

Agenda For Change



WHAT is it?

A collaboration of nongovernmental organizations, governments, and financing organizations (private and government) who have recognized that they can achieve more in WASH services by working together than independently.

WHAT is the goal?

The goal of the Agenda For Change members is to promote harmonized district level work to ensure everyone in the Districts has adequate WASH services; ensure that national level systems are in place to enable all Districts in the countries to reach everyone and that systems are in place to forever.

The principles of Agenda For Change are well aligned with SDG 6 – *ensure availability and sustainable management of water and sanitation for all*.

WHY is it different?

Working together collaboratively we can accelerate the pace of change towards SDG 6 and at the same time better mitigate the impacts of climate change through development of sustainable water supply approaches (looking towards COP 22 and beyond). It is a demonstration of the Sanitation and Water for All (SWA) collaborative behaviors for effective, equitable and sustainable development cooperation in the water, sanitation and hygiene (WASH) sector:

1. Enhance government leadership of sector planning process
2. Strengthen and use country systems
3. Use one information and mutually agreeable platform
4. Build sustainable water and sanitation sector financing strategies

WHAT are the expected outcomes?

To be able to achieve Sustainable Development Goal 6 (SDG 6) for universal access to water and sanitation by 2030 requires a fundamental change in the way we in the water, sanitation and hygiene (WASH) sector work.

Accelerating our work to deliver positive change in WASH sector performance necessitates a system-wide approach that tackles all dimensions of policy, financing, and institutions - key building blocks of the WASH sector. This requires a reform agenda, or Agenda For Change, based on sound understanding of the political economy at three levels of decision making: district (local/regional) national and global.

The Agenda For Change is a collaborative effort to provide support for national governments. Through application of agreed best-practice principles and tools we will develop a set of core country indicators for systems strengthening that includes (among others):

- Set of tools developed and promoted by the Country hubs (e.g, asset management, budget tracking, technology assessment framework, citizen score cards, etc.)
- Concerted action at national level to build capacity for universal access
- Appropriate budget allocations set at national level for CapEx and OpEx
- National water and sanitation investment plans developed
- District water and sanitation investment plans created (CapEx and OpEx, including water resources management to mitigate climate change)
- District government capacity built to achieve sustainable operations and maintenance (Forever phase) covered by OpEx
- District-wide service levels are adequate, as measured at household level
- Behavior change by system users demonstrated by paying for service
- Criteria for NGO exit established
- Awareness and capacity for Agenda For Change practice increased in nongovernmental organizations, government, and funders

WHERE are we working together?

We have identified Ghana, Uganda, Rwanda, Malawi and Honduras as countries that are ready for rapid progress, and where we will work together to align our programming and build our network for collective action. The networks/hubs are in the process of developing the road maps to achieve universal access based on the local context. We already have the confidence of governments in these countries, and agreement to work together towards universal coverage and sustained access for **everyone, everywhere, forever**.

WHO is part of this collaboration?



WHAT comes next? We are committed to applying this collective action strategy as part of our regular operations. Furthermore, we are looking for new partners that share our vision and additional funding to support the objectives mentioned. Together we can have a catalytic effect – speeding progress towards achievement of SDG 6 and our vision of a global WASH sector that is no longer reliant on external aid.