



Country Snapshot UGANDA

What do we know about water and sanitation in Uganda?

- Out of a population of 31.7 million, our country has 16,595,870 people without adequate sanitation and 10,289,000 people without access to water.ⁱ
- Poor water and sanitation leads to high mortality rates and risk of disease. We have an infant mortality rate of 130 deaths per 1000 births and 26,000 children under five die each year from diarrhoea.ⁱⁱ
- 13 percent of our country's population live in urban areas and there is a 4.4% rate of urbanisation per year.ⁱⁱⁱ These rapidly increasing urban settlements lack sufficient sanitation facilities for the population. In addition, 30.3% of populations in rural areas lack access to adequate sanitation and hygiene facilities.^{iv}
- Uganda is not on target to meet the Millennium Development Goals for water and sanitation by 2015 and the current population growth rate of 3.2% will triple the demand on water by 2035.

What do we need to tell the political leadership?

- We all must raise awareness of the necessity for sanitation and right to water. This will strengthen our country and work towards the Millennium Development Goals to reduce poverty levels. The lack of access to sanitation and hygiene facilities negatively impacts our country's public health, access to education and economic development.
- Ask our leaders to prioritise the maintenance of water facilities to ensure high levels of functionality, by reviewing the community based maintenance systems, including the private sector through contractual agreements and supporting implementation by NGOs.
- Government has the responsibility to provide water and sanitation for everyone in Uganda. There must be increased investment and budgeting, especially at the district and local levels. Ask government to prepare a long-term investment plan to bridge the current funding gap for safe water and sanitation.
- With another election occurring this February 2011, we must ask government to recognise the importance of water and sanitation.

ⁱ JMP 2008

ⁱⁱ WaterAid Uganda, http://www.wateraid.org/international/what_we_do/where_we_work/uganda/default.asp, World Bank (2010) World Development Indicators database - databank.worldbank.org, UNICEF (2010) State of the World's Children 2009 and WHO (2010) World Health Statistics 2010, WHO / UNICEF (2010) Joint Monitoring Programme (JMP) report 2010, UNDP (2009) Human Development Report 2010

ⁱⁱⁱ CIA World Factbook (2008-10 est)

^{iv} Water and Environment Sector Performance Report (2010)