



## Water, Environment and Sanitation (WES)

# Nigeria

### Country Setting

- ▶ Although rich in human and natural resources, Nigeria ranks among the 20 poorest nations, with 70 per cent of the population living on less than \$1 a day.
- ▶ Under-five, infant and maternal mortality rates have all increased since 1999.
- ▶ Malaria, ARI, diarrhoea, measles, perinatal problems and in recent years, HIV/AIDS, are the major causes of childhood morbidity.

### Basic Indicators

Total population (1000s)	124,009
Under-five mortality rate (per 1000)	198
Total adult literacy rate (%)	64

### Water and Sanitation Coverage

	Water (%)	Sanitation (%)
Urban	72	48
Rural	49	30
<b>Total</b>	<b>60</b>	<b>38</b>

### WES Sector Setting

- ▶ Water and sanitation coverage figures are similar to regional averages, but the rate of change has stagnated in recent years, especially for rural sanitation (which has dropped from 33 per cent in 1990 to 30 per cent in 2002).
- ▶ WES sector reforms are being pursued by government with support from UNICEF and its partners, focusing on strengthening institutions at all three tiers of government, and the development of new policies on integrated water resources management and environmental sanitation.
- ▶ Key areas requiring additional attention are sector coordination, monitoring and database systems, water quality control and standards development, and the decentralised delivery of WES services.

## UNICEF WES Programme

### Main Components

- ▶ The UNICEF WES programme has two main components: Water Supply and Environmental Sanitation, with a rural focus.
- ▶ Policy and systems development, monitoring and evaluation, and WES in schools are cross-cutting issues that are mainstreamed within each of the two components.
- ▶ UNICEF also supports Guinea Worm eradication and hygiene education.
- ▶ The purpose of the programme is to facilitate replicable, sustainable and demand-responsive WES service delivery to contribute to improved access to safe water and sanitation in rural communities and in primary schools.

### Programme Highlights and Achievements

- ▶ Support to the development of the National Sanitation Policy and a new Strategic Framework for rural water and sanitation.
- ▶ A process for self selection of local governments and communities to participate in demand-responsive WES project implementation has been piloted in four states and is being replicated in eight others.
- ▶ Support to improvements in water quality assessment and monitoring systems.
- ▶ Service delivery support: about 4,000 safe water sources and 17,837 improved latrines constructed in rural communities and schools (including in Guinea Worm endemic areas).