



ZAMBIA

Water and Sanitation Profile

POPULATION AND HEALTH STATISTICS	
Population (2006)	11.7 million
Proportion of population living in urban areas	35%
Urban/Rural population growth rates (1980-2000)	4.8 / 1.5%
Diarrheal deaths/year (2004)	13,700
Under age 5 mortality rate	182/1000 live births
Under age 5 mortality rate due to diarrheal disease (2000)	17.5%

SECTOR OVERVIEW

In Zambia, urban and rural access coverage for improved water supply and sanitation (WSS) has increased overall since 1990, but Zambia is still unlikely to meet its MDG targets in water and sanitation. Whereas the Government has developed progressive policies and strategies for meeting the MDG goals, robust commitments to sector policies, increased financing for water and sanitation infrastructure, and better coordination amongst stakeholders are critical to maintaining current coverage rates.

While Zambia has made important advances in regulatory and institutional reform, there must be a continued implementation of national policies and expanded financing and cost recovery strategies. Furthermore, institutional separation between water resource management and regulatory functions need to be completed. Increased institutional capacity of WSS service providers, and improved financial management, will allow increases in efficiency, expanded coverage and better financial viability. In addition, local service providers need the authority and financing to carry out sanitation duties

lest urban access to improved sanitation erode further.

SECTOR FRAMEWORK

A national collaborative process between Zambia's WSS sector stakeholders in the early 1990s culminated in the adoption of a National Water Policy in 1994 and the Water Supply and Sanitation Act in 1997. Under the policy and Act, implementation strategies were prepared for improving services in both the urban and rural WSS sub-sectors. Considerable focus was placed on devolving the authority to provide WSS service from the central government to local authorities.

To better ensure cost recovery, most local authorities in urban areas created commercial utilities (CUs) to provide services. 50 CUs were formed by local authorities – some of which have subsequently merged. Approximately 20 local authorities still provide water and sanitation services through their works departments. The local authorities have a particularly bad service record, with coverage levels actually declining. An independent regulator for water and sanitation, NAWASCO, was established in 1997. NAWASCO provides something of a model for WSS regulation in the region with the use of regulatory scorecards, water "WatchGroups" of consumers, and other regulatory tools.

WATER AVAILABILITY IN ZAMBIA	
Renewable water resources per capita, m ³ /person/year (1960-2007)	8,726
Water withdrawals, m ³ /person/year (2000)	163
Projected water resources per capita, m ³ /person/year in 2015	7,430
Note: 2015 projected water resources per capita is a straight-line regression calculation based on population growth rates with no adjustment for consumption or technology changes	

KEY AGENCIES

Agency	Description	Contact Information
Ministry of Energy and Water Development (MEWD)	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Water resources management Administers water rights Some financial management of WSS sector 	
Ministry of Legal Government and Housing (MLGH)	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Administrative and financial management of WSS services 	
Department of Infrastructure and Support Services (DISS)	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Technical support to WSS service providers Overseas development and rehabilitation of WSS infrastructure 	
National Water Supply and Sanitation Council (NWASCO)	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Independent WSS service regulation 	
Commercial Utilities (CUs)	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Provide WSS service to urban and peri-urban areas 11 CUs exist in eight out of nine provinces 	
District Water, Sanitation and Health Education Committees (D-WASHE)	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Promoting sustainability of service through local control and oversight of WSS service which may be provided by local WASH committees or CUs 	
Rural Water Supply and Sanitation Unit (RWSSU)	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Works to strengthen the institutional support of rural WSS service providers 	

The Zambian government implemented the Water, Sanitation, and Health Education (WASHE) concept in rural areas to better incorporate affected populations into system planning and development and thus to improve the delivery of WSS services. However, these progressive strategies have been marginalized as government funding in the sector continues to be low despite the adoption of the 2005 National Rural Water Supply and Sanitation Program (NRWSSP) for the rural sub-sector.

There is a need for a very deliberate investment policy by government as well as an increase in government funding for the water sector to address the deficits in infrastructure development in relation to the growing population. Financial viability in the sector is continuing to improve with six (6) utilities reaching

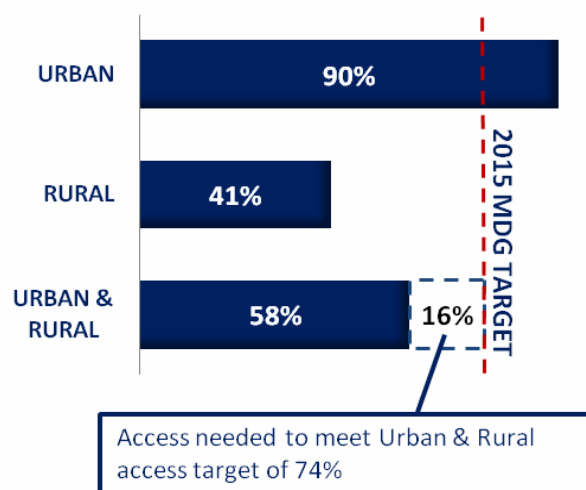
operational cost coverage by the end of 2006. However, this is adversely affected by the non payment for services by government institutions, and there is a need to further decentralize water rate setting authority to local service providers and CUs in order to cover the true cost of service. Finally, there is a critical need for investments in human resource development.

THE URBAN SUB-SECTOR

Zambia's implementation of national water reforms initiated the creation of CUs in urban and peri-urban areas. CUs provide more local control and have improved the quality of service, but coverage and financial viability remain low. CUs are expected to be financially self-sufficient with respect to operation and maintenance (O&M) costs, however cost recovery has remained elusive, particularly with non-revenue water remaining around 50%. Recognizing the need, Zambia is responding with additional financial support such as the Devolution Trust Fund (DTF) and the Zambia Social Investment Fund (ZamSIF). The DTF specifically provides financial support to the CUs to enable them to reach poor populations and growing peri-urban areas.

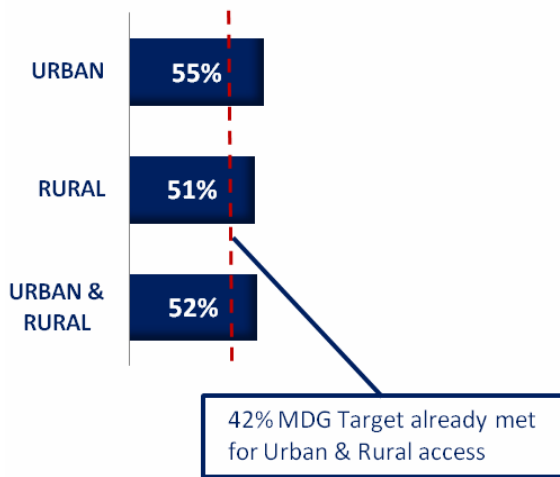
In the urban areas, sanitation has not received sufficient attention; groundwater contamination and inadequate drainage continue to cause widespread outbreaks of cholera. The vast majority of the population depends on pit latrines which are often

Meeting MDG 7: Access to Water in 2006



Data Source: UN MDG Indicator Database

Meeting MDG 7: Access to Sanitation in 2006



Data Source: UN MDG Indicator Database

poorly sited, constructed and maintained. The Lusaka Water Company has only just started a sanitation surcharge to enable extension of a piped wastewater collection system, and NWASCO is advising CUs on appropriate and affordable ways to improve sanitation service.

THE RURAL SUB-SECTOR

All WSS functions are to be transferred to WASHE committees under Zambia's new institutional framework for RWSS and in line with decentralization policies, but change has been slowed due local capacity constraints. District WASHE committees continue to relinquish WSS service responsibilities to community-based WASHE committees and CUs. Recognizing the institutional weakness of most local authorities, Zambia is strengthening local capacity through the RWSSU. The Zambian government may require the implementation of a clearer cost recovery sharing policy with RWSS service providers in order to maintain rural service growth, especially with regard to sanitation coverage. Monitoring and evaluation lag behind the urban sub-sector, but continued support of these MLGH efforts will provide the foundation to further decentralize and increase self-sufficiency.

DONOR INVOLVEMENT

Zambia's most important bilateral and multilateral development partners in the WSS sector include: Denmark, Germany, the Netherlands, Japan, Ireland,

the World Bank/Water & Sanitation Program and the African Development Bank. Donor involvement is crucial to increasing sector financing in order to meet MDG targets. Zambia is moving towards better donor coordination by formalizing the Informal Donor Group (IDM), as well as standardizing approaches and procedures via the development of an official national aid policy. In addition, a rural water supply and sanitation forum has brought together key government agencies and donors.

DONOR	ACTIVITIES	CONTACT INFORMATION
African Development Bank	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Urban WSS service delivery projects in the central province including establishment of a CU RWSS service delivery in Central province including strengthening of D-WASHE committees 	Felix Njoku, f.njoku@afdb.org , Tel: 216-71-10-26-12
Danish International Development Agency (DANIDA)	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Supports RWSS management information system and knowledge and resource framework Urban and peri-urban WSS Service delivery for low-cost housing areas Integrated Water Resources Management 	Peter Sievers, petsie@um.dk , Moffat Mwanza, mofmwa@um.dk ,
GTZ	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> RWSS decentralization and service delivery in Southern Province Leads donor coordination in WSS group 	Helmut Lang, helmut.lang@gtz.de , Tel: 260-1-229-281
KfW (German Development Bank)	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Urban WSS service delivery Rural WSS in the Southern Province Support to NWASCO and the DTF 	Philip Graf von Schwerin, kfw.lusaka@kfw.de , Tel: 26-01-29-22-33
Irish Aid	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Urban WSS service in the Northern Province Support to RWSSU and the DTF Prioritization and planning in WSS sector Capacity building & institutional strengthening for RWSS through WASHE framework 	iremb@samnet.zm , Tel: 260-1-290-650 http://www.irishaid.gov.ie/zambia.asp
Japan International Cooperation Agency	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Peri-urban water supply service delivery through community-based schemes Groundwater development via borehole drilling Linkages with public health 	Tel: 260-211-254501 Fax: 260-211-254935
Netherlands Development Corporation	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Peri-urban and rural WSS capacity building & institutional strengthening through hygiene education at catchment level and targeting gender issues 	zambia@snvworld.org , Tel: 260-1-255174, 260-1-251336
The World Bank	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Urban WSS through improvements in Copperbelt CUs to attract private investments WSS sector-wide policy making capacity in the MEWS and MLGH Legislative, regulatory and institutional reform related to decentralization Water resource management in Kafue Basin Support to ZamSIF 	Jane Walker, nwaler@worldbank.org , Tel: 202-458-2703
Water and Sanitation Program, Africa	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> RWSS sector programming, policy development and streamlining Sanitation marketing and community-based water and sanitation delivery schemes in poor urban areas Support to MLGH in development of MDG roadmaps, prioritization and planning 	Barbara Senkwe, bkaziimbayasenkwe@worldbank.org Tel: 260-97-754-012
UNICEF	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> RWSS service in drought & refugee affected areas Financing D-WASHE activities for improved hygiene in schools 	lusaka@unicef.org , Tel: 260-211-252-055

Additional Information and Sources: Statistics were compiled from the World Health Organization's WHOSIS database, World Resources Institute - Earthtrends Water Resources and Freshwater Ecosystems database, and the UN MDG Indicators database. Other sources included the 2006 African Development Bank's "Getting Africa on Track to Meet the MDGs in Water Supply and Sanitation (2006), the Zambian National Water Supply and Sanitation Council website, WaterAid Country information, the Zambian Development and Assistance Database, the WHO/UNICEF "Progress on Drinking Water and Sanitation – Special Focus on Sanitation" Report (2008), African-European Water Initiative – Zambia Country Dialogue Progress Report (2004), and the Joint Assistance Strategies in Tanzania, Uganda and Zambia Final Report (2005).

This Water and Sanitation Profile was prepared under the Advancing the Blue Revolution Initiative (ABRI). ABRI is funded by the U.S. Agency for International Development and addresses some of the most challenging water issues in the Middle East and Africa including the lack of access by the poor to improved water and sanitation services, inefficient and nonproductive water use, and transboundary river basin management. ABRI works closely with host country governments, actively pursues co-investments from the private sector, reaches out to like-minded foundations, and partners with regional institutions.