



GOVERNMENT OF GHANA

The Ghana Presidential Compact on WASH



Positioning Sustainable Access to Improved Water, Sanitation and Hygiene Services to Stimulate the Achievement of Sustainable Development Goals and Socio-Economic Development

AUGUST 2024



**OFFICE OF THE PRESIDENT
MINISTRY OF SANITATION AND WATER RESOURCES**

MINISTRY OF FINANCE

**MINISTRY OF LOCAL GOVERNMENT,
DECENTRALISATION
AND RURAL DEVELOPMENT**

MINISTRY OF HEALTH

MINISTRY OF FOOD AND AGRICULTURE

MINISTRY OF EDUCATION

**MINISTRY OF ENVIRONMENT, SCIENCE,
TECHNOLOGY AND INNOVATION**

NATIONAL DEVELOPMENT PLANNING COMMISSION

in collaboration with

**Sanitation and Water for All -
A Global Framework for Action**

**NOW IT IS THEREFORE, DECREED THAT THIS
HIGH-LEVEL PRESIDENTIAL COMPACT ON WASH**

*Positioning Sustainable Access to Improved Sanitation Water
and Hygiene to Stimulate the Achievement of SDGs and
Socio-Economic Development*

is hereby assented to:

On behalf of the Government of Ghana



His Excellency, Nana Addo Dankwa Akufo-Addo

President of the Republic of Ghana

Date: 28th August 2024

On behalf of Development Partners



His Excellency, Mr. Charles Abani

UN Resident Coordinator for Ghana

Date: 28th August 2024

Contents

Acknowledgement	iv
Acronyms and Abbreviations	vi
Introduction	1
Context	3
The Compact Principles	9
Purpose	11
Objectives	11
Focus areas and commitments	12
Focus areas	12
Targets and timelines	14
Desired Outcomes	15
Commitment (1) - Political Prioritisation of WASH at All Levels of Leadership	16
Commitment (2) – Strengthen Capacity of Relevant WASH Sector Institutions and Take Actions to Facilitate Intersectoral Coordination	18
Commitment (3) - Adopt Circular Economy as a Systemic Shift	22
Commitment (4) - Promote Concerns for the Environment Including the Ocean	23
Pursuing the SWA Framework for Good Governance ...	25
Institutional Arrangements and Responsibilities	26
Summary of Commitments	30

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Acronyms and Abbreviations

CE	-	Circular Economy
CLTS	-	Community-Led Total Sanitation
CSOs	-	Civil Society Organisations
CWSA	-	Community Water and Sanitation Agency
DP	-	Development Partners
EHSD	-	Environmental Health and Sanitation Directorate
EPA	-	Environmental Protection Agency
GPRS	-	Growth and Poverty Reduction Strategy
GoG	-	Government of Ghana
GWL	-	Ghana Water Limited
IWRM	-	Integrated Water Resources Management
LGS	-	Local Government Service
GSS	-	Ghana Statistical Service
GWASHDP	-	Ghana WASH Development Programme
MLGDRD	-	Ministry of Local Government, Decentralisation and Rural Development
MDAs	-	Ministries, Departments and Agencies
MDGs	-	Millennium Development Goals
MMDAs	-	Metropolitan, Municipal and District Assemblies
MoF	-	Ministry of Finance
MoFA	-	Ministry of Food and Agriculture
MSWR	-	Ministry of Sanitation and Water Resources
MTNDPF	-	Medium-Term National Development Policy Framework
NDPC	-	National Development Planning

		Commission
NGO	-	Non-governmental Organisation
PCW	-	Presidential Compact on WASH
PHC	-	Population and Housing Census
RSMS	-	Rural Sanitation Model and Strategy
SDGs	-	Sustainable Development Goals
UNDP	-	United Nations Development Programme
UNICEF	-	United Nations Children’s Fund
WASH	-	Water Sanitation and Hygiene
WD	-	Water Directorate
WRC	-	Water Resources Commission

Introduction

Sanitation and Water for ALL, has a Global Framework of Action, and is an international partnership of national governments, donors, civil society organisations and other development partners working together to galvanise political commitments to increase global access to sanitation and water. SWA aims to raise the performance and effectiveness of the water and sanitation sector by working to enhance mutual accountability. SWA therefore recognises the pillars of global and regional accords such as the Sustainable Development Goals, Paris Declaration, Accra Agenda for Action (AAA), the eThekweni and Sharm El-Sheik declarations.

Many donors and recipient countries recognise that the sanitation and drinking water sector lacks a global periodic comprehensive sector analysis, which is able to talk to and influence the high-level policy makers. So SWA aims to achieve its goals, especially advocacy for high-level political attention, by organising High-Level Meetings (HLMs) annually and use the UN publication The UN Global Analysis and Assessment of Sanitation and Drinking-Water (GLAAS) for strategic discussions at the HLMs.

This Presidential Compact on WASH is a result of a massive collaboration between state and non-state institutions and agencies, private sector entities and an extensive consultative process with all major sector stakeholders. The process began with the identification of challenges affecting the sector and a rigorous analysis of the root causes by key duty bearers, members of the academic community and civil society organisations (CSOs). The document outlines the relevant commitments by government and the role of major stakeholders including the Government of Ghana (GoG) and its agencies, Development Partners (DPs) and CSOs towards achievement of the objectives in this Compact. Having

reviewed the previous compact - The Ghana Compact 2010, the preparatory process derived essential lessons from experiences by national stakeholders drawn from district, regional and national levels.

The outcome is a result of noticeable leaderships provided by Office of the President, Ministry of Sanitation and Water Resources (MSWR) in collaboration with, and substantial inputs from the Ministry of Finance (MoF), Ministry of Local Government, Decentralisation and Rural Development (MLGDRD) and the Ministry of Health (MoH). The process was mainly coordinated and directed by the National Development Planning Commission (NDPC).

Context

Since the 1990s several efforts have gone into improving Water, Sanitation and Hygiene services in Ghana with some modest outcomes including, successes achieved under the Millennium Development Goals (MDGs) which galvanised tremendous effort towards improving total human development and quality of life. Along the way, Ghana has also learnt how to work to improve on aid and make it more effective. Reforms in the early 1990s contributed to formulation of clear policies, plans and strategies, the building of WASH sector capacity and the mobilisation of resources leading to increased access to water and sanitation services. These led to the launch of the first WASH Compact in 2010 to crystalise renewed energies in prioritising sanitation and water. The aim was to undergird the efforts at achieving other national endeavours including social and economic development goals.

Since the implementation of the first Compact, the national and global contexts have experienced rapid changes requiring appropriate responses from the Government of Ghana to stay on course for achieving the WASH goals which invariably stimulate improvements in socio-economic development. To achieve its goal, some specific policies, coordination mechanisms and fiscal measures have been pivotal. They include the following:

1. Ghana has several sanitation, water, hygiene, health and environment related policies, strategies and plans. Most of these are meant to protect the environment, provide clean water, sanitation, promote hygiene services and voluntary hygiene behaviours towards the achievement of sustainable health. Others have been issued to facilitate decentralisation, strategic planning, strengthen institutions and coordinate development planning. Other policies of

- the Government of Ghana identified and adopted include:
- The Coordinated Programme of Economic and Social Development Policies (2021-2025)
 - Ghana WASH Development Programme (GWASHDP) 2023-2030
 - Elimination of open defecation by 2030
 - Water and Sanitation for All Agenda
 - Rural Sanitation Model and Strategy (RSMS)
2. Ghana is a signatory to several international treaties and conventions related to WASH including the Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs). The implementation and effective coordination of efforts to achieve these policies and international treaties, are most likely to result in effective coordination of other facets of national development including job creation.
 3. On the operational front, existing governance structures have been adopted or recalibrated to promote a holistic approach to implementing and tackling WASH performance and related issues. An inter-ministerial committee comprising Ministers of Finance, Sanitation and Water Resources, Local Government, Decentralisation and Rural Development, Food and Agriculture, and Health will lead and coordinate the process. The fight against COVID-19 pandemic also brought to the fore, the need to lay additional emphasis on access to basic water, sanitation and hygiene services, leading to the establishment of a special office for the coordination of the fight against COVID-19. This unit has been effective in facilitating inter-agency coordination and will be relevant going forward.
 4. Community mobilisation is a critical component of success and by adopting a demand-led approach, 4000 villages have been declared Open Defecation Free (ODF) within a relatively short duration between 2012 and 2018.

The Ghana Presidential Compact on WASH is a continued affirmation of the Government's commitment to improve sanitation and hygiene, and to sustain the significant gains made in the area of water service delivery as reported by the Ghana Statistical Service (GSS) in the recent Population and Housing Census (PHC 2021). The following are some of the conditions necessitating the issuance of a Presidential Compact on WASH 2023-2030. These include but are not limited to the following:

1. The President and the Government of Ghana's urgent desire to improve sanitation, water and hygiene in Ghana as one of the initiatives to improve health and transition the nation into a higher middle-income country.
2. The constantly changing global trends and renewed commitments such as the shift from MDGs to SDGs, requires re-assessment of all sectors, selection of new and appropriate indicators, and adjustment of national systems to monitor and evaluate progress towards the attainment of the new global commitments.
3. The negative impacts of climate change and related weather variations call for a need to build resilient systems and WASH facilities to ensure sustainability.
4. Lessons learnt from the ravages of the COVID-19 pandemic, which resulted in a global and national awakening, demand a need to prepare adequately to respond to similar outbreaks of public health emergencies on a national scale.
5. The consequential responses to the COVID-19 pandemic meant to control its spread (lockdowns, border closures, etc.) have disrupted economies, threatened food security, and increased the vulnerability of individuals to poverty. As part of its renewed efforts to revamp the economy, the

Government of Ghana, has identified five critical SDG targets for accelerated actions. These include SDG 6.2. This important action of the Government synchronises with Ghana's other international commitments including SDGs (2016–2030), African Union Agenda (2063), and several bilateral and multilateral commitments on WASH which have the potential to positively impact on several sectors including health.

6. Results of further analysis conducted on the SDGs by NDPC, suggests that SDG 6 is the most linked and pivotal to achieving many of the other global goals (synergies to 132 SDG targets). From the analysis, the attainment of SDG 6 is therefore essential to the attainment of the other SDGs. The specific examples include the following:
 - SDG 2. Zero Hunger
 - SDG 3. Good Health and Wellbeing
 - SDG 4. Quality Education
 - SDG 8. Decent Work and Economic Growth
 - SDG 11. Sustainable Cities and Communities, and
 - SDG 13. Climate Action
7. The intensified search for greener and renewable energies, where solutions lie in effectively managing the symbiotic relationship between WASH and related end-products and the generation of energy for livelihoods and industry.
8. The importance placed on preserving the environment by the Government of Ghana and the need to recover or regenerate degraded lands is another important factor.
9. The emergence of new and efficient technologies requiring an appropriate and timely response and application of such technologies.

10. Rapid changes in Ghana's population growth and dynamics which requires the adoption of innovative approaches likely to address youth unemployment through WASH.
11. The prominence of the private sector on the national agenda and the extent to which WASH technologies can create new jobs for the teeming youth and graduates has become a persuasive discourse.
12. The high premium placed on good governance and related issues of accountability requires urgent and more focused attention on important sectors including WASH.
13. A clear linkage has been established between WASH and Health and there is almost a national consensus to look beyond sanitation, water and hygiene in a manner which could impact positively on the health of Ghanaians to increase efficiency and productivity.
14. The escalating security threats and concerns in the West African sub-region, which can negatively impact WASH facilities and undermine their resilience and sustainability is also a major concern.
15. Ghana has a long stretch of a coastline on its southern border and must have concerns and considerations for the ocean.
16. The framework for WASH sector coordination has been in place for many years but its operation has not been smooth and continuous and thus will require a Presidential intervention to enhance effective coordination.

17. There are challenges associated with MMDAs. Some of these are related to the lack of clarity around their roles, limited fiscal decentralisation, and inadequate capacity at MMDA level to implement and to enforce WASH related by-laws.
18. The public's inadequate knowledge of WASH-related laws and regulations, as well the population's reluctance to adhere to hygiene and public health regulations is another factor.
19. Above all, there are cross-cutting issues such as inclusion, pro-poor policies, gender, inequality, inequity and the growth of the informal sector, which are essential to ensuring nobody is left behind in achieving universal access.

These and many other inter-connected reasons have necessitated the development of a Presidential Compact on WASH. It is to enhance the WASH systems which entail key elements which affect and are affected by other factors both internally and externally.

The Compact Principles

This Compact outlines the commitments of the Government of Ghana (GoG) to make rapid progress in achieving SDG 6 and to sustain these efforts beyond 2030. The compact recognises the role and contributions of householders, civil society, private sector, and development partners in realising these goals. The Sanitation and Water for ALL (SWA): A Global Framework of Action has a number of core principles that are common to our sector policies. These shared principles serve as a guide and common vision on the strategic measures and actions to be followed. The commitments in this compact have been fashioned along these principles.				The Sanitation and Water for ALL: A Global Framework of Action is referred to in short form as SWA. In Ghana, in adherence to civil society recommendations the “ALL” is in capitals. The National Water Policy (2024) and the Environmental Sanitation Policy (Revised, 2010) and the SWA share common principles that are found in Policy Documents, SDGs and other declarations. The commitments of the Compact are consistent with measures and actions of the broad focus areas of GWASHDP	
SWA Principles	Corresponding National Sub-Sector Principles				
	Environmental Sanitation Policy (Revised 2010)	National Water Policy (2010)	Ghana WASH Development Programme (2023)		
	Sanitation and water are a priority sector and underlies the achievement of the SDGs	Environmental sanitation services as a public good	Fundamental right of all people without discrimination to safe and adequate water to meet basic human needs		A framework for coordinated implementation of activities for integrated water resources management and sustainable WASH services for everyone everywhere in Ghana by 2030
	Sanitation and water as a sector that requires political prioritisation, institutional	Environmental sanitation services as a public good	Meeting the social needs for water as a priority, while recognising the economic value of water		Internal dynamics, such as political stability and Commitments are key to delivering sustainable WASH

capacity building and investment		and the goods and services it provides		2021-2030, the National Water Policy (NWP, 2024), and the Environmental Sanitation Policy (ESP, Revised, 2010). A detailed presentation of what commitments to make and why we make them under our (4) themes were arrived at after a series of sector consultative processes
Efforts should focus on targeting the un-served before improving services for the already served	Improving equity and gender sensitivity	Meeting the social needs for water as a priority, while recognising the economic value of water and the goods and services it provides	Prioritise neglected components that require more attention to ensure WASH services bring about positive and sustainable behaviour changes	
Accountability, mutually with donors and to the country's citizens, is necessary to achieve sanitation for all.	The principle of subsidiarity. Community participation and social intermediation	Subsidiarity in order to ensure participatory decision-making at the lowest appropriate level in society	Accountability at all levels is essential for bringing all partners together to remain committed to delivering WASH	
One national plan and planning process is necessary for sanitation, water and hygiene, including detailed sector investment requirements, targets and capacity needs	Polluter pays	Coordinating water resources planning with land use planning Polluter pays, to serve as a disincentive to uncontrolled discharge of pollutants into the environment	Integration and harmonisation of plans and monitoring collective outcomes.	

SWA seeks to support countries to achieve a number of strategic objectives towards the realisation of SDG 6.

Purpose

The Presidential Compact on WASH is to bring further prominence to the WASH sector as an essential service, and which is pivotal for the achievement of all the other SDGs. WASH contributes significantly to preserving the environment, promoting health, ensuring increased and sustained school enrolment and promoting gender. It has also been found to positively impact on livelihoods and also enhance economic growth and social development.

Objectives

- Provide visible and focused leadership at the highest levels to derive optimum outcomes from WASH and related investments in Ghana.
- Strengthen institutions and partnerships necessary for the development of the relevant systems in the WASH sector for resilience and sustained improvements in the delivery of essential services.
- Overcome any inertia building up as a result of routine and familiarity with the issues of working towards achieving SDG 6 to accelerate efforts towards realising the other SDGs.
- Renew initiatives directed at responding appropriately to climate change, and the environment including concerns for the ocean.
- Stimulate the flow of new and innovative financing mechanisms, technologies and approaches in addition to existing resources towards the last mile of achieving SDG 6.

Focus areas and commitments

Focus areas

1. Political prioritisation of WASH at all levels of leadership to ensure:

- Ghana maintains its membership of the SWA initiative.
- Prioritisation of WASH as an essential service and catalyst for achievement of SDG 6, other SDGs and socio-economic development.
- The necessary partnerships are further strengthened or new ones developed for sustained actions.
- The private sector is strategically positioned to leverage the conducive policy environment and to invest in the WASH sector.
- The direction of resources reflect WASH as a priority to enhance job creation and economic growth.
- Effective mobilisation of the entire nation for coherence and sustainability.
- A decentralised WASH service delivery in all MMDAs.
- The hard to reach /serve areas are deliberately targeted and services delivered.
- That Ghana's national Climate Adaptation Plans and strategies incorporate climate resilient WASH infrastructure and services.

2. Strengthen institutions and intersectoral coordination to ensure:

- A vibrant arrangement of institutional networks to coordinate WASH implementation across sectors.
- Sequential arrangement of activities to achieve increased efficiency.
- Development of an orchestrated multi-sector set of actions towards an integrated delivery of WASH services including basic sanitation, promotion of

voluntary hygiene behaviours and Water Resources Management.

- Alignment of pipeline GoG/Development Partner programmes and projects to national plans.

3. Adoption of circular economy approach as a systemic shift to ensure:

- Long-term resilience, generate business and job opportunities and economic opportunities.
- A sustainable and efficient process to optimising WASH investments and other resources along the entire value chain including the re-use of end-products to provide environmental and societal benefits.
- The use of resources for as long as possible.
- The extraction of the maximum value while in use and a focus on reducing methane and other Carbon resource potentials.
- Ability to recover and regenerate products and materials at the end of each service life.



4. Promote concerns for the environment including the ocean to ensure:

- Promotion of organic fertilizer and dissuade indiscriminate use of chemical fertilizer and other agro-chemicals, pesticides and other forms of pollutants.
- Direct and indirect benefits of effective WASH delivery, rubs off on the hospitality and tourism industry as an emerging source of sustainable national income.
- Additional benefits capable of addressing the menace of land degradation in all forms including the inimical repercussions of illegal mining also known as “galamsey”.
- Immense social and economic benefits are derived, as a result of having effective WASH systems in place.

Targets and timelines

Following the extensive consultative process and engagements with key stakeholders across sectors, the commitments described above are expected to achieve set goals and targets. Specific indicators include political, administrative, technical, operational, financial and other resource indicators. These integrated plans have been linked to NDPC’s national development framework and SDG indicators to ensure ‘no one is left behind’ and monitored along the outlined in the GWASHDP 2021-2030. By 2030 and following the completion of the Presidential Compact on WASH, the expected change will include:

Desired Outcomes

1. End open defecation and ensure that about 60% of the populace/households in urban/peri-urban and 50% in rural areas have access to exclusive household toilets and at least basic sanitation services by 2030, while the remaining 40% of the populace/households in urban/peri-urban and 50% in rural areas will rely on improved shared toilet facilities.
2. 70% of the populace/households in urban/peri-urban and 50% in rural areas are connected to a piped water network and using safely managed water services by 2030, while the remaining 30% of the populace/households in urban/peri-urban and 50% in rural areas will rely on basic water from point sources.
3. 70% of the populace/households in urban/peri-urban and 50% in rural areas practising handwashing with soap by 2030.
4. The entire population is practising appropriate and voluntary hygiene behaviours in a healthy environment.
5. National Sanitation Authority (NSA) has been established, all WASH sector policies, strategies, plans and actions are aligned and synchronized
6. SDG 6 has been achieved and facilitated the realisation of other SDGs.

Commitment (1) - Political Prioritisation of WASH at All Levels of Leadership

Sanitation and water are at the core of achieving all the SDGs and would receive the necessary attention to enable more positive impact on all the other important sectors including education and health.	Demonstration of a clear commitment by H.E the President of the Republic of Ghana, Representative of Development Partners and Representative of Civil Society Organisations to ensure the implementation of the Compact.
Implement WASH sector activities in a manner that addresses WASH needs of households, communities and institutions with a focus on WASH in Schools (WinS), Health Care Facilities (HCFs) and public places such as markets, lorry stations, stadia, restaurants and other important destinations in the hospitality industry. It also has the potential to impact positively on Food and Agriculture, Energy and other productive sectors.	The Environmental Sanitation Policy (Currently being revised) will maintain its recommendation to make environmental sanitation part of essential services in Ghana
The visibility shed on WASH by the SWA initiative ensures greater focus on the sector. The Ministry of Finance (MoF), Ministry of Sanitation and Water Resources (MSWR), Ministry of Local Government, Decentralisation and Rural Development (MLGDRD), Ministry of Health, Ministry of Food and Agriculture, and National Development Planning Commission (NDPC) have demonstrated commitment to participate in activities to be outlined at the High-Level Meetings (HLMs) and to facilitate efforts to achieve objectives set in the Ghana Presidential Compact on WASH.	Implement plans and programmes outlined in this Presidential Compact on WASH to achieve SDG 6.

Specific commitments by GoG will include: 1.1 Maintain membership of the SWA Initiative and prioritise sanitation, water and hygiene as essential services. 1.2 Participate in HLMs, revise and update the Presidential Compact on WASH with comments obtained at HLMs and other multilateral agencies. 1.3 Undertake a formal launch of the Compact and disseminate same to all stakeholders including members of Parliament Select Committee, DPs, Civil Society, Private Sector, Government officials, Religious Leaders and the General Public. 1.4 Strengthen existing partnerships and / or create new partnerships for effective coordination of sustained WASH sector actions by NDPC. 1.5 In addition to the processes outlined in the GWASHDP 2021-2030, direct resources into WASH sector and monitor to find the extent to which it reflects the sector as a priority and catalyst to enhance the achievement of other SDGs and economic growth. 1.6 Prioritise funding to ensure adequate WASH services to hard to reach and last mile communities. 1.7 Make further allocations within a broader financial envelope up to or beyond a minimum threshold of 0.5% of GDP to cover infrastructure needs, research, law enforcement, capacity building for hygiene education including, behaviour change communication and related interventions to mobilise the entire nation especially at the MMDA levels to achieve zero OD via Community-led Total Sanitation (CLTS) and other interventions per revised ESP.	Develop and implement all plans necessary to optimise the outcomes of achieving SDG 6 and use same to leverage the realisation of related goals such as SDGs 1, 2, 3,5, and 7 per the appropriate annual targets.
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Commitment (2) – Strengthen Capacity of Relevant WASH Sector Institutions and Take Actions to Facilitate Intersectoral Coordination

Ghana made significant progress in the water sub-sectors which requires special focus to consolidate the gains. However, Ghana lags in the sanitation and hygiene sub-sectors as presented in table 1 below. According to GWASHDP, “coverage of basic sanitation is generally quite low, with only a small difference between rural and urban areas – almost exclusively limited to the top wealth quintile”. These sub-sectors will therefore require more than the usual efforts to attain universal access.

Table 1: WASH situation in Ghana

Sub-sector	Rural	Urban	National
Sanitation			
• Basic	3%	14%	13%
• Safely Managed	18%	20%	16%
• Limited	34%	52%	45%
Water			
• Basic Access	55%	36%	44%
• Safely Managed Access	19%	63%	44%
• Limited	12%	2%	6%
Hygiene			
• Basic	35%	47%	42%

Source: Ghana Statistical Service, UNICEF and WHO Joint Monitoring Programme, 2023

The EMIS (2019/2020 report) indicates that 74% of public basic schools and 89% of private basic schools in Ghana have access to toilet facilities respectively while 75% of public basic schools and 83% of private basic schools in Ghana have access to water facilities respectively.

By the Local Governance Act, 2016 (Act 936), the National Development Planning (System) Act, 1994 (Act 480) and Ghana’s decentralisation framework, the local government and development planning authority is vested in Metropolitan, Municipal and District Assemblies (MMDAs).

The Environmental Health and Sanitation Directorate (EHSD) of the MSWR is one of the single most decentralised institutions with

Inappropriate sanitation behaviour has also been identified as one of the critical challenges facing the sector. The framework for environmental sanitation development which served as a basic building block for developing the National Environmental Sanitation Strategy and Action Plan (NESSAP) identifies awareness raising for behavioural change as a basic means of improving sanitation. To implement the plans and programmes in this Compact, the GoG undertakes to: 2.1 Enhance the capacity of sector institutions from the national, regional, and district levels and motivate same to commit resources for sanitation, water and hygiene programmes at the decentralised levels. 2.2 Expedite actions to establish the National Sanitation Authority and take steps to align activities of institutions and structures in the sector. 2.3 Issue a clear statement of its intentions of increasing resources to the environmental sanitation and water sectors, GoG commits to: • Complete the process of revising or updating the Environmental Sanitation Policies by 2024; (ESP, NESSPA and SESIP are currently under review). • Complete the process to designate the sanitation and water sector as part of <i>essential services</i> category by September 2024 to serve as catalyst for the achievement of other SDGs. • Provide the private sector with the necessary incentives to enable them to strategically position and invest in the WASH sector in tandem with existing policies. This will be achieved by compiling a list of potential WASH sector interventions requiring investments and engaging private sector to determine their attractiveness, likely pitfalls and potential government support as part of creating an enabling environment. • Create the enabling environment necessary to build partnerships for sustained actions including relevant contents of the Coordinated Programme of Economic and Social Development Policies.	presence at national, regional, and district levels. The district and sub-district offices (including area councils) function as established units of MMDAs. Revision of ESP completed by December 2024.
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2.4 Undertake the necessary behaviour change communication (BCC) assessments and develop interventions to effectively mobilise the entire nation for coherence. This will be guided by a BCC strategy. 2.5 Create a WASH research and innovation investment fund which public-private initiatives may tap into. These shall have a national and district focus and shall be managed to grow and expand in scope over time. The sources of this pool fund shall include syndication of green bonds (climate bonds) to finance low-carbon emission and climate resilient WASH infrastructure. In the medium term, amendments shall be introduced in the National Procurement Act to introduce the relevant instruments to make the policy more responsive to these new developments. 2.6 Direct resources to sectors that reflect WASH as a priority to enhance economic growth and based on the estimated cost of sanitation, water supply, hygiene infrastructure and services by the GWASHDP. It is estimated that a total of US\$1.7 billion is required to meet SDG 6 by 2030 and beyond.	Advertised platforms and dates for WASH sector review meetings and learning events with indicative budget provision. A national BCC strategy with a collaborative network of private and private sector entities. Formative research report and a national BCC strategy to promote uptake of WASH and health services. The Government's Fiscal Policy Statement will outline the needed resources and a financing mechanism for the implementation of the WASH Compact. The current level of sector investment is estimated to be around 0.25%. The eThekweni declaration sets a minimum allocation of 0.5% of GDP to support enabling elements for sanitation improvement.
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Commitment (3) - Adopt Circular Economy as a Systemic Shift

Embracing a circular economy in Ghana's WASH sector marks a critical transformation in tackling inefficiencies, environmental damage, and economic pressures. Shifting from traditional linear approaches to resource use and waste management, Ghana can develop a more sustainable, resilient, and equitable water and sanitation system. To implement the plans and programmes in this Compact, the GoG undertakes to: 3.1 Develop concepts, plans and guidelines to facilitate a systemic shift to deliver WASH services in a circular economy mode. 3.2 Provide the leadership and blueprints necessary to convert WASH sector expenditures into investments to unleash resources along the entire value chain of the various sub-sectors. 3.3 Identify and align existing sector policies, programmes compiled in the GWASHDP and develop relevant guidelines to promote effective and efficient delivery in the WASH sector and beyond.	The National Water Policy (NWP), 2024 and the Environmental Sanitation Policy (Revised, 2010) state Circular Economy as a key priority sector and take measures and actions to address emerging challenges. Existence of Circular Economy Roadmap and Action Plan for Ghana The National Development Planning Commission (NDPC) will lead and continue to provide regular guidelines to MMDAs for the preparation of the MTDPs and its implementation. At the district level, the development and revision of District Environmental Sanitation Strategy and Action Plans (DESSAPs) and District Water and Sanitation Plans (DWSPs) would be anchored around District Planning Coordinating Units (DPCUs).
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Commitment (4) - Promote Concerns for the Environment Including the Ocean

The interconnectedness of environmental sustainability and public health is increasingly evident, particularly within the WASH Sector of Ghana. As a coastal nation with rich marine resources, Ghana's reliance on its ocean and freshwater ecosystems is vital for the well-being of its people. However, these critical resources face growing threats from pollution, climate change, and unsustainable practices. By aligning WASH initiatives with broader environmental goals, Ghana can ensure that progress in public health does not come at the expense of ecological integrity. GoG therefore commits to: 4.1 Deliver WASH programmes in a manner which provides benefits to the entire population and some focus on the hospitality and tourism industry. 4.2 Implement remedial actions to address the menace of land degradation in all forms including the inimical repercussions of "galamsey". 4.3 Promote the use of organic fertilizer and dissuade indiscriminate use of chemical fertilizer and other agro-chemicals, pesticides and other forms of pollutants. 4.4 Adopt the Strategic Environmental Assessment (SEA) to mainstream environmental sustainability measures in all WASH policies, plans and programmes. 4.5 Adopt and adapt strategies that design and deliver resilient WASH facilities and services to reduce the effects of Climate Change and global warming. 4.6 Publish the performance of sanitation and water projects which conform to minimum standards of effluent.	Publish reports on the extent to which HCFs, schools, tourism and hospitality facilities are considered during implementation of the public WASH programme. Publications by Media houses and CSOs (e.g. CONIWAS) on actions to prevent illegal mining activities and progress made as a result of remedial actions.
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4.7 Establish a WASH system that ensures that all components of WASH deliver social and economic benefits effectively.

Efficiency in unit treatment processes of water to record a low-carbon footprint and some biogas-based excreta treatment systems can help reduce lead in water supply and methane along the sanitation value chain, and other Green House Gases (GHG).



Pursuing the SWA Framework for Good Governance

GoG undertakes that Ghana will continue to subject the governance and management of the development agenda to bilateral and multilateral review and assessment mechanisms to enhance its capacity to lead the development aspiration of its citizens. To achieve the above, GOG commits to: Adopt and institutionalize the SWA framework for the sanitation and water sector to deepen good governance and accountability. 1.1 Adopt the GLAAS framework for reporting on sector performance and disseminate the necessary guidelines to all agencies including MMDAs and CSOs to facilitate mutual accountability. 1.2 Enhance the participation of traditional leaders and civil society in Annual Performance Reviews (APRs) of water and environmental sanitation strategies supervised by NDPC.	The Ghana Consultative Group Annual Partnership Meeting affords representatives of Parliament, private sector and civil society to assess how effectively aid partnership is working. The National Development Planning Commission (NDPC) is the agency responsible for providing guidelines for preparing sector programmes and assessment reports. The Ghana Statistical Service (GSS) plays the important function of designing appropriate survey instruments for gathering field data, managing and reporting on census surveys. The NDPC coordinates the APRs of national development plans and will facilitate publication of sector outcomes with the involvement of the DPs and GSS. The Annual Country Reviews will feed into Regional meetings and HLMS.
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Institutional Arrangements and Responsibilities

Ministry of Sanitation and Water Resources

- Establish the link with government and legislature to ensure the necessary executive instruments, resources and laws are established.
- Provide overall direction and management of the programme.
- Develop plans, programmes and budgets, and coordinate review and reporting process.
- Gather relevant information to track progress and generate regular updates on set sector targets and priority actions.
- Create relevant formats, appropriate regular platforms and processes for engaging major WASH sector actors to engender learning, decision-making and to promote mutual accountability.



Inter-Ministerial Committee

- MSWR will lead and liaise with the committee to foster closer collaboration and partnership with the relevant sectors.
- Mainstream and strengthen WASH programme coordination and management structures included in the planned sector implementation plans.

Civil Society Organisations and Networks

- Design and implement WASH plans and programmes as a fundamental right.
- Partner with the Government and other stakeholders to implement WASH interventions in a transparent and accountable manner.
- Lead the process of adhering to existing sector regulations and guidelines for promoting WASH initiatives and programmes and report to relevant MMDAs and national level authorities.
- Initiate and promote advocacy actions and mobilise civil society to complement WASH investments and interventions in hard and difficult to reach communities.
- Implement sustainable WASH programmes and document outcomes which provide opportunities for WASH sector learning and scale-up.
- Initiate and support actions that facilitate healthy engagements likely to enrich sector policies, laws, and demand accountability from duty bearers and major stakeholders.

Academic and Research Institutions

- Collaborate with WASH and related sectors in the selection of relevant research themes and facilitate implementation of findings.
- Work closely with major WASH sector stakeholders to

assess the outcomes and other results of WASH interventions in Ghana.

Private Sector Providers

- Collaborate with public sector actors and government to identify components of the WASH sector which can be financed and or implemented by private investors who can leverage existing opportunities and the enabling environment.
- Participate and complement capacity development components identified in GWASHDP.

Development Partners

- Liaise with MSWR in providing support to major WASH priority areas such as finance, human and material resources.
- Share best practices and provide support for capacity development.

Media Houses and Practitioners

- Play an important role in communicating government policies and programmes of action.
- Disseminating information necessary for mobilising society around the Compact, including communicating the results of actions taken.



Summary of Commitments

- Maintain Ghana's membership of the SWA initiative.
- Prioritise the WASH sector in a strategic approach that addresses WASH needs of households, communities and institutions with a focus on WASH in Schools (WinS), Health Care Facilities (HCFs) and public places such as markets, lorry stations, stadia, restaurants and other important destinations in the hospitality industry.
- Establish National Sanitation Authority (NSA).
- Strengthen capacities of relevant institutions and align their actions to become more effective and efficient.
- Work closely with development partners and civil society organisations to achieve planned outcomes.
- Review and address gaps preventing effective performance through intersectoral and inter-ministerial actions and platforms.
- Rely on and direct the revision and implementation of ESP, NESSAP, SESIP and the revised National Water Policy (NWP).
- Deliver WASH via the circular economy approach which requires that the obstacles associated with the systemic integration of the governance of various sectors are identified and addressed.
- Provide opportunities that enable WASH entrepreneurs to convert expenditures into job creation and innovative investment opportunities in the private WASH sector.
- Set realistic and measurable targets to facilitate accelerated progress in the WASH sector.
- Invest an estimated US\$1.7 billion annually in WASH to meet the SDGs by 2030.

- Regularly assess the WASH sector situation and revise the numbers to stay on course to providing WASH beyond 2030.
- The hard to reach /serve areas will be deliberately targeted, and services delivered.
- Ghana's national Climate Adaptation Plans and Strategies incorporate climate resilient WASH infrastructure and services.



Ministry of Sanitation and Water Resources
P.O. Box PMB 60
Ministries - Accra
Digital Address: GA-298-2662

