

ACCELERATING CHANGE IN GLOBAL SANITATION: WORLD TOILET DAY 2023

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Accelerating Change in Global Sanitation





UN 
environment

CHALLENGE:
UNSAFE WATER,
INADEQUATE
SANITATION AND
INSUFFICIENT HYGIENE
KILL **3.5** MILLION PEOPLE
EVERY YEAR



SOLUTION:
STOP DUMPING
CHEMICALS AND WASTE
INTO THE ENVIRONMENT,
INVEST IN SANITATION
AND **RAISE AWARENESS**
ON BEST HYGIENE
PRACTICES



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- Access to clean water and proper sanitation is a fundamental human right, yet millions of people in Eastern and Southern Africa continue to lack access to these basic services.
- And while the world is progressing to achieve SDG 6, Africa is unfortunately the only region sliding backwards.
- Of particular concern, however, is the current regression from the gains relating to open defecation-free status.
- A continent-wide increase of 6% in the practice of open defecation was observed over the reporting period. This undermines the efforts to attain the Ngor Commitments' target of eradicating open defecation fully, by 2030

- In 2020, around 387 million people still lacked a basic level of drinking water service, 737 million lacked basic sanitation services (including 197 million who practiced open defecation), and 811 million still lacked or had limited access to basic hygiene services.
- Around half of schools and health facilities lacked access to proper water and sanitation services (WSS).



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- The UN-Water report on the SDG Goal 6 '***Ensure availability and sustainable management of water and sanitation for all***,' tells us that despite great progress, billions of people still lack access to safe drinking water, sanitation and hygiene.
- Water, sanitation and hygiene (WASH) are essential for human development. Providing people with access to clean water, basic toilets and good hygiene practices remains a key challenge in most African countries.



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Why are good sanitation practices so important?

- Many water-borne pathogens and infections are spread via contaminated water and contribute to issues like diarrhoea and cholera which have a lethal effect on people – particularly the very young and very old. This is very common in most developing countries due to lack of access to safely managed sanitation service.
- At the 4th African Conference on Sanitation and Hygiene (AfricaSan), held in Dakar, Senegal, in 2015, the Ministers and Heads of Delegations responsible for sanitation and hygiene in Africa signed visions and commitments to achieve universal access to adequate and sustainable sanitation and hygiene services and eliminate open defecation by 2030.
- The declaration also acknowledges that poor hygiene practices result in “**a huge burden of disease**”.



Progress on Sanitation and Hygiene Targets in Africa

- The 2022 Annual Report of the Commission on the implementation of the July 2008 Assembly Declaration on the Sharm El-Sheikh Commitments for Accelerating the Achievement of Water and Sanitation Goals in Africa Assembly Decision (Assembly/AU/ Decl.1 (XI)) has shown an increase in investment towards sanitation and hygiene.
- As recorded in the 2022 WASSMO report, the average investment rose from 0.1% to 0.25% of GDP. The increase, however, was noted during the period of Covid-19 pandemic.



FINANCING WATER AND SANITATION

- A radical increase in water and sanitation investments is required to meet Sustainable Development Goal 6: to ensure availability and sustainable management of water and sanitation for all by 2030.
- New sources of finance, and better use of existing sources, are a critical element of the enabling environment we urgently need to create if we are to meet our promises.
- Most countries have WASH (water, sanitation and hygiene) policies supported by national plans. However, the vast majority of countries have insufficient financial resources to implement these plans. Official development assistance has increased modestly in recent years but by nowhere near enough.



FINANCING WATER AND SANITATION

There are three major sources of funds for water and sanitation.

- Taxes from individuals and businesses;
- transfers such as overseas aid, remittances or market interest rate lending; and
- tariffs paid by households, businesses and governments.

The provision of good services depends on effective planning of how these funds are raised, in what proportions, and how they are implemented.



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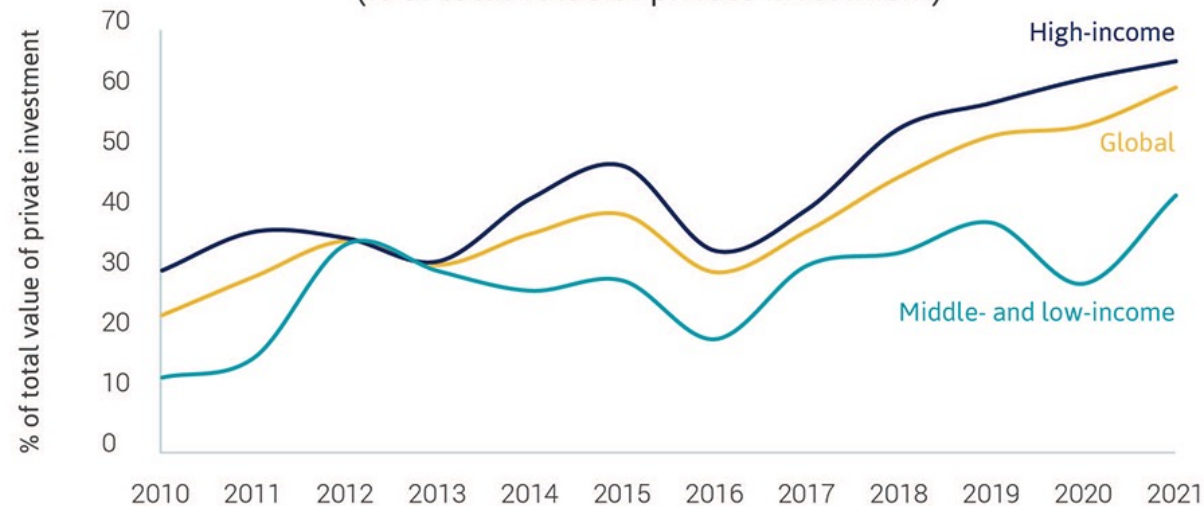


Governments must utilize innovative financing.

- Models for involving the private sector must be part of the funding mix, such as: public private partnerships, micro finance, green bonds and technology transfer.



**Share of green private investment in infrastructure projects
by income group**
(% of total value of private investment)



Source: Global Infrastructure Hub based on IJGlobal data.

Note: 'Green investment in infrastructure' means investment in environmentally sustainable projects supporting the transition to net-zero emissions of carbon dioxide. 'Other Green' includes investments in other subsectors such as electric vehicle charging infrastructure, carbon capture and storage (CCUS) facilities, and electric transport (among others), or investments financed by a sustainable instrument.

Global trends can inform policymakers to accelerate private investment in infrastructure.

Governments can correct market failures that prevent private investment, by ensuring a stable regulatory environment, setting formal mechanisms for creating a project pipeline, publishing infrastructure plans and providing guarantees for projects that are not economically sustainable.



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FINANCING WATER AND SANITATION

The WASH sector must promote smart water and sanitation investments.

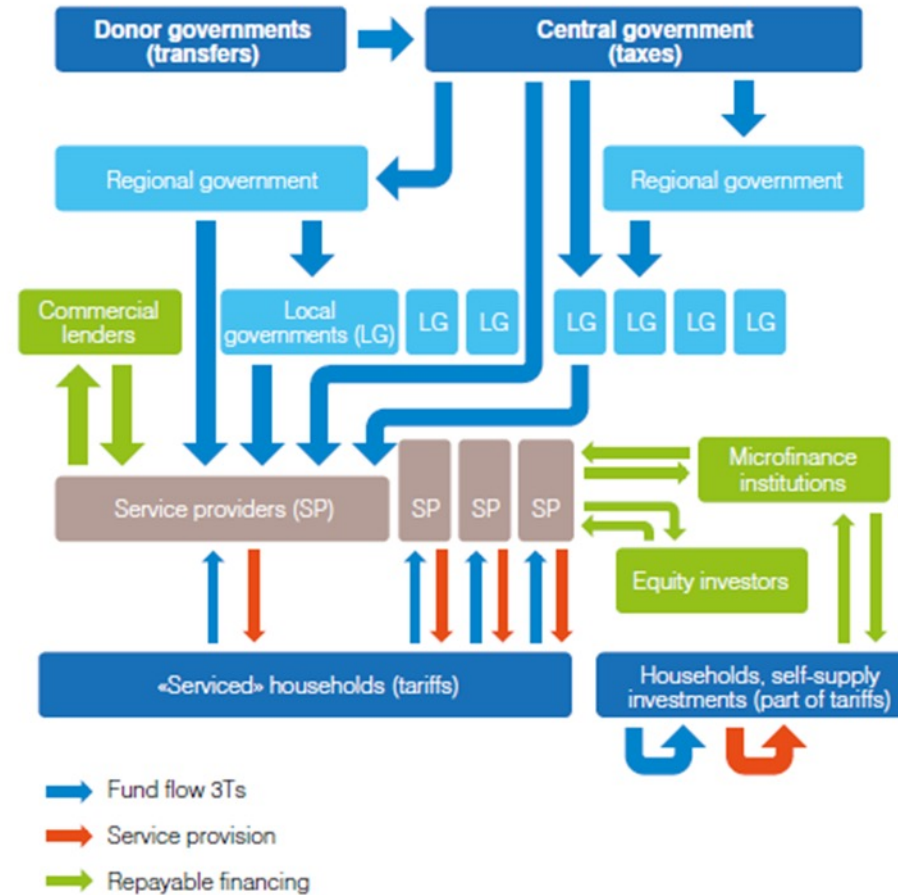
- Cash-strapped local governments, for example, should invest first in retrofitting of existing systems while improving the collection of municipal taxes that in the longer term will generate a viable revenue stream to refinance loans and debt instruments for future investments in new, more expensive infrastructure.



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THANK YOU



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