

SECTOR MINISTERS' MEETING 2019

San José — Costa Rica — 4-5 April



The Zambia COUNTRY BRIEF

The Country Briefs were prepared by governments ahead of the SWA 2019 Sector Ministers' Meeting. They are a snap-shot of the country's current state in terms of water, sanitation and hygiene, and future targets.

1. Country Context

Located in the Southern part of Africa, Zambia, with an estimated population of 16.4 million (with 51 per cent female and 49 per cent males), covers a total area of 752,612 square kilometres. With the overall population growth rate estimated at 2.8% annually during 2011 to 2035, the population is projected to increase to 27 million in 2035. Most of Zambia's population (58.2 per cent) live in rural areas and are dependent on agriculture for livelihood. Zambia, with 42 per cent of the population residing in urban areas, is one of the most urbanised countries in sub-Saharan Africa. Peri-urban areas have absorbed the bulk of Zambia's urban population, amplified by effects of rural to urban migration.

2. SDGs and the water, sanitation and hygiene sector

According to the 2017 WHO/UNICEF JMP for Water Supply and Sanitation, 39 per cent of the country's population (around 6.4 million people) does not have access to basic drinking water services while 69 per cent (around 11.3 million people) does not have access to basic sanitation services. An estimated 15 per cent of the population practice open defecation.

Progress achieved since SDGs were announced:

The major WASH sector initiatives taken by the Government of the Republic of Zambia (GRZ) since the SDGs were announced include:

- a) Creation of a dedicated Ministry, MWDSEP and a full-fledged Department of Water Supply and Sanitation in the Ministry to provide strong leadership to the WASH sector. The creation of the new Ministry has contributed to streamlining of the coordination mechanism for the WASH sector in Zambia and has resulted in increased synergies and effectiveness in the planning and financing of different programmes in the sector;
- b) Launch of several new programmes to increase coverage of WASH services in rural and urban areas.

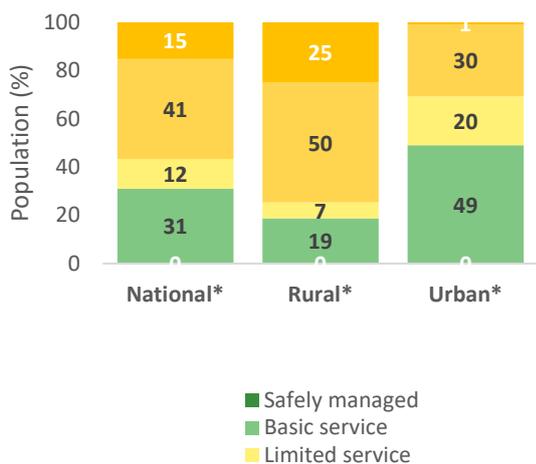
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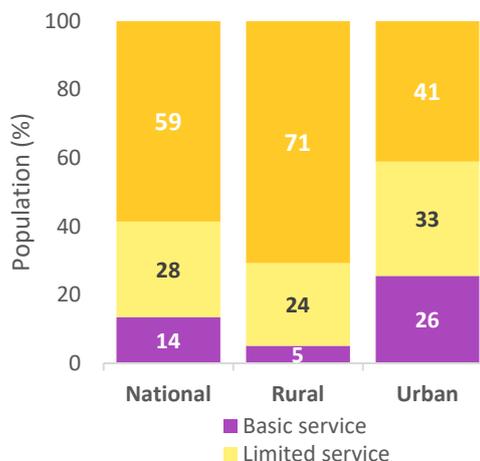


- c) Prioritisation of WASH sector in the 7th National Development Plan (7th NDP), which was launched in 2017 and includes improving access to water and sanitation as one of the key outcomes;
- d) Development of the National Water and Sanitation Policy which will be submitted for approval in 2019;
- e) Development of the 2018-2021 Ministerial Strategic Plan to enable the MWDSEP focus on the implementation of the strategic areas under the 7th NDP;
- f) Operationalisation of the sector thematic working group as a means to strengthen the sector coordination; and
- g) Raising the profile of sanitation and hygiene sub-sector through the development of the National Open Defecation Free Strategy: 2018-2030 and hosting of the first ever National Sanitation Summit.

(i) Sanitation:



(ii) Hygiene:



(iii) Water Supply:

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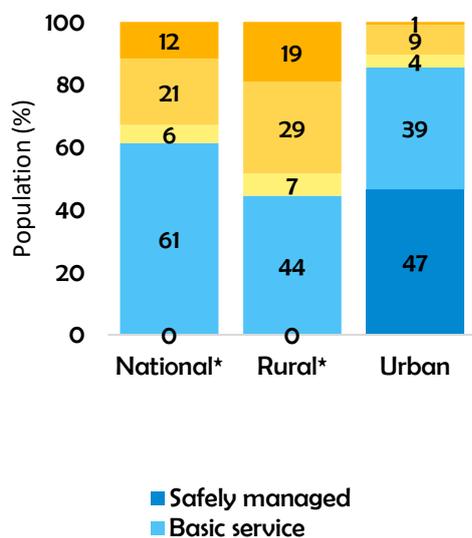


Figure 1. Status of Water Supply and Sanitation in Zambia

National Vision for the sector and targets for the SDGs:

The GRZ recognises the key role of WASH in all aspects of sustainable development, improvement of public health and livelihood of the people. In line with the principal of “leaving no one behind”, GRZ has set out ambitious target to provide 100 per cent access to safe water supply and 90 per cent access to basic sanitation by 2030. The GRZ further reiterated this commitment in the 7th National Development Plan: 2017-2021, which guides the implementation of the Vision 2030 targets. Accordingly, the National Urban and Rural Water Supply and Sanitation programmes prioritise investment for WASH infrastructure development, institutional and sector support activities in rural, peri and urban areas in order to improve the livelihood of the people and contribute to national development.

Main sector challenges and gaps:

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The key WASH sector challenges and gaps include funding gaps; low access to WASH services, particularly to sanitation and hygiene services; lack of a comprehensive sector management information system leading to limited use of data for planning; and capacity gaps.

3. Collaborative Behaviours, Building Blocks and Guiding Principles

Zambia has set out an ambitious campaign to ‘Leave no one behind’ in its development agenda as outlined in the Vision 2030 and the 7th National Development Plan. Implementation of WASH is government led, with coordination from key line Ministries, Cooperating Partners, NGOs, Community, academia and private

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sector. The National Urban and Rural Water Supply and Sanitation Programmes and the Seventh National Development operationalise the Vision 2030 and the SDGs. In terms of the SWA Collaborative Behaviours, government and development partners work together to enhance efficiency in the sector. The government has led the process of developing the sector vision and strategies, which is focussed on achieving universal access by 2030. The majority of development partners implement programmes and provide funding within the framework and structures created by government. In Zambia, water and sanitation is recognized as a human need. It is necessary for health, nutrition, education and other outcomes especially for children and those most deprived.

The extent to which the sector Building Blocks and SWA Collaborative Behaviours have been put in place to ensure sustainable and equitable access to WASH is elaborated below:

- a) Sector Policy and strategy: The government is developing a water and sanitation policy. The Urban Sanitation strategy and ODF strategy are in place to guide sanitation implementation. The target is to achieve ODF by 2030. This is supported by the capacity development strategy which also elaborate the coordination mechanism with other sectors at district level. The government through the national regulator has developed guidelines for regulation of onsite sanitation and rural water supply and sanitation. A WASH behaviour Change Communication strategy is also under development.
- b) Institutional arrangements: The Ministry of Water Development, Sanitation and Environmental Protection (MWDSEP) was created in 2016. The Ministry's overarching vision is to enhance the effective and sustainable provision of adequate safe water and sanitation in line with the Vision 2030 and 7NDP and the Decentralisation policy; this will be done through established local authorities as well as Commercial Utilities and Public-Private Partnerships. Implementation of WASH is government led, with coordination from key line Ministries, Cooperating Partners, NGOs, Community and private sector
- c) Sector financing: The sector is affected by low financing, especially for sanitation. However, government and partners' goal is to mobilise adequate resources to the sector.
- d) Planning Monitoring and Review: The Ministry is developing the Management Information System to plan accurately, provide the service for the underserved population and have clear accountabilities alongside the service delivery chain. WASH key indicators have been harmonised in key national documents (7NDP, National Rural Water Supply and Sanitation Programme, Central Statistics office).
- e) Capacity development: A capacity development strategy was developed in 2015 to guide implementation of individual and institutional capacities.

4. Eliminating Inequalities:

The GRZ is cognizant of the urban-rural disparities in coverage of WASH services in Zambia. The access to water supply is 86 per cent in urban areas and 44 per cent in rural areas. Similarly, access to sanitation is 49

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per cent in urban areas and 19 per cent in rural areas. About 25 per cent of rural population practices open defecation in rural areas compared to one per cent in urban areas.

To address the situation, the Government is taking deliberate measures to improve access in under- and un-served areas, in line with the 7th NDP, which sets separate targets for rural and urban areas. An analysis of water, sanitation coverage along with stunting levels and human development index has been carried out using provincial level coverage statistics based on Living Conditions Monitoring Survey-2015. This analysis is being used to guide the targeting of sector interventions. Moreover, peri-urban areas, which are mostly inhabited by people having low-income, are also being targeted to improved access.

5. Water, sanitation and hygiene financing

In recognition of the gaps in coverage of WASH services, the Government of Republic of Zambia (GRZ) has continued to prioritise the WASH sector, strengthening sector policy and legislative framework and raising the profile of the sector, in addition to implementation of ongoing and new programmes focused on enhancing the coverage of WASH services.

Government will enhance mobilisation of both domestic and external resources to develop water supply and sanitation infrastructure in the country. The sector requires about us\$6.0 billion by 2030 (National Urban and Rural Water Supply and Sanitation Programmes). A Basket Financing Mechanism is under development as a way of strengthening implementation of water and sanitation activities through harmonisation of financial contributions in the sector. This will help reduce the financial gap.

6. Country priorities and commitments

The Government's vision is to attain 100 percent access to clean water and 90 percent access to sanitation by 2030. The Seventh National Development Plan 2017 to 2021 is in place to guide implementation of national targets for the period 2017 to 2021. Below are country targets for water sanitation and hygiene as indicated in the 7NDP:

Water Supply

- 100% of urban population with access to clean and safe basic drinking water by 2021
- 70% of rural population with access to clean and safe basic drinking water by 2021 and 100% by 2030.
- 40% of urban population with access to safely managed drinking water by 2021 and 100% by 2030.
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Sanitation and Hygiene

- Safely Managed Sanitation – 50% urban and 50% rural by 2021 and 90% by 2030
- Basic Sanitation – 70% urban and 50% rural by 2021 and 90% by 2030

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- Open Defecation – reduce to 0 urban and 10% rural by 2021 and 0% by 2030
- 40% of population using a hand washing facility with soap and water by 2021 and 100% by 2030

WASH in Public Institutions

- 70% of health care facilities with basic WASH services by December 2021, and 100% by 2030
- 40% of schools with basic WASH facilities by December 2021 100% by 2030

In terms of commitments, the following drawn from the Seventh National Development Plan 2017 to 2021 are noted:

- The Ministry of Water Development, Sanitation and Environmental Protection to establish by 2020, a Government-led WASH sector coordination mechanism
- The Ministry of Water Development, Sanitation and Environmental Protection to establish by 2020, a Monitoring and Evaluation Framework

Commitments tabled by development partners (cooperating partners, civil society, private sector (drawn from the Consensus Statement - Sanitation Summit of 2018):

- Support the Government in increasing sanitation and hygiene coverage so that no one is left behind.
- Commit to support the Government to expand and sustain a national sanitation and hygiene monitoring and reporting system, and which will be available for use by government, stakeholders and partners,
- Joint commitment to work progressively to achieve a clean, green and healthy Zambia, through accessible, equitable, affordable, appropriate, acceptable and environmentally safe sanitation and hygiene services that all people, especially the people with disability and vulnerable groups, in rural and urban areas can use and maintain with dignity, safety and comfort by 2030

From the above, Zambia remains committed to improving access to water supply and sanitation, focusing on underserved communities in rural and peri-urban areas. Some of the key priority areas include:

- Improve resource mobilization and allocation to the WASH sector
- Finalization of the Water Supply and Sanitation Policy
- Review the Water Supply and Sanitation Act to respond to emerging issues
- Finalize and launch the National Rural Water Supply and Sanitation Programme 2030
- Finalize and launch the National WASH (Behavioral Change) Communication Strategy
- Strengthen M&E/MIS to improve planning, monitoring
- Enhance institutional strengthening/capacity building of lead ministry / MWDSEP (at national and subnational level)
- Implementation of the ODF Strategy 2030
- Implementation of the regulatory framework for onsite sanitation and rural water supply and sanitation.

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7. Mechanisms for review and follow-up on the priorities and commitments

Progress on the commitments will be reviewed through the 7NDP cluster reporting, quarterly technical meetings, WASH MIS, and annual planning and budgeting process.

8. Processes and materials used in the preparation of the Brief

Input provided by GRZ and sector partners, consultative working groups/meetings, National Urban and Rural Water Supply and Sanitation Programme documents, the 7th National Development Plan, Vision 2030, JMP, and SWA Collaborative Behavior Country profile.

9. Contact Details

The Permanent Secretary

Attention: SWA Focal Persons

Ministry of Water Development, Sanitation and Environmental Protection

ZAMBIA