

INVESTING IN WATER AND SANITATION: INCREASING ACCESS, REDUCING INEQUALITIES

GLAAS 2014 findings —
Highlights for the Eastern Mediterranean Region



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In this regional analysis, the UN-Water Global Analysis and Assessment of Sanitation and Drinking-Water (GLAAS) 2013/2014 country survey data from 11 Eastern Mediterranean Member States and territories, i.e. countries,¹ are presented along with information provided by 23 external support agencies (ESAs).² The full UN-Water GLAAS 2014 Report, Investing in Water and Sanitation: Increasing Access, Reducing Inequalities was released on November 19th, 2014. It presents data from 94 countries, covering all Millennium Development Goal (MDG) regions. It also includes data from 23 ESAs, representing over 90% of official development assistance (ODA) for sanitation and drinking-water. More detailed information about the GLAAS survey and methodology can be found in Annex A of the full report.³

PURPOSE OF GLAAS

The objective of GLAAS, which is implemented by WHO, is to monitor the inputs (human resources and finance) and the enabling environment (laws, plans and policies, institutional arrangements, monitoring) required to extend and sustain water, sanitation and hygiene (WASH) systems and services to all, and especially to the most disadvantaged population groups. GLAAS also analyses the factors associated with progress in order to identify drivers and bottlenecks, highlight knowledge gaps and assess strengths and challenges within and across countries. GLAAS facilitates the creation and strengthening of government-led platforms that bring together the many institutions and actors influencing WASH service delivery. In addition, the GLAAS findings are being used to:

- Promote country and ESA mutual accountability;
- Improve country planning and monitoring processes and support decision-makers to target efforts and resources for more equitable WASH outcomes;
- Identify gaps in understanding and tracking of financing to the WASH sector, supported by the UN-Water GLAAS TrackFin initiative, which aims to strengthen national systems for the collection and analysis of financial information; and
- Review and inform formulation of commitments that feed into the Sanitation and Water for All (SWA) processes.

This report presents charts and descriptive tabular summaries for numerous drinking-water and sanitation indicators and benchmarks reported by surveyed countries. Financial data presented in the tables or charts are, in a majority of cases, for 2012. For some key indicators, a dashboard of maps and figures is provided to present a geographical summary and global summary statistics. Charts and tabular summaries also generally indicate the number of responses that were considered in the analysis or particular question. This number does not necessarily equal the total number of respondents to the survey, as not every country or ESA answered all parts of the survey, and in many cases the data were collected from an already existing source (e.g. OECD-CRS).

¹ Afghanistan, Iran (Islamic Republic of), Jordan, Lebanon, Morocco, Oman, Pakistan, Sudan, Tunisia, West Bank and Gaza Strip, and Yemen out of 22 total Eastern Mediterranean countries.

² External Support Agencies (ESAs) comprise donors (governments) and other sources of funding/support (e.g. non-governmental organizations and foundations) that provide Official Development Assistance (ODA). A complete list of ESAs included in this analysis can be found in the Contribution section of this report, p. 18.

³ Investing in Water and Sanitation: Increasing Access, Reducing Inequalities. UN-Water Global Analysis and Assessment of Sanitation and Drinking-Water, GLAAS 2014 Report. See http://www.who.int/water_sanitation_health/glaas/en/

In most Eastern Mediterranean Region (EMR) countries, sanitation and drinking-water policies, plans and strategies are in place to reach vulnerable groups such as those living in poverty. However, monitoring progress in access and service provision for the poor is carried out in less than one-half of countries, and only two of the eleven countries have applied finance measures that are targeted towards reducing inequalities in access to sanitation and drinking-water for the poor (Table 1).

Implementation of monitoring measures and availability of finance resources lag behind adopted policy goals/measures for reaching poor and vulnerable populations.

Table 1

Measures of inequality for those living in poverty

	World Bank country income category	Number of countries	GOVERNANCE	MONITORING	FINANCE	PERCENTAGE OF COUNTRIES
			Universal access policy specifically includes measures for the poor	Monitoring system tracks progress in extending services for the poor	Finance measures to reduce disparity between the rich and the poor are consistently applied	
SANITATION	High income and upper middle income	5	60%	20%	0%	80–100% 60–79% 40–59% 0–39%
	Lower middle income and low income	6	83%	67%	33%	
	Total (EMR)	11	73%	45%	18%	
	Total (Global)	94	79%	44%	22%	
WATER	High income and upper middle income	5	60%	40%	20%	
	Lower middle income and low income	6	83%	50%	17%	
	Total (EMR)	11	73%	45%	18%	
	Total (Global)	94	79%	39%	18%	

Source: GLAAS 2013/2014 country survey.

Country commitments to eliminate inequalities in WASH

The third Sanitation and Water for All (SWA) High Level Meeting (HLM) took place on 11 April 2014. This meeting provided an opportunity for countries to make commitments to strengthen accountability in the WASH sector. A focus on eliminating inequalities and improving sustainability was evident in the commitments made by some Eastern Mediterranean countries. Some examples of country commitments for the region include:¹

- Afghanistan's commitments to increase WASH sector investment and eliminate open defecation with the development and implementation of a hygiene and sanitation strategy;
- Pakistan to develop a national monitoring framework to address inequalities in WASH access, based on provincial frameworks established for sanitation and drinking-water; and
- Sudan making a commitment to design a framework to monitor equitable and sustainable delivery of WASH services.

¹ 2014 SWA High Level Dialogue Summaries: Statement of Commitments of Afghanistan, Pakistan, and Sudan. See: <http://sanitationandwaterforall.org/priority-areas/political-prioritization/2014-hlm>

Human right to water and sanitation

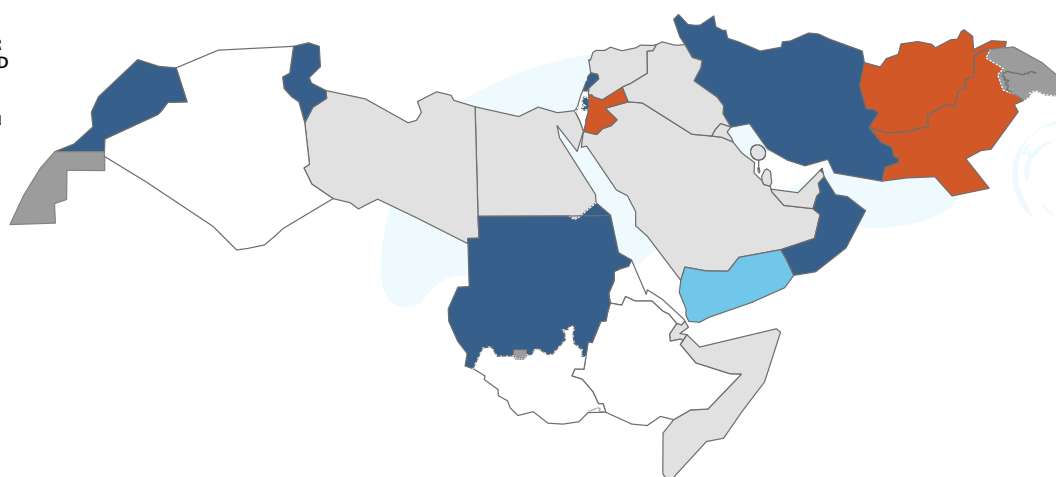
There is some considerable progress on the formal recognition of the right to water and sanitation in line with the 2010 UN Resolution on the Right to Water and Sanitation. Eight of the 11 Eastern Mediterranean countries surveyed have recognized the human right to water and seven out of 11 of Eastern Mediterranean countries surveyed have recognized the right to sanitation in their constitutions or other legislation (Figure 1).¹

A majority of countries have recognized the human right to water and sanitation in their constitutions or other legislation (Figure 1).

Figure 1 Countries in the Eastern Mediterranean Region recognizing human right to water and sanitation in constitution or law

DOES THE CONSTITUTION OR OTHER LEGISLATION RECOGNIZE WATER AND SANITATION AS A HUMAN RIGHT?

- YES, FOR BOTH WATER AND SANITATION
- YES, WATER ONLY
- NO
- DATA NOT AVAILABLE
- NOT WITHIN EMRO REGION
- NOT APPLICABLE



Source: GLAAS 2013/2014 country survey.

WEST BANK AND GAZA STRIP

Laws explicitly recognize the human right to water

The Palestinian Water Law 3/2002 explicitly recognizes the right to water by stipulating that “Every person shall have the right to obtain his needs of water of suitable quality for his use, and every official or private institution that provides water services must take the necessary steps to insure this right and to make the necessary plans for developing these services.” Additional legislation includes the Law on Local Authorities (1997), stating that, (translated from Arabic) “Local councils must provide water with good quality and also to provide sanitation services as basics for human being living.”

The recognition of the human right to water and sanitation is also reflected in most recent 2014–2016 national water and wastewater policy and reform plan principles, which state that:

- Water has a unique value for human survival and health. Each citizen has the right to sufficient and affordable water of the required quality for the purpose of use; and
- Each citizen has the right to hygienic sanitation services.

Source: GLAAS 2013/2014 country survey and “Final Water Sector Reform Plan 2014–16”, Palestinian Water Authority (www.pwa.ps).

¹ Jordan has ratified the Human rights council resolution 15/L.14 – Human rights and access to safe drinking-water and sanitation. Sector is governed by Water Authority Law No. 18-1988 and related regulations.

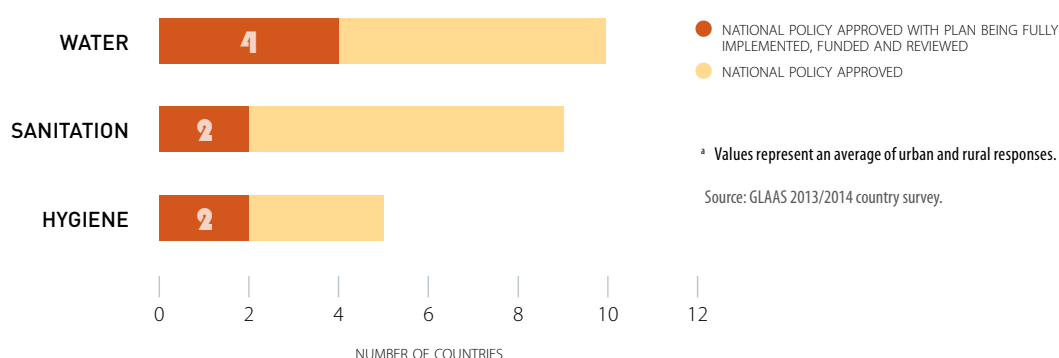
National policies, implementation, and monitoring

National policies for drinking-water and sanitation are largely in place in the Eastern Mediterranean Region with over 80% of countries reporting to have approved national policies. However, most countries report only partial implementation of national policies and plans.¹

Only four out of 11 respondent countries report having plans that are being fully implemented, funded and regularly reviewed for drinking-water (Figure 2).

Figure 2

National policies, implementation and monitoring^a



JORDAN

Ingredients for success

Despite the water scarcity challenge in the country and limited available financial resources, Jordan has made major achievements in providing almost universal access to drinking-water and improved sanitation.

In terms of governance, several ministries and institutions share the responsibilities for sanitation and drinking-water services. The Ministry of Health leads local hygiene promotion initiatives and has a number of responsibilities in sanitation and water. Executive Development Plans have been developed in collaboration with all stakeholders and implemented in support of Royal directives and the National Agenda. These development plans identify the specific objectives in every sector, including water and sanitation, and define timelines for the implementation and achievement of objectives. For instance, the 2011–2013 Executive Development Plan outlined several challenges in water and sanitation, specified over 12 performance indicators and a large number of specific projects and activities across water sector institutions. Highlighting the importance of the water and sanitation, planned expenditures for the sector comprised more than 20% of total planned development program expenditures, more than healthcare and energy infrastructure combined. The Ministry of Water and Irrigation is the lead institution for policy and strategy formulation, development of investment plans, and financing of projects in the country. The Water Authority of Jordan and public utilities are responsible for water and wastewater service provision. Surveillance is currently performed by Water Authority of Jordan, a service provider, and is also performed directly by the Ministry of Health, which acts as an independent regulator.

Jordan has clearly defined performance indicators for monitoring the performance of utilities (e.g. ratio of expenditure versus budget allocation, per cent of wastewater reuse, non-revenue water, operating ratio, etc.) and Jordanians enjoy equal and non-discriminatory access to water and sanitation services. Water is subsidized for low-income populations. However, no tracking system exists for different population groups, mainly because services are tracked against service areas and population centres.

There is a human resource strategy for delivering drinking-water and sanitation services (including hygiene promotion). Capacity is being developed to meet current and future needs and the Water Authority of Jordan has its own centre for training operators.

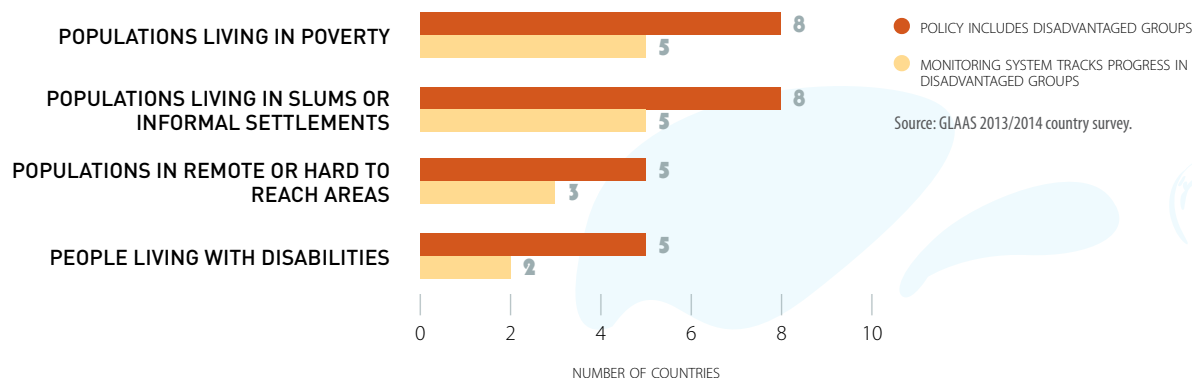
Jordan has developed mechanisms to allocate, spend, and track financial flows for the WASH sector. At the beginning of every fiscal year, the Budget Law for the Government is prepared with estimated committed funding for WASH. At the end of the fiscal year a new report is prepared that includes expenditures.

¹ The levels of implementation in the GLAAS survey included a five-point scale: 1) no national policy or under development, 2) national policy formally approved and communicated through formal public announcement, 3) implementation plan developed based on approved policy, 4) policy and plan costed and being partially implemented, 5) plan being fully implemented, with funding and regularly reviewed.

Countries report that they have policies to target disadvantaged groups, but a gap remains in their capacity to track progress for these groups (Figure 3).

Figure 3

Number of countries with a policy or plan for universal access which explicitly includes measures to reach disadvantaged population groups compared to the number of countries which have monitoring systems that track progress in extending service provision to those population groups (11 countries)^a



^a Note: Results for monitoring systems that track progress in extending service provision to disadvantaged groups represent an aggregation of drinking-water and sanitation findings.

Few countries use available data to make funding decisions, especially in sanitation.

- Only three of 11 (27%) Eastern Mediterranean countries have and consistently use available data for resource allocation in the sanitation sector, as compared to six out of 11 (55%) for resource allocation in the drinking-water sector.
- By contrast, in the health sector, data-based decision making is used by eight out of 11 (73%) countries to respond to water and sanitation related disease outbreaks.

Internal monitoring results are frequently not reported nor acted upon in sanitation – only six countries (54%) indicate that formal urban sanitation service providers report the results of internal monitoring to regulatory authorities and that these results trigger corrective action (Figure 4).

Figure 4

Number of Eastern Mediterranean countries in which service providers report the results of internal monitoring against required service standards to the regulatory authority and internal monitoring triggers timely corrective action (11 countries)

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