



# Is Africa on Track to Achieve the SDGs on Sanitation?

A review of progress on the Ngor Declaration on Sanitation and Hygiene

February 2019



## Acknowledgments

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This publication is dedicated to Piers Cross (1951-2017), whose energy and vision continues to inspire the AfricaSan movement.

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## Foreword

In 2008, the 3<sup>rd</sup> AfricaSan Conference adopted the eThekweni Declaration and AfricaSan Plan of Action on sanitation and hygiene, which was later endorsed by the Sharm el Sheikh AU Summit on Water and Sanitation in the same year. The eThekweni Declaration triggered an unprecedented revolution in the sanitation sector in Africa. It also set the pace for the subsequent AfricaSan Conference (Kigali, 2011), which focused the continent on meeting the Millennium Development Goals target on sanitation.

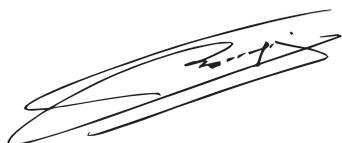
The Fourth AfricaSan Conference (Dakar, 2015) adopted the Ngor vision and commitments, which are aligned to SDG 6.2 Target: “By 2030, achieve access to adequate and equitable sanitation and hygiene for all and end open defecation, paying special attention to the needs of women and girls and those in vulnerable situations.”

AMCOW has since been working with multiple stakeholders to track and monitor progress by African countries towards achieving this goal. This report provides a baseline to check against countries’ progress towards the Ngor vision and commitments. The over-arching message is clear: Africa must act fast to accelerate progress towards these commitments in order to achieve the SDG 6.2 Target. Africa further needs to strengthen the enabling environment for sanitation and hygiene service delivery.

I commend the progress that has been made in the leadership and coordination. But more effort is needed to increase financing for the sector, which is now an issue of concern. Africa also need to focus on productive sanitation and reuse; an area with immense potential to create jobs and improve livelihoods.

The AMCOW Secretariat is prioritising sanitation in its Strategy 2018–2030 by making sanitation a strategic pillar. AMCOW is also making concerted efforts to accelerate policy re-engineering across the continent.

I call on member states, all development partners, civil society and the private sector to internalise the report and work together to accelerate progress towards the Ngor commitments to achieve the SDGs for improved livelihoods and sustainable development across Africa.



**Dr Canisius Kanangire**  
*AMCOW Executive Secretary*



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# Introduction

On the 27<sup>th</sup> May 2015, African Ministers responsible for sanitation and hygiene adopted the Ngor Declaration on Sanitation and Hygiene at the AfricaSan4 conference held in Senegal. The commitments were made in recognition of the fact that gains made in sanitation access since 1990 had not kept pace with demographic change; the understanding of the centrality of hygiene and sanitation to the existing health, economic, social and environmental burden on African countries; and to reaffirm the human right to safe drinking water and sanitation for all.

The **Ngor Declaration vision focuses on universal access to adequate and equitable sanitation and hygiene services and an end to open defecation by 2030**, and as such reflects the paradigm shift of the Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs).

The AfricaSan International Taskforce through its Sub-Committee on Monitoring and Learning has established a system of tracking progress against the Ngor Declaration and commitments. The Ngor Commitment monitoring process builds on the lessons learned from the eThekweni monitoring<sup>1</sup>, notably the need to be able to distinguish between having the enabling framework in place for sanitation and hygiene and then securing progress against country targets. To this end, indicators for Ngor commitments monitoring are *staged* to show progressive realisation of each commitment. In general, countries progress to stage 2 indicators (which measure progress against country targets) only after related stage 1 indicators (which measure the enabling environment) have been completely met (see Figure 1). This more nuanced approach will better connect the Ngor Commitments with outcomes - the progress against country targets bridging the gap between the enabling environment and the vision.

Figure 1: Levels and stages of Ngor Commitment Monitoring indicators

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**Vision indicators** (V1 to V3) are outcome-based and refer to data from the Pan African Water and Sanitation Monitoring System and SDG monitoring

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**Commitment indicators** (C1 to C10) monitor two stages (enabling environment, and country targets) in order to capture different levels of progress across African countries.

- **Stage 1 indicators** track the enabling environment. They allow progress to be assessed through looking at whether foundational structures exist in the country.

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  - **Stage 2 indicators** track achievement of published country targets. They are therefore specific to individual countries.
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This report summarises the results of the Ngor Commitment Monitoring carried out by 39 countries<sup>2</sup>. The purpose of the report is to provide a baseline three years on from the Ngor Declaration on Sanitation and Hygiene. The report provides an overview of the vision and commitments themselves and the actions required to make progress<sup>3,4</sup>.

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<sup>1</sup> The eThekweni Commitments on Sanitation were the main outcome of the 2008 AfricaSan conference. They aimed at improving sanitation and getting African countries on track to meet the sanitation MDG. The eThekweni commitments final monitoring took place during AfricaSan4, after which they were superseded by the Ngor commitments.

<sup>2</sup> For a full list of countries that participated in the Ngor Commitment Monitoring Process, see end notes

<sup>3</sup> Detailed country data is available in the country-specific Ngor Commitment Monitoring Country Data Reports.

<sup>4</sup> For each commitment progress in stage 1 and stage 2 indicators is presented graphically alongside a brief narrative, and a country example.

# The Ngor Vision

The Ngor Vision is to achieve universal access to adequate and sustainable sanitation and hygiene services and eliminate open defecation by 2030

Although made in advance of the Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs), the vision of the Ngor Declaration closely aligns to the SDG sanitation and hygiene targets. Therefore, for the purposes of the baseline monitoring report, SDG monitoring data is used to report vision level indicators<sup>8</sup>. Throughout much of Africa, **access to at least basic sanitation is below 50%**. Data to monitor hygiene is available for only 37 countries, of these all except two have **less than 50% of the population with basic handwashing** with soap facilities at home.

Figure 2: Proportion of the population using at least basic sanitation, 2015

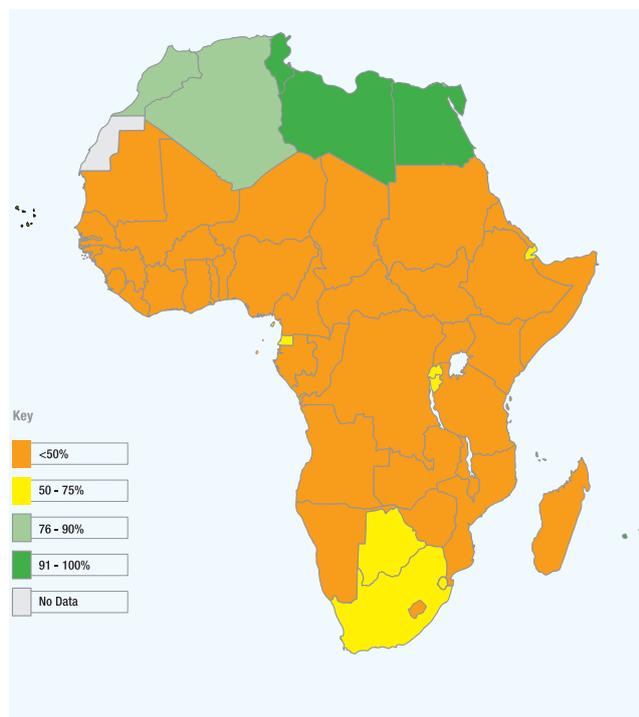
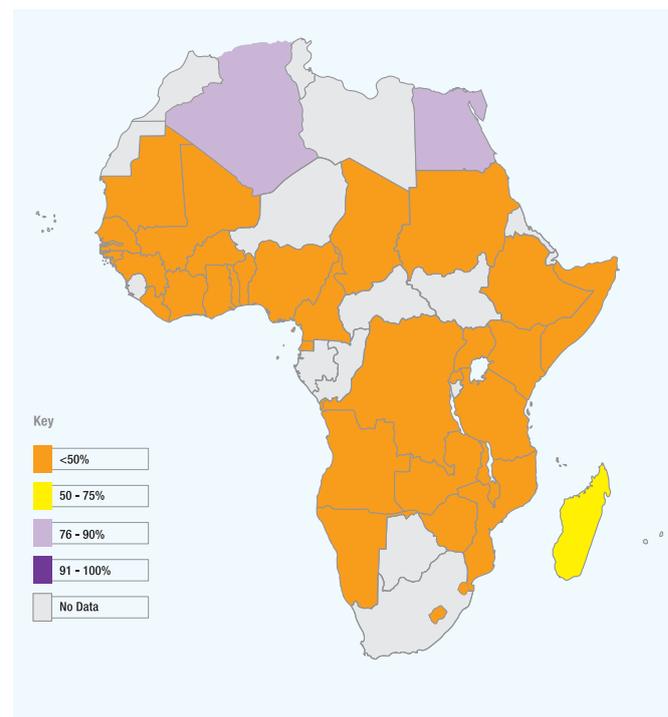


Figure 3: Proportion of the population with handwashing facilities including soap and water, 2015



<sup>8</sup> Progress on drinking water, sanitation, and hygiene: 2017 update and SDG baselines. Geneva: WHO and UNICEF, 2017. See <https://washdata.org/sites/default/files/documents/reports/2018-01/JMP-2017-report-final.pdf>

Open defecation remains high across Sub-Saharan Africa, and is predominantly a rural issue. Regional averages mask countries with extremely high open defecation rates. In 14 countries in Sub-Saharan Africa more than half of the rural population practise open defecation.

Figure 4: Rural sanitation access

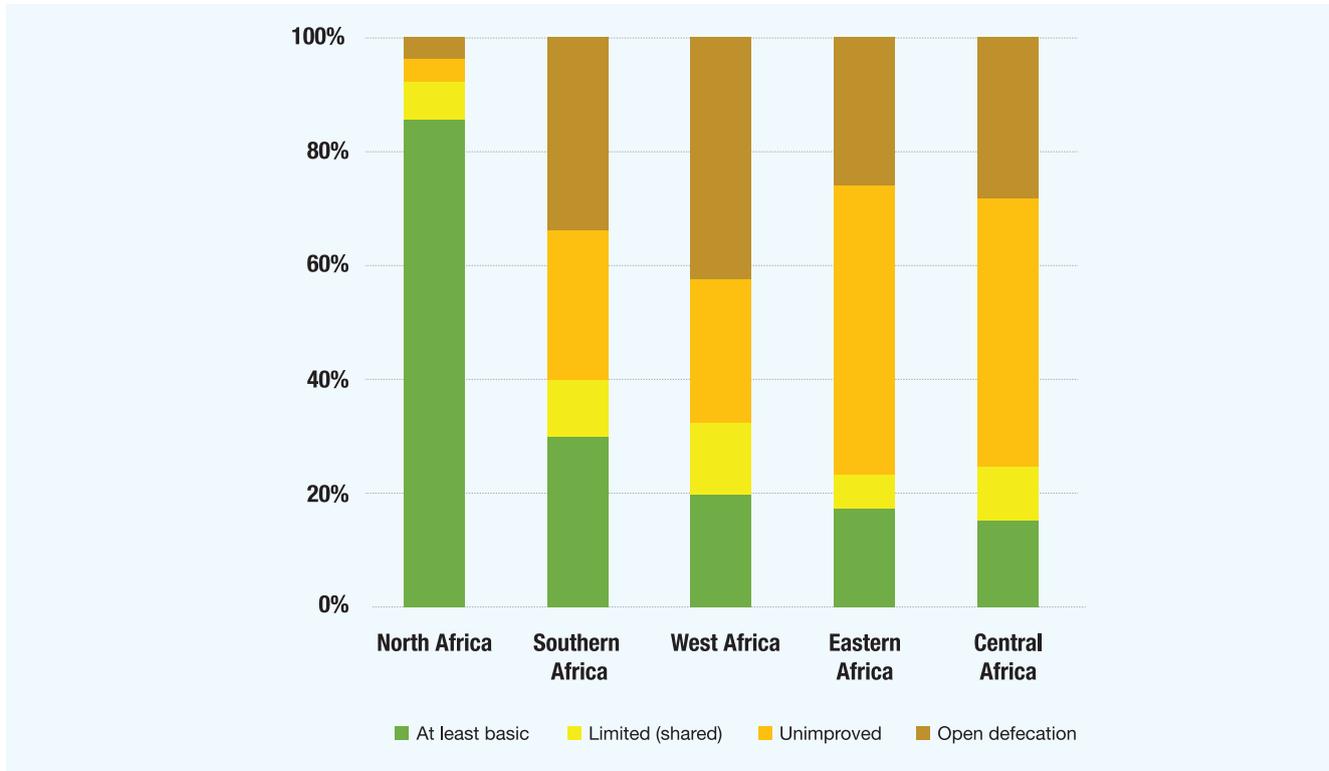
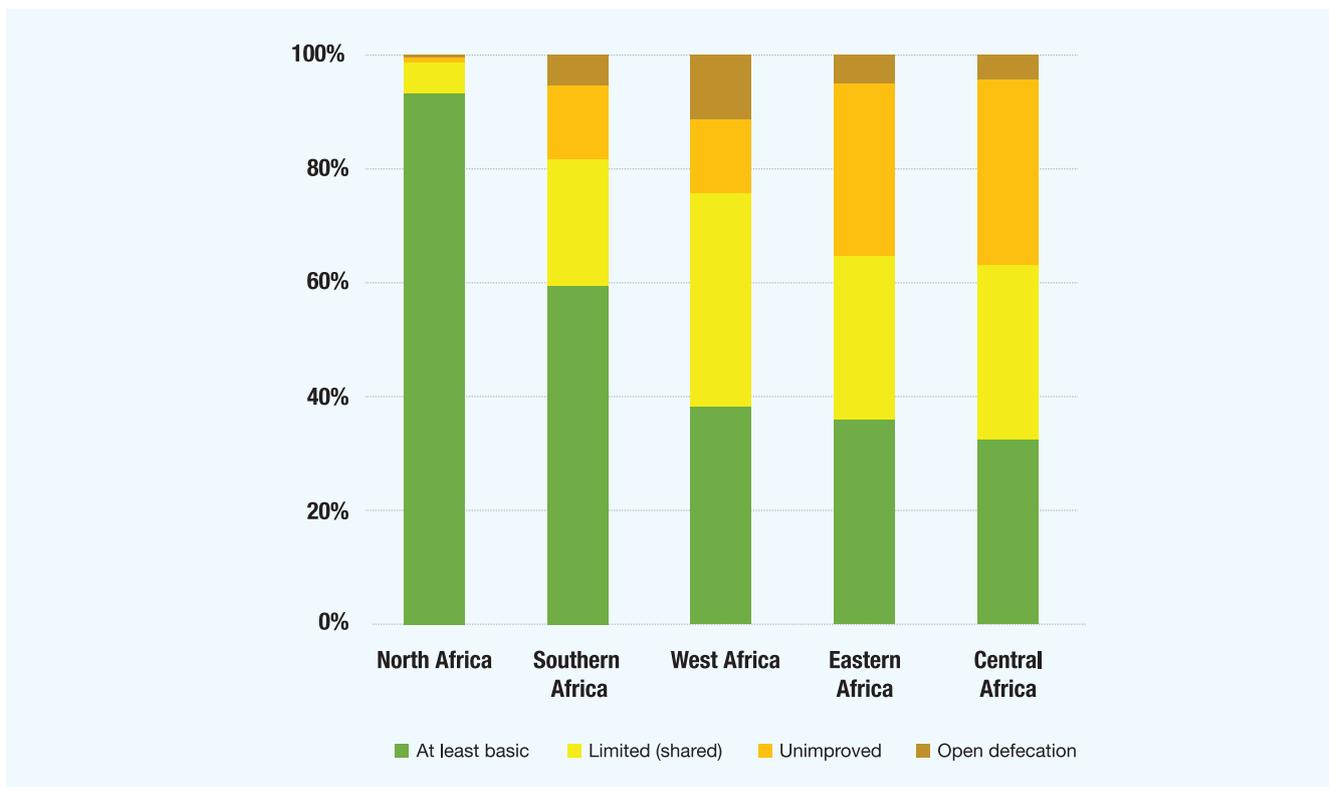


Figure 5: Urban sanitation access



# The Ngor Commitments:

## The whole is greater than the sum of its parts

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The Ngor Commitment monitoring process captures the Ngor Commitments both in terms of whether the building blocks of the enabling environment are in place, and subsequently captures progress against country-specific targets.

### Enabling environment

The 10 Ngor Commitments on Sanitation and Hygiene address the areas of the enabling environment that *as a whole* need to be in place to drive sanitation and hygiene progress. Figure 6 demonstrates that it is only when progress is achieved across *all* the Ngor Commitments that the enabling environment will support accelerated access.

The results of the Ngor Commitment Monitoring show that the enabling environment for sanitation and hygiene is currently uneven. Progress in the enabling environment for leadership and coordination, and government-led monitoring systems, is not matched for commitments such as waste management, eliminating inequality, and establishing budgets. Unless addressed, the areas of the enabling environment which are lagging behind will act as a drag on the entire sector and hinder realization of the Ngor vision.

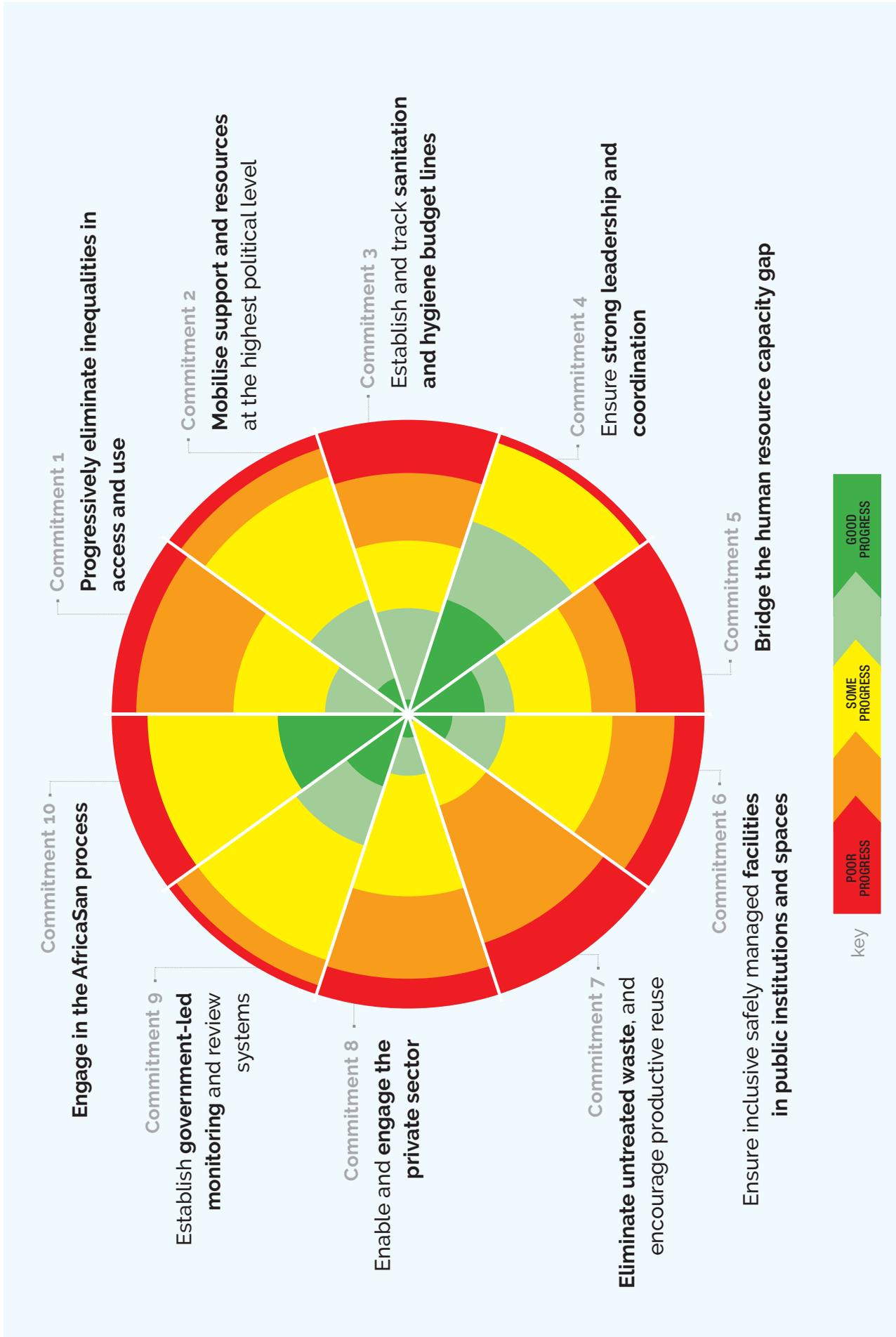
- ⊙ Across Africa there has been **good progress against the commitment to establish leadership and coordination** structures. This is a key area which drives progress in the sector<sup>9,10</sup>.
- ⊙ The **commitment to eliminate inequalities in access and use, and to establish budgets for sanitation and hygiene remain critical bottlenecks** which threaten to undermine progress in Africa. Both have been identified as necessary for enabling and accelerating progress to SDG 6 globally<sup>10</sup>.
- ⊙ **Eliminating untreated waste, and encouraging its productive re-use** is essential for *safely managed* SDG sanitation targets, however it is currently the worst performing of the Ngor commitments.

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<sup>9</sup> Monitoring the eThekweni Commitments on Sanitation endline report (AfricaSan 4 report, 2015)

<sup>10</sup> The Sustainable Development Goal 6 2018 Synthesis Report. UN-Water, 2018

Figure 6: Summary of the Ngor Commitments on Sanitation and Hygiene baseline (stage 1 enabling environment indicators)



## Country targets

Cognisant that not all countries progress at the same rate<sup>11</sup>, the Ngor Commitments monitoring process was designed to be nuanced and allow countries to set their own priorities for working towards each commitment. Ngor commitment monitoring stage two indicators measure a whether each country is on track to meet its own national targets.

- ③ For five out of 7 of the commitments linked to stage two indicators, more than half of countries have made insufficient progress in establishing the enabling environment, to be able to monitor progress against country targets.
- ③ No countries have made enough progress in establishing the enabling environment for eliminating untreated waste to be able to report against country targets.
- ③ This pattern will change in the future as countries strengthen the enabling environment, and targets and tracking systems against which to measure progress are established.

## Which commitments drive sector progress?

As a baseline, the results of the Ngor Commitment monitoring only reveal the situation as it currently stands. Subsequent rounds of monitoring of both enabling environment (stage one indicators) and country targets (stage two indicators) will increase our understanding of the dynamics at play between the commitments and build up a picture of how countries should organise and prioritise their activities towards making the greatest progress.

Previous sector diagnostics can provide some insight into key drivers in the enabling environment for sanitation and hygiene (Table 1), but note that these do not comprehensively address all the Ngor Commitments for Sanitation and Hygiene.

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<sup>11</sup> This was a key lesson from the eThekweni monitoring process. The eThekweni Commitments on Sanitation were the main outcome of the 2008 AfricaSan conference. They aimed at improving sanitation and getting African countries on track to meet the sanitation MDG. The eThekweni commitments final monitoring took place during AfricaSan4, after which they were superseded by the Ngor commitments.

Table 1: Insights from sector diagnostics on the relative importance of commitment areas (\*note that non-inclusion in this table may indicate lack of inclusion in previous sector diagnostics)

<b>Ngor Commitment</b>	<b>Analysis of eThekweni Commitments country reports 2011-2015 found the following commitment areas to be driving progress thus having a positive influence on overall performance<sup>12</sup></b>	<b>Synthesis Report on Water and Sanitation SDG6<sup>13</sup> notes the following essential elements in meeting SDG 6 targets</b>
Commitment 2: <b>Mobilise support and resources at the highest political level</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>· Clear sanitation policy</li> </ul>	
Commitment 3: <b>Establish and track sanitation and hygiene budget lines</b>		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>· Finance</li> </ul>
Commitment 4: <b>Ensure strong leadership and coordination</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>· Leadership</li> <li>· Stakeholder coordination</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>· Governance</li> </ul>
Commitment 5: <b>Bridge the human resource capacity gap</b>		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>· Capacity development</li> </ul>
Commitment 9: <b>Establish government-led monitoring and review systems</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>· Implementation of sanitation monitoring and evaluation systems and tools</li> <li>· Sector reviews to keep national sanitation programmes on track</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>· Data acquisition and monitoring</li> </ul>

In the following pages detailed results for enabling environment (stage 1) and country target (stage 2) indicators are reported<sup>14,15</sup>. Each commitment is accompanied by a country story to illustrate some of the actions being taken to achieve the Ngor Commitments at country level.

<sup>12</sup> Monitoring the eThekweni Commitments on Sanitation endline report (AfricaSan 4 report, 2015)

<sup>13</sup> The Sustainable Development Goal 6 2018 Synthesis Report. UN-Water, 2018

<sup>14</sup> Further detail on individual indicators, as well as urban: rural breakdowns can be found in the country-specific Ngor Commitment Monitoring Country Data Reports

<sup>15</sup> For a full list of country ISO codes, and graphics key see end notes.

## Commitment

# 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



Stage 1: Enabling environment indicators

key

## Enabling Environment

- ⊙ Across Africa there has been limited progress on this commitment. Regionally, Central Africa has seen less progress than other regions.
- ⊙ Countries have made some progress on addressing the needs of the poorest and most vulnerable through strategic plans based on needs assessments:
  - 28 countries have sanitation and hygiene strategic plans which address the needs of the poorest and most vulnerable, 14 of these include specific access targets and milestones.
  - 29 countries have carried out an objective study of the poorest and most vulnerable populations to identify inequalities in sanitation and hygiene access and use within the last 3 years, although 16 of these are not nationally representative.
- ⊙ Focus on sustainability is limited with less than one quarter of countries (8) having undertaken and published results of evaluations of institutional, financial, technical, social and/or environmental factors for the sustainability of sanitation services within the last 3 years.
- ⊙ Progress on this commitment is held back by a lack of attention to user satisfaction which is not tracked in two thirds of countries (26 rural/26 urban)

## Country targets

- ⊙ Across Africa 14 countries are able to report on implementation progress against country targets for Commitment 1. Of these, two are on track against their own targets for reducing inequalities.



Stage 2: Country target indicators



## Country story for Commitment 1:

### **Eliminating inequalities through better targeting and a comprehensive community approach in Niger**

In Niger, having noted that the subsidized approach to sanitation did not allow the poorest and most marginalized to access basic sanitation services, the government adopted the Community-Led Total Sanitation approach (CLTS) in 2009, with the support of UNICEF.

At the community level, the adoption of CLTS has led to an approach through which community self-help supports the poorest. The CLTS approach – which encourages the community to analyze their own hygiene and sanitation situation, their defecation practices, and its consequences - has greatly helped in stopping the practice of open defecation. Construction of latrines has been carried out by the community without external subsidies.

At the national level, following the survey of the National Institute of Statistics giving the rates of access to sanitation services by region, the government of Niger has established a strategy that gives it authority to decide on intervention zones for sanitation services through the redeployment of partners, according to the principle of reducing inter- and intra-regional disparities.

## Commitment

# 2

**Mobilise support and resources** at the highest political level for sanitation and hygiene to disproportionately prioritise sanitation and hygiene in national development plans



Stage 1: Enabling environment indicators

key

## Enabling Environment

- ⊗ Across Africa there has been some progress against this commitment, with more limited progress reported in Central Africa.
- ⊗ Good progress has been seen in terms of policies and SDG-alignment as well as some progress in legislation.
  - 24 countries have sanitation and hygiene policies that are adopted at the highest level (e.g. parliament), and a further 10 have policies awaiting final adoption.
  - 21 countries have sanitation and hygiene targets in their national development visions which are well aligned to the SDG targets (16 others have sanitation and hygiene targets which are not yet SDG-aligned).
  - 18 countries have legislation which is in harmony with and supports their sanitation and hygiene policy, a further 16 have legislation in process.
- ⊗ There has been less progress in aspects of Commitment 2 related to public sharing of information on sanitation and hygiene progress, with only 6 countries reporting that results are published annually.
- ⊗ Funding and implementation of sub-national development plans for sanitation and hygiene is weak and acting as a drag on overall progress for this commitment.
  - Only one country reports that sub-national plans are fully funded.

## Country targets

- ⊗ Across Africa 24 countries are able to report on implementation progress for Commitment 2. Of these only two have met their national sector policies sanitation and hygiene objectives.



Stage 2: Country target indicators



## Country story for Commitment 2:

### Putting in place the policy framework for sanitation and hygiene in Rwanda

Strong political will in Rwanda is exhibited through the robust policy environment for sanitation and hygiene that has been established. The government considers provision of sustainable sanitation services as a key priority of its national development agenda. The 2017-2024 National Strategy for Transformation and Prosperity (NTSP 1) includes SDG-aligned targets and activities for sanitation under its “moving towards a modern Rwandan household” priority area.

Sanitation features in several key health, nutrition, and childhood development policies and plans, and the standalone National Sanitation policy and its implementation strategy that were formally adopted in December 2016. At sub-national level also, District Development Strategies reflect the prioritization of sanitation and hygiene.

The Law Reform Commission of Rwanda’s Ministry of Justice is processing the drafts for both Water Supply and Sanitation services Laws for approval. Once in place those two laws will complete the legislative framework needed to support the achievement of the sanitation policy targets and objectives. This strong enabling environment is undoubtedly key in Rwanda having achieved the highest annual rate of change in basic sanitation of its peers in East Africa (JMP, 2017).





## Country story for Commitment 3:

### Investment planning from the bottom up in Ethiopia

Having achieved the largest reduction in open defecation globally during the MDG Period (from 92% to 29%), the sanitation sector in Ethiopia is now focussing on moving the population from unimproved sanitation to safely managed sanitation. To achieve this the Ministry of Health and the OneWASH National Programme with support from UNICEF has undertaken a comprehensive microplanning exercise.

Microplanning begins at the village level - the “lowest level of action” - to establish sanitation status, requirements to reach safely managed sanitation, and the human resources available. This information is then applied to region specific and validated unit costs. Village costs are aggregated upwards to *kebele*, *woreda*, *zone*, and region, and the unit costs are further validated and harmonised at national level to provide a full analysis of the financial resources required to achieve national and SDG targets for sanitation and hygiene. The same process is applied to estimate budget requirements to meet sanitation and hygiene targets for schools and health facilities.

The detailed investment plans will provide the basis for leveraging resources, and targeting and prioritising investments in Ethiopia.

## Commitment

# 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



Stage 1: Enabling environment indicators

key

## Enabling environment

- ⊙ Across Africa ensuring that leadership for sanitation and hygiene is clear and that coordination is effective at all levels has performed the most strongly of the all Ngor Commitments. Especially Eastern and Southern Africa have reported good progress in establishing leadership and coordination for sanitation and hygiene.
  - All but one country have a designated government body with a clear mandate to lead on sanitation and hygiene.
  - 23 countries have established clear leadership for both urban and rural areas, at both national and sub-national level, and have effective coordination at all levels.
- ⊙ Coordination is also making progress; all except three countries have at least 3 different sectors represented in sanitation and hygiene coordination mechanisms.



## Country story for Commitment 4:

### Creating a dedicated Ministry to drive the sanitation and hygiene progress in Zambia

The Government of the Republic of Zambia has emphasised the importance of sanitation and hygiene as building blocks to national development by including targets and strategic programmes for improved access to sanitation and hygiene at household, as well as institutional levels in the 7<sup>th</sup> National Development Programme.

In recognition of the need for strong leadership to drive results, the presidential address to the 12<sup>th</sup> National Assembly in 2016 announced the creation of the Ministry of Water Development, Sanitation and Environmental Protection. The same speech also underlined the need for an integrated multi-sectoral approach to implementing the 7<sup>th</sup> NDP.

The MWDSEP provides overall leadership for sanitation and drives Zambia's ODF strategy which aims to achieve 100% of the population living in ODF communities, including sanitation at schools, health centres, and other public institutions by 2030. In addition, the MWDSEP has enhanced sector coordination by providing a "one stop shop" for WASH.

## Commitment

# 5

Develop and fund strategies to **bridge the sanitation and hygiene human resource capacity gap** at all levels



Stage 1: Enabling environment indicators

key

## Enabling environment

- ⊙ Across Africa there has been some progress in addressing the sanitation and hygiene capacity gap with well-defined and funded strategies. However, disaggregating the regions shows large differences - human resources remain a key challenge in Eastern Africa with limited progress, there is also limited progress in Southern Africa. However, there has been some progress in West and Central Africa - indeed, for Central Africa Commitment 5 is the best performing commitment.
  - 15 countries have carried out an assessment of sanitation and hygiene human resource needs within the last three years which covered both national and sub-national needs.
  - However, another 16 countries have not assessed sanitation and hygiene HR needs at all.
  - Only 13 countries have human resource targets included in their national sanitation and hygiene strategy (or as a standalone HR strategy).

## Country targets

- ⊙ Across Africa 12 countries are able to report on implementation progress for Commitment 5. However, no country reports that human resource actions are funded, under implementation or on track.



Stage 2: Country target indicators



## Country story for Commitment 5:

### Focussing on human resources planning in Uganda

Uganda has experienced challenges in attracting and retaining sufficient numbers of qualified health workers to the sanitation and hygiene sector. Institutional shortfalls including HR planning capacity have contributed to this situation.

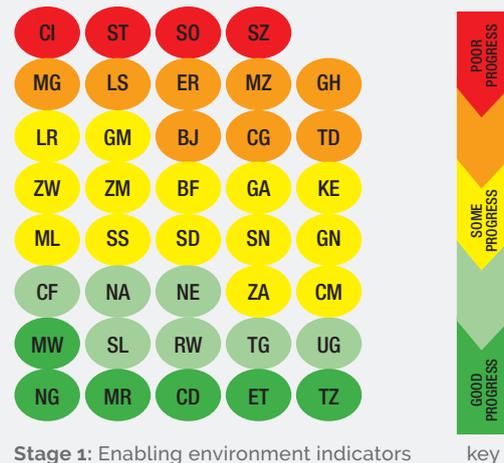
In response, the Ministry of Health carried out a comprehensive Human Resources for Health study in 2015. The study found a large deficit in numbers of Health Inspectors and Environmental Health Officers. These findings led to a mass recruitment of all health cadres, and by 2016/17 the numbers of Health Inspectors and Environmental Health Officers had risen from 57% to 69% coverage. Lobbying for the budget necessary to recruit more Health Inspectors and Environmental Health Officers to reach 100% coverage is ongoing.

In the meantime, the policy framework for sustainably planning and addressing human resource capacity is being put in place at all levels of Local Government. The Environmental Health Strategic plan 2018, which aligns to the Health Sector Development Plan 2015-2020, and the draft Uganda National Sanitation and Hygiene Investment Plan 2018 -2023 all articulate clear human resource actions and targets.

## Commitment

# 6

Ensure inclusive, safely-managed sanitation services and functional hand-washing **facilities in public institutions and spaces**



## Enabling environment

- ⊗ Overall there has been some progress in establishing the enabling environment for institutional sanitation and hygiene and ensuring inclusive, safely managed services in all settings.
- ⊗ Central and Southern Africa have performed less well with only limited progress.
- ⊗ Most countries have standards, targets and milestones for sanitation and hygiene services in some, if not all, institutional settings.
  - 12 countries have specific, clear standards for inclusive and safely managed sanitation services, and handwashing facilities in schools, health facilities, and other public institutions. A further 19 have standards for at least one institutional setting.
  - 10 countries have strategic plans with targets and milestones in all institutional settings. A further 18 have targets and milestones for at least one institutional setting.

## Country targets

- ⊗ Countries reported on progress against their own targets and milestones for sanitation and hygiene in different institutional settings – schools, health facilities and other public institutions and spaces:
  - For schools, 24 countries had targets and milestones to report against, none are fully on track, and half of countries (12) have less than 50% targets on track.
  - For Health facilities, 23 countries had targets and milestones to report against, of which 3 countries were fully on track. However, 10 of the countries reported that less than half of targets on track.
  - For other public spaces, 21 countries had targets and milestones, one reported being fully on track and 16 countries had less than 50% of target on track.



Stage 2: Country target indicators



## Country story for Commitment 6:

### Laying the foundations for institutional sanitation in Chad

In Chad, inadequate access to sanitation and hygiene in schools leads to student absenteeism, especially girls over 10 years old. According to the latest statistical yearbook of the Ministry of Education, in January 2017 only 23% of schools have toilets.

In response to this situation, Chad conducted a bottleneck analysis for WASH in schools (WinS), which allowed them to better understand the shortfalls in the enabling environment for WinS that need to be addressed. Following this, the Government of Chad, with its technical and financial partners implemented major projects and programmes integrated with water, sanitation and hygiene in schools, with the aim of improving the education system.

In addition, to improve health conditions in schools, the Ministry of Education, in collaboration with the Ministry of Water and Sanitation, and the Ministry of Health published the National Alliance for Healthy Schools in May 2017. This alliance aims to develop a national strategy for WinS, to improve access to sanitation and promote good hygiene practices in schools, through the School Led Total Sanitation approach.

## Commitment

# 7

Progressively **eliminate untreated waste**, encouraging its productive use



Stage 1: Enabling environment indicators

key

## Enabling environment

- ⊙ There has been little progress in putting in place the enabling environment for the elimination of untreated waste. Across Africa this commitment has shown least progress in both urban and rural areas.
- ⊙ Disaggregating the regions, Commitment 7 is the worst performing commitment for all regions with the exception of Southern Africa (although it is still a key challenge in the region).
- ⊙ Where there has been some progress, for example in inclusion of faecal waste management (FWM) in definitions and standards, and establishing regulations, it is not consistent or adequately enforced.
  - Of **28** countries that have included FWM in some definitions, only **11** report FWM is consistently included across all ODF and other sanitation service definitions.
  - Of **26** countries which have fecal sludge management regulations and bylaws in place, only **6** countries report the regulations and bylaws are comprehensive and enforced.
- ⊙ No country is able to track the amount of faecal waste being disposed of in the environment by having monitoring mechanism in place, although **11** countries have carried out an assessment.
- ⊙ There is also poor progress in regulating productive re-use of excreta and establishing waste re-use certification processes.

## Country targets

- ⊙ No countries have made enough progress in establishing the enabling environment for eliminating untreated waste to be able to report against country targets.



Stage 2: Country target indicators



## Country story for Commitment 7:

### Eliminating untreated waste in small towns in Zimbabwe

Zimbabwe's *Service Level Benchmarking* approach spearheaded by the Zimbabwe Local Government Association in conjunction with the Ministry of Local Government & National Housing (MLG&NH) and the Ministry of Water, Environment & Climate with financial support from the World Bank Water and Sanitation Programme, compares wastewater management indicators, including collection efficiency and treatment capacity, across locations and over time. A recent report found that despite improvements in some urban areas, poor enforcement of byelaws and rapid housing construction means that houses remain off the faecal waste disposal network and adequate capacity for collection and treatment of the sewage is also critical.

In response to this situation, UNICEF with funding from the Australian Government Aid supported the Inter-Ministerial Committee on WASH working through the MLG&NH to implement a Small Towns WASH Programme for 14 towns. The programme aims to rehabilitate sewage collection and treatment infrastructure, addressing the underlying causes of non-functionality. Zimbabwe's Environmental Management Agency monitors compliance standards for wastewater treatment effluent from urban authorities. To date, some best practice has been seen in towns such as Bindura, which recycles waste water for agricultural use. This work is also critical in the fight to reduce and end the recent cholera upsurge.

## Commitment

8

Enable and **engage the private sector** in developing innovative sanitation and hygiene products and services especially for the marginalised and unserved



Stage 1: Enabling environment indicators

key

## Enabling environment

- ⊙ Overall there has been limited progress in securing the enabling environment for private sector engagement in sanitation and hygiene for the benefit of unserved and marginalised populations. The commitment to working with the private sector to address the needs of the poorest is a key bottleneck in Central, Southern, and Western regions.
- ⊙ Whilst over three quarters of countries have private sector engagement included in their sanitation and hygiene strategies, few specifically target the marginalised and unserved.
  - 31 countries have private sector engagement for sanitation and hygiene included in national strategies, of these 10 include have specific targets for the marginalised and unserved.
- ⊙ Where the private sector is engaged in sanitation and hygiene, their activities are thus far not addressing the needs of the marginalised an unserved.
  - 23 countries provided documented examples of the private sector targeting the poorest populations, however of these only 4 reported that the activities were at scale and sustainably reaching marginalised and unserved populations



## Country story for Commitment 8:

### **Empowering and engaging the private sector in the development of innovative hygiene and sanitation products and services in Senegal:**

In Senegal, the government has involved the private sector to improve its action plans, particularly with regard to the sector approach in the field of autonomous sanitation and contributed to the development of the valuation approach of sanitation by-products, such as sewage sludge after treatment and biogas.

However, the road to private sector engagement has not always been smooth and several important lessons have been learned along the way. Without a formal framework, the coordination of multiple stakeholders has been difficult. Similarly, the management of sludge collection and treatment services to effectively reach all households has been slow.

The government will continue to expand access to sanitation services by promoting the value chain approach and involving all stakeholders, including the private sector, to ensure adequate management of wastewater, excreta and storm water.





## Country story for Commitment 9:

### Tracking Rural Sanitation using Real-Time Monitoring in Kenya

Kenya has set the ambitious target of becoming Open Defecation Free by 2020. In 2013 the Ministry of Health set about replacing the paper-based Monitoring Information System with a Web Based Real Time Monitoring (RTM) system that interfaced with DHIS2<sup>16</sup>. This shift took place in phases with support from UNICEF and sector partners through initial piloting before Country wide roll-out of the system.

The open source system has transformed Kenya's rural sanitation monitoring and reporting by allowing access to data to all stakeholders, at all levels globally. The system runs analyses that generate maps, graphs and tables on trends and comparisons over time and across locations that can be exported into PDF reports.

Phase III of the system entails capturing global indicators including SDG 6.2 targets on basic sanitation and regional commitments, thus having a one-stop programme platform for planning, monitoring and reporting.

<sup>16</sup> District Health Information Software 2 (DHIS2) is a free and open source health management data platform used by multiple organizations and governments. Using DHIS2 for sanitation monitoring effectively links health and sanitation data within a single system.

## Commitment

# 10

Enable continued active engagement with AMCOW's AfricaSan process



Stage 1: Enabling environment indicators

key

## Enabling environment

- ⊙ Across Africa most countries that reported against the Ngor Commitments for Sanitation and Hygiene have had a fairly consistent engagement in the AfricaSan process.
  - 17 countries have participated in the four most recent AfricaSan activities (prior to the 2018 Sub-regional meetings) and a further 17 have participated in 2-3 of the four most recent AfricaSan activities.
- ⊙ According to a 2015 World Bank report, *countries with action plans, regular reporting against eThekweni commitments (which pre-date Ngor Commitments) and that have participated in AfricaSan regional and continental meetings have higher reductions in open defecation - an average drop in open defecation by 2.36% - compared to an average of 1.03% for countries who have been less active in AfricaSan processes*<sup>17</sup>.

<sup>17</sup> World Bank, WSP (2015). Investment in Sanitation to Support Economic Growth in Africa: Recommendations to the African Ministers' Council on Water (AMCOW) and Ministers of Finance. *The difference quoted is statistically significant at the 10% level.*

## Participate in the following AfricaSan5 and FSM5 conference sessions for more discussion on each of the 10 Ngor Commitments

Ngor Commitments	Related conference sessions (note this is not a comprehensive list)
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>● = AfricaSan5 conference sessions</li> <li>■ = FSMS conference sessions</li> </ul>
<b>1 Eliminating inequalities</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>● Challenges and opportunities in rural and urban sanitation in Africa</li> <li>● Leave no one behind programming and a multi-stakeholder approach for inclusive sanitation provision</li> <li>● Measuring the last mile: Assessing new equity and sustainability data across Africa countries</li> <li>● WASH for the urban and rural poor</li> <li>● Inclusive urban sanitation beyond the household</li> <li>● Towards sustainable menstrual health management</li> </ul>
<b>2 Mobilising high level support</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>● Governance experiences in the African Sanitation and Hygiene Sector</li> <li>● How sanitation law creates an enabling environment for SDG6 and Ngor Commitment advancement</li> <li>● Extending regulation to urban on-site sanitation: Initiatives from EAWAS countries</li> <li>● Barriers and opportunities for public-private partnership in non-sewered sanitation services</li> </ul>
<b>3 Budgets</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>● SDG6.2 financing architecture: investment needs, financial data, funding streams, and financing mechanisms</li> <li>● Funding urban sanitation in Africa: The role of the African Urban Sanitation investment fund and other mechanisms</li> <li>● New business approaches to sanitation via the sanitation economy</li> <li>● Scaling market-driven sanitation financing for all in Africa by 2030</li> </ul>
<b>4 Leadership and coordination</b>	<p><i>There are no specific sessions but plenty of opportunities to engage with countries that have secured strong leadership and coordination</i></p>
<b>5 Building capacity</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>● Africa sanitation: Building capacity and leadership</li> <li>■ Industry and exhibition track: Container-based systems and capacity building</li> </ul>
<b>6 Institutional sanitation</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>● Achieving universal access to WASH in Schools with innovative M&amp;E – in Africa and beyond</li> </ul>
<b>7 Eliminating waste</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>■ City case studies track: Local level policy</li> <li>■ Applied research track: Faecal sludge characterization</li> <li>■ Applied research track: Institutional frameworks and city-wide approaches</li> </ul>
<b>8 Private sector engagement</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>● Barriers and opportunities for public-private partnership in non-sewered sanitation services</li> <li>● Accelerating sanitation access through mobile IT: lessons from using data to develop markets</li> <li>● New business approaches to sanitation via the sanitation economy</li> <li>■ Applied research track: Financing and business</li> <li>■ Industry and exhibition track: Private sector, finance and markets</li> </ul>
<b>9 Government-led monitoring</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>● Country-led monitoring of sanitation goals and commitments</li> <li>● Measuring the last mile: Assessing new equity and sustainability data across Africa countries</li> <li>● Accelerating sanitation access through mobile IT: lessons from using data to develop markets, products and services</li> <li>● Monitoring hygiene behavior change – experiences from WaterAid</li> <li>● CLTS and post-ODF Monitoring: Country progress and local commitments</li> <li>■ Towards national and global monitoring of FSM</li> </ul>

## How can we work together to make progress?

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The Ngor Vision is to achieve universal access to adequate and sustainable sanitation and hygiene services and eliminate open defecation by 2030. To accomplish this vision all stakeholders need to work collaboratively to strengthen the enabling environment and achieve progress across *all* the Ngor Commitments on Sanitation and Hygiene. The following recommendations address the key bottlenecks and current most pressing needs identified by the 2018 Ngor Commitment Monitoring.

### African Union can:

- ③ Convene a Sanitation and Water Summit to reposition the continent towards achieving SDG 6.2.

### AMCOW can:

- ③ Continue to play a convening role of member states on Ngor Declaration on Sanitation and Hygiene follow-up, monitor and publish progress reports against the Ngor Declaration vision and commitments, and maintain communication with country teams regarding the Ngor Declaration monitoring.
- ③ Advocate for high level endorsement of the Ngor Declaration at Heads of State level through the African Union, to reposition the continent towards achieving SDG 6.2.
- ③ Act as a knowledge broker for best practice in sanitation and hygiene: connecting African countries, identifying sources of learning, commissioning a series of studies to identify existing bottlenecks and policy guidance to remove them, and facilitating knowledge exchange.
- ③ Through the AfricaSan International Taskforce, review the Ngor Commitments monitoring system, indicators and criteria using learning and insights from the 2018 baseline monitoring.

### National Government and Ministers for Sanitation and Hygiene can:

- ③ Continue to offer strong leadership and direction at all levels to build and sustain governance for sanitation and hygiene.
- ③ Improve budget and investment planning processes, and establish budget tracking mechanisms for sanitation and hygiene which fully capture rural and urban sector expenditure.
- ③ Ensure that human resource capacity needs are identified at all levels of government, and that strategic plans to address gaps are developed, funded and implemented.
- ③ Develop strategies to more effectively harness the power and resources of the private sector for the benefit of the poorest.

- ⊗ Ensure that up to date monitoring data is routinely collected and made available and used for decision making at all levels of government.
- ⊗ Work collaboratively to address faecal waste management through consistent inclusion in definitions and standards, ensuring that regulations are in place and enforced, and by establishing monitoring mechanisms to track untreated faecal waste in the environment.
- ⊗ Continue to engage with the AfricaSan movement and the Ngor Commitment monitoring, and use the process to identify and develop country actions plans to address sector bottlenecks.

### Local Authorities can:

- ⊗ Take a greater role in providing leadership and governance for sanitation and hygiene.
- ⊗ Prioritise funding and implementation of sanitation and hygiene activities in sub-national development plans.
- ⊗ Ensure that local human resource capacity needs are identified, and that strategic plans to address gaps are developed, funded and implemented.
- ⊗ Ensure that a mechanism for faecal waste management is in place for their jurisdiction, and that regulation and monitoring is enforced.
- ⊗ Establish systems to track user satisfaction of sanitation and hygiene products and services.

### Development partners can:

- ⊗ Provide high level support for sanitation and hygiene to disproportionately prioritise sanitation and hygiene in development plans.
- ⊗ Mobilise resources for the sanitation and hygiene sector at all levels.
- ⊗ Partner with governments, private sector and other stakeholders to drive sanitation and hygiene access for the poorest.
- ⊗ Prioritise and evaluate the sustainability of sanitation and hygiene programmes, products and services.

### Civil Society can:

- ⊗ Work collaboratively to hold local and national governments to account for ensuring policies, practices, and plans target the poorest, and that national and local strategies emphasise equity and sustainability.
- ⊗ Foster collaboration through engaging in multi-stakeholder coordination platforms at all levels across sectors.

- ③ Work collaboratively to ensure that information regarding sanitation and hygiene progress is publicly shared, in order to strengthen accountability in sanitation and hygiene.
- ③ Continue to engage in the AfricaSan movement and the Ngor Commitment monitoring process.

### Private sector can:

- ③ Engage with government to shape the enabling environment to facilitate private sector prioritization of sanitation and hygiene products and services, and especially focusing on the marginalised and unserved.
- ③ Develop and document innovative sanitation and hygiene products and services, especially those that target the poorest at scale with appropriate technologies and services.
- ③ Coordinate through a continental private sector network for sanitation in the continent.

## Participation and key to country codes

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The following countries participated in the 2018 Ngor Commitment Monitoring:

- |                                       |                                |
|---------------------------------------|--------------------------------|
| 1. Benin (BJ)                         | 21. Mali (ML)                  |
| 2. Burkina Faso (BF)                  | 22. Mauritania (MR)            |
| 3. Cameroon (CM)                      | 23. Mozambique (MZ)            |
| 4. Central African Republic (CF)      | 24. Namibia (NA)               |
| 5. Chad (TD)                          | 25. Niger (NE)                 |
| 6. Congo, Democratic Republic of (CD) | 26. Nigeria (NG)               |
| 7. Congo, Republic of (CG)            | 27. Rwanda (RW)                |
| 8. Côte d'Ivoire (CI)                 | 28. Sao Tomé and Príncipe (ST) |
| 9. Eritrea (ER)                       | 29. Senegal (SN)               |
| 10. Eswatini (SZ)                     | 30. Sierra Leone (SL)          |
| 11. Ethiopia (ET)                     | 31. Somalia (SO)               |
| 12. Gabon (GA)                        | 32. South Africa (ZA)          |
| 13. Gambia, The (GM)                  | 33. South Sudan (SS)           |
| 14. Ghana (GH)                        | 34. Sudan (SD)                 |
| 15. Guinea (GN)                       | 35. Tanzania (TZ)              |
| 16. Kenya (KE)                        | 36. Togo (TG)                  |
| 17. Lesotho (LS)                      | 37. Uganda (UG)                |
| 18. Liberia (LR)                      | 38. Zambia (ZM)                |
| 19. Madagascar (MG)                   | 39. Zimbabwe (ZW).             |
| 20. Malawi (MW)                       |                                |







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