

Sanitation and Water for All (SWA) is a multi-stakeholder partnership working towards an ultimate goal of sanitation, water and hygiene for all, always and everywhere. Recognizing that countries and organizations around the world achieve more by working together, it is a transparent, accountable and results-oriented framework for action, built on a common vision, values and principles.

SWA partners recognize that:

- The human right to safe drinking water and sanitation is derived from the right to an adequate standard of living and inextricably related to the right to the highest attainable standard of physical and mental health, as well as the right to life and human dignity;
- The Partnership promotes the progressive realization of the right to water and sanitation as part of the right to an adequate standard of living and is guided by the principles of participation and transparency
- Universal and sustained access to sanitation, water and hygiene fundamentally underpins economic growth, human security and all aspects of social development, especially health.
- Sanitation, water and hygiene underlie achievement of the SDGs
- Political prioritization, comprehensive planning frameworks, and evidence-based decision making are essential factors to achieve universal access to sanitation and drinking water.
- A high degree of political as well as environmental uncertainty, in particular from climate change, places rigorous demands on SWA to be both flexible and adaptive in its operations and initiatives.

The following principles guide the Partnerships efforts:

- All stakeholders have important and relevant contributions to make – including governments, multilateral and intergovernmental organizations, donors, development banks, civil society organizations, the private sector, community-based organizations and the people using services.
- Sustainability of services should guide all strategies and actions to improve access to sanitation and drinking water.
- The cross-cutting nature of sanitation and water necessitates effective collaboration and joint working across relevant government ministries, donors, non-governmental agencies, and other key institutions.
- Targeting the unserved, progressively eliminating inequalities and maintaining existing services should take precedence over improving services for the already served.
- The Partnership promotes the realization of the human right to water and sanitation for all and is guided by the principles of participation and transparency;
- Particular support is needed to address those countries and contexts that are most off-track for reaching the MDG and SDG targets on sanitation, water and hygiene. Such sustained support will ensure that countries genuinely committed to SWA will be afforded the chance to implement national plans and achieve their sanitation, water and hygiene targets
- Knowledge and evidence must be sought and transparently shared to inform policy-making and action at all levels.
- Aid effectiveness commitments must be implemented to achieve SWA, in line with the Paris Declaration and Accra Agenda for Action commitments on country ownership, alignment, harmonization, managing for results, mutual accountability, predictability, country systems, conditionality, and untying aid.
- Transparency, integrity and accountability should be incorporated in all SWA activities.

Guiding Principles



- Prior commitments by donors and developing countries serve as a strong foundation to increase access to sanitation and drinking water and for improving aid effectiveness. These commitments should continue to be translated into action and results.
- SWA should build on and support existing country and regional institutions, processes and sector networks.
- OECD-DAC Principles of Good International Engagement in Fragile States and Situations guide sector engagement in those contexts.