

Progress on the ‘eThekwini commitments on sanitation’¹

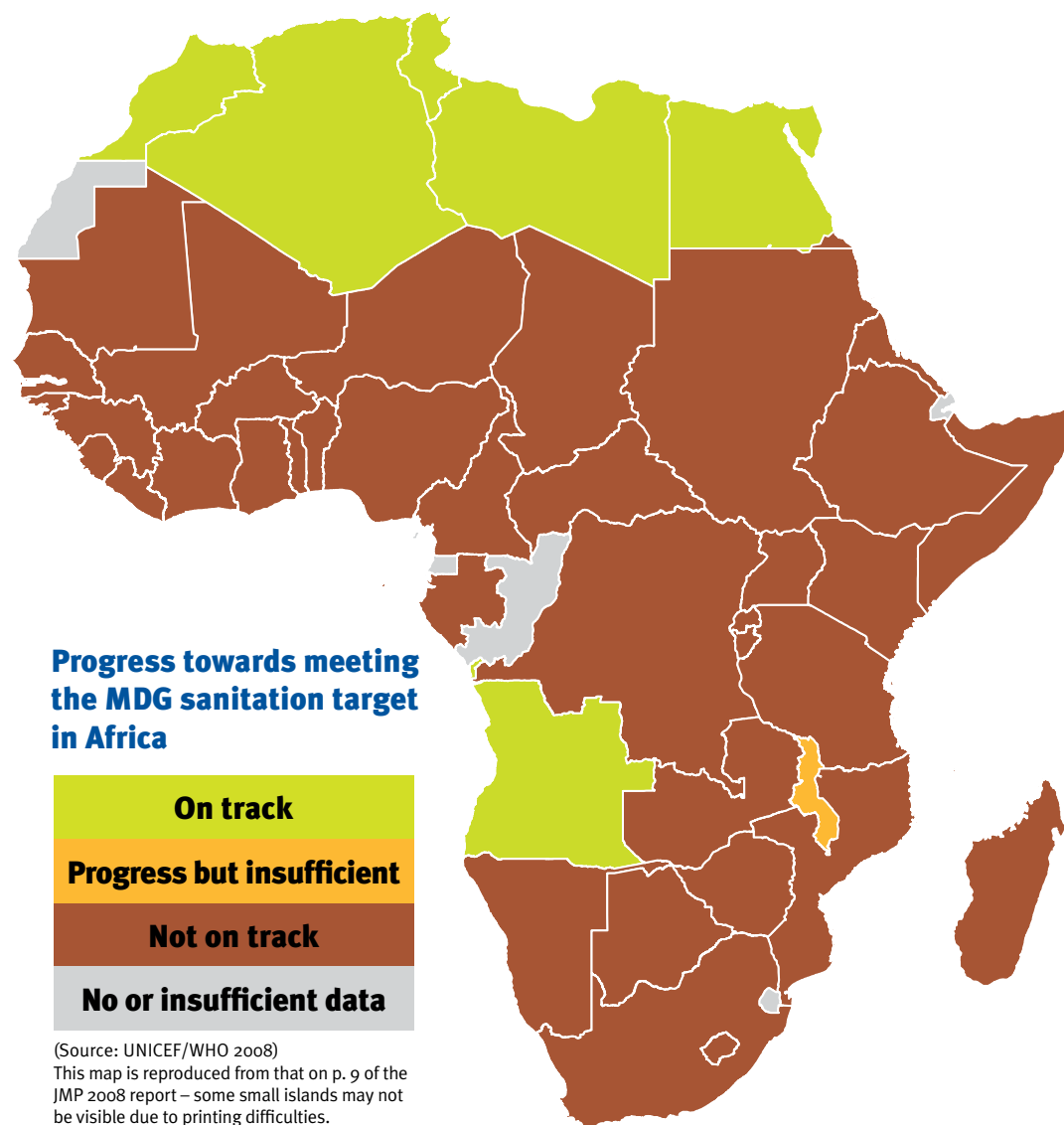
Africa is off-track to meet the Millennium Development Goal (MDG) target for sanitation. At current rates of progress the target – to reduce by half those without access to adequate sanitation by 2015 – will not be met until 2084². Securing progress on sanitation is critical to wider development efforts and in particular to accelerating progress against the health, education and poverty MDGs³. It is estimated that 780,000 children die each year from diarrhoeal diseases in Africa⁴. Poor sanitation – alongside unsafe drinking water – causes 88% of these deaths⁵.

Recognising that 589 million⁶ Africans currently do not have access to safe sanitation, the Ministers and Heads of Delegation responsible for sanitation from 32 African countries came together at the Second African Conference on Sanitation and Hygiene (AfricaSan) to sign the eThekwini Declaration. Under this declaration, African

governments pledged themselves to the ‘eThekwini commitments on sanitation’. The eThekwini Declaration was then endorsed by African Heads of State at the AU Summit in 2008 in the Sharm El Sheikh Declaration⁷.

From 9 to 13 November, African government representatives will come together at the second Africa Water Week (AWW2) organised by the African Ministers Council on Water (AMCOW) and the South African Department of Water and Environmental Affairs. In advance of this meeting, UNICEF, WaterAid, and the World Bank’s Water and Sanitation Programme (WSP) came together to map progress across Africa in implementing the ‘eThekwini commitments’.

The information presented overleaf represents the initial work done by these three agencies and is now shared in draft form to provide the basis for discussion and wider validation.



Red, yellow, green: Progress towards the eThekwini commitments*

Green = Good progress (2 points)
Yellow = Some progress (1 point)
Red = Insufficient progress (0 points)
Grey = No data

eThekwini Commitments on Sanitation	West Africa																North Africa				East Africa										Central Africa								Southern Africa												TOTAL		
	Benin	Burkina Faso	Cape Verde	Cote D'Ivoire	Gambia	Ghana	Guinea Bissau	Guinea Conakry	Liberia	Mali	Mauritania	Niger	Nigeria	Senegal	Sierra Leone	Togo	Algeria	Egypt	Libya	Morocco	Tunisia	Burundi	Djibouti	Eritrea	Ethiopia	Kenya	Rwanda	Somalia	Sudan	Tanzania	Uganda	Cameroon	Central African Republic	Chad	Democratic Republic of the Congo	Congo Brazzaville	Equatorial Guinea	Gabon	Sao Taome and Principe	Angola	Botswana	Comoros	Lesotho	Madagascar	Malawi	Mozambique	Namibia	South Africa	Swaziland	Zambia	Zimbabwe		
	Did they sign eThekwini, and who signed it?	2	2	0	2	2	2	0	0	0	2	2	2	0	2	2	0		1				2	2	0	2	2	2	0	2	2	2		2	0		2			0	0	0	0	0	0	2	2	2	2	0	0	0	
	Is there a national sanitation policy?	2	2	2	0	1	2	1	1	1	2	0	2	2	2	2	2		2				1	1	1	2	2	2	0	1	1	2		1	0		1			1	0	2	0	2	2	1	1	2	2	0	1	1	57
	Is there one national plan to meet the MDG target?	2	2	1	2	2	2	1	2	0	2	1	1	1	2	2	2		1				1	2	2	2	2	2	0	0	0	2		0	1		2			1	0	2	1	2	2	0	1	1	2	2	2	1	60
	What profile is given to sanitation within the PRSP?	2	2	2	2	2	2	1	2	2	1	1	1	0	2	1	2		2				1	1	1	2	2	2	0	1	2	2		1	0		1			1	1	1	1	2	1	1	1	2	1	0	2	0	58
	Is there a principal accountable institution to take leadership?	1	1	1	1	2	2	2	2	1	2	2	1	1	2	2	2		2				2	1	2	2	2	2	0	1	2	1		1	2		1			2	1	2	0	2	2	1	0	1	2	2	2	2	66
	Is there one coordinating body involving all stakeholders?	2	2	1	1	2	2	1	1	0	1	0	2	1	2	2	1		2				0	2	2	2	2	2	0	1	2	2		0	1		0			2	1	1	0	0	1	1	1	1	2	2	2	2	55
	Is there a specific public sector budget line for sanitation?	2	2	2	1	2	2	0	0	0	1	1	1	1	0	2	1		1				0	1	2	2	2	1	0	1	2	1		0	0		1			2	0	2	0	2	0	1	1	1	2	2	2	0	47
	Is 0.5% of GDP allocated to sanitation?	1	0	1	0	0	1	0	0	0	0	0	1	0	1	1	0		1				0	1	1	1	1	0	0	0	1	1		0	0		1			2	1	0	0	0	0	0	0	1	1	0	0	0	19
Is there a sanitation monitoring and evaluation (M+E) system?	1	2	1	0	1	0	0	1	0	0	0	1	0	2	1	0		0				0	0	2	1	1	1	0	1	0	2		0	1		1			0	1	1	0	1	1	0	1	1	2	2	1	1	33	
Do institutional sanitation programs include gender aspects?	1	2	2	2	0	1	0	1	1	2	0	1	1	1	2	2		0				0	1	2	2	2	1	0	2	2	2		2	2		2			2	1	2	0	2	1	1	2	1	2	2	2	2	60	

*Criteria available at www.wateraid.org/africawaterweek

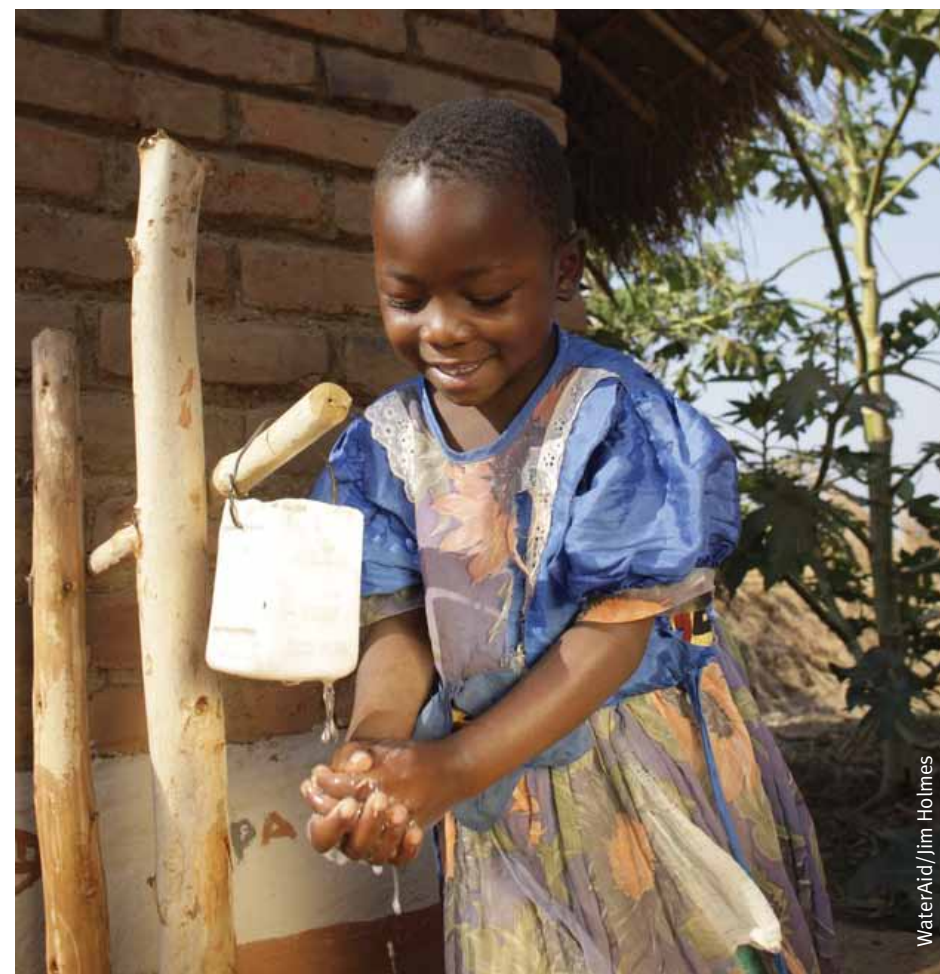
Positive trends and areas for greater focus

On the basis of the draft information presented for discussion, important positive trends are discernible across many African regions and countries. These trends – showing real progress in ensuring the eThekweni commitments on sanitation are met – include the following:

1. There is a national sanitation policy.
2. There is one national plan to meet the MDG sanitation target.
3. Adequate profile is given to sanitation in the PRSP.
4. There is a principal accountable institution.
5. There is one coordinating body.

At the same time, areas that warrant greater focus are apparent. Across many African regions and countries, there has been less progress in ensuring the following eThekweni commitments are met:

1. There is a specific public sector budget line for sanitation.
2. 0.5% GDP is allocated to sanitation.
3. There is a monitoring and evaluation system for sanitation.



For more information relating to this paper please contact amcow2@yahoo.com or go to www.amcow.net, www.unicef.org, www.wateraid.org or www.wsp.org.

1. Refers to the 'eThekweni Commitments on Sanitation' set out in the eThekweni Declaration, available at: <http://www.wsp.org/UserFiles/file/eThekweniAfricaSan.pdf> (accessed October 26th)
2. WaterAid – adapted from JMP 2008 data
3. Progress to sanitation has been linked to all the MDGs but in particular to MDG 1 (Poverty and hunger); MDG 2 (Education); MDG 3 (Gender); and MDG 4 (Child mortality)
4. Adapted from UNICEF (2009) *State of the World's Children 2009*
5. WHO (2008) *Safer Water, Better Health*
6. As stated in the eThekweni Declaration, *ibid*
7. Available at: http://www.worldwaterforum5.org/fileadmin/WWF5/Preparatory_Process/regional_process/Sharm_El-Sheikh_Summit_Resolution.pdf (accessed October 26th)