

Annex 6: Key strategies and policies for the WSE sector support

Below the most relevant national and sectoral strategies and policies are presented. They will not be discussed in detail. This annex merely serves as an overview of existing policies that are discussed and referred to throughout the main evaluation report. A timeline is included in the end of the Annex.

National strategies and policies

The first box list overall national development frameworks. Uganda was one of the first African countries to develop a poverty reduction strategy, the Poverty Eradication Action Plan (PEAP) in 1997. This strategy was revised and updated twice in 2000 and 2004 respectively and all the PEAPs included explicit sections on water, sanitation and environment. Targets were well above MDG targets aiming to reach 65% of the rural population and 80% of the urban population that should have easy access to sustainable safe water and sanitation facilities by 2005, 100% of the urban population by 2010 and 100% of the rural population by 2015. The framework for water is more elaborated and clear targets are outlined in the plans whereas this is not the case for sanitation. The PEAP 2004 does not provide a cost calculation for improved sanitation and this seems to reflect a lack of political will to put sanitation on the agenda and view sanitation as a public health issue. Instead there is a tendency in Uganda to view sanitation as a household matter to be dealt with by households themselves and, to a lesser extent, the responsibility of the government.¹

The Uganda Vision 2040 has as its overall aim the transition of Uganda from a low-income to a middle-income country within 30 years. Water and sanitation is mentioned as key to improve housing and health of the population and the vision repeats the ambitious targets of 100% of the population having access to safe piped water by 2040 but no targets are defined for sanitation. Environment and climate changes are also explicitly mentioned as key priority areas for the Vision 2040.

Uganda's National Development Strategies/Frameworks:

- Poverty Eradication Action Plan (PEAP), 1997
- Poverty Eradication Action Plan (PEAP), 2000
- Poverty Eradication Action Plan (PEAP), 2004
- Uganda Vision 2040, 2007
- National Development Plan, 2010
- National Development Plan II, 2005-2019

Targets for both water and sanitation are instead defined in the NDPs. Six NDPs are to be formulated and implemented in order to achieve the Uganda Vision 2040. Key indicators for both water and sanitation are defined for both households and schools and they include access to rural and urban water supply, improved water sources and water quality, hygiene and improved sanitation. The NDP II defines water and sanitation as part of human capital development and the four objectives concern increased access to safe water supply and improved sanitation in rural and urban areas, improved national capacity for water resource management (WRM), improved water resource planning and regulation, water resource monitoring and improved protection of Uganda's interests in international waters. Internally displaced people in the strategy are only briefly mentioned when it comes to water and sanitation.

¹ Evaluation of Danish Support to Water Supply and Sanitation, Country Report Uganda, 2007.

Uganda's WSE Strategies/Frameworks:

Covering both water and sanitation:

- Strategic Investment Plan 2000-2015, 2000
- Water and Sanitation Gender Strategy, 2003
- Strategic Sector Investment Plan (SSIP) for the Water and Sanitation Sector, 2009
- Water and Environment Sector (WES) Development Plan 2015/16-2019/20

Water:

- Uganda Water Action Plan (UWAP), 1995
- National Water Policy, 1999
- National Framework for Operation and Maintenance (O&M) of Rural Water Supplies, 2004
- National Water Strategy, 2006
- National Water Quality Management Strategy (NWQM), 2006
- Strategy for Water Protection (WP), 2015

Sanitation:

- The Kampala Declaration on Sanitation, 1997
- Memorandum of Understanding between Ministry of Health (MoH), Ministry of Water, Lands and Environment (MWLE) and Ministry of Education and Sports (MoES), 2001
- Health Sector Strategic Plan, 2000/01-2004/05
- Environmental Health Policy, 2005
- 10-year Improved Sanitation and Hygiene Promotion Financing Part II, 2006
- Health Sector Strategic and Investment Plan 2010/1-2014/15, 2010
- Health Sector Development Plan 2015/16-2019/20, 2015

Environment:

- The National Environmental Management Policy (NEMP), 1994
- Uganda National Climate Change Policy, 2015

The box above lists the policy framework for water, sanitation and environment and policies/strategies applying to water, sanitation and environment respectively. The policy and legal framework were more or less established in late 1990s and the National Water Policy from 1999 is central to this framework. As for climate change a national policy was only formulated in 2015 but specific targets for environment and climate change were also included in the NDPs. The strategic framework for sanitation is divided among three ministries making coordination and achievements difficult. The Memorandum of Understanding (MoU) between the MoH, MWLE and MoES from 2001 reflects the responsibility of the respective ministries but this is rarely reflected on at the regional and district levels. This has complicated implementation of sanitation activities throughout the period.

Danida strategies and policies

Danish support has been guided by the Ugandan context as briefly presented above, the donor aid context and Denmark's overall strategies and policies for development cooperation. Whereas the donor aid context will be discussed in the main evaluation report here we briefly present the most relevant of Denmark's strategies and policies. These are listed in the box below.

The overall aim of Danish development cooperation is to alleviate poverty, and this was explicitly emphasized in the "Partnership 2000" policy. This policy marks a shift from a focus on economic growth to poverty reduction.

Danida policies and strategies:

- Denmark's Development Policy, Partnership 2000
- A World of Difference: *The Danish Government's Vision for New Priorities in Danish Development Assistance 2004-2008*, 2003
- A World for All: *Priorities of the Danish Government for Danish Development Assistance 2008-2012*, 2007
- Freedom from Poverty - Freedom to Change: *Strategy for Denmark's Development Cooperation*, 2010
- The Right to a Better Life: *Strategy for Denmark's Development Cooperation*, 2011.
- The World 2030. *Denmark's strategy for development cooperation and humanitarian action*, 2017

WSE sector guidelines/policies:

- Water Supply and Sanitation, Danida Sector Policy, 1992
- Water Supply and Sanitation, Danida Sector Policy, 2000
- Danida Aid Management Guidelines, 2005
- A Greener World for All: Strategic Framework for Natural Resources, Energy and Climate Change, 2013

Year 2000 was the year where Denmark invested most in WSS and 8.3% of bilateral assistance was disbursed to the sector.² After this peak, the Danish coalition government from the 2001 election challenged the national consensus around development aid and a reduction in aid levels including in Uganda became a reality. At the same time priorities shifted towards fewer sectors with an emphasis on good governance, democracy and human rights.

In a "World for All" from 2007 the Danish support to water and sanitation is highlighted as a key priority with an emphasis on supporting women's rights and opportunities. Five years later in the "Right to a Better Life" (2011) water is a priority area but with a focus on conflict-affected areas with internally displaced people (IDP). Whereas sanitation is mentioned explicitly in the "World for All" it is less emphasized in the "Right to a Better Life" and only mentioned in relation to IDPs. An overview of new priorities in newly developed country programmes from 2015 illustrates that water and sanitation is no longer a key Danish priority and bilateral support to the water sector is only a reality in Mali.³

The World 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development refers explicitly to the SDGs and defines security, migration, inclusive sustainable growth and freedom as main strategic aims. Water is mentioned under inclusive sustainable growth and the strategy reflects on the potentials for Danish private companies to form partnerships, transfer knowledge and invest in the sector. Sanitation is not mentioned as a priority area in the sector.

Specific sector policies for WSS were developed in 1992 and 2000. In 2005 sector policies were however replaced by the Danida Aid Management Guideline which stated that sector strategies would no longer be developed. In light of the harmonization and alignment agenda Denmark would instead support development of national sector strategies. However, the launch of "A Greener World for All" in 2013 emphasized the previous social democratic government's environmental priorities in Denmark as well as in development cooperation.

² Evaluation of Danish Support to Water Supply and Sanitation, Appendix 12: Financial overview Danida bilateral support to WSS, 2007.

³ Priorities for Danish Development Cooperation 2015: Overview of the development cooperation budget 2015-2018.

