

Summary of the SWA Webinar “Planning for the water, sanitation and hygiene SDG”

18 & 19 July 2017



In July 2017, the SWA secretariat hosted the second in a series of webinars aimed at facilitating discussions on the planning, review and implementation of Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs), and contributing to ongoing country processes. This series is a key part of the continuum of the High-level Political Dialogue (HLPD) and is aimed at fostering strategic engagements and dialogue which can lead to sustained change and progress.

The webinar focused on “Planning for the water, sanitation and hygiene SDG”. Participants discussed various approaches being taken to integrate the SDGs in national and sector planning processes. It was held in three languages and brought together more than 100 participants, with around 30 representing governments. There were also participants from other constituencies including private sector, donors, research and learning institutions, and civil society.

Government representatives from Indonesia, Afghanistan, Kenya, Nigeria, Haiti and Honduras shared their country’s approaches to planning for the SDGs. In addition, the experiences of Madagascar were shared by WaterAid. They described how they engage across ministries and with sub-national governments, and how they plan to leave no one behind. Participants also discussed how to effectively engage with political leadership. In addition, there was dialogue on information gathering on safe water for planning, using a budgeting process to spearhead planning, and consistent consulting and coordinating with CSOs and development partners.

The webinars provide valuable insight into a country’s approach to planning, preparing and implementing programs to achieve targets 6.1 and 6.2, as well as offer an opportunity to exchange ideas and ask questions of fellow SWA partners. For example, some countries wanted to know what they could do if the SDGs were too ambitious for them. Countries were encouraged to set targets that are realistic and achievable bearing in mind the strong message from the HLM to prioritize the most vulnerable and move everyone immediately to at least a basic level of service, with quality – what could be called “Basic Plus”.

These discussions are aimed at contributing to a consistent and strategic multi-stakeholder dialogue at country level. The presentations and webinar recordings are [available here](#).

The next webinar in the series will focus on strengthening country monitoring and review systems for the SDGs. It will include a presentation of the most recent JMP report as well as a discussion of various processes countries and partners are using to review progress and take corrective action towards the SDGs.