

# WHO and UNICEF launch Joint Monitoring Programme report on Progress on Sanitation and Drinking Water – 2010

The new WHO/UNICEF Joint Monitoring Programme (JMP) report Progress on Sanitation and Drinking-Water –2010 Update Report, released March 15, 2010 says the world is on track to meet or even exceed the drinking-water target of the Millennium Development Goals (MDGs), with 87% of the world's population or approximately 5.9 billion people using safe drinking-water sources. However the report also points out that with almost 39% of the world's population, or over 2.6 billion people, continuing to live without improved sanitation facilities much more needs to be done to meet the sanitation MDG target.

The JMP report 2010 presents the current status and trends in 209 countries or territories towards reaching the drinking-water and sanitation Millennium Development Goals (MDGs) targets, and an assessment as to what these trends reveal.

The report provides the clearest picture to date of the use of improved sanitation facilities and improved sources of drinking-water throughout the world. The report is aimed to help policy-makers, donors, government and nongovernment agencies decide what needs to be done and where to focus their efforts to achieve these goals.

The WHO/UNICEF Joint Monitoring Programme for Water Supply and Sanitation is the official UN mechanism tasked with monitoring progress towards MDG Target 7 on drinking water supply and sanitation. The report includes information from household surveys and censuses completed during the 1985–2008 period.

A record number of nearly 300 datasets were added to the global database for this year's report. Importantly, the latest data has not yet registered the impact of the International Year of Sanitation (2008), which is hoped will make a significant difference to the rate of progress towards the MDG sanitation target

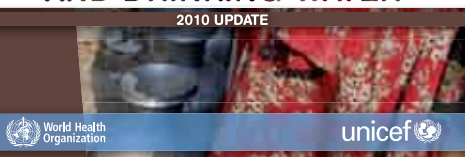
Of course there is no simple one solution or 'one size fits all' approach that can be taken globally. This is especially true in the Pacific region where many factors such as water source, type of facilities, geographic location and vulnerable groups may need more adapted mechanisms in order to address water safety, sanitation and hygiene issues.

The Pacific Water Supply Sanitation and Hygiene (WASH) Coalition, especially the WHO South Pacific Office, United Nations Children Fund - UNICEF Pacific, SOPAC and other partners are looking at opportunities to enable Pacific island countries to provide relevant water and sanitation data to be included in Joint Monitoring Programme reporting. The challenge includes the validation process used by the Joint Monitoring Programme as well as the specific methodology established for collection of data.



## PROGRESS ON SANITATION AND DRINKING-WATER

2010 UPDATE



For more information on the JMP report 2010 contact,  
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