

NIGERIA

Water and Sanitation Profile

POPULATION AND HEALTH STATISTICS	
Population (2006)	145 million
Proportion of population living in urban areas	49%
Urban/Rural population growth rates (1980-2000)	5.1 / 1.3%
Diarrheal deaths/year (2004)	119,700
Under age 5 mortality rate	197/1000 live births
Under age 5 mortality rate due to diarrheal disease (2000)	15.7%

SECTOR OVERVIEW

Nigeria is the most populous country in Africa with an estimated population of 132 million, growing annually at a rate of 2 percent. Nigeria is also the largest country in West Africa and has an average per capita income of US\$290, about 20 percent lower than in 1975. Nigeria faces severe poverty, particularly in the remote southern areas. Urban poverty is rising – the World Bank estimates that about 48 percent of urban dwellers are living in poverty. About 30 million people were defined as extremely poor in 1996.

The rapid population growth has not been accompanied by an increase in the delivery of water supply, sewerage and sanitation services. The gap between those areas that have reasonably safe access to water supply and sanitation (WSS) and those without is growing wider. Urban areas experience greater coverage, whereas peri-urban, semi-urban, and rural areas are experiencing stagnation or a decline in service.

Assessing the status of Nigeria's progress towards its Millennium Development Goal (MDG) targets is

difficult. Lack of accurate data makes it impossible to determine whether Nigeria is making progress to meet its MDGs targets in the WSS sector. For instance, the United Kingdom's Department of Foreign and International Development (DFID) classified Nigeria as "one of the four most off-track MDG countries in Africa." In May 2005, the Nigerian Minister of Water Resources said that increased spending on water programs resulted in a huge increase in the access to safe water supply, from 35 percent in 1999 to 65 percent in 2004. A year later, the Ministry revised its access figure upwards to 68 percent. The World Health Organization (WHO), however, estimates that the figures are closer to 48 percent for improved drinking water and 44 percent for improved sanitation.

Regardless, Nigeria's water infrastructure has suffered from years of poor operation and maintenance (O&M), and the very low access to improved sanitation constitutes a serious public-health problem. Weak and inefficient institutions, unsustainable public sector spending, and persistent implementation failures have also contributed to poor access rates and sustainability

WATER AVAILABILITY IN NIGERIA	
Renewable water resources per capita, m ³ /person/year (1960-2007)	2,085
Water withdrawals, m ³ /person/year (2000)	68
Projected water resources per capita, m ³ /person/year in 2015	1,530
Note: 2015 projected water resources per capita is a straight-line regression calculation based on population growth rates with no adjustment for consumption or technology changes	

KEY AGENCIES

Agency	Description	Contact Information
Federal Ministry of Water Resources (FMWR)	- Overall responsibility for WSS services - Policy formulation - Data collection - Water resources management - National funding - Research and development - Technical support	TSAFE Alivu Adamu, Commissioner Tel: 806-515-7478
State Water Agencies (SWAs)	- Establishment, operation, quality control and maintenance of urban and semi-urban water supply systems - License and monitor private water suppliers	
Local governments	- Rural WSS service - Establish, fund, and equip Water and Environment Sanitation (WES) departments	
Ministry of Environment	Some sanitation policy and strategy formulation	

In 2000, Nigeria's federal government launched a National Water Supply and Sanitation Policy aimed at addressing WSS sector problems. This policy, along with many other water resources initiatives, encourages private-sector participation and the expansion and improvement of rural water-supply systems. For the urban water sector, the policy focuses on improving the performance of service providers through institutional and policy reforms at the state level. The government's National Economic Empowerment and Development Strategy (NEEDS) intends to address the country's key development challenges. In addition, the "Presidential Water Initiative (PWI): Water for People, Water for Life was launched in 2003. The initiative aimed to increase access to WSS services to 100 percent in state capitals, 75 percent WSS access in other urban and peri-urban areas, and 66 percent WSS access in rural areas. Unfortunately, the program has not had the desired effect on WSS access rates.

SECTOR FRAMEWORK

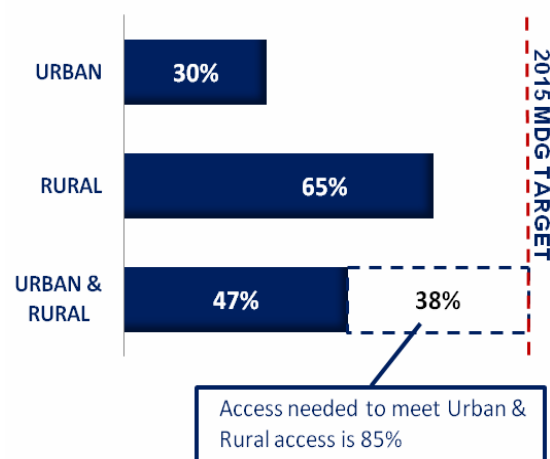
National Guidelines for Regulating Water Supplies in Nigeria have been prepared and States are encouraged to adopt the contents as state law. However, only Lagos has done so.

Nigeria's three tiers of government share responsibility for managing water resources and for providing water, which results in confusion and inefficiency. The Federal Ministry of Water Resources (FMWR) is responsible for policy formation, data collection, monitoring and coordinating water supply development, and funding research and development.

The state water agencies (SWAs) are responsible for establishment, operation, quality control, and maintenance of urban and semi-urban water supply (and sometimes rural). The Local Government Authorities (LGAs), of which there are 774, are responsible for the establishment, operation, and maintenance of rural water supply schemes and sanitation facilities in their areas although only a few have the resources and skills to address the sector. Only few LGAs have rural water supply divisions able to construct small water systems such as open wells and small impoundments of surface water.

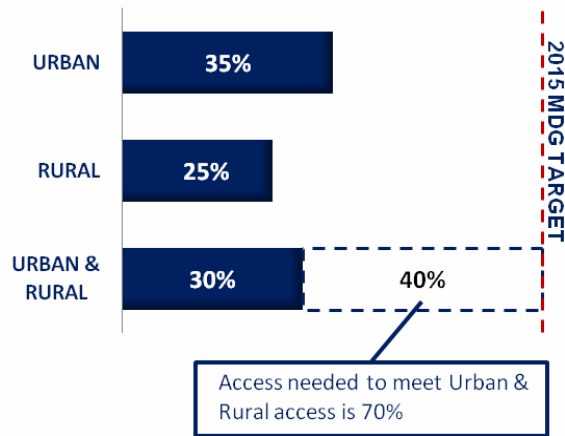
Sanitation access has gradually grown in importance despite persistently low access rates, particularly in urban areas. By 2004, the FMWR began the process of revising its sanitation policy but the policy has not yet been adopted. Sanitation remains a state government responsibility, but piped sewerage is almost non-existent. Except for Abuja and limited areas of Lagos, no urban community has a sewerage system. Until a more focused public approach is

Meeting MDG 7: Access to Water in 2006



Data Source: UN MDG Indicator Database

Meeting MDG 7: Access to Sanitation in 2006



Data Source: UN MDG Indicator Database

developed, sanitation will remain primarily a responsibility of individual households. In addition, policy implementation does not remain the sole reason for poor coverage. The lack of awareness, poverty, poor planning, poor funding, and poor implementation of hygiene programs by different agencies also hamper efforts to expand sanitation access.

THE URBAN SUB-SECTOR

Nigeria's ability to achieve the MDG targets is impacted directly by its high population growth. Nigeria's cities are growing at a phenomenal rate. In fact, urban areas are expected to comprise 60 percent of the population by 2015 compared with 30 percent in 1990. Lagos, its largest city, is expected to become the world's third largest city by 2010.

There are 37 water agencies in the country – one for each State and one in the Federal Capitol Territory. Most are established as corporate bodies fully owned by State Government, but often run according to civil service rules. However, four of the 37, namely Lagos, Cross Rivers, Kaduna and Ogun State Water Agencies are undergoing reforms by introducing service public-private participation (PPP -mostly service contracts). Generally, each SWA is established under an edict to develop and manage water supply facilities within its respective state and to meet sound financial objectives. However, the operational efficiency of the most of the SWAs is low and unaccounted-for-water often exceeds 50percent.

SWAs often find it difficult to be operationally autonomous from the state government. Rate increases may be proposed by utilities, but are typically approved by the state – and political imperatives often keep rates unreasonably low. Urban areas are often water-scarce due to environmental and capacity issues and technical losses. Residents in these areas must buy water from private vendors at high prices.

THE RURAL SUB-SECTOR

Local governments are responsible for rural water service. Local governments share the costs of service with SWAs and the federal government. This is the case for both capital improvements and recurring operation and maintenance since water is often supplied free of charge. Most rural areas depend upon boreholes or hand-dug wells for water supply. At best, Village Level Operation and Maintenance (VLOM) hand pumps are available. Sanitation facilities continue to be inadequate as sector disorganization, institutional conflicts, and the lack of defined responsibilities prevail.

DONOR INVOLVEMENT

Multiple international development agencies play a role in Nigeria's WSS sector. Some of the principal participants include the DFID, the United Nations, the African Development Bank (AfDB), the World Bank, Japan International Cooperation Agency (JICA), the government of China, and the European Commission (EC).

DONOR	ACTIVITIES	CONTACT INFORMATION
DFID	Rural WSS infrastructure development and local management capacity building	
The World Bank	- Semi-urban WSS infrastructure development - Local management capacity building - Urban WSS sector reforms and infrastructure development - National WSS sector reforms and policy development	Alex McPhail amcphail@worldbank.org Tel: 202-458-2125
WSP	- Public expenditure reviews for rural WSS sub-sector - Supporting greater private sector participation through business association creation development	Joe Gadek jgadek@worldbank.org Hassan Khida
African Development Bank	- Institutional capacity building in SWAs - National rural WSS services planning	Herve ASSAH NGFO@afdb.org Tel: 234-9-4133261
JICA	Rural WSS infrastructure and capacity development	
China	Peri-urban and rural water infrastructure development	
European Commission	Urban and rural infrastructure development and capacity building	Tel: 234-9-234-4402 (STWSS Program)

Additional information and sources: Statistics were compiled from the WHOSIS database, WRI-Earthtrends Water Resources and Freshwater Ecosystems database, and the UN MDG Indicators database. Other sources included Water Aid – National Water Sector Assessment (2006), Water Aid – Nigeria Country Information Sheet (2006), and the 2007 OECD-AfDB Annual Economic Outlook – Nigeria.

This Water and Sanitation Profile was prepared under the **Advancing the Blue Revolution Initiative (ABRI)**. ABRI is funded by the U.S. Agency for International Development and addresses some of the most challenging water issues in the Middle East and Africa including the lack of access by the poor to improved water and sanitation services, inefficient and nonproductive water use, and transboundary river basin management. ABRI works closely with host country governments, actively pursues co-investments from the private sector, reaches out to like-minded foundations, and partners with regional institutions.