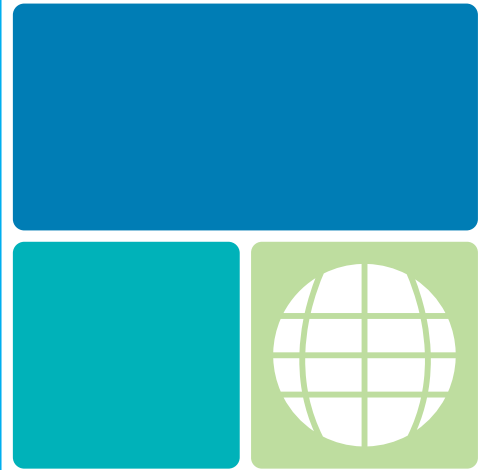
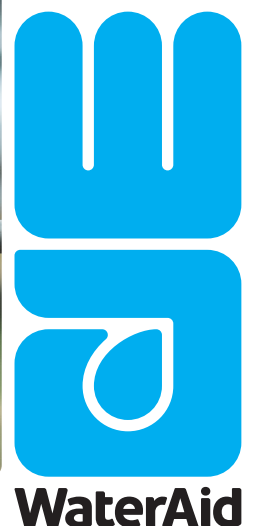


# Investing in water, sanitation and hygiene for global recovery and resilience

An agenda for the G7  
and G20 summits in 2021



WaterAid/Nyani Quarumyne/Panos



# Contents

## Executive summary

1. Ending the COVID-19 pandemic through vaccine equity and integrated health interventions
2. Investing in WASH to catalyse resilience to health and climate threats
3. Emergency funding to free up fiscal space for the provision of WASH services

## Conclusion

## Resources

## References

3

5

6

11

13

13

14



▲ (Right) Jemima, 12, student in Grade 6, outside the girls toilet with friends (M-L) Bonni and Chanel at Ginigolo-Gunugau Primary School, Rigo District, Papua New Guinea. October 2018.



◀ Elisa Ravaoarisoa, 28, and her newborn baby, Olivia, standing with the head of the health centre, Dr Bakoarivony, Manjakandriana commune, Analamanga region, Madagascar. November 2020.

# Executive summary

The devastating combination of climate change and the COVID-19 pandemic threatens lives and livelihoods the world over, with a disproportionate impact falling on the world's poorest people. These threats, exacerbated by increasing inequalities and a looming debt crisis, highlight systemic flaws in our global economy.

We now have a critical opportunity to shift towards healthier, more sustainable economies, and equitable societies that work for both people and planet. In 2021, more than any other year, the international community expects the world's most powerful governments to step up – setting out ambitious and comprehensive plans to address the ongoing and unequal impact of the COVID-19 and climate crises.

**The immediate priority must be to end the COVID-19 pandemic by investing in an equitable vaccine rollout that integrates hygiene behaviour change programmes.** As donor governments prepare for this year's G7 and G20 summits, one thing is abundantly clear – until the pandemic ends everywhere, it remains a threat, including to economies and people in G7 and G20 countries.<sup>2</sup> The world's richest nations have a moral and economic responsibility to make available the prevention and treatment measures<sup>3</sup> that could save hundreds of thousands of lives. It is the right thing to do, and the smart thing, to protect global prosperity jeopardised by a prolonged pandemic.

Without swift and comprehensive action by the G7 and the G20 to invest in preventative and protective measures, including handwashing, we are headed for a 'twin-track' world characterised by ever-increasing disparity in human development and basic survival. Decades of progress in ending poverty and hunger have already been reversed<sup>4</sup> by the pandemic, and the effectiveness of any further investment – and the chances of achieving the 2030 Agenda – will rest on collective efforts now to end COVID-19 and the inequalities of its impact.

**"Policymakers must do everything in their power to promote a more inclusive recovery [from the COVID-19 crisis], one that benefits all segments of society.**

**So, we will need a fiscal stimulus that delivers for people. This means scaling up public investment in health care to protect the most vulnerable and minimize the risks from future epidemics. It also means strengthening social safety nets; expanding access to quality education, clean water, and sanitation; and investing in climate-smart infrastructure."**<sup>1</sup>

Kristalina Georgieva, Managing Director,  
International Monetary Fund

**Strengthening the provision of essential services like water, sanitation and hygiene (WASH) in the most vulnerable communities is a best buy approach in building resilience to future pandemics, emerging global health threats like antimicrobial resistance (AMR) and climate change.** WASH helps communities to withstand emergencies and adapt to the changing climate, while enabling them to meet their basic needs. Ensuring everyone's rights to climate-resilient, equitable and sustainable services (especially in public places like healthcare facilities, schools and markets) will redress the inequalities so apparent in the impact of the COVID-19 pandemic. It will also facilitate pandemic preparedness and build long-term resilience of the world's most vulnerable people and societies to both health and climate shocks. Rapidly expanding access to WASH will advance the G7 and G20's commitments to support people, prosperity and planet.

**Leaders of the most powerful economies have a range of economic tools to help the poorest nations hasten their own recovery – now is the time to use them.** The G7/G20 should therefore make an emergency funding package available to enable all countries to protect their people and strengthen their societies.



This must include urgent measures to cancel debt, release Official Development Assistance (ODA), issue a new allocation of Special Drawing Rights (SDRs), and identify additional sources of international public finance. Beyond postponing debt servicing requirements as the G20 has done, this emergency funding package would ensure all countries have an equal chance to achieve herd immunity and inject their economies with the stimulus required to kickstart recovery. The lessons of the COVID response show us that it is possible for governments to mobilise trillions of dollars<sup>5</sup> to address an emergency – and that this emergency response should build long-term resilience and stronger systems (rather than supporting outdated industries that jeopardise our collective future).<sup>6</sup>

**WaterAid therefore calls on the world's leading donor countries, meeting as the G7 and G20 in 2021, to:**

1. End the COVID-19 pandemic by promoting an equitable roll-out of vaccines hand-in-hand with hygiene behaviour change.
2. Integrate WASH into global pandemic preparedness plans and reform of global health architecture, including the proposed global treaty on pandemic preparedness.
3. Deliver catalytic funding, with an initial contribution of at least US \$1.2 billion, to kickstart universal access to clean water, decent toilets and good hygiene in healthcare facilities in Least Developed Countries (LDCs) – a prerequisite for combatting global health threats everywhere.
4. Provide new and additional international finance for climate adaptation, especially for locally-led projects, that help meet the basic needs of the most affected communities – including access to WASH.
5. Commit to an emergency recovery package comprised of:
  - Comprehensive debt relief and restructuring;
  - A new issuance and reallocation of at least US \$1 trillion in International Monetary Fund (IMF) SDRs;
  - Fulfilling commitments to spend 0.7% of gross national income (GNI) on aid; and
  - Exploring innovative sources of international public finance.

**Public support for international political action on WASH in pandemic preparedness**

- 87% of people agree that providing WASH in public spaces like hospitals and schools in the poorest places should be a core element of pandemic preparedness and COVID recovery plans.
- 84% of those surveyed (50% strongly) believe that aid spent this way makes us all safer ahead of the next pandemic.
- Three quarters (75%) of adults surveyed agree that debt repayments of the poorest poorer countries (including to private sector creditors) should be suspended so that countries can invest in WASH to help fight COVID-19.

Based on online polling conducted by YouGov for WaterAid: 18,635 adults surveyed across Australia, Brazil, Canada, France, Germany, India, Italy, Japan, Nigeria, Saudi Arabia, Sweden, South Africa, South Korea, UK, USA. Read more at: [washmatters.wateraid.org/publications/public-support-wash-resilience](https://washmatters.wateraid.org/publications/public-support-wash-resilience)

**WASH is chronically underfunded worldwide:**

- Two billion people don't have safely managed water for drinking, cooking or personal use.
- Four billion people don't have safely managed sanitation or decent toilets.
- Three billion people are unable to wash their hands with soap and water at home.

**The gaps are particularly stark in healthcare settings:**

- Globally, one in four healthcare facilities do not have basic water services, one in ten have no sanitation services, and one in three lack adequate facilities to clean hands where care is provided.
- In LDCs, half of healthcare facilities lack basic water services and three in five have no sanitation services.
- Ensuring all healthcare facilities in all of these countries have basic WASH, waste management and cleaning services will cost an additional US \$3.6 billion between 2021 and 2030. This is both achievable and a multiplier for global health impact.

# 1

## Ending the COVID-19 pandemic through vaccine equity and integrated health interventions

Massive inequalities threaten to create a ‘vaccine apartheid’<sup>7</sup>, where advanced economies see the end of the pandemic, while lower-income countries wait years for a significant portion of their population to be vaccinated – and for their economies to recover. Our chances of ending this global pandemic rest on securing **vaccine equity**<sup>8</sup> through contributions to the ACT-Accelerator,<sup>9</sup> especially COVAX. Yet while entire regions wait for the vaccinations that signal the light at the end of the tunnel,<sup>10</sup> it is vital to ensure everyone, everywhere can protect themselves against COVID-19. This means investment in preventative measures such as handwashing.

Hand hygiene is a first line of defence against COVID-19 until equitable vaccine distribution occurs, and will continue to be a pillar of public health advice amidst uncertainties of the emerging variants and vaccines that are less than 100% effective against the disease. Delivery of the vaccine should therefore be embedded within a wider commitment to equity and long-term pandemic preparedness, including strengthening health systems and improving quality of care through WASH. The urgent need to accelerate both hygiene behaviour change and the unprecedented global roll-out of COVID-19 vaccines presents a once-in-a-generation opportunity for a massive scale-up of integrated interventions. Countries such as Nepal and Rwanda are already integrating strong hygiene behaviour change alongside the vaccine roll-out – an example that other countries could learn from and donors could invest in.

### WaterAid calls on the G7 and G20 to:

- Commit to vaccine equity through funding COVAX and all aspects<sup>11</sup> of the ACT-Accelerator;<sup>6</sup> and
- Combine hygiene behaviour change programmes in equitable roll-out of COVID-19 vaccines to expand access to preventative measures and reinforce pandemic preparedness and global health security.



▲ Students of Laudob Banishanta high school standing in front of their new sanitation complex, installed with support from HSBC and WaterAid. Dacope, Khulna, Bangladesh. October 2019.

### Handwashing is one of the most effective disease prevention methods

- Handwashing has been shown to reduce cases of pneumonia by 50%, acute respiratory infection by 16–23%, and the risk of endemic diarrhoea by up to 48%.<sup>12,13,14</sup>
- Research indicates a 15:1 return on investment in hand hygiene.
- Scaling up hand hygiene in all settings could prevent an estimated 165,000 deaths from diarrhoeal diseases each year.<sup>15</sup>
- Tragically, infections associated with unclean births account for 26% of neonatal deaths and 11% of maternal mortality – together accounting for more than one million deaths each year.<sup>16</sup>
- Approximately 20% of all global deaths are due to sepsis – that is 11 million avoidable deaths. More than half of all healthcare-associated sepsis cases are preventable through safe WASH services as part of infection prevention and control (IPC).<sup>17</sup>



## Investing in WASH to catalyse resilience to health and climate threats

Investment in the provision of safe, affordable and accessible WASH services is fundamental in improving health and putting the world back on track for growth and sustainable development.<sup>16</sup> In homes, workplaces and markets, and public spaces like schools and healthcare facilities, WASH is a requirement for wellbeing, productivity and resilience to both climate and health shocks – and ‘fundamental to human capital accumulation’, according to the World Bank.<sup>18</sup> For girls, women, gender non-conforming people and marginalised groups, increasing WASH helps redress inequalities in access to services and decision making.

Access to WASH reduces the burden of unpaid care work for women and girls, by both lessening the time spent fetching/boiling water and limiting the need to care for family members who fall sick from preventable waterborne diseases after drinking dirty water. Upscaling WASH services can also create jobs, jumpstart local markets and producers, and strengthen supply chains. Analysis by WaterAid and Vivid Economics (forthcoming in April 2021) indicates mounting evidence of health, economic and resilience benefits, particularly impacts on income and employment, of including WASH in COVID-19 recovery.

**“Sending healthcare workers and people in need of treatment to facilities without clean water, safe toilets, or even soap puts their lives at risk. This was certainly true before the COVID-19 pandemic, but this year has made these disparities impossible to ignore.**

**As we reimagine and shape a post-COVID world, making sure we are sending children and mothers to places of care equipped with adequate water, sanitation and hygiene services is not merely something we can and should do. It is an absolute must.”<sup>19</sup>**

Henrietta Fore, Executive Director, UNICEF

### COVID-19 response, pandemic preparedness, and global health security

The COVID-19 pandemic revealed global gaps in health systems and basic services people need to protect themselves against the spread of the virus. The World Health Organization (WHO) and government agencies recommend regular handwashing as a critical preventative measure against COVID-19. Nevertheless, three billion people worldwide lack access to soap and water at home to do so. Good hygiene is the first line of defence against COVID-19 and essential to a resilient health system; public health is impossible without clean water and soap. But the onset of the pandemic has yet to inspire significant increases in either funding for handwashing or the water and sanitation services required at household level and in public spaces.

◀ As the sun is starting to rise in Manjakandriana, René Rabarijoël Andriambeloson, 26, opens his water and sanitation shop, Manjakandriana commune, Analamanga region, Madagascar. November 2020.



WaterAid/mest Randrianamalala



Leading the global recovery from coronavirus while strengthening our resilience against future pandemics (a G7 priority) must include immediate attention to the long-overlooked issue of WASH in healthcare facilities.<sup>17,20</sup> One in three healthcare facilities globally – and **almost half of those in LDCs** – currently do not have handwashing facilities on site. This deprives them of a fundamental tool in the fight against COVID-19, significantly contributes to preventable deaths, and undermines efforts to achieve global health security.

WASH is fundamental to IPC – especially in preventing the ‘slow-moving pandemic’ of AMR.<sup>21</sup> As Wellcome Trust points out, ‘Access to clean water, sanitation, and hygiene limits AMR both directly, by preventing drug-resistant infections, and indirectly, by decreasing the need for antimicrobials in the first place.’<sup>22</sup>

As an Ebola emergency re-emerges<sup>23</sup> in West Africa, it is clear that COVID-19 is not the only pandemic on our immediate horizon. Solving the WASH crisis in healthcare facilities will serve as an important, cost-effective contribution with multiplier effects on many global health threats.

The WHO and UNICEF have estimated that achieving universal basic WASH services in LDCs will cost a total of US \$3.6 billion between 2020 and 2030, of which US \$1.2 billion is capital costs. Covering these initial investments – which represent just 6% of the US \$20 billion total spent annually on global health – would enable countries and end-users to pick up the bulk of the operations and maintenance expenses, and go a long way towards creating resilience and preparing for future pandemics.

For donors, an initial contribution of US \$1.2 billion in 2021 would represent a smart investment in making existing bilateral and multilateral global health investments work harder.

### Examples of good practice on including WASH in COVID-19 response and recovery, for the G7/G20 to build on and implement:

- The UK’s Hygiene Behaviour Change Coalition partnership with Unilever<sup>24</sup> responded almost immediately to the onset of the pandemic with a £100 million commitment to reach a billion people worldwide with handwashing supplies and information.
- Japan’s Prime Minister<sup>25</sup> and Minister of Foreign Affairs<sup>26</sup> acknowledged the importance of WASH through their international response to COVID-19. The Japan International Cooperation Agency (JICA) recently launched a ‘Handwashing for Health and Life Campaign’<sup>27</sup>, to promote hygiene and make handwashing broadly available through JICA project sites.
- USAID published a paper<sup>28</sup> and fact sheet<sup>29</sup> detailing its approach to WASH in its COVID-19 response and recovery – both through emergency and longer-term support. USAID explains, ‘We must invest now in strengthening the capacity of water and sanitation service providers and helping countries make handwashing with soap a regular behaviour. This will ultimately enable long-term recovery and growth by making reliable water and sanitation a reality for all.’
- Australia’s *Partnerships for Recovery*<sup>30</sup> platform includes WASH towards improving health security, supporting agriculture and safeguarding livelihoods – especially in the Indo-Pacific.<sup>31</sup>
- In addition to being one of the first to include WASH in its COVID-19 response aid,<sup>32</sup> the EU recently adopted Council conclusions on a human rights-based post-COVID-19 recovery<sup>33</sup> – which mention access to WASH as a key priority.
- The Government of Sweden’s Feminist Foreign Policy Action Plan highlights the human right to water and sanitation and the need for gender-sensitive, climate-resilient WASH in climate adaptation. Sweden also recognised WASH as an integral part of their COVID-19 response, funding an extra SEK 82 million (US \$9.7 million) for WASH programming in 2020.



## WaterAid calls on the G7 and G20 to:

- Lead global pandemic preparedness by **increasing the percentage of health investments that contain specific funding allocations for WASH** – including infrastructure improvements, strengthening systems, and investments in hygiene behaviour change. In combination with improved accountability and transparency of investment, this will maximise the effectiveness of health spending by promoting prevention and quality care through WASH.
- Deliver **catalytic funding, with an initial contribution of at least US \$1.2 billion, to kickstart universal access to WASH in healthcare facilities**, as a concrete step towards pandemic preparedness and resilience, especially in LDCs.
- Provide financial and technical support to **enable the implementation of country-led costed national roadmaps** aligned with the Hand Hygiene for All global initiative.<sup>34</sup>
- Include in an ‘International Treaty on Pandemic Preparedness’ (led by the WHO and G7/G20) **international health regulations ensuring access to WASH**. Collective commitments to emergency response, grounded in the availability of essential services, will help protect everyone, everywhere ahead of the next global pandemic.



▲ Chausiku Kabushi, 50, hospital cleaner, washing her hands at Busolwa Health Centre, Nyang'hwale District, Tanzania. June 2019.



## Addressing the climate crisis by evening the balance towards adaptation

Climate change means a more uncertain future, increasing hardship and vulnerability especially for the world's poorest and most marginalised people who have contributed the least to the causes of climate change. As climate impacts are largely determined by socioeconomic inequalities, they tend to be particularly detrimental to the most disadvantaged groups of society – which include communities that lack reliable access to basic services such as drinking water, hygiene facilities and decent toilets.

As climate-vulnerable people experience impacts such as changing weather patterns, less predictable rainfall, contamination of drinking water sources with saltwater and increased exposure to disease, access to WASH represents a critical aspect of resilience. It is vital that these communities are front of the queue for international support.

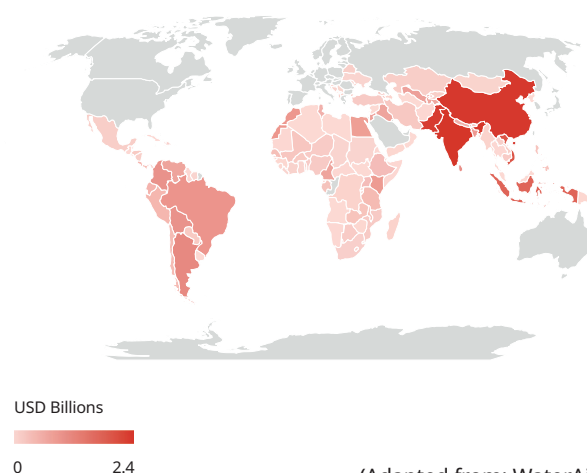
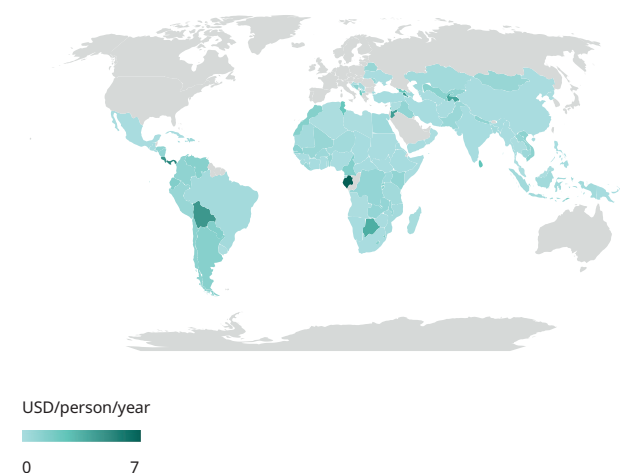
The climate crisis, already threatening lives and livelihoods in many frontline countries and communities, damages existing water sources



**Figure 1: Recipients of public, international climate finance to water, 2000–2018.**

Per person per year (2000–2018, pop>1m)

Total (2000–2018)



(Adapted from: WaterAid/ODI<sup>36</sup>)

and sanitation services and jeopardises future opportunities. Climate change is exerting additional stress on water resources, which are already under pressure from unsustainable practices (over-abstraction and pollution) of big sectors (e.g. agriculture, industry). As the Riyadh G20 summit acknowledged, holistic, system-scale management of water resources – which also promotes access to WASH – is important to secure availability of water for people and economic sectors under increasing pressure of climate change.

Access to good quality, climate-resilient WASH services, alongside the provision of other basic services, such as education and health, can transform the prospects of communities living in poverty, enabling them to withstand longer dry seasons and flooding. The combined benefits of safe water supply, decent toilets and good hygiene reduce the overall disease burden on poor and marginalised communities – with knock-on events in health, education, productivity and livelihoods. WASH is therefore a fundamental adaptation tool for communities to withstand the impacts of climate change.

The Paris Agreement emphasises that adaptation must be at the forefront of climate action, to protect the planet from the already-present impacts of the climate crisis. But the

global climate agenda tends to prioritise mitigation (the reduction of greenhouse gas emissions to prevent further levels of warming) as it sets its agenda and funding priorities.

Out of global climate finance, only 5% is currently allocated for adapting to climate change, and countries that identify water as a climate-vulnerable sector or priority for adaptation receive just US \$1 per person per year. The money is not reaching those who really need it<sup>35</sup> – those who are already experiencing climate disasters and must adapt now in order to survive.

If donor countries do not provide immediate support to the countries who need it the most, including through delivering basic services like WASH, it will already be too late to prevent the worst impacts of the climate crisis. Therefore, **rebalancing climate finance towards adaptation and targeting the poorest communities<sup>37</sup> can make a huge difference in adaptation and resilience outcomes in the near term.** As governments begin a critical year for multilateral climate action culminating in COP26 in November, it is essential that their climate commitments include investment in quality services that promote equity and health, especially clean water, decent toilets and good hygiene.

**WaterAid calls on the G7 and G20, as the world's major emitters of greenhouse gases, to:**

- Fulfil their responsibility to provide **new and additional climate finance** (complementing rather than replacing ODA), and **make this finance more accessible** to LDCs and the vulnerable communities within them.
- Allocate at least half of international climate finance to adaptation, in acknowledgement of industrialised countries' responsibility to those already on the frontlines of climate change. This must include **allocating resources for the provision of essential services, including WASH**, that underpin resilience.
- Ensure that **at least 70% of their international climate adaptation finance goes to directly support communities living on the frontlines of climate change**. Sufficient capacity and resources are urgently required for the poorest and most marginalised communities to become (and stay) resilient to the challenges and uncertainties that climate change brings. Locally-led adaptation<sup>38</sup> should transform the systems that produce vulnerability in the first place.



▼ Teodora Nzingo, standing in front of her latrine that has been damaged by flood waters. Kigamboni, Tanzania. January 2020.



## **Delivering climate adaptation through WASH**

The Water and Climate Finance Initiative (WCFI) was launched at WaterAid's Water and Climate Summit in March 2020. By 2030, the WCFI intends to reach at least 50 million vulnerable people in water stressed areas in low to middle-income countries (LMICs) to promote climate-resilient development. The initiative has developed the **Resilient Water Accelerator**, a funding-ready approach to increase the pipeline of high quality programmes capable of tackling the multiple threats to the quality and quantity of water, in a way which is low carbon and works with nature.

Launched under HRH The Prince of Wales's 'Sustainable Markets Initiative', the Accelerator is bringing together key governments, private sector actors, development banks, aid agencies and experts in the sector to find practical solutions to the water and climate crisis. WCFI and the Accelerator will ensure that more climate finance is fast tracked towards protecting communities' vital water services – including by securing at least £20 million in preparation funding to conduct the first round of programme development in 5–6 water stressed areas, starting in 2022.

WCFI aims both to be scalable and to bring sectors together to manage overlapping water crises made worse by climate change.



## Emergency funding to free up fiscal space for the provision of WASH services

Since the onset of COVID-19, rich countries have spent about 24% of GDP on stimulus packages to bolster their economies and redress fallout from the pandemic. According to the IMF,<sup>39</sup> emerging market countries by comparison have spent an average of only 6%, and low income countries (LICs) less than 2% of a much smaller pot. In large part due to this economic stimulus, advanced economies are already recovering more quickly from COVID-19 recession than anticipated. On the other hand, the IMF warns that LMICs are experiencing lower than expected growth (and even contraction), which means that extreme poverty and hunger are likely to continue to increase – with backsliding on development outcomes entrenched for decades to come.<sup>40</sup> To ensure that all countries have a chance for equitable recovery from the COVID-19 pandemic, **the G7 and G20 must urgently put an emergency funding package in place.**

First of all, the G20 must address the shortcomings of the current ‘kick the can down the road’ policy of their Debt Service Suspension Initiative (DSSI), which offers a pause on debt servicing payments until June 2021 for IDA countries who apply to participate.<sup>41</sup> Limitations in coverage and structure of the DSSI<sup>42</sup> mean that the initiative has so far resulted<sup>43</sup> in approximately US \$5 billion in debt relief – a paltry amount compared to the scale of recession and the cost of COVID-19 response and recovery. Extending the DSSI until the end of 2021, as Italy has proposed, will not be enough to enable countries to respond to the pandemic and fund essential services.

The addition at the 2020 G20 Summit of the Common Framework on debt relief, while an important acknowledgement of the limitations of the DSSI, may provide temporary, ad hoc relief for countries in truly dire situations (so far only Chad, Ethiopia and Zambia have applied). **The G20 must therefore deepen and expand debt relief to all countries experiencing debt distress, through a comprehensive mechanism for debt cancellation and restructuring.**



▲ Farmers working in fields where salinity levels are high. The crops struggle to grow as they cannot absorb nutrients due to the intrusion of salt water from the sea, in Paikgacha, Khulna, Bangladesh. September 2018.

Additionally, to inject the liquidity required to redress COVID-19 recessions<sup>45</sup> and invest in essential services in LMICs, **the G7 and G20 should encourage the IMF to immediately issue a new allocation of at least US \$1 trillion in SDRs.**<sup>46</sup> With the US now joining France, Germany, Italy and others<sup>47</sup> in supporting a new issuance, it is important that the G7 and G20 capture this momentum to authorise the release of SDRs as soon as possible. Because SDR allocation is in proportion to IMF quotas, a reallocation mechanism should accompany the new issuance to ensure that the bulk of the benefit is directed where it is needed most in LICs and emerging economies.

At the same time, **commitments by donor governments to allocate at least 0.7% of GNI as ODA are more important than ever.** Backsliding on existing aid commitments would be extremely detrimental to LDCs<sup>48</sup> already likely to experience long-term impacts of the pandemic. The G7 and G20 governments must demonstrate leadership in acknowledging and fulfilling these commitments to contribute to global resilience that will benefit their own



economies as well as the global good. Domestic difficulties faced by advanced economies must not be an excuse to turn inwards and break longstanding promises. Instead, the United Nations Conference on Trade and Development (UNCTAD) calls for 'a Marshall Plan for a health recovery funded from some of the missing ODA long promised but not delivered by development partners.'<sup>49</sup> This should include at least US \$500 billion in grants for emergency health services and related social relief programmes.

#### WaterAid calls on the G7 and G20 to:

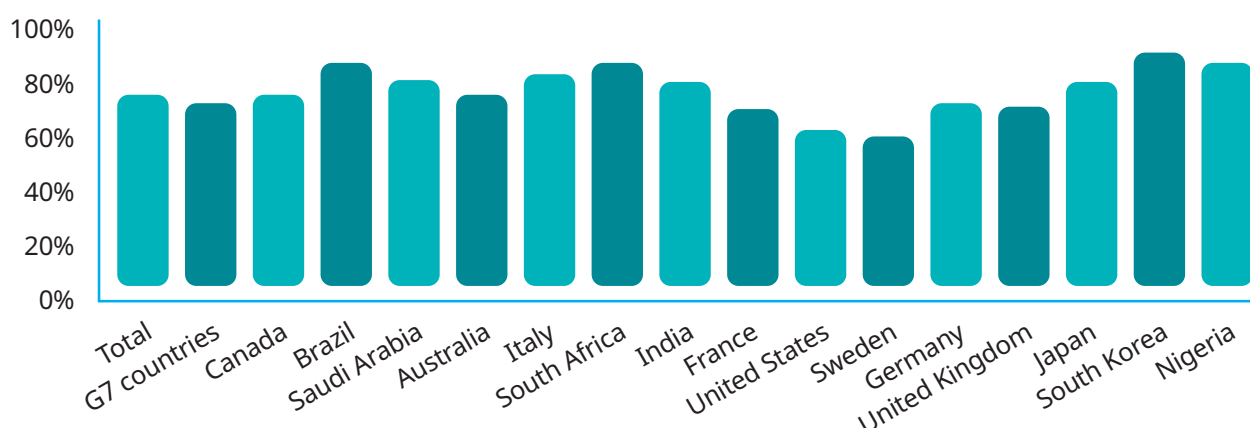
- Support the creation of **an independent mechanism<sup>50</sup> for comprehensive debt relief and restructuring**, as called for by the UN Secretary-General<sup>51</sup> and global civil society.<sup>52</sup> In the meantime, mandate multilateral and private lenders under their jurisdictions to participate in the DSSI, to cancel (not just postpone) debt payments from 2020 while extending and expanding its eligibility.
- Agree to a new issuance (and subsequent reallocation) of **at least US \$1 trillion worth of SDRs** by the IMF. This call is in-line with recommendations by the Secretary General of the United Nations,<sup>53</sup> African Heads of State,<sup>54</sup> the Financial Times Editorial

Board<sup>55</sup> and global civil society,<sup>56</sup> and has precedent in the IMF issuance of US \$283 billion<sup>57</sup> to respond the global economic and financial crisis of 2007–8, at the request of the G20.

- Fulfil (and where possible exceed), rather than renege on, existing commitments to **spend 0.7% of GNI as ODA**. An increase in external public finance for essential services must include additional ODA for WASH – with rapid improvements to its targeting, effectiveness and sustainability.<sup>58</sup> A much higher proportion of ODA (including for WASH) should be provided in the form of grants, with loans targeted only to countries that can repay them.
- Finally, the G7 and G20 should begin to **identify alternate sources of international public finance<sup>59</sup>** that can be allocated and ringfenced to support sustainable development in LMICs. This should spearhead a longer-term agenda that focuses on reducing tax avoidance and evasion by both private companies and high net worth individuals, and introduces innovative mechanisms like global coordinated taxes on carbon, wealth, financial transactions and airline tickets, to harness global wealth for global public good.

**Figure 2. A significant majority of people surveyed support debt relief for COVID-19 response and recovery.**

Percentage of respondents who agree that: 'The richest countries (also known as the G20) and other private lenders must suspend the debt repayments due from poorer governments so those countries can invest in clean water, hand-washing facilities and toilets to help in the fight against COVID-19.'



Source: YouGov polling for WaterAid. Total sample size: 18,635 adults. Read more at: [washmatters.wateraid.org/publications/public-support-wash-resilience](https://washmatters.wateraid.org/publications/public-support-wash-resilience). Embargoed until 6 April 2021.

## Conclusion



As the G7 and G20 chart an ambitious agenda for recovery from the COVID-19 pandemic – while committing to mitigate and adapt to climate change – it is essential that their efforts look beyond their own borders to protect our collective wellbeing. This year provides an opportunity to redress inequalities – in access to essential services, in health, and in the fiscal space required to invest in sustainable development. These challenges pre-existed the pandemic, but have been exacerbated by it. This has further underlined the urgent need for change, and cost-effective measures supported by the public.

Access to safe and affordable WASH has been consistently underfunded and deprioritised, despite its centrality to quality of healthcare,

to pandemic preparedness and to the comprehensive agenda of the Sustainable Development Goals. As the world's most powerful governments look for indicators of increasing global resilience, broader provision of WASH services offers a 'no-regrets', relatively easy win, that protects people from both health and climate shocks.

It is clear that the money is out there, and that progress is possible. WaterAid encourages the G7 and G20 to seize the opportunity to define a new path forward for shared resilience. It is one grounded in equitable access to resources, tools and essential services, including WASH. Our ability to recover from COVID-19, prepare for future pandemics and withstand climate change, depends on it.

## Resources

- CNN (2020). *Investing just 30 cents per person could make health care safer in the developing world. Opinion by Dr. Tedros Ghebreyesus (WHO) and Henrietta Fore (UNICEF)*. Available at: [edition.cnn.com/2020/12/23/opinions/tedros-ghebreyesus-henrietta-fore-water-access-health-facilities/index.html](https://edition.cnn.com/2020/12/23/opinions/tedros-ghebreyesus-henrietta-fore-water-access-health-facilities/index.html) (accessed 3 Mar 2021).
- The Guardian (2021). *Until Africans get the Covid vaccinations they need, the whole world will suffer*. Op-ed by Paul Kagame. Available at: [theguardian.com/commentisfree/2021/feb/07/africans-covid-vaccinations-pandemic-paul-kagame](https://theguardian.com/commentisfree/2021/feb/07/africans-covid-vaccinations-pandemic-paul-kagame) (accessed 3 Mar 2021).
- IMF Blog (2021). *A Race Between Vaccines and the Virus as Recoveries Diverge*. Available at: [blogs.imf.org/2021/01/26/a-race-between-vaccines-and-the-virus-as-recoveries-diverge/](https://blogs.imf.org/2021/01/26/a-race-between-vaccines-and-the-virus-as-recoveries-diverge/) (accessed 3 Mar 2021).
- UN DESA (2020). *Policy Brief #66: COVID-19 and the least developed countries*. Available at: [un.org/development/desa/dpad/publication/un-desa-policy-brief-66-covid-19-and-the-least-developed-countries/](https://un.org/development/desa/dpad/publication/un-desa-policy-brief-66-covid-19-and-the-least-developed-countries/) (accessed 3 Mar 2021).
- UN DESA (2020). *Policy Brief #72: COVID-19 and sovereign debt*. Available at: [un.org/development/desa/dpad/wp-content/uploads/sites/45/publication/PB\\_72.pdf](https://un.org/development/desa/dpad/wp-content/uploads/sites/45/publication/PB_72.pdf) (accessed 3 Mar 2021).
- WHO (2020). *Manifesto for a Healthy Recovery from COVID-19*. Available at: [who.int/news-room/feature-stories/detail/who-manifesto-for-a-healthy-recovery-from-covid-19](https://who.int/news-room/feature-stories/detail/who-manifesto-for-a-healthy-recovery-from-covid-19) (accessed 3 Mar 2021).
- WHO/UNICEF/ WaterAid (2020). *Combating Antimicrobial Resistance through water, sanitation and hygiene and infection prevention and control in health care*. Available at: [paho.org/en/documents/combating-antimicrobial-resistance-through-water-sanitation-and-hygiene-and-infection](https://paho.org/en/documents/combating-antimicrobial-resistance-through-water-sanitation-and-hygiene-and-infection) (accessed 3 Mar 2021).

# References

- IMF Blog/Kristalina Georgieva (2020). *The Global Economic Reset – Promoting a More Inclusive Recovery*. Available at: [blogs.imf.org/2020/06/11/the-global-economic-reset-promoting-a-more-inclusive-recovery/](https://blogs.imf.org/2020/06/11/the-global-economic-reset-promoting-a-more-inclusive-recovery/) (accessed 2 Mar 2021).
- New York Times (2021). *If Poor Countries Go Unvaccinated, a Study Says, Rich Ones Will Pay*. Available at: [nytimes.com/2021/01/23/business/coronavirus-vaccines-global-economy.html](https://www.nytimes.com/2021/01/23/business/coronavirus-vaccines-global-economy.html) (accessed 3 Mar 2021).
- The Guardian (2021). *Hoarding Covid vaccines 'could cost wealthy countries \$4.5tn'*. Available at: [theguardian.com/world/2021/jan/25/hoarding-covid-vaccines-could-cost-wealthy-countries-45tn](https://www.theguardian.com/world/2021/jan/25/hoarding-covid-vaccines-could-cost-wealthy-countries-45tn) (accessed 2 Mar 2021).
- The Guardian (2021). *Decades of progress on extreme poverty now in reverse due to Covid*. Available at: [theguardian.com/global-development/2021/feb/03/decades-of-progress-on-extreme-poverty-now-in-reverse-due-to-covid](https://www.theguardian.com/global-development/2021/feb/03/decades-of-progress-on-extreme-poverty-now-in-reverse-due-to-covid) (accessed 2 Mar 2021).
- Devex/Lisa Cornish (2021). *A year of COVID funding: Priorities and what lies next*. Available at: [devex.com/news/a-year-of-covid-funding-priorities-and-what-lies-next-98837](https://www.devex.com/news/a-year-of-covid-funding-priorities-and-what-lies-next-98837) (accessed 2 Mar 2021).
- Climate Action Tracker (2020). *Pandemic recovery: Positive intentions vs policy rollbacks, with just a hint of green. Warming Projections Global Update*. Available at: [climateactiontracker.org/documents/790/CAT\\_2020-09-23\\_Briefing\\_GlobalUpdate\\_Sept2020.pdf](https://climateactiontracker.org/documents/790/CAT_2020-09-23_Briefing_GlobalUpdate_Sept2020.pdf) (accessed 3 Mar 2021).
- The Guardian (29 January 2021): *A global vaccine apartheid is unfolding. People's lives must come before profit*. Op-ed by Winnie Byanyima. Available at: [theguardian.com/global-development/2021/jan/29/a-global-vaccine-apartheid-is-unfolding-peoples-lives-must-come-before-profit](https://www.theguardian.com/global-development/2021/jan/29/a-global-vaccine-apartheid-is-unfolding-peoples-lives-must-come-before-profit) (accessed 3 Mar 2021).
- World Health Organization (2021). *Call to Action: Vaccine Equity Declaration*. Available at: [who.int/campaigns/annual-theme/year-of-health-and-care-workers-2021/vaccine-equity-declaration](https://www.who.int/campaigns/annual-theme/year-of-health-and-care-workers-2021/vaccine-equity-declaration) (accessed 2 Mar 2021).
- WHO (2021). *The Access to COVID-19 Tools (ACT) Accelerator*. Available at: [who.int/initiatives/act-accelerator](https://www.who.int/initiatives/act-accelerator) (accessed 2 Mar 2021).
- The Guardian (2021). *Most poor nations 'will take until 2024 to achieve mass Covid-19 immunisation'*. Available at: [theguardian.com/society/2021/jan/27/most-poor-nations-will-take-until-2024-to-achieve-mass-covid-19-immunisation](https://www.theguardian.com/society/2021/jan/27/most-poor-nations-will-take-until-2024-to-achieve-mass-covid-19-immunisation) (accessed 3 Mar 2021).
- GAVI/CEPI/Bill & Melinda Gates Foundation/WHO/Wellcome/FIND/The Global Fund/Unitaid (2020). *Urgent Priorities & Financing Requirements at 10 November 2020. Averting the deepening human & economic crisis due to COVID-19*. Available at: [who.int/media/docs/default-source/a-future-for-children/act-accelerator-urgent-priorities-financing-requirements-23-nov-single-page.pdf?sfvrsn=9b5965cb\\_1&download=true](https://www.who.int/media/docs/default-source/a-future-for-children/act-accelerator-urgent-priorities-financing-requirements-23-nov-single-page.pdf?sfvrsn=9b5965cb_1&download=true) (accessed 2 Mar 2021).
- Rabie T, Curtis V (2006). Handwashing and Risk of Respiratory Infections: A Quantitative Systematic Review. *Tropical Medicine and International Health*. vol 11, no 3. pp 269-78. Available at: [pubmed.ncbi.nlm.nih.gov/16553905/](https://pubmed.ncbi.nlm.nih.gov/16553905/) (accessed 5 Mar 2021).
- Luby S, et al. (2005). Effect of handwashing on child health: a randomized controlled trial. *Lancet*. vol 366. pp 225-33. Available at: [thelancet.com/journals/lancet/article/PIIS0140-6736\(05\)66912-7/fulltext](https://www.thelancet.com/journals/lancet/article/PIIS0140-6736(05)66912-7/fulltext) (accessed 5 Mar 2021).
- Curtis V, Cairncross S (2003). Effect of washing hands with soap on diarrhoea risk in community: a systematic review. *Lancet Infectious Diseases*. vol 3. pp 275-81. Available at: [pubmed.ncbi.nlm.nih.gov/12726975/](https://pubmed.ncbi.nlm.nih.gov/12726975/) (accessed 5 Mar 2021).
- WHO/UNICEF (2020). *Hand hygiene for all*. Available at: [unicef.org/media/71776/file/Hand-hygiene-for-all-2020.pdf](https://www.unicef.org/media/71776/file/Hand-hygiene-for-all-2020.pdf) (accessed 5 Mar 2021).
- WaterAid (2019). *Sustainable Development Goal 6 as a critical enabler: policy briefs for the UN High Level Political Forum 2019*. Available at: [washmatters.wateraid.org/publications/sustainable-development-goal-6-as-a-critical-enabler-policy-briefs-for-the-un-high](https://washmatters.wateraid.org/publications/sustainable-development-goal-6-as-a-critical-enabler-policy-briefs-for-the-un-high) (accessed 2 Mar 2021).
- UNICEF/WHO (2020). *Fundamentals first: Global progress report on WASH in health care facilities*. Available at: [data.unicef.org/resources/global-progress-report-on-wash-in-health-care-facilities-fundamentals-first/](https://data.unicef.org/resources/global-progress-report-on-wash-in-health-care-facilities-fundamentals-first/) (accessed 2 Mar 2021).
- World Bank (2020). *The Human Capital Index 2020 Update: Human Capital in the Time of COVID-19*. Available at: [openknowledge.worldbank.org/handle/10986/34432](https://openknowledge.worldbank.org/handle/10986/34432) (accessed 2 Mar 2021).
- UNICEF (2021). *In the COVID-19 vaccine race, we either win together or lose together*. Availability at: [unicef.org/press-releases/covid-19-vaccine-race-we-either-win-together-or-lose-together](https://www.unicef.org/press-releases/covid-19-vaccine-race-we-either-win-together-or-lose-together) (accessed 2 Mar 2021).
- WHO/UNICEF (2020). *Almost 2 billion people depend on health care facilities without basic water services – WHO, UNICEF*. Available at: [unicef.org/press-releases/almost-2-billion-people-depend-health-care-facilities-without-basic-water-services](https://www.unicef.org/press-releases/almost-2-billion-people-depend-health-care-facilities-without-basic-water-services) (accessed 2 Mar 2021).
- WaterAid (2020). *Harnessing COVID-19 to safeguard future health: invest in WASH and infection prevention and control to beat antimicrobial resistance*. Available at: [wateraid.org/blog/harnessing-covid-19-to-safeguard-future-health-invest-wash-infection-prevention-control](https://www.wateraid.org/blog/harnessing-covid-19-to-safeguard-future-health-invest-wash-infection-prevention-control) (accessed 2 Mar 2020).
- Wellcome Trust (2020). *The Global Response to AMR Momentum, success, and critical gaps*. Available at: [cms.wellcome.org/sites/default/files/2020-11/wellcome-global-response-amr-report.pdf](https://cms.wellcome.org/sites/default/files/2020-11/wellcome-global-response-amr-report.pdf) (accessed 2 Mar 2021).
- WHO (2021). *New Ebola outbreak declared in Guinea*. Available at: [afro.who.int/news/new-ebola-outbreak-declared-guinea](https://afro.who.int/news/new-ebola-outbreak-declared-guinea) (accessed 2 Mar 2021).
- Gov.uk (2020). *UK aid and Unilever to target a billion people in global handwashing campaign*. Available at: [gov.uk/government/news/uk-aid-and-unilever-to-target-a-billion-people-in-global-handwashing-campaign](https://www.gov.uk/government/news/uk-aid-and-unilever-to-target-a-billion-people-in-global-handwashing-campaign) (accessed 2 Mar 2021).
- Ministry of Foreign Affairs of Japan (2020). *Address by Prime Minister Suga at the Seventy-Fifth Session of the United Nations General Assembly*. Available at: [mofa.go.jp/fp/unp\\_a/page4e\\_001095.html](https://mofa.go.jp/fp/unp_a/page4e_001095.html) (accessed 2 Mar 2021).
- Ministry of Foreign Affairs of Japan (2020). *Video message by Minister for Foreign Affairs MOTEGI At the ACT Accelerator 4th Facilitation Council*. Available at: [mofa.go.jp/press/release/press4e\\_002974.html](https://mofa.go.jp/press/release/press4e_002974.html) (accessed 2 Mar 2021).
- JICA (2020). *JICA Handwashing for Health and Life Campaign*. Available at: [jica.go.jp/english/our\\_work/thematic\\_issues/water/handwashing/index.html](https://www.jica.go.jp/english/our_work/thematic_issues/water/handwashing/index.html) (accessed 2 Mar 2021).
- USAID COVID-19 Task Force (2020). *USAID Water, Sanitation*



- and Hygiene (WASH): Strategic Approach to COVID-19 Response. Available at: [globalwaters.org/resources/assets/usaidthat-water-sanitation-and-hygiene-wash-strategic-approach-covid-19-response](https://globalwaters.org/resources/assets/usaidthat-water-sanitation-and-hygiene-wash-strategic-approach-covid-19-response) (accessed 2 Mar 2021).
29. USAID (2021). *Water for the world's response to COVID-19*. Available at: [globalwaters.org/sites/default/files/covid-19\\_fact\\_sheet\\_-\\_water\\_for\\_the\\_world.pdf](https://globalwaters.org/sites/default/files/covid-19_fact_sheet_-_water_for_the_world.pdf) (accessed 2 Mar 2021).
  30. Australian Government Department of Foreign Affairs and Trade (2020). *Partnerships for Recovery: Australia's COVID-19 Development Response*. Available at: [dfat.gov.au/sites/default/files/partnerships-for-recovery-australias-covid-19-development-response.pdf](https://dfat.gov.au/sites/default/files/partnerships-for-recovery-australias-covid-19-development-response.pdf) (accessed 2 Mar 2021).
  31. Australian Government Department of Foreign Affairs and Trade (2020). *Overview of Australia's assistance for water, sanitation and hygiene*. Available at: <https://www.dfat.gov.au/aid/topics/investment-priorities/education-health/water-sanitation-hygiene> (accessed 2 Mar 2021).
  32. European Commission (2020). *Coronavirus: EU global response to fight the pandemic*. Available at: [ec.europa.eu/commission/presscorner/detail/en/IP\\_20\\_604](https://ec.europa.eu/commission/presscorner/detail/en/IP_20_604) (accessed 2 Mar 2021).
  33. Council of the European Union (2021). *Council conclusions on a human-rights-based post-COVID-19 recovery*. Available at: [consilium.europa.eu/media/48558/st06324-en21.pdf](https://consilium.europa.eu/media/48558/st06324-en21.pdf) (accessed 2 Mar 2021).
  34. WHOUNICEF (2020). *Hand Hygiene for All Global Initiative*. Available at: [who.int/water\\_sanitation\\_health/sanitation-waste/sanitation/hand-hygiene-for-all/en/](https://who.int/water_sanitation_health/sanitation-waste/sanitation/hand-hygiene-for-all/en/) (accessed 2 Mar 2021).
  35. International Institute for Environment and Development (2021). *Climate finance not reaching the local level*. Available at: [iied.org/climate-finance-not-reaching-local-level](https://iied.org/climate-finance-not-reaching-local-level) (accessed 2 Mar 2021).
  36. WaterAid/ODI (2020). *Just add water: a landscape analysis of climate finance for water*. Available at: [washmatters.wateraid.org/sites/g/files/jkxooof256/files/just-add-water-a-landscape-analysis-of-climate-finance-for-water.pdf](https://washmatters.wateraid.org/sites/g/files/jkxooof256/files/just-add-water-a-landscape-analysis-of-climate-finance-for-water.pdf) (accessed 2 Mar 2021).
  37. WaterAid (2020). *Who is picking up the bill for climate crisis inertia?* Available at: [washmatters.wateraid.org/blog/who-is-picking-up-the-bill-for-climate-crisis-inertia](https://washmatters.wateraid.org/blog/who-is-picking-up-the-bill-for-climate-crisis-inertia) (accessed 2 Mar 2021).
  38. International Institute for Environment and Development (2021). *Principles for locally led adaptation*. Available at: [iied.org/principles-for-locally-led-adaptation](https://iied.org/principles-for-locally-led-adaptation) (accessed 2 Mar 2021).
  39. IMF (2021). *G-20 Surveillance Note*. Available at: [imf.org/external/np/g20/pdf/2021/022421.pdf](https://imf.org/external/np/g20/pdf/2021/022421.pdf) (accessed 8 Mar 2021).
  40. IMF (2021). *World Economic Outlook – Update. Policy Support and Vaccines Expected to Lift Activity*. Available at: [imf.org/en/Publications/WEO/Issues/2021/01/26/2021-world-economic-outlook-update](https://imf.org/en/Publications/WEO/Issues/2021/01/26/2021-world-economic-outlook-update) (accessed 3 Mar 2021).
  41. Eurodad (2020). *Shadow report on the limitations of the G20 Debt Service Suspension Initiative: Draining out the Titanic with a bucket?* Available at: [eurodad.org/g20\\_dssi\\_shadow\\_report](https://eurodad.org/g20_dssi_shadow_report) (accessed 3 Mar 2021).
  42. ONE org (2020). *Where do we go from here on COVID-19 debt relief?* Available at: [one.org/international/blog/covid-19-debt-relief-next-steps/](https://one.org/international/blog/covid-19-debt-relief-next-steps/) (accessed 2 Mar 2021).
  43. World Bank (2021). *COVID 19: Debt Service Suspension Initiative*. Available at: [worldbank.org/en/topic/debt/brief/covid-19-debt-service-suspension-initiative](https://worldbank.org/en/topic/debt/brief/covid-19-debt-service-suspension-initiative) please (accessed 2 Mar 2021).
  44. CIDSE (2021). *Financing a just, global COVID-19 response and recovery: The role of debt cancellation, restructuring and new finance*. Available at: [cidse.org/2021/02/11/financing-a-just-global-covid-19-response-and-recovery-the-role-of-debt-cancellation-restructuring-and-new-finance/](https://cidse.org/2021/02/11/financing-a-just-global-covid-19-response-and-recovery-the-role-of-debt-cancellation-restructuring-and-new-finance/) (accessed 2 Mar 2021).
  45. Center for Global Development (2020). *Making the IMF's Special Drawing Rights Work for COVID-19 Economic Relief*. Available at: [cgdev.org/publication/making-imfs-special-drawing-rights-work-covid-19-economic-relief](https://cgdev.org/publication/making-imfs-special-drawing-rights-work-covid-19-economic-relief) (accessed 2 Mar 2021).
  46. Center for Global Development (2021). *What is the Best Way to Allocate New SDRs?* Available at: [cgdev.org/blog/what-best-way-allocate-new-sdrs](https://cgdev.org/blog/what-best-way-allocate-new-sdrs) (accessed 3 Mar 2021).
  47. ÉLYSÉE (2021). *Multilateral Cooperation for Global Recovery*. Available at: [elysee.fr/en/emmanuel-macron/2021/02/03/multilateral-cooperation-for-global-recovery](https://elysee.fr/en/emmanuel-macron/2021/02/03/multilateral-cooperation-for-global-recovery) (accessed 2 Mar 2021).
  48. United Nations Department of Economic and Social Affairs (2020). *UN/DESA Policy Brief #66: COVID-19 and the least developed countries*. Available at: [un.org/development/desa/dpad/publication/un-desa-policy-brief-66-covid-19-and-the-least-developed-countries/](https://un.org/development/desa/dpad/publication/un-desa-policy-brief-66-covid-19-and-the-least-developed-countries/) (accessed 2 Mar 2021).
  49. UNCTAD (2020). *UN calls for \$2.5 trillion coronavirus crisis package for developing countries*. Available at: [unctad.org/news/un-calls-25-trillion-coronavirus-crisis-package-developing-countries](https://unctad.org/news/un-calls-25-trillion-coronavirus-crisis-package-developing-countries) (accessed 2 Mar 2021).
  50. Eurodad (2020). *Eurodad reacts to UN calls for a global mechanism for sovereign debt restructurings*. Available at: [eurodad.org/eurodad\\_reacts\\_to\\_un\\_calls\\_for\\_a\\_global\\_mechanism\\_for\\_sovereign\\_debt\\_restructurings](https://eurodad.org/eurodad_reacts_to_un_calls_for_a_global_mechanism_for_sovereign_debt_restructurings) (accessed 2 Mar 2021).
  51. United Nations Secretary General (2020). *Secretary-General's remarks to the ECOSOC Forum on Financing Sustainable Development in the Context of COVID-19 [as delivered]*. Available at: [un.org/sg/en/content/sg/statement/2020-04-23/secretary-generals-remarks-the-ecosoc-forum-financing-sustainable-development-the-context-of-covid-19-delivered](https://un.org/sg/en/content/sg/statement/2020-04-23/secretary-generals-remarks-the-ecosoc-forum-financing-sustainable-development-the-context-of-covid-19-delivered) (accessed 2 Mar 2021).
  52. Jubilee Debt Campaign. *A debt jubilee to tackle the Covid-19 health and economic crisis*. Available at: [jubileedebt.org.uk/a-debt-jubilee-to-tackle-the-covid-19-health-and-economic-crisis](https://jubileedebt.org.uk/a-debt-jubilee-to-tackle-the-covid-19-health-and-economic-crisis) (accessed 2 Mar 2021).
  53. Reuters (2020). *U.N. chief urges increase in funding for IMF to help pandemic-hit countries*. Available at: [reuters.com/article/us-health-coronavirus-un-idUSKBN26K2VK](https://reuters.com/article/us-health-coronavirus-un-idUSKBN26K2VK) (accessed 2 Mar 2021).
  54. ECA (2021). *African ministers meet with IMF, ECA on immediate economic response to COVID-19*. Available at: [uneca.org/stories/african-ministers-meet-imf-eca-immediate-economic-response-covid-19](https://uneca.org/stories/african-ministers-meet-imf-eca-immediate-economic-response-covid-19) (accessed 2 Mar 2021).
  55. Finance Times (2021). *Poorer countries need more global assistance*. Available at: [ft.com/content/2691bfa2-799e-11ea-af44-daa3def9ae03](https://ft.com/content/2691bfa2-799e-11ea-af44-daa3def9ae03) (accessed 2 Mar 2021).
  56. LATINDADD (2021). *Civil Society Organizations Call for Quick Special Drawing Rights Allocation*. Available at: [latindadd.org/2021/02/12/civil-society-organizations-call-for-quick-special-drawing-rights-allocation/](https://latindadd.org/2021/02/12/civil-society-organizations-call-for-quick-special-drawing-rights-allocation/) (accessed 3 Mar 2021).
  57. IMF (2009). *IMF Survey: IMF Injecting \$283 Billion in SDRs into Global Economy, Boosting Reserves*. Available at: [imf.org/en/News/Articles/2015/09/28/04/53/sopol082809a](https://imf.org/en/News/Articles/2015/09/28/04/53/sopol082809a) (accessed 3 Mar 2021).
  58. WaterAid (2020). *Raising the high-water mark for WASH aid: assessing official development assistance in accelerating progress toward the global goals for water, sanitation and hygiene*. Available at: [washmatters.wateraid.org/sites/g/files/jkxooof256/files/raising-the-high-water-mark-for-wash-aid-assessing-official-development-assistance-in-accelerating-progress-toward-the-global-goals-for-water-sanitation-and-hygiene\\_0.pdf](https://washmatters.wateraid.org/sites/g/files/jkxooof256/files/raising-the-high-water-mark-for-wash-aid-assessing-official-development-assistance-in-accelerating-progress-toward-the-global-goals-for-water-sanitation-and-hygiene_0.pdf) (accessed 3 Mar 2021).
  59. WaterAid (2020). *Common purpose, common future: transforming finance for sustainable development to combat the COVID-19 and climate crises*. Available at: [washmatters.wateraid.org/publications/common-purpose-common-future](https://washmatters.wateraid.org/publications/common-purpose-common-future) (accessed 3 Mar 2021).

Front cover: Olga, 16, at a handwashing station provided by WaterAid at Mpolonjeni High School in Mpolonjeni, Lubombo Province, eSwatini. November 2018.

▼ Sokha, 32, washing her hands in front of the Thlork Vien health centre, Chhouk Village, Thlork Vien Commune, Samaki Meanchey District, Kampong Chhnang province, Cambodia. July 2020.



To find out more go to: [washmatters.wateraid.org/publications/investing-water-sanitation-hygiene-global-recovery-resilience](https://washmatters.wateraid.org/publications/investing-water-sanitation-hygiene-global-recovery-resilience)

 @WaterAid

**WaterAid is an international not-for-profit, determined to make clean water, decent toilets and good hygiene normal for everyone, everywhere within a generation. Only by tackling these three essentials in ways that last can people change their lives for good.**

WaterAid is a registered charity: Australia: ABN 99 700 687 141. Canada: 119288934 RR0001. India: U85100DL2010NPL200169. Japan: 特定非営利活動法人ウォーターエイドジャパン(認定NPO法人) WaterAid Japan is a specified non-profit corporation (certified NPO corporation). Sweden: Org.nr: 802426-1268, PG: 90 01 62-9, BG: 900-1629. UK: Registered charity numbers 288701 (England and Wales) and SC039479 (Scotland). USA: WaterAid America is a 501(c)(3) non-profit organization.

