

The Sanitation and Water for All Partnership

What is the Sanitation and Water for All Partnership (SWA)?

- **A global partnership:** SWA is an established, global, multi-stakeholder partnership with over 100 partners drawn from governments, civil society, donors, development banks and other agencies.
- **With a vision of sanitation, water and hygiene for all, always and everywhere:** SWA is working to catalyse political leadership and improve accountability in the water, sanitation and hygiene (WASH) sector and to achieve a vision of sanitation, water and hygiene for all, always and everywhere.
- **Initially set up to focus on the sanitation and water Millennium Development Goals (MDG) targets:** SWA was set up during the period of the MDGs, and its initial focus was on the countries that were most off-track in their efforts to achieve the sanitation and water targets of the MDGs.
- **Now focused on the WASH-related targets of the Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs):** Now that the SDGs have been adopted, SWA aims to grow and support this ambitious new vision of social and economic development for people, planet and prosperity. SWA partners are committed to playing a pivotal role in contributing to the delivery, as well as follow-up and review, of the WASH related goal and its targets.
- **All United Nations (UN) Member States welcome:** SWA encourages all interested UN Member States to join, particularly those with significant inequalities in access to water, sanitation and hygiene.

How does it work?

SWA provides a platform for coordination and exchange: By bringing together countries, donors and other development partners, the partnership provides a forum for coordination and exchange of experience:

- **It operates at the GLOBAL level** by creating a political platform to address WASH collectively, especially through high-level meetings.
- **It operates at the NATIONAL level** by promoting strategic planning and better coordination among sector actors within countries and by monitoring national sanitation, water and hygiene commitments to ensure they are implemented.

What are SWA's priority areas for achieving its goal?



The High Level Political Dialogue

The High Level Political Dialogue is the name of SWA's ongoing two yearly cycle for engaging decision makers and encouraging them to take action on sanitation, water and hygiene.

It consists of two key types of meetings:

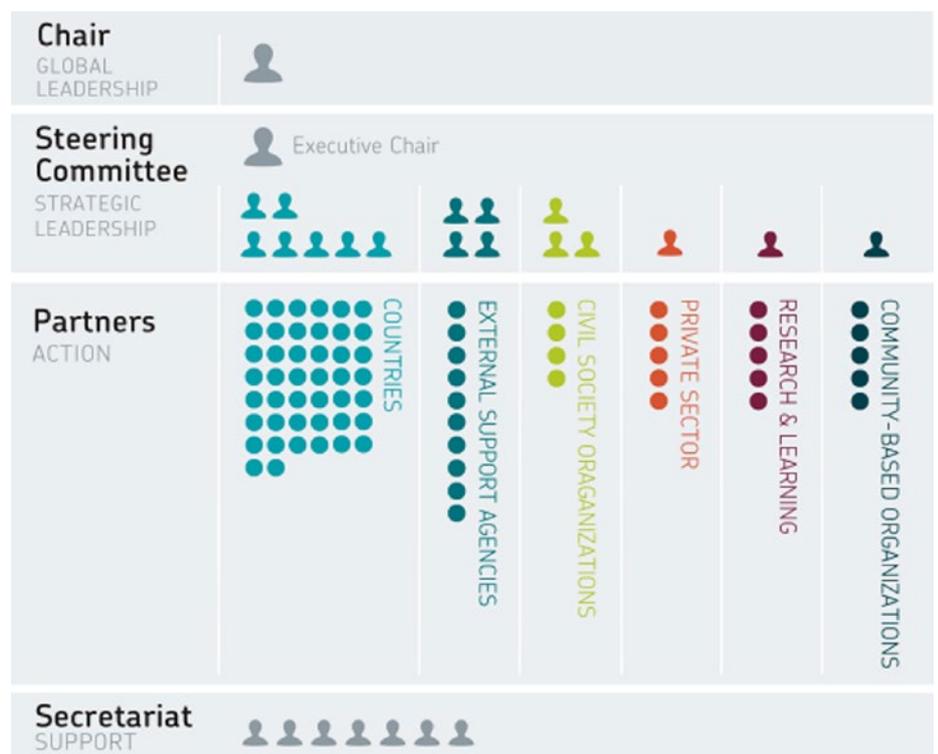
1. Water and Sanitation Ministers' Meetings which take place every two years and bring together Ministers active in the water, sanitation and hygiene sectors from across the globe. At these meetings, governments and development partners make commitments as part of their strategies to ensure that they reach the sanitation, water and hygiene related targets of the SDGs. Two years later, they report back on their progress towards these commitments, in addition to making new ones.
2. Finance High Level Meetings take place in the year in between the Water and Sanitation Ministers Meetings. At these meetings, Ministers of Finance, Ministers of Development Cooperation and Presidents of Development Banks come together to discuss financing issues and constraints and to work out how they can support countries to achieve their commitments and make progress towards the WASH-related targets of the SDGs.

However, the meetings in themselves are not enough. A big part of the High Level Political Dialogue is the work done by SWA partners at the national level before these meetings to agree the commitments that will be made and, after the meetings, to monitor the progress towards the commitments and to advocate for them to be kept. Civil society has a key role in ensuring that communities' voices are heard in the preparation and follow up of these commitments and in pressing for accountability for their delivery.

Who's who?

SWA's partners are divided into six constituencies to ensure a balanced representation of different WASH sector stakeholders. SWA is guided by a Steering Committee that is made up of representatives from each of the six constituencies. The Steering Committee provides strategic direction for the Partnership, and is led by a Chair and an Executive Chair.

Civil Society is a key group within the Partnership and has four regional representatives who sit on the SWA Steering Committee. They consult with civil society organisations across Africa, Asia, Latin America and Europe,



Australasia and North America through national civil society focal points in each country. Through this, the voices and recommendations of communities are heard by the SWA Partnership and help to influence its activities and direction.



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The SWA Partnership is fortunate to have the Hon. Kevin Rudd, former Minister of Foreign Affairs and twice Prime Minister of Australia, as its high-level Chair. He brings invaluable expertise in the global political scene and extensive knowledge of development and foreign affairs which will be vital to SWA in the achievement of its core objective of improving political prioritisation for WASH across the globe.

Here's how you can get involved:

None of the above can happen without all the partners playing their part, and we, as Civil Society Organisations, are instrumental to SWA's success in achieving its vision of sanitation, water and hygiene for all, always and everywhere. Get involved by:

- 1. Calling on your government to step up efforts to achieve its High Level Meeting Commitments:** 43 countries and 12 donors made commitments at the SWA High Level Meeting in April 2014 to improve access to sanitation, water and hygiene. Many of these commitments were supposed to be achieved by 2016. In March 2015, 40 out of the 43 developing countries and all 12 donor partners reviewed their progress so far and reported on their results. Find out if your country made commitments and how they are doing so far here: <http://sanitationandwaterforall.org/commitments/country-commitments>.

How is your country doing? Which commitments are they off-track in achieving? Call on your government to step up efforts to keep these promises!

For support in developing advocacy strategies and communication materials around the SWA commitments, email End Water Poverty at info@endwaterpoverty.org

- 2. Participating in the development of your country's plan for reaching the sanitation, water and hygiene related targets of the SDGs:** An SWA Ministerial Meeting is planned to be held in Addis Ababa from 15-17 March 2016. At that meeting, Ministers responsible for sanitation, water and hygiene will come together, along with heads of development agencies, and senior representatives of civil society, the private sector and research and learning institutions, to plan their approach to meeting the water and sanitation-related targets of the Sustainable Development Goals. This meeting is part of the High Level Political Dialogue described above.

Make sure your Ministers for sanitation, water and hygiene know about this crucial meeting and encourage them to take part! Find out if your country has started to develop its SDG plans yet and make sure citizens' voices are heard in the process.

Has this meeting already happened? If so, find out what happened at www.sanitationandwaterforall.org Follow up with your government to check that your decision makers are implementing their plans for achieving the SDGs.

- 3. Raising awareness:** Inform communities and the media about your governments' national, regional and global commitments - including those made through Sanitation and Water for All, those announced at AfricaSan, SACOSAN and LatinoSan, and the new Sustainable Development Goals.

Mobilise them to hold politicians to account on their WASH promises! For all ideas and resources to help with your campaigning, visit <http://www.endwaterpoverty.org/keep-your-promises-for-ideas-and-resources-for-your-campaigning>.

- 4. Monitoring progress:** WASHwatch gives you the latest on governments' progress toward their promises to help you to plan and implement campaigns and policies that make a difference.

Monitor and update on your countries' progress towards their WASH commitments using the WASHwatch.org online platform.

Find out more!

Want to find out more information and who's involved in your country?

- Visit the EWP website at <http://www.endwaterpoverty.org/what-swa-partnership>
- Visit the SWA website at www.sanitationandwaterforall.org
- Sign-up to the EWP and SWA Info-Exchange Google Groups to stay up to date and contribute to the latest global and country-specific SWA news (email info@endwaterpoverty.org)
- Contact your SWA Steering Committee CSO Representative as above to share your thoughts