



Ministry of Sanitation and Water Resources
6th National Sanitation Stocktaking Forum
17 July 2018 at NODA Hotel, Fumesua-Kumasi

Increasing Access to Basic Sanitation in Ghana with the Poor and Vulnerable in mind



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Introduction



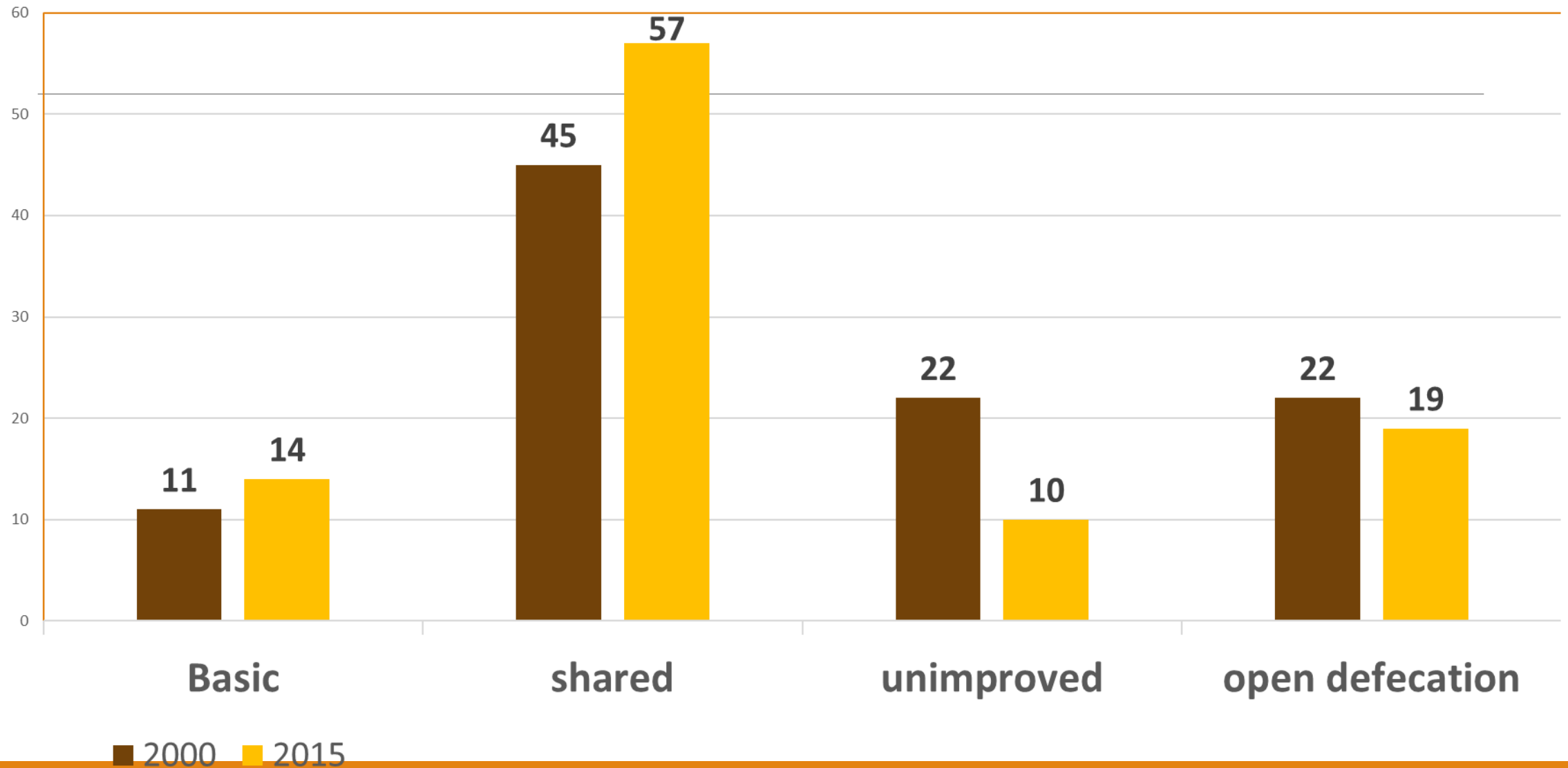


For every complex problem, there is a solution that is
simple, neat, and wrong.

(H. L. Mencken)

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SANITATION SITUATION IN GHANA: COMPARING 2000 AND 2015



- About 1 out of 5 Households practice Open Defaecation
- There is a huge inequity gap between the rich and the poor
 - The Poor is 22 times likely to practice open defaecation than the rich
- Most Poor and Vulnerable in Ghana are not able to build their own household toilets. This may be due to disabilities, funding, materials and other such related reasons
- The consequences of poor sanitation affect the poor and the vulnerable most
- The 2010 Environmental Sanitation Policy of Ghana recognizes the need to support the poor: “...*The principles of improving **equity** and gender sensitivity and community participation and **social intermediation***”

- Sanitation SDG 6.2

*By 2030, achieve access to adequate and **equitable** sanitation and hygiene **for all** and end open defaecation, paying special attention to the needs of women and girls and those in vulnerable situations.*

Normative Interpretation of 'equitable' and 'for all'

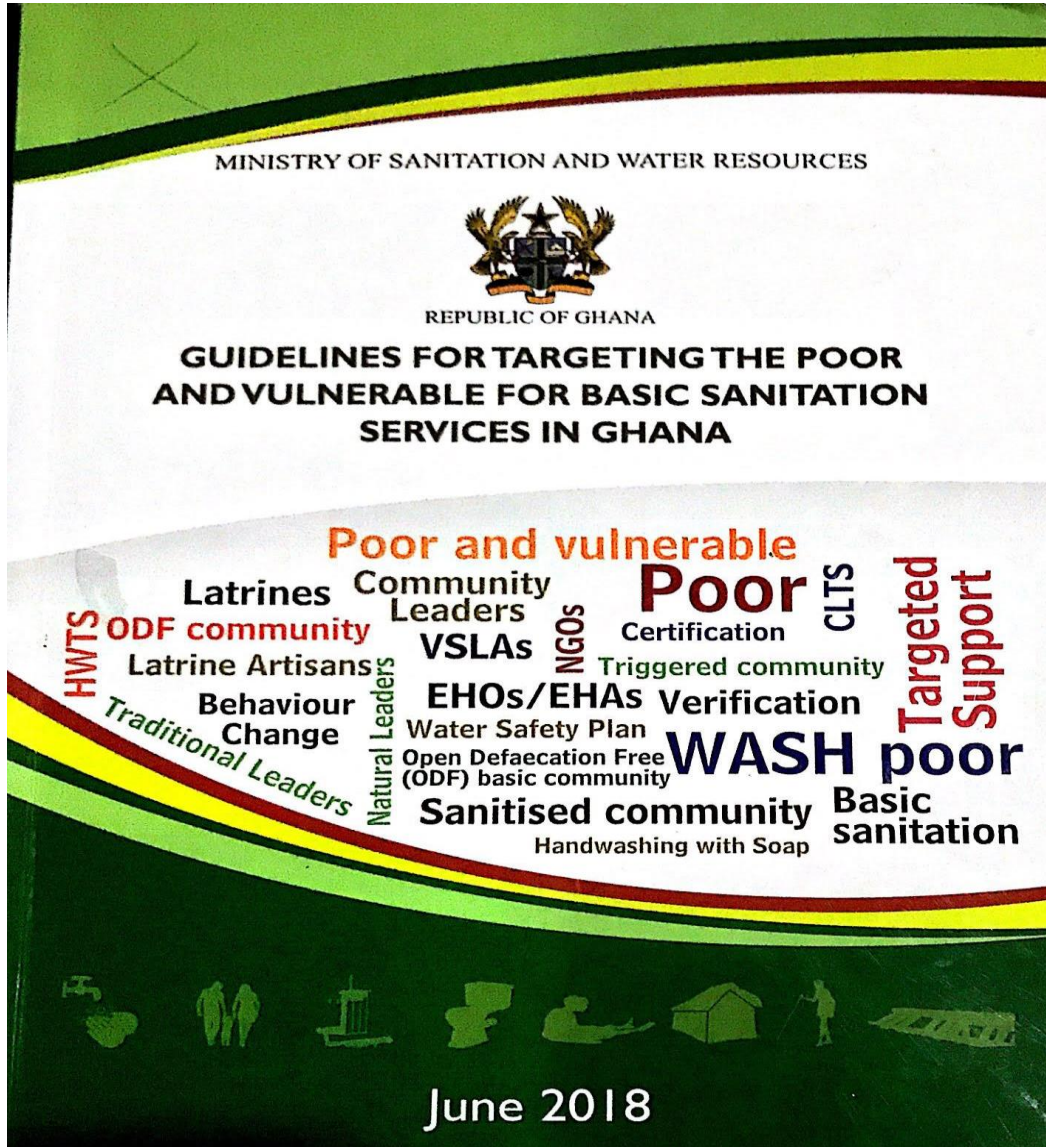
Equitable: Progressive reduction and elimination of inequalities between population sub groups

For all: Suitable for use by men, women, girls and boys of all ages including people living with disability

- **6.7million** Ghanaians are extremely poor.
- **1 out of 12** Ghanaians are extremely poor
- **About 25% of Ghanaians** are extremely poor and live on GHC2.17 a day

Source: GSS, 2014

- Several Sanitation Project Assessment Reports have recognized that Poor people exist in our communities and need to be supported to ensure **equitable** and **all inclusive** sanitation service delivery.
- However, there is no clear cut strategic direction for supporting the Poor for basic sanitation in Ghana
- Hence the MSWR, with support from key sanitation stakeholders, developed the **Guidelines for targeting the Poor and Vulnerable for basic sanitation service.**
- Why this Guideline?;
 - One of the decisions points from the 5th NSF
 - Response to sector needs
 - Help in achieving Ghana's SDGs faster
 - Will **ensure equity** and **inclusion**
 - Resilient Toilet facilities



Preface by Hon. Minister for SWR (Page v):

“The Guideline is informed by **low sanitation access rates** in Ghana, which is considered as one of the biggest threats to socio-economic development of the country. The Ministry is not oblivious to the **urgent need for Ghana to double its steps in increasing access to toilets and work towards sustainable measures to ensure everyone living everywhere in Ghana has a household toilet facility to use**”.





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Guidelines for targeting the Poor and Vulnerable for basic sanitation service

1. What is it?

- It is a national guideline for targeting and providing basic sanitation services for the poor and vulnerable
- Serves as a working document for all stakeholders in the sanitation and hygiene sector in Ghana.

2. Goal

To contribute to improved health, dignity and quality of life for all people;

3. Objective

To achieve 100% Open Defaecation Free (ODF) status and **equitable** and adequate access to sanitation and hygiene for all by 2030, **with special emphasis for the poor and vulnerable**.

4. Guiding Principles

- **CLTS approach** as the entry point, to target the poor and vulnerable individuals and households
- Support may be given **on a case-by-case basis**, based on issues, underpinned by proven or demonstrated poverty, and not to be given wholesale to poor and vulnerable individuals or households;

Guidelines for targeting the Poor and Vulnerable for basic sanitation service.../2

4. Guiding Principles

- The process of identifying and **targeting** poor and vulnerable persons will be **done by the MMDAs, in consultation with and led by community members.**
- Minimum standards and O&M protocols, as prescribed in the **Rural Sanitation Model and Strategy (RSMS)**, will be adhered to by all stakeholders intending to provide basic sanitation services to the poor and vulnerable;
- The Guideline encourages the use of **indigenous knowledge in identifying, targeting** and providing basic sanitation services to the poor and vulnerable;
- **User education** will be given to stakeholders at the community level and the MMDAs to ensure sustainability of sanitary facilities provided;
- To track policy implementation effectively and provide continuous improvement in responding to emerging challenges in the sector, **a framework for monitoring and evaluation at all levels** within the sector will be developed as part of the implementation plan for this guideline;

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5. Support to the Poor and Vulnerable

- Priority will be given to households or individuals, and will be considered from communities that are **certified as ODF Basic by the MICCS/DICCS**.
- The **support to be given to the poor and vulnerable will be guided** by the following criteria:
 - **Beneficiaries** selected under existing Pro-poor programmes (e.g. **LEAP, NHIS, GSOP**)
 - **Female-headed** households without adequate social support system
 - **PLWDs/PLWHA** without support or means of livelihood
 - The **Aged** (60 years and above), that have no external support
 - **Outcasts/marginalised** groups of persons with no external support and are demonstrably poor and/or vulnerable
 - Persons who are **not gainfully employed** and have no external, regular source of income/external support system
 - **Terminally ill** persons, with no external support system
 - Households with **orphans or vulnerable children (OVC)**
 - **Widow/widower** without external support.

Steps for Providing Support

Stage 1:

Implementing agency will trigger the process of the identification/targeting the poor and the vulnerable, who can benefit from the support to be given.

Stage 2:

Designated WASH staff within MMDAs will then enter beneficiary communities to sensitize the community.

Stage 3:

Natural Leaders in consultation with the traditional authorities will then initiate the process of identifying and selecting the poor and vulnerable at the community level.

Stage 4:

Community members, led by Traditional Leaders and Natural Leaders, and under the support and direction of designated MMDA staff, will identify and select (based on the criteria set by this Guideline) the poor and vulnerable within their communities.

Stage 5:

The finalized list will be verified by the TLs and NLs, and support provided.

Stage 6:

The final list of the poor and vulnerable within the communities, will be lodged with the community and the MMDAs.

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6. Sustainability Issues

- In order to be sustainable, a sanitation approach must be **socially acceptable and economically viable**.
- Sustainable sanitation is an approach that considers sanitation **holistically**. It recognises that human excreta and wastewater are not waste products, but a valuable resource.
- Sanitation issues should be dealt **with separately from water issues**, so that targeting the poor and vulnerable can be effectively addressed.
- O&M protocols should be **adhered to** as prescribed in the **Rural Sanitation Model and Strategy** document.
- **Action plans for ODF-certified communities** should also be considered in the process of selecting poor and vulnerable people.

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7. Financing

- The cost of providing support for deprived and vulnerable segments of the population is expected to be **integrated into existing programmes** to ensure sustainability of the initiative.
- All implementing agencies should work through **existing agencies** specialized in identifying, targeting and meeting the needs of the disadvantaged population.
- The **MMDAs** in consultation with the Ghana National Household Registry, **will map all poor and vulnerable households and individuals within communities**. Such individuals and households will benefit from direct support by the Government of Ghana (GoG) through national level budget allocations, funds or other statutory bodies that may be created by law, or by the MMDAs
- This Guideline should guide the **involvement of local small-scale private sector providers of sanitation services**.
- This Guideline **encourages the introduction of water tariffs** in communities that have reliable water supply. Part of this tariff can be used to provide support **to the poor and the vulnerable** in the provision of basic sanitation services.

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8. Enforcement

- All MMDAs will draft and gazette sanitation bye-laws to include issues on Pro-poor targeting.
- All stakeholders and partners are encouraged to adhere to this Guideline to ensure the acceleration of progress towards the attainment of the SDG Goal 6.

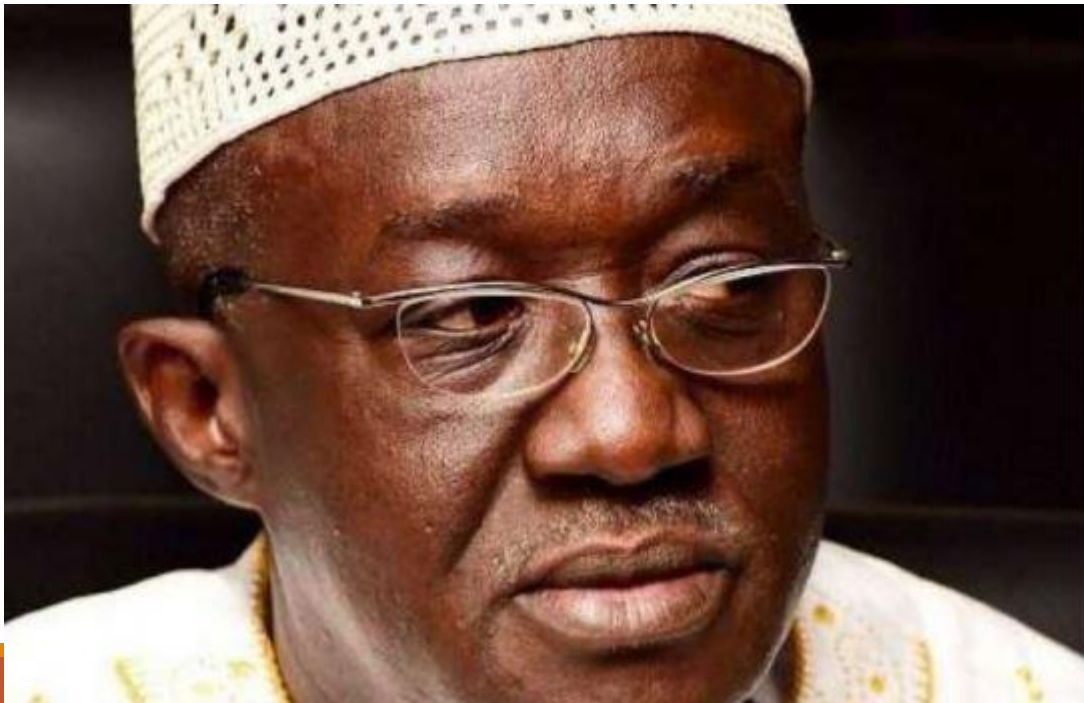
8. Review of the Guidelines

- This guideline shall be reviewed as regularly as practicable but it shall be subjected to revision and updates every five (5) years or earlier when the social, cultural and economic contexts or indicators change and as directed by the Ministry of Sanitation and Water Resources.
- Any two (2) major sector-implementing partners with valid indicators may also petition the Ministry to trigger the process.

Conclusion

“The guideline will also serve as a working document and further provide direction and guidance for all stakeholders in the sanitation and hygiene sector in Ghana”.

“Thus, all actions would take alignment from this guideline to ensure harmonization of our collective actions and purpose, to augment our efforts in attaining the country’s Sustainable Development Goals on Sanitation and Hygiene”



MSWR is grateful to the following;

1. Theodora Adomako-Adjei, CWSA
2. Francisca Atuluk, MGCSP
3. Faustina Ampiah, RCC GAR
4. Emmanuel Odotei, USAID
5. Gabriel Adu-Wusu, UNICEF
6. Niall Boot, UNICEF
7. Matilda Afriyie, WaterAid
8. Alberto Wilde, GC
9. Dominic Osei, GC
10. Emefa Baidoo, GC
11. Augustine Adams, GC
12. Martha Tia-Adjei, GC
13. Emmanuel Nkrumah, WB
14. Vida Duti, IRC
15. Martin Dery, Chair CONIWAS/ ProNet North
16. Attah Arhin, Vice-Chair/CONIWAS WVI
17. Awudu Modoc, APDO
18. Patrick Apoya, Skyfox
19. Dr. Stephen Ntow, WASHealth Solutions
20. Frank Asante, OHLGS
21. Paul Avokah, Dept of C'ty Devt
22. Agartha Quayson, SNV
23. Nash Mohammed, Water Aid
24. Paul Nustugah, GEHOA
25. Freda Naatu, RCC UWR
26. Juventius Asaayeri, RCC UER
27. John Donkor, RCC WR
28. Felix Bonsotui, RCC VR
29. Shaibu Dawuda, RCC NR
30. Nawaratu Sulemana, RCC BAR
31. Paul Akanaba, RCC AR
32. Isaac Bassanyin, RCC ER
33. Michael Dobgey RCC GAR
34. Staff from selected Districts(26)
35. Consultants(3)
36. Etc, etc

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Thank You all for your Support

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