

Supporting water governance at country level

GoAL-WaSH programme
10 years | 2008-2018



Governance, Advocacy and Leadership in Water, Sanitation and Hygiene (GoAL WaSH)



Foto: Pilar Avello

The challenges of reforming legal and administrative structures in some of the world's most vulnerable states are daunting. How do you support decentralization processes in countries with limited resources and capacities? How do you develop sustainable and affordable tariff systems in impoverished areas? How do you unite people and institutions in the belief that water and sanitation is a common good that needs to be sustainably managed? These are some of the issues the UNDP GoAL WaSH programme addresses. UNDP GoAL WaSH was established in 2008, to accelerate achievement of the water and sanitation Millennium Development Goals (MDGs) and continued towards the fulfilment of the Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs).

The programme, implemented through UNDP Country Offices and partners, is strategically managed by the UNDP-SIWI Water Governance Facility hosted by the Stockholm International Water Institute. It has focused largely on fragile or post-conflict countries where there is a commitment by government to engage in water sector reform with effective and equitable service delivery in the long term. Eighteen countries have been involved in the programme from 2008. Starting 2019, future support is channeled towards water resources management under the new UNDP GoAL-Waters (Governance, Accountability and Learning for Water Sustainability) programme.

A strategic investment

Evaluations have concluded that the GoAL WaSH programme has been able to provide prompt responses and high-quality advice and support to most project countries, which has enhanced capacities and increased options to improve water and sanitation governance.

In addition to achieving the intended GoAL WaSH results, the programme had added benefits and synergies. GoAL WaSH helped leverage an additional USD 63 million in countries where it is active, suggesting that for every dollar invested in a GoAL WaSH project; another USD 16 is leveraged from other organizations, donors and governments. For example, in Togo, GoAL WaSH supported a study and a roadmap to improve drinking water systems in small towns. Following the development of these documents, the Government of Togo committed the investment of USD 23.4 million to improve water systems in semi-urban areas.

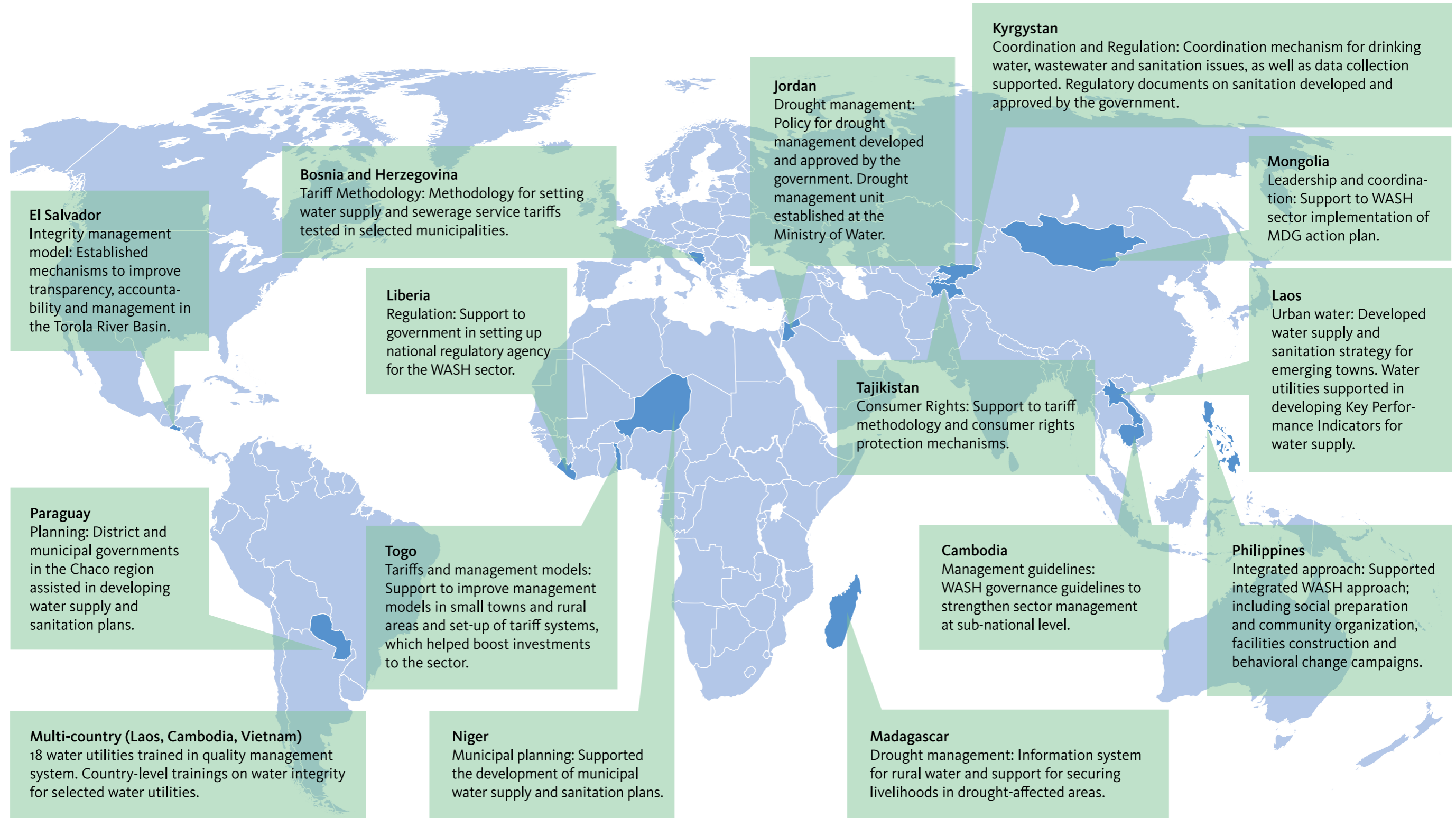
In the Philippines GoAL WaSH supported the implementation of an integrated WaSH approach (iWaSH) in several regions. Sixteen municipalities developed their iWaSH Sector Plans using the iWaSH Toolbox (training modules, assessment tools, etc.). Following the training supported by GoAL WaSH, where Local Government Units were enabled

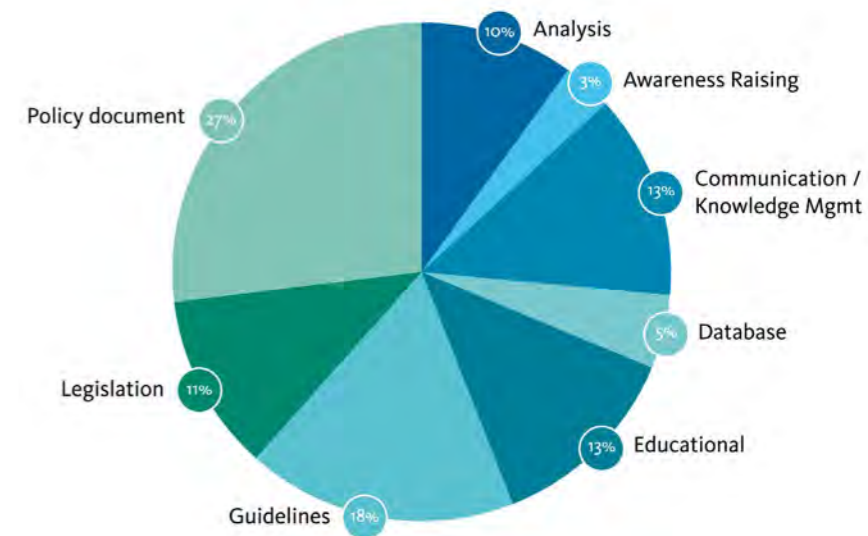
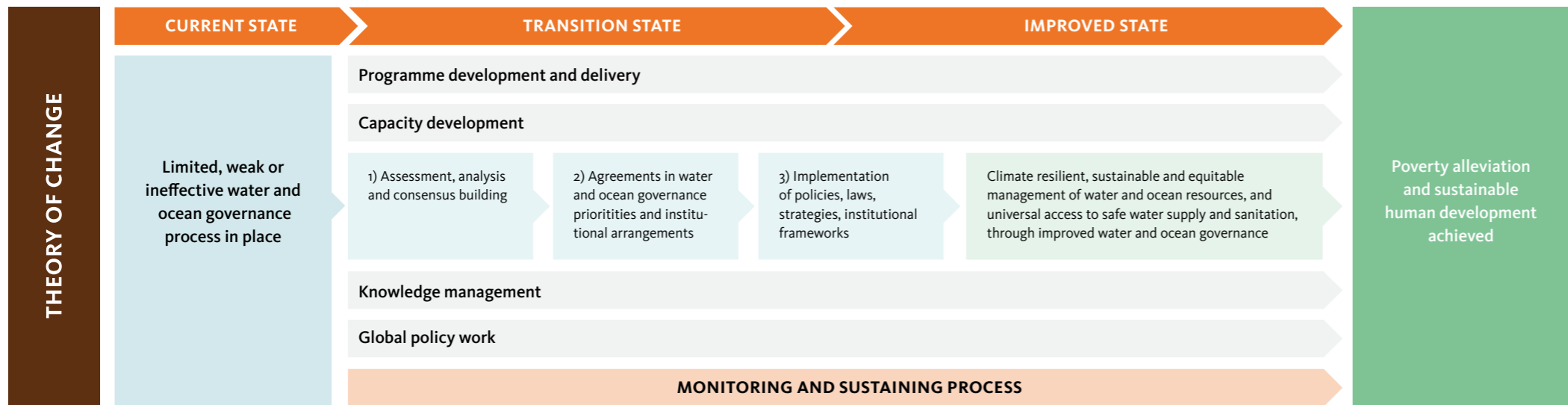
to conduct an integrated sector assessment and planning on WASH, another 345 municipalities developed their sector plans, supported by the Government. USD 2.2 million were allocated to implement the integrated approach in these municipalities.

In Niger GoAL WaSH supported the development of 12 municipal water supply and sanitation plans. Following the GoAL WaSH support, the Government is currently developing an additional 80 local water and sanitation plans covering all regions of the country.

GoAL WaSH also developed strategic processes that are used in and benefit other initiatives. For example, the tariff-setting methodologies developed and piloted through GoAL WaSH in Tajikistan and Bosnia and Herzegovina will be replicated in other larger programmes in the country.

The GOAL WaSH World





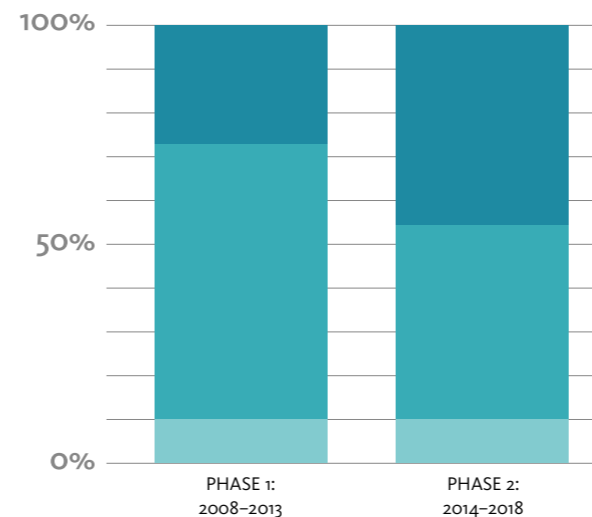
GoAL WaSH at a glance

GoAL WaSH supported work in three areas:

- 1) Identification of gaps, needs, constraints and opportunities in national water and sanitation plans, policies, strategies and capacities (understanding the situation);
- 2) supporting the development and reform of policies, laws, coordinating mechanisms and regulatory functions (preparing for change) and;

3) supporting the implementation with accountability and transparency (implementing change).

The figure above shows the theory of change of the UNDP Water and Ocean Governance Programme, to which the GoAL WaSH programme has contributed. Number 1, 2 and 3 in the figure correspond to the three work areas of GoAL WaSH mentioned above.



Over the 10 years of programme implementation 250 outputs were produced in 12 countries, being over half of them focused on Policy and legislation development together with Guidelines for their implementation. The first phase 2010-2013 focused on understanding the situation and preparing for change, which included the development of policy documents, legislations, educational materials, and operational guidelines. During the second phase, 2014-2018, GoAL WaSH shifted its focus to refining policy documents and supporting implementation of agreed policy frameworks. The pie chart above illustrates the thematic percentage of the 250 outputs.

- 1. Understand
- 2. Preparing for change
- 3. Implementing change

“The GoAL WaSH project of UNDP came with really little money and has been able to achieve tangible results while other projects with greater funds are barely progressing. This project is unique and it has united all partners by creating a constructive environment towards cumulative success in the field of drinking water supply and sanitation services. We officially celebrated it by awarding the GoAL WaSH project in Kyrgyzstan with the Governmental diploma”.

Toktoshev Askarbek, Director of the Drinking Water Supply and Sanitation Department, Bishkek, Kyrgyzstan

“The drought management policy is the result of the efforts of the working group to whom I am thankful. My team has been putting great efforts to enhance water governance that support this policy at all levels, which include enforcement of a suitable legal framework and regulatory tools, enhancing efficient institutional capacities, and supporting dynamic management plans that adapt to the concepts of participation and decentralization all under the umbrella of integrated water resources management which I am sure will show results in the near future”.

Eng. Munir Oweis, Minister of Water and Irrigation, Jordan, about the drought management policy developed with support of the GoAL WaSH programme

“Our utility, NPSE Attapeu, has benefitted enormously from the support of the GoAL WaSH project. Our staff was trained by SIWI and UN-Habitat on water integrity, which exposed us to different tools to enhance organisational accountability standards. Our utility also received comprehensive training and guidance on quality management systems, which resulted us being the first ISO 9001:2015 certified water utility in Laos”.

Mr Keovixien Sixanon, Managing Director NPSE Attapeu, Laos

Contacts

Marianne Kjellén

Senior Water Advisor

United Nations Development Programme (UNDP)

marianne.kjellen@undp.org

Dr Alejandro Jiménez

Thematic Director, WASH Governance

UNDP-SIWI Water Governance Facility (WGF)

alejandro.jimenez@siwi.org

Ms Lotten Hubendick

Programme Officer, GoAL WaSH

UNDP-SIWI Water Governance Facility (WGF)

lotten.hubendick@siwi.org

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