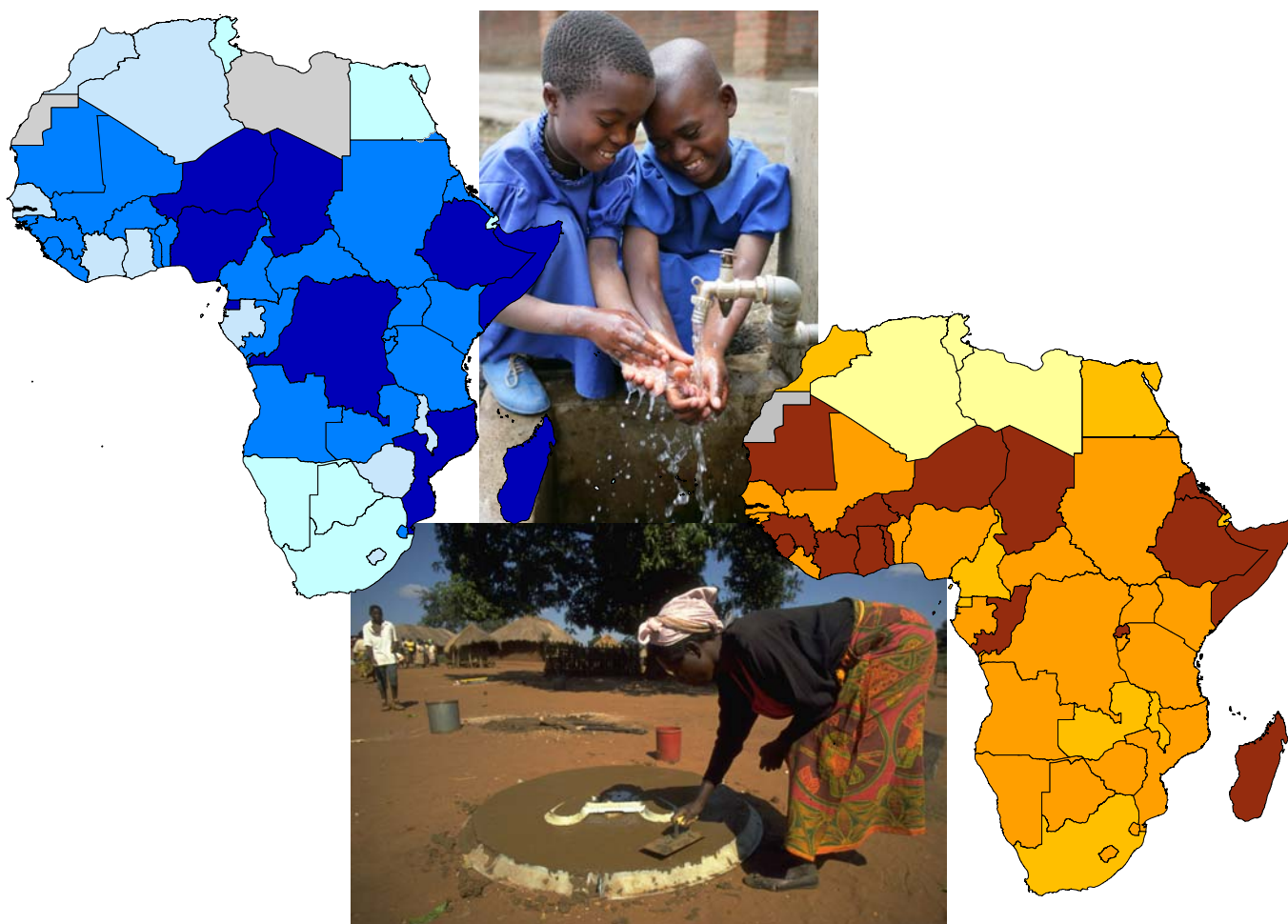


A Snapshot of Drinking Water and Sanitation in Africa

A regional perspective based on new data from the WHO/UNICEF Joint Monitoring Programme for Water Supply and Sanitation



Prepared for AMCOM as a contribution to the
11th Summit of Heads of State and Government of the African Union
With special theme: Meeting the Millennium Development Goal on
Water and Sanitation
30 June to 1 July, 2008

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A Snapshot of Drinking Water and Sanitation in Africa

Foreword

Good information, at the right time, is at the heart of good decision-making. This overview of the situation of water supply and sanitation in Africa, prepared by the WHO/UNICEF Joint Monitoring Programme, provides data essential to assessing the needs and challenges to be met in this vital sector on the African continent.

This document is timely, not only because it presents the current situation on the eve of the AU Summit on this topic, but in particular because it shows that mid-way to the 2015 deadline for the achievement of the Millennium Development Goals, the water and sanitation situation in Africa remains a major concern. The risk is even greater in view of urban population growth and climate change.

Despite the efforts made by some countries, approximately 340 million people in Africa are without access to safe drinking water and only 26 countries will reach the water target. The situation of sanitation is even more worrying as 580 million people do not have access to improved sanitation facilities, and only six countries will achieve the MDG target for sanitation.

The African Ministers' Council on Water (AMCOW) has taken stock of the situation. In collaboration with its partners, it organized the Regional Conference on Sanitation and Hygiene (AfricaSan) in February 2008 in South Africa, and the first African Water Week in March 2008 in Tunis. The eThekweni and Tunis declarations and action plans that resulted from these two high-level events constitute a strong commitment by the continent and its partners, with a particular emphasis on sanitation.

AMCOW congratulates WHO and UNICEF for their tireless efforts in the water and sanitation sector and particularly for the quality of this data report which provides guidance for all the actors working in the sector.

Finally, we are convinced that with everyone's support, the next version of this document will present an improvement in the situation at all levels (local, national and regional) and reflect progress in achievement of the MDG water and sanitation targets in Africa.



Bruno Jean Richard ITOUA
Minister of Energy and Water of Congo
President of African Minister's Council On Water

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A Snapshot of Drinking Water and Sanitation in Africa

Introduction

The major functions of the African Ministers' Council On Water (AMCOW) are to facilitate regional and international co-operation through the co-ordination of policies and actions amongst African countries regarding water resources issues, to review and mobilize additional financing for the water sector in Africa, and to provide a mechanism for monitoring the progress of implementation of major regional and global water resources and water supply and sanitation initiatives.

The WHO/UNICEF Joint Monitoring Programme for Water Supply and Sanitation (JMP) is the official United Nations mechanism tasked with monitoring progress towards MDG Target 7c on drinking water and sanitation. JMP publishes updated coverage estimates every two years on the various types of drinking-water sources and sanitation facilities being used worldwide.

Purpose of the Snapshot

This document has been prepared by JMP for AMCOW as a contribution to the African Union Summit, 30 June - 2 July 2008, which has a focus on water supply and sanitation. It contains a new set of drinking water and sanitation coverage estimates for Africa based on the most recent JMP estimates (2006).

This document provides an assessment of the population currently using an improved drinking-water source and basic sanitation, disaggregated by sub-regions and urban and rural areas. It further details African progress towards the Millennium Development Goal (MDG) target for drinking-water supply and sanitation (target 7c).

The estimates presented in this document are drawn from data collected by national statistics offices and other relevant institutions through national censuses and nationally representative household surveys, including Demographic and Health Surveys (DHS), Multiple Indicator Cluster Surveys (MICS) and World Health Surveys among others.

Definitions of access to drinking water and sanitation

MDG Target 7c calls on countries to "Halve, by 2015, the proportion of people without sustainable access to safe drinking-water and basic sanitation."

The indicators used in this document to assess the proportion of people with sustainable access to safe drinking water and to basic sanitation are the official MDG indicators:

The proportion of population using an improved drinking-water source, urban and rural

The proportion of population using an improved sanitation facility, urban and rural.

An improved drinking-water source is defined as one that, by nature of its construction or through active intervention, is protected from outside contamination, in particular from contamination with fecal matter. To allow for international comparability of estimates, JMP uses the following classification to differentiate between "improved" and "unimproved" drinking-water sources.

Improved drinking water sources	Unimproved drinking water sources
Piped water into dwelling, plot or yard	Unprotected dug well
Public tap/standpipe	Unprotected spring
Tubewell/borehole	Small cart with tank/drum
Protected dug well	Tanker truck
Protected spring	Surface water (river, dam, lake, pond, stream, channel, irrigation channel)
Rainwater	Bottled water ¹

¹ Bottled water is considered to be improved only when the household uses water from another improved source for cooking and personal hygiene; where this information is not available, bottled water is classified on a case-by-case basis.

A Snapshot of Drinking Water and Sanitation in Africa

An improved sanitation facility is defined as one that hygienically separates human excreta from human contact. To allow for international comparability of estimates, JMP uses the following classification to differentiate between "improved" and "unimproved" types of sanitation facility

Improved sanitation facilities ²	Unimproved sanitation facilities
Flush or pour-flush to: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - piped sewer system - septic tank - pit latrine Ventilated improved pit latrine (VIP) Pit latrine with slab Composting toilet	Flush or pour-flush to elsewhere ³ Pit latrine without slab or open pit Bucket Hanging toilet or hanging latrine No facilities or bush or field (open defecation)

NB: Only users of "improved" drinking-water sources, and "improved" sanitation facilities are considered by JMP as "having access" as stated in the MDG Target.

Indicator definitions and population estimates used for MDG monitoring sometimes differ from those used by national governments. Hence the coverage estimates presented in this report may differ from those used nationally, even when based on common data sources.

The population estimates presented here and the urban/rural distribution of the population are those estimated by the United Nations Population Division (2006 revision).

The regional analyses presented here follow five geographical sub-regions according to the UN Population Division's classification as presented in the table below.

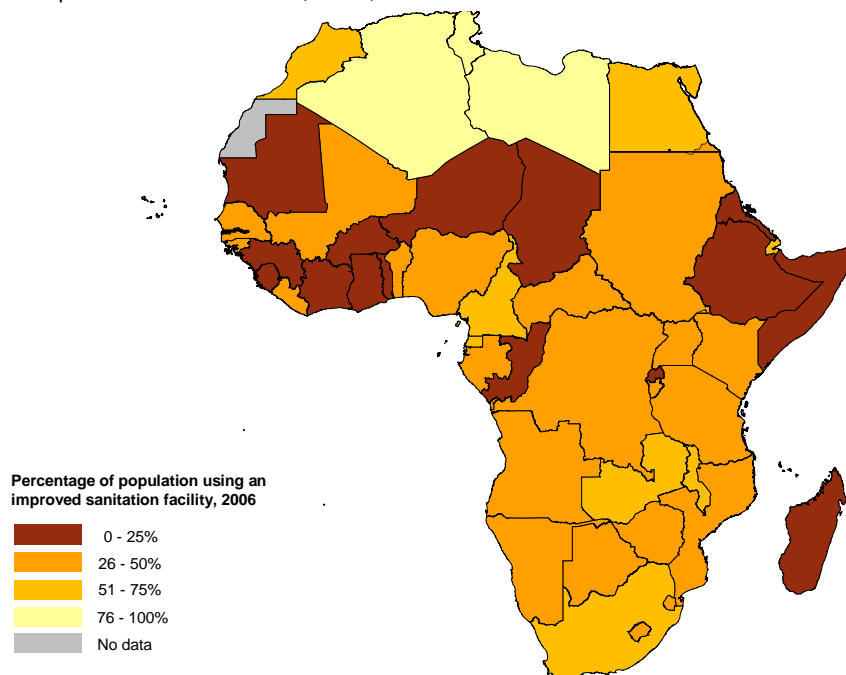
Central Africa	Eastern Africa	Northern Africa	Southern Africa	Western Africa
Angola Cameroon Central African Republic Chad Congo Democratic Republic of the Congo Equatorial Guinea Gabon Sao Tome and Principe	Burundi Comoros Djibouti Eritrea Ethiopia Kenya Madagascar Malawi Mauritius Mozambique Rwanda Seychelles Somalia Uganda United Republic of Tanzania Zambia Zimbabwe	Algeria Egypt Libyan Arab Jamahiriya Morocco Sudan Tunisia	Botswana Lesotho Namibia South Africa Swaziland	Benin Burkina Faso Cape Verde Côte d'Ivoire Gambia Ghana Guinea Guinea-Bissau Liberia Mali Mauritania Niger Nigeria Senegal Sierra Leone Togo

² Only facilities which are not shared or public are considered improved.

³ Excreta are flushed to the street, yard or plot, open sewer, a ditch, a drainage way or other location.

Access to Sanitation – Basic facts and figures

Figure 1: Coverage with improved sanitation facilities, Africa, 2006



- 360 million Africans had access to improved sanitation facilities in 2006. Coverage increased from 33% in 1990 to 38% in 2006.
- The African population without access to sanitation increased by 153 million, from 430 million in 1990 to 583 million in 2006. Increases in coverage are not keeping pace with population growth.
- The rate at which Africans gained access to sanitation, 153 million people since 1990, is insufficient to meet the MDG sanitation target.
- In 38 countries in Africa sanitation coverage is less than 50%.

Basic Facts and Figures: in percentage

	Population (millions)			Population using improved sanitation			Population using shared sanitation			Population using unimproved* sanitation			Population practising open defecation		
	Urban	Rural	Total	Urban	Rural	Total	Urban	Rural	Total	Urban	Rural	Total	Urban	Rural	Total
1990	204	433	637	52%	23%	33%	19%	8%	12%	20%	25%	22%	9%	44%	33%
2000	298	523	821	53%	26%	36%	22%	9%	14%	18%	26%	22%	7%	39%	28%
2006	366	577	943	53%	29%	38%	23%	10%	15%	18%	25%	23%	6%	36%	24%
2015	493	656	1,149	67%**											

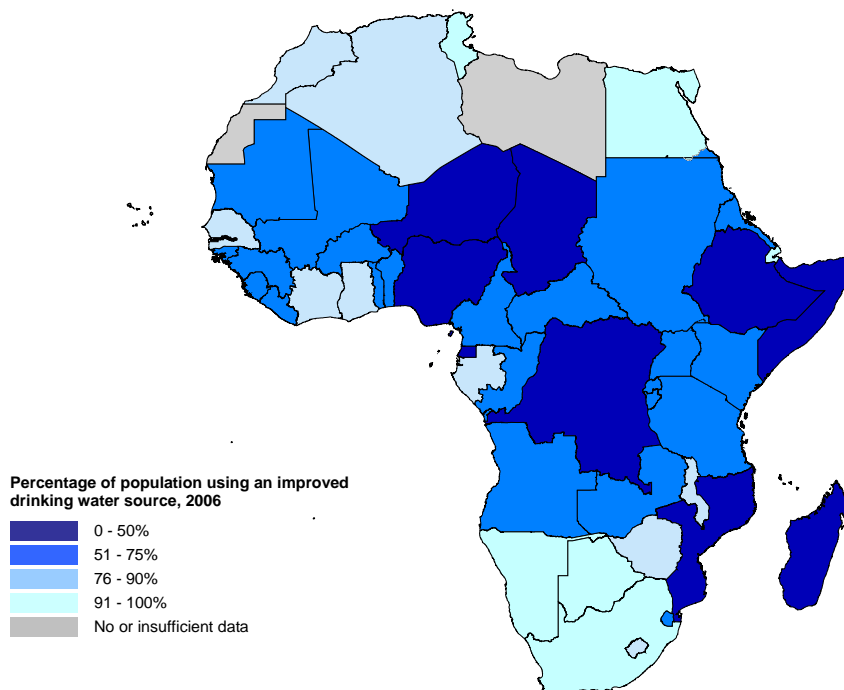
Basic Facts and Figures: by population

	Population (millions)			Population using improved sanitation (millions)			Population using shared sanitation (millions)			Population using unimproved* sanitation (millions)			Population practising open defecation (millions)		
	Urban	Rural	Total	Urban	Rural	Total	Urban	Rural	Total	Urban	Rural	Total	Urban	Rural	Total
1990	204	433	637	106	102	207	39	35	73	41	105	149	18	191	208
2000	298	523	821	157	138	295	65	50	115	54	129	183	22	206	228
2006	366	577	943	195	165	360	85	58	143	63	149	212	23	205	228
2015	493	656	1,149	764**											

* excludes shared facilities and open defecation, ** MDG target

Access to Drinking Water – Basic facts and figures

Figure 2: Coverage with improved drinking water sources, Africa, 2006



- 602 million Africans had access to improved drinking water sources in 2006. Coverage increased from 56% in 1990 to 64% in 2006.
- The African population without access to improved drinking water sources increased by 61 million, from 280 million in 1990 to 341 million in 2006. Increases in coverage are not keeping pace with population growth
- The rate at which Africans gained access to improved drinking water sources, 245 million people since 1990, falls short of that required to meet the 2015 MDG drinking water target.
- In 9 countries in Africa access to improved drinking water sources is less than 50%

Basic Facts and Figures: in percentage

	Population (millions)			Drinking water coverage*			Piped connections on premises			Other improved drinking water sources			Unimproved drinking water sources		
	Urban	Rural	Total	Urban	Rural	Total	Urban	Rural	Total	Urban	Rural	Total	Urban	Rural	Total
1990	204	433	637	86%	42%	56%	56%	8%	24%	30%	34%	32%	14%	58%	44%
2000	298	523	821	85%	47%	61%	50%	11%	25%	35%	36%	36%	15%	53%	39%
2006	366	577	943	85%	51%	64%	47%	12%	26%	38%	39%	38%	15%	49%	36%
2015	493	656	1,149	78%**											

Basic Facts and Figures: by population

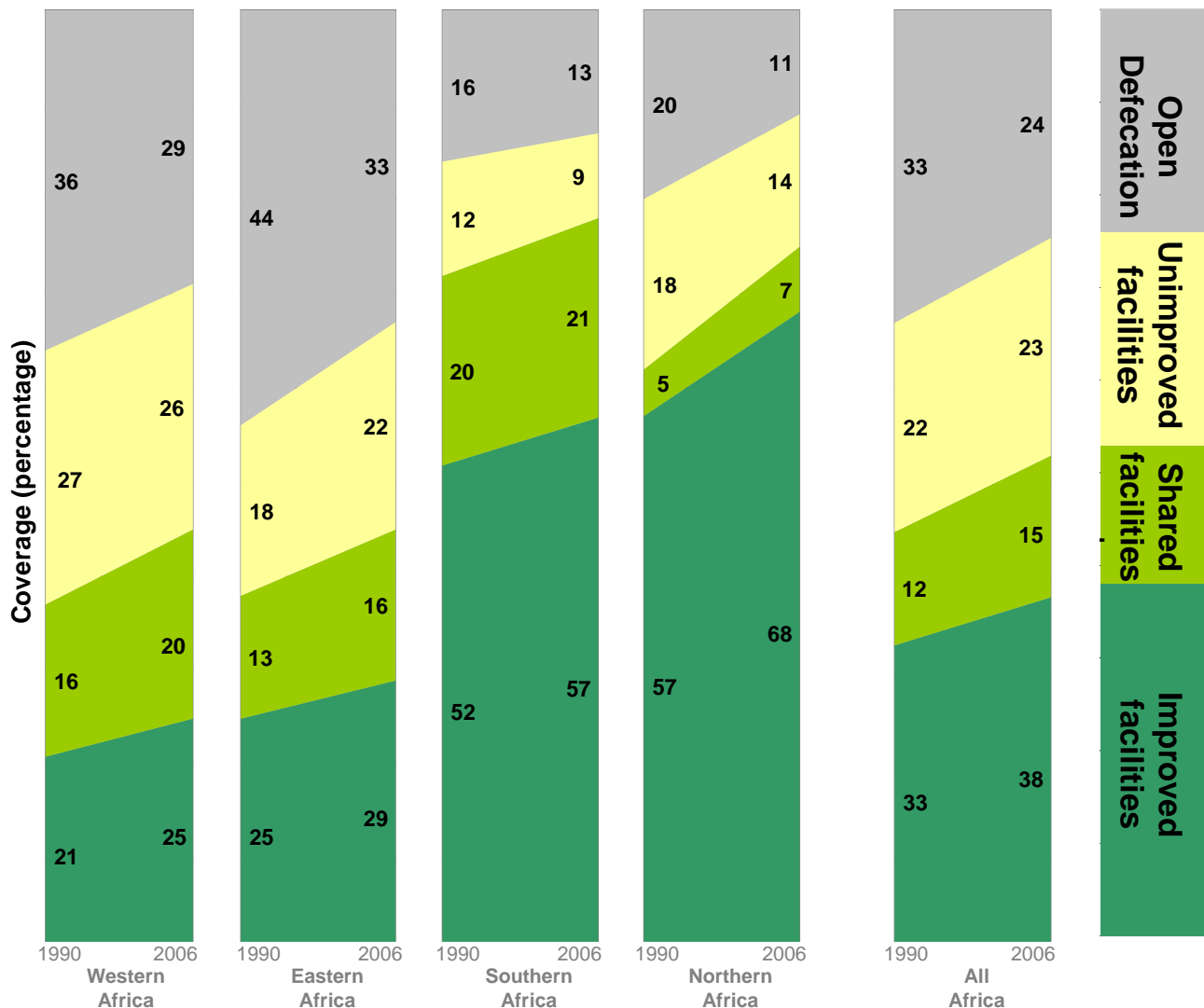
	Population (millions)			Population using improved drinking water sources (millions)			Population using piped water on premises (millions)			Population using other improved drinking water sources (millions)			Population using unimproved drinking water sources (millions)		
	Urban	Rural	Total	Urban	Rural	Total	Urban	Rural	Total	Urban	Rural	Total	Urban	Rural	Total
1990	204	433	637	175	181	357	115	36	151	60	145	206	29	252	280
2000	298	523	821	252	247	499	149	56	204	103	191	295	46	276	322
2006	366	577	943	309	293	602	173	71	244	136	222	358	57	284	341
2015	493	656	1,149	-	-	896**									

* includes piped water on premises and other improved drinking water sources, ** MDG target

Access to Sanitation - the sanitation ladder

Over half the population in Africa use an improved or shared sanitation facility; but one in four practises open defecation

Figure 3: Trends in the proportion of population using either an improved, or shared, or unimproved sanitation facility, or practising open defecation, by sub-regions⁴, 1990 – 2006



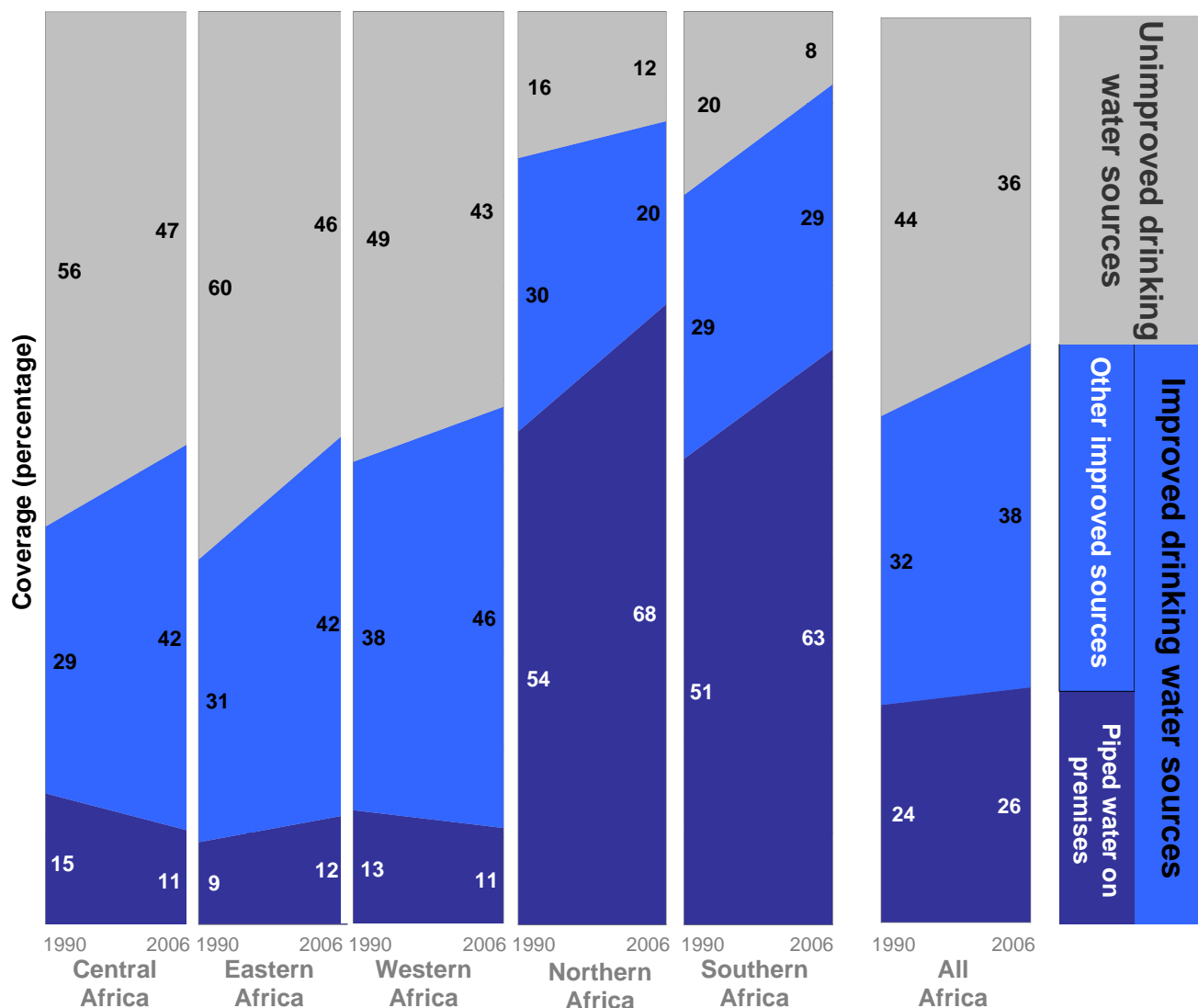
- Sanitation coverage is highest in Northern Africa and lowest in Western Africa
- Open defecation in Africa has dropped from 33% in 1990 to 24% in 2006, although the absolute number of people practising open defecation has increased by 20 million
- Almost a quarter of the population in Africa (228 million) engages in open defecation - what is the riskiest sanitation practice. It is most prevalent in Eastern Africa despite a decline from 43% in 1990 to 33% in 2006.
- 15% of the African population (143 million) shares an otherwise adequate type of sanitation facility, while 23% (212 million) uses an unimproved facility that does not meet minimal hygiene standards
- Use of shared sanitation facilities is most common in Southern Africa

⁴ Central Africa is not included in the graph as there are insufficient data to reliably estimate the proportion of the population that shares a sanitation facility

Access to Drinking Water - the drinking water ladder

Nearly two in three people in Africa use an improved source as their main source of drinking water

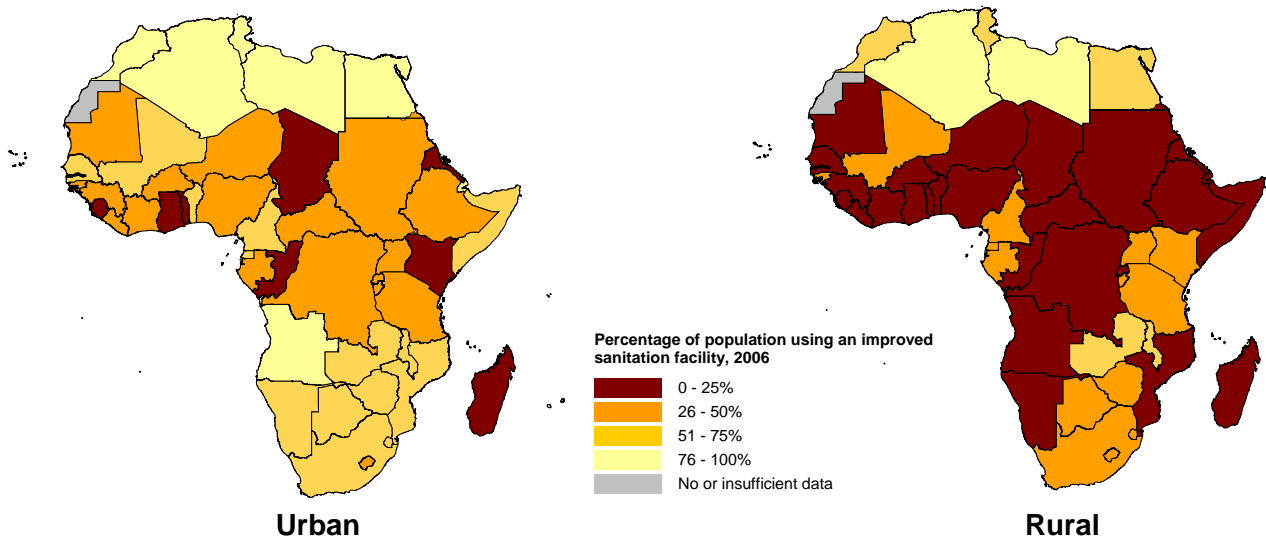
Figure 4: Trends in the proportion of population using either, a piped connection on premises, another improved drinking water source or unimproved drinking water source, by sub-regions, 1990-2006



- In Central-, Eastern- and Western Africa coverage of improved drinking water sources is still below 60%.
- Coverage of improved drinking water sources is highest in Southern Africa (92%) and Northern Africa (88%)
- The number of people with a piped connection on their premises has increased by 60% in urban areas and has doubled in rural areas.
- 26% of the African population (244 million) has a piped connection on premises, while in Northern- and Southern Africa almost two-thirds (166 million) enjoy piped connections onto the premises.
- The proportion of the population without access to an improved drinking water source has decreased across all regions in Africa from 44% in 1990 to 36% in 2006.

Disparities in urban and rural sanitation coverage

Figure 5: Urban / Rural disparity in the use of sanitation facilities in Africa, 2006



Urban sanitation coverage in Africa is 53 per cent

- Since 1990, the urban population without improved sanitation increased by 73 million people
- 85 million people in urban areas share a sanitation facility of an otherwise acceptable type
- 23 million people in urban areas practice open defecation

Rural sanitation coverage is 29 per cent

- Since 1990, the rural population without improved sanitation increased by 81 million people
- 149 million people in rural areas use sanitation facilities which do not meet minimum standards of hygiene
- 228 million people in rural areas do not use any sanitation facility and practise open defecation
- 7 out of 10 Africans without sanitation facilities live in rural areas

Figure 6: Urban and rural populations who practise open defecation, Africa, 2006

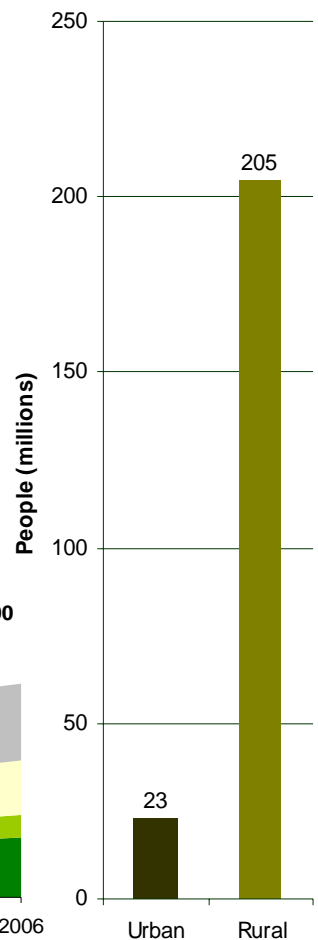
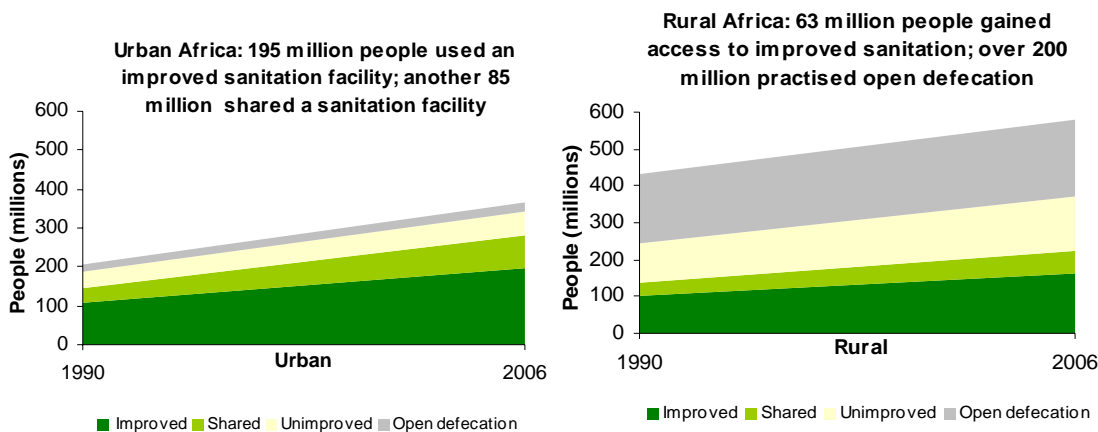
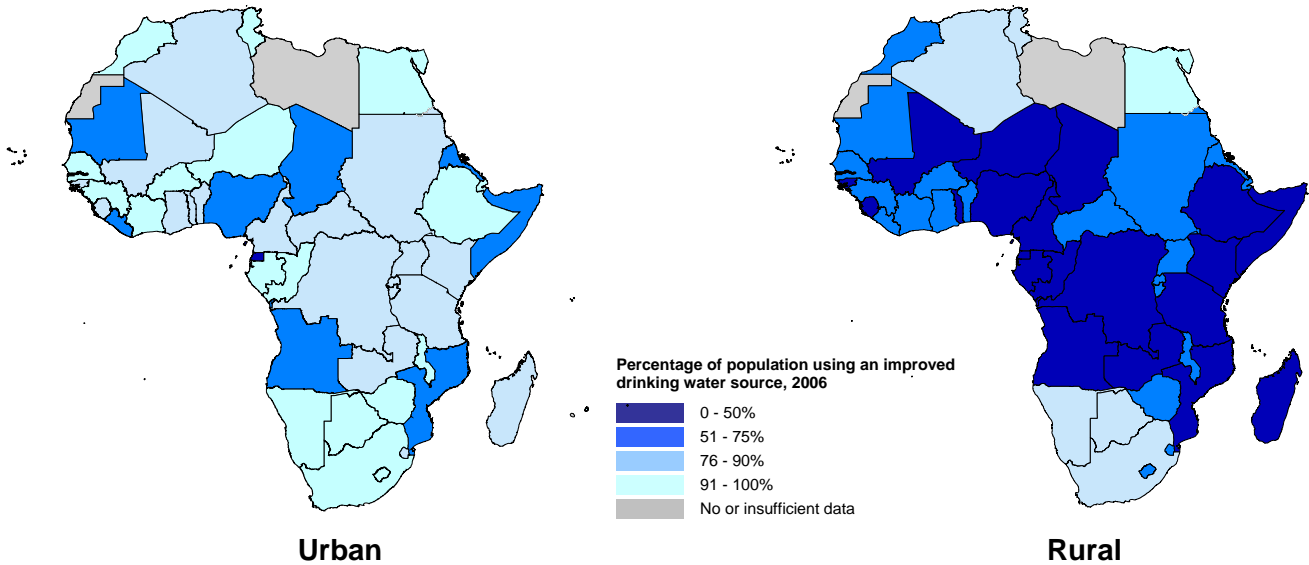


Figure 7: Distribution of urban and rural populations in Africa using different sanitation options, 1990-2006



Disparities in urban and rural drinking water coverage

Figure 8: Urban / Rural disparity in the use of improved drinking water sources in Africa, 2006



Urban drinking water coverage in Africa is 85 per cent

- Since 1990, 134 million people in urban areas have gained access to an improved drinking water source
- Of the 366 million people in urban areas, 47% has a piped connection on premises, down from 56% in 1990.
- Since 1990, the urban population without access to an improved drinking water source increased by 28 million people to 57 million people in 2006

Rural drinking water coverage is 51 per cent

- Since 1990, 112 million people in rural areas gain access to an improved drinking water source
- Of the 577 million people in rural areas, 71 million have a piped connection on premises while 222 million use other improved drinking water sources.
- Since 1990, the rural population without access to improved drinking water sources increased by 32 million people to 284 million people in 2006
- More than 8 out of 10 Africans without access to improved drinking water sources live in rural areas.

Figure 9: Urban and rural populations without an improved drinking water source, Africa, 2006

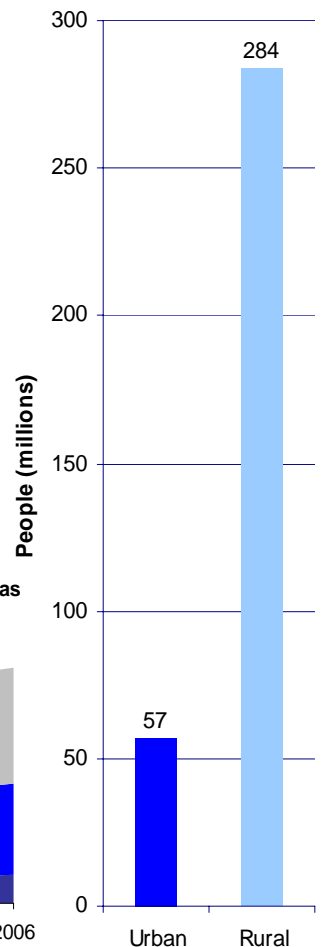
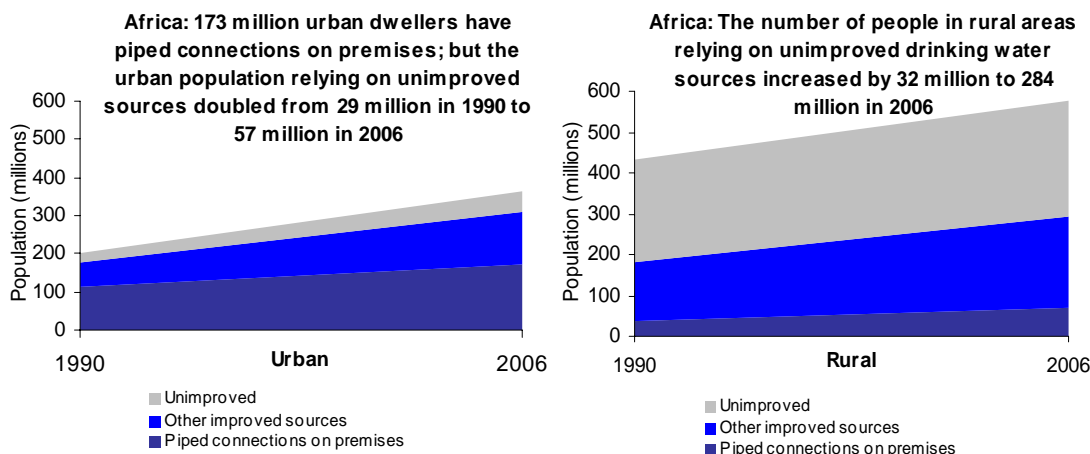
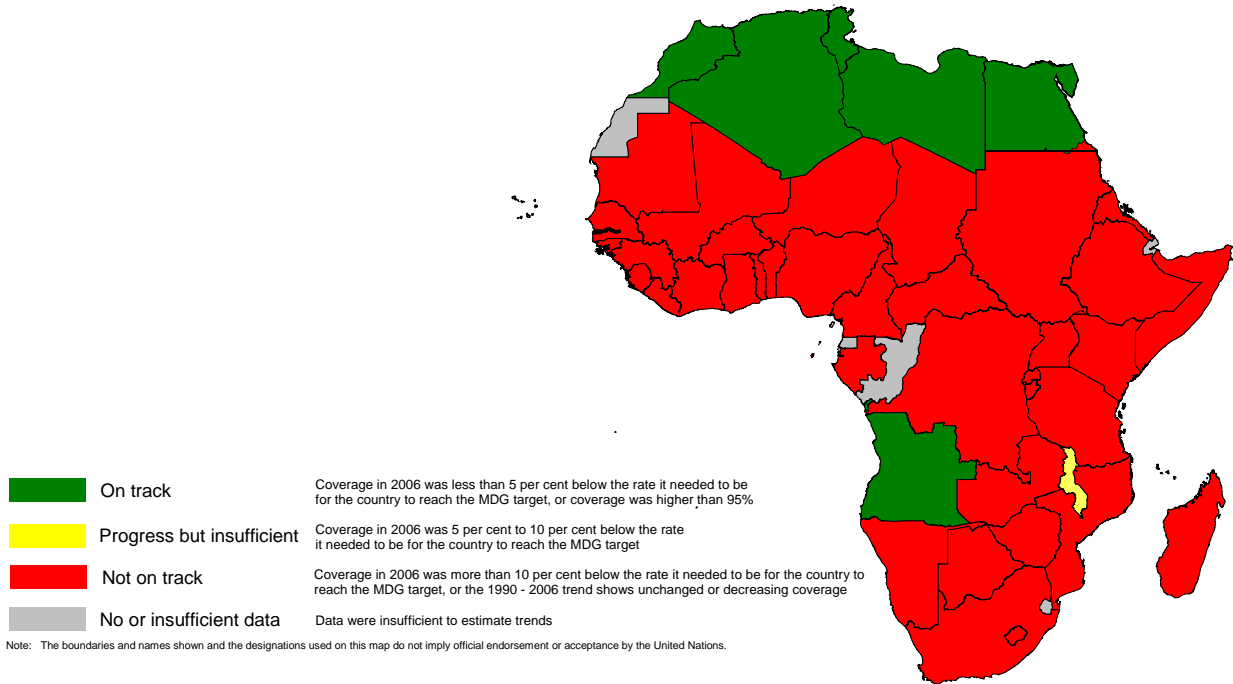


Figure 10: Distribution of urban & rural populations in Africa using different drinking water sources, 1990-2006



Africa is **not on track** to meet the MDG sanitation target

Figure 11: Progress towards the MDG sanitation target, by country, 2006



To meet the MDG sanitation target, coverage needs to increase from 38 per cent in 2006 to 67 per cent in 2015

- Only six countries in Africa are on track to meet the MDG sanitation target
- To meet the MDG sanitation target over 400 million people need to gain access to an improved sanitation facility. That is more than the current total population with access in Africa.
- On average 45 million Africans need to gain access to sanitation every year until 2015
- Even when the MDG sanitation target will be met, 385 million Africans will still be without sanitation

Figure 12: Average number of people that gained or need to gain access to improved sanitation 1990 – 2006 and 2006 - 2015

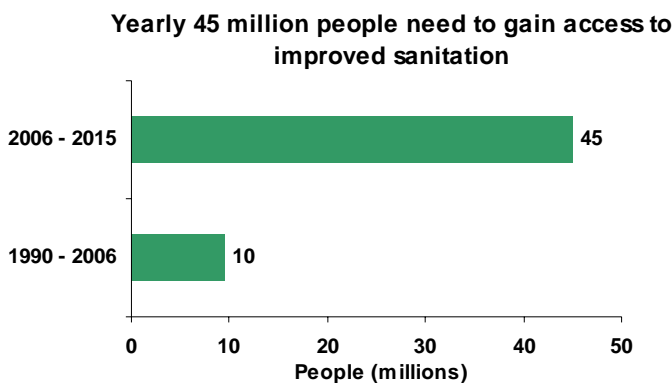
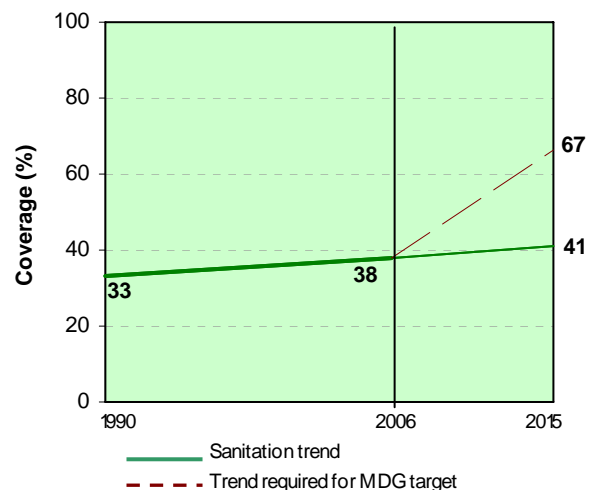
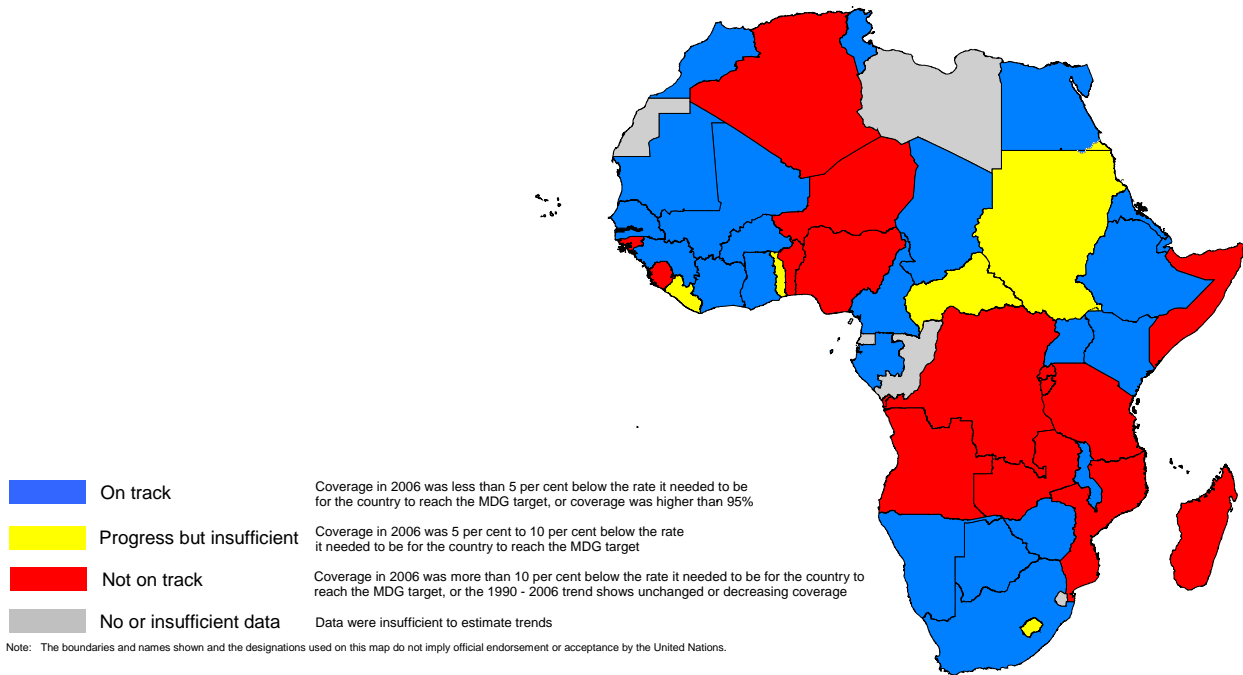


Figure 13: Sanitation coverage trend 1990 – 2015 and coverage trend required to meet the MDG sanitation target, 2006 - 2015



Africa is **not on track** to meet the MDG drinking water target

Figure 14: Progress towards the MDG drinking water target, by country, 2006



To meet the MDG drinking water target, coverage needs to increase from 64 per cent in 2006 to 78 per cent in 2015

- Twenty six countries in Africa are on track to meet the MDG water target
- To meet the target almost 300 million people need to gain access to an improved drinking water source. That is half as many as the current population with access in Africa.
- On average 33 million Africans need to gain access to an improved drinking water source every year until 2015
- Even when the MDG drinking water target is met, 253 million Africans will still be without access to an improved drinking water source

Figure 15: Average number of people that gained or need to gain access to an improved drinking water source 1990 – 2006 and 2006 - 2015

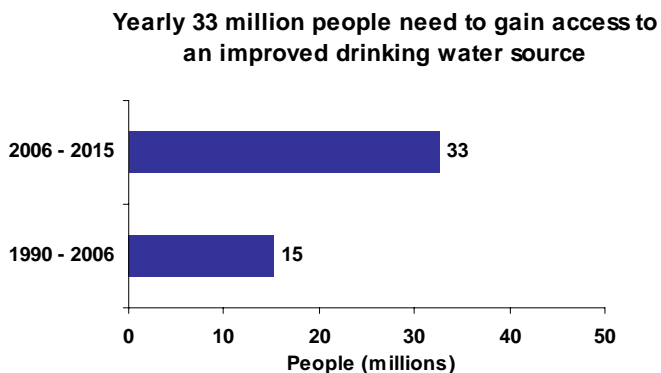
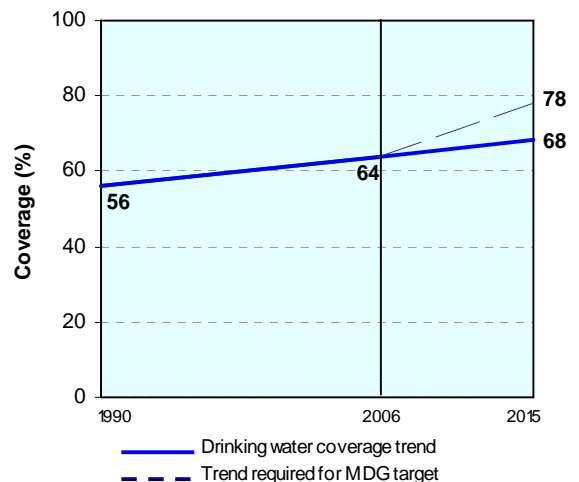


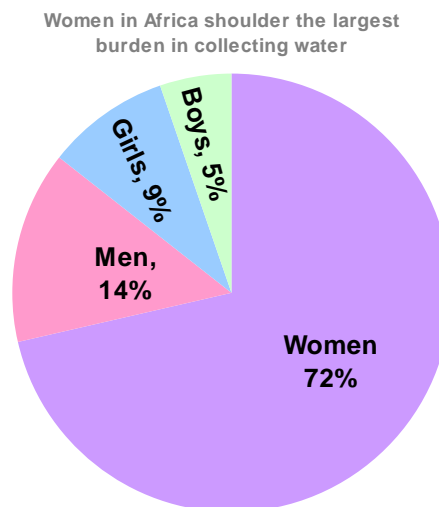
Figure 16: Drinking water coverage trend 1990 – 2015 and coverage trend required to meet the MDG sanitation target, 2006 - 2015



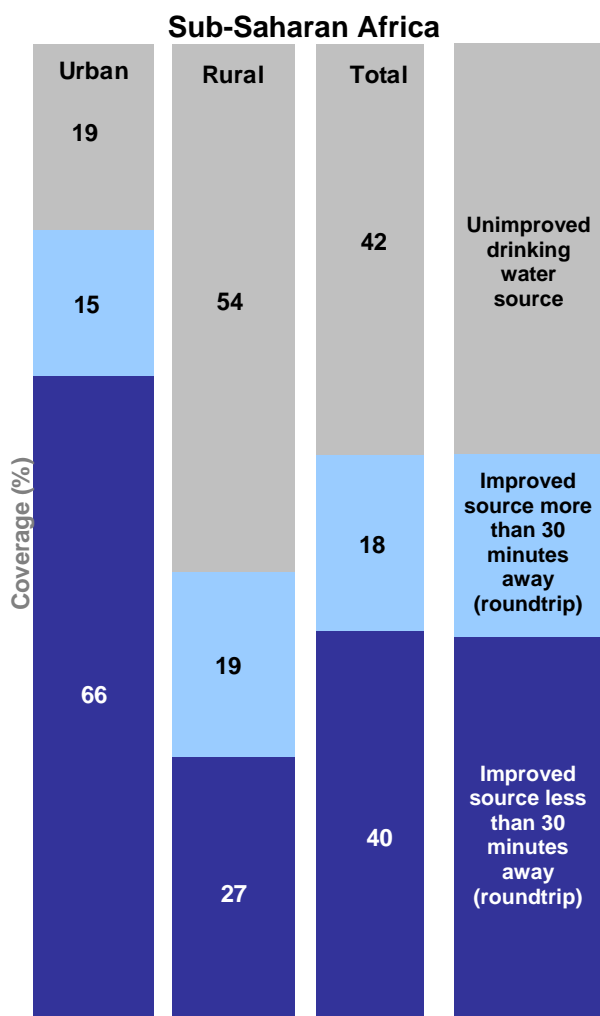
The burden of water collection

The findings presented in Figure 17 confirm the anecdotal evidence that, when drinking water is not available on the premises, women shoulder the bulk of the water collection responsibility and that it often takes considerable time to fetch the water. Women in Africa are more than five times as likely as men to usually go to a source and collect drinking water for the household. It was found that in 1 out of 7 households children (boys and girls) are the main responsible for collecting drinking water, whereby girls are almost twice as likely to be responsible than boys. In all, less than a fifth of the households report that male household members (men and boys) usually go to the source to collect water.

Figure 17: Distribution of who usually collects drinking water by percentage women, men, girls and boys.
Source: MICS and DHS surveys from 18 African countries in 2005 and 2006



Data from 35 recent household surveys show that 18 per cent of the population in sub-Saharan Africa relies on a source of drinking water that, despite being improved, is still more than a 30 minutes water collection roundtrip⁵ away.



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Figure 18: Urban, rural and total coverage of improved drinking water sources within and beyond a 30-minute range and unimproved sources, for sub-Saharan Africa
Source: MICS, DHS and WHS surveys from 35 African countries, 2005 and 2006

⁵ A water collection round trip is defined as going to the source, waiting in line to collect water and coming back;

JMP methodology

The WHO/UNICEF Joint Monitoring Programme for Water Supply and Sanitation (JMP) is the official United Nations mechanism tasked with monitoring progress towards MDG Target 7c on drinking water and sanitation. JMP publishes updated coverage estimates every two years on the various types of drinking-water sources and sanitation facilities used worldwide.

In line with the MDG indicator definition, which stipulates “use of improved facilities” as a proxy for “access to improved facilities”, the JMP measures and reports on the actual use of facilities. It is worth noting that the household surveys on which the JMP relies also measure “use” and not “access” – since access involves many additional criteria other than use. Measurability of many of these criteria at the national scale, which is the scale required by the JMP, poses a huge challenge.

Data sources and MDG data base

The water supply and sanitation coverage estimates presented in this report draw from data collected by national statistics offices and other relevant institutions through nationally-representative household surveys and national censuses. The survey data used are mainly drawn from Demographic and Health Surveys (DHS), Multiple Cluster Indicator Surveys (MICS), World Health Surveys (WHS), Living Standards and Measurements Surveys (LSMS), Core Welfare Indicator Questionnaires (CWIQ), Health and Nutrition Surveys, Household Budget Surveys and Reproductive Health Surveys. JMP estimates are therefore based on nationally generated and owned data, JMP assembles, reviews and assesses these household survey and census data.

Population estimates

The population estimates and the proportion of the population living in urban and rural areas used in this report are those estimated by the United Nations Population Division (2006 revision). These estimates may differ from national population estimates.

Methodology to derive MDG coverage and progress estimates

For each country, survey and census data are plotted on a time scale from 1980 to the present. A linear trend line, based on the least-squares method, is drawn through these data points to estimate coverage for 1990 and 2006. The total coverage estimates are based on the aggregate of the population weighted urban and rural coverage numbers, divided by the total population.

Trend analysis at country level have been made for the following categories:

Drinking water

- Piped water into dwelling, plot or yard
- Improved drinking water sources

Sanitation

- Improved sanitation facilities*
- Open defecation

*The coverage estimates for *improved sanitation facilities* presented in this report are discounted by the proportion of the population that shared an improved type of sanitation facility. This ratio (the proportion of the population that shares a sanitation facility of an otherwise adequate type among two or more households) derived from the latest household survey/census is subsequently subtracted from the trend estimates of improved sanitation facilities. This results in the estimates for *shared sanitation facilities*.

Differences with national coverage estimates

Indicator definitions and population estimates used by the JMP sometimes differ from those used by national governments. Estimates have been computed by JMP to ensure compatibility between countries and over time; thus they are not necessarily the official statistics of the concerned states, which may use alternative rigorous methods.

Current sanitation situation at a glance

Sanitation coverage: Regional estimates by type of sanitation facility (1990 and 2006)

Region	Year	Total Population (thousands)	% Urban Population	Urban (%)				Rural (%)				Total (%)			
				Improved	Shared	Unimproved	Open Defecation	Improved	Shared	Unimproved	Open Defecation	Improved	Shared	Unimproved	Open Defecation
Africa	1990	637,421	32	52	19	20	9	23	8	25	44	33	12	22	33
	2006	943,300	39	53	23	18	6	29	10	25	36	38	15	23	24
Sub-Saharan Africa	1990	519,311	28	40	27	22	11	20	9	25	46	26	14	24	36
	2006	788,122	36	42	31	19	8	24	11	26	39	31	18	23	28
Central Africa	1990	73,632	33	48	-	-	12	7	-	-	37	21	5	45	29
	2006	115,760	40	50	-	-	4	24	-	-	27	34	12	36	18
Eastern Africa	1990	197,244	18	31	33	18	18	24	9	18	49	25	13	18	44
	2006	300,103	22	37	36	19	8	27	10	23	40	29	16	22	33
Northern Africa	1990	143,963	45	79	6	12	3	40	5	20	35	57	5	18	20
	2006	192,793	52	84	6	7	3	51	7	23	19	68	7	14	11
Southern Africa	1990	41,828	49	64	24	11	1	41	16	14	29	52	20	12	16
	2006	55,316	57	66	25	6	3	46	17	11	26	57	21	9	13
Western Africa	1990	180,754	33	32	27	30	11	15	10	27	48	21	16	27	36
	2006	279,329	43	35	31	24	10	18	12	26	44	25	20	26	29

Sanitation

- 360 million Africans had access to improved sanitation facilities in 2006. Coverage increased from 33% in 1990 to 38% in 2006.
- Urban sanitation coverage is 53% while rural coverage is only 29%.
- Since 1990, the African population without sanitation has increased by 153 million to 583 million in 2006. Increases in coverage are not keeping pace with population growth
- Open defecation - the riskiest sanitation practice –has dropped in Africa from 33 in 1990 to 24% in 2006, although the absolute number of people practicing open defecation has increased by 20 million
- In 38 countries in Africa sanitation coverage is less than 50%.
- 6 countries in Africa are on track to meet the MDG sanitation target.
- To meet the MDG sanitation target, over 400 million people, need to gain access over the period 2006 – 2015.

Current drinking water situation at a glance

Drinking water coverage: Regional estimates by type of drinking water source (1990 and 2006)

Region	Year	Total Population (thousands)	% Urban Population	Urban (%)				Rural (%)				Total (%)			
				Total Improved	Piped connections	Other improved	Un-improved	Total Improved	Piped connections	Other improved	Un-improved	Total Improved	Piped connections	Other improved	Un-improved
Africa	1990	637,421	32	86	56	30	14	42	8	34	58	56	24	32	44
	2006	943,300	39	85	47	38	15	51	12	39	49	64	26	38	36
Sub-Saharan Africa	1990	519,311	28	82	46	36	18	35	4	31	65	49	16	33	51
	2006	788,122	36	81	35	46	19	46	5	41	54	58	16	42	42
Central Africa	1990	73,632	33	76	45	31	24	28	0	28	72	44	15	29	56
	2006	115,760	40	80	27	53	20	35	1	34	65	53	11	42	47
Eastern Africa	1990	197,244	18	85	36	49	15	30	3	27	70	40	9	31	60
	2006	300,103	22	85	41	44	15	45	3	42	55	54	12	42	46
Northern Africa	1990	143,963	45	94	82	12	6	76	30	46	24	84	54	30	16
	2006	192,793	52	93	83	10	7	82	51	31	18	88	68	20	12
Southern Africa	1990	41,828	49	98	87	11	2	62	17	45	38	80	51	29	20
	2006	55,316	57	100	82	18	0	81	37	44	19	92	63	29	8
Western Africa	1990	180,754	33	78	34	44	22	38	3	35	62	51	13	38	49
	2006	279,329	43	75	20	55	25	44	4	40	56	57	11	46	43

Drinking water

- 602 million Africans had access to improved drinking water sources in 2006. Coverage increased from 56% in 1990 to 64% in 2006.
- Urban coverage of improved drinking water sources is 85%, while rural coverage is 51%.
- Since 1990, the African population without access to improved drinking water sources has increased by 61 million to 341 million in 2006. Increases in coverage are not keeping pace with population growth
- In 16 countries in Africa access to improved water sources is less than 50%
- The rate at which Africans gained access to improved water sources, 245 million people since 1990, falls short of meeting the 2015 MDG water target.
- 26 African countries are on track to meet the MDG water target.
- To meet the MDG water target, almost 300 million people, need to gain access over the period 2006 – 2015.



African Ministers' Council on Water

