African regional commitments: The Ngor Declaration

Developed by African Ministers responsible for Sanitation and Hygiene at AfricanSan 4, Senegal in May, 2015 -

Vision: Achieve universal access to adequate and sustainable sanitation and hygiene services and eliminate open defecation by 2030.

To realise the vision, governments commit to:
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.
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.

We further call on:
- All people living in Africa, especially the youth, to utilise and maintain sanitation and hygiene services with propriety and dignity.
- African Ministers’ Council on Water (AMCOW) to prioritise and facilitate adequate resourcing for sanitation and hygiene by mobilising dedicated, substantive new sources of financing.
- AMCOW to facilitate the establishment and management of systems and processes for performance monitoring and accountability against the Ngor Declaration.
- Training institutions in Africa to strengthen local capacity to deliver appropriate services in line with demand.
- Research institutions in Africa to strengthen the evidence base and develop innovative locally appropriate solutions.
- Civil society in Africa to forge a cohesive, coherent and transparent vision and strategy to work with all stakeholders to achieve the Ngor declaration.
- Traditional institutions, religious leaders and faith based organisations to strongly support equitable sanitation and hygiene activities in their communities.
- The private sector to increase its engagement in the entire sanitation and hygiene value chain to improve innovation and efficiency.
- Development banks, donors and partners to increase their support to government led efforts for universal access to sanitation and hygiene and to match this financial support with responsible and accountable engagement.