Capacity Building Workshop for Improving the Performance of Water Utilities in Africa Region

Water for African Cities – Issues and Challenges in Urban and Peri-urban Areas

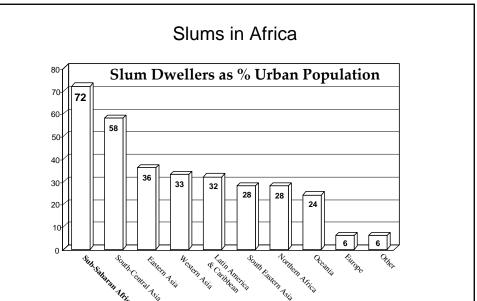
6-8 December 2006

By Daniel Adom, UN-HABITAT

Nairobi, Kenya

Africa and Urbanisation

- Africa has the world's most rapid urbanization growth with an annual average of urban growth of 4.0%, almost two times faster than Latin America and Asia.
- With 35.7 percent of its population in urban areas in 2003, it is estimated that 87 per cent of the population growth in Africa will take place in urban areas over the next two decades.



In 2015, it is estimated that the urban slum population in Africa is likely to reach 332
million, not considering, e.g the undetermined impacts of HIV/AIDS and human-made
disasters on population growth and slum formation, particularly in cities.

Slum incidence and indicators of human development

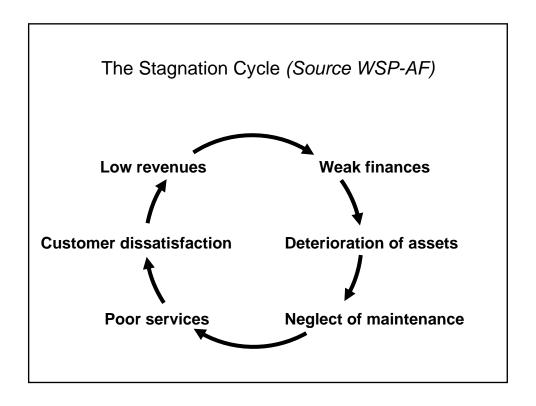
Slum Incidence	Slum Dwellers (% of urban pop)	Life Expectancy at Birth	Adult Literacy Rate	Combined Gross Enrolment Ratio (%)	GDP per Capita (US\$ PPP)
Very High	More than 60	52.8	58.5	46.7	2332
High	30-60	66.6	81.3	67.0	5096
Medium	8-30	70.4	84.7	70.7	7526
Low	Less than 8	73.7	93.5	79.7	15892

Note: Combined gross ratio includes primary, secondary and tertiary enrolment Source: The State of the World's Cities, UN-HABITAT, 2004

• the higher the ratio of population living in slums the lower the level of human development.

How Many People Lack Access to Safe Water

Region	Urban dwellers without improved provision		Urban dwellers without 'adequate' provision		
	Water	Sanitation	Water	Sanitation	
All Developing Regions	171 million	394 million	680 – 970 million	850 – 1130 million	
Africa	44 million (15 per cent)	46 million (16 per cent)	100 – 150 million (35 – 50 per cent)	150 – 180 million (50 - 60 per cent)	
Asia	98 million (7 per cent)	297 million (22 per cent)	500-700 million (35 - 50 per cent)	600-800 million (45 - 60 per cent)	
Latin America & the Caribbean	29 million (7 per cent)	51 million (13 per cent)	80-120 million (20 - 30 per cent)	100-150 million (25 - 40 per cent)	

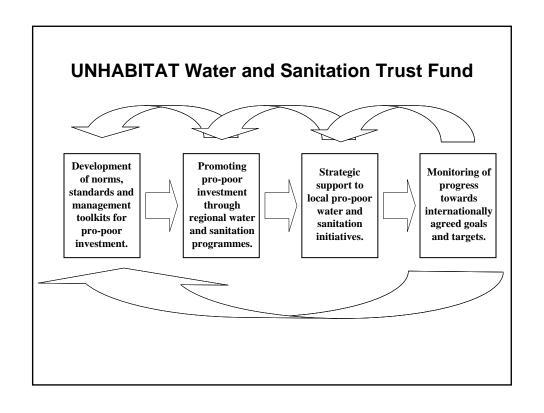


Constraints

- Lack of sustained political will commensurate with the dimensions and complexity of addressing the needs of the poor and other vulnerable and disadvantaged groups, especially with regard to promoting access to affordable water and basic sanitation services;
- Gap between policy and implementation;
- Inadequate legal/regulatory frameworks and weak institutional arrangements without clear allocation of responsibility, thus leading to duplication, gaps, conflict and competition;
- Ineffectiveness of mechanisms to engage the poor themselves, consider gender needs, particularly of women and children and provide an appropriate enabling framework to harness the potential contribution of these marginalised groups;

Constraints (contd)

- Difficulties in scaling-up/replication of successful approaches and good practices of affordable, demand-driven services delivery that target the poor;
- Shortage of qualified and experienced human resources often exacerbated by high staff turnover from central and local government institutions/utilities charged with responsibility for provision of services;
- Investment constraints related to leveraging more finance from the private sector for basic service delivery in urban centres in Africa. The investment constraints also relate to the issues of inadequate governance mechanisms including policy/regulatory frameworks, level of decentralization, and the ranking of water supply and basic services in PRSPs;
- Poor urban land management leading to unplanned settlements or slums, often the response to the absence of sound urban land management.



Water for African Cities: Background

- Rapid urbanization in Africa and worsening water and sanitation situation was the basis for Cape Town declaration adopted by African Ministers in 1999 that led to UN-HABITAT's WAC Phase I (1999-2002) with seven cities in the programme. Tanzania joined in later
- Evaluation of WAC I undertaken in 2003 and recommendations made to inform a subsequent phase of the programme.

Recommended Approach

- 1. multi-faceted and holistic approach to programme development and implementation, including establishing strategic partnerships with regional/international Development Partners to ensure follow up investments for scaling up activities
- 2. build capacity in local authorities, and strengthen WATSAN institutions through training programmes and other measures.
- 3. address six thematic priority areas in WAC II, viz
- pro-poor governance to facilitate follow-up investment;
- Sanitation for the urban poor;
- Urban catchment management;
- Water demand management;
- Water education in schools and communities;
- Advocacy, awareness-raising, and information exchange.
- 4. The crosscutting themes of gendermainstreaming and training/capacity building is pursued in all the thematic areas for sustainability.

WAC II Design and Launch

- > Activities in the 6 thematic areas are designed to:
 - indirectly improve access to WATSAN services through capacity building activities to create conducive environment for pro-poor WATSAN investment
 - implement direct impact demonstration interventions to benefit the poor in the participating cities with a focus on participatory involvement of local communities in the interventions
- WAC II was launched by African Ministers (AMCOW) in Addis Ababa in December 2003.

Country Level Programmes

- > WAC II currently involves 14 participating countries (17 Cities).
- ➤ In order to effectively implement the programme activities, partnerships have been built with WATSAN utilities, municipalities and NGOs (e.g. ENDA RUP/EauP, WaterAid, CREPA, ERHA, etc.) to jointly implement activities on the ground

Regionwide Programmes

- > Developing and implementing a gendermainstreaming strategy initiative in partnership with GWA.
- > Training and Capacity building programmes in partnership with IHE and FCM
- > Water Education in schools
- > Advocacy, awareness creation and information exchange