

Using SDG 6 Policy Support System (SDG-PSS) in Malawi

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Overall status of SDG 6 at the national level

- Overall status of SDG 6 achievement (Achievements, key water- and sanitation-related challenges). Potential impact (how many people may benefit) if SDG 6 targets and indicators are achieved in your country by 2030?
 - a) SDG 6.1 on access to improved water sources is at 87.9 % of which 12 % have water on premises (safely managed service level), 62.5 % up to including 30 minutes walking (Basic service) and 12.5 more that 30 minutes walking distance (limited service)
 - b) SDG 6.2 on access to safely managed sanitation services is at 45.8 %
 - c) SDG 6.3.1 Proportion of Treated waste water is at 46.70%
 - d) SDG 6.3.2 Proportion of bodies of water with good ambient water quality is at 88%
 - e) SDG 6.4.1 Change in water use efficiency over time (cant be measured due to insufficient data)
 - f) SDG 6.4.2 Level of water stress; freshwater withdrawal as a proportion of available freshwater resources is at 47.62%
 - g) SDG 6.5.1 Degree of integrated water resources management implementation (0-100) is at 100%
 - h) SDG 6.5.2 Proportion of trans boundary basin area with an operational arrangement for water cooperation is at 100%
 - i) SDG 6.6 on Change in the extent of Water Related ecosystems can't be measured due to insufficient data

Overall status of SDG 6 at the national level

b) Key Water and Sanitation related Challenges

- a) Inadequate financial resources due to
 - ❖ Inadequate State funding
 - ❖ limited success in resources mobilization strategy
- a) Frequent occurrence of Climate Related disasters-Destroying available WASH Infrastructure
- b) Regulation gaps leading to inefficient technical economic management of Water supply and Sanitation services
- c) Inadequate personnel and limited capacity
- d) Vandalism/theft
- e) Unstable Currency
- f) Geopolitical conflicts- rising cost of inputs and materials
- c) **How many people would benefit if SDG s are achieved**

Access to safely managed water service level – 2.53 Million

Access to safely managed Sanitation – 11.43 million

Most important target(s) and indicator(s) and why		
Target	Indicator	Importance
By 2030, achieve universal and equitable access to safe and affordable drinking water for all	6.1.1 Proportion of population using safely managed drinking water services	Increased drinking water services allow for higher economic productivity, provides adequate time for education, and health-care savings
6.2 By 2030, achieve access to adequate and equitable sanitation and hygiene for all and end open defecation, paying special attention to the needs of women and girls and those in vulnerable situations	6.2.1 Proportion of population using safely managed sanitation services, including a hand-washing facility with soap and water	This indicator is very important for public health and sanitation of the citizenry of Malawi as it directly impacts disease prevention, environmental protection, and overall well-being.
6.3. By 2030, improve water quality by reducing pollution, eliminating dumping and minimizing release of hazardous chemicals and materials, halving the proportion of untreated wastewater and substantially increasing recycling and safe reuse globally.	6.3.1 Proportion of treated wastewater generated	It also helps in the controlling of pollution
	6.3.2 Proportion of bodies of water with good ambient water quality	It helps in assessment of the health of water resources and the well-being of ecosystems, human populations, and economies
6.4 By 2030, substantially increase water-use efficiency across all sectors and ensure sustainable withdrawals and supply of freshwater to address water scarcity and substantially reduce the number of people suffering from water scarcity		
	6.4.2 Level of water stress: freshwater withdrawal as a proportion of available freshwater resources	It shows the degree to which water resources are being exploited to meet the country's water demand.
6.5 By 2030, implement integrated water resources management at all levels, including through transboundary cooperation as appropriate	6.5.1 Degree of integrated water resources management implementation (0-100)	crucial for effectively managing water resources. It
	6.5.2 Proportion of transboundary basin area with an operational arrangement for water cooperation	it helps to understand how Malawi is working together with neighboring countries to manage shared water resources,

SDG 6 Targets and Indicators

Not so Important Indicators		
6.4 By 2030, substantially increase water-use efficiency across all sectors and ensure sustainable withdrawals and supply of freshwater to address water scarcity and substantially reduce the number of people suffering from water scarcity	6.4.1 Change in water use efficiency over time	crucial for sustainable water management and achieving water-related goals however we do not have sufficient data to measure it
6.6 By 2030, protect and restore water-related ecosystems, including mountains, forests, wetlands, rivers, aquifers and lakes	6.6.1 Change in the extent of Water Related ecosystems	Insufficient data to measure the same

National agencies involved in SDG 6 achievement

- Names of the ministries, national institutions, any other relevant entity
 - ✓ Ministry of water and sanitation
 - ✓ Ministry of Health
 - ✓ Ministry responsible for Finance
 - ✓ Ministry of Local Government
 - ✓ Ministry responsible for Natural Resources
 - ✓ Ministry of Agriculture and Irrigation
 - ✓ Department of environmental affairs
 - ✓ National Water Boards
 - ✓ CSOs
 - ✓ NGOs
 - ✓ Development Partners

Reflections on SDG-PSS and its online course

- Contribution of SDG-PSS online course in using SDG-PSS and navigating its main features? Was the course helpful in using SDG-PSS or not? What is needed to improve the course further?
 - ✓ The course was useful as it provided the background, objective, main components of the policy support system as well as an overview interms data and reporting elements of the system .
 - ✓ There may be need to include more practical sessions on how to use the system

Relevance of SDG-PSS Components

- Most relevant components of SDG-PSS in the national context and why?

All the components of the SDG- PSS are relevant at National Context

- **Capacity Assessment;** This helps in generating a thorough understanding of capacity assets, needs and gaps. This understanding is critical in informing capacity development policies, strategies and plans that will guide lead agencies and development actors. The absence of adequate capacities at both the central and council level negatively affect the attainment of the SDGs
- **Finance Assessment;** This play a critical role in informing governments on the gaps and weakness in the funding mechanisms for the water sector. In most cases the funding towards water sector is erratic which affects proper planning
- **Policy and Institutional Assessment;** Comprehensive water related policy and institutional assessments can provides guidance on the design of effective evidence-based policy interventions by identifying areas where changes are needed, and the actions needed to make them happen.
- **Gender Mainstreaming;** Gender aspects must be considered as a core element of all water-related policy at national and international levels. It is now widely understood that the gendered dynamics of water and sanitation reinforce the linkages between poverty, gender and sustainable development
- **DRR/Resilience Mainstreaming;** Malawi is one of the Countries which high susceptible to Climate change and extreme weather events and faces massive economic losses from the damage or destruction of assets
- **Integrity.** Mainstreaming integrity and transparency practices across water policies, water institutions and water governance frameworks is critical to achieve greater accountability and trust in water related policy-making . Corruption is one of the main obstacles to sustainable economic, political and social progress, for both low, middle and high-income economies

Summary

- While it is possible to get data for some of the SDG 6 indicators, there are still some challenges in getting adequate data for other indicators
- The attainment of some of the SDG 6 Targets by 2030 such as universal access to safely managed sanitation services may not be possible considering the remaining time .
- There are various players , Government and non governmental Organizations which are involved in the achievement of SDG6.
- Most of the indicators and targets under SDG 6 are important and relevant within the national context
- The components of SDG- SPSS are important if SDG 6 is to be achieved.