Country briefing

Tanzania

Sanitation and Water for All (SWA) is a partnership bringing together governments, donors, civil society and multilateral organisations at both global and national levels. It aims to ensure all people have access to basic sanitation and safe drinking water, with a specific focus on those countries most off-track in achieving this.

To achieve this SWA calls for:

- Increased political prioritisation.
- Strong national planning, investment and accountability.
- Improved targeting and impact of resources.
- Evidence-based decision-making.
- Strengthened mutual accountability.

SWA aims to make this happen through three key components: 1) High Level Meeting (HLM), 2) a global analysis and assessment of sanitation and drinking water (GLAAS) report, and 3) National Planning for Results Initiative (NPRI). So far, the SWA partnership counts 83 partners (as of May 2012), but the Government of Tanzania is not currently a member. The first HLM was held in 2010 and the second in 2012. Finance and sector ministers, and high level government officials from 45 developing countries participated in the 2012 HLM, and 37 developing countries made country-specific commitments to make progress towards ensuring water and sanitation for all.

“We can resolve to champion the progress of sanitation and water for all so that young lives are not lost for want of basic human needs; safe water and sanitation”

Hon. Samuel Kofi Woods on behalf of H.E. President Ellen Johnson Sirleaf, Liberia, Goodwill Ambassador for Water in Africa

The second HLM of the SWA partnership was held in Washington DC in April 2012. The Government of Tanzania was represented by Mrs Monica Mwamunyange, Commissioner for Budget, Ministry of Finance; Honourable Eng Gerson Hosea Lwenge, Deputy Minister for Water and Elias B M Chinamo, Assistant Director, Ministry of Health and Social Welfare.

This represented a unique opportunity for the Government, and specifically the Ministry of Finance, to set out firm commitments to address the water and sanitation crisis in Tanzania.

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1 Tanzania’s statement to the HLM can be watched here: http://www.youtube.com/watch?feature=player_detailpage&v=NZZMVMWWTAA#t=9928s
In addition to the HLM, the meeting of sector ministers from developing countries was held on 19 April. This meeting came out with the Joint Statement which is summarised in the box below. In this meeting, the Government of Tanzania was represented by the Deputy Minister for Water, who agreed, along with ministers of 39 other countries, to “strive to achieve the following minimal increases\(^2\) by the 2014 HLM\(^3\).”

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<tr>
<td>1</td>
<td>Decrease open defecation by at least 15%.</td>
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<td>2</td>
<td>Increase improved water service access by at least 5%.</td>
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<td>3</td>
<td>Increase access to improved sanitation services by at least 7%.</td>
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<td>4</td>
<td>Increase water and sanitation service access to primary schools and rural health facilities by at least 10%.</td>
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<td>5</td>
<td>Reduce the number of non-functioning water services by at least 10%.</td>
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<td>6</td>
<td>Increase the practice of hand-washing with soap by at least 25%.</td>
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<td>7</td>
<td>Increase water and sanitation budgets annually by at least 15% in real terms.</td>
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<td>8</td>
<td>Ensure funding is not only provided for WASH infrastructure but is also allocated, by at least 10% of all WASH allocations, to hygiene promotion, behaviour change and demand creation.</td>
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\(^2\) Measured by JMP and GLAAS.  
Country specific commitments

In addition to the joint commitments outlined above, the Government of Tanzania released an individual Statement of Commitments in which they made a number of additional pledges\(^4\), many of which went beyond those agreed in the sector ministers’ statement.

In its HLM 2012 Country Statement of Commitments, the Government of Tanzania commits to:

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<td>1</td>
<td>Ensure 27 million additional people to gain access to sanitation; this will bring the proportion of people with access to improved sanitation to 53%.</td>
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<td>2</td>
<td>Ensure 4.2 million additional people gain access to water; this will bring the proportion of people with access to an improved water supply to 65%.</td>
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<td>3</td>
<td>Pursue good governance in budget allocation.</td>
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<td>4</td>
<td>Manage our programmes with a focus on results to ensure people gain access to their basic human rights.</td>
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<td>5</td>
<td>Put in place the necessary measures to ensure that vulnerable people receive due priority while delivering the committed results.</td>
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<td>6</td>
<td>Ensure our strategies are pro-poor and adequately address the needs of vulnerable people.</td>
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<td>7</td>
<td>Ensure we narrow the disparity gap in the course of improving access.</td>
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<td>8</td>
<td>Realise the importance of pursuing several other good governance initiatives including separating service delivery from regulatory functions, and decentralisation of service provision.</td>
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<td>9</td>
<td>Stop monitoring proxy indicators, focusing rather on the bottom line figure.</td>
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<td>10</td>
<td>Joining SWA.</td>
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<td>11</td>
<td>Attend future SWA meetings.</td>
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Summary of analysis

- In its HLM 2012 Country Statement of Commitments, the Government of Tanzania commits to provide an additional 27 million people with access to sanitation. This will bring the proportion of people with access to improved sanitation to 53%. While this commitment is commendable, more efforts are needed considering the fact that the current coverage is at 12%. The current investment in Tanzania is less than 0.1% of the GDP, therefore reaching these commitments will require analysis of current financing for sanitation.

- The commitment of the Government to provide an additional 4.2 million people with access to water in Tanzania is also commendable and will bring the proportion of people with access to improved water supply to 65%. However, issues around equity should be considered to increase services to the most marginalised groups and to make sure more resources are targeted to them.

- The Government’s commitment to pursue good governance of budget allocation should go together with capacity building interventions to the Local Government Authorities (LGAs), especially on the use of findings from the water point mapping data for planning and equitable distribution of resources.

- Another commitment is to manage programmes with an open eye to results in order to ensure people gain access to their basic human rights. Civil Society Organisations (CSOs) and parliament have an active role to play to make this a reality.

- Necessary measures will be put in place to ensure that vulnerable people are prioritised while delivering these commitments. This is a prominent commitment considering that the most marginalised groups in society are currently left without proper access to water and sanitation.

- As committed to by the Government, pro-poor strategies are needed to adequately address the needs of vulnerable people. There have been commendable achievements for the finalisation of the School WASH strategic plan but there is still some work to do to speed up the approval process of the National Sanitation Policy and School WASH Programme.

- The Government has also committed to ensure that it narrows disparities in access. This is in line with equitable allocation of resources by considering people who need it most.

- The Government realises the importance of pursuing several other good governance initiatives, including separating service delivery from regulatory functions and decentralisation of service provision, among other things. This will increase efficiency and reduce unnecessary delays. Strong management information systems are needed among LGAs as committed to by the Government. This will stop monitoring proxy indicators and keep our eyes on the bottom line figure.

- Finally, commitment of the Government to attend future SWA meetings and officially join

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5 Tanzania Demographic and Health Survey (2010)
6 Water and Sanitation Programme (2011)
the SWA partnership is a commendable decision and the Government is encouraged to honour these international commitments

Although not all announcements tabled by the Government of Tanzania at the HLM were new, a number of significant commitments were discussed:

**Water and sanitation coverage targets**: The recent Joint Monitoring Programme (JMP) report shows that Tanzania is not on track to meet any of the Millennium Development Goal (MDG) targets for water and sanitation\(^7\), the same is supported by WaterAid’s *Off-track, off-target* report\(^8\). If honoured, the commitment tabled at the HLM will assist the MDG targets and commitments previously made in the Tanzanian 2025 vision.

**Funding commitment**: In 2006, the Government of Tanzania adopted the Sector Wide Approach to Planning (SWAP) through the Water Sector Development Programme (WSDP) which aimed to strengthen sector institutions for integrated water resource management, and to improve access to water supply and sanitation services. The programme is being implemented by the Ministry of Water, Ministry of Health and Social Welfare, Ministry of Education and Vocational Training, the Prime Minister’s Office and Regional Administration and Local Government. Other implementing agencies include nine Basin Water Offices, 19 Urban Water Supply and Sanitation Authorities, the Dar es Salaam Water Supply and Sanitation Authority, 109 district and small town utilities, and 132 LGAs. Seven national projects and other earmarked projects are also included under the WSDP. This led to the doubling of investment to the water sector.

The budget of the entire SWAP programme has increased from the original US$951 million to US$1,240 million as of May 2011. The African Development Bank (AfDB) recently joined the common basket fund under the Rural Water Supply and Sanitation Programme II, contributing UA65 million (approximately US$97 million). In March 2012, The Department for International Development (DFID) also joined the basket fund with UK£27.5 million (approximately US$42 million)\(^9\). Based on this positive increase, the following achievements are commendable:

Progress has been made under the WSDP, for example the 10,689 water points built by various LGAs, which serve around 2.68 million people in rural areas. 6,646 new latrines have also been constructed by households. Under component three of the programme, 109 district and small towns’ utilities, 19 Urban Water Supply and Sanitation Authorities and the Dar es Salaam Water Supply and Sanitation Authority have connected around 176,000 households to networks serving around 2.16 million people in urban areas. This is a commendable job by the Government\(^10\).

While this is welcome, there are still some accountability issues that need the attention of the Government. Research shows that lack of good governance and capacity gaps at LGA level are some of the major bottlenecks to achieving the MDGs in the WASH sector. If Tanzania is going to achieve these goals, attention has to be given to improve governance and capacity at LGA level, with more funds from the WSDP channelled to LGAs to implement sector projects. The current Local Government Reform Programmes have given LGAs more autonomy over their planning and budgeting processes, and more influence over sector investments. If left alone there is a risk of them not being accountable.

\(^8\) WaterAid (2010) *Off-track, off-target*
\(^9\) Aide memoire (2012)
\(^10\) Aide Memoire (May 2012)
However, sanitation financing is still a challenge as compared to the water sector. The current sanitation investment in Tanzania is less than 0.1%\(^\text{11}\) of the GDP.

Although not all announcements tabled by the Government of Tanzania at the HLM were new, a number of significant commitments were discussed: sanitation and hygiene promotion is required not only to realise the health and welfare benefits of sanitation but also to avert large economic losses. Sanitation and hygiene are included within the WSDP with USD$20 million funded by the AfDB under the Rural Water and Sanitation Programme. However, a little more than token allocations has been given, mostly for urban sewerage. Roughly 1% of the total WSDP budget is expected to be spent on sanitation and hygiene, three quarters of which is for sewerage systems that will serve wealthy communities in a few towns. A very small amount is allocated to rural sanitation, which is not earmarked and therefore easily reallocated.

**Equity and inclusion**: There are still some equity issues facing Tanzania’s WASH sector. Despite the good progress made in the provision of water services by increasing the number of water points and latrines available, there are still some key challenges facing the most marginalised groups in society.

**Rural communities**: The incidence of poverty varies greatly across the country but is highest among rural families living in arid and semi-arid regions that depend exclusively on livestock and food crop production.

More resources are allocated to urban areas. Originally, the total commitment at the designing stage of the WSDP was USD$ 951 million, of which 8% was for component one, 30% for component two, 50% for component three, and 11% for component four. Small amounts have been allocated for rural areas where the majority (80%) of people live.

This fact is also reflected in the fact that water and sanitation coverage in Tanzania is more high profile in urban areas than in rural communities. According to the Tanzania Demographic and Health Survey (TDHS 2010), access to improved water in urban areas in mainland Tanzania is 80% and 47.9% in rural areas. Overall access to improved sanitation stands at 12%, of which 22% is urban and 9% is rural\(^\text{12}\). This demonstrates the gap between access to safe, clean water, sanitation and hygiene in urban and rural areas.

**Women and girls**: Across most of Tanzania, the burden of collecting water, cooking, cleaning, childcare, and caring for the sick is borne largely by women. In pastoral societies, women were observed sitting for most of the day before they could obtain water. In dry land areas of Tanzania, women can walk for up to five hours to collect one bucket of water and 8% of rural Tanzanian households collect water from a source over six kilometers away from their households\(^\text{13}\). Schoolgirls can lose school hours or miss school altogether if they have to collect water. The time that women save from not having to walk for long distances for water can be used for other activities, such as looking after their children, farming or other income generating activities.

**Disability**: People with disabilities have difficulties in accessing infrastructure and information and suffer from stigma. Directly or indirectly, these factors reduce the chances of accessing standard/traditional social services including water, sanitation and hygiene. The infrastructure

\(^{11}\) Water and Sanitation Programme (2011)
\(^{12}\) Tanzania Demographic and Health Survey (2010)
\(^{13}\) House and Budget Survey (2007)
of schools in Tanzania often makes them inaccessible and there is a widespread lack of appropriate water, sanitation and hygiene facilities for students with disabilities.

**HIV/AIDS:** People living with HIV/AIDS are particularly vulnerable to the health impacts of inadequate water and sanitation. In order to protect themselves from infection, or cope with symptoms, their need for clean water and sanitation increases. In many areas people with HIV/AIDS have limited access to water and sanitation facilities due to discrimination and sickness.

**Pastoralists:** Pastoralists, especially women and children walk long distances to fetch water. During the dry season, people walk between five and 15 kilometres to access water. This limits the amount of water they can fetch per day. There are very few sources that are improved. In most cases cattle and human beings share the same source – dirty, muddy water from a dam or pond.

**School children:** School water, sanitation and hygiene contribute to children’s learning and school experiences in many ways. It improves cognitive function and attention, reduces days missed from school, provides more time for learning and increases dignity and safety. Mapping of school WASH facilities across 16 districts (2,697 schools) was carried out jointly by SNV, WaterAid and UNICEF. It shows that the provision of water, sanitation and hygiene in preschool, primary and secondary schools in Tanzania is lamentable.

Only 9% of schools were found to have clean latrines, and only 11% of schools meet the minimum standard for the number of pupils per drophole (20 girls and 25 boys per drophole). In some schools the number of pupils per drophole was found to be as high as 600 and all districts were found to have a number of schools without a single drophole. Although 55% of schools have a water point within or near the school compound, this does not guarantee that these schools will have water all year round or throughout the day. WASH facilities that are suitable for children with disabilities are found in only 4% of schools. In addition, some 60% of latrines for girls do not have doors, depriving them of privacy and dignity.

Only 1% of schools have soap available, 8% of schools have adequate water and only 14% of schools have facilities for hand-washing, making good hand-washing practice virtually impossible for children. Only 31% of secondary schools are reported to have a safe hygiene pad disposal system.

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14 WaterAid in Ethiopia (2006): Equal access for all? Meeting the needs for water and sanitation of people living with HIV/AIDS

15 WaterAid (2011): Understanding water and sanitation needs for the pastoralists
Key recommendations

The commitments and targets are good, but a number of further steps are needed to ensure they are honoured.

Government

- Close follow up, monitoring and awareness-raising among decision-makers must be realised.

- Appropriate dialogue mechanisms must be adopted to track progress on coverage commitments.

- In order to track progress of funding commitments, CSOs and parliament should be empowered and given space to play their oversight role to enhance good governance and accountability.

- The Government should address capacity gaps at LGA level, in particular allocating more resources for monitoring.

- Efforts should be put in place to publicise policies in simple language and empower communities to evaluate the impacts of policies in service delivery.

- The Government must take further steps to tackle equity and inclusion issues, with greater focus on resource allocation to those who need it most.

- The Government should follow through on its promise to join the SWA partnership.

- An increase in funding is required for WASH in schools:
  
  - **Improve WASH access in schools:**
    - i. An increase in funding is required for WASH in schools.
    - ii. Construction of new school classrooms should consistently be matched by new latrines, hand-washing facilities and, where possible, improvement of water supply. This should be inspected and enforced.
    - iii. Ensure that in each village with a WSDP-financed project, water supply is provided to schools.
    - iv. Finalise the school WASH programme with a clear mechanism for channeling Large-scale funding to school WASH.

  - **Increase the sanitation profile:**
    - i. Increase budget allocation to sanitation to 0.5% of GDP in line with the AfricaSan target.
    - ii. Cabinet endorsement of the National Sanitation and Hygiene Policy.
Need for an integrated approach in the provision of water services for Pastoralists
A water supply for livestock (a priority for pastoralists) needs to be integrated in domestic water supply projects. For example, at project design stage, the water needs of pastoralist communities can be more correctly determined by considering the human and livestock populations in intervention areas.

Need for an integrated approach for people living with HIV/AIDS
Water and sanitation programmes should develop strategic partnerships with other stakeholders such as those working on HIV and AIDS to address the most vulnerable people, such as people living with HIV/AIDS.

Civil society
- Tanzania’s CSO WASH Network (TAWASANET) will monitor progress through the annual sector equity report to be presented in the JWSR.

Development partners
- Development partners should align their funding with national WASH policies and systems and comply with aid effectiveness principles.