

SECTOR MINISTERS' MEETING 2019

San José — Costa Rica — 4-5 April



The Nigeria COUNTRY BRIEF

The Country Briefs were prepared by governments ahead of the SWA 2019 Sector Ministers' Meeting. They are a snap-shot of the country's current state in terms of water, sanitation and hygiene, and future targets.

1. Country Context

Nigeria is a country with an estimated population of 191 million. The country operates a federal system of governance with a three-tier government at federal, state and local levels. In the last two decades, Nigeria has experienced a stable democratic governance and this has translated to better and sustainable economic policy. While Nigeria is rated as a middle-income country, the poverty rate is estimated at 36% with over 48% of rural population and 16% of urban population considered poor. (WASH Poverty Diagnostic Report, 2017). The country also faces several humanitarian challenges due to conflicts in some locations, and seasonal flooding, scarcity of water resources and forced migration in others.

2. SDGs and the Water, Sanitation and Hygiene sector

The SDG baseline data for Nigeria as reported by the JMP 2017 report showed that access to basic water supply stood at 69% while safely managed water supply is estimated at 19% in 2015. Basic sanitation was estimated at 33% with no data for safely managed sanitation. More recent surveys however showed slight decline in access to water supply and an improvement in access to sanitation in the country. The 2018 WASH National Outcome Routine Mapping (WASH-NORM) data showed that access to basic water supply services is 67.9% of which 3.7% are safely managed services. Access to basic sanitation services is 41.5% of which 19.2% are safely managed services. About 24.4% of the population, estimated at 47 million people, practice open defecation and Nigeria is rated second globally among countries with the highest number of people defecating in the open.

Major challenges being faced in the sector include inadequate funding, loose sector coordination, insufficient skilled manpower, lack of engagement of the private sector and limited monitoring and evaluation system and database coverage. Nigeria currently faces humanitarian crisis in the North East region of the country with an estimated 7.1 million internally displaced persons (2019 Humanitarian Response Plan) and there has been recurrent outbreak of WASH-related diseases across the country. This poses a challenge to the sector in the use of available limited resources and sustainability of results attained.

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Initiatives to address the sector challenges include the development of a national Open Defecation Free (ODF) roadmap and the initiation of a Partnership for Expanded Water Sanitation and Hygiene (PEWASH) Programme, which set the target of eliminating open defecation by 2025 and achieving 100% access for rural water supply and sanitation by 2030, in line with the SDG. A Technical Working Group was set up to oversee the implementation of the national Open Defecation Free (ODF) Campaign strategy and plan is ongoing to establish a national secretariat for the campaign. There was also a presidential launch of the National WASH Action Plan and declaration of a state of emergency in the sector, designed to provide the framework for meeting the sector's aspirations and attracting investments.

Human resource capacities are also being developed at sub-national level to close the skilled manpower gap, with strong collaboration with civil society organizations, development partners and the private sector. Similarly, the implementation of sanitation marketing and appropriate financing options have accelerated uptake of improved sanitation. As a way to build sector capacity and gather learnings from countries working on addressing similar challenges, a team of officials from the national and state governments, as well as development partners visited India in February, 2019 to understudy the implementation of the Swachh Bharat Mission.

3. Collaborative Behaviours, Building Blocks and Guiding Principles

A national coordinating platform exists through the National Task Group on Sanitation (NTGS), Emergency Working Group and the Inter-Ministerial Dialogues on Sanitation which serve as a mechanism for engagement of government agencies with development partners, civil society organizations, private sector and the media. Similar structures also exist at State and Local Government levels. A WASH development partner platform exists at the national level which aims to enhance harmonization and coordination of WASH development assistance. Through the support of development partners, efforts are being channelled into building human resources capacity for quality implementation at the sub-national level. Partners contributed significantly in the development of the recently launched National Action Plan and it is expected that the implementation will also be through a coordinated partnership with all stakeholders. There exists an intervention logic for WASH implementation in the country, with the entry point for implementation being sanitation, followed by hygiene and then water. Through this approach it is ensured that entire locality where implementation is happening are covered by these facilities. Also, concrete efforts are being made on the incorporation of equity and non-discrimination (EQND) approach into WASH service delivery, thereby ensuring that no one is left behind. There are national sector guidelines used by all stakeholders such as the national ODF Protocol and the WASH in Emergency Guidelines.

4. Eliminating Inequalities

There are wide disparities in access to WASH services across sectors, with households in rural areas having 60% and 38% access to basic water supply and sanitation services, respectively, in comparison to households in urban areas with 87% access to basic water supply and 50% access to basic sanitation

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services. There are clear inequalities in access to water and sanitation among rich and poor households in the country with households in the richest quintiles three times more likely to access basic sanitation compared to households in the poorest quintiles, while for basic water supply the richest households are twice more likely to have access compared to the poorest. Many people living in rural areas and people from poor households use unimproved sources. The WASH NORM studies revealed that 1 in 3 (33.8%) rural indigenes use unprotected dug wells, springs and surface water. This is up to four times the proportion of people that use the same unprotected sources in urban areas (7.5%). This poses a serious threat to these people, especially the rural poor. Also, in 32% of households without water on premises, only women and girls are usually responsible for collecting drinking water from far-off places.

About 10.2% of the households have at least one person living with disabilities while the proportion of household members living with disabilities is 5.2% representing about 10million Nigerians. Only 19.4% of the water systems have provisions for people living with disabilities while 43% of persons living with disabilities find their household's improved latrines useable and accessible.

Nigeria has an LGA-wide rural sanitation strategy for implementation of the Community Led Total Sanitation (CLTS) approach, which ensures that all households, institutions and public places have access to sanitation facilities. There exists laws and policies at national and sub-national levels for the sector. However, most of these policies require review and at the moment efforts are ongoing to review them to specifically address issues of inequalities which are currently being inferred in the existing documents. Monitoring and evaluation tools and indicators are also being reviewed to capture and report such disaggregated data. There are increased awareness and practices towards addressing the special WASH needs of disadvantaged persons, such as prioritization of inclusiveness in CLTS implementation. Technical guidelines for construction of WASH facilities take cognizance of the peculiar needs of people living with disability. Partners are also working with sub-national governments on implementing innovative and inclusive WASH interventions to bridge the coverage gap.

5. Water, Sanitation and Hygiene Financing

Funding in the sector is grossly inadequate with the total investment needs to meet the SDG 6.1 and 6.2 targets for the country by 2030 estimated at US\$122 billion and a minimum of three times of the current WASH investment will be required to meet this need (National WASH Action Plan). While budgetary allocation is the main funding source for the sector, contributions of development partners through grants and direct implementation of projects is significant. The country is in the process of setting up a National WASH Fund, with contributions from federation account, grants, taxes and levies, as well as donors' contribution. The WASH Fund is aimed at incentivizing states to prioritize WASH with defined criteria for eligibility to draw from the Fund. Sanitation financing mechanism through the engagement of Micro-finance Institutions, Community Savings and Loan Schemes as well as government pool fund, are also being utilized to make loans available for households to construct improved latrines. There are interventions supporting the development of self-sustaining sanitation markets targeted at providing improved latrines

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at affordable rates to the rural poor, this has led to increased uptake of facilities. In addition, efforts are on to advocate and partner with key private sector players in the country on innovative financing and leveraging resources from their corporate social responsibility portfolio.

6. Country Priorities and Commitments

The overall goal for the nation's WASH sector is to ensure all citizens have access to sustainable and safely-managed WASH services by 2030. This will involve eliminating open defecation by 2025 and increasing access to basic water supply and sanitation services to 100% by 2030. To achieve these goals, the Government of Nigeria is committed to the following towards achieving its key priorities:

- i. Internalization of the National WASH Action Plan by the sub-national government and development of State specific WASH Action Plan and the operationalization of the PEWASH programme by the end of 2019.
- ii. Operationalization of the communication strategy for implementing the national ODF campaign by 2020.
- iii. Review WASHIMS indicators to capture disaggregated data on inequalities in access to WASH services across the country by end of 2019, scale up WASH Information Management System to additional 14 States by 2021 and carry out the WASH-NORM survey on an annual basis

Other SWA constituencies have also made commitments to support the government priorities as follows:

7. Civil Society Organizations Commitments

- i. Advocating for the protection of citizens' rights for WASH through regular engagement of policy makers in compliance with Nigeria's WASH sector SWA 2014 commitments and Ngor declaration by 2021.
- ii. Build capacity of the CSO/ WASH focal persons to develop and carry out evidence based advocacy brief to enable her effectively address and respond to critical challenges that confront the WASH Sector at National and Sub-national levels by 2021.
- iii. Advocate to the government for establishment of appropriate mechanism and conducive environment that will guide the participation of the private sector by 2021.

8. Private Sector Commitment

- i. Establishment and strengthening of three categories of organized Private Sector in WASH within different Local Governments and States in Nigeria and appointment of focal points with the view of providing innovations, technologies, private finance in sanitation and water sector before the end of 2019.
- ii. Engage State level focal points to collect verifiable data on the rural sanitation schemes availability and the sanitation needs especially in the most vulnerable communities that need support with the ultimate aim of making sure that no one is left behind before the end of 2019.

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- iii. 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 by 2021.

9. Development Partners' Commitments

The WASH development partners group (DPG-WASH) comprising AFD, AfDB, DFID, EU, JICA, UNICEF, USAID, WaterAid and World Bank, are fully committed to supporting the government's goals of achieving the SDGs on WASH. All DPG-WASH members will maintain close collaboration and meaningful engagement with the Federal Ministry of Water Resources to support WASH infrastructure development and implement initiatives that are in line with the objectives of key national WASH sector priorities, including the WASH Action Plan, the PEWASH and the national ODF Roadmap. The following are the commitments of the WASH development partners:

National Commitment #1: Internalization of the National WASH Action Plan by the sub-national government and development of State specific WASH Action Plan and operationalization of the PEWASH programme by the end of 2019

- AFD and USAID will implement the National WASH Action Plan through their support to AFD project States' Water Boards (Enugu, Ondo, Plateau, Ogun and Kano) by 2022 and USAID project States' Water Boards (Abia, Delta, Imo, Niger, Sokoto and Taraba) by 2023
- AfDB will contribute to the internationalization of the WASH Action Plan in Yobe, Osun, Adamawa, Bauchi, Borno, Gombe and Taraba states, while the World Bank will support 13 states in the implementation of the WASH Action Plan
- DFID and UNICEF will support the preparation of sub-national state-specific WASH plans of action in the eight states (Benue, Bauchi, Jigawa, Katsina, Kaduna, Kano, Yobe and Zamfara) within the existing SHAWN II budget
- AfDB to commit US\$ 500 million for the operationalization of the PEWASH from 2019 to 2024 while the World Bank will begin with Rural Sustainable WASH project in support of the PEWASH from 2020
- DFID and UNICEF will support Kano state to operationalize PEWASH (without pooling fund)

National Commitment #2: Operationalization of the communication strategy for implementing the national ODF campaign by 2020

- DFID and UNICEF will support the operationalization of the communication strategy in eight SHAWN states
- AfDB will provide support to development of the ODF communication strategy at the Federal Level and domestication of the tools in Adamawa, Bauchi, Borno, Gombe and Taraba states

National Commitment #3: Review WASHIMS indicators to capture disaggregated data on inequalities in access to WASH services across the country by end of 2019, scale up WASH Information Management System to additional 14 States by 2021 and carry out the WASH-NORM survey on an annual basis

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- DFID and UNICEF to scale up WASHIMS in eight SHAWN states and provide technical assistance at the National level for the review and disaggregation of WASHIMS indicators
- DFID and UNICEF will support the implementation of WASH NORM Survey
- AfDB will support the establishment of WASHIMS in six states by 2021

10. Mechanisms for review and follow-up on the priorities and commitments

There are existing national mechanisms for reviewing sector plans and policy directions which include the National Council on Water Resources meeting, the National Sanitation Conference, Inter-Ministerial dialogues, WASH in Emergency Working Group and the National Task Group on Sanitation meetings. These platforms will be engaged in the review of the progress of the national commitments, identify challenges and way forward. Efforts are being made to institute a Joint Sector Review process in the country that will capture inputs from the sub-national to the national level.

In view of the federal structure of governance in the country, responsibility for WASH lies with the sub-national government, therefore the achievement of these commitments depends largely on the effectiveness of the sub-national structures in implementing the planned activities. Slow positive response from the sub-national level will pose a barrier to achieving these commitments. However, the federal government is keen to support States through technical assistance as well as financial support through the WASH fund, in ensuring effective implementation.

11. Processes and materials used in the preparation of the Brief

Materials: WASHNORM 2018 survey report, JMP 2017 Report, GLAAS, SWA Collaborative Behaviours Country Profile, PEWASH Strategy document, Making Nigeria Open Defecation Free by 2025: A National Roadmap, National WASH Action Plan.

Process: The SWA country team meetings and ratification by the National Task Group on Sanitation; presentation to Inter-Ministerial meeting for adoption.

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