Funding for WASH is still insufficient

Acceleration is needed to achieve national WASH targets

There are more data than ever before on WASH systems and they give unprecedented clarity on how we can accelerate progress.

Data gathered from 121 countries and 23 external support agencies give us the clearest-ever picture of the resourcing, policy and practice gaps we need to fill to get SDG 6 – water and sanitation for all by 2030 – on track.

This is what the data tells us:

- Over 75% of countries have insufficient funding to implement their WASH plans and strategies.
- Only 3% of countries with WASH in health care facilities policies and costed plans have the resources needed to implement them.
- Between 2017 and 2020, 80% of aid for water and sanitation went being directed towards drinking-water, despite progress on SDG target 6.2 on sanitation lagging much further behind.
- Most countries are unable to implement their policies and plans on hand hygiene due to lack of financial and human resources.
- Aid for water and sanitation decreased by almost 9% in 2020.

DATA SHINE A LIGHT: THE WAY AHEAD FOR WASH ACCELERATION

All this new information on WASH and health, climate, gender, financial and human resources is available in the UN-Water Global Analysis and Assessment of Sanitation and Drinking-Water (GLAAS) 2022 report and on the GLAAS data portal at https://glaas.who.int

COUNTRIES THAT ARE ON TRACK TO MEET THEIR NATIONAL DRINKING-WATER AND SANITATION TARGETS ARE MORE LIKELY TO HAVE:

- 75% of countries are on track to achieve their national drinking-water coverage targets.
- Only 3% of countries are on track to achieve their national sanitation targets.
- While 2/3 of countries mention menstrual health and hygiene in their WASH policies and plans.
- Only about 1/3 of countries monitor progress or allocate explicit WASH funding to reach populations disproportionately affected by climate change.
- The threats from climate change to WASH services, technologies and management systems are not addressed in most countries’ WASH policies and plans.
- Very few countries have high levels of community participation in WASH decision-making processes, despite most countries having defined procedures.
- Civic participation is inadequate
- Human resources are too often lacking

Monitoring is underfunded and decisions not always data-driven

- Only 1/3 of countries monitor progress or allocate explicit WASH funding to reach populations disproportionately affected by climate change.
- Sufficient human and financial resources.
- Effective regulatory authorities.
- Recovery of operations and maintenance costs from tariffs.
- Higher utilization of domestic capital commitments.
- Only 25% of countries use data for the majority of their decisions on planning processes and resource allocation.
- Monitoring is underfunded and decisions not always data-driven.
- Civic participation is inadequate
- Human resources are too often lacking
- Very few countries have high levels of community participation in WASH decision-making processes, despite most countries having defined procedures.
- Only 1/3 of countries have high levels of community participation in rural drinking-water planning and management.
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