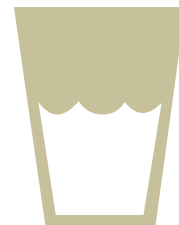




# Water and Sanitation 2014

Improving the human right to clean water  
and basic sanitation

Access to safe drinking water and sanitation is crucial not only for people's health and wellbeing, but also for poverty reduction and economic development. Sweden promotes efficient, fair and sustainable water use and management as well as improved access to basic sanitation and hygiene facilities. Sida's financial support to the water sector amounted to approximately SEK 736 million in 2014, accounting for around 4 percent of Sida's total disbursements that year.



## MAIN AREAS OF SUPPORT

Safe drinking water and sustainable sanitation are essential for human survival, health and dignity. Careful management of increasingly scarce water resources is vital to ensure environmental safety and sustainable development. Sida's support to the water sector focuses on two main areas:

- Water supply, sanitation, hygiene and waste management
- Water resource management

Sida's work with water supply, sanitation and hygiene, aims at improving access to services, primarily by encouraging more democratic and effective institutions. Support to waste management concentrates on setting up municipal services based on principles such as prevention, re-use, recycling and environmentally safe disposal. Sida's support to water resource management focuses on establishing sustainable, equitable, participative and accountable management regimes. Since the majority of the world's water resources are shared by two or more countries, conflict prevention and cooperation are essential in Sida's work within the sector. Climate change and

recurrent water-related disasters make risk reduction, adaptation and enhancing resilience, critical and integrated aspects in the water and sanitation portfolio. Within the programs supported, the application of a pro-poor and a rights-based approach has continued to receive special focus during 2014.

Support to global initiatives amounts to almost 60 percent of the total funding within the sector (see table 2). In the last couple of years, the share of allocations to global programmes has increased substantially. This increase can be attributed to Sweden's strong commitment to support global joint efforts for achieving universal access to water, sanitation and hygiene, as well as reduced child mortality and improved maternal health. Among many global programs, Sida supports UNICEF's Water Sanitation and Hygiene program (WASH) with a total of SEK 800 million during the period 2013-2017. The program aims to ensure that all schools have adequate child friendly and gender sensitive sanitation, hand-washing facilities as well as hygiene education programs.



## THE 10 LARGEST COUNTRIES OF COOPERATION



## RESULTS

### DEVELOPMENT IN THE WORLD

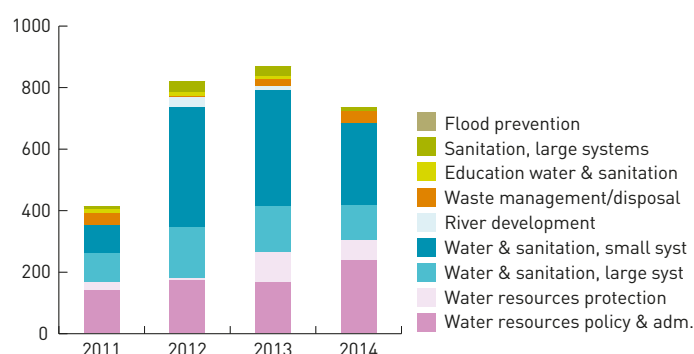
Since 1990, almost 2 billion people have gained access to an improved sanitation facility, and the millennium development goal on halving the proportion of people without sustainable access to safe drinking water was met already in 2010. Although progress has been made within the area of water and sanitation, approximately 2.5 billion people still lack access to an improved sanitation facility of which 1 billion of the world population still practise open defecation. The fact is that today more people have a mobile phone than a toilet, and every ninth person in the world, approximately 750 million people, still lack access to clean water.

The same people who lack access to improved water and sanitation are also likely to lack access to electricity and rely on solid fuel for cooking. Sida recognizes that water and energy is tightly interlinked and that poverty reduction policies must address the interconnected challenges that are intensified by a growing demand on freshwater and energy, especially in emerging economies where agriculture, industry and urban development are quickly evolving.

### SWEDISH SUPPORT

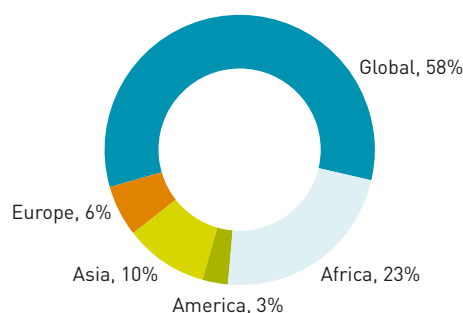
More than half of Sida's overall support to water and sanitation goes to provision of clean water, sanitation and hygiene, as well as management of sewage and waste disposal. Sida's support to organizations such as the Water Supply Sanitation Collaborative Council, WSSCC and its Global Sanitation Fund; the World Bank Water and Sanitation Program, as well as, UNICEF WASH and Water Aid, have contributed to various national efforts towards providing access to safe water, improved sanitation and hygiene. For example the Uganda Sanitation Fund (USF) where the Ministry of Health has an essential role in structuring a national platform for bringing WASH issues to high political levels, and which receives support from the Global Sanitation fund GSF/WSSCC, as well as advocacy support from these organizations, for the period 2011–december 2014 has provided 1.5 million people with improved latrines, ensured that 1.5 million people live in an Open Defecation Free environment; and that 1.4 million people have applied hand washing routines. Furthermore, health statistics from districts where GSF/WSSCC has been active, such as in the District of Mbale in the North East part of Uganda, shows a strong correlation between increased number of improved latrines (combined with hand washing) and a decrease in the numbers of water and faecal related diseases.

**TABLE 1: DISTRIBUTION PER SUBSECTOR WITHIN WATER AND SANITATION, MILLION SEK**



**3.4 million people** die each year from water related diseases. That is more than the entire population of Stockholm, Gothenburg, Malmö and Uppsala together.

**TABLE 2: GEOGRAPHICAL DISTRIBUTION, PERCENT**



### STORY OF CHANGE

"The Uganda Sanitation Fund is honoured to have support from Sida for building a national platform that provides decent standards of sanitation and hygiene for everybody. For Uganda, alongside the rest of the developing world, health means wealth, particularly for people who cannot go to work because they are ill, or for children who globally lose almost 200 million school days a year to inadequate sanitation and unhygienic facilities."

**Julian Kyomuhangi Assistant Commissioner for Environmental Health, Ministry of Health**