

MUTUAL ACCOUNTABILITY MECHANISM

An analysis of
finance commitments

September 2023



MUTUAL
ACCOUNTABILITY
MECHANISM
accountability in action



SANITATION
AND WATER
FOR ALL

MAM Finance Commitments: Africa

SWA's Mutual Accountability Mechanism (MAM) is the only global accountability process in the sector that is dedicated to all stakeholders working together towards achieving the Sustainable Development Goals' water and sanitation targets. Since the MAM was launched in 2018, over 400 global and national commitments have been tabled, with half of them coming from 60 national governments. Commitments are periodically monitored by partners and the first *MAM Global Report* (2021) can be found [here](#).

As one of its three strategic objectives, SWA prioritizes “**rallying stakeholders to strengthen system performance and attract new investments**” by developing an efficient, credit-worthy sector, advocating for increased investment, supporting the development of finance strategies and expanding capacity.

This analysis focuses on the commitments related to **finance** tabled by SWA's national and global partners¹ from all constituencies² under the Mutual Accountability Mechanism until **October 2023** which target African countries.

Finance commitments

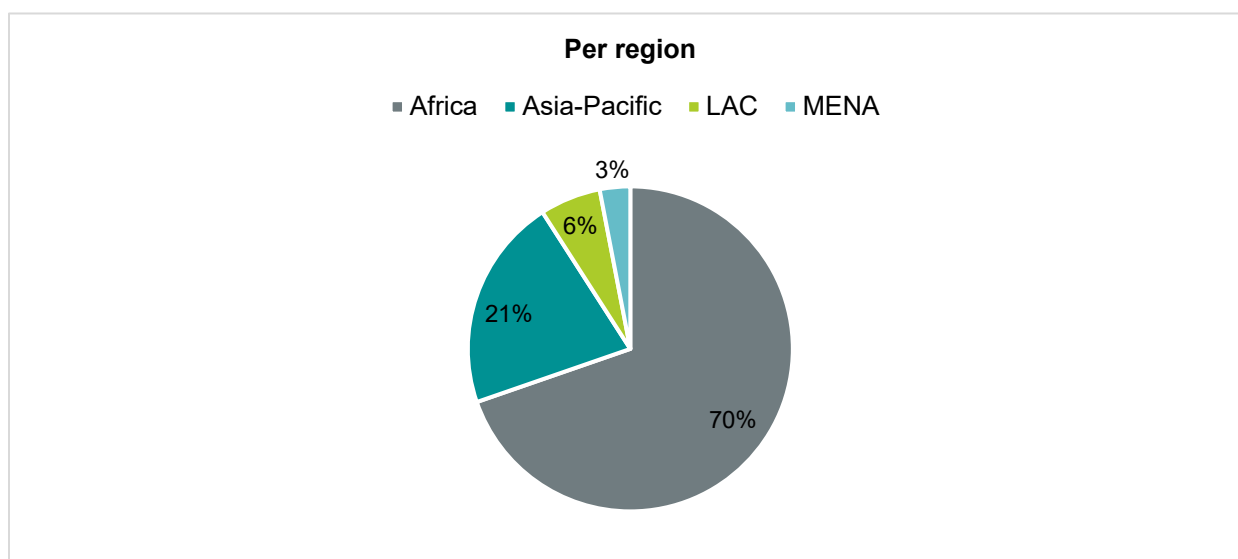
Overview

- **85 finance**-related commitments have been tabled under the MAM by partners from **all** constituencies coming from **33 countries**, as well as by **9 global partners**.
- Among these, **47 finance commitments** were tabled by partners from **23 countries on the African continent**: Burundi, Cameroon, Central African Republic, Chad, Eritrea, Ethiopia, Ghana, Kenya, Lesotho, Liberia, Madagascar, Malawi, Mali, Mozambique, Niger, Nigeria, Uganda, Rwanda, Sierra Leone, Sudan, Tanzania, Togo and Zimbabwe.

¹ 'Global partners' is a term used by SWA to encompass institutions working in multiple countries, both at regional and global levels, such as UN agencies, development banks, donors, INGOs, private sector, regulators associations, and research & learning organizations.

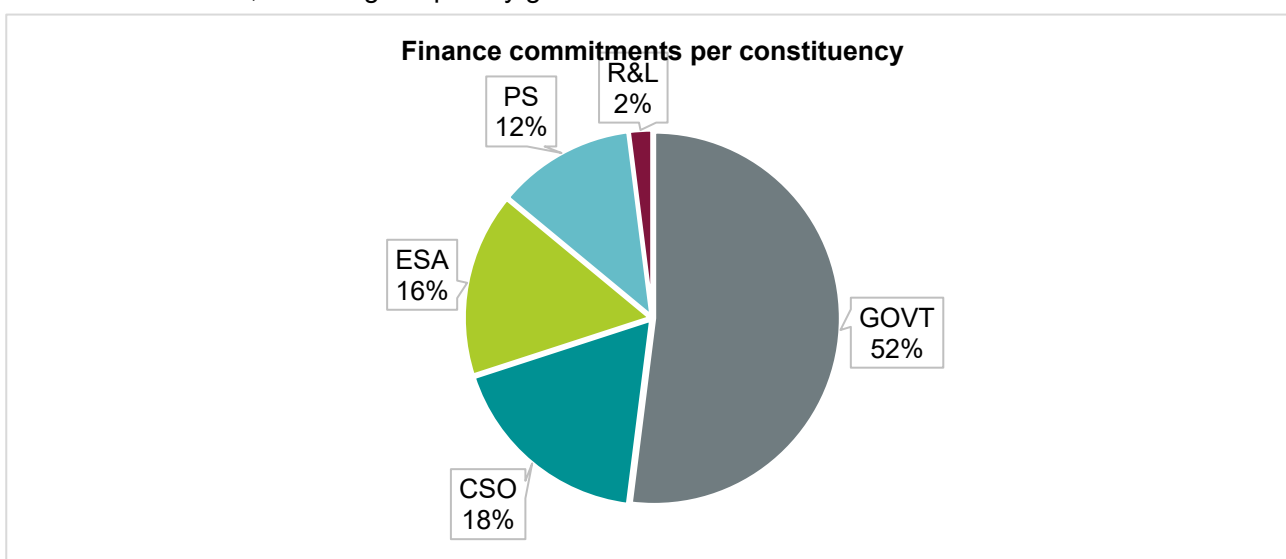
² The SWA constituencies are government (GOVT), civil society (CSO), external support agencies (ESA), research & learning (R&L) and the private sector (PS). In the graphics, MS stands for 'multi-stakeholder commitments', i.e., government-led commitments tabled by more than one in-country partners.

- There are commitments led by the **Ministry of Finance** to increase budgetary allocations to the WASH sector in Mozambique, Sierra Leone and Zimbabwe.



*Commitments have been tabled by partners from **all regions**, and more predominantly from the African continent*

- In Africa, **governments** are responsible for over half of the existing finance-related MAM commitments, reflecting the priority given to the theme:

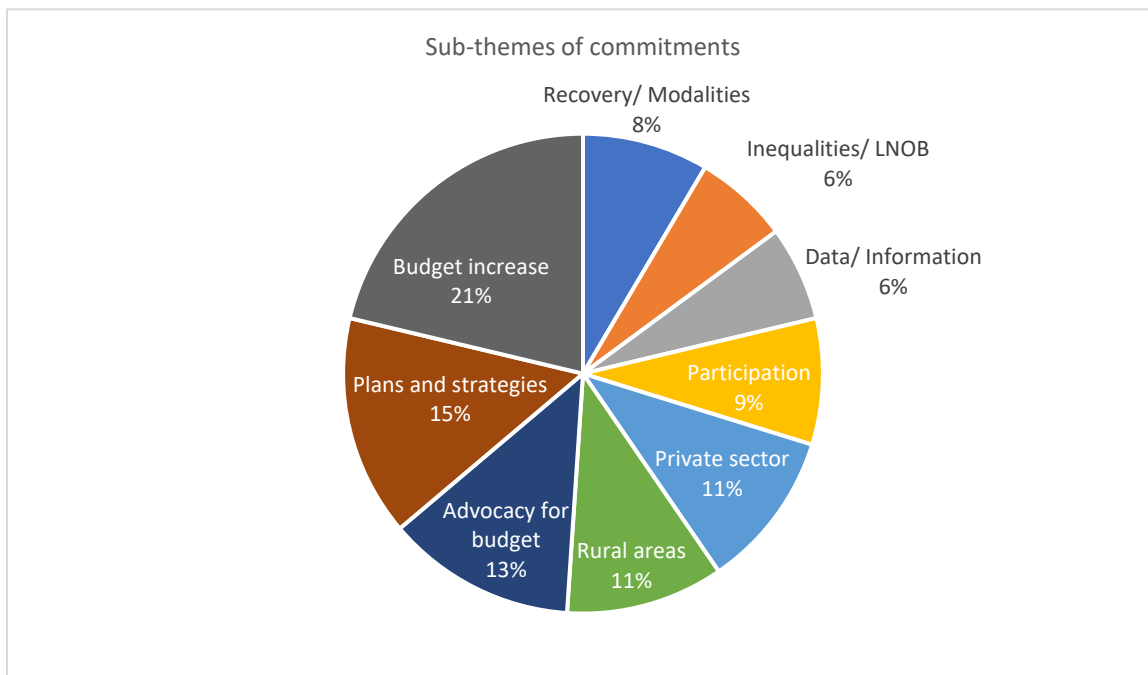


GOVT = government; CSO = civil society organizations; ESA = external support agencies; R&L = research & learning institutions; PS= private sector

- Internationally:
 - FCDO has committed to support governments in up to five developing countries in sub-Saharan Africa and South Asia to strengthen the systems needed to establish reliable, resilient and inclusive WASH services.
 - USAID has committed to increasing its investments in partnerships with local entities to support strong systems that meet local needs by 2024; and to launch, in 2023, High-Priority Country Plans for 22 countries, out of which 16 are in sub-Saharan Africa.
 - Global Water Partnership has committed to build capacity in finance and assist a multi-stakeholder consultation in Central African Republic, Malawi, Nepal, Palestine, Rwanda, Tanzania and Uganda to identify the most pressing barriers and develop response strategies for climate-resilient integrated regional water management (IRWM) policies.
 - The think-tank IRC-WASH has committed to technically support local governments in Burkina Faso, Ethiopia, Ghana, and Uganda.

Sub-themes

Existing commitments can be grouped around the following broad topics:



- 21% of commitments pledge **budget increases** for the sector. They come from national governments from Burundi, Central Africa Republic, Ethiopia, Ghana, Lesotho, Madagascar, Mozambique, Sierra Leone, Sudan and Zimbabwe. Only a few indicate specifically which sub-sector would require budget increases.
- There are currently no commitments focused on increasing **budget expenditure level and efficiency**. A positive evaluation of sector performance, however, tends to be strategic in making the sector more attractive to the Ministry of Finance and other sources.
- 15% of commitments focus on the development of new **finance strategies and plans**, often to support investment plans (Chad, Eritrea, Kenya, Malawi, Mali, Niger, Sudan & Tanzania). They were overall tabled by governments, and in some countries also rely on the support from UNICEF and civil society organizations.
- **Budget advocacy** represents 13% of commitments and come from both line ministries (Lesotho & Madagascar) and civil society networks (Cameroon, Liberia & Togo). They include advocacy for funding increase, the creation of separate budget lines for sanitation and hygiene, and more inclusive participation in budget processes.
- On the latter, reflecting their role and responsibility, CSOs have committed to call for more participation, stronger monitoring, **transparency and accountability** in Cameroon, Liberia, Sudan and Tanzania.
- Commitments pledging to increase the **participation of the private sector** in WASH (mentioning a more conducive environment, PPPs or the mobilization of private investments) were made by private sector partners in Mali and Nigeria, by the governments of Ethiopia and Sudan, and by CSOs in Nigeria.
- Commitments to improve **cost recovery or tariff structures** or diversify finance modalities were made by the governments of Burundi, Ethiopia, the private sector in Nigeria and were also supported by UNICEF in Rwanda.
- Finance-related commitments pledging to reduce **inequalities, disparities** or mentioning 'leave no-one behind' were tabled by government and CSOs in Malawi as well as the private sector in Mali.
- References to **climate action** are made in commitments aimed at developing climate resilient WASH strategies and access climate funds. Climate financing pledges appeared for the first time in **2022** and already add up to commitments from 8 countries from which only 3 are African (Malawi, Mali and Uganda).
- 2022 also saw an increasing number of **joint, multi-stakeholder** commitments made by governments and their partners in Kenya (to develop a Financing Strategy to support investment plans), Liberia (to mobilize resources and communities to participate in project

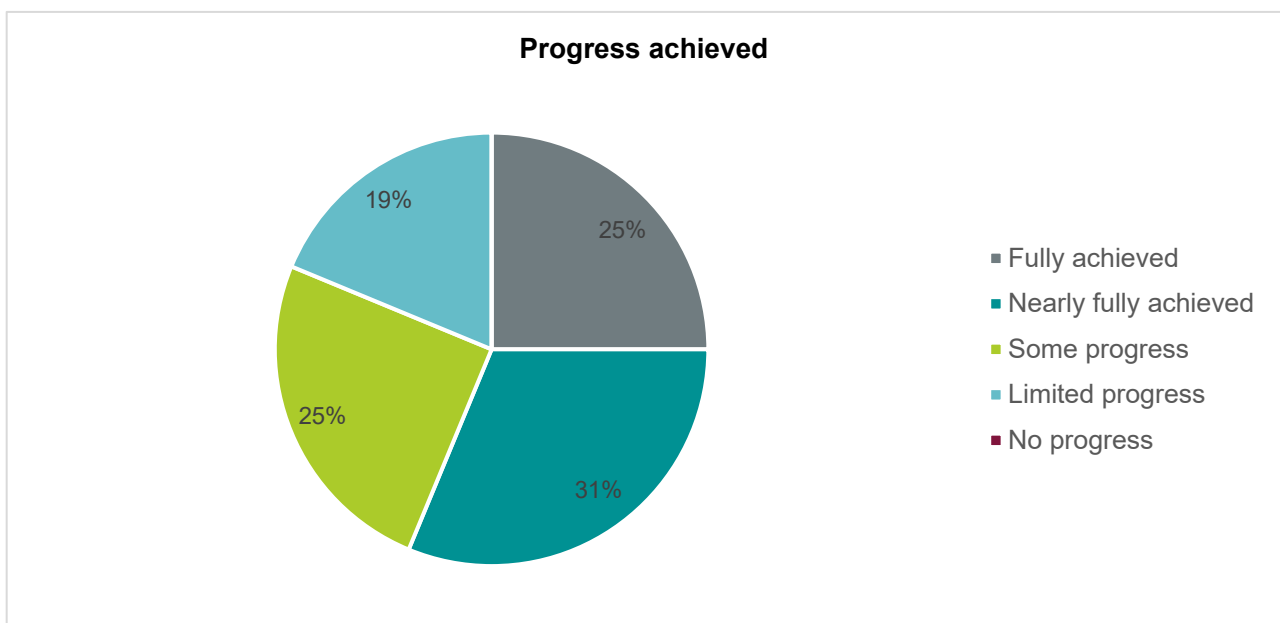
planning and assume operation of WASH facilities) and Uganda (to develop a climate financing WASH investment plan). This trend shows that, as the Mutual Accountability Mechanism evolves, partners are working more collaboratively and ingraining a mutual accountability approach also when defining commitments, and not only in later monitoring stages.

- Another evolution is that the latest wave of commitments (tabled ahead of the last Sector Ministers' Meeting in May 2022) are more specific, measurable, achievable, relevant and time-bound (**SMARTer**) than the ones tabled in previous years.

[Note on methodology: The sub-themes were created based on the description of the commitments and are based on subjective judgement.]

Progress achieved

- Only 16 out of 47 finance commitments tabled by African countries have had their progress reported on. SWA strongly encourages partners to review their commitments and share their progress with the partnership.



- Commitments reported by partners as having been **fully achieved** include:
 - **Malawi (Government):** 1. Development of a Climate Resilient WASH Sector Financing Strategy; and 2. Development of financing mechanisms and strategy on leave no-one-behind.

- **Mali (Government):** 1. Organization of dialogues on sector financing as part of the country's consultation framework.
- **Nigeria (Private Sector):** 1. Development of cost effective financial and technological models for end-to-end rural sanitation schemes and mobilization of private investors within the sanitation value chain with the support of the Government and other constituencies.
- Commitments were reported as being 'nearly fully achieved' (75-99% completion) in Mali, Nigeria, Tanzania and Zimbabwe.

Please visit www.sanitationandwaterforall.org to see the full list of finance-related commitments tabled by African countries.