ABOUT THE GLOBAL SANITATION FUND

The Global Sanitation Fund is a pooled global fund established to gather and direct finance to help large numbers of poor people to attain safe sanitation services and adopt good hygiene practices. There are 2.6 billion people, close to 40% of the world’s population, who do not have access to basic sanitation. The Global Sanitation Fund offers an efficient and cost-effective opportunity for contributors to help the world’s poorest people address this most basic everyday need.

The Global Sanitation Fund is a programme of the Water Supply and Sanitation Collaborative Council (WSSCC). Launched in 2008, the Global Sanitation Fund promotes sustainable, long-term sanitation and hygiene. As a United Nations trust fund, it is subject to the highest standard of ethics, audit and financial control.
THE NEED FOR THE GLOBAL SANITATION FUND

There is a global sanitation crisis. Today, 2.6 billion people do not have access to safe, basic sanitation. Yet we know that without sanitation facilities, people get sick and can die, can’t work, or drop out of school. There are serious consequences for communities, the environment, children’s education and the economy.

Lack of access to safe water supply, sanitation and hygiene is the third most significant risk factor for poor health in developing countries with high mortality rates. Diarrhoea alone is responsible for the deaths of 1.8 million people every year, 90% of whom are children under five. The costs of treating diarrhoeal diseases drain both national budgets and family finances.

The good news is that:

- Improved water quality reduces childhood diarrhoea by 15-20%.
- Better hygiene through hand washing and safe food handling reduces it by 35%.
- Safe disposal of children’s faeces leads to a reduction of nearly 40%.

Improved sanitation in developing countries typically yields about USD 9 in economic returns for every USD 1 spent.

Investing in improved sanitation and hygiene has enormous potential to save lives, but to date there has been no global financing mechanism dedicated to sanitation and hygiene. Funding has come piecemeal from donors to governments, from international organisations or from non-governmental organisations (NGOs). To act and to tackle the sanitation crisis, WSSCC established the Global Sanitation Fund.

The Global Sanitation Fund is not a separate organisation but a fund established to boost expenditure on sanitation and hygiene in support of national policies. The fundamental goal is to help large numbers of poor people attain safe and sustainable sanitation services and adopt good hygiene practices. The Global Sanitation Fund supports other organisations’ implementation work by giving grants from a pooled global fund to carefully selected organisations in eligible countries. On average, WSSCC funds in-country Global Sanitation Fund programmes to about USD 1 million per year.
WHERE THE GLOBAL SANITATION FUND WORKS

The Global Sanitation Fund is global in scope, but works in carefully selected countries in order to use and direct its resources effectively. The selection criteria are the following:

- a large number of people and high proportion of population without basic sanitation;

- high incidence of disease related to poor water, sanitation and inadequate hygiene;

- low economic and social development indicators, as reflected in the Human Development Index;

- a national sanitation strategy which is not already being fully funded from other sources;

- an existing active National WASH Coalition, or a functioning, active and like-minded coordination mechanism with which WSSCC has contact, that request Global Sanitation Fund funding for that country;

- government agreement and welcome that the Global Sanitation Fund can support work in the country.

The first round of countries approved for funding are Burkina Faso, India, Madagascar, Nepal, Pakistan, Senegal and Uganda.
In Madagascar, a regional approach supports work that combines hygiene promotion, community-led total sanitation and sanitation marketing. The objective is to attain open defecation free communities in all selected regions, together with communes having a budget and capacity for hygiene promotion and a vibrant private sector providing improved sanitation.

The Global Sanitation Fund in Uganda features a mix of community-led total sanitation, sanitation marketing and private sector capacity building. As in Madagascar, there is a district-wide approach whereby a challenge and vision for each district is created, around which government, NGOs and the private sector can collaborate.

In Senegal, the Global Sanitation Fund will work about 75% of the time in rural areas, where the focus will be on demand creation and sanitation and hygiene promotion, supported by the development of information, education and communication materials. In peri-urban areas the Global Sanitation Fund will support private sector involvement in efforts to improve access.

In general, the Global Sanitation fund will, where needed, support work to establish an enabling environment for promotion of sanitation and hygiene practices, advocacy and awareness building for local government leaders, and strengthening of the sanitation supply chain.

THE SECOND ROUND OF COUNTRIES APPROVED FOR PROJECT PREPARATION ARE BANGLADESH, BENIN, CAMBODIA, ETHIOPIA, KENYA, MALAWI, MALI, NIGERIA, TANZANIA AND TOGO.
The Global Sanitation Fund has a robust process for disbursing funds in the form of grants. This involves governance, management, advice, execution and rigorous evaluation which are provided by key organisations described below and in the organisational chart on the opposite page.

At the global level, the Global Sanitation Fund is managed by the WSSCC Secretariat in Geneva. The Secretariat gathers funds and donations, selects the eligible countries for funding, and manages the disbursement of funds. WSSCC is administratively and legally hosted by the United Nations Office for Project Services (UNOPS). WSSCC, and therefore the purpose, principles and scope of the Global Sanitation Fund, are governed by a member-elected Steering Committee. The Steering Committee approves the operating procedures, decides all working criteria, approves the selection of countries and allocation of funds, and reviews the overall progress and performance of the Global Sanitation Fund.

All contributors agree that their funds can be used for the purposes decided by the Steering Committee. WSSCC encourages donors to make multi-year commitments to this fund, in order to help long-term financial planning. WSSCC welcomes the support of donors to the Global Sanitation Fund that have not previously supported sanitation work.

The Global Sanitation Fund has an independent Advisory Committee that gives advice on its operations and ensures the quality of the programmes and work it supports. The Global Sanitation Fund is committed to good practice and supporting result-driven programmes to ensure efficiency and cost-effectiveness.

In many developing countries national sanitation policies exist but the funding to implement them does not. The Global Sanitation Fund works with national governments to accelerate the implementation of these policies. The national governments themselves provide the leadership and legitimacy to any work undertaken by the Global Sanitation Fund.
The Global Sanitation Fund is not open to individual or spontaneous funding requests or expressions of interest. Should you wish to apply please contact your national WASH coalition or, if it exists, the executing agency in your country, by consulting WSSC’s website at www.WSSCC.org

It is typically the existing WSSCC National WASH Coalition or other WSSCC partners that request funding for a country. At this point the support of the national government is sought and must be agreed. These parties, including representatives from relevant ministries, international and national NGOs, civil society and the private sector, form the basis for a Programme Coordinating Mechanism (PCM). The PCM makes certain that the work of the Global Sanitation Fund is in line with national policies and the activities of the National WASH Coalitions that undertake professional networking, knowledge management, advocacy and communications work.

The Coalitions continue to provide strategic oversight to the programmes.

Once countries and the sanitation and/or hygiene programme have been selected for funding, the Global Sanitation Fund appoints an Executing Agency, after an open and competitive procurement process, to receive the grant and manage the funded programme. The Executing Agency selects and enters into agreement with Sub-Grantees who directly implement programme activities on the ground. Country Programme Monitors, independently appointed by the Global Sanitation Fund, verify programme implementation and report to WSSCC.

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**ORGANISATIONAL COMPONENTS OF THE GLOBAL SANITATION FUND**

- **WSSCC Steering Committee**
  - Governance

- **Host Agency (UNOPS)**
  - Legal identity, contracts, audit

- **WSSCC Secretariat**
  - Global management

- **Advisory Committee**
  - Technical advice

- **Coordinating Mechanism**
  - Links to Government and National WASH Coalition

- **Country Programme Monitor**
  - Verification of implementation

- **Executing Agency**
  - In-country management

- **Sub-Grantees**
  - Field implementation

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*AT THE GLOBAL LEVEL*
The Global Sanitation Fund respects national leadership

The Global Sanitation Fund only operates in countries with the explicit agreement and welcome of the national government. All Global Sanitation Fund-supported work programmes must address the national sanitation policy aims and be part of well-coordinated national or local strategies owned by the people and their governments.

The Global Sanitation Fund targets poor and unserved communities

All Global Sanitation Fund funds must contribute to improved sanitation and hygiene for people who currently lack basic sanitation. The Global Sanitation Fund focuses particularly on groups whose needs are not adequately met by existing funding mechanisms, especially the poor in rural and peri-urban areas, marginalised populations and people with disabilities.

The Global Sanitation Fund expands coverage

While open to innovation, the Global Sanitation Fund’s main goal is to increase the number of people with improved sanitation and hygiene. It therefore supports scaling up and replication of proven approaches rather than development and testing of new ones.

The Global Sanitation Fund is people-centred, community-managed and demand driven

The Global Sanitation Fund supports work programmes that aim to achieve community level health benefits and respond to the needs and wishes of the people. Global Sanitation Fund-supported work concentrates on hygiene education, raising awareness and creating demand.

The Global Sanitation Fund promotes sustainable services

The Global Sanitation Fund aims to support safe and sustainable services, i.e. those that protect and promote human health and at the same time do not contribute to environmental degradation or depletion of the resource base, are technically and institutionally appropriate, economically viable and socially acceptable.

The Global Sanitation Fund incorporates gender considerations

Sanitation and hygiene have very
strong gender links, especially in respect to the privacy, dignity and equity of opportunity of women and girls. The Global Sanitation Fund requires that all supported work gives due consideration to gender.

**The Global Sanitation Fund pools funds**

The Global Sanitation Fund is a single pooled fund, open to contributions from any source, including governments, foundations, private sector and individuals.

The Global Sanitation Fund’s purpose is to boost expenditure on sanitation and hygiene in particular countries. Funds provided by the Global Sanitation Fund are additional to other sources of funding for sanitation and hygiene in those same countries and cannot be used to replace funding from existing sources.

**The Global Sanitation Fund uses results-based management**

Each Global Sanitation Fund work programme has a clearly-defined beneficiary group, methodology and timescale. Results-based management enhances accountability, encourages strong performance and creates opportunities for innovation.

**The Global Sanitation Fund works transparently**

All procedures, processes, decisions and reports relating to grants management are publicly available on the Global Sanitation Fund section of WSSCC’s website at www.wsscc.org.
THE GLOBAL SANITATION FUND AND THE MILLENNIUM DEVELOPMENT GOALS

The Global Sanitation Fund will contribute to progress towards the Millennium Development Goals, especially those goals aiming to reduce child mortality (Goal 4) and to ensure environmental sustainability (Goal 7). Targets to be achieved by 2015 for these goals include reducing by two-thirds the under-five mortality rate and halving the proportion of people without sustainable access to basic sanitation (Target 10). Improved sanitation and hygiene will also contribute towards other goals including eradication of extreme poverty and hunger (Goal 1), achievement of universal primary education (Goal 2), and promotion of gender equality and empowerment of women (Goal 3).

Good hygiene and sanitation, together with safe drinking water, are essential to keeping people healthy. Better health means more time spent on income generating activities and lower medical expenses. Children miss fewer school days due to sickness, and access to school sanitation facilities keeps more children, especially girls, in school. Improved schooling enhances their income generating potential as adults. Safe sanitation gives women better health, dignity and privacy. Improved sanitation helps control pollution and enhances the environment of both households and communities.

Whilst WSSCC, through the Global Sanitation Fund, will contribute to progress towards the UN Millennium Development Goals, it is fundamentally committed to water, sanitation and hygiene for all people.

To find out more about the Global Sanitation Fund, how to apply or to donate, please visit www.wsscc.org.
The Water Supply and Sanitation Collaborative Council

The Water Supply and Sanitation Collaborative Council (WSSCC) is a global multi-stakeholder partnership and membership organisation that works to save lives and improve livelihoods. It does so by enhancing collaboration among sector agencies and professionals who are working to improve access for the 2.6 billion people without safe sanitation and the 884 million people without clean drinking water. Through its work, WSSCC contributes to the broader goals of poverty eradication, health and environmental improvement, gender equality and long-term social and economic development. WSSCC has coalitions in 35 countries, members in more than 160 countries, and a Geneva-based Secretariat hosted by the United Nations Office for Project Services (UNOPS).