

Name of the Partnership/Initiative**The Water, Sanitation and Hygiene (WASH) for all Initiative****Expected date of initiation: 1 January 2002****Expected date of completion: 31 December 2015****Partners Involved:**

Governments: Bangladesh, Brazil, Bulgaria, Burkina Faso, China, Colombia, Costa Rica, Egypt, Fiji, Ghana, Guatemala, India, Indonesia, Jamaica, Kenya, Lesotho, Madagascar, Maldives, Morocco, Mozambique, Myanmar, Nepal, Nigeria, Peru, Philippines, Senegal, South Africa, Tajikistan, Tanzania, Trinidad and Tobago, Uganda. (Other interested countries are welcome to join the Initiative.)

Intergovernmental organizations: Water Supply and Sanitation Collaborative Council (WSSCC) to champion this initiative. Close collaboration with UN DESA, UNDP, WHO, UNICEF, UN-Habitat, the World Bank, Asian Development Bank, African Development Bank., Inter-American Development Bank.

Major groups: Strong involvement of the private sector, leading NGOs, community-based organizations, women's groups, etc.

Leading Partner:

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Main objectives of the Partnership/Initiative

The primary objective of this initiative is to deliver by 2015, safe, affordable and reliable water and sanitation services to over 1.1 billion people who have no access to water supply and more than 2.4 billion who have no adequate sanitation. In addition, WASH focuses on teaching basic sanitation and hygiene to school children and communities, with an emphasis on girls' education, as a necessary complement to the success of water and sanitation infrastructure projects. This three-pronged approach to the delivery of basic services is the product of "lessons learned" from the 1990s International Drinking Water Supply and Sanitation Decade. While advancements were made in increasing the access to safe drinking water, less progress was made on the provision of sanitation services and in hygiene education and training. These valuable lessons are now the focus of a global effort to improve the health and productivity of the urban and rural poor in the developing world.

Sixty countries signed the Bonn Declaration Freshwater in December 2001. A major goal of this Declaration is to add a target for increasing access to sanitation to the Millennium Declaration

through the WSSD Type II outcomes, specifically through implementation of the Water, Sanitation and Hygiene for all (WASH) initiative.

Expected results:

Water and sanitation services and training in hygiene education to over 1.1 billion people worldwide by 2015.

Specific targets of the Partnership/Initiative and timeframe for their achievement:

Primary target for 2015: to halve the numbers of people without adequate access to safe water, sanitation service and hygiene education.

Sub-target: 2007: global sector investments have been restructured to ensure adequate allocation of funds to meet the 2015 targets.

Sub-target 2007: programmes designed with partner governments and in process of implementation to deliver on targets. Monitoring systems in place.

Coordination and Implementation mechanism

Proposed coordination and implementation institution is the Water Supply and Sanitation Collaborative Council (WSSCC) through the UN Department of Economic and Social Affairs. Supported by: UNDP, WHO/PAHO, UN-Habitat, UNICEF, World Bank, African Development Bank, Asian Development Bank, Inter-American Development Bank. National governments will be key implementers in partnership with the private sector and NGOs.

Arrangements for funding

Contacts are ongoing with bilateral and multi-lateral donors, private sector and other partners who have expressed keen interest in supporting the WASH initiative. Its success will depend on strong public/private partnerships, countries' and donors' support.

Arrangements for capacity building and technology transfer

The WASH initiative seeks to promote political will and deliver the infrastructure for the delivery of water and sanitation services to under-served communities in both rural and urban areas. In addition to the investments in hardware for service delivery, WASH emphasizes the need to effect behavioural changes in hygiene and in water management and sanitation practices. Public awareness and understanding of the linkages between water, sanitation and hygiene to poverty alleviation and sustainable development are important elements of capacity building for this initiative. Technology transfer will be site-specific and will support the use of new, innovative service delivery systems as well as promote the use of traditional systems such as rainwater harvesting where appropriate.

Links of Partnership/Initiative with on-going sustainable development activities at the international and/or regional level (if any)

The initiative will be an integral component of the WASH campaign launched at the International

Conference on Freshwater in Bonn, Germany, in December 2001. It is a response to the Bonn recommendations for action no.2 which states, inter alia: “Ensure that water infrastructure and services deliver to poor people and that they should be gender-sensitive”; “Governments should review the priority given to water and sanitation and to productive water infrastructure in national and international programmes to tackle poverty ..” and that “...the plans should be realistic and targeted to the needs of the poor, and should include targets and indicators of progress at all levels.” WASH is based on the principles of the “Vision 21-Water for People” initiative, which was presented at the Second World Water Forum in The Hague, The Netherlands in 2000, following extensive consultations and the participation of over 2000 people, representing the multi-stakeholders from more than 130 countries. It responds to the recommendations of Agenda 21, Chapter 18 on Freshwater as well as chapters on gender, health, civil society, communication and related sustainable development issues. It will be an important outcome of the WSSD as it directly responds to the Millennium Declaration goal “to halve the proportion of people without access to safe drinking water” as well as an implementation of the recommendation of the Plan of Action “to increase access to sanitation to improve human health and reduce infant mortality, prioritizing water and sanitation in national sustainable development strategies and poverty reduction strategies where they exist.”

Monitoring Arrangements

Under the UN Department of Economic and Social Affairs (UNDESA) auspices and in collaboration with other partner agencies, the WASH Initiative will be tasked with providing annual monitoring reports against targets. The WSSCC has an existing thematic group on Monitoring and Evaluation that monitors progress and evaluates implementation as mandated by the Iguacu Action Programme agreed upon at WSSCC’s Fifth Global Forum in Foz do Iguacu, Brazil in 2000. The WSSCC regularly reviews its programmes and activities at its global fora held every three years; the next Forum will be held in Dakar, Senegal, in December 2003. Progress on WASH activities worldwide will be reported regularly through electronic and hardcopy versions of “Source Newsletter,” the WSSCC website and a new electronic service - WASHinfo.net – which will be linked to the UN DESA and other partners’ website.

Other relevant information:

Mandated by a United Nations General Assembly resolution in 1990, the WSSCC is a global alliance of multi-stakeholders including bilateral and multi-lateral organizations, NGOs and CBOs, private sector organizations, research and training institutions, womens’ groups, UN agencies and other concerned individuals working in more than 140 countries. Its mission is: “to accelerate the achievement of sustainable water, sanitation and waste management services to all people, with special attention to the unserved poor, by enhancing collaboration among developing countries and external support agencies and through concerted action programmes.” The WSSC Secretariat is based in Geneva, Switzerland.

Web-site: www.wsscc.org

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