This guidance note explains the recommended in-country preparation for the Sanitation and Water for All (SWA) High-level Meetings which will take place at the time of the World Bank Spring meetings in April 2017. The note outlines objectives of the preparatory process, outputs and suggested activities. It also has information about the support and tools that will be provided by the SWA Secretariat and SWA partners. The note can be used by country focal points and organizations contributing to the planning, review and implementation of water, sanitation and hygiene programmes.

Historical Context and Shift

SWA is a global, multi-stakeholder partnership that brings together national governments, civil society organizations, the private sector, research and learning institutions and external support agencies to work together towards a common vision of sanitation, hygiene and water for all, always and everywhere. The role and purpose of the SWA partnership is to lead, galvanize and facilitate international efforts, aligning with and promoting national and regional processes aimed at ensuring availability and sustainable management of sanitation, water and hygiene for all. SWA’s high level meetings of ministers responsible for finance, water, sanitation and hygiene are part of an ongoing cycle of SWA activities aimed at catalyzing progress towards the water, sanitation and hygiene targets of the SDGs.

Since 2010, SWA has held four successful High-level Meetings (HLMs). The 2014 SWA HLM was unprecedented in attracting over 20 finance ministers. It demonstrated the increase in political prioritization of water, sanitation and hygiene (WASH) that SWA seeks to achieve. The meeting resulted in attendees committing to 383 tangible actions which could potentially extend access to sustainable sanitation facilities and improved drinking water sources to millions of people. In 2016, an exceptional Sector Ministers’ Meeting was held in order to increase understanding of the new Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs) and prepare for the challenge of the coming years.

All HLMs have had a preparatory process to strengthen or catalyze in-country sector dialogue and action and an accountability process regarding high level commitments made. Collectively the preparation, High-level meetings and subsequent monitoring of progress towards the commitments made, make up the SWA High-level Political Dialogue (HLPD).

A major difference when finance ministers gather in 2017 is that there will be no commitments tabled. Given that the SDGs have raised the level of ambition, the WASH sector will need a strong foundation – i.e. the building blocks of policy/strategy, institutional arrangements, capacity, planning/monitoring/review and financing – in order to operate effectively and achieve the SDGs. This requires a more comprehensive ongoing approach based on robust and inclusive sector dialogue to review progress in strengthening national sector systems and the enabling environment and to assess how well stakeholders are aligned and working together, i.e. the SWA Collaborative Behaviours. Therefore, the HLPD is now structured around taking stock of sector effectiveness and efficiency and stakeholder behaviour with the intention of encouraging the identification and implementation of actions which remove bottlenecks to progress towards the SDGs.

The HLPD is important because it:

- Aligns with on-going in-country dialogue and strengthens that dialogue where appropriate;
- Raises the profile of sanitation and water politically;
- Encourages multi-stakeholder processes and a role for everyone;
- Encourages development partners to align behind government-led plans and priorities;
- Encourages mutual accountability by all stakeholders.
The 2017 High-level Meetings

The World Bank, on behalf of SWA, will convene a Finance Ministers’ Meeting (FMM) on or around 21 April 2017, during the World Bank Spring Meetings. Just prior to this meeting, ministers responsible for water, sanitation and hygiene who accompany their country’s finance minister to Washington will attend a one-and-half day Sector Ministers’ Meeting (SMM) convened by UNICEF. Participants at the FMM will discuss the magnitude of the SDG challenge, using existing resources more efficiently, and accessing additional resources. Participants at the SMM will discuss how to ensure that the sector is prepared to deliver on the targets and demands of the SDGs including the financing of the sector.

In order for the ministers to arrive fully prepared for the meetings, and for them to be better equipped to take follow-up action, the SWA Secretariat is facilitating a preparatory process. The 2017 FMM and SMM are part of the ongoing cycle of SWA activities aimed at catalyzing coordinated action to achieve the water, sanitation and hygiene targets of the Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs). See Annex 1 for the overview of the meetings.

Objectives of the preparatory process

The objectives of the preparatory process are:

- **Strengthen multi-stakeholder dialogue** around the status of sector effectiveness, efficiency, stakeholder behaviour and national readiness for implementing the WASH-related targets of the SDGs;
- **Build political will and engagement amongst decision-makers** (i.e. finance and sector ministers) to agree action on overall SDG readiness, including financing for the sector;
- **Prepare ministers for their engagement in dialogue with their peers** on their country’s readiness for the SDGs, sector effectiveness, financing and the actions they intend to take.

All SWA partners operating at country level are encouraged to actively engage in national preparations.

Outcome of the preparatory process

The preparatory process will rely on multi-stakeholder dialogue at country level to ensure that both finance and sector ministers are briefed and ready to take action on the SDG targets based on understanding of:

- What is needed for the sector to be fit for purpose;
- The actions both the government and its development partners can take to catalyze progress;
- The financing required and efficiency gains which can be made to achieve the goals.

Output of the preparatory process

The primary output of the preparatory process will be a comprehensive overview document, i.e. Country Overview, which synthesizes the country-specific context to enable the ministers to contribute to the SMM and FMM. The Country Overview will help to inform inter-ministerial discussions between the sector minister(s) and the minister of finance. It also contributes to the broader multi-stakeholder country dialogues on the water, sanitation and hygiene related targets of the SDGs and can be part of the country activities around national sector review processes such as joint sector reviews, etc.

The Country Overview will include:

- Summary of the country’s current SDG status (baseline) and vision for the SDGs (6.1 and 6.2);
- Review of the sector’s readiness to achieve the SDGs including the state of sector efficiency and effectiveness, data gaps, and identification of marginalized/vulnerable groups;
- Sector investment needs, the financing gaps and areas for improving efficiency;
- Planned actions to catalyze progress towards the SDGs.
Overview of the preparatory process

The 2017 SWA HLM preparatory process is a facilitated process aimed at strengthening multi-stakeholder dialogue, building political will, and ensuring ministers arrive at the High-level Meetings prepared to engage in and contribute to the discussions. The preparatory process refers to both the country-level activity by SWA partners at technical and ministerial levels, as well as the supporting activities undertaken by the SWA Secretariat and partners at global level.

The suggested country-level preparatory process is intended to draw upon the on-going multi-stakeholder sector dialogue. In countries where the sector dialogue can be strengthened, the preparatory process may act as a catalyst for more focused analysis, dialogue and action to strengthen sector effectiveness.

In SWA partner countries (as well as countries preparing for the April meetings which are not yet SWA partners); the government leads the preparatory process while development partners, civil society and other partners support the on-going dialogue and preparations for the HLM. Four key complementary approaches are recommended.

- **Technical dialogues** involving government and partner agencies to analyze the situation of the country with respect to the SDGs, review how prepared the sector is to meet the demands of the SDGs, including to analyze the financial situation and recommend actions for government and partners. Depending on the context and existing processes, ministers may or may not be involved in parts of the multi-stakeholder dialogue.
- **Ministerial briefings** can be prepared to inform all ministers responsible for water, sanitation and hygiene as well as the finance minister. These briefings can be prepared at various points of the process and can be tailored to the needs of each minister.
- **Inter-ministerial dialogues** between sector and finance ministers to review the results of the analysis, and agree actions to be taken by the government with the support of partners.
- **Advocacy campaigns** undertaken by government and/or partners with the aim of improving accountability to rights holders and/or increased prioritization of WASH services.

The table below summarizes the suggested process and resource materials provided from the global level.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Suggested country-level process</th>
<th>Secretariat and Global partners</th>
<th>Resource materials</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td><strong>November 2016</strong></td>
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</tbody>
</table>
| Participation in global webinar to obtain information about the 2017 HLMs | November 2016  
23 November 2016: First SWA Secretariat-led webinar  
- Overview of the 2017 HLMs  
- Design and plans for the Finance Ministers Meeting (FMM) and Sector Ministers Meeting (SMM)  
- Outline the preparatory process | If you missed this webinar, please view the recorded version here  
English – Africa, Europe and the Americas  
English – Asia and the Pacific  
French – Africa and the Americas |
| Early country-level discussions on the 2017 HLMs |                                 |                    |
| **December 2016**              |                                 |                    |
| Participation in global webinar on SDG analysis and financing | December 2016  
15 December 2016: Second Secretariat-led webinar  
- Update on the preparatory process  
- Information on the type of analysis which would be useful for the SDGs  
- Costing tool to calculate the investment needs and financing gap | If you missed this webinar, please view the recorded version here  
English – Africa, Europe and the Americas  
English – Asia and the Pacific  
French – Africa and the Americas |
<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>January 2017</th>
<th>January 2017</th>
<th>January 2017</th>
<th>SWA Collaborative Behaviours</th>
</tr>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td><strong>On-going country-level:</strong> multi-stakeholder dialogues and collection of information for the Country Overview</td>
<td><strong>Guidance Note on Preparatory Process Discussion Paper on financing SDG 6 will be shared by World-Bank-UNICEF (late January or early February)</strong></td>
<td><strong>Preliminary estimates of the SDG baselines shared with countries for verification, by WHO-UNICEF JMP (late January)</strong></td>
<td><strong>Country focal points can write to the Secretariat to request additional support. Bilateral calls will be organized.</strong></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Initial briefing of ministers about the meeting, where possible</td>
<td><strong>SDG Costing Tool, shared by UNICEF.</strong></td>
<td><strong>Secretariat-led support to countries on, SDG data analysis, use of the financing tool, Building Blocks and Collaborative Behaviours. Global partners will also be available to support their in-country counterparts.</strong></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>February 2017</strong></td>
<td><strong>February 2017</strong></td>
<td><strong>February 2017</strong></td>
<td>Please use the link below to join any of the webinars Join Skype Meeting</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>On-going country-level:</strong> multi-stakeholder dialogues and preliminary Country Overview document prepared,</td>
<td><strong>Third SWA Secretariat-led webinar: 7 and 8 February:</strong></td>
<td><strong>Generic Briefing Material on HLMs provided by SWA Secretariat</strong></td>
<td>English 1: Africa, Europe and the America 7 February 2017 at 9AM (New York time) English 2: Asia and the Pacific 7 February at 00:00 (New York time / 12:00 in Bangkok) French: Africa and the Americas 8 February 2017 at 10:00 AM (New York time) Bilateral calls will be organized</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Secretariat-led support to countries on, SDG data analysis, use of the financing tool, Building Blocks and Collaborative Behaviours: On Request</td>
<td>• Using existing resources more effectively and accessing new resources • Identifying marginalized groups and eliminating inequalities • Discussion on the insights from the preliminary SWA Collaborative Behaviours Country Profiles</td>
<td><strong>SWA Collaborative Behaviours Country Profiles</strong> sent to countries, as they are available</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Briefing ministers about the meeting</td>
<td><strong>Ministerial meetings held to brief ministers about the meeting</strong></td>
<td><strong>Bilateral calls will be organized</strong></td>
<td></td>
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<tr>
<td>Ministerial meetings held to brief ministers about the meeting</td>
<td><strong>March 2017</strong></td>
<td><strong>March 2017</strong></td>
<td>Countries can write to the Secretariat to request for additional support. Bilateral calls will be organized</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>March 2017</strong></td>
<td><strong>SWA Collaborative Behaviour Country Profiles</strong> sent to countries as they become available. Revisions can be requested where necessary.</td>
<td><strong>Ongoing Secretariat-led support on Country Overview documents</strong></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>On-going Country-Level:</strong> Inter-ministerial dialogues and advocacy events (World Water Day opportunity)</td>
<td><strong>April 2017</strong></td>
<td><strong>April 2017</strong></td>
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</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>April 2017</strong></td>
<td><strong>Finalize Country Overviews and Ministerial Briefs for ministers attending the meetings in Washington DC.</strong></td>
<td><strong>High-level Meetings in Washington DC, ~ 19-21 April</strong></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>In-country advocacy events (if possible)</strong></td>
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</table>
Detailed information on elements of the preparatory process at country level

Technical-level multi-stakeholder dialogue

Under the leadership of the government, partners work together – using existing multi-stakeholder mechanisms and processes – to synthesize existing information and analysis of the SDG baseline as well as the readiness of the sector for the SDGs. Partners also analyze the investment needs, the financing gap and determine the actions which will be taken by both the government and partners to achieve the goals. Where possible or needed, additional information gathering, analysis and/or dialogue may be undertaken. The suggested tools and sources for collecting this information and analysis include but are not limited to:

- Nationally available data and information on sector vision and plans (where available);
- Preliminary SDG baseline estimates prepared by WHO-UNICEF JMP\(^1\);
- SDG costing tool prepared by UNICEF;
- Recently completed sector review or analysis of the “Building Blocks\(^2\)” of the sector using UN-Water Global Analysis and Assessment of Sanitation and Drinking-Water (GLAAS) survey data, WASH Bottlenecks Analysis Tool (WASH BAT), sectoral integrity and corruption risk assessments, or other similar tools;
- SWA Collaborative Behaviours Country Profiles prepared by UN-Water GLAAS.

A template for the Country Overview document is provided (Annex 2) as a suggested way to structure the information. All countries using the template as a guide will help to ensure consistent preparation by ministers attending the meeting and promote well-informed, dynamic and progressive discussion during the meetings.

*Global development partners including bilateral donors, development banks, multilaterals, foundations and NGOs are encouraged to contribute by mobilizing action at the country level and providing technical support where necessary.*

**Ministerial briefings**

Two or three ministerial briefings for key sector ministers are recommended during the preparatory process. The preliminary briefing would be held earlier in the process, focused on getting the ministers interested.

For ministers to engage effectively in the discussions at the Washington meetings, and more importantly, for them to make evidence-based decisions on the SDGs, it is suggested that they should be briefed on the country’s situation regarding the SDGs. A second substantive briefing can be an opportunity to present a snapshot – or overview – of the sector. The Country Overview document, which can be developed using the outline in Annex 2 and the attached sample (in Word), can be used to inform the second ministerial briefing. Briefing materials for the ministers will evolve depending on the opportunities they will have to meet prior to the HLMs – i.e. the Country Overview may be updated after a ministerial briefing. It is suggested that the content of the Country Overview is updated as information, analysis and decisions become available.

The final briefing, just prior to the HLM, can contain the decisions reached as a result of the dialogues and inter-ministerial meetings (see below). These briefings can draw on the Country Overview document prepared from the outline suggested in Annex 2. The Country Overview document can be made available to all sector actors in the country as it can constitute in an important instrument for follow-up and accountability. The Country Overview document would likely be developed under the leadership of a senior government official (i.e. the lead sector Director or similar).

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\(^1\) https://www.wssinfo.org/sgd-baselines/

\(^2\) The five building blocks are: 1) sector financing; 2) capacity development; 3) planning, monitoring, and review; 4) sector policy and strategy; 5) institutional arrangements
Ministerial engagement and inter-ministerial dialogue

The HLMs provide an opportunity to increase ministerial engagement and dialogue between ministers at the national level – both where there is more than one minister responsible for water, sanitation and hygiene as well as between the sector and finance ministers. The Country Overview document can inform these discussions prior to the HLMs.

Depending on the context and availability of ministers, there could be several discussions between the sector and finance ministers. This process will create opportunities for the sector ministers, some of whom may not be attending the meetings in Washington, to engage with their ministerial counterparts.

Advocacy events

If appropriate, advocacy events can take place during the preparatory process period in order to increase transparency and accountability and raise awareness about the process. Information and analysis gathered in the technical discussions can be conveyed in an appropriate format – to the media, parliamentarians, other sector officials, communities or rights-holders, etc. For example, the policy choices made by the government as well as the actions decided upon to catalyze progress can be highlighted. In-country SWA partners are encouraged to share the Country Overview document with relevant parties e.g. by posting on their organizational websites, using social media etc. World Water Day will be on March 22 and is a key opportunity. Further, advocacy events may also take place after the HLMs.

Support from the SWA Secretariat

The SWA Secretariat will facilitate the preparatory process and provide support to current and potential SWA partners through webinars. The support will also include coordination of demand-driven assistance to countries on the application of the SDG costing tool, analysis on the Building Blocks and SWA Collaborative Behaviours Country Profiles. Countries which will need this support should liaise with the Secretariat to arrange bilateral calls which will start on January 26. The Secretariat will either directly provide support or mobilize global partners to respond.

At the global level, the Secretariat has organized three webinars with the following objectives:

1. Webinar 1: Overview of the 2017 HLMs (purpose; concept notes for the FMM and SMM; and outline of the preparatory process);
2. Webinar 2: SDG analysis and the costing tool;
3. Webinar 3: Preliminary information and results from selected countries on sector financing, the Building Blocks and SWA Collaborative Behaviours.

In addition, the Secretariat will also provide communications support and ongoing engagement with partners on the Country Overview documents.

Additional Support and Tools

Preliminary SDG baseline estimates from WHO-UNICEF JMP

The WHO/UNICEF Joint Monitoring Program for Water Supply and Sanitation (JMP) is preparing the 2017 baseline report for the SDGs. Preliminary country estimates based on available national data will be shared with national statistical agencies between January and March 2017. These preliminary estimates could be used to prepare indicative country syntheses on the SDG baseline and magnitude of the challenge to achieve the country’s targets for sanitation, water and hygiene in urban and rural areas.

3 https://www.wssinfo.org/sdg-baselines/
## Activity Timeline

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Activity</th>
<th>Timeline</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>3. Country consultation</td>
<td>January – March 2017</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>4. Final estimates</td>
<td>March – June 2017</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>5. JMP Global Baseline Report</td>
<td>June 2017</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>6. UN SG SDG Progress Report</td>
<td>July 2017</td>
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### SDG costing tool from UNICEF

A tool to calculate the investments needed to fulfil the SDG requirement as well as the financing gap has been prepared with the support of UNICEF. Countries which have not yet done their own costing of the SDG targets (6.1 and 6.2) can use this tool to prepare their estimates. The tool is available in English, French and Spanish. Information from this tool (or other SDG costings where they exist) will be necessary to prepare the financial analysis for the Country Overview.

The SWA Secretariat, working with UNICEF, will also provide direct support to countries that may require additional assistance to work with the tool. In case this assistance is needed, please reach out to the SWA Secretariat using the contact information on page 7.

### SWA Collaborative Behaviours Country Profiles from UN-Water GLAAS

SWA has identified four collaborative behaviours which, if jointly adopted by governments and development partners, would improve long-term sector performance and sustainability. SWA partners agree to:

1. Enhance government leadership of sector planning processes;
2. Strengthen and use country systems;
3. Use one information and mutual accountability platform;
4. Build sustainable water and sanitation sector financing strategies that incorporate financial data on all 3Ts (taxes, tariffs and transfers), as well as estimates for non-tariff household expenditure.

Part of the preparatory process will include analyzing how governments and development partners are applying the SWA Collaborative Behaviours for effective development cooperation. The SWA Steering Committee has agreed and endorsed a set of indicators for each of the Collaborative Behaviours. SWA Collaborative Behaviours Country Profiles will be produced and shared with countries between January and April 2017. Information from the profiles can be used in the sector review, particularly by highlighting how both government and partners apply the Collaborative Behaviours in the sector.

### Discussion Paper on financing SDG 6 from World Bank and UNICEF

The World Bank and UNICEF will share a paper focusing on:

- The magnitude of the challenge, particularly on why SDG 6 is important, the financing gap and why it has not been filled;
- How existing resources can be used more effectively (through analysis of such things as current utilisation of tariffs and taxes, and how service providers can be made more efficient), and the key policy-trade-offs in each sub-sector;
- How new resources for the sector can be accessed by looking at the most viable sources of financing and how they can be leveraged.

The paper is expected at the end of January or early February 2017.
Contact the Secretariat support

For any clarifications on the preparatory process and to arrange bilateral calls on previous webinars, please email Muyatwa.Sitali@sanitationandwaterforall.org.
Annex 1

SWA High-level Meetings of Finance and Sector Ministers
April 2017. Washington D.C., USA.

The Sanitation and Water for All (SWA) partnership was established to address widely recognized obstacles to improving access to sanitation and drinking water such as low political prioritization, insufficient financing and a lack of reliable and comprehensive data. To complement and support government-led, national cycles of planning, implementation and review, SWA convenes government ministers, their advisors, and other key stakeholders to engage in policy debate, exchange lessons learned and hold each other mutually accountable for progress.

In April 2017, SWA will hold a series of ministerial meetings in Washington D.C., USA, at the time of the World Bank Spring Meetings. These meetings will build on previous SWA High-level Meetings of Ministers of Finance (in 2010, 2012, and 2014) and of Ministers responsible for Sanitation, Water and Hygiene (in 2010, 2012, 2014 and 2016). The 2016 SWA Meeting of Ministers of Water, Sanitation and Hygiene was the first occasion for the sector to come together after the Sustainable Development Goals (SDG) were agreed. Countries and their partners discussed national planning to meet the challenges of the water, sanitation and hygiene-related targets and required resources.

In 2017, SWA will hold a Finance Ministers’ Meeting (FMM) on or around 21 April. This meeting will be convened by the World Bank on behalf of the SWA partnership. In the preceding days, a Sector Ministers’ Meeting will be convened by UNICEF on behalf of SWA, involving those ministers responsible for water, sanitation and hygiene who have accompanied their finance counterparts to Washington D.C.

Collectively, these meetings comprise the SWA 2017 High-level Meetings.

Finance Ministers’ Meeting

The Finance Ministers’ Meeting (FMM) on or around 21 April will focus on the question of how to finance the achievement of universal, sustainable access to safely managed sanitation, water and hygiene. The World Bank will convene this 2-hour meeting. Ministers will discuss the policy trade-offs inherent within the choices they need to make. Presentations based on analytic work being done in the lead up to the meeting will address the following questions: How can SDGs be financed by a mix of efficiency gains and additional financing sources mobilized at the level of the countries themselves? How can international cooperation best support institutional development, elimination of inequalities, efficiency gains and access to the domestic finance required to meet the SDGs?

The main objective of the Finance Ministers’ Meeting is to get endorsement of key policy principles on sector financing required to meet the water, sanitation and hygiene-related SDG targets, with an explicit focus on eliminating inefficiencies and achieving universal access.

Sector Ministers’ Meeting

In the days preceding the FMM, UNICEF will convene those ministers responsible for water, sanitation, and hygiene who are accompanying their finance ministers to Washington D.C. This one-and-a-half-day meeting will build on the discussions held in Addis Ababa in March 2016. In particular, ministers will consider the Building Blocks needed to establish the foundations for a strong sector. These are: Sector Policy / Strategy; Institutional arrangements; Sector Financing; Planning, monitoring, and review and Capacity development. They will also discuss the SWA Collaborative Behaviours. These Behaviours, endorsed by the partnership as a whole in 2015 are: 1) Enhance government leadership of sector planning processes; 2) Strengthen and use country systems; 3) Use one information and mutual accountability platform; and 4) Build sustainable water and sanitation sector financing strategies.
The objectives of the Sector Ministers Meeting are to:

- Raise awareness among Ministers of the challenges of the WASH targets of the SDGs and the changes required to meet them;
- Follow-up on and exchange learning on the Building Blocks of a strong sector (presented at the 2016 SMM) - in terms of financing, institutions, capacity, planning, and policy and strategy - that support progress and development effectiveness in order to eliminate inequalities and achieve sustainable universal access;
- Enable Ministers and senior representatives of development partners to discuss the essential collaborative behaviours that foster increased development effectiveness;
- Discuss attracting and utilizing adequate finance, in advance of the Finance Ministers’ Meeting.

To find out more

As planning for the 2017 HLMs continues, updated information will be posted on www sanitationandwaterforall.org. Details about planned webinars and contact details of the SWA Secretariat team can be found here.
Annex 2
Suggested outline and guidance for Country Overview Document
The SWA Secretariat has provided a template for the recommended Country Overview Document. This outline and guidance:

- Enable sector stakeholders to compile or build upon existing sector analysis to generate a succinct Country Overview document which contributes to the sector preparations for the SDGs, including on financing;
- Support consistent preparation by Ministers attending the Washington meetings and promote well-informed, dynamic and progressive discussion during the meetings;
- Provides suggestions and links to available information and tools to compile the information for the Country Overview document.

The Country Overview document can be shared with the SWA Secretariat for input in advance of the HLMs. A sample Country Overview, developed using the outline below, is provided in Annex 3 as a separate Word document for countries to adapt.

Overview of the country’s vision and baseline for the SDGs

- **Country’s sector vision and SDG baseline**
- **Country’s progress towards universal and sustainable access and use, using SDG indicators**
- **Critical issues to be tackled, including required financing to achieve the SDGs, mapping of existing inequalities and measures (financial and others) to eliminate them**

Suggested source materials and tools needed to prepare this section:

- **SDG indicators** – The WHO/UNICEF JMP is preparing baseline estimates for SDG 6.1 and 6.2 – preliminary country estimates will be shared with statistical agencies ahead of the SMM and FMM;
- Nationally available data and information on sector vision and plans if available – where this does not exist, an indication of whether the country is planning to develop a plan which incorporates the SDGs.

Review of the sector’s readiness to achieve the SDGs

- **State of the sector Building Blocks, existing gaps, and binding constraints per sub sector if possible**
- **How government and development partners’ are applying the Collaborative Behaviours**
- **Priority actions to be taken to remove the binding constraints**

Suggested source materials and tools needed to prepare this section:

- **Sample assessment questions on the Building Blocks or where possible, the GLAAS survey data**;
- **Information from recent sector diagnostics carried using tools such as WASH BATS, CSOs, etc.**;
- **The SWA Collaborative Behaviours Country Profiles will be prepared on a rolling basis by UN-Water GLAAS (using various data sources). The first will be expected in February 2017.**

Sector investment needs, the financing gaps and areas for improving efficiency

- **Investment needs to achieve the sector goals and the financing gap, including to target inequalities**
- **Annual capital costs of reaching unserved population to achieve universal access by 2030**
- **Recurrent costs to maintain services and ensure a cadre of qualified personnel to plan, review and oversee delivery of services**
- **Critical areas needing attention**
  a. using existing resources more effectively,
  b. accessing new sources of financing
Suggested materials and tools needed to prepare this section:

- National investment plans, where these do not exist, countries can use the costing tool to calculate the investment needs and financing gap – [link to the tool]
- Analytical discussion paper on financing for the SDGs - expected in January 2017

Planned actions to catalyze progress towards the SDGs

- **Steps the government and partners are prepared to take to make the sector fit for purpose**
  - a. Relevant actions on the Building Blocks (2-3 actions)
  - b. Relevant actions to ensure alignment to the Collaborative Behaviours

- **Agreed actions to reduce the financing gap**
  - a. Actions/steps to use existing resources more effectively e.g. by targeting inequalities
  - b. Strategies/plans to access more financing