



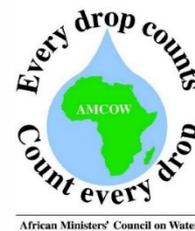
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A knowledge asset of the African Ministers' Council on Water

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# Thoughts on achieving universal basic sanitation and progress against the Ngor Declaration

Analysis of country reports on the Ngor Commitment on Sanitation and Hygiene provides some insights that, whilst not necessarily causal, are interesting to consider going forward.

Across Southern African countries, overall countries with higher enabling environment scores (stage 1 indicators) have higher access to (at least) basic sanitation.

Several countries had the enabling environment in place to be able to report on commitment progress (stage 2 indicators). Countries with higher access reported a stronger enabling environment and more progress against national objectives in urban areas but, on the other hand, less progress against national objectives in rural areas.

## KEY TO UNDERSTANDING THE COMMITMENTS PROGRESS

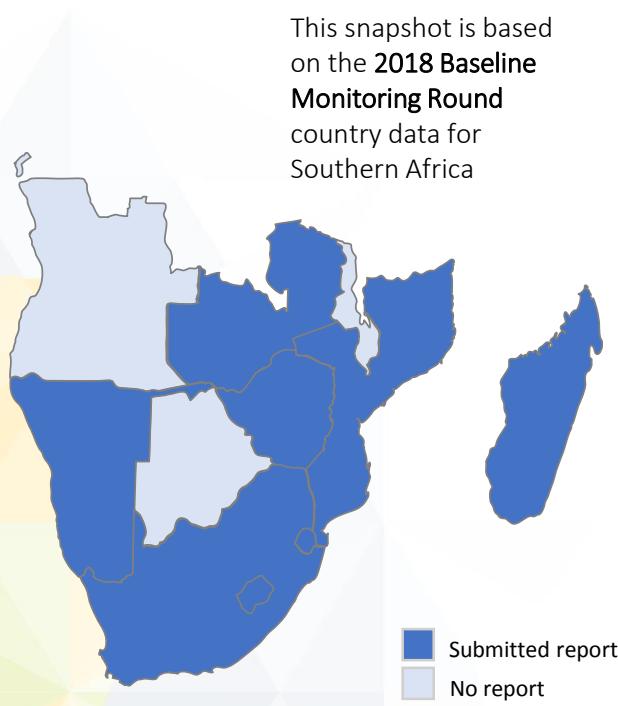
### SYMBOLS:



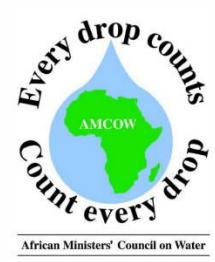
**Stage 1 indicators:** Each segment of the circle represents a country in the region that has reported on the commitment. Segment colour denotes the country's enabling environment score for that commitment.

**Stage 2 indicators:** Each bar represents a country in the region that has reported on stage 2 indicators for the commitment. Bar colour denotes the country's progress score. Grey segments are reporting countries that have not reached stage 2.

Progress against each commitment can be seen at a glance, mostly green segments or bars show good progress, whilst mostly red segments or bars show limited progress.



Footnotes:  
 (1) Source: Monitoring the eThekweni Commitments on Sanitation endline report (AfricaSan 4 report, 2015)  
 (2) The Sustainable Development Goal 6 2018 Synthesis Report. UN-Water, 2018.  
 (3) Date source: Progress on drinking water, sanitation, and hygiene: 2017 update and SDG baselines. Geneva: WHO and UNICEF, 2017. See <https://washdata.org/sites/default/files/documents/reports/2018-01/JMP-2017-report-final.pdf> for definitions  
 (4) Hygiene data presented refers to the 8 countries in the region with data available on handwashing with soap.



# Southern Africa Snapshot

## MONITORING THE NGOR COMMITMENTS ON SANITATION AND HYGIENE

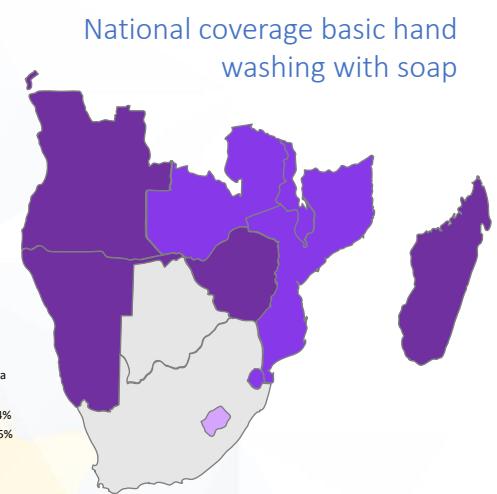
In 2015 African Ministers responsible for Sanitation and Hygiene adopted the Ngor Declaration on Sanitation and Hygiene. The Ngor monitoring process captures progress against the Ngor vision, and the Ngor commitments both in terms of whether the building blocks of the enabling environment are in place, and subsequently progress against country-specific targets. The key findings of the baseline monitoring in Southern Africa include:

- Across the region there has been good progress against the commitment to establish leadership and coordination structures. This is a key area which drives progress in the sector<sup>(1)</sup>.
- The commitment to develop and fund strategies to bridge the human resources capacity gap, and to establish budgets for sanitation and hygiene remain critical bottlenecks which threaten to undermine progress in Southern Africa. Financing and capacity have both been identified as constraints to SDG 6 globally<sup>(2)</sup>.
- Progress in eliminating untreated waste, and encouraging its productive re-use is also limited.

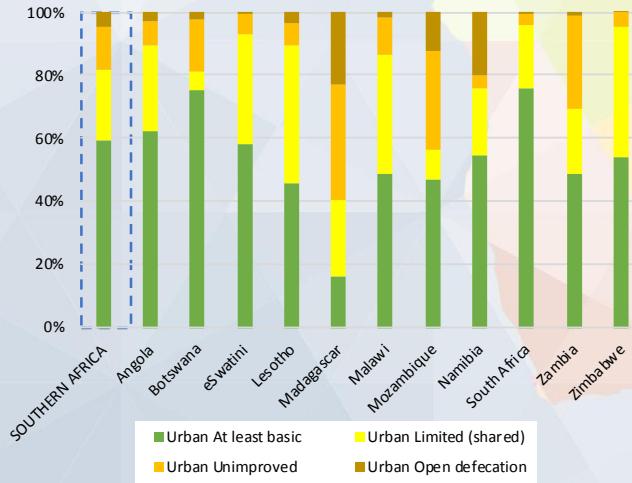
### TRACKING THE NGOR DECLARATION VISION

## Achieve universal access to adequate and sustainable sanitation and hygiene services and eliminate open defecation by 2030

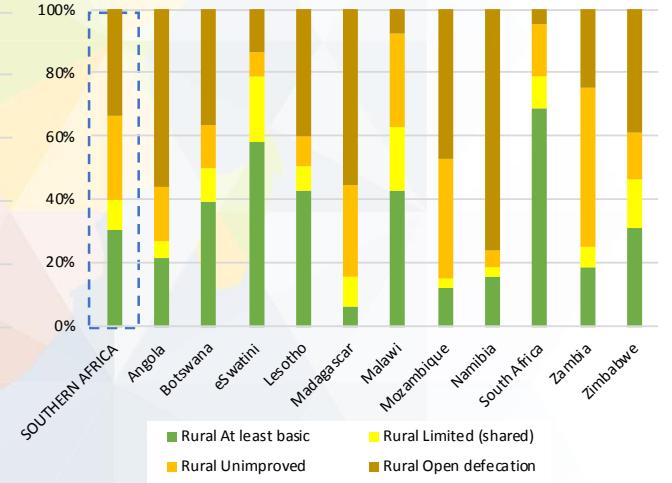
- The vision of the Ngor Commitments on Sanitation and Hygiene predates, but closely aligns to SDG targets 1.4 and 6.2.
- Approximately one third of region's rural population, and 60% of the urban population have access to at least basic sanitation<sup>(3)</sup>.
- Open defecation is a predominantly rural issue in Southern Africa, one third of the rural population practice open defecation. Three countries in the region have rural open defecation rates over 50%<sup>(2)</sup>.
- Hygiene practice is also low – only 17% rural and 38% urban households in the region have basic handwashing with soap facilities<sup>(3,4)</sup>.



### Urban sanitation



### Rural sanitation



# Ngor Commitments on Sanitation and Hygiene

## SOUTHERN AFRICA BASELINE PROGRESS OVERVIEW



### THE NGOR COMMITMENTS ON SANITATION AND HYGIENE

#### PROGRESS AT A GLANCE

(Key pg 4)

En Env't Progress

#### WHERE ARE WE NOW?

Summary of progress and bottlenecks across the region

Want to learn more? In the region these countries have reported good progress in this commitment.

<p>1. Focus on the poorest, most marginalised and unserved aimed at <b>progressively eliminating inequalities in access and use</b> and implement national and local strategies with an emphasis on equity and sustainability</p>		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Overall there has been little progress on achieving this commitment in most countries.</li> <li>Most countries have established sanitation and hygiene strategic plans which address the needs of the poorest, most marginalised and unserved populations, but implementation is limited; and few countries have carried out assessments to understand the needs of the poorest and most vulnerable.</li> <li>Across the region countries have made poor progress on evaluating sustainability and tracking customer satisfaction.</li> </ul>	
<p>2. <b>Mobilise support and resources</b> at the highest political level for sanitation and hygiene to disproportionately prioritise sanitation and hygiene in national development plans</p>		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Across Southern African countries there has been some progress on mobilizing support and resources for sanitation and hygiene. There is a high degree of alignment between national visions and the SDGs, and sanitation and hygiene policies are well established and adopted at the highest political level.</li> <li>However funding and implementation of sub-national sanitation and hygiene plans is a limitation that remains to be addressed.</li> <li>No countries report being on track to meet sanitation and hygiene objectives in national sector policies.</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>✓ Mozambique</li> <li>✓ South Africa</li> </ul>
<p>3. Establish and track <b>sanitation and hygiene budget lines</b> that consistently increase annually to reach a minimum of 0.5% GDP by 2020</p>		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Progress in establishing budget lines for sanitation and hygiene is limited in Southern Africa.</li> <li>Investment planning and budget tracking is poor - while Zambia and Mozambique report having an investment plan for sanitation and hygiene which is aligned to SDG targets (1.4 and 6.2), half have no investment plan at all.</li> <li>Of key concern is that most countries report that the sanitation budget is not increasing and has not reached 0.5% of GDP.</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>✓ Zambia</li> </ul>
<p>4. Ensure <b>strong leadership and coordination</b> at all levels to build and sustain governance for sanitation and hygiene across sectors especially water, health, nutrition, education, gender and the environment</p>		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>In the Southern Africa region, ensuring that leadership for sanitation and hygiene is clear and that coordination is effective at all levels has performed the most strongly of all the Ngor Commitments.</li> <li>Almost all countries in the region report that there is a government body with a clear mandate to lead and coordinate sanitation and hygiene activities at national and sub-national level.</li> <li>All countries reported that multiple sectors are engaged in coordination activities (between 3-6 sectors).</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>✓ Namibia</li> <li>✓ Zambia</li> <li>✓ Swaziland</li> <li>✓ South Africa</li> </ul>
<p>5. Develop and fund strategies to <b>bridge the sanitation and hygiene human resource capacity gap</b> at all levels</p>		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Addressing the sanitation and hygiene capacity gap with well-defined and funded strategies is the least well-performing of all the Ngor commitments in the region, in both urban and rural settings.</li> <li>One country reported having carried out an assessment of HR needs. However no countries in the region reported having national targets and milestones for human resources in either stand alone, or sanitation and hygiene strategies.</li> <li>Without accelerated action to address human resource capacity needs, progress in sanitation and hygiene will be undermined.</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>✓ Zambia</li> </ul>
<p>6. Ensure inclusive, safely-managed sanitation services and functional hand-washing <b>facilities in public institutions and spaces</b></p>		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>In Southern Africa there has been poor progress in institutional sanitation and hygiene, including ensuring inclusive, safely managed sanitation and hygiene services are available in urban and rural settings.</li> <li>Approximately half of countries report having standards, targets and milestones for sanitation and hygiene services in some, if not all, institutional settings.</li> <li>However, most targets are off-track for school and health facility sanitation and hygiene services.</li> </ul>	
<p>7. Progressively <b>eliminate untreated waste</b>, encouraging its productive use;</p>		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Progress in eliminating untreated waste, and encouraging productive re-use is limited in the region, especially in urban areas.</li> <li>While countries report that faecal sludges management (FSM) regulations are in place to govern disposal or re-use of faecal waste they are not enforced, and FSM is not consistently included in ODF and other sanitation service definitions.</li> <li>Whilst some countries have carried out an assessment of faecal waste disposal, no country in the region has established a mechanism through which untreated fecal waste is tracked.</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>✓ Zimbabwe</li> </ul>
<p>8. Enable and <b>engage the private sector</b> in developing innovative sanitation and hygiene products and services especially for the marginalised and unserved;</p>		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Private sector engagement in sanitation and hygiene which benefits the poorest is limited in Southern Africa.</li> <li>In most cases existing private sector engagement strategies do not include targets for the marginalized and unserved.</li> <li>Five of the 8 countries that reported, gave examples of private sector inputs successfully reaching marginalised and unserved populations, but these are not at scale.</li> </ul>	
<p>9. Establish <b>government-led monitoring</b>, reporting, evaluation, learning and review systems;</p>		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>There has been some progress in establishing government-led monitoring and review systems in the region.</li> <li>Whilst most countries report having country sanitation and hygiene monitoring systems in place, only one reported that data is made available for use by all government and partners.</li> <li>Most countries report having an inclusive sector review process, which is aligned to the SDG targets, and of those half reported that review recommendations are funded and implemented.</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>✓ Zimbabwe</li> <li>✓ Swaziland</li> <li>✓ Zambia</li> <li>✓ Madagascar</li> <li>✓ Mozambique</li> </ul>
<p>10. Enable continued active <b>engagement with AMCOV's AfricaSan process</b></p>		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Southern African countries have a fairly consistent history of active engagement in the AfricaSan movement.</li> </ul>	