Water, sanitation and hygiene (WASH) are essential for health, welfare and livelihoods. Increased access and better services lead to higher levels of school achievement and improved economic productivity. Yet too many people do not have these basic human rights. After 2015, we must do better.

The vision

Universal access to safe drinking water, sanitation and hygiene

The target

By 2030:
- to eliminate open defecation;
- to achieve universal access to basic drinking water, sanitation and hygiene for households, schools and health facilities;
- to halve the proportion of the population without access at home to safely managed drinking water and sanitation services; and
- to progressively eliminate inequalities in access.

These recommendations have been developed through an extensive technical consultation; over 100 experts from over 60 organizations worldwide have debated them during the last three years. They are ambitious, yet achievable.

More information about the consultation process, corresponding definitions of terms and indicators, and the ways these targets contribute towards progress on poverty, health, nutrition, education, gender and economic growth can be found at www.wssinfo.org
International consultations were facilitated by the WHO/UNICEF Joint Monitoring Programme (JMP) for Water Supply and Sanitation.

Working groups were led by the following organizations:

- Gillings School of Global Public Health, University of North Carolina at Chapel Hill, USA
- GIZ, Burkina Faso
- GIZ, Kenya
- GIZ/SUSANA, Germany
- ICF International
- ICF International, USA
- Institute of Nutrition Research; US Navy Medical
- Inter-American Development Bank (AIDB), USA
- International Water Association (IWA), The Netherlands
- Japan International Cooperation Agency (JICA), Japan
- LSHTM/SHARE Consortium, UK
- Mailman School of Public Health, Columbia University
- Mel & Enid Zuckerman College of Public Health, University of Arizona
- Ministry of Drinking Water and Sanitation, India
- Ministry of Foreign Affairs, Finland
- Ministry of Foreign Affairs, The Netherlands
- Ministry of Public Health and Sanitation, Kenya
- Ministry of Water and Sanitation, Madagascar
- Ministry of Water and Sanitation, Mozambique
- Ministry of Water Resources, Works & Housing, Ghana
- National Statistical Office, Paraguay
- Netherlands Water Partnership, The Netherlands
- Oxford University/London School of Hygiene and Tropical Medicine, UK
- Plan International, USA
- Research Unit, Peru
- Rural Water Supply Department, Uganda
- Rural Water Supply Network, Switzerland
- Sanitation and Water for All
- School of Law, New York University
- Spanish Agency of International Cooperation for Development (AECID), Spain
- Stanford University, USA
- Stockholm International Water Institute, Sweden
- U.S. Department of State
- UN Habitat, Kenya
- UN-Water
- Unilever, UK
- United Nations Development Programme, USA
- United Nations Secretary General’s Advisory Board on Water and Sanitation (UNSGAB), Canada
- University of Arizona
- University of Leeds, UK
- USAID/WASHplus Project
- Water and Sanitation for Africa, Burkina Faso
- Water and Sanitation Regulatory Council, Mozambique
- Water For People, USA
- Water Institute, University of North Carolina, USA
- Water.Org
- World Bank
- WEDC, Loughborough University, UK

Other groups involved in the consultation included:

- African Development Bank, Tunisia
- African Minister’s Council on Water (AMCOW)
- Aga Khan University
- Aguacconsult, UK
- Amnesty International, UK
- Asian Development Bank
- Association of Sanitary and Environmental Engineering, Brazil
- Bamako University, Mali
- Bill and Melinda Gates Foundation
- Center for Economic and Social Rights, USA
- Centre for Food Safety, University of Georgia
- Centres for Disease Control, USA
- CEPT University, India
- Department for International Development (DFID), UK
- Dept. of Social and Preventive Medicine, University of Buffalo
- Durban Water/eThekwini Municipality, South Africa
- EAWAG, Switzerland
- FANTA III Project, FHI 360, USA
- Federal Ministry for Economic Cooperation and Development, Germany
- French Development Agency, France
- German Institute for Human Rights
- German Institute of Human Rights, Germany
- Ghana Bureau of Statistics, Ghana
- IRC
- USAID
- IRC
- UN-Water
- World Bank
- WSP

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