

Diagnosing Angola's Ailing WASH Sector:

An Urgent Call to Action

66 percent of the population has access to an improved drinking water source...



...yet the rate of access rose only 4 percent between 2000 and 2017

70 percent of the population has access to an improved sanitation facility...



...still, 6 million people continue to practice open defecation

only 42 percent of Angolans have access to a handwashing facility...



...well below the average of 59 percent for Sub-Saharan Africa

children with limited access to water and sanitation services are more susceptible to malnutrition...



...and more than one-third of all children under five are stunted, 5 percent are wasted, and 19 percent are underweight

poor families are disproportionately disadvantaged across all indicators...



...47 percent of the poorest households rely on surface water and 82 percent practice open defecation

only 36 percent of the WASH sector's annual budget is executed...



...and current levels of spending are less than 25 percent of the amount needed (as a percentage of GDP) to achieve the SDGs

progress in the WASH sector is significantly constrained by a centralized governance structure and weak institutional capacity...



...while nascent regulations and a poorly implemented tariff-setting framework add to the challenges

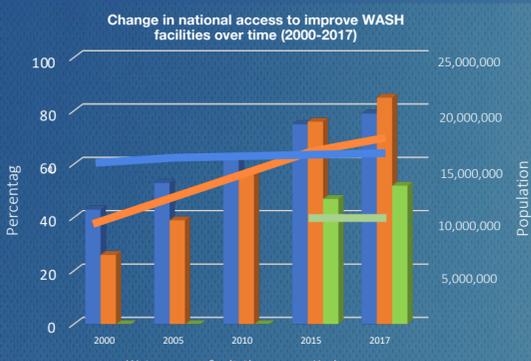
Angola has recognized the importance of the institutional development of the WASH sector. It is committed to establishing the necessary policy and legal frameworks. Yet, despite significant efforts, Angola fell short of the water and sanitation targets of Millennium Development Goals (MDGs) and now faces the arduous task of catching up its pursuit of Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs).

The Angola WASH Sector Diagnostic identifies key institutional constraints and bottlenecks through a comprehensive governance and public expenditure review.

It provides guidance on how to improve the effectiveness of the WASH sector in support of broader policy goals to achieve sustainability and meet the SDGs.

CHALLENGES

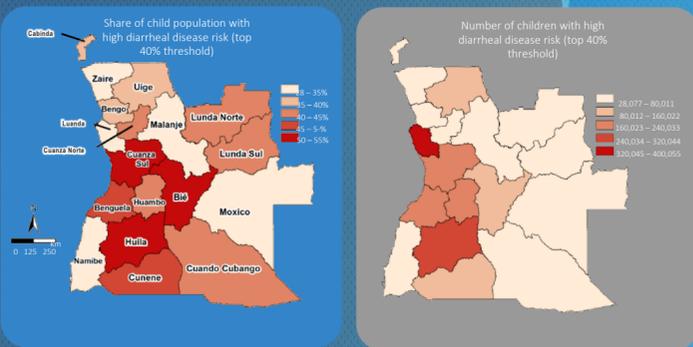
Significant population growth and net urban migration in recent years have slowed Angola's progress in the WASH sector and increased disparities



Source: JMP 2017
Note: Lines represent percentage of the population; bars represent headcount. WASH = water supply, sanitation, and hygiene.

In Angola, poor, malnourished children with limited access to WASH services and health care are particularly susceptible to WASH-related diarrheal disease and mortality

Children under five with the highest WASH-related disease risk, by percentage share of population (A) and absolute number of children (B)



Note: T40 = top 40 percent of wealthy quintile; WASH = water supply, sanitation, and hygiene

OPPORTUNITIES

Develop and implement a comprehensive national WASH strategy that articulates a multi-sectoral approach to meeting the needs of the country's population, sets specific objectives and targets to achieve the SDGs, and includes corresponding provincial and local strategies.

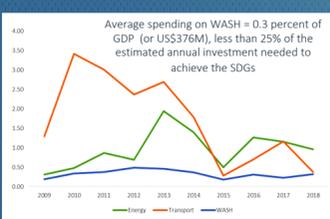
At the national level, develop and implement a clearly articulated methodology for prioritizing WASH investments by subsector and province.

At the provincial level, develop a unique plan for increasing access to WASH services for local populations.

Develop and implement a multi-sectoral strategy to identify at-risk groups—using a balanced approach to ensure subtleties in data analyses are well understood—that is locally appropriate, locally sustainable, and locally accessible.

Angola needs to invest significantly more in WASH sector and spend more wisely

Investments in infrastructure (% GDP) by sector (2009-2018)



Average budgeted versus executed expenditure (% GDP) by sector (2009-2018)



Source: World Bank 2019c
Note: GDP = gross domestic product; WASH = water supply, sanitation, and hygiene

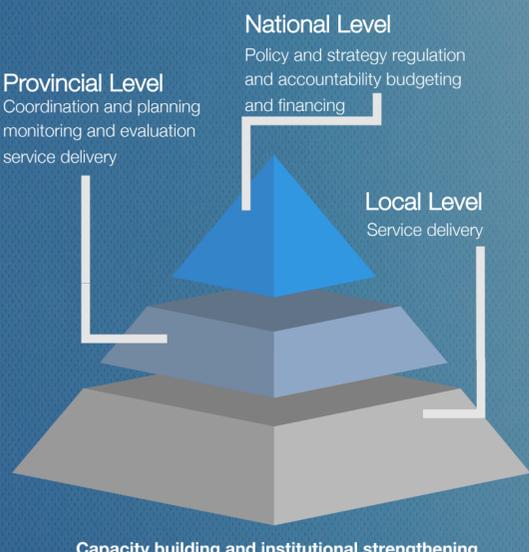
Substantially increase funding commitments to meet the SDGs and to ensure the sustainability of WASH services in accordance with the sector's key priorities.

Align spending with targeting initiatives designed to address pervasive inequalities and to support provincial and local governments in their efforts.

Refine and implement the recently developed PPP framework to incentivize the private sector to invest in water and sanitation.

Progress in Angola's WASH sector is constrained by top-down governance, weak institutional capacity, and insufficient financial resources needed to build capacity

Angola's vision of an Efficient Institutional Framework for WASH



Clearly define the roles and responsibilities of key institutional actors to address gaps and eliminate duplications.

Increase the independence of regulatory agencies to improve oversight, increase transparency and accountability, and instill confidence in customers and investors.

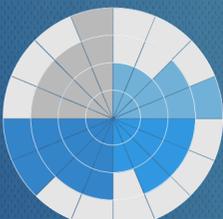
Improve the tariff-setting process and support full cost recovery by: (i) developing benchmarks to support regulators in monitoring the quality and efficiency of WASH services; and (ii) preparing detailed tariff proposals for each utility that will form the basis of the tariff revision process. Performance-based targets that reward good performance should be leveraged to encourage operational efficiencies.

Strengthen the enabling environment for the often-overlooked sanitation and hygiene subsectors by empowering relevant agencies and increasing mechanisms for private sector participation.

Develop a comprehensive strategy of institutional strengthening and capacity building at all levels of government.

Create or nominate a coordinating body and sector champion to improve coordination.

Angola's WASH sector is handicapped by a lack of quality data needed to identify and monitor risks, develop mitigation strategies, and build resilience



Improve existing data management systems and establish a comprehensive monitoring and evaluation program centered on building resilience in the WASH sector.

Strengthen the institutional capacity of all levels of government to effectively fulfill their monitoring and evaluation responsibilities.

An Urgent Call to Action

Achieving universal access to WASH services by 2030 is critical to the country's development outcomes and will require a concerted effort to expedite the water sector's reform process while ensuring a commensurate commitment to the sanitation and hygiene subsectors. The future well-being of the country's more than 30 million people depends on this effort.

Learn more and download the full diagnostic: www.worldbank.org/water



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