

Water: a major determinant of health

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Determinants of Health**

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Rationale

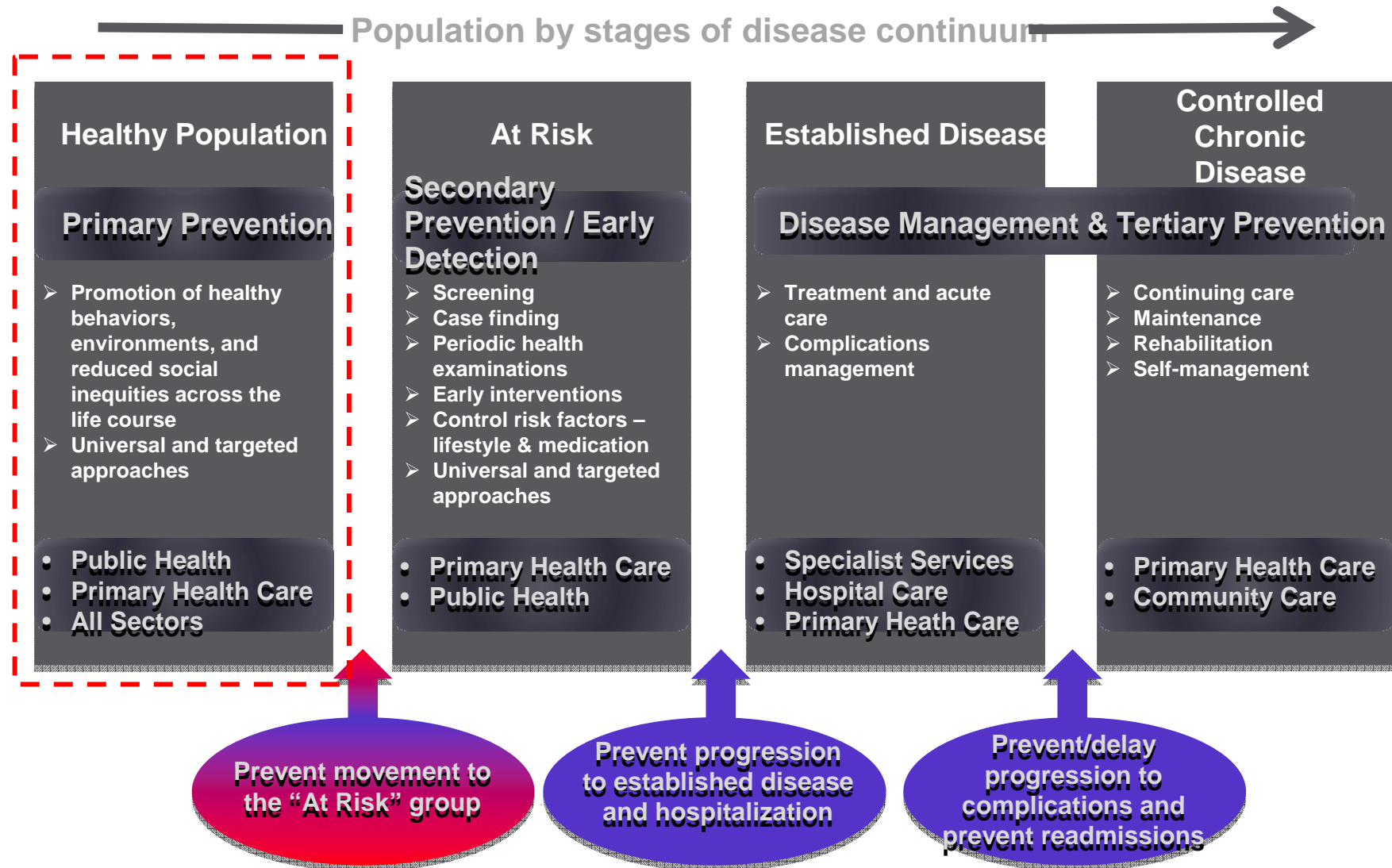


- Unsafe water continues to place a huge burden on societies around the world

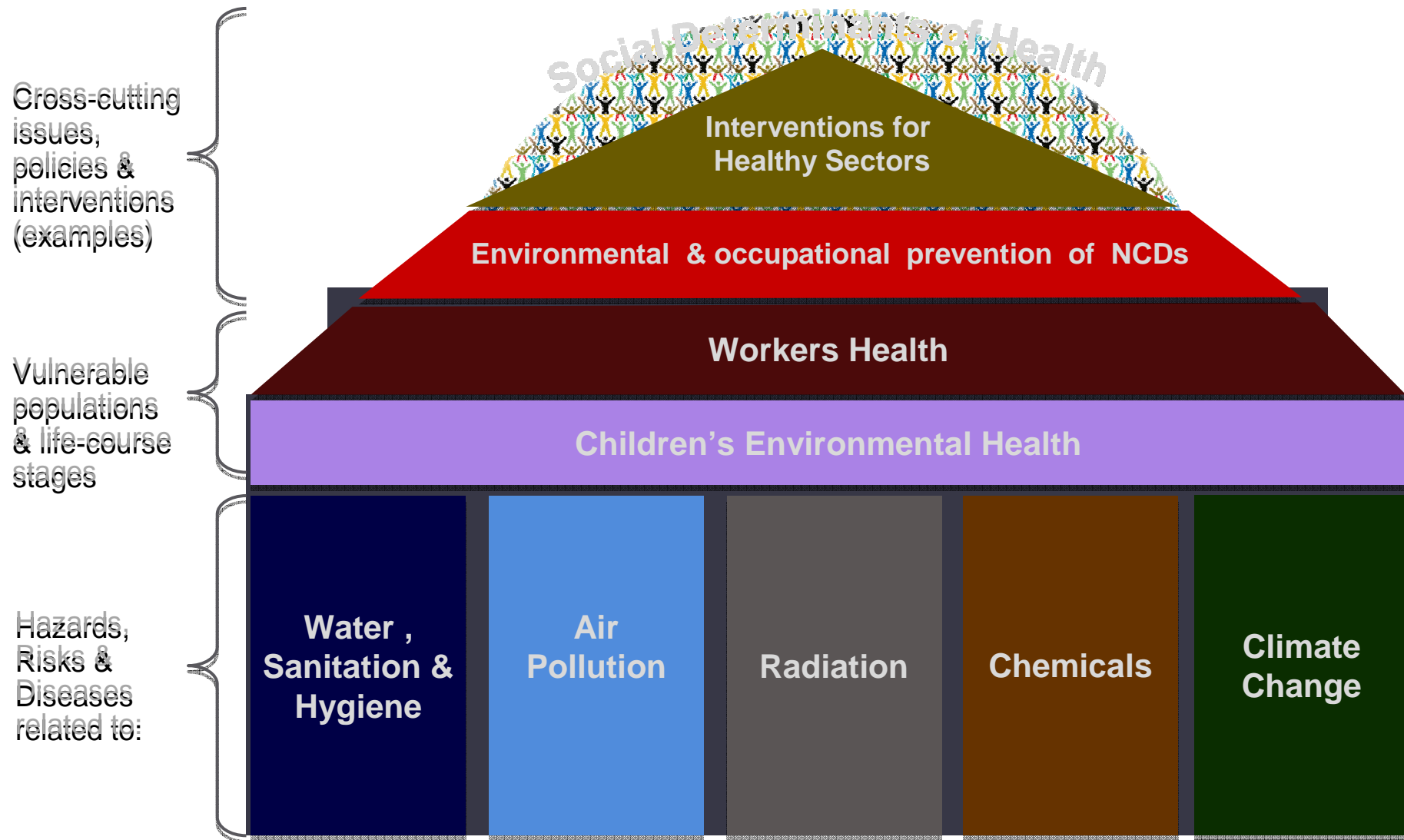


- Reducing this health burden lies within our reach and means

In PHE, our strategic focus is on primary prevention = supporting health and well-being across our journey through life.



Our work advances primary prevention policies and interventions on a foundation of distinct technical disciplines.



Recent Attention



Editorial

Water and sanitation: addressing inequalities

“Water is life”, said UN Secretary-General Ban Ki-moon, at the opening session of the high-level meeting on sanitation and water for all, in Washington, DC, on April 11, 2014. Yet lack of access to safe drinking water, and poor sanitation and hygiene in many parts of the world, often leads to death. The *Lancet* Series on childhood pneumonia and diarrhoea estimated that in 2011 around 700,000 child deaths occurred from diarrhoeal disease alone. The Millennium Development Goal (MDG) 7c target to halve the proportion of people without sustainable

access to basic sanitation services (poor individuals, populations with disabilities, urban slums, and remote communities), only 30% have financed implementation plans, and household contributions range from 6–97% of water, sanitation, and hygiene financing. More than 50% of the unserved population for water and sanitation live in middle-income countries.

Access to safe water and sanitation is essential to all development outcomes across the life course. It ensures healthy growth and prevention of water-borne



Universal access to water and sanitation: The lifeblood of good health



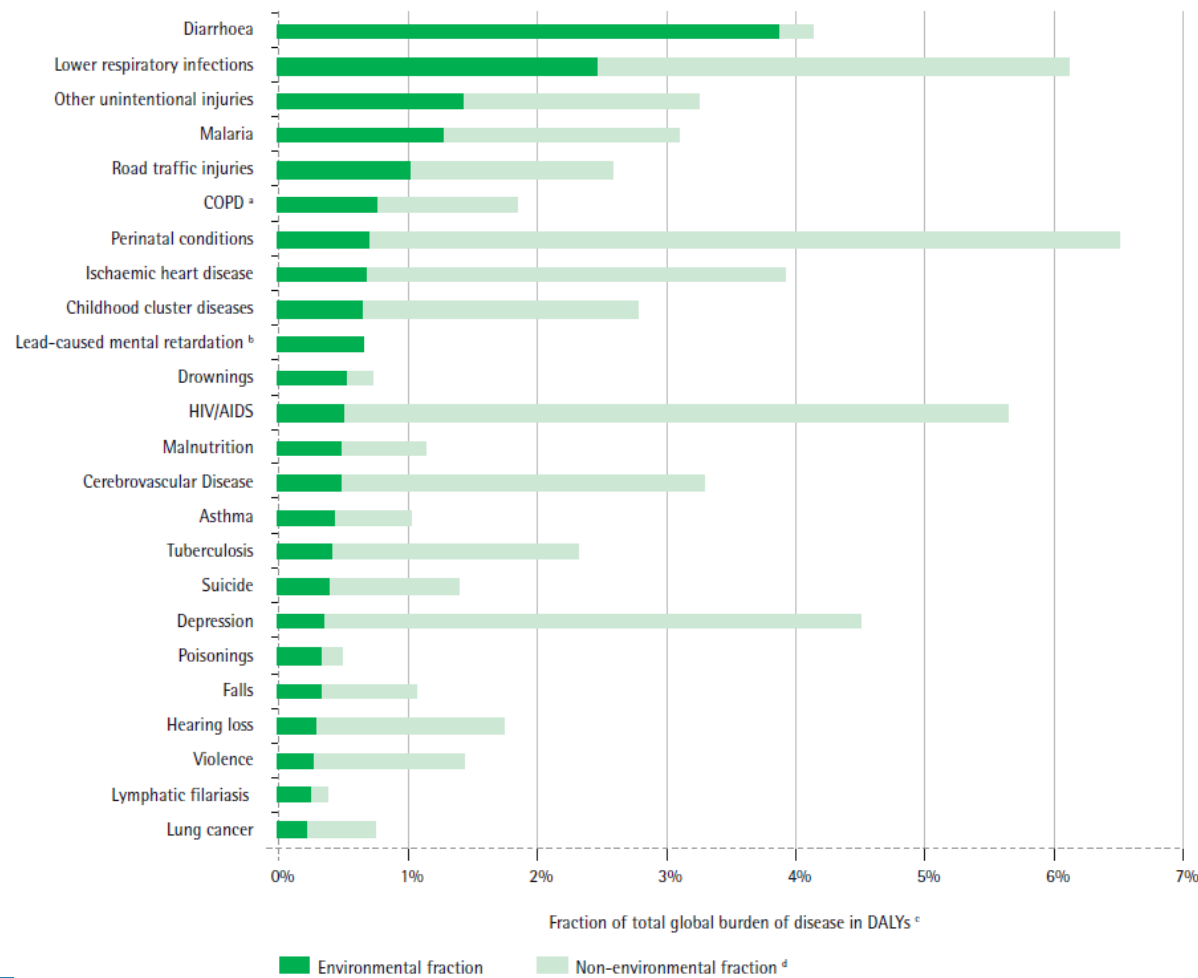
9 October 2013 – WHO Director-General Dr Margaret Chan delivered two keynote addresses at the Budapest Water Summit, emphasizing how safe drinking water, sanitation, and hygiene are fundamental to health, well-being, and poverty eradication. Along with UN Secretary-General Ban Ki-moon, she stressed how sanitation must be given a higher place in any agenda for future development.

Opening remarks by WHO Director General at Budapest Water Summit

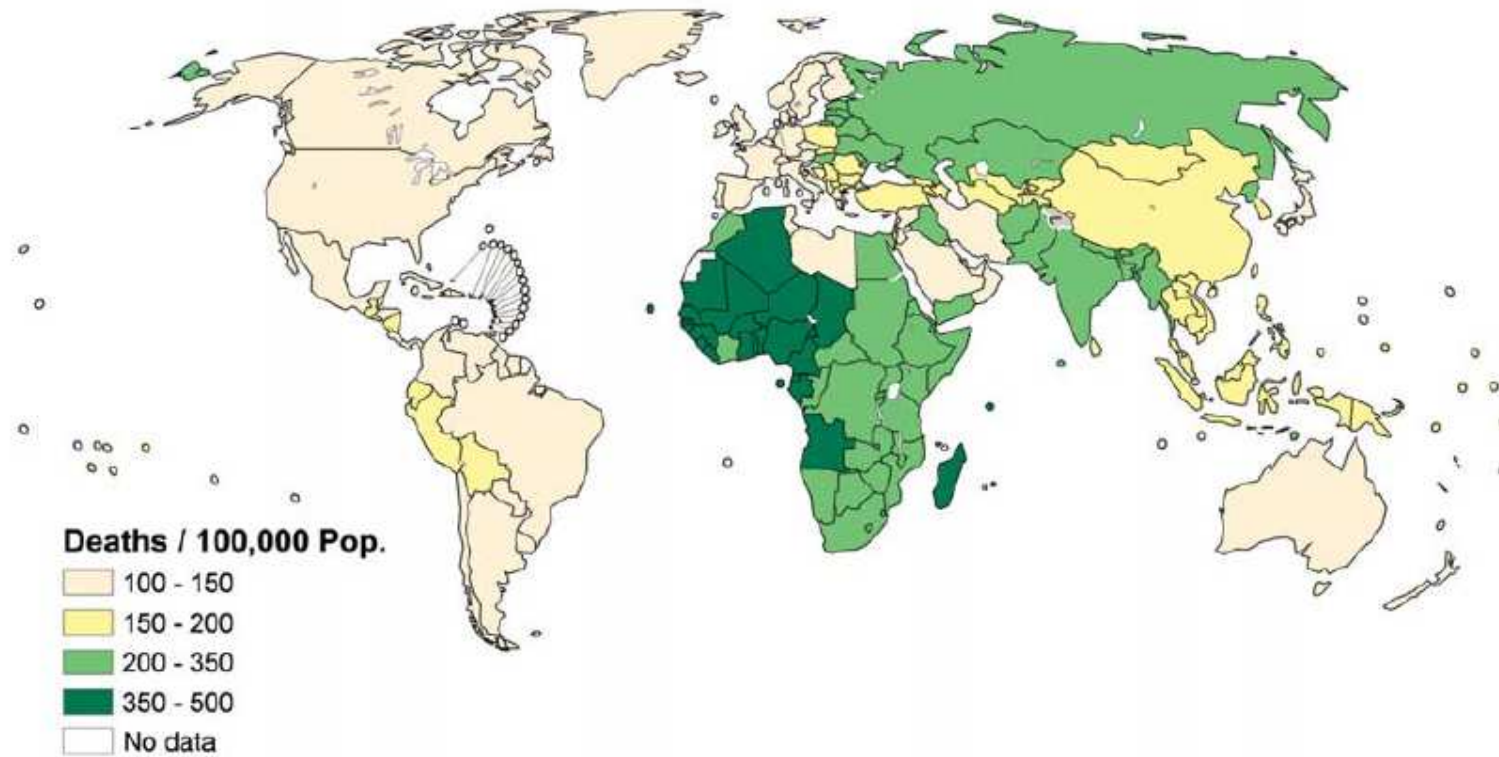
[WHO Director General Keynote address](#)

Universal access to water and sanitation: the lifeblood of good health

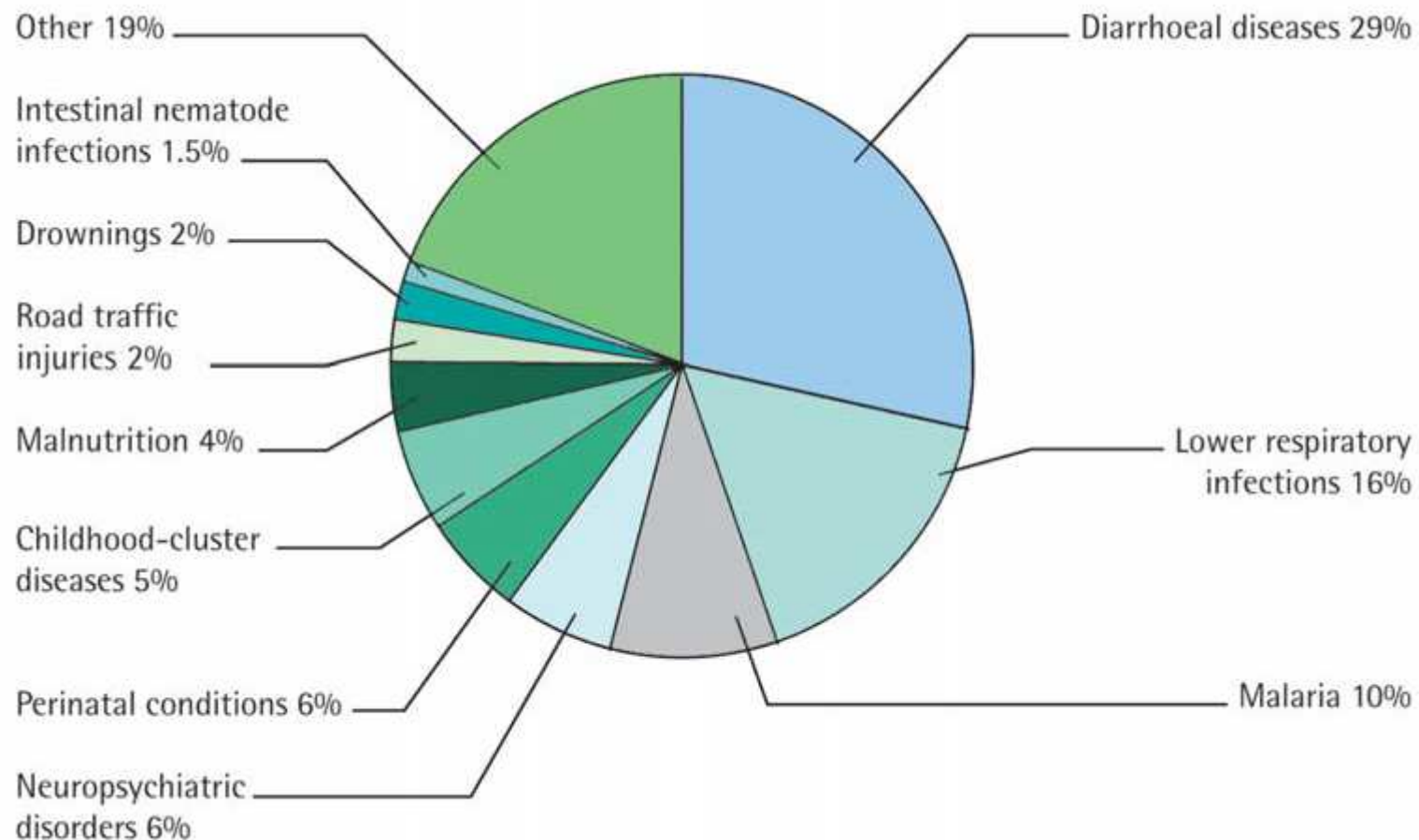
Diseases with the largest environmental contribution



Environmental disease burden in deaths per 100,000 people, by WHO subregion (2002)

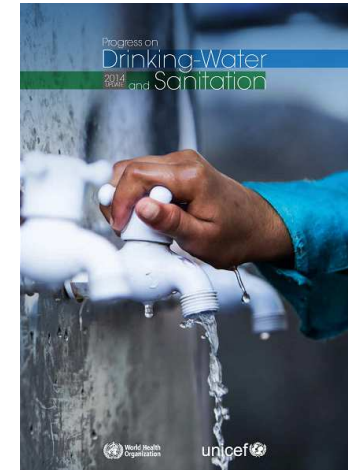


Main diseases contributing to the environmental burden of disease among children 0-14 years



WHO/UNICEF Joint Monitoring of Water and Sanitation

- 2014 Report to be launched 8 May



New data on global progress 1990-2012:

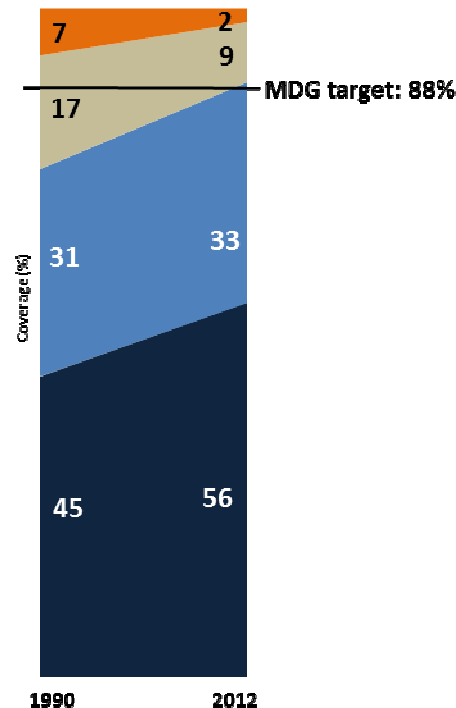
Drinking Water

MDG target: 88%

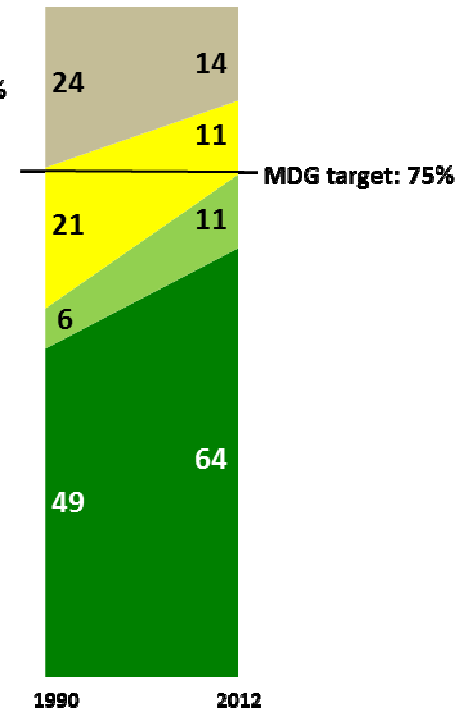
Coverage in 2012: 89%

No. of countries met MDG target: 116

Drinking water



Sanitation



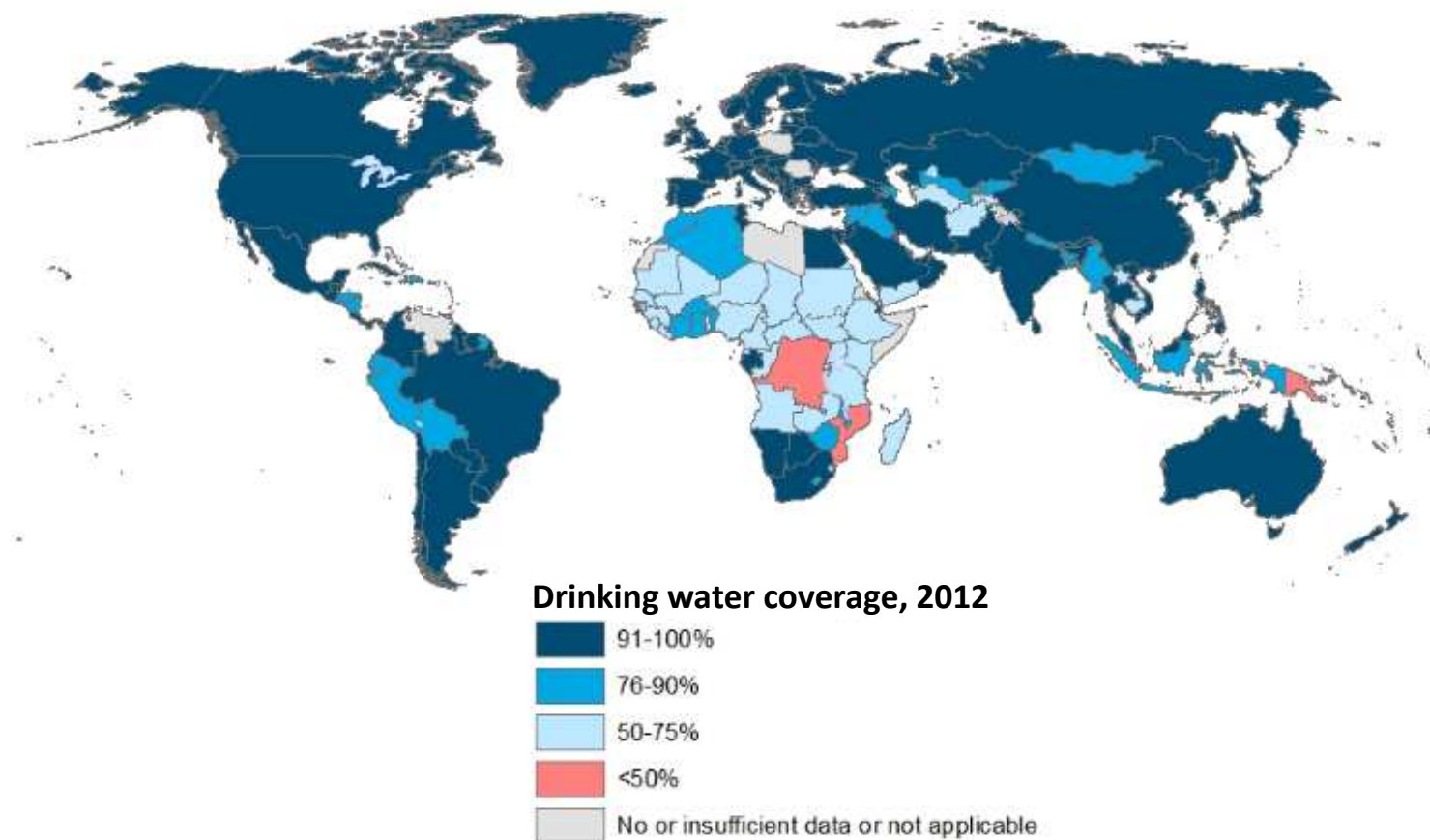
Sanitation

MDG target: 75%

Coverage in 2012: 64%

No. of countries met MDG target: 77

JMP 2014 Report: Access to "improved" drinking water sources

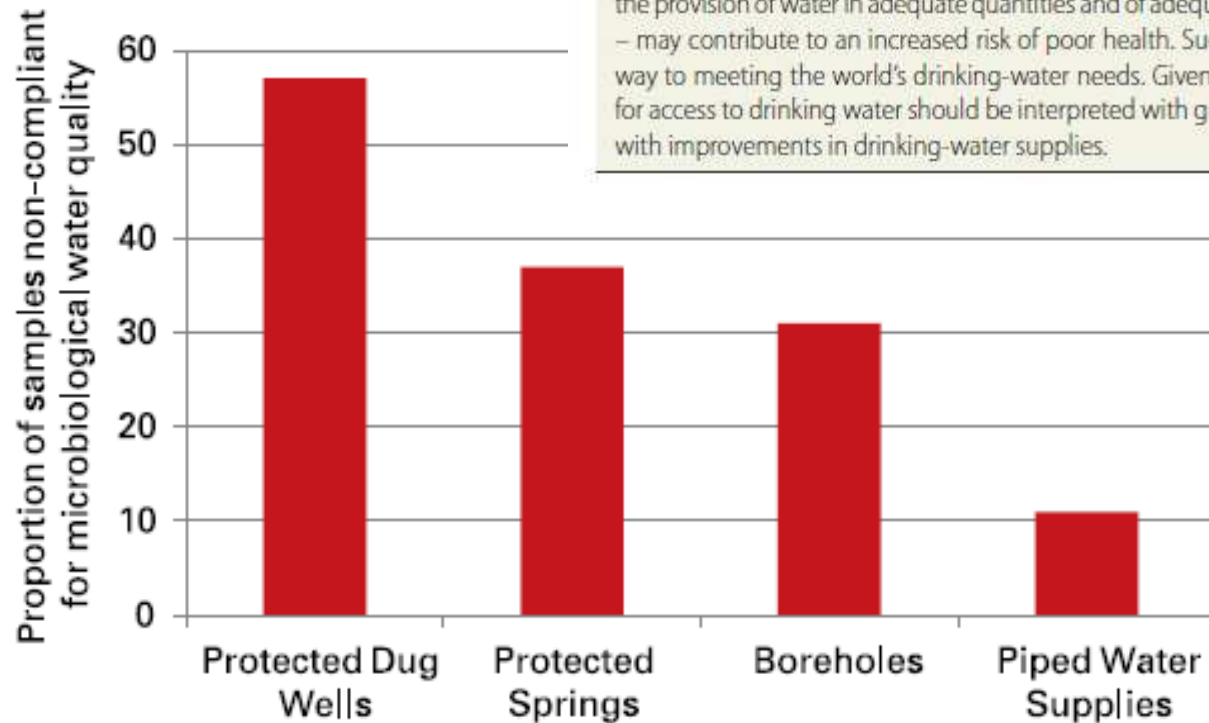


Access to SAFE drinking water

Why “improved” water sources are not always safe

Ameer Shaheed,^a Jennifer Orgill,^b Maggie A Montgomery,^c Marc A Jeuland^b & Joe Brown^d

Abstract Existing and proposed metrics for household drinking-water services are intended to measure the availability, of water sources. However, these attributes can be highly variable over time and space and this variation complicat and implementing simple and scalable metrics. In this paper, we highlight those factors – especially those that relate water sources – that contribute to variability in water safety but may not be generally recognized as important by no the provision of water in adequate quantities and of adequate quality – interrelated problems that are often influence – may contribute to an increased risk of poor health. Such risk may be masked by global water metrics that indica way to meeting the world’s drinking-water needs. Given the complexity of the topic and current knowledge gaps for access to drinking water should be interpreted with great caution. We need further targeted research on the hea with improvements in drinking-water supplies.



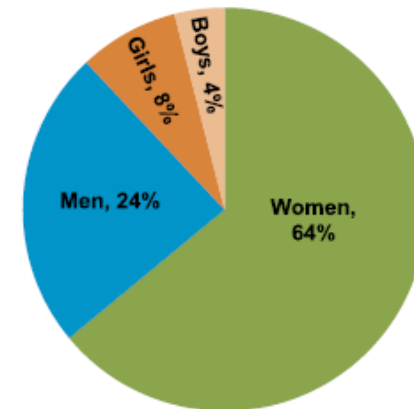
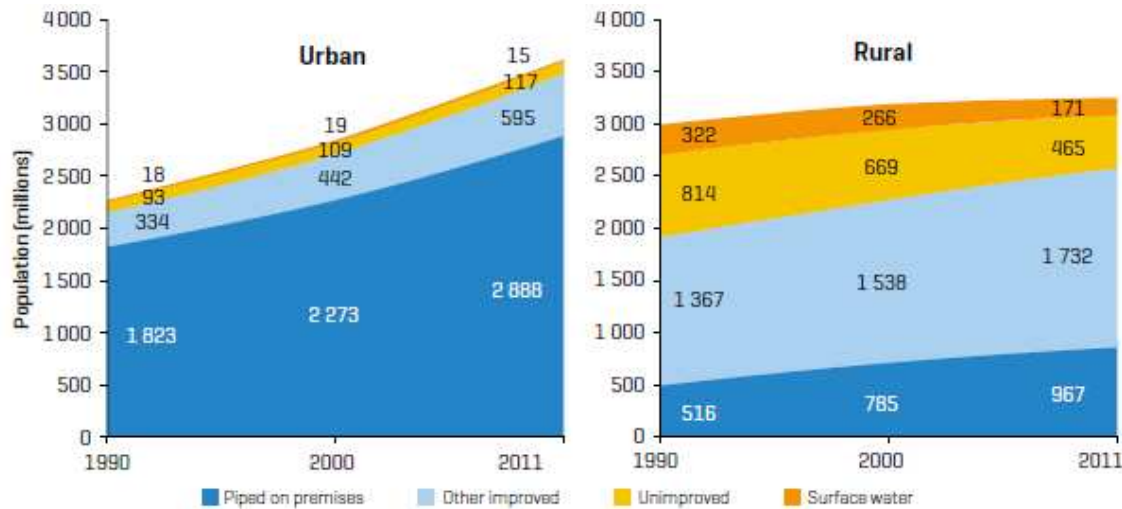
Bulletin Volume 92, April 2014

Non-compliance with microbiological water quality guideline values (WHO/UNICEF JMP RADWQ)



Inequality: access to drinking-water (JMP 2014)

Disparities between urban and rural areas

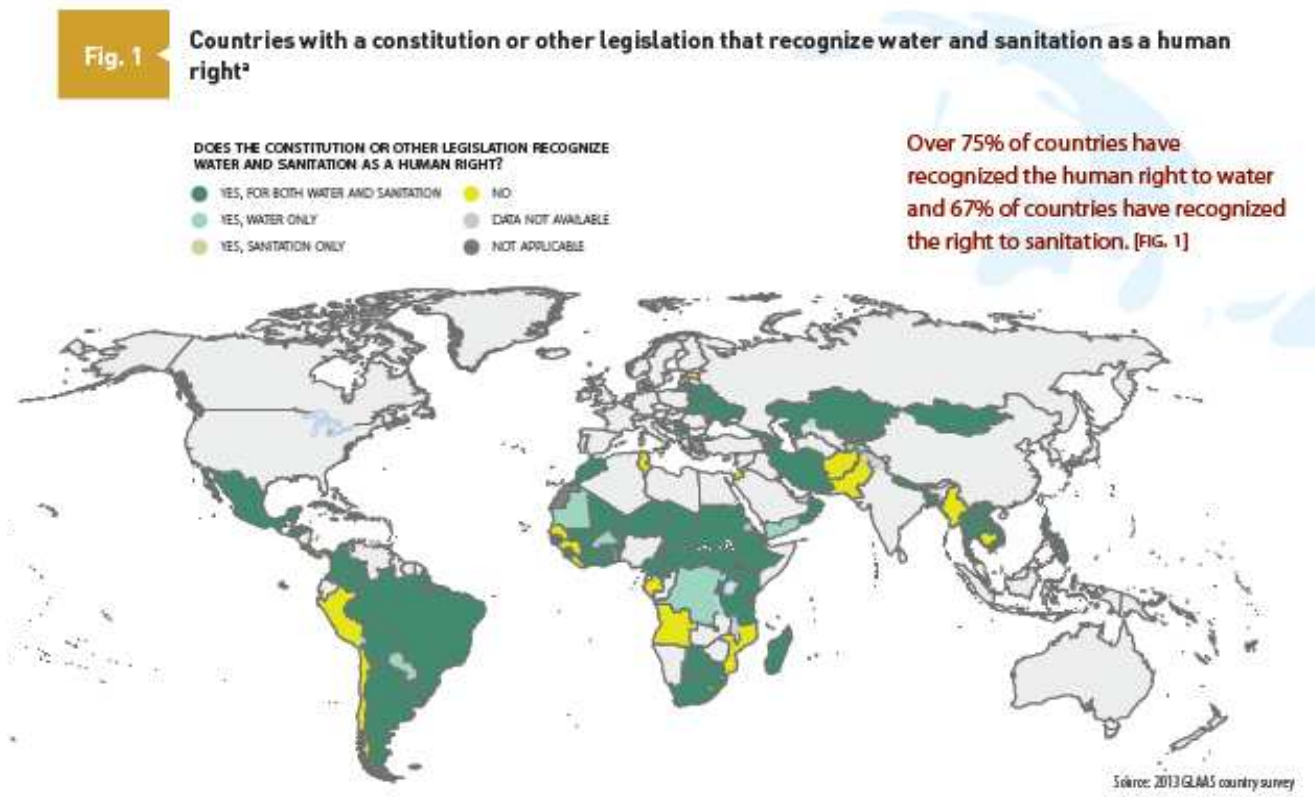


Women and girls shoulder the largest burden in collecting water.

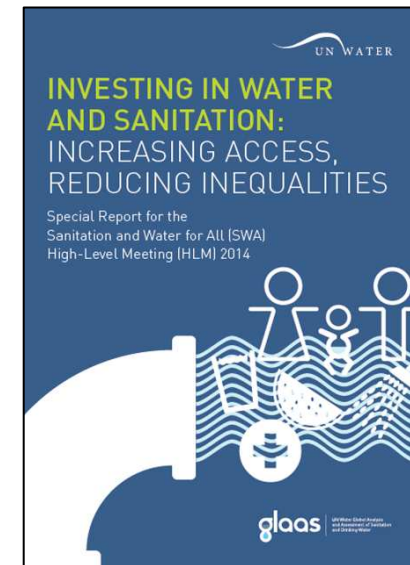
Global Analysis and Assessment of Sanitation and Drinking-water (GLAAS)

Assessment of country + donor actions to improve water and sanitation (special report for 2014 SWA meeting)

Countries recognizing the right to water and sanitation



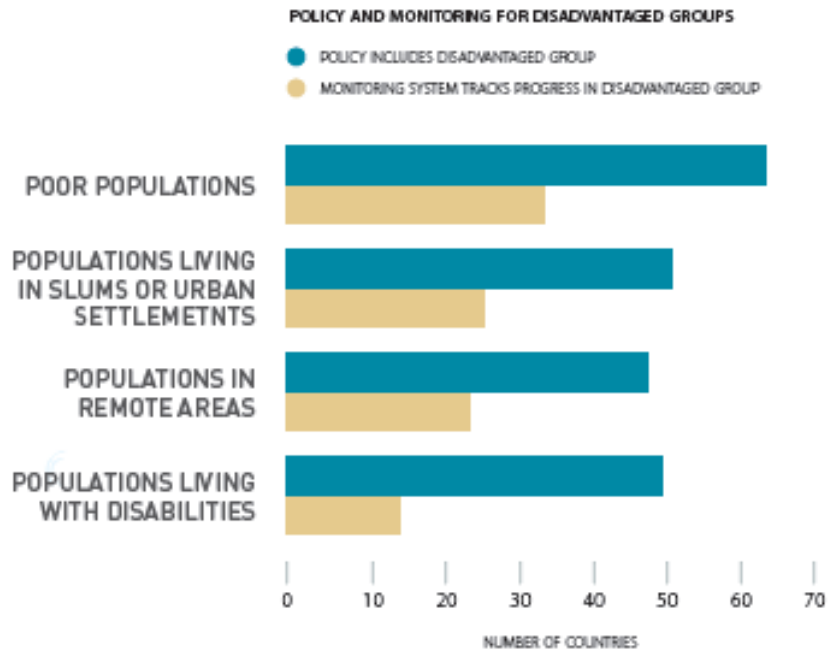
^a Some countries may have more broadly defined laws or legislation for incorporating the human right than others.



World Health Organization

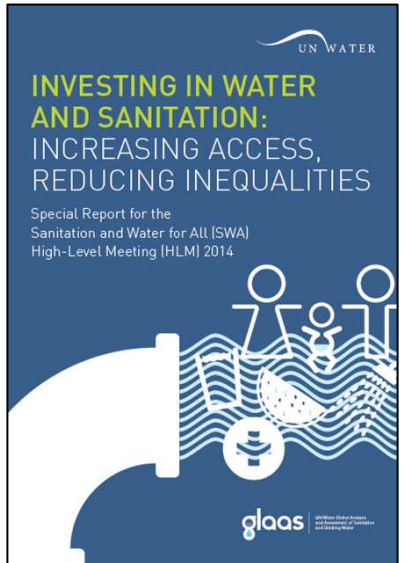
GLAAS 2014 Findings: policies established, but monitoring systems not in place

Countries are progressively establishing policies for disadvantaged groups, but a gap remains in their capacity to track and report progress in access for disadvantaged groups. [Fig. 3]



Source: 2013 GLAAS country survey

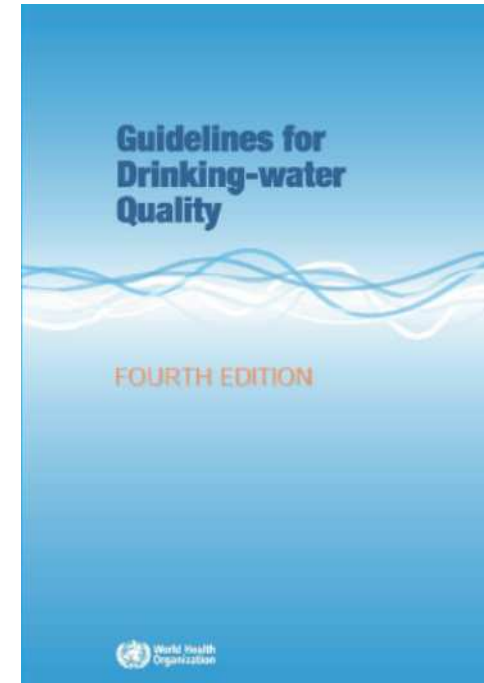
a The following countries have been excluded from analysis pending revised data, Columbia, Dominican Republic and Guinea Bissau.



Supporting Member States on Drinking-water Quality

Application of Water Safety Planning (WSP):

- 58 countries report a national strategy to scale up WSPs (2014 Survey)
- Key success indicator for WHO



Output indicator	Baseline	Target
Number of countries that have developed new or revised existing policies or national standards based on WHO guidelines for environmental and occupational health risks	20/194 (2013)	30/194 (2015)

Post-2015 vision from JMP convened process

La visión

Acceso universal al agua potable y segura, al saneamiento y la higiene

El objetivo

De aquí a 2030:

- eliminar la defecación al aire libre;
- lograr el acceso universal al agua potable segura, al saneamiento y la higiene en los hogares, las escuelas y las instalaciones sanitarias;
- reducir a la mitad la proporción de población que no tiene acceso en sus hogares al agua potable administrada de forma segura y a los servicios de saneamiento; y
- eliminar progresivamente las desigualdades en el acceso.

The vision

Universal access to safe drinking water, sanitation and hygiene

The target

By 2030:

- to eliminate open defecation;
- to achieve universal access to basic drinking water, sanitation and hygiene for households, schools and health facilities;
- to halve the proportion of the population without access at home to safely managed drinking water and sanitation services; and
- to progressively eliminate inequalities in access.

