

Progress on the ‘eThekwini commitments on sanitation’¹

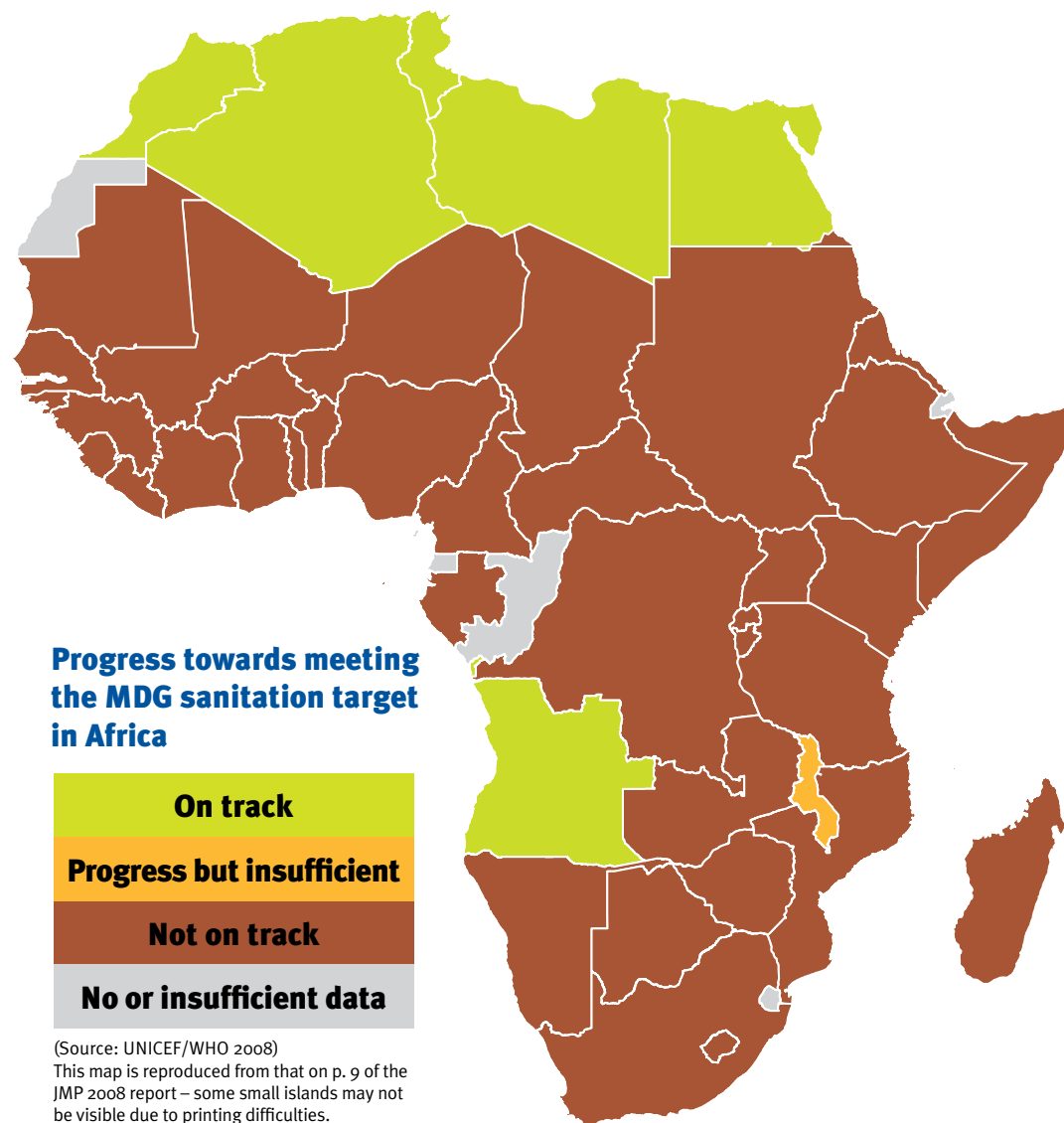
Africa is off-track to meet the Millennium Development Goal (MDG) target for sanitation. At current rates of progress the target – to reduce by half those without access to adequate sanitation by 2015 – will not be met until 2084². Securing progress on sanitation is critical to wider development efforts and in particular to accelerating progress against the health, education and poverty MDGs³. It is estimated that 780,000 children die each year from diarrhoeal diseases in Africa⁴. Poor sanitation – alongside unsafe drinking water – causes 88% of these deaths⁵.

Recognising that 589 million⁶ Africans currently do not have access to safe sanitation, the Ministers and Heads of Delegation responsible for sanitation from 32 African countries came together at the Second African Conference on Sanitation and Hygiene (AfricaSan) to sign the eThekwini Declaration. Under this declaration, African

governments pledged themselves to the ‘eThekwini commitments on sanitation’. The eThekwini Declaration was then endorsed by African Heads of State at the AU Summit in 2008 in the Sharm El Sheikh Declaration⁷.

From 9 to 13 November, African government representatives will come together at the second Africa Water Week (AWW2) organised by the African Ministers Council on Water (AMCOW) and the South African Department of Water and Environmental Affairs. In advance of this meeting, UNICEF, WaterAid, and the World Bank’s Water and Sanitation Programme (WSP) came together to map progress across Africa in implementing the ‘eThekwini commitments’.

The information presented overleaf represents the initial work done by these three agencies and is now shared in draft form to provide the basis for discussion and wider validation.



Red, yellow, green: Progress towards the eThekweni commitments*

Green = Good progress (2 points)
Yellow = Some progress (1 point)
Red = Insufficient progress (0 points)
Grey = No data

West Africa															
Togo															
Sierra Leone															
Senegal															
Nigeria															
Niger															
Mauritania															
Mali															
Liberia															
Guinea Conakry															
Guinea Bissau															
Ghana															
Gambia															
Cote D'Ivoire															
Cape Verde															
Burkina Faso															
Benin															

North Africa				
Tunisia				
Morocco				
Libya				
Egypt				
Algeria				

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NOT FOR CITATION

East Africa										
Uganda										
Tanzania										
Sudan										
Somalia										
Rwanda										
Kenya										
Ethiopia										
Eritrea										
Djibouti										
Burundi										

Central Africa									
Sao Taome and Principe									
Gabon									
Equatorial Guinea									
Congo Brazzaville									
Democratic Republic of the Congo									
Chad									
Central African Republic									
Cameroon									

Southern Africa													
Zimbabwe													
Zambia													
Swaziland													
South Africa													
Namibia													
Mozambique													
Malawi													
Madagascar													
Lesotho													
Comoros													
Botswana													
Angola													

TOTAL
57
60
58
66
55
47
19
33
60

eThekweni Commitments on Sanitation	Did they sign eThekweni, and who signed it?
	Is there a national sanitation policy?
	Is there one national plan to meet the MDG target?
	What profile is given to sanitation within the PRSP?
	Is there a principal accountable institution to take leadership?
	Is there one coordinating body involving all stakeholders?
	Is there a specific public sector budget line for sanitation?
	Is 0.5% of GDP allocated to sanitation?
	Is there a sanitation monitoring and evaluation (M+E) system?
	Do institutional sanitation programs include gender aspects?

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*Criteria available at www.wateraid.org/africawaterweek

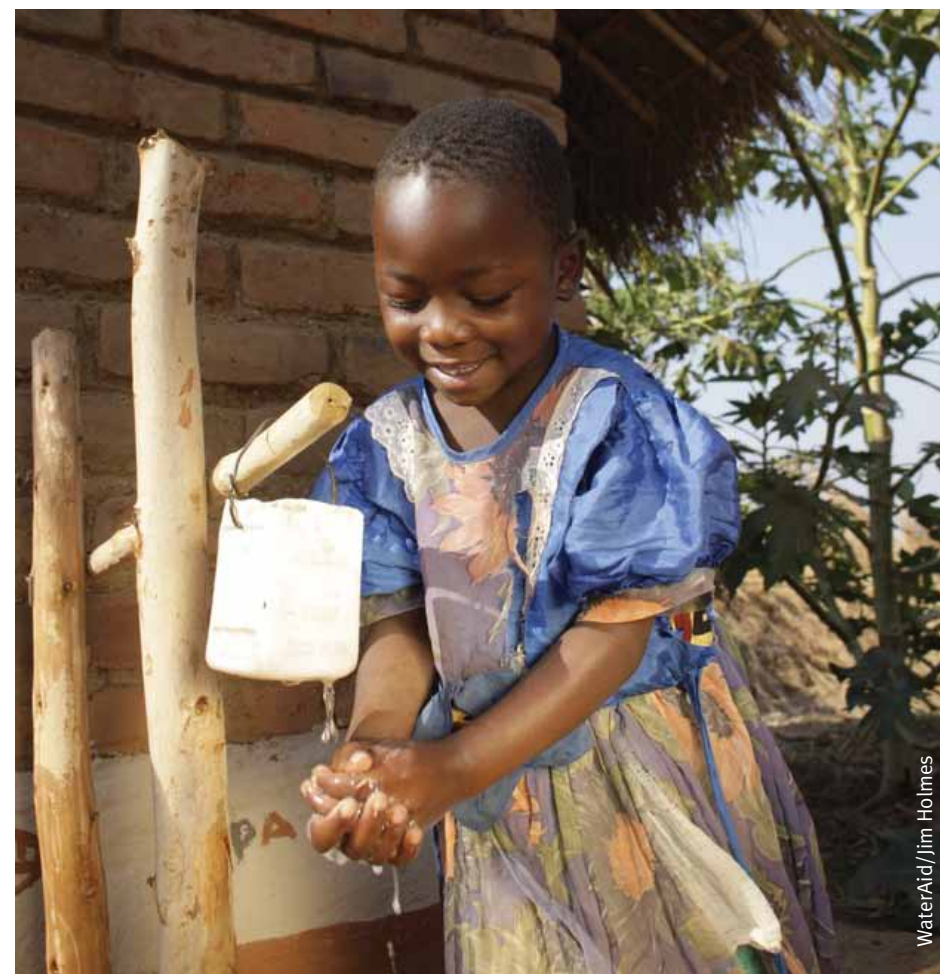
Positive trends and areas for greater focus

On the basis of the draft information presented for discussion, important positive trends are discernible across many African regions and countries. These trends – showing real progress in ensuring the eThekweni commitments on sanitation are met – include the following:

1. There is a national sanitation policy.
2. There is one national plan to meet the MDG sanitation target.
3. Adequate profile is given to sanitation in the PRSP.
4. There is a principal accountable institution.
5. There is one coordinating body.

At the same time, areas that warrant greater focus are apparent. Across many African regions and countries, there has been less progress in ensuring the following eThekweni commitments are met:

1. There is a specific public sector budget line for sanitation.
2. 0.5% GDP is allocated to sanitation.
3. There is a monitoring and evaluation system for sanitation.



For more information relating to this paper please contact amcow2@yahoo.com or go to www.amcow.net, www.unicef.org, www.wateraid.org or www.wsp.org.

1. Refers to the 'eThekweni Commitments on Sanitation' set out in the eThekweni Declaration, available at: <http://www.wsp.org/UserFiles/file/eThekweniAfricaSan.pdf> (accessed October 26th)
2. WaterAid – adapted from JMP 2008 data
3. Progress to sanitation has been linked to all the MDGs but in particular to MDG 1 (Poverty and hunger); MDG 2 (Education); MDG 3 (Gender); and MDG 4 (Child mortality)
4. Adapted from UNICEF (2009) *State of the World's Children 2009*
5. WHO (2008) *Safer Water, Better Health*
6. As stated in the eThekweni Declaration, *ibid*
7. Available at: http://www.worldwaterforum5.org/fileadmin/WWF5/Preparatory_Process/regional_process/Sharm_El-Sheikh_Summit_Resolution.pdf (accessed October 26th)