

# Sanitation Service Challenges in Water Sector in Kenya

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Financial support for improved access to water and sanitation

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# OVERVIEW OF THE PRESENTATION

- **What is sanitation**
- **Importance of Sanitation**
- **Snapshot of Performance in Sanitation**
- **Sanitation Performance in Kenya**
- **Why is sanitation lagging behind?**
- **Key obstacles to sanitation progress.**
- **What can be done**



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# WHAT IS SANITATION?

- Hygienic means of promoting health through prevention of human contact with the hazards of wastes
- Provision of facilities and services for the safe disposal of human urine and faeces by the WHO (World Health Organisation).
- Maintenance of hygienic conditions, through services such as garbage collection and wastewater disposal.



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# Importance of Sanitation

Sustainable access to sanitation and drinking water underpins all aspects of human and economic development.

The state of sanitation remains a powerful indicator of the state of human development in any community.

Inadequate sanitation is a major cause of disease world-wide and improving sanitation is known to have a significant beneficial impact on health both in households and across communities.



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# Snapshot of Performance in Sanitation

**Sanitation Sub-sector is lagging behind water supply**

**Some Figures:**

Only 62 per cent of the world's population had access to improved sanitation.

In Sub-Saharan Africa , access grew minimally, from 49% 1990 to 58% in 2002.

At the current rate of progress, the world will miss the MDG target by 13 percentage points.



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# Snapshot of Performance in Sanitation continued..

Aim is to achieve the MDGs on health, education, food security, gender equality, and poverty alleviation.

58 countries off-track to achieve the MDG target on sanitation.

This include:

- 2.5 billion people lack access to basic sanitation,
- 1.2 billion open defecators
- 8% shared an improved facility with one or more households.
- 12% uses an unimproved sanitation facility.



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# Sanitation Performance in Kenya

Countrywide estimates for 2008 by the JMP

- 31% Kenyans had access to private improved sanitation.  
+27% of urban and  
+32% of rural)

In urban areas an additional 51% of the population used shared latrines.

In rural areas, open defecation was estimated to be still practised by 18% of the population



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# Why is sanitation lagging behind?

- Existing policy and strategies have not been effective.
- Projects interventions have not been demand driven,
- Project efforts have failed to stimulate demand,
- Sector has not found a sustainable solution to the financing question (reliance on subsidies has not been sustainable)
- Not enough attention to technology development
  - Range of technologies inadequate.
  - Costs of facilities have remained high.
  - The recommended service levels may also be too high.
- Lack of cohesive national planning frameworks for addressing sanitation
- Lack of evidence, data and analysis to inform decision- makers
- Lack of mutual accountability and sector-specific monitoring mechanisms
- Corruption and lack of integrity.



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# Key obstacles to sanitation progress

Sanitation challenges are experienced by both urban and rural communities.

In this regard, key impediments to sanitation service provision in the water sector can be broadly classified as:

- Structural,
- Economic,
- Educational,
- Socio-political and
- Technological



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# Structural challenges

The structural constraints that impede sanitation development refer to resources needed by communities to enjoy adequate sanitation.

These include lack of physical, natural, human and organisational resources.

- Inferior infrastructure,
- Land unavailability,
- Inadequate toilet facilities and
- Inadequate hand washing facilities.
- Unreliable water availability.



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# Economic challenges

The capital and running costs of sanitation are very high compared with what low-income households can afford.

Key economic and financial challenges include:

- High cost of sanitation to low-income families,
- Inadequate funding for sanitation infrastructure needs
- Investment priorities
- Setting appropriate prices and payment options.
- Unequal resource allocation.
- Unworkable financing partnerships (OBA).



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# Educational challenges

Although training is not cheap, the costs of inadequate sanitation are greater.

-Include lack of advocacy, training, access to information and information exchange with local people.

- Lack of access to health and hygiene education
- Limited hygiene awareness programmes targeted at all levels.
- Lack of intense and sustained public education on hygiene leads,
- Understanding motivations and barriers
- Establishing special points where prospective beneficiaries can go for information/assistance.



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# Socio-political challenges

Social challenges have to do with the lack of community involvement and participation in sanitation projects.

- Inadequate community participation
- Providing the right range of products (desired toilets)
- Poor mobilization strategies to capture a wide range of stakeholders (communities, artisans, rural finance institutions, DAs, traditional leaders, CBOS, NGOs etc)
- Corruption and lack of accountability.
- Political interests (national level)
- Development targeting.



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# Technological challenges

Lack of cultural flexibility, awareness and sensitivity in the development of technologies that recognise, respect and value culture constitute the technological challenge.

Technological challenges have to do with two dimensions: the physical conditions which determine what technologies might work and the expectations of consumers.

- Are the cultural aspects considered?
- geophysical conditions that do not support technologies.
- Poor technological research and development.
- Some technologies are not sustainable.
- poor technology marketing.



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# What can be done

- Given this economic reality, cheap solutions to the sanitation problem need to be explored.
  - Hygienic practices which build on indigenous experience and knowledge and social norms and expectations;
  - Technologies which take into account, amongst others, socio-cultural preferences, affordability, local materials and building practices, and long-term sustainability;
    - sector based assessments to provide a forum for reviewing progress against commitments made.
  - Encourage spirit of partnership, transparency and commitment to principles of aid effectiveness.
- Provide information and data to improve targeting of existing resources.



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## What can be done.....continued

- Provide political and financial decision-makers with both the evidence to support investing in sanitation.
- Political platform to encourage strong international, regional and national commitment to sanitation
- Greater harmonisation and alignment of support.
- Provide information, lessons learned and technical assistance where necessary to help develop national planning frameworks.
- Marketing and Promotion based on use of media advertisement but also involves a wide scope of other activities



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# Thank you



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