

PRESS STATEMENT

Geneva, 29 June 2015

Sanitation and Water for All partnership set to play major role in SDGs

Sanitation and Water for All (SWA), the global, multi-stakeholder partnership working to catalyse political leadership and improve accountability in the area of water, sanitation and hygiene, has announced its commitment to play a pivotal role to contribute to and help shape the means of implementation, as well as follow-up and review of the water, sanitation and hygiene related targets of the Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs).

SWA will reach out to other partnerships to help build a coherent network of support for the water, sanitation and hygiene related SDGs. SWA's role will build on its current focus on the countries where needs are greatest. In addition, the partnership will extend its membership to include additional countries where inequalities persist.

This is a natural extension of the existing role and activities of SWA as an inter-governmental and multi-stakeholder process through which national governments and development partners make commitments to ensure access to water, sanitation and hygiene for all people. Partners report publicly every year on progress and exchange learnings at the highest political level during biennial High Level Meetings. SWA aligns its work with ongoing monitoring, including that of the WHO/UNICEF Joint Monitoring Programme and the UN-Water GLAAS report, and links to broader and emerging monitoring activities such as the Global Expanded Monitoring Initiative.

SWA's established dialogue between governments, development partners and civil society already reflects the main elements of the planned follow-up and review process for the SDGs emerging from the Inter-Governmental Negotiations and outlined in the UN Secretary-General's "The Road to Dignity by 2030" Synthesis Report. SWA offers a proven platform with the flexibility to adapt to the new demands of the SDG agenda.

Catarina de Albuquerque, SWA's Executive Chair said *"The voluntary, country-centred and inclusive follow-up process that we have built is ideally suited to serve as a thematic review platform for the SDGs. We are actively reaching out to other actors and alliances and look forward to making our contribution to this new social contract."*

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Editor's note

SWA is a global partnership of over 90 country governments, donors, development banks, civil society and other development partners working together to catalyse political leadership and action, improve accountability and use scarce resources more effectively. Partners work towards a common vision of universal access to safe water and adequate sanitation. Recognizing that countries and organizations achieve more by working together, SWA provides a transparent, accountable and results-oriented framework for action based on common values and principles.

www.sanitationandwaterforall.org