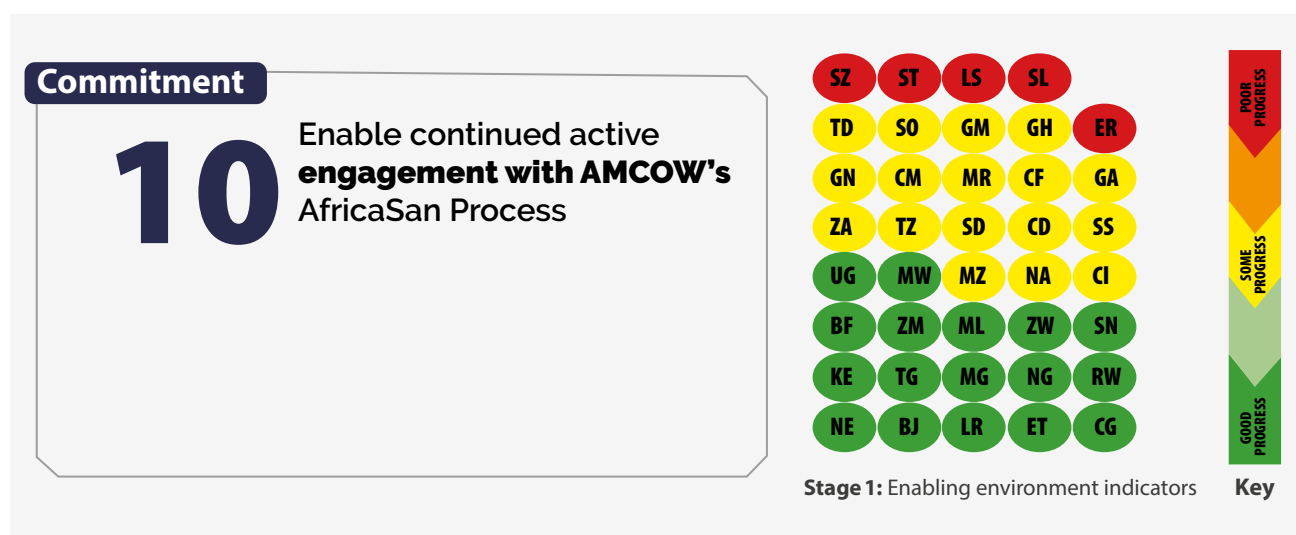
Phase III of the system entails capturing global indicators including SDG 6.2 targets on basic sanitation and regional commitments, thus having a one-stop programme platform for planning, monitoring and reporting.

What needs to be done?

There is an urgent need in Africa to strengthen sanitation and hygiene sector monitoring and evaluation systems at all levels to ensure that data needed for decision-making is accurate and available²⁴. Sanitation and hygiene sector stakeholders should seek out opportunities to collaborate on initiatives that increase the availability of reliable data.

²³ District Health Information Software 2 (DHIS2) is a free and open source health management data platform used by multiple organizations and governments. Using DHIS2 for sanitation monitoring effectively links health and sanitation data within a single system.

²⁴ AMCOW Strategy 2018-2030



While some progress has been achieved in establishing government-led monitoring and review systems, there remain significant challenges – especially in ensuring that data is accessible to government stakeholders and partners.

Enabling Environment

- Across Africa most countries that reported against the Ngor Commitments for Sanitation and Hygiene have had a fairly consistent engagement in the AfricaSan process.
- 17 countries have participated in the four most recent AfricaSan activities (prior to the 2018 Sub-regional meetings) and a further 17 have participated in 2-3 of the four most recent AfricaSan activities.
- According to a 2015 World Bank report, countries with action plans, regular reporting against eThekweni commitments (which pre-date Ngor Commitments) and that have participated in AfricaSan regional and continental meetings have higher reductions in open defecation - an average drop in open defecation by 2.36% - compared to an average of 1.03% for countries who have been less active in AfricaSan processes ²⁵.

²⁵ World Bank, WSP (2015). Investment in Sanitation to Support Economic Growth in Africa: Recommendations to the African Ministers' Council on Water (AMCOW) and Ministers of Finance. The difference quoted is statistically significant at the 10% level.

Participate in the following AfricaSan5 and FSM5 conference sessions for more discussion on each of the 10 Ngor Commitments

Ngor Commitments	Related conference sessions (note: this is not a comprehensive list)
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● = AfricaSan5 conference sessions ■ = FSMS conference sessions
1 Eliminating inequalities	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● Challenges and opportunities in rural and urban sanitation in Africa ● Leave no one behind programming and a multi-stakeholder approach for inclusive sanitation provision ● Measuring the last mile: Assessing new equity and sustainability data across Africa countries ● WASH for the urban and rural poor ● Inclusive urban sanitation beyond the household ● Towards sustainable menstrual health management
2 Mobilising high level support	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● Governance experiences in the African Sanitation and Hygiene Sector ● How sanitation law creates an enabling environment for SDG6 and Ngor Commitment advancement ● Extending regulation to urban on-site sanitation: Initiatives from EAWAS countries ● Barriers and opportunities for public-private partnership in non-sewered sanitation services
3 Budgets	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● SDG6.2 financing architecture: investment needs, financial data, funding streams, and financing mechanisms ● Funding urban sanitation in Africa: The role of the African Urban Sanitation investment fund and other mechanisms ● New business approaches to sanitation via the sanitation economy ● Scaling market-driven sanitation financing for all in Africa by 2030
4 Leadership and coordination	<p><i>There are no specific sessions but plenty of opportunities to engage with countries that have secured strong leadership and coordination</i></p>
5 Building capacity	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● Africa sanitation: Building capacity and leadership ■ Industry and exhibition track: Container-based systems and capacity building
6 Institutional sanitation	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● Achieving universal access to WASH in Schools with innovative M&E – in Africa and beyond
7 Eliminating waste	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ■ City case studies track: Local level policy ■ Applied research track: Faecal sludge characterization ■ Applied research track: Institutional frameworks and city-wide approaches
8 Private sector engagement	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● Barriers and opportunities for public-private partnership in non-sewered sanitation services ● Accelerating sanitation access through mobile IT: lessons from using data to develop markets ● New business approaches to sanitation via the sanitation economy ■ Applied research track: Financing and business ■ Industry and exhibition track: Private sector, finance and markets
9 Government-led monitoring	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● Country-led monitoring of sanitation goals and commitments ● Measuring the last mile: Assessing new equity and sustainability data across Africa countries ● Accelerating sanitation access through mobile IT: lessons from using data to develop markets, products and services ● Monitoring hygiene behavior change – experiences from WaterAid ● CLTS and post-ODF Monitoring: Country progress and local commitments ■ Towards national and global monitoring of FSM

How Can We Work Together to Make Progress?

The Ngor Vision is to achieve universal access to adequate and sustainable sanitation and hygiene services and eliminate open defecation by 2030. To accomplish this vision all stakeholders need to work collaboratively to strengthen the enabling environment and achieve progress across all the Ngor Commitments on Sanitation and Hygiene. The following recommendations address the key bottlenecks and current most pressing needs identified by the 2018 Ngor Commitment Monitoring.

African Union can:

- Convene a Sanitation and Water Summit to reposition the continent towards achieving SDG 6.2.

AMCOW can:

- Continue to play a convening role of member states on Ngor Declaration on Sanitation and Hygiene follow-up, monitor and publish progress reports against the Ngor Declaration vision and commitments, and maintain communication with country teams regarding the Ngor Declaration monitoring.
- Advocate for high level endorsement of the Ngor Declaration at Heads of State level through the African Union, to reposition the continent towards achieving SDG 6.2.
- Act as a knowledge broker for best practice in sanitation and hygiene: connecting African countries, identifying sources of learning, commissioning a series of studies to identify existing bottlenecks and policy guidance to remove them, and facilitating knowledge exchange.
- Through the AfricaSan International Taskforce, review the Ngor Commitments monitoring system, indicators and criteria using learning and insights from the 2018 baseline monitoring.

National government and Ministers for Sanitation and Hygiene can:

- Continue to offer strong leadership and direction at all levels to build and sustain governance for sanitation and hygiene.
- Improve budget and investment planning processes, and establish budget tracking mechanisms for sanitation and hygiene which fully capture rural and urban sector expenditure.
- Ensure that human resource capacity needs are identified at all levels of government, and that strategic plans to address gaps are developed, funded and implemented.
- Develop strategies to more effectively harness the power and resources of the private sector for the benefit of the poorest.
- Ensure that up to date monitoring data is routinely collected and made available and used for decision making at all levels of government.
- Work collaboratively to address faecal waste management through consistent inclusion in definitions and standards, ensuring that regulations are in place and enforced, and by establishing monitoring mechanisms to track untreated faecal waste in the environment.
- Continue to engage with the AfricaSan movement and the Ngor Commitment monitoring, and use the process to identify and develop country actions plans to address sector bottlenecks.

Local Authorities can:

- Take a greater role in providing leadership and governance for sanitation and hygiene.
- Prioritise funding and implementation of sanitation and hygiene activities in sub-national development plans.
- Ensure that local human resource capacity needs are identified, and that strategic plans to address gaps are developed, funded and implemented.
- Ensure that a mechanism for faecal waste management is in place for their jurisdiction, and that regulation and monitoring is enforced.
- Establish systems to track user satisfaction of sanitation and hygiene products and services.

Development partners can:

- Provide high level support for sanitation and hygiene to disproportionately prioritise sanitation and hygiene in development plans.
- Mobilise resources for the sanitation and hygiene sector at all levels.
- Partner with governments, private sector and other stakeholders to drive sanitation and hygiene access for the poorest.

Prioritise and evaluate the sustainability of sanitation and hygiene programmes, products and services.

Civil Society can:

- Work collaboratively to hold local and national governments to account for ensuring policies, practices, and plans target the poorest, and that national and local strategies emphasise equity and sustainability.
- Foster collaboration through engaging in multi-stakeholder coordination platforms at all levels across sectors.
- Work collaboratively to ensure that information regarding sanitation and hygiene progress is publicly shared, in order to strengthen accountability in sanitation and hygiene.
- Continue to engage in the AfricaSan movement and the Ngor Commitment monitoring process.

Private sector can:

- Engage with the government to shape the enabling environment to facilitate private sector prioritization of sanitation and hygiene products and services, and especially focusing on the marginalised and unserved.
- Develop and document innovative sanitation and hygiene products and services, especially those that target the poorest at scale with appropriate technologies and services.
- Coordinate through a continental private sector network for sanitation in the continent.

Recommended Actions for High Level Decision Makers

The following table summarises recommended actions to be taken by high-level decision makers in support of the Ngor Commitments on Sanitation and Hygiene. Priority should be given to the least well-performing commitment areas which are highlighted in blue.

Commitment 1: Progressively eliminate inequalities in access and use	Commit to ensuring that no one is left behind and assume responsibility to provide affordable and acceptable services to all. Include specific targets to leave no one behind into national policies and strategies, and specifically include the poorest and most vulnerable in their planning targets and budgets.
Commitment 2: Mobilise support and resources at the highest political level	Champion the sanitation and hygiene sector to generate momentum that carries through to all levels. Examples can be taken from the Indian Swachh Bharat Mission as well as Nigeria, where the launch of the “Clean Nigeria: Use the Toilet” campaign to make Nigeria open defecation free by 2025 has been launched by the President.
Commitment 3: Establish and track sanitation and hygiene budget lines	Recognise the importance of the Sanitation Economy. Mobilise additional resources from public financing and introduce innovative financing approaches for sanitation and hygiene. Work with the private sector to unlock new and promising financing streams to create scalable solutions.
Commitment 4: Ensure strong leadership and coordination	Provide high-level leadership across sectors to engage in functioning and effective coordination mechanisms for sanitation and hygiene at all levels.
Commitment 5: Bridge the human resource capacity gap	Promote south-south collaboration and learning exchange to build essential human resource capacity in the sanitation and hygiene sector.
Commitment 6: Ensure inclusive safely managed facilities in public institutions and spaces	Mobilise actors across multiple sectors to fund and implement existing standards and plans, and ensure that national targets and milestones for sanitation and hygiene in different institutional settings are achieved. Mobilise additional public financing for institutional sanitation and hygiene.
Commitment 7: Eliminate untreated waste and encourage productive reuse	Be the driving force behind a sanitation agenda that goes beyond access to basic services to ensure that safely managed services for all become the target of national sanitation and hygiene efforts.
Commitment 8: Enable and engage the private sector	Catalyse private sector participation in sanitation and hygiene, support new partnerships to identify innovative solutions and harness the power and resources of the private sector to drive sanitation and hygiene progress.
Commitment 9: Establish government led monitoring and review systems	Using accurate and reliable data for evidence-based decision making and where this is not available encourage strengthening of government-led sanitation and hygiene monitoring and evaluation systems at all levels.
Commitment 10: Engage in the AfricaSan process	Continue to engage in the AfricaSan process.

Amcow Strategic Actions Towards Accelerating Achievement of the Ngor Commitments²⁶

AMCOW was established in 2002 to provide political leadership, policy direction and advocacy in WASH. As an institution, it is therefore well placed to be the platform for coordinating action in Africa towards accelerating improvements in the WASH sector and SDGs. AMCOW's new strategy 2018-2030 elaborates four strategic priorities which are supported by a further 4 cross cutting priorities. The following table outlines how AMCOW's strategic and cross-cutting priorities for 2018-2030 support and drive progress in the Ngor Commitments for Sanitation and Hygiene (for details see AMCOW Strategy 2018-2030).

Ngor Commitment	Supportive AMCOW Strategic Priorities and Cross Cutting Priorities Actions
Commitment 1: Progressively eliminate inequalities in access and use	Strategic Priority 2: Ensure Safely Managed Sanitation and Hygiene <ul style="list-style-type: none"> SP 2v: Promote and amplify equitable and inclusive approaches to sanitation that allow residents of all income levels to benefit equally from government investment in sanitation infrastructure and services.
Commitment 2: Mobilise support and resources at the highest political level	Strategic Priority 2: Ensure Safely Managed Sanitation and Hygiene <ul style="list-style-type: none"> SP 2ii: Establish and biennially convene a high-level forum to generate more commitment and coordinated action for sanitation and hygiene that includes water ministers, sanitation ministers, health ministers, and finance ministers. SP 2iii: Develop model comprehensive sanitation guidelines and policies, plans and regulations that Member States can adapt, take up, and implement within their own policy, legislative and regulatory structure.
Commitment 3: Establish and track sanitation and hygiene budget lines	Cross-cutting Priority 2: Contribute to adequate and sustainable financing of water and sanitation agendas <ul style="list-style-type: none"> CCP2ii: Lead advocacy efforts in closing the financing gap for investments in water and sanitation infrastructure. CCP2iii: Develop and maintain a free-access, online financial model for Member States and provide training to professionals from Member States
Commitment 4: Ensure strong leadership and coordination	Strategic Priority 2: Ensure Safely Managed Sanitation and Hygiene <ul style="list-style-type: none"> SP 2i: Conduct governance reform discussions to ensure a ministry within each member country has clear responsibility for sanitation services, and brings ministers with responsibility for sanitation...into active roles in AMCOW, with prominent roles / voices in AMCOWs governance
Commitment 5: Bridge the human resource capacity gap	Strategic Priority 2: Ensure Safely Managed Sanitation and Hygiene <ul style="list-style-type: none"> SP 2iv: Support capacity development programmes for implementing inclusive approaches to sanitation in urban and rural areas, which include sewer and NSS services. Cross-cutting Priority 2: Contribute to adequate and sustainable financing of water and sanitation agendas <ul style="list-style-type: none"> CCP2iii: Develop and maintain a free-access, online financial model for Member States and provide training to professionals from Member States. CCP2iv: Develop and deliver training courses, with a guideline reference manual, to build capacity among Member State professionals on private sector participation options and how to engage the private sector on service delivery.

²⁶ Information taken from the AMCOW Strategy 2018-2030

AMCOW Strategic Actions Towards Accelerating Achievement of the Ngor Commitments

Commitment 6: Ensure inclusive safely managed facilities in public institutions and spaces	
Commitment 7: Eliminate untreated waste and encourage productive reuse	Strategic Priority 2: Ensure Safely Managed Sanitation and Hygiene <ul style="list-style-type: none"> SP 2iii: Develop model comprehensive sanitation guidelines and policies, plans and regulations that Member States can adapt, take up, and implement within their own policy, legislative and regulatory structure.
Commitment 8: Enable and engage the private sector	Cross-cutting Priority 2: Contribute to adequate and sustainable financing of water and sanitation agendas <ul style="list-style-type: none"> CCP2iv: Develop and deliver training courses, with a guideline reference manual, to build capacity among Member State professionals on private sector participation options and how to engage the private sector on service delivery
Commitment 9: Establish government led monitoring and review systems	Cross-cutting Priority 3: Improve Monitoring, Evaluation and Knowledge Management Systems <ul style="list-style-type: none"> CCP3i: Continue to improve the functionality and data quality of the WASS-MO
Commitment 10: Engage in the AfricaSan process	Strategic Priority 2: Ensure Safely Managed Sanitation and Hygiene <ul style="list-style-type: none"> SP 2i: Conduct governance reform discussions to ensure a ministry within each member country has clear responsibility for sanitation services, and brings ministers with responsibility for sanitation...into active roles in AMCOW, with prominent roles / voices in AMCOWs governance SP 2ii: Establish and biennially convene a high-level forum to generate more commitment and coordinated action for sanitation and hygiene that includes water ministers, sanitation ministers, health ministers, and finance ministers.

Annex 1: References

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Annex 2: The Ngor Commitments on Sanitation and Hygiene

On 27th May 2015, at AfricaSan 4, in Dakar, Senegal, African Ministers responsible for Sanitation and Hygiene adopted the Ngor Declaration on Sanitation and Hygiene. The Ngor Declaration outlines 10 specific commitments towards an overall vision to achieve universal access *to adequate and sustainable sanitation and hygiene services and eliminate open defecation by 2030*.

The Commitments:

1. Focus on the poorest, most marginalised and unserved aimed at progressively eliminating inequalities in access and use and implement national and local strategies with an emphasis on equity and sustainability;
2. Mobilise support and resources at the highest political level for sanitation and hygiene to disproportionately prioritise sanitation and hygiene in national development plans.
3. Establish and track sanitation and hygiene budget lines that consistently increase annually to reach a minimum of 0.5% GDP by 2020;
4. Ensure strong leadership and coordination at all levels to build and sustain governance for sanitation and hygiene across sectors especially water, health, nutrition, education, gender and the environment;
5. Develop and fund strategies to bridge the sanitation and hygiene human resource capacity gap at all levels;
6. Ensure inclusive, safely-managed sanitation services and functional hand-washing facilities in public institutions and spaces;
7. Progressively eliminate untreated waste, encouraging its productive use;
8. Enable and engage the private sector in developing innovative sanitation and hygiene products and services especially for the marginalised and unserved;
9. Establish government-led monitoring, reporting, evaluation, learning and review systems;
10. Enable continued active engagement with AMCOW's AfricaSan process.

Ministers also called for commitment to the vision from all people living in Africa, as well as AMCOW, civil society, and others. [Click here for the full declaration.](#)

Figure 7: A Snapshot of the Ngor Commitment on Sanitation and Hygiene

Figure 7: A Snapshot of the Ngor Commitment on Sanitation and Hygiene



Annex 3: Participation and Key to Country Codes

The following countries participated in the 2018 Ngor Commitment Monitoring:

- Benin (BJ)
- Burkina Faso (BF)
- Cameroon (CM)
- Central African Republic (CF)
- Chad (TD)
- Congo Democratic Republic of (CD)
- Congo, Republic of (CG)
- Côte d'Ivoire (CI)
- Eritrea (ER)
- Eswatini (SZ)
- Ethiopia (ET)
- Gabon (GA)
- Gambia, The (GM)
- Ghana (GH)
- Guinea (GN)
- Kenya (KE)
- Lesotho (LS)
- Liberia (LR)
- Madagascar (MG)
- Malawi (MW)
- Mali (ML)
- Mauritania (MR)
- Mozambique (MZ)
- Namibia (NA)
- Niger (NE)
- Nigeria (NG)
- Rwanda (RW)
- São Tomé and Príncipe (ST)
- Senegal (SN)
- Sierra Leone (SL)
- Somalia (SO)
- South Africa (ZA)
- South Sudan (SS)
- Sudan (SD)
- Tanzania (TZ)
- Togo (TG)
- Uganda (UG)
- Zambia (ZM)
- Zimbabwe (ZW)



AFRICAN MINISTERS' COUNCIL ON WATER (AMCOW)

11 T. Y. Danjuma Street,
Asokoro District, FCT-Abuja, Nigeria.

Email: secretariat@amcow-online.org

website: www.amcow-online.org