

RWANDA

Water and Sanitation Profile

| POPULATION AND HEALTH STATISTICS | |
|--|-----------------------------------|
| Population (2008) | 9.7 million ^a |
| Proportion of population living in urban areas (2008) | 18% ^a |
| Average annual urban/rural population growth rates (1990-2008) | 8.1/ 0.8% ^a |
| Under age 5 mortality rate (2007) | 181/1000 live births ^b |
| Under age 5 mortality rate due to diarrheal disease (2004) | 22% ^b |
| <small>Note: Most recently available data provided. ^a World Bank. 2009 World Development Indicators (WDI) Database. ^b World Health Organization (WHO). World Health Statistics 2009.</small> | |

WSS SECTOR OVERVIEW

Rwanda is among the most densely populated countries in Africa, and 60 percent of the population lives below the poverty line. The country has abundant rainfall but lacks necessary storage, collection and catchment systems.¹ With the majority of the population engaged in subsistence agriculture, Rwandans are particularly vulnerable to variations in hydrometeorological conditions. Rwanda's water supply and sanitation (WSS) sector has experienced dramatic improvements in service, sustainability, and coverage since sector reforms began in 2000. A National Water and Sanitation Policy was adopted in 2004 and is being updated.² A Water Supply and Sanitation Sub-Sector Strategic Plan is also being developed to detail actions for meeting targets outlined in the Economic Development and Poverty Reduction Strategy (EDPRS) 2008-2012 and the Millennium Development Goals (MDGs) by 2015. The Government seeks to increase the rate of access to drinking water to 85 percent by 2015, and 100

¹ Water for People. *International Programs: Rwanda* (2009).

² Rwanda MININFRA. *Water and Sanitation Sub-sector Policy Statement*. mininfra.gov.rw/index.php?option=com_content&task=view&id=156&Itemid=203

percent by 2020. Goals for sanitation access are just as bold, with a 2015 target of 65 percent and universal access by 2020. The cost estimated to achieve these 2020 targets is US\$ 820 million.³

Decentralization is a major policy thrust of the Government of Rwanda. Rwanda is currently delegating all WSS service responsibilities to communities and districts with the exception of planning, regulation, hygiene promotion, monitoring, and oversight. It is expected that a new "National Water Agency" will be created in order to catalyze the decentralization process through increased technical assistance, thereby strengthening local level efforts and ensure self-sufficiency. To complement these plans, the National Investment Strategy aims to promote increased private sector participation to attract investment and operate and maintain WSS infrastructure. The Government is also cognizant that current water rates do not generate the required revenue to offset costs. Income surveys have demonstrated that urban ratepayers can afford more, and policies are being promulgated to secure access for all through pro-poor arrangements.

| WATER AVAILABILITY IN RWANDA | |
|---|------------------|
| Renewable internal freshwater resources per capita, m ³ /person/year (2008) | 977 ^c |
| Water withdrawals, m ³ /person/year (2002) | 18 ^e |
| Projected water resources per capita, m ³ /person/year in 2015 | 875 ^d |
| <small>Note: Most recently available data provided. ^c UN Food and Agriculture Organization (FAO). <i>FAO Aquastat Database</i>. "Freshwater resources" refers to estimates of runoff into rivers and recharge of ground water and does not include flows from other countries. ^d Note this value was calculated using a straight-line calculation based on average population growth rates (1990-2008) with no adjustment for consumption or technology changes. Data was obtained from <i>World Bank WDI Database</i> (population) and <i>FAO Aquastat Database</i> (water resources).</small> | |

³ Economic Development Poverty Reduction Strategy (EDPRS). *Intergovernmental Workshop* (2006).

WSS SECTOR FRAMEWORK

The Ministry of Natural Resources (MINIRENA) oversees the Government's water resources management and sanitation policy, including development of standards and programs and evaluating their implementation. The Ministry of Infrastructure (MININFRA) develops institutional and legal frameworks, national policies and strategies related to public works, as well as programs aimed at increasing WSS access and affordability.

Rwanda has 30 Districts that are responsible for owning, developing, operating, and maintaining their WSS infrastructure. MINIRENA also provides WSS service in areas where District providers do not already exist. To some degree, since 2002, Rwanda has followed neighboring Uganda's lead by contracting out operations and management of their systems via public-private partnerships (PPPs). Districts may delegate responsibility for simpler schemes to community-level management.

The Rwanda Utilities Regulatory Agency (RURA), created in 2001, is a multi-sector economic regulator. While RURA has a mandate over the whole sector to ensure fair pricing and efficient use of resources and to promote competition, it had focused much of its attention on the urban areas and the Government-owned ELECTROGAZ, which had managed urban and "semi-urban" water supply (as well as electricity and gas supply) in the capital, Kigali, and ten other towns. In 2008, the Government approved the division of ELECTROGAZ into the Rwanda Electricity Corporation (RECO) and Rwanda Water and Sanitation Corporation (RWASCO). The two new organizations have yet to become fully operational or independent and still operate as a single organization, commonly referred to as RECO-RWASCO.

Rwanda's Medium-Term Expenditure Framework is rooted in the EDPRS, and the alignment of donor and government allocations is designed to complement one another and the EDPRS. To meet cost recovery challenges, resources are needed to expand coverage since revenues will only be sufficient for the operation and maintenance of existing systems. In addition, the devolution of WSS services to the districts does not include fiscal decentralization. This constraint severely limits District service providers

KEY GOVERNMENT AGENCIES

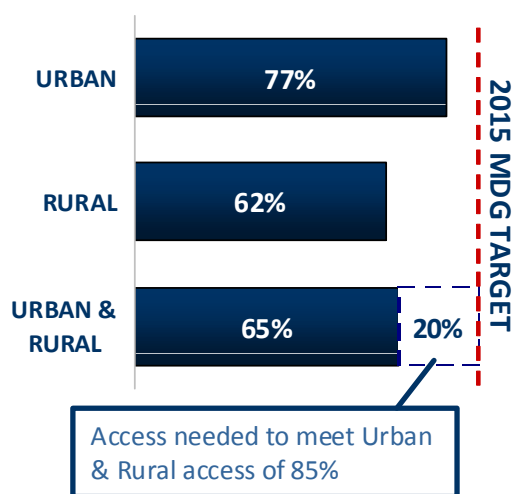
| Agency | Description | Contact Information |
|-----------------------------------|--|---|
| MINIRENA | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> National water resources and sanitation policy and strategy development. Provides WSS service in areas where District providers are not present. | Mr. Stanislas Kamanzi Minister of Natural Resources Tel: 250-582628, 250-511191, 250 585638 www.minirena.gov.rw |
| MININFRA | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Public works and infrastructure policy, strategy, development, and master planning. | Mr. Vincent Karega Minister of Infrastructure Tel: 250-585503 www.mininfra.gov.rw |
| RURA | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Regulate WSS service standards and rates; Promote fair competition; Environmental protection through waste disposal and byproduct treatment enforcement. | Ms. Anita Gaju, Director of Water and Sanitation gaju@rura.gov.rw Tel: 250-55100091 www.rura.gov.rw |
| RECO-RWASCO (formerly ELECTROGAZ) | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Provides WSS service to 10 cities and Kigali. | Mr. Jean Bosco Kanyesheja, Water Dept. Director jbkanyesheja@electrogaz.co.rw Tel: 250-830-6903 www.electrogaz.co.rw |
| Community Development Fund (CDF) | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Receives and redistributes WSS sector funding from government and donors. | Ms. Gashumba Lillian |
| District Providers | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> WSS service providers in rural areas; ~25 % are PPPs; ~60 are privately owned. | |

from having control over future infrastructure and management developments since funding streams are uncertain. As such, Districts are limited in their ability to attract, train, and retain competent staff.

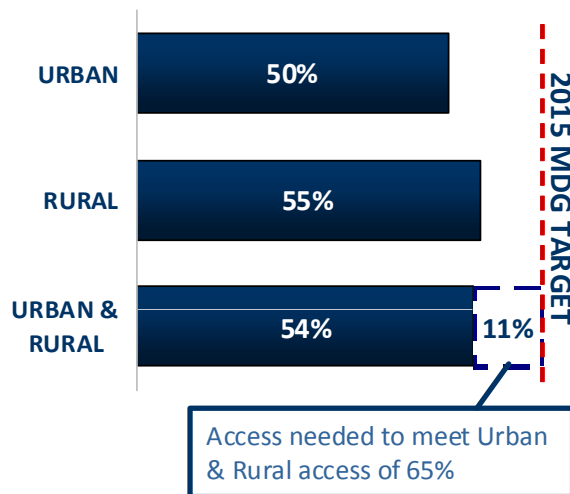
THE URBAN SUB-SECTOR

Within the city of Kigali and other main urban centers in Rwanda, water services are provided by RECO-RWASCO. The utility is struggling to produce and distribute enough water to satisfy urban demand despite commercial and technical constraints. The struggle was exacerbated by a severe drought that

Meeting MDG 7: Access to Water in 2008



Meeting MDG 7: Access to Sanitation in 2008



Data Source: WHO/UNICEF Joint Monitoring Programme for Water Supply and Sanitation (JMP), *Progress on Sanitation and Drinking Water, 2010 Update*.
 Note on comparing baseline data from earlier reports: The JMP methodology uses all available data in each successive report. This means that estimates may be recalculated for earlier years if more data becomes available. The JMP notes that these new estimates may affect the baseline reported in earlier data sets.

greatly reduced the amount of water in the country's reservoir lakes. In 2008, a three-year agreement was entered into with the National Water and Sewerage Corporation (NWSC) of Uganda for performance improvement and to promote commercial service delivery. The contract promotes information transfer, commercial collaboration, staff development, capacity building, and training.

While the MDG target for urban water had previously been achieved, urban drinking water coverage has declined by 19 percent since 1990. This can be partly attributed to rapid urban population growth. Rwanda has achieved progress in the urban sanitation sub-sector, with coverage increasing by 15 percent since 1990.⁴ However, very few piped wastewater systems exist and most sanitation access is provided in the form of latrines.

THE RURAL SUB-SECTOR

Rwanda's rural water supply has faced challenges including top-down programming of investments, poor cost recovery, limited private sector participation, and high per capita investment costs for system construction. Early attempts to introduce community participation and ownership of facilities failed in the absence of strong government commitment to decentralization. By 2004, the Government had

abandoned the community management concept in favor of PPPs. By 2007, 140 rural piped water systems (approximately 25 percent of total) were managed by PPPs, with the remainder managed by their communities. Recent rural projects have begun to yield results.

Some of the rural systems are quite large, with the largest one serving 120,000 users in villages several miles apart. Although these systems are "piped," this typically means that water is distributed to water points in the village where users must go to retrieve water. Income-qualified users are able to obtain water for free. The proportion of the rural population receiving tap water in their homes is relatively negligible.

DONOR INVOLVEMENT

The Government and the WSS sector have engaged the donor community with the goal of leveraging approximately 81 percent of the total financing needed from donors. Donor contributions and Government funding are passed through Rwanda's Community Development Fund before being dispersed to the districts for WSS activities. Monitoring and evaluation (M&E) remains weak since M&E management was devolved to local providers with limited capacity. It is expected that M&E will be significantly improved through technical assistance to

⁴ WHO/UNICEF Joint Monitoring Programme for Water Supply and Sanitation (JMP). *Progress on Sanitation and Drinking Water, 2010 Update*.

local providers and through a national database of performance measures.

To help coordinate donor contributions, a joint task force has been created. The strongest donor support has been from the World Bank, the African Development Bank (AfDB), the United Kingdom Department for International Development (DFID), and the governments of Belgium, the Netherlands and Germany. Rwanda also volunteered in 2007 to become one of eight countries piloting a UN initiative, Delivering as One, which aims to improve the

alignment of programs and funding to national priorities. Some international donors have indicated that they may pool funds at the country-level to support the UN pilot program.

Recently approved projects include AfDB support for the Rural Drinking Water Supply and Sanitation Sub-Program (PNEAR II), which seeks to improve drinking water supply and sanitation services in 216 rural areas in 15 districts, accounting for over 5 million people (US\$25 million).

| DONOR | ACTIVITIES | CONTACT INFORMATION ^e |
|--|--|--|
| AfDB | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Rural drinking water supply and sanitation program. | Diko Jacob Mukete j.mukete@afdb.org |
| Belgium | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Basic WSS infrastructure funding. | Françoise Donnay Tel: 250-57-67-67 |
| DFID | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Poverty reduction budget support, of which water and sanitation spending is a key component. | |
| European Union (EU) | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Drinking water infrastructure expansion and rehabilitation in drought-prone Bugesera region. | |
| German development partners and Development Bank (GTZ/KfW) | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Rural development through micro-hydro supply support. | Maurice Pigaht maurice.pigaht@gtz.de |
| Netherlands | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Water, sanitation and hygiene (WASH) support, in collaboration with UN Children's Fund (UNICEF); Rehabilitation and construction of WSS facilities. | |
| The World Bank | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Rural WSS development; Donor coordination. | Victoria Kwakwa vkwakwa@worldbank.org Tel: 250-591-301 |

^eContact information may change frequently and therefore be different from what is noted above.

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Additional information and sources that aided in the completion of this report include: World Bank, *Implementation Completion and Results Report, Rwanda Rural Water and Sanitation Project* (June 2008); UN Office of the High Representative for the Least Developed Countries, Landlocked Developing Countries and the Small Island Developing States (UN-OHRLLS), *Country Profiles: Rwanda* (June 2008); Government of Rwanda, *Scaling Up Investment and Reforms Through National Program and Performance Contracts* (February 2008); AfDB/Organization for Economic Cooperation and Development (OECD), *Annual Economic Outlook Report: Rwanda* (2007); African Ministers' Council on Water (AMCOW), et al., *Getting Africa on Track to Meet the MDGs in Water Supply and Sanitation*, (2006); Rwanda Development Gateway, <http://www.rwandagateway.org/index.php3>; European Commission, *External Cooperation Programmes: Rwanda* http://ec.europa.eu/europeaid/where/acp/country-cooperation/rwanda/rwanda_en.htm; and the Government of Rwanda MININFRA, MINIRENE and RECO-RWASCO websites.

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