



water & sanitation

Department:
Water and Sanitation
REPUBLIC OF SOUTH AFRICA

Gap Analysis Report

SDG 6b: "Support and strengthen the participation of local communities for improving water and sanitation management"

January 2021

1. INTRODUCTION

This indicator is intended to show the degree of participation of local communities in water and sanitation planning and management, which is essential for ensuring that the needs of all people are being met. It measures the country planning procedures to ensure that communities are involved in water and sanitation planning and management.

2. PURPOSE OF THIS REPORT

The purpose of the report is to assess the differences in performance SDG6b to determine whether requirements are being met and, if not, what steps should be taken to ensure they are met successfully.

3. SDG 6B TASK TEAM

The DWS SDG 6b Task Team has been established within the Branch Planning & Information, reporting to the SDG 6b Working Group which is lead by Mr. Bekubuhle Mbentse as a team leader. The Task Team is known as the SDG 6b and is chaired by the Director: Urban and Rural Water Management with the support of Task Team members. Participation may be extended to other Chief Directorate and external stakeholders if required, for example STATSSA, NT, CoGTA, MISA, SALGA and WRC, etc.

4. FUNCTIONS OF SDG6B TASK TEAM

4.1 There are 2 key functional areas for which this Task Team is responsible. These include

4.1.1. Reporting National progress towards achieving SDG6b by 2030

4.1.2. General operational activities pertaining to the Task Team objective

4.2 These 2 Functions can be unpacked as follows:

4.2.1. Reporting National progress towards achieving SDG6b by 2030

- Develop a reporting framework, implement systems and processes required to report progress regarding achievement of this particular task team SDG6b target.
- Report on progress of this particular task team annually

4.2.2. General Operations

- To coordinate monthly/quarterly meeting as required with each of the Task Team members to assess progress, challenges and other points of discussion.
- The Task Team leader will be responsible to coordinate work within the Task Team and allocate tasks to members as required in order to meet the objectives.
- To provide quarterly progress reports to the SDG6 task team on the status of the Target / Global Indicators and mitigation measures to address challenges that exist.
- The Task Team Leader to participate on the Quarterly SDG6 Working Group meetings.
- To provide quarterly progress reports to the SDG 6 Working Group relating to the Task Team Functions.
- To consider other areas of importance relating to the target as they arise and assess the level of support, if any.
- To consider other areas of importance relating to the Target / Global Indicators as they arise and assess the level of support, if any.
- To review ToR every year in line with the action plan.
- To implement the Action Plan of the Task Team.
- Complete the Global Indicator reports given from the United Nations, through the Programme Coordinator.

5. TASK TEAM MEMBERS

Name	Unit	Tel	Email
Bekubuhle Mbentse (Team Leader)	Urban and Rural Water Management	012 336 7451/ 082 941 6994	mbentseb@dws.gov.za
Rikhotso Vongani	Urban and Rural Water Management	012 336 6512/ 071 852 4841	Rikhotsov@dws.gov.za
Matidza Thabo	Water Services Sector Development	012 336 6636	MatidzaT@dws.gov.za
Mathabela, Nangamso	Water Use Efficiency	012 336 7127/ 082 808 5645	qtw@dwaf.gov.za

Silo Kheva (MP)	Planning and Information	013 759 7313/ 082 804 9252	khevas@dwa.gov.za
Qwabe Vincent (NW)	Planning and Information	018 387 9500/ 082 928 4096	QwabeV@dws.gov.za
Rachel Mpe(NW)	Planning and Information	018 387 9505/ 082 804 8730	mper@dws.gov.za
Kolokoto Rabasotho Titus (NW)		018 387 9568/	KolokotoR@dws.gov.za
Tendamudzimu Rasikhanya	Water Policy	012 336 6561/ 083 437 1781	RasikhanyaT@dws.gov.za
Mahasha Matome	Institutional Oversight	012 336 6717/ 083 652 5043	mahasham@dws.gov.za
Tshikovhele Solomon	Stakeholder Empowerment	012 336 8274/ 083 232 7436	TshikovheleS@dws.gov.za
Maseko Sibusiso	Institutional Oversight	012 336 7323/ 083 708 8694	masekos@dws.gov.za
Mtolo Jabu	Sector programme Management support	012 336 8943/ 082-875-8378	mtoloja@dwaf.gov.za

6. GAPS ANALYSIS METHODOLOGY

The indicator and method of computation provided by the United Nations is quite clear for 6.b.1. The indicator considers the percentage of local administrative units within a country that has established and operational policies and procedures for participation of local communities in water and sanitation management. Department of water and Sanitation (DWS) has considered Water Service Authorities as the local administrative units, which are required to have such policies and procedures in place to unlock funding to implement their business. All Water Service Authorities have policies and procedures in place which includes community participation throughout the project cycle. On this indicator South Africa scores 100% in terms of the criteria provided by the United Nations.

There are 144 Water Service Authorities (both District and Local Municipalities) in South Africa. Each is required by law to develop their own “Integrated Development Plan” (IDP) as a method to plan future development in their areas. The 144 IDP's that are developed annually by the 144 WSA's will be used to check the degree of participation of local communities in water and sanitation planning and management. The formal structures highlighted in the IDP process are called ‘Representative Forums’ namely community stakeholder structures and ward committees. IDPs will not be approved by Government without a community participation policy in place. It is a mandatory document. The number of WSA's that have IDP's in place are used versus those that do not have IDP's which formulate the national picture. As previous reports, the status of 6b target in South Africa remains 100%.

7. CHALLENGES

The current indicator, however does not measure performance in terms of the application of such policies and guidelines. There is no way of measuring whether communities are being included as per the policy/guideline intentions nor what the impact of their participation is towards a particular project – perhaps measured in terms of cost benefits, sustainability, numbers of community members employed etc. DWS requires a new indicator (6.b.2) and a method of computation which will assist in measuring performance linked to 6.b.1

The SDG 6b task team does not have enough capacity and expertise to develop new indicator (6.b.2) and a method of computation which will assist in measuring performance linked to 6.b.1 hence the team leader requested assistance from WRC.

8. ACTION PLAN FOR 2021

With the reference of the of Academy of Science of South Africa (ASSAF) workshop held on the 23 and 24 July 2019 and SDG 6 working group meeting held on the 19th November 2020 it became clear that Department of Water and sanitation (DWS) does not have enough capacity and expertise to develop new indicators for 6.b.2 and a method of computation which will assist in measuring performance linked to 6.b.1.

The SDG 6b task team in collaboration with WRC have started the process to identify research needs related to the development of indicators that adequately reflect the South African context and will enable more accurate and comprehensive reporting on progress towards SDG6b targets. After compiling these needs into a single scope of work, it has become clear that the internal resources and expertise within DWS and WRC are not sufficient to complete the required work. The extent and complexity of the work will require specialist external expertise to supplement and work closely with DWS and WRC staff. Presently it is beyond the ability of DWS to fund this work, hence the request to WRC to consider funding it. The Terms of reference (TOR's) to request WRC fund the project have been routed to the Minister and Chief Executive Officer (CEO) of WRC for their endorsement.

WRC will come up with an additional indicator as well as the method of computation for additional indicator. Part of the scope for reviewing for 6.b.1 will consider the methodology given by the UN and to assess if we are applying in the most useful approach. DWS is considering additional administrative organizations and whom to gain a more accurate picture of the current status. It will be safe to check if outputs in line with the global methods - i.e. if they are producing results that can be used for global reporting. In addition their value for influencing national decision making should be evaluated. The methodology and results should be influence global reporting (UN) well as National reporting. Recommendations for amendments and improvements should be made.

9. CONCLUSION

The WRC will be required to work closely with the DWS SDG 6b task team and ensure that the officials are capacitated in terms of the development of the new indicator (6.b.2) and a method of computation which will assist in measuring performance linked to 6.b.1

The methodology for 6.b.2 will fall in the "additional indicator" category. A new indicator must be recommended that is aligned with 6.b.1 including a method of computation that can provide a quantitative measurement of performance regarding effective community participation and involvement. Consideration must be given to data that is currently accessible and with recommendations for additional information in future. There is also a requirement to set management targets for 6.b.2.

