Building a system to deliver: the contribution of GLAAS

Sue Cavill, Monday 29 Oct 2012
GLAAS – who we are, what we do

• **Who?** WHO and UN Water
• **What?** To identify drivers and bottlenecks to progress towards MDG 7 target C (and national targets); To serve as a repository of global data for decision-makers
• **Where?** 75 countries participated in 2012 GLAAS
• **How?** Use of existing data and perform detailed survey of countries as well as survey of external aid organizations
GLAAS Products

**Biennial Report**

**Regional highlights**

**Country + ESA templates (support for SWA HLM)**

**Country data repository**

**Ongoing research**

**Tracking national financial flows into sanitation and drinking-water**
The GLAAS report is intended to inform senior technical and administrative staff in developing country governments and donor organizations who are in a position to advise their ministers and most senior decision-makers.
Critical path to achieve outcomes: linking infrastructure and superstructure

GLAAS helps to ensure that resources are better coordinated, backed by strong national plans, focused on strengthening the systems that deliver services, and improve overall effectiveness.
Equity: providing the groundwork to build an evidence base

• Inequity between and within communities in allocation of resources and the corresponding outputs

• Targeting resources to unserved populations and ensuring that these resources are utilized effectively and fairly without discrimination

• Focus on women, people with disabilities, children or the chronically ill.

“it is not so much their low income that explains ‘the disease of poverty’ from which they [the poor] suffer but their lack of influence on government institutions and budgets”

Ellen Wratten, 1995; 5
2010 GLAAS

- Existence of equity criteria for us in funding allocations, and

- A separate question on whether these criteria have been applied
Have equity criteria been agreed and applied to funding decisions?

In the 2010 CSO/GLAAS, many countries indicated that either equity criteria were not in place or were not applied consistently.

In late 2010, the external GLAAS technical advisory group suggested that GLAAS assess equity more deeply by collecting information on the makeup of equity criteria and whether impact has been measured.
Equity and non-discrimination key themes

KEY MESSAGES

- Nearly 80% of countries recognize the right to water, and just over one half the right to sanitation. Progressive realization of these rights can occur as countries recognize their legal obligation to set out and implement policies and programmes that ensure equality, public participation and accountability.

- Other important aspects of realizing the rights to water and sanitation include targeting resources to unserved populations and ensuring that these resources are utilized effectively and fairly without discrimination. However, just one in five countries consistently apply equity criteria in funding allocations for sanitation, whereas one third apply equity criteria to drinking-water investments.

- Over 60% of countries have defined equity criteria, but most report that they are not systematically monitored.

- Over half (57%) of countries indicate that service providers report performance to their customers.

- Strengthening participatory processes through which communities are made aware of their rights can lead to greater ownership, more involvement in operation and maintenance and improved sustainability of sanitation and water services.

GLAAS 2012 REPORT
UN-Water Global Analysis and Assessment of Sanitation and Drinking-Water
THE CHALLENGE OF EXTENDING AND SUSTAINING SERVICES
• Do national strategies include:
  – Specific provisions for slums and informal settlements; people with disabilities; women?
  – Differentiated targets to ensure vulnerable or marginalised groups have adequate access

• Has an analysis of the pro-poor impact of funding decisions been performed?

• Has the impact of equity policies on the achievement of targets for vulnerable and marginalised groups been measured and are they showing success?
Equity in the inputs:
Aimed to eliminate equality gaps by targeting the most disadvantaged groups

Just one in five countries consistently apply equity criteria in funding allocations for sanitation, whereas one third apply equity criteria to drinking-water investments.

Inequalities in access (a description) are the symptoms of deeper inequities (a question of injustice) ... if one group benefits to the disbenefit of another group, this is an inequity.

Caroline Stephens, 2006
Equity in the process:
Aimed at developing capable, motivated and supported workers

- Women make up less than 10% of the professional or managerial water and sanitation staff in half of the countries that responded to the survey.

“…the basic raw material for successful use of water and sanitation systems [is] - trained operators, technical (including design and construction) and scientific staff, and managers”. John Pickford
Equity in outputs:
Aimed to reduce intra-household inequalities based on sex, age, health, and disability

Nearly 80% of countries recognize the right to water, and over 50% the right to sanitation.

“We need to speak up for the millions who are marginalized and forgotten … girls who walk miles to fetch water every day, boys who drop out of school because of diarrhoea, people who cannot access water because of their disabilities.”

Catarina de Albuquerque, UN Special Rapporteur on the human right to safe drinking water and sanitation

Over 60% of countries have defined equity criteria, but most report that they are not systematically monitored.
70% of respondent countries that recognize the right to water have indicated that this right can be claimed in a domestic court.
Twenty-three countries indicate that the right to water and/or sanitation has been claimed in a domestic court.
"there is a lack of both quantitative and qualitative evidence on the impact of equity policies for vulnerable and marginalized groups"

'It is politically naive to expect governments to place a heavy emphasis on equity until the middle classes have access to WASH!'