



# ETHIOPIA

## Water and Sanitation Profile

POPULATION AND HEALTH STATISTICS	
Population (2008)	80.7 million <sup>a</sup>
Proportion of population living in urban areas (2008)	17% <sup>a</sup>
Average annual urban/rural population growth rates (1990-2008)	4.5 / 2.6% <sup>a</sup>
Under age 5 mortality rate (2007)	119/1000 live births <sup>b</sup>
Under age 5 mortality rate due to diarrheal disease (2004)	19.4% <sup>b</sup>
Note: Most recently available data provided. <sup>a</sup> World Bank. <i>2009 World Development Indicators (WDI) Database</i> (World Health Organization (WHO) World Health Statistics 2009 report population as 83.1 million in 2007). <sup>b</sup> World Health Organization (WHO). <i>World Health Statistics 2009</i> .	

### WSS SECTOR OVERVIEW

Ethiopia's 81 million people experience one of Africa's lowest rates of access to water supply and sanitation (WSS), despite fairly abundant surface and groundwater resources. Despite this low coverage, Ethiopia has one the highest rates of increasing access to drinking water, with an overall increase of 21 percent for improved drinking water access since 1990.<sup>1</sup> The Government of Ethiopia (GoE) recently set targets even higher than the Millennium Development Goals (MDGs); its Universal Access Plan calls for countrywide coverage of 100 percent for water and 98 percent for sanitation by 2012. To reach these targets, the GoE will need to help ensure WSS service providers continue to develop their capacity to manage operations.

Strong national WSS policies exist and the sector is well-organized, with key agencies having clear roles and strategies to implement WSS sector

<sup>1</sup> WHO/UNICEF Joint Monitoring Programme for Water Supply and Sanitation (JMP). *Progress on Sanitation and Drinking Water, 2010 Update*.

improvements. The next step in Ethiopia's WSS sector development focuses on local WSS service provider capacity building so that sustainable service expands to semi-urban and rural populations. Ethiopia is placing more emphasis on low-cost strategies to expand access and is emphasizing hygiene education programs as a precursor to poverty eradication.

### WSS SECTOR FRAMEWORK

Until recently, the national government was responsible for identification, planning, and implementation of WSS improvements. Consistent with the Government's policy on decentralization, many of these responsibilities shifted to the regional and local governments under the National Water Resources Management Policy and Strategy (NWRMPS). Implementation of these policies and strategies falls on the local service providers with support from regional offices of the Ministry of Environment (MoE) and the Ministry of Health (MoH).

Considering the dual nature of the national and regional direction from the MoE and MoH, the GoE developed clear coordination of water and health

WATER AVAILABILITY IN ETHIOPIA	
Renewable internal freshwater resources per capita, m <sup>3</sup> /person/year (2008)	1,512 <sup>c</sup>
Water withdrawals, m <sup>3</sup> /person/year (2002)	80 <sup>c</sup>
Projected internal freshwater resources per capita, m <sup>3</sup> /person/year in 2015	1,240 <sup>d</sup>
Note: Most recently available data provided. <sup>c</sup> UN Food and Agriculture Organization (FAO). <i>FAO Aquastat Database</i> . "Freshwater resources" refers to estimates of runoff into rivers and recharge of ground water and does not include flows from other countries. <sup>d</sup> Note this value was calculated using a straight-line calculation based on average population growth rates (1990-2008) with no adjustment for consumption or technology changes. Data was obtained from <i>World Bank WDI Database</i> (population) and <i>FAO Aquastat Database</i> (water resources).	

functions between the two ministries under a memorandum of understanding (MOU) in 2006.

Sector financing is especially important for increasing access to such a large population. The Universal Access Plan is estimated to cost nearly US\$ 100 million over 7 years, and while half of this had been allocated by the end of 2007, it is donors rather than the GoE that account for nearly 92 percent of all funding in the sector.

Despite increases in available funds over the last several years, Ethiopia still struggles to build enough capacity to implement projects at the local level. Although local government is mandated to manage the sector, budget control is with the regional and central government. Moreover, when allocated money is not mobilized in time, it is returned to the central government.

Local governments need more human resources and a higher capacity for directing funds, planning projects, and managing local contractors. This requires the government to authorize additional local WatSan committees so that they can leverage government funding and their own revenues with private investment. This focus on raising capital through service providers is premised on the NWRMPS requirement that urban providers cover capital and operation and maintenance (O&M) costs while rural providers cover O&M cost with some limited cost sharing of large capital outlays. The strategy for sanitation, through the development of a National Protocol for Hygiene and On-Site Sanitation, has re-focused the sector on community-led programs that are low-cost and pro-poor. It provides a basis for comprehensive budgeting, investment and sector coordination.

### THE URBAN SUB-SECTOR

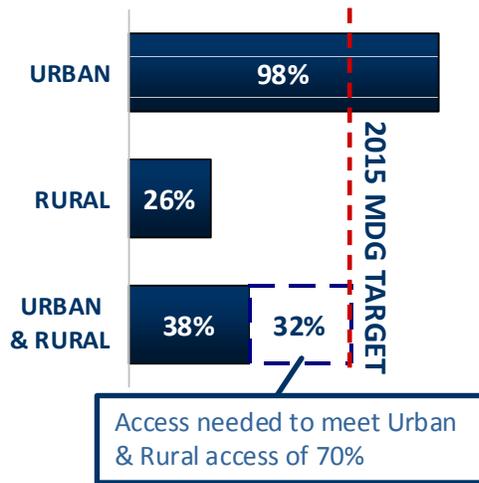
Ethiopia's urban sub-sector has experienced the most benefit from the country's concerted efforts to reform the WSS sector. Urban water providers have been effectively capitalized in order to take on system improvements and capacity building initiatives. While these improvements have resulted in high levels of access to drinking water for urban populations, far fewer resources have been directed towards sanitation facilities. There is a great need to increase

## KEY GOVERNMENT AGENCIES

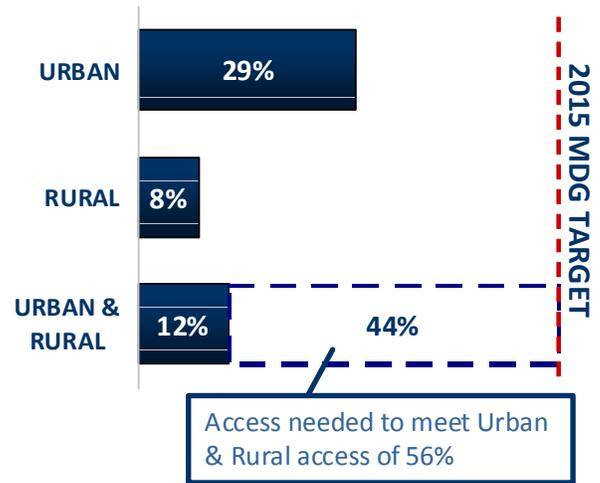
Agency	Description	Contact Information
Addis Ababa Water Supply and Sewerage Authority (AAWSA)	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Manages and operates the Addis Ababa system.</li> </ul>	
MoE	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Shares responsibility with MoH for sanitation in developing and implementing policies and strategies through MOU agreement.</li> </ul>	
MoH	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Through the Hygiene and Environmental Health Dept. (HEHD), develops health policies related to sanitation and hygiene;</li> <li>Coordinates with MoE on sanitation.</li> </ul>	Ato Mulu Araya yemulu@yahoo.com Tel: 115-53-59-17
The Ministry of Water Resources	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Sets policies, strategies, regulations and standards;</li> <li>Supports regional water bureaus.</li> </ul>	Asfaw Dingamo Tel: 251-116-61-11-11
Regional Water Bureaus	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Comprised of 9 regions and Dire Dawa area;</li> <li>Program planning, management, coordination, and capacity building at regional scale;</li> <li>Approve Woreda programs and targets;</li> <li>Technical assistance as needed to WWD &amp; Town Water Boards.</li> </ul>	
Town Water Boards	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Planning and administration of town WSS services;</li> <li>Operations are contracted out using performance or service contracts.</li> </ul>	
Water Supply, Sanitation and Hygiene (WatSan) Committees	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Responsible for WSS service at community level.</li> </ul>	
Woreda Water Desks (WWD)	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Planning, managing, monitoring and evaluation of local service providers set-up at Woreda and community level;</li> <li>Decentralization;</li> <li>Coordinate non-governmental organizations (NGOs).</li> </ul>	

services in urban areas for excreta removal, treatment and disposal, especially as the Universal Access Program aims to install latrines for populations that

### Meeting MDG 7: Access to Water in 2008



### Meeting MDG 7: Access to Sanitation in 2008



**Data Source:** WHO/UNICEF Joint Monitoring Programme for Water Supply and Sanitation (JMP), *Progress on Sanitation and Drinking Water, 2010 Update*.  
 Note on comparing baseline data from earlier reports: The JMP methodology uses all available data in each successive report. This means that estimates may be recalculated for earlier years if more data becomes available. The JMP notes that these new estimates may affect the baseline reported in earlier data sets.

remain without access to improved sanitation. Service providers will also need technical assistance for O&M of facilities.

#### THE RURAL SUB-SECTOR

Access to improved drinking water is particularly lacking in Ethiopia's rural sub-sector, due to inoperable equipment and low maintenance budgets. During the dry season more traditional sources of water are placed under pressure as shallow wells or other perennial sources dry up. This situation worsens as these sources of water supply are shared with livestock. Taken together, rates of morbidity and mortality in rural areas are particularly high since few people have access to improved WSS facilities.

WSS service has been fully decentralized to towns and local/Woreda Water Desks (WWD); however, decentralization has also redistributed vital equipment and staff throughout rural areas to the extent that poorer areas now have even less access to technical assistance. Although the central government has established technical training institutes and is now training personnel, the WSS sector's financing and stock of equipment supplies and services still need improvement. Multiple opportunities exist to support the National Rural Water Supply and Sanitation Program, especially in local capacity building, legalization of WatSan committees for borrowing

purposes, and facilitating the involvement of the private sector in financing and equipment sales and maintenance.

#### DONOR INVOLVEMENT

The Development Assistance Group, co-led by the United Nations Development Program (UNDP) and the World Bank, has established 12 technical working groups, including one on water. A Multi-Stakeholder Forum is also supported through the European Union (EU) Water Initiative. The United Nations Children's Fund (UNICEF) is the largest donor of rural water and sanitation programs in Ethiopia. The Finnish International Development Agency (FINIDA) Rural Water Supply, Sanitation and Hygiene Programme in Benishangul-Gumuz (FINNWASH BG) strengthens local capacity by supporting Woreda data collection. Additionally, the UK Department for International Development (DFID) RiPPLE program, now in its third phase, has created Learning and Practice Alliances which catalyze discussion among stakeholders regarding effective investment in the sector.

DONOR	ACTIVITIES	CONTACT INFORMATION <sup>e</sup>
African Development Bank (AfDB)	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Protection of Basic Services II;</li> <li>Development of water information and knowledge management systems;</li> <li>Water basin planning;</li> <li>Rural water supply and sanitation.</li> </ul>	Lucy Fye l.fye@afdb.org Tel: 251-116-62-77-26
EU	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>EU Water Initiative: Donor coordination and awareness of development opportunities;</li> <li>EU Water Facility: Progress on MDGs.</li> </ul>	Dino Sinigallia mailto@deleth.ec.europa.eu Tel: 251-116-61-25-11
FINIDA	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Through FINNASH BG, supporting investments at Woreda/local level;</li> <li>Supporting Eastern Nile Technical Regional Office to develop information network between riparian nations of Sudan, Egypt and Ethiopia.</li> </ul>	sanomat.add@formin.fi Tel: 251-113-20-59-20
German Development Partners (GTZ) and German Development Bank (KfW)	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Infrastructure development and rehabilitation in urban areas.</li> </ul>	Ronald Steyer kfw.addis@kfw.de Tel: 251-115-18-02-41
Japan International Cooperation Agency	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Irrigation planning and development;</li> <li>Groundwater and rural water supply system development.</li> </ul>	Tel: 251-115-50-47-55
UK DFID	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Research-inspired Policy and Practice Learning in Ethiopia and the Nile Region (RIPPLE).</li> </ul>	Martha Solomon martha.solomon@formin.fi Tel: 251-114-16-00-75
UNICEF	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Construction of new water supply schemes, rehabilitation of existing systems;</li> <li>Construction of household, community and school latrines;</li> <li>Capacity building at Woreda and community scales;</li> <li>Improving access to rural water supply equipment and spare parts;</li> <li>Facilitating behavioral change through awareness campaigns for sanitation and hygiene.</li> </ul>	addisababa@unicef.org Tel: 251-115-51-51-55
UNDP	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Policy and strategy development which contributed to creation of National Water Resources Policy, water sector strategy, and the Water Sector Development Program</li> <li>Supports basin planning initiatives and hydrologic studies</li> </ul>	Tel: 251-11-5515177
World Bank	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>The Urban Water Supply and Sanitation project (UWSS) for Addis Ababa and four secondary cities;</li> <li>Technical, institutional, and financial management capacity building in towns;</li> <li>Supporting Addis Ababa Sewerage Master Plan;</li> <li>Rural water supply development and rehabilitation.</li> </ul>	Kenichi Ohashi Tel: 251-115-17-60-00  Tim Carrington tcarrington@worldbank.org
World Bank/Water and Sanitation Program	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Mainstreaming a sector wide approach to WASH;</li> <li>Support of MoWR and development of WSS status and needs for the government's poverty reduction strategy paper;</li> <li>Computerized monitoring and evaluation (M&amp;E) system for water, sanitation and hygiene.</li> </ul>	Belete Muluneh bmuluneh@worldbank.org Tel: 251-911-50-29-27
<sup>e</sup> Contact information may change frequently and therefore be different from what is noted above.		

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Additional references that aided in the completion of this report include: WaterAid Ethiopia, *Effective Financing of Local Governments to Provide Water and Sanitation Services* (2009); African Ministers' Council on Water (AMCOW) et al., *Getting Africa on Track to Meet the MDGs on Water and Sanitation* (October 2006).

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