

WaterAid position paper on Sustainable Development Framework goal indicators

Goal 6. Ensure availability and sustainable management of water and sanitation for all.

Target: 6.1 – By 2030, achieve universal and equitable access to safe and affordable drinking water for all.

Proposed indicators for water

6.1.1 Percentage of population using safely managed drinking water services

This is a good indicator, but should explicitly mention the **specific disaggregation** to ensure the need for equity and universal coverage, particularly access for those away from home in schools or health centres is covered. To achieve this, we recommend adding at the end ‘disaggregated by service level (basic, safely managed) and location (home, school, health centre)’.

WaterAid proposal:

Percentage of population using safely managed drinking water services disaggregated by service level (basic, safely managed) and location (home, school, health centre).

6.1.2 Average weekly time spent in water collection (including waiting time at public supply points), by sex, age, location and income

This should be reworded to reflect WASH sector consensus¹ that ‘basic service’ should be defined as an ‘improved’ facility **within 30 min round trip**.

WaterAid proposal:

Percentage of population using basic water service by sex, age, location (home, school, health centre) and income.

¹ Between 2011 and 2013, more than 70 organisations working in the water and sanitation sector took part in a consultation known as the WASH Sector technical experts consultation. This has led to firm consensus of technical experts working across a range of UN agencies on how access to water and sanitation can be measured. For further information, please visit <http://bit.ly/washconsult>

Target: 6.2 – By 2030, achieve access to adequate and equitable sanitation and hygiene for all, and end open defecation, paying special attention to the needs of women and girls and those in vulnerable situations.

Proposed indicators for sanitation

6.2.1 Percentage of population using safely managed sanitation services

As with the water target, this needs explicit reference to **specific disaggregation** to address the need for equity, progress up the service ladder from open defecation to safely managed services and access in vulnerable situations, particularly schools and health centres. So the additional requirement ‘disaggregated by service level (open defecation-free [ODF], basic, safely managed) and location (home, school, health centre)’ should be included.

WaterAid proposal:

Percentage of population using safely managed sanitation services disaggregated by service level (ODF, basic, safely managed) and location (home, school, health centre).

Proposed indicators for hygiene

Having been left out of the Millennium Development Goals, hygiene is explicitly mentioned on the first page of the declaration of the Sustainable Development framework. This represents its status as a globally relevant development intervention.

Hygiene is specifically mentioned in the target, and a viable indicator has been proposed by the World Health Organization and Unicef, with data already existing for at least 50 countries.² Despite this, it has not been included as a suggested indicator by the Inter-Agency and Expert Group (IAEG).

To reflect the intent of the target and to ensure the IAEG does not inadvertently diminish the ambition of the framework, we strongly recommend the inclusion of an indicator to measure hygiene, with additionally specified disaggregation of location (home, school, health centre), to focus on those in vulnerable situations.

WaterAid proposal:

6.2.2 Percentage of population using a handwashing facility with water and soap, disaggregated by location (home, school, health centre).

² The 2015 report of the WHO/UNICEF Joint Monitoring Programme makes these data available and can be found at <http://bit.ly/hygiene2015>

Goal 3. Ensure healthy lives and promote well-being for all at all ages.

Target 3.8 – Achieve universal health coverage (UHC), including financial risk protection, access to quality essential healthcare services, and access to safe, effective, quality and affordable essential medicines and vaccines for all.

Proposed indicator: Quality essential healthcare service

3.8.2 Coverage of tracer interventions (e.g. child full immunisation, ARV therapy, TB treatment, hypertension treatment, skilled attendant at birth, etc.)

It is impossible for people to receive quality essential healthcare services in health centres if these facilities do not use safely managed water, sanitation and hygiene services. It is also impossible for women to access such facilities with dignity if safely managed sanitation and menstrual hygiene management facilities are not provided. Additionally, access to water, sanitation and hygiene in the household is critical to public health and an essential element of universal health coverage.

The recent World Bank and World Health Organization³ first global monitoring report on universal health coverage (UHC) explicitly incorporates water and sanitation measurement and it would be incoherent to create a new indicator framework without reference to WASH access.

WaterAid proposal:

Tracer interventions for UHC must include the following, and these should be explicitly stated within the document endorsed by the UN statistical commission in March 2016:

- a) Percentage of healthcare facilities providing access to safely managed water, sanitation and hygiene, including menstrual hygiene management
- b) Percentage of the population with access to sanitation, water and hygiene at home

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³ A copy of the report can be found here <http://bit.ly/washuhc>