TOOLS & METHODS

The Sustainable Development Goals for Water and Sanitation Services

Interpreting the Targets and Indicators

pS-Eau
programme Solidarité-Eau

The Sustainable Development Goals for Water and Sanitation Services

Interpreting the Targets and Indicators

Coordinator and author: Colette Génevaux (pS-Eau)

Contributing authors and reviewers: Adeline Mateus (pS-Eau), Christophe Le Jallé (pS-Eau), Didier Allély (Consultant), Vincent Dussaux (pS-Eau), Guillaume Aubourg (pS-Eau), Dame Ndiaye (pS-Eau), Gabrielle Malafosse (pS-Eau)

Photo credits: SIAAP, B. Harris, pS-Eau
Cover photo: a water treatment plant in Nyeri, Kenya
Photo on p.6: a water point in Uganda

Layout: Cercle Studio
Printing: Panoply, June 2017
French to English translation: Nicola Brodrick
Date of publication: March 2018

This publication is also available in digital format, in both English and French, on the SDG page of the pS-Eau website: www.pseau.org/en/agenda-2030

PROGRAMME SOLIDARITÉ EAU
In Paris: 32 rue Le Peletier 75009 Paris
In Lyon: 80 cours Charlemagne 69002 Lyon
www.pseau.org
pseau@pseau.org

Table of contents

List of Acronyms

GEMI	Global Expanded Water Monitoring Initiative
GLAAS	UN-Water Global Analysis and Assessment of Sanitation and Drinking-Water
JMP	WHO UNICEF Joint Monitoring Programme for water supply and sanitation
MDG	Millennium Development Goal
NGO	Non-Governmental Organization
SDG	Sustainable Development Goal
UN	United Nations
WASH	Water, Sanitation and Hygiene
WHO	World Health Organization

Foreword

The 2030 Sustainable Development Agenda and its Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs) set out **a universal framework for action and global goals for ending extreme poverty and fighting inequality and injustice** that are based on sustainable development principles.

This new agenda, adopted by the United Nations for the period 2015-2030, is the product of discussions that took place following the United Nations Conference on Sustainable Development in Rio de Janeiro in 2012 and of negotiations to define the post-2015 development agenda. Drawing on the successes of the Millennium Development Goals and learning from their weaknesses, the 2030 Agenda provides **more ambitious targets expected to be better adapted to the different regional, national and local situations** in which it is to be implemented. These SDGs form a coherent set of interconnected targets that must be addressed together.

Water and sanitation services are directly addressed by the SDGs, in line with the human right to water and sanitation. **Targets and monitoring indicators** have been defined and provide **a scope of reference for all stakeholders** (local authorities, service operators, ministries, development partners, civil society, etc.).

The SDGs provide a **framework** as well as **mobilisation and awareness-raising tools**, particularly for local and national policymakers. They will be **useful for guiding the definition of tangible objectives and strategies** for improving water and sanitation services.

While the framework defined by the SDGs can appear complex, and although the monitoring methodology for some indicators still needs to be consolidated and approved by the United Nations, **it is important for water and sanitation stakeholders to organise now and take ownership of this new reference framework for the sector.**

- The aim of this document is to clarify the key concepts introduced through the SDGs for developing water and sanitation services. It further provides water, sanitation and international development sector stakeholders with options for actively playing a part in achieving these SDGs.

1. A Global Framework for Action

Development of the SDGs

The Sustainable Development Agenda was adopted by all member states of the United Nations in September 2015. It aims to end extreme poverty, fight inequality and injustice and tackle climate change by 2030.

This new global framework, also known as Agenda 2030, includes a set of **17 Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs), which themselves are broken down into 169 specific targets and 232 monitoring indicators[1].**

An agenda that bridges international sustainable development processes and the MDGs

The Sustainable Development Agenda is the product of the combination of two international agendas, the momentum initiated by the Millennium Development Goals and various sustainable development processes.

The SDGs are thus replacing the Millennium Development Goals (MDGs) and have been developed based on the lessons learned from the MDGs and in line with sustainable development principles, which recognise the interdependence of social, environmental and economic factors.

Whereas the MDGs were defined by a top-down process within the United Nations, the SDGs have been designed following large-scale public consultation, thereby ensuring that stakeholders from the water and sanitation sectors and civil society have all been able to have their say.

1. For the official list of indicators, please see the bibliography in the Appendix.

A Progressive Implementation

Agenda 2030 provides a scope of reference for global development up to 2030. For the water and sanitation sector, the SDG target of achieving universal access by 2030 is particularly ambitious in those countries with large disparities in access, such as in sub-Saharan Africa, and they will therefore need to call upon all their resources.

The SDGs should be implemented progressively and the goals and targets need to be adapted and adopted at both the national and local levels, to ensure that the specific features of each environment are taken into account.

As part of the Agenda 2030, governments will need to quickly adopt national objectives and sector strategies based on the SDGs. Civil society stakeholders will need to challenge and support governments to implement the SDGs and incorporate these measures and approaches into their practices and intervention strategies.

Latrine construction in Mauritania

The SDGs in Practice: Structure and Principles

Interlinked Goals

The SDGs are a set of **17 interdependent thematic goals.**

The sixth goal, SDG 6, focuses specifically on water-related issues, including water, sanitation and hygiene (WASH) services. In line with this interdependence between SDGs, WASH related targets are also either explicitly or indirectly linked to many other SDGs. For example, the SDGs on health, education and communities contain targets that are directly contingent on developing WASH services.

Breakdown into Goals, Targets and Indicators

Each SDG is broken down into specific targets. In turn, each target is linked to one or several monitoring indicators with a standardised methodology to assess the progress made towards achieving the targets.

The majority of these indicators have now been approved by the United Nations Statistical Commission, but some indicators are still awaiting final validation of their definition or monitoring methodology (see the box below).

Organising SDG monitoring, an ongoing international process

Although the SDGs and their targets have already been approved by the United Nations, the monitoring methodology of some of the indicators is still being discussed and expected to evolve over time. This methodology covers not only the definition of the indicators (the type of information to be collected) but also the data collection methods to be used, which should draw on national and regional statistics.
At international level, there are a number of initiatives within UN-Water that bring together the main United Nations agencies involved in the water sector and who are responsible for defining the methodology and monitoring the SDG 6 indicators. These include:

- The integrated monitoring initiative for the water and sanitation-related SDG targets (GEMI);
- The WHO UNICEF Joint Monitoring Programme (JMP);
- The UN-Water Global Analysis and Assessment of Sanitation and Drinking-Water (GLAAS).

For more information on SDG monitoring, please see Appendix 2 p.50

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

SDG 6 focuses on water-related issues. It consists of eight specific targets[2], including six on water and sanitation-related outcomes (targets 6.1 to 6.6), and two on implementing the outcome targets (targets 6.a and 6.b).

Targets	Indicators
Target 6.1 – By 2030, achieve universal and equitable access to safe and affordable drinking water for all	**Indicator 6.1.1** – Proportion of population using safely managed drinking water services
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	**Indicator 6.2.1** – Proportion of population using safely managed sanitation services, including a handwashing facility with soap and water
Target 6.3 – By 2030, improve water quality by reducing pollution, eliminating dumping and minimizing release of hazardous chemicals and materials, halving the proportion of untreated wastewater and substantially increasing recycling and safe reuse globally	**Indicator 6.3.1** – Proportion of wastewater safely treated **Indicator 6.3.2** – Proportion of bodies of water with good ambient water quality
Target 6.4 – By 2030, substantially increase water-use efficiency across all sectors and ensure sustainable withdrawals and supply of freshwater to address water scarcity and substantially reduce the number of people suffering from water scarcity	**Indicator 6.4.1** – Change in water-use efficiency over time **Indicator 6.4.2** – Level of water stress: freshwater withdrawal as a proportion of available freshwater resources

2. The formulation of all indicators has not yet been approved. Therefore, some indicators may be subject to changes in the final version. The most recent official version of the indicators can be found at: http://unstats.un.org/sdgs/indicators/indicators-list

Targets	Indicators
Target 6.5 – By 2030, implement integrated water resources management at all levels, including through transboundary cooperation as appropriate	**Indicator 6.5.1** – Degree of integrated water resources management implementation **Indicator 6.5.2** – Proportion of transboundary basin area with an operational arrangement for water cooperation
Target 6.6 – By 2020, protect and restore water-related ecosystems, including mountains, forests, wetlands, rivers, aquifers and lakes	**Indicator 6.6.1** – Change in the extent of water-related ecosystems over time
Target 6.a – By 2030, expand international cooperation and capacity-building support to developing countries in water- and sanitation-related activities and programmes, including water harvesting, desalination, water efficiency, wastewater treatment, recycling and reuse technologies	**Indicator 6.a.1** – Amount of water- and sanitation-related official development assistance that is part of a government-coordinated spending plan
Target 6.b – Support and strengthen the participation of local communities in improving water and sanitation management	**Indicator 6.b.1** – Proportion of local administrative units with established and operational policies and procedures for participation of local communities in water and sanitation management

2. The Link between the SDGs and WASH Services

Mixed Results for the Millennium Development Goals

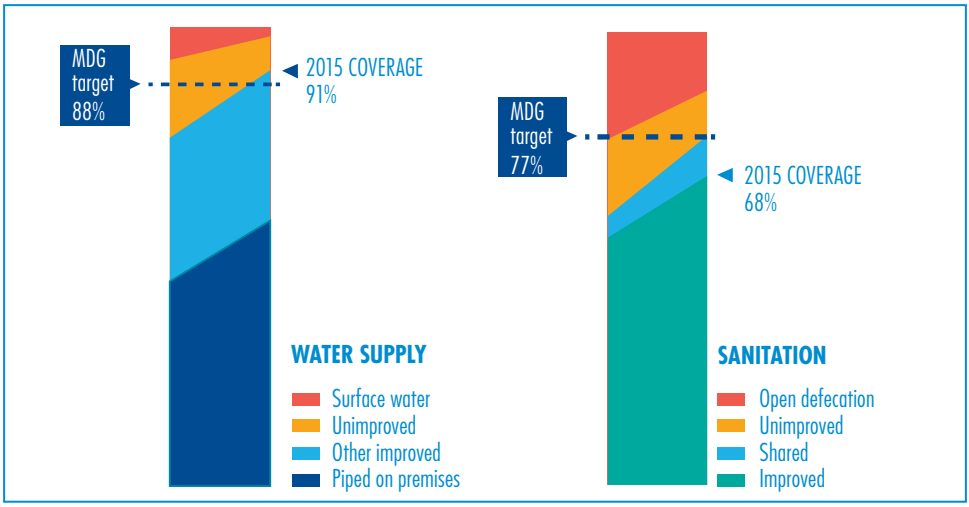
At the end of the Millennium Development Agenda in 2015, the results achieved by the Millennium Development Goals (MDGs) were mixed. According to the United Nations, the water-related MDG target had been achieved, yet in 2015 there were still **663 million people without access to an improved drinking water source**. Furthermore, even where a water point is deemed to be 'improved', this is no guarantee that the water point is operational, or that water is available and is safe to drink. Thus, it is estimated that at least 1.8 billion people around the world are using water sources contaminated with faecal bacteria in 2015[3].

The MDG target for sanitation was not achieved. In fifteen years, the proportion of people around the world using an improved sanitation facility increased from 59 to 68%; however, **2.4 billion people were still without access to improved sanitation in 2015 and 892 million of these practiced open defecation**[4]. In addition, the lack of faecal sludge management and wastewater treatment facilities continues to pose significant risks to public health and the environment.

Brief review: water and sanitation in the MDGs

Adopted in 2000, the MDGs consisted of eight main goals.
Water supply was covered by target 7.C of MDG 7 (Environmental Sustainability). Sanitation was initially left out of the MDGs before eventually being incorporated into target 7.C in 2002: 'By 2015, halve the proportion of people without sustainable access to safe drinking water and basic sanitation'.
The monitoring indicators for target 7.C of MDG 7 covered the proportion of the population using an improved drinking water source and the proportion of the population using an improved sanitation facility (see the definitions in Appendix 1, p.49). However, the limitations of this infrastructure-based approach soon became apparent and informed the discussions held to define more ambitious targets and monitoring indicators for the SDGs.

3. From 'Safely Managed Drinking Water - Thematic Report on Drinking Water 2017', JMP (2017)
4. From 'Sustainable Development Goals Report', United Nations (2016) and 'Progress on Drinking Water, Sanitation and Hygiene: 2017 Update and SDG Baselines', JMP (2017)



Trends in global drinking water coverage (left) and sanitation coverage (right) in % over the period 1990-2015[5]

A Service-Based Approach

SDG 6 aims to provide universal access to water and sanitation, ensuring nobody is left behind.

The SDGs thus seek to create an **overall vision that focuses on providing sustainable services for all**, rather than a project-based approach whose sole aim would be developing infrastructure:

- For water, this means expanding the scope beyond access by also working to ensure the availability and affordability of the service and water quality.
- For sanitation, service improvements are no longer confined to merely installing a toilet or latrine, but need to encompass the entire sanitation chain. This means taking into account not only access to sanitation, but also wastewater collection, discharge, treatment, disposal and, potentially, reuse.

Each of the 8 targets for SDG 6 has been assigned either one or two monitoring indicators, making 11 indicators in total (see the list on p.12–13).

5. According to the JMP 'Progress on Sanitation and Drinking-Water 2015 Update and MDG Assessment' report (2015)

These monitoring indicators set the benchmarks: it is therefore these indicators and their definition that provide tangible criteria for sector practices. As a result, the water and sanitation indicators define the **service level that is to be achieved by 2030, namely that services must be 'safely managed'**.

To ensure countries are not discouraged by the ambitious targets set by the SDGs, and to more accurately monitor the progress achieved, **water and sanitation service ladders** will be used.

Defined by the WHO-UNICEF Joint Monitoring Programme (JMP), which is in charge of monitoring SDG 6 targets 6.1 and 6.2, these ladders will improve how the reality and diversity of situations on the ground are taken into account by defining progressive levels of service which range from no service (minimum level) to a safely managed service (maximum level).

The concepts of 'safely managed services' and service ladders are described in the following chapters.

Interdependent Targets

The thematic scope of the SDGs and their targets overlap and so water and sanitation services are therefore addressed through a number of interdependent targets (see the illustration on p18-19).

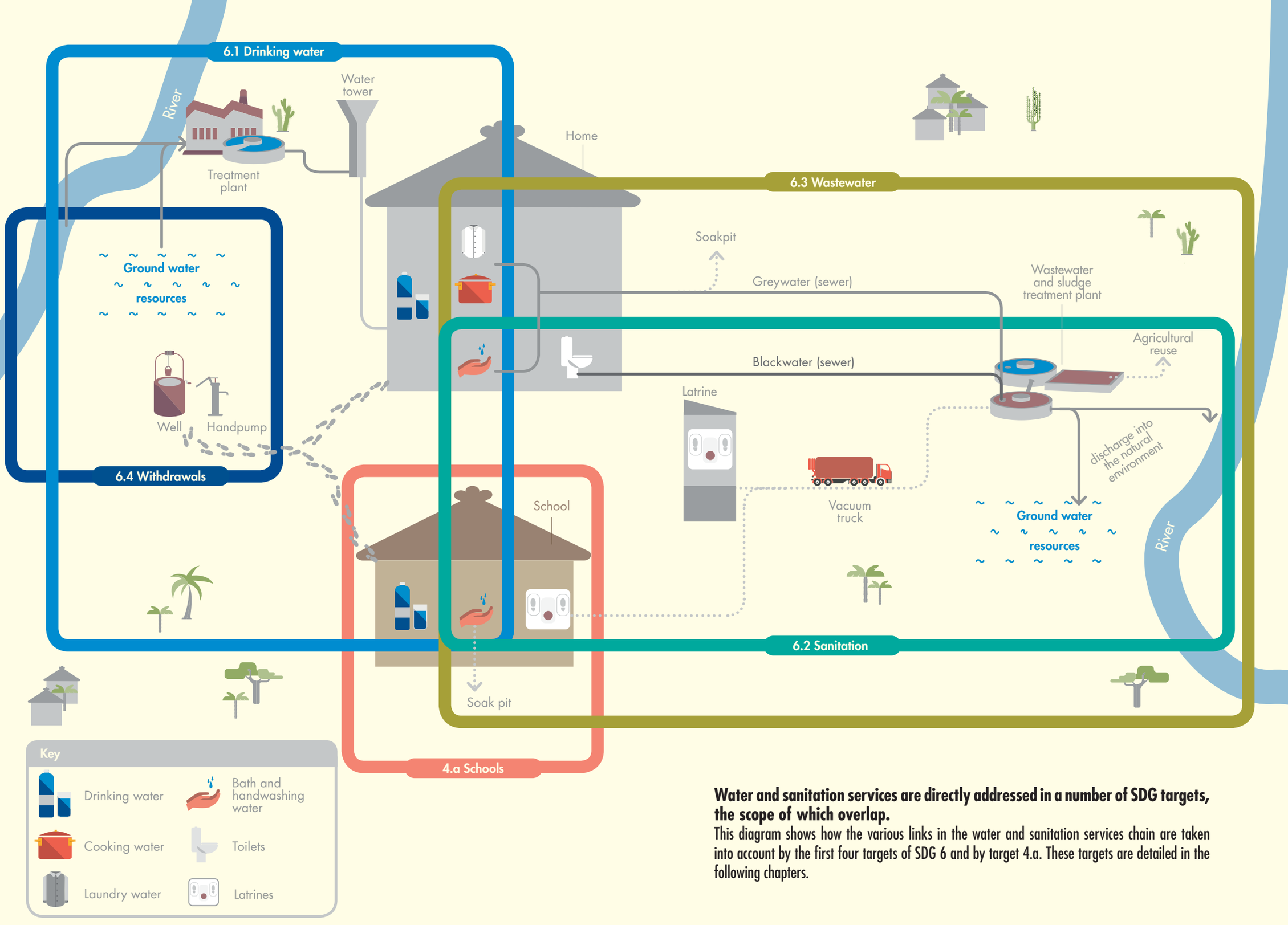
Thus, SDG 6 calls for an integrated approach that takes the links between water supply (target 6.1), sanitation and hygiene (target 6.2) and wastewater treatment, recycling and reuse (target 6.3) into account.

This approach will help to improve the efficiency and sustainability of water withdrawals (target 6.4) and the protection of water-related ecosystems (target 6.6) as part of an integrated water resources management approach (target 6.5). SDG 6 also draws attention to the links between development outcomes and means of implementation (targets 6a and 6b)[6].

There are also other targets that cover water supply and sanitation services: target 4.a of SDG 4 (Education) reaffirms that the water and sanitation targets apply universally, and thus include all educational facilities.

The same is also true for cities, for which the aim of target 11.1 of SDG 11 (Sustainable Cities and Communities) is to ensure access for all to basic services, which include water and sanitation.

6. Extract from 'Safely Managed Drinking Water Services - JMP Thematic Report on Drinking Water', JMP (2017)



Water and sanitation services are directly addressed in a number of SDG targets, the scope of which overlap.

This diagram shows how the various links in the water and sanitation services chain are taken into account by the first four targets of SDG 6 and by target 4.a. These targets are detailed in the following chapters.

3. The Main Targets for Water Supply and Sanitation Services

Target 6.1 – Water Supply Services

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

The Target Explained

Target 6.1 relates to drinking water. It is far more ambitious than the previous MDG target:

- Where the MDG sought to halve the proportion of the population without access to drinking water, target 6.1 aims to achieve universal and equitable access, which means providing access to 100% of the population.
- Access to water is no longer the sole criterion: drinking water should be safe, affordable and accessible to all.

By 2030, achieve	Interpretation[7]
universal	Implies all exposures and settings, including households, schools, health facilities, workplaces and public spaces
and equitable	Implies progressive reduction and elimination of inequalities between population subgroups
access	Implies sufficient water to meet domestic needs is reliably available close to home
to safe	Safe drinking water is free from pathogens and elevated levels of toxic substances at all times
and affordable	Payment for services does not present a barrier to access or prevent people from meeting other basic human needs
drinking water	Water used for drinking, cooking, food preparation and personal hygiene
for all	Suitable for use by men, women, girls and boys of all ages, including people with disabilities

7. Extract from 'Safely Managed Drinking Water Services – JMP Thematic Report on Drinking Water', 2017, JMP (2017)

Indicator 6.1.1 – Proportion of the population using safely managed drinking water services

The Indicator Explained

Monitoring indicator 6.1.1 assesses **the proportion of 'safely managed' drinking water services.** In concrete terms, target 6.1 therefore seeks to ensure that safely managed water supply services are put in place through an **improved water source** (based on the MDG definition, see Appendix 1, p.49) **that meets the accessibility, availability and quality criteria**.

These criteria have been developed to correspond to the definition of the human right to water.

● Accessibility: the water source is located on the premises (in the home, yard or plot)

The accessibility criterion set out in indicator 6.1.1 is a drinking water source **located on the premises**. This essentially relates to household connections to the piped water network, but other options, such as individual boreholes or wells should be also considered.

The notion of accessibility covers distance, as well as the collection time. It is mainly measured through household surveys by asking respondents to estimate their journey times (return trip plus waiting time).

It is also to be noted that, under the human right to water definition, accessibility also means that facilities must be physically accessible to all, including people with disabilities and illness, children and the elderly.

● Disponibilité : l'eau doit être disponible à tout moment où on en a besoin

The second criterion that defines the safely managed service is availability: water should **be available in sufficient quantities at all times** for personal and domestic use. This notion of availability implies the continuity of drinking water services.

Availability can be measured using a range of criteria: the quantity of water available or used in a given time period, the hours of service per day (typically for piped supplies), the frequency of breakdowns and the time required for repairs.

For global monitoring, the JMP recommends focusing on the length of time water is available using data from household surveys[8].

A water point fitted with a padlock in a yard in Mali

8. Extract from 'Safely Managed Drinking Water Services – JMP Thematic Report on Drinking Water', JMP (2017)

● Quality: water must be free from faecal and priority chemical contamination

In order to be considered 'safely managed', the service must deliver safe drinking water, this means that it must be **free from faecal contamination and elevated levels of those chemical substances prioritised in countries' national standards.**

Of these high priority chemical substances, arsenic and fluoride need to be particularly considered, as they can have a considerable health impact and can occur naturally in the water or soil rather than from human-induced pollution. Each country can choose to add other parameters based on its situation and health priorities. Thus, national standards should be established for contaminants that frequently occur at high concentrations and that have the greatest health impact.

For the purposes of global monitoring, the principal indicator of water safety used by the JMP is the detection of faecal indicator bacteria in a 100ml sample.

This indicator is usually the Escherichia Coli bacteria. However, the absence of E. coli is no guarantee that the water is not contaminated (as it can still contain more resistant pathogens). The quality criterion covers the entire drinking water supply chain. Thus, for water from public water points (standpipes, handpumps, etc.) and from outside taps in yards, it is not only the quality of the water at the tap that needs to be assessed but also water quality at the point of consumption (after potentially being transported and stored in the home).

It would therefore be useful to conduct awareness-raising on hygiene and on household water storage.

MORE INFO

To find out more, see: Conservation et traitement de l'eau à domicile, pS-Eau. (in French only, please see the Bibliography)

Suggestions for assessing the accessibility, availability and quality criteria

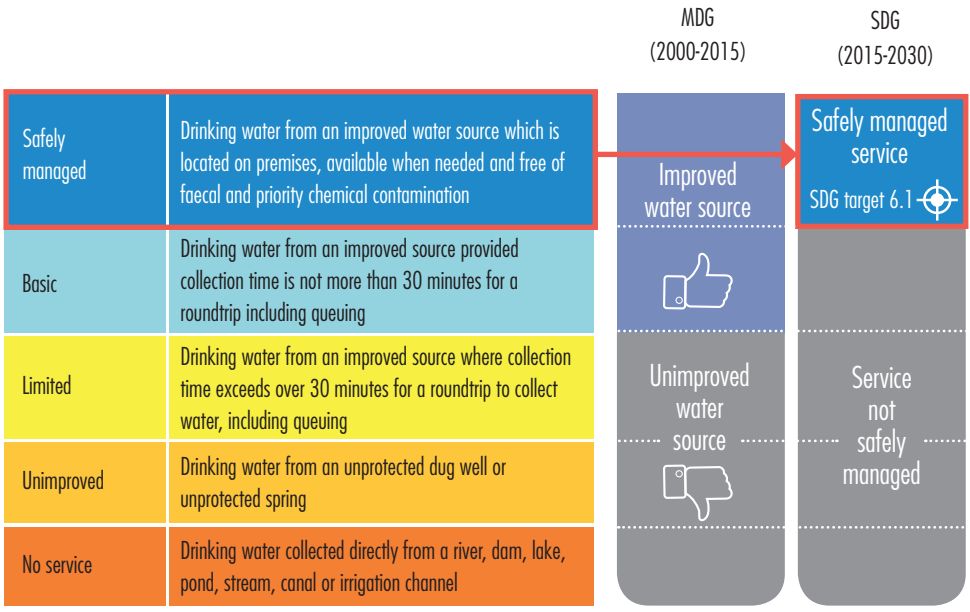
	Piped water on the premises	Shared water points
Accessibility	Location of the tap and ease of access for all types of users	Distance to the water point and/or collection time
Availability	Continuity of service over a given time: is there a continuous flow of water, if not, how many days per week is water available?	Sufficient quantities of water: for instance, assessed by asking «over the course of the last year, have you had enough water for drinking, washing, and doing the laundry?"
Quality	Test at the point of delivery, at any storage facilities and at the point of consumption	Test conducted at the water point, at household storage facilities and at the point of consumption

The Drinking Water Ladder

The service level targeted by the SDGs is to be attained by 2030 and is not expected to be achieved straightaway. Each country therefore needs to set intermediate objectives that are adapted to the specific situations found in the different geographic areas (urban, peri-urban, rural, nomadic areas, etc.). To assist with this, the JMP has developed **a progressive ladder to define the various types of service level and better identify service improvement requirements.**

Drinking water-related projects therefore need to find a balance between progressively improving conditions for the most disadvantaged (no service) and improving the service (for all other levels where services are not deemed to be safely managed) to ensure services are 'safely managed' for all.

According to this new ladder, a borehole with handpump, which was considered an improved water source under the MDG definition, will be categorised as a 'basic service' if the collection time is less than 30 minutes. Projects could thus seek to improve the service by reducing collection times and increasing availability: installing more water points, phasing in motorised pumping systems, etc.



Service ladder for drinking water, with comparison between MDG and SDGs[9]

9. Figure adapted from 'Safely Managed Drinking Water Services – JMP Thematic Report on Drinking Water', JMP (2017).

Options for Action

Availability and Accessibility

There are several possible options that could be considered for improving the service to ensure that water is "available in sufficient quantities at all times":

- In order to increase water availability, an effective maintenance system could be put in place that would ensure maximum service continuity by reducing the number of breakdowns and service interruptions (preventive maintenance and repairs).
- Steps could also be taken to optimise the periods during which the service is available. These could include improving water points' opening hours or, for piped systems, optimising management of water distribution periods, as well as ensuring a minimum flow and pressure at the tap.

Availability of the water resource, which in turn has an impact on availability of the service, can be hampered by the effects of climate change. Consequently, the following issues need to be considered:

- Competition between different uses: the use of water for basic domestic needs should be made a priority;
- Water-saving measures: reducing water distribution losses and encouraging people to use the resource responsibly;
- Harnessing alternative resources in water scarce areas or introducing water transfers.

MORE INFO

To find out more, see: WASH Services and Climate Change in Developing Countries, pS-Eau (please see the Bibliography)

Handpump maintenance in Uganda

Water Quality

In order to ensure water is safe to drink, it is first necessary to **assess the risk of contamination**, not only at the distribution point, but also during transport, storage at home and at the point of consumption.

- For households without piped water on the premises, steps could be taken to encourage people to treat water at home.
- Depending on the results of the water quality tests, a long-lasting treatment solution (usually chlorine) could be used to prevent biological contamination.
- In areas at high risk of contamination from specific chemical elements (such as arsenic in Bangladesh, mercury from gold-mining in Burkina Faso, and naturally occurring fluoride in Senegal), other water resources will need to be found or more advanced treatment methods used to ensure the water is made safe to drink.
- Water quality cannot be discussed without also discussing quality measures. Quality controls are usually carried out at the distribution point. Where water is delivered in tanker trucks or hand-drawn carts with drums, water quality testing could also be carried out at the delivery point.

Chlorination of a drinking water storage tank in Madagascar

The Cost of Water Services

When setting the water tariff, a balance needs to be found between meeting the basic needs of all, including the poorest, and maintaining the financial viability (and thus sustainability) of the service. In order to achieve the aim set out in target 6.1 of providing access to 'affordable' drinking water for all, **a social water policy** will need to be put in place that includes pricing arrangements tailored to the capacity-to-pay of each user.

In Rural Areas

At first glance, target 6.1 may seem overly ambitious given the current situation in rural areas. In dispersed settlements, in particular, the qualitative leap from current service conditions to the 'safely managed' service level is huge. However, as this target is linked to the progressive vision of the 2030 Agenda, intermediate objectives should be set. For rural areas, target 6.1 encourages sector stakeholders to look beyond water points and consider the entire water supply chain. **The aim is to climb the drinking water service ladder.** This means being **more ambitious when considering accessibility**, for instance: extending or constructing more water supply systems and installing connections in rural market towns, as well as installing more water points (standpipes, wells or boreholes with handpumps), to provide people with access closer to their homes. In dispersed settlements, these improvements can be introduced gradually, for example by reducing the collection time from over 30 minutes (limited service) to less than 30 minutes for a roundtrip (basic service if using an improved source).

Fetching water in India

In Urban Areas

In order to ensure universal access to drinking water in urban areas, it will be necessary **to extend the piped water network to cover informal urban settlements.**
This may require setting up public-private partnerships between the main operator and smaller private operators (as in the outlying areas of Ouagadougou in Burkina Faso, for instance).

Public Spaces and Institutions

As the aim of target 6.1 is to achieve universal access, it also applies to institutional settings such as educational establishments, healthcare centres, places of work and public spaces. Consequently, specific facilities and appropriate service management methods will be required for each of these.
Access to water in schools is covered by target 4.a of SDG 4 (see page 42).

Target 6.2 – Sanitation and Hygiene Services

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

The Target Explained

Target 6.2 relates to sanitation. It is considerably more ambitious than the previous MDG target.

- Whereas the MDG target aimed to halve the proportion of the population without access to basic sanitation, SDG target 6.2 seeks to ensure access to sanitation for all;
- It calls for equitable access, which implies eliminating inequalities in service levels among different demographic groups;
- It specifies that sanitation must be adequate, which involves ensuring the hygienic use of sanitation facilities and the hygienic treatment of excreta.

A latrine in Senegal

By 2030, achieve	Interpretation[10]
access	Implies facilities close to home that can be easily reached and used when needed
to adequate	Implies a system that hygienically separates excreta from human contact as well as safe reuse/treatment of excreta in situ, or safe transport and treatment off-site
and equitable	Implies progressive reduction and elimination of inequalities among population subgroups
sanitation	The provision of facilities and services for safe management and disposal of human urine and faeces
and hygiene	The conditions and practices that help maintain health and prevent spread of disease including handwashing, menstrual hygiene management and food hygiene
for all	Suitable for use by men, women, girls and boys of all ages, including people with disabilities
and end open defecation	Excreta of adults or children should not be: ◄ deposited (directly or after being covered by a layer of earth) in the bush, a field, on a beach or in any other open area; ◄ discharged directly into a drainage channel, river, sea or any other water body; ◄ or wrapped in temporary material and discarded
paying special attention to the needs of women and girls	Implies reducing the burden of water collection and enabling women and girls to manage sanitation and hygiene needs with dignity. Special attention should be given to the needs of women and girls in high-use settings such as schools and the workplace, and high-risk settings such as health-care facilities and detention centres
and those in vulnerable situations	Implies paying attention to specific drinking water, sanitation and hygiene (WASH) needs found in special cases including refugee camps, detention centres, mass gatherings and pilgrimages

10. Extract from the 'Integrated Monitoring Guide for Sustainable Development Goal 6 on Water and Sanitation – Targets and Global Indicators, version 14-07-2017, UN Water (2017)

Indicator — 6.2.1 Proportion of the population using safely managed sanitation services, including a handwashing facility with soap and water

The Indicator Explained

Monitoring indicator 6.2.1 measures the **proportion of safely managed sanitation services.** A safely managed sanitation service is defined as one that consists of **improved sanitation facilities** (based on the MDG definition, see Appendix 1 p.49) and **meets three criteria.**

● Access is not shared with other households

The first criterion of a safely managed sanitation service is that access is **not shared with other households.**

This criterion is based on the human right to sanitation, which specifies that access to sanitation within the home is crucial for health, privacy, safety (particularly for women and children) and dignity. Thus, the standard to aspire to is that of a toilet inside the home or in the yard. The 'access is not shared' criterion is also based on numerous studies that show that there is an increased risk of contracting diseases from using shared toilets.

Accessibility also implies that **facilities can be accessed and used by everyone**, including the elderly, children and people with disabilities.

● Excreta are safely treated and disposed of in situ or transported and treated off-site

The second criterion of a safely managed sanitation service is that **excreta are safely treated in situ or off-site.**

The criterion covers several steps in the sanitation chain: collection, transport, and the safe disposal or reuse of the treated excreta and sludge.
Each step must therefore also be safely managed and additional criteria have been proposed for this by the JMP (see Appendix 3, p.51).

Target 6.2 therefore seeks to ensure the use of improved sanitation facilities in which excreta are:

- discharged through a sewer and treated at a treatment plant;
- emptied from a pit or septic tank using methods that limit the risk of human contact and transported for treatment at a treatment plant;
- not emptied but stored on-site (e.g. twin pit latrines) until the sludge can be handled without risk to human health and eventually reused in farming, for instance.

There is a direct link between this excreta treatment criterion and that of indicator 6.3.1, which looks at the proportion of wastewater safely treated.

The presence of handwashing facilities with soap and water

The third criterion under indicator 6.2.1 is the presence of handwashing facilities with soap and water on the premises; a handwashing facility being a device to contain, transport or regulate the flow of water to facilitate handwashing with soap. Soap and water must be available at all times.

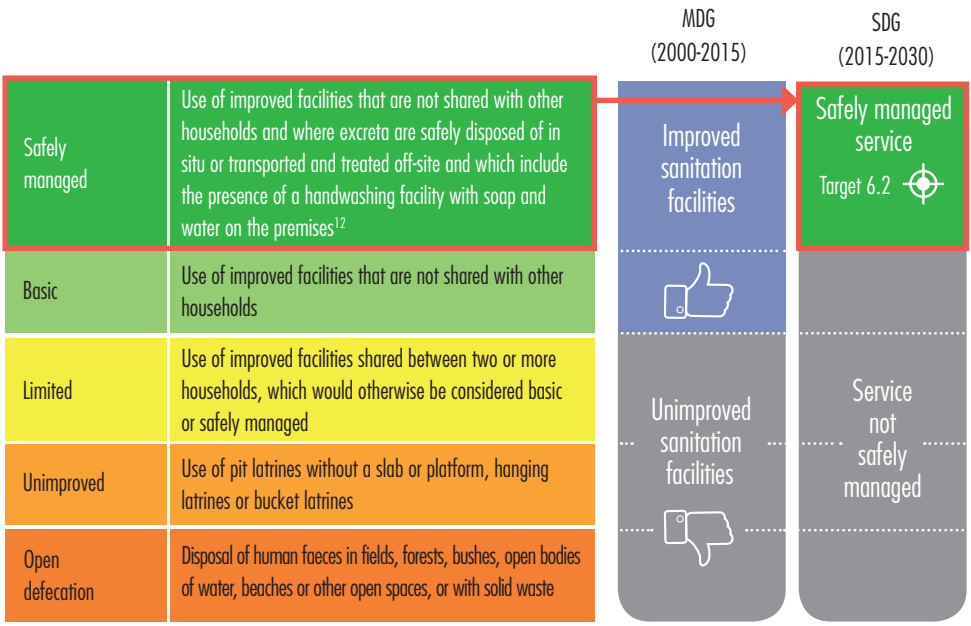
Handwashing facilities may be fixed or mobile and include a sink with tap water, buckets with taps, tippy-taps, and jugs or basins designated for handwashing. Soaps include bar soap, liquid soap, powder detergent, and soapy water, but do not include ash, soil, sand or other handwashing agents.

The Sanitation Services Ladder

As for water services, the JMP has developed a sanitation services ladder that defines the different service levels and helps identify areas of improvement.
This ladder should be used to support the progressive implementation of target 6.2.

It is clear that, in the vast majority of cases, it will not be possible to immediately meet the criteria for safely managed services and so intermediate objectives will be required.

This new ladder reveals the change in approach between the MDGs and SDGs, which focus on the entire sanitation chain rather than just infrastructure.



Sanitation service ladder, with a comparison between the MDGs and SDGs[11]

11. Figure adapted from 'Progress on Drinking Water, Sanitation and Hygiene – 2017 Update and SDG Baselines', JMP (2017)
12. The JMP has also developed a specific hygiene ladder for handwashing with soap and water

Options for Action

Treatment

In addition to providing access to adequate basic sanitation facilities for all and ending open defecation, the other key challenge for both urban and rural sanitation services is **to appropriately manage excreta.**

Handwashing

Indicator 6.2.1 implies that a safely managed sanitation service means that households **have a handwashing facility with soap and water available on the premises.** Although achieving this standard is the ultimate aim, in certain areas where soap is difficult to come by, people could be encouraged to use other handwashing agents, such as ash.

A handwashing facility with soap and water

MORE INFO

To find out more, see 'Designing and Implementing a Hygiene Awareness-Raising and Sanitation Promotion Strategy', pS-Eau (please see the Bibliography)

Gender Mainstreaming

Target 6.2 calls for special attention to be paid to gender mainstreaming when developing sanitation services.

This involves designing **facilities that meet the needs of women and girls, particularly with regard to menstrual hygiene management**, both in the home and in the public sphere. It is thus necessary to provide: access to water for washing both hands and body; access to reusable menstrual cloths; hygienic facilities to enable women and girls to wash and change in private; and solid waste management facilities for the disposal of sanitary towels and menstrual cloths.

In schools and other public places, sex-separated should be provided.

In Rural Areas

In rural areas, sanitation remains a major challenge, both with regard to providing access to toilets and managing excreta.

Implementing the SDGs therefore means continuing **to improve access to basic sanitation** (i.e. the basic service level on the sanitation ladder), particularly in villages and dispersed settlements where sanitation coverage is low.

The treatment of excreta in dispersed rural areas usually involves sealing the latrine pit once full and moving the slab and superstructure to a newly dug pit. This measure can be sufficient as long as the risk of contamination is low. The risk of contamination depends on the distance between the pit and any water points, the soil type and the depth of the water table, all of which should therefore be accurately assessed.

Small and Secondary Towns

There is an even greater need to properly treat excreta in more densely populated areas. The higher volumes of excreta produced increases both the risk to public health and of groundwater contamination. In small and secondary towns, **the entire sanitation chain will therefore need to be taken into account** in order to either introduce appropriate in-situ treatment methods or set up a viable excreta collection and treatment system.

Urban Areas

In urban areas, it will be necessary to ensure that conventional and alternative sanitation systems are considered as they often co-exist in cities and both form part of a safely managed sanitation service. For on-site sanitation, steps should be taken **to improve pit emptying services**, including in parts of the city inaccessible to vacuum trucks. Options include using specially adapted vacuum trucks, and developing a regulated market for manual pit emptiers, who operate in accordance with contractual specifications, etc.

Manually emptying a septic tank in Mauritania

When organising pit emptying in urban areas, consideration also needs to be given to identifying a suitable sludge **disposal and/or treatment site**. This process will involve selecting the land, the appropriate technology and the infrastructure management approach, as well as facilitating access to the site for the pit emptiers (proximity, opening hours, tariffs, etc.).

Consequently, specific facilities and service management arrangements should be defined for each of these settings (management methods, operator or institutions' responsibilities, etc.).

Sanitation in schools is also covered below in relation to target 4.a of SDG 4.

Public Places

Target 6.2 is universal and must be applied to all settings. In particular, it is stipulated that special attention should be given to the needs of women and girls in schools, healthcare facilities and the workplace, etc.

MORE INFO

To find out more see 'CMS Guide No.5 How to Manage Public Toilets and Showers', pS-Eau (please see the Bibliography)

Public toilets in Madagascar

Target 6.3 – Wastewater Treatment

Target 6.3 – By 2030, improve water quality by reducing pollution, eliminating dumping and minimising release of hazardous chemicals and materials, halving the proportion of untreated wastewater and substantially increasing recycling and safe reuse globally

The Target Explained

Target 6.3 focuses on wastewater treatment. It covers all domestic and industrial wastewater and complements target 6.2, which addresses the safe treatment of excreta.

Washing laundry in Mali

By 2030,	Interpretation[13]
improve water quality by	Implies achieving adequate quality of receiving water bodies so that they do not present risks to the environment or human health
reducing pollution	Implies minimizing the generation of pollutants at source and reducing the discharge of polluting substances, from point sources (for example, wastewater outlets from economic activities and households) and non-point sources (for example, urban and agricultural runoff)
eliminating dumping and	Implies ending all inadequate disposal of waste (solid and liquid, for example, leachates from poorly managed solid waste)
minimizing release of hazardous chemicals and materials	Implies reducing the generation, use and discharge of hazardous substances, as defined and listed in the conventions of Basel, Rotterdam and Stockholm
halving the proportion of	Implies halving the proportion of wastewater that is untreated, generated by households and all economic activities (based on International Standard Industrial Classification (ISIC) Rev. 4); some economic activities are of special relevance due to high wastewater generation, including agriculture, mining and quarrying, manufacturing, electricity and sewerage
untreated	Treatment implies any process for rendering wastewater fit to meet applicable environmental standards or other quality norms; treatment can be categorized into primary, secondary and tertiary treatments (and further by mechanical, biological and advanced technology treatments)
wastewater	Discarded water that is no longer required by the owner or user, including discharges to drains or sewers for treatment or direct discharges into the environment, as well as water reused by another user without further treatment
and increasing recycling	Implies increasing the on-site reuse of water within the same establishment or industry
and safe	Implies water has undergone sufficient treatment, combined with non-treatment barriers to protect human health, for the intended use (as described in the 2006 WHO Guidelines for safe use of was¬tewater, excreta and greywater)
reuse	Implies wastewater supplied to a user for further use, with or without prior treatment (for example, use of household wastewater in agriculture), excluding the recycling of water within the same establishment
globally	Implies increased recycling and safe reuse at the global scale, allowing for differentiated efforts at the national and regional scales, focusing efforts on water-scarce regions

13. Adapted from 'Integrated Monitoring Guide for Sustainable Development Goal 6, Work in Progress' – version 19 July 2016, JMP

Indicator 6.3.1 – Proportion of wastewater safely treated
Indicator 6.3.2 – Proportion of bodies of water with good ambient water quality

The Indicators 6.3.1 and 6.3.2 Explained

Target 6.3 is measured by two indicators: the first is a resources indicator and is directly linked to sanitation services (and thus also to target 6.2); the second is an impact indicator and is determined by the effectiveness of the wastewater treatment carried out.

Indicator 6.3.1 monitors the **percentage of wastewater generated by households and economic activities that this treated on-site or at a treatment plant** prior to being discharged into the environment and which can have an impact on bodies of water (this impact is assessed by indicator 6.3.2).

Domestic wastewater includes:

- blackwater (excreta, flush water and water used for anal cleansing), which directly refers to what is already fully taken into consideration as part of safely managed services in target 6.2;
- greywater (domestic water not from toilets, such as from washing up, showers, etc.), which is not included in target 6.2.

Indicator 6.3.2 assesses the **proportion of bodies of water with good ambient water quality**. This indicator gives an overview of the impact of certain types of pollution (including from diffuse sources not captured in 6.3.1) and pollution reduction activities. It is essential for describing the environmental status of freshwater systems (which feeds into indicator 6.6.1). It enables an assessment of the impact of human development on ambient water quality, as well as the potential to obtain future ecosystem services from the water body (e.g. drinking water production and biodiversity).

Treatment Ladder

The different levels of treatment are described in Appendix 3, p.51, which also defines the levels that ensure 'safely managed' treatment. The information provided should be considered in conjunction with the definition of 'safely managed' treatment of excreta.

Options for Action

Target 6.3 provides a reminder, particularly with regard to domestic wastewater, of the link between excreta (blackwater) and greywater and of the need to ensure all of this wastewater is suitably treated.

This target does not only cover wastewater collected through a sewer system and treated at a wastewater treatment plant. It also considers those areas not connected to piped sewerage and where greywater management systems (soak pits, septic tanks, etc.) will need to be installed to supplement domestic excreta management facilities (toilets/latrines, pits, and treatment or discharge system).

Target 6.a – International Cooperation and Capacity-Building

Target 6.a – By 2030, expand international cooperation and capacity-building support to developing countries in water- and sanitation-related activities programmes, including water harvesting, desalination, water efficiency, wastewater treatment, recycling and reuse technologies

Indicator 6.a.1 – Amount of water- and sanitation-related official development assistance that is part of a government-coordinated spending plan

The Target Explained

Target 6.a highlights the importance of **different types of international cooperation for improving and developing water and sanitation services**.

In addition to calling for an increased and more diverse mobilisation of funds, this target also implies considering all forms of cooperation that seek **to build the capacities of sector stakeholders at all levels** in order to develop sustainable services.

Field visit in Dakar, Senegal

Options for Action

The aim of indicator 6.a.1 is to measure the official development assistance (ODA) received by a country by assessing the amount that is directly included in its government-coordinated spending plan. In addition to assessing how dependent a country is on external support, this indicator especially seeks to determine the extent to which this ODA is coordinated by the government.

This coordination approach can be expanded to include decentralised cooperation and NGOs: all programmes should therefore be conducted in **consultation with national institutions** to improve harmonisation and avoid duplication.

Target 6.b – Participation of Local Communities

Target 6.b – Support and strengthen the participation of local communities in improving water and sanitation management

Indicator 6.b.1 – Proportion of local administrative units with established and operational policies and procedures for participation of local communities in water and sanitation management

The Target Explained

Target 6.b highlights the need to involve all stakeholders in water and sanitation service planning and management.

Participation implies a mechanism by which individuals and communities can meaningfully contribute to decisions and directions on water and sanitation planning that affect them or can be affected by them.

Options for Action

The aim of target 6.b is to **assess the level of community involvement in decision-making**. It is therefore necessary to ensure that local authorities and organisations representing service users are effectively involved in the decision-making process.

Inauguration of a borehole, Lebanon

4. Other Targets Linked to Water and Sanitation Services

There are two other targets with direct links to water and sanitation services: target 6.4 of SDG 6 and target 4.a of SDG 4.

Target 6.4 – Water-Use Efficiency

Target 6.4 – By 2030, substantially increase water-use efficiency across all sectors and ensure sustainable withdrawals and supply of freshwater to address water scarcity and substantially reduce the number of people suffering from water scarcity

Indicator 6.4.1 – Change in water-use efficiency over time
Indicator 6.4.2 – Level of water stress: freshwater withdrawal as a proportion of available freshwater resources

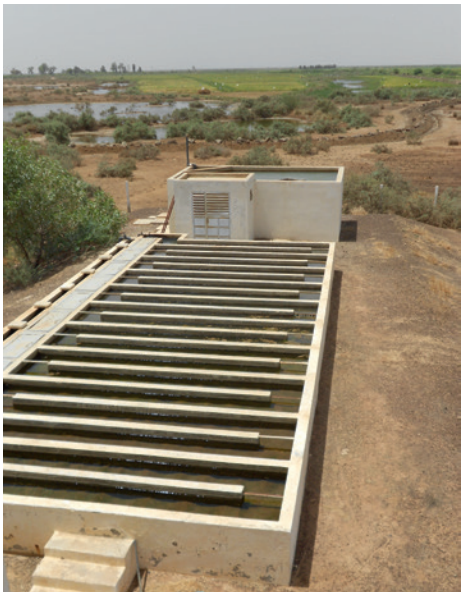
The Target Explained

Target 6.4 of SDG 6 focuses on the **sustainable management of water resources**.

This target has two main implications for water services: firstly, they can be affected by a drop in available water resources due to competition from other uses or to the effects of climate change; secondly, improving water scheme management (loss reductions, etc.) and educating users can reduce the direct pressure that WASH services place on water resources.

Options for Action

Due to the increasing pressure on water resources, it is important to introduce efficient and **sustainable water service management** approaches that notably seek to reduce water losses and wasted resources.
Efforts to improve efficiency could also be supplemented by **raising users' awareness** of water-saving and water-efficiency measures.



A surface water treatment plant in Senegal

Target 4.a – Water and Sanitation in Schools

Target 4.a – Build and upgrade education facilities that are child, disability and gender sensitive and provide safe, non-violent, inclusive and effective learning environments for all

Indicators 4.a.1 – Proportion of schools with access to: (a) electricity; (b) the internet for pedagogical purposes; (c) computers for pedagogical purposes; (d) adapted infrastructure and materials for students with disabilities; (e) basic drinking water; (f) single-sex basic sanitation facilities; and (g) basic handwashing facilities (based on the SDG6 indicator definitions)

The Target Explained

Target 4.a forms part of SDG 4 on education. It seeks to **improve infrastructure in schools**, which includes drinking water and sanitation facilities.

Target 4.a is monitored by indicator 4.a.1, which contains three water and sanitation-related criteria (e, f and g). These criteria should be interpreted in line with targets 6.1 and 6.2, which are universal and apply to all settings.

Options for Action

Although the ultimate aim of targets 6.1 and 6.2 includes achieving safely managed services in schools, target 4.a. **is intended to be implemented progressively** and contains an intermediate objective linked to the basic level of service (see the drinking water and sanitation ladders). The options for action are therefore similar for both water and sanitation:

- Safe drinking water should be available in sufficient quantities at all times.
- Single sex-sanitation facilities should be available and facilities should be adapted to the needs of girls. Excreta must be safely and hygienically treated (the entire sanitation chain should be considered).
- Gender mainstreaming, which is included in targets 6.1 and 6.2, is particularly important in schools: the lack of suitable toilet facilities has a significant impact on girls' education. Toilet facilities must therefore be properly adapted (single-sex toilets and menstrual hygiene management).

In order to achieve this target as quickly as possible, everybody needs to work together, including education services, water and sanitation services, local authorities and development partners.

A school latrine in Tessaoua, Niger

5. The Cross-Cutting Nature of Drinking Water and Sanitation

Water is a cross-cutting theme of the Sustainable Development Agenda. Due to their social, economic and environmental aspects, developing water and sanitation services will also help achieve other SDGs.

In addition to the SDGs and targets outlined above, the following SDGs are also closely linked to water and sanitation services:

1.4 By 2030, ensure that all men and women, in particular the poor and the vulnerable, have [...] access to basic services [...]

3.3 By 2030 [...] combat hepatitis, water-borne diseases and other communicable diseases

3.9 By 2030, substantially reduce the number of deaths and illnesses from hazardous chemicals and air, water and soil pollution and contamination

15.1 By 2020, ensure the conservation, restoration and sustainable use of terrestrial and inland freshwater ecosystems [...]

4.a Build and upgrade education facilities that are child, disability and gender sensitive and provide safe, non-violent, inclusive and effective learning environments for all

14.1 By 2025, prevent and significantly reduce marine pollution of all kinds, in particular from land-based activities, including marine debris and nutrient pollution

13.1 Strengthen resilience and adaptive capacity to climate-related hazards and natural disasters in all countries

11.1 By 2030, ensure access for all to adequate, safe and affordable housing and basic services and upgrade slums

6. Taking Action in Alignment with the SDGs

A standpipe in Madagascar

All stakeholders need to take full ownership of the challenges posed by the new Agenda 2030 framework: the government and its devolved agencies (in charge of water, sanitation, hygiene, health, education, etc.); local authorities; communities; development partners, etc.

Everyone has a role to play in achieving the water and sanitation and other related SDGs:

- translating the SDGs into national sector policies and strategies;
- supporting and monitoring the implementation of these policies and strategies;
- developing local strategies to provide universal and equitable access to water and sanitation services;
- involving communities in defining and implementing service improvement strategies.

The goals are ambitious, but aligned to the public health, social and environmental requirements that need to be met.

To achieve the SDGs by 2030, all stakeholders at all levels need to work more closely together.

Appendices

Appendix 1: Definition of Improved Water Points and Sanitation Facilities

The concept of 'improved' was defined by the WHO UNICEF Joint Monitoring Programme (JMP) for the WASH-related MDG monitoring indicator[14]. The definitions below cover improved facilities only however, it is important to note that, in addition to the facilities, targets 6.1 and 6.2 of SDG 6 consider the entire service, along with its quality and functionality.

Definition of improved water sources

Improved water sources are those that are potentially capable of delivering safe water by nature of their design and construction. These include piped water, boreholes or tubewells, protected dug wells, protected springs, and rainwater.

Unimproved sources include unprotected dug wells and unprotected springs.

The JMP recognises that bottled water and tanker truck water can potentially deliver safe water, but has previously treated them as unimproved due to lack of data on accessibility, availability and quality. When monitoring the SDGs, the JMP will treat them as improved and classify them as 'limited', 'basic' or 'safely managed', based on the SDG indicator criteria of accessibility, availability and quality, including sufficient quantities and affordability.

Definition of improved sanitation facilities

Improved sanitation facilities are those designed to hygienically separate excreta from human contact.

These include:

- wet sanitation technologies, such as flush and pour flush toilets connecting to sewers, septic tanks or pit latrines;
- dry sanitation technologies, such as ventilated improved pit latrines; pit latrines with slabs; or composting toilets.

Unimproved facilities include:

- pit latrines without a slab or platform;
- hanging latrines;
- bucket latrines.

The lowest level of unimproved sanitation is a lack of sanitation facilities, which results in open defecation.

14. Extract from 'Progress on Drinking Water, Sanitation and Hygiene – 2017 Update and SDG Baselines', JMP (2017) and from 'Safely Managed Drinking Water Services – JMP Thematic Report on Drinking Water', JMP (JMP)

Appendix 2: Global Monitoring of SDG Targets

In order to assess the progress made towards achieving the SDGs by 2030, the indicators will be monitored at a number of different levels (global, regional, national).
The introduction of national and regional monitoring, which will feed into the global monitoring mechanism, means that this process differs from that used to monitor the MDGs.

In order to ensure monitoring is consistent, the mechanisms used to monitor the MDG water and sanitation targets are currently being brought together under the GEMI inter-agency initiative (Global Expanded Monitoring Initiative for water and sanitation).

As things stand, the monitoring of the eight targets of SDG 6 is currently split between three initiatives[15]:

Target	Monitoring Body
Target 6.1	WHO/UNICEF Joint Monitoring Programme for Water Supply, Sanitation and Hygiene (JMP) *www.washdata.org*
Target 6.2	
Target 6.3	Global Expanded Water Monitoring Initiative (GEMI) *www.sdg6monitoring.org/news/presenting-gemi*
Target 6.4	
Target 6.5	
Target 6.6	
Target 6.a	Global Analysis and Assessment of Sanitation and Drinking-Water (GLAAS) *www.who.int/water_sanitation_health/monitoring/investments/glaas/en/*
Target 6.b	

Information on the integrated monitoring of SDG 6 is available on the following website: www.sdg6monitoring.org

15. Extract from 'Integrated Monitoring Guide for Sustainable Development Goal 6 on Water and Sanitation – Targets and Global Indicators', version 14-07-2017, UN Water (2017)

Appendix 3: Additional Criteria for 'Safely Managed Sanitation'

The WHO-UNICEF Joint Monitoring Programme (JMP) has developed additional criteria to define a 'safely managed' sanitation service[16]. These criteria, shared via draft documents, are likely to evolve and be further defined. The pS-Eau interpretation of these definitions is provided below.

Safely managed containment of excreta:

Systems	Interpretation
Piped sewers	Toilet directly connected to a piped sewer, which is sealed and discharging to a piped sewer system. It does not leak into the local environment.
Septic tanks	Toilet directly connected to a septic tank, which is functioning correctly and is: - Sealed and impermeable. It is not cracked, leaking or flooded. - The effluent outlet is discharging to a piped sewer or soak pit, and not to an open drain, a water body or to open ground.
Pit latrines with slabs and ventilated improved pit latrines (VIPs)	Toilet directly connected to a pit latrine or VIP, which is functioning correctly: - The toilet is impermeable, is not damaged or flooded and does not leak into the local environment; - The effluent percolates to soil sub-structures. It is not discharged to an open drain, a water body or to open ground.
Other systems including composting toilets	The system is functioning correctly; it is not damaged, cracked or flooded and does not leak into the local environment.

16. These tables have been adapted from the draft documents entitled 'Step-by-step monitoring methodology for indicators 6.2.1' and 'Monitoring SDG 6.2.1 and 6.3.1' (v. 21/10/2016), JMP

Safe disposal of excreta in-situ:

Systems	Interpretation
Septic tanks	The septic tank emptying method separates the operatives, sanitation system users and the public from excreta. The excreta is then safely buried (e.g. in a sealed hole avoiding contact with excreta).
Pit latrines with slabs and ventilated improved pit latrines (VIPs)	◄ Pit latrine is not emptied but the excreta are safely buried (sealed) in the pit when full; ◄ Pit latrine is emptied and the excreta are safely buried (e.g. in a sealed hole); ◄ Pit latrine is emptied and the excreta are handled, but only after two years once the excreta are safe to handle (e.g. twin pit latrine).
Other systems including composting toilets	◄ The system is safely emptied and the excreta safely buried (avoiding contact with excreta); ◄ The system is emptied and the excreta are handled but only after two years, once the excreta are safe to handle.

Safely emptied:

Systems	Interpretation
All on-site sanitation systems	Excreta are emptied from the system manually or using mechanical or motorised equipment. The method separates the operatives, sanitation system users and the general public from excreta. All operatives wear the appropriate personal protective equipment.

Safe transport and delivery to treatment plants:

Systems	Interpretation
Piped sewers	Excreta (i.e. wastewater) is transported and delivered to a treatment plant using a 'piped sewer'. All wastewater reaches the treatment plant: there are no seepages, pump failures, breaks or blockages in the system.
All on-site sanitation systems	Excreta is transported and delivered to a treatment plant using motorised, mechanical or manual equipment (using only hand-drawn carts or similar) with all operatives wearing appropriate personal protective equipment. This method safely separates the operatives, sanitation system users and the general public from excreta.

Safe treatment:

		Exposure		
Wastewater treatment level	**Treatment objective**	**High** (e.g. reuse for food production)	**Medium** (e.g. disposal on land or water bodies – not for food production)	**Low** (e.g. long ocean outfall or groundwater recharge)
Advanced treatment	Combination of several tertiary treatments	Safely treated	Safely treated	Safely treated
Tertiary treatment	Treatment of pathogens, especially faecal coliforms, nitrogen and phosphorus	Not safely treated	Safely treated	Safely treated
Secondary treatment	Treatment of BOD and COD	Not safely treated	Not safely treated	Safely treated
Primary treatment	Treatment of suspended solids	Not safely treated	Not safely treated	Safely treated
Pre-treatment	Elimination of floating solids, oils and sand	Not safely treated	Not safely treated	Not safely treated

	Exposure		
Excreta treatment level	**High** (e.g. reuse for food production)	**Medium** (e.g. disposal on land or water bodies – not for food production)	**Low** (e.g. long ocean outfall, landfill or safe burial)
Treatment of solid and liquid fraction	Safely treated	Safely treated	Safely treated
Dewatering and/or stabilisation of solid fraction + treatment of liquid fraction	Not safely treated	Not safely treated	Safely treated
Solid-liquid fraction separation	Not safely treated	Not safely treated	Not safely treated
No treatment	Not safely treated	Not safely treated	Not safely treated

Bibliography

The bibliographic references and web links listed below can be found at:
www.pseau.org/en/agenda-2030

References

Safely Managed Drinking Water – Thematic Report on Drinking Water 2017, JMP (2017)

Progress on Sanitation and Drinking Water: 2015 Report and MDG Assessment, JMP (2015)

WASH in the 2030 Agenda. New Global Indicators for Drinking Water, Sanitation and Hygiene,
revised version 07/2017, JMP (2017)

Progress on Drinking Water, Sanitation and Hygiene – 2017 Update and SDG Baselines, JMP (2017)

Realising the Human Rights to Water and Sanitation: A Handbook by the Un Special Rapporteur, Catarina De Albuquerque (2014)

Monitoring SDG 6.2.1 and 6.3.1- v1 2016-10-21, JMP (2016)

The Sustainable Development Goals Report 2016, United Nations (2016)

Step-by-step monitoring methodology for indicator 6.2.1, v1 21 October 2016, JMP (2016)

Step-by-step monitoring methodology for indicator 6.3.1, work in progress to be revised based on country feedback –
draft version 2016-05-25, JMP (2016)

Integrated Monitoring Guide for Sustainable Development Goal 6 on Water and Sanitation: Targets and Global Indicators,
version 14-07-2017, UN Water (2017)

Websites

Official UN SDG website: ***www.un.org/sustainabledevelopment***

JMP website: ***www.washdata.org***

The water and sanitation-related SDGs integrated monitoring initiative website (GEMI, JMP, GLAAS): ***www.sdg6monitoring.org***

SDG indicators website: ***unstats.un.org/sdgs/***

pS-Eau Resources

All of our guides can be downloaded from www.pseau.org/en/our-reference-publications

Concerted Municipal Strategies for sanitation services, a serie of six methodological guidebooks, pS-Eau (2013)

Conservation et traitement de l'eau à domicile, pS-Eau (2013) – in French only

Designing and Implementing a Hygiene Awareness-Raising and Sanitation Promotion Strategy, pS-Eau (2015)

CMS Guide No.5 How to Manage Public Toilets and Showers, pS-Eau (2012)

WASH Services and Climate Change in Developing Countries, pS-Eau (2018)
www.pseau.org/en/wash-climate-change

TOOLS & METHODS

The Sustainable Development Goals for Water and Sanitation Services

Interpreting the Targets and Indicators

Adopted in September 2015, the Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs) provide a new framework in which to develop water and sanitation services.

Bridging the Millennium Development Goals, the international sustainable development processes and the recognition of the human rights to water and sanitation, the SDGs are ambitious in that they seek to achieve universal and equitable access to water and sanitation services by 2030. This integrated approach, which focuses on service improvements rather than infrastructure, requires the involvement of all sector stakeholders. Each stakeholder needs to take ownership of these new benchmarks and integrate them into policy and practice.

To help interpret this complex framework, and respond to questions posed by water and sanitation sector stakeholders and development partners on its implementation, this publication provides an analysis of the links between the SDGs and water and sanitation services and sets out potential options for action.

Scan the QR code to download the guide

More information: www.pseau.org/en/agenda-2030

pS-Eau

AFD
AGENCE FRANÇAISE DE DÉVELOPPEMENT

AGENCE FRANÇAISE POUR LA BIODIVERSITÉ
MINISTÈRE DE L'ENVIRONNEMENT

Liberté • Égalité • Fraternité
RÉPUBLIQUE FRANÇAISE
MINISTÈRE DE L'EUROPE ET DES AFFAIRES ÉTRANGÈRES