



WHO Role in Achieving the SDGs:

Highlights on SDG 3 and SDG 6 in Humanitarian Settings

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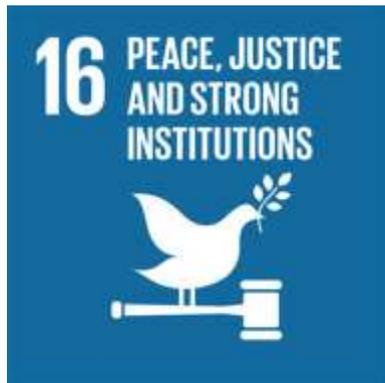
Session Outline

- Overview of Health-Related SDGs
- Update on the Progress
- SDG 3 and SDG 6 Progress and Milestones
- Humanitarian interventions in WASH
- Challenges within the EMR
- Way Forward



SDG targets and indicators – EMR Report 2020

Risks to health



The report covers 50 health-related SDG targets and indicators



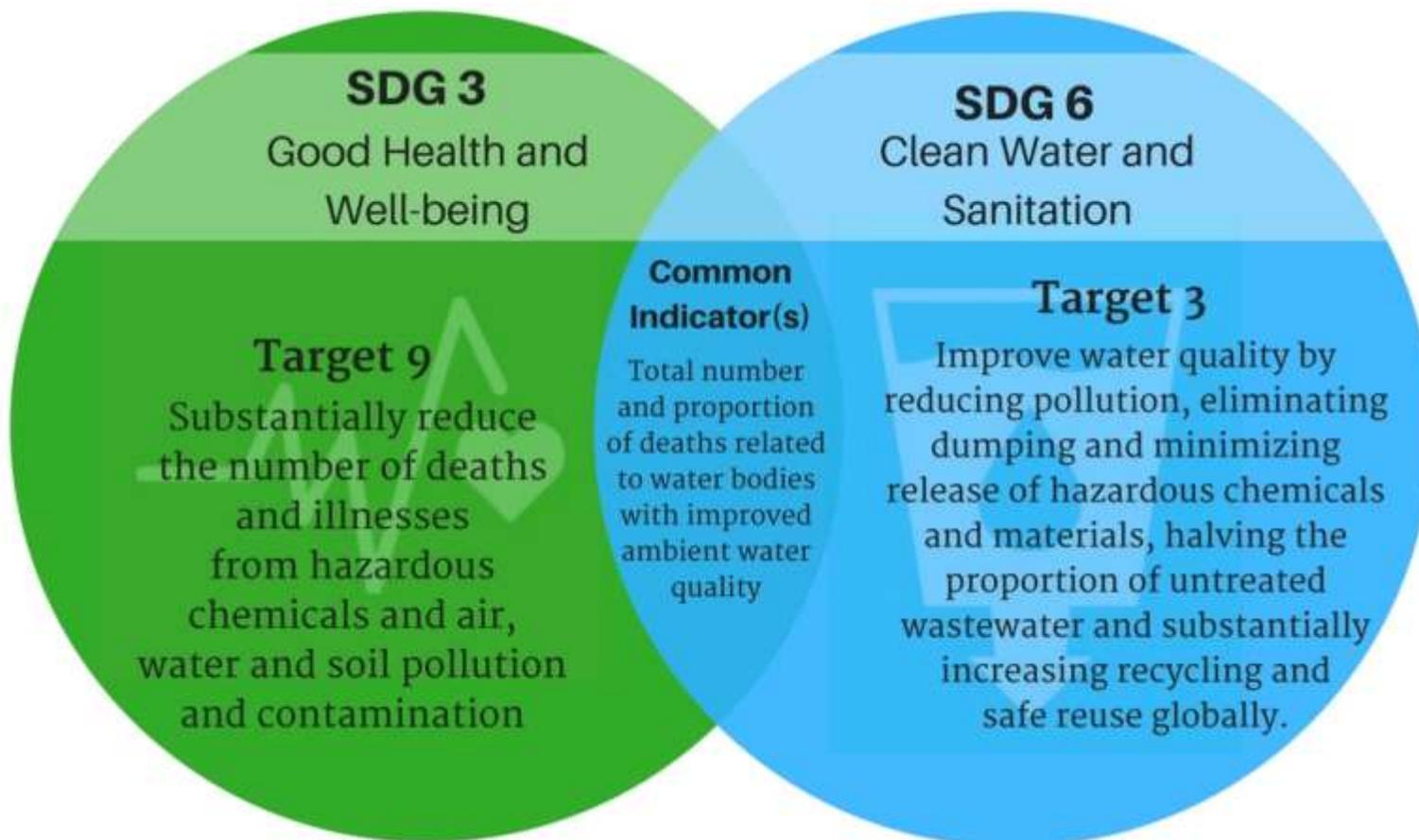
Health determinants



Good Health and Well-being & Clean Water and Sanitation

'a major risk factor for infectious diseases and mortality is the lack of safe water, sanitation and hygiene (WASH) services'. (extended SDG 3)

- Reinforces the connection to **SDG 6** with focus on targets 1 (drinking water), 2 (sanitation and hygiene) and 3 (wastewater)



Key Findings and Results – 2015 vs 2019

3 GOOD HEALTH AND WELL-BEING



- Fewer children are malnourished, wasting among children < 5 dropped from 7.5% to 3.8%
- Some improvement in vaccination DTP3: 80 to 82%, MCV2: 68 to 75% and PCV3: 50 to 52%
- Child mortality rate (Target: < 25/1000 live births) 2015: 52 VS 2019: 46
- Health service coverage index (Target: 80+) 2015: 53 while 2020: 61.7
- Access to improved drinking water and sanitation facilities:

246 million people in the Region **lack basic sanitation** facilities (mainly in AFG, PAK, SOM, SUD, YEM)

62 million people in the same countries lack **basic drinking** water services

6 CLEAN WATER AND SANITATION



Open defecation: **42 million** (Pop. 670 Millions)

- Need to extend basic sanitation services to **159 million** ((mainly in AFG, PAK, SOM, SUD, YEM)
- Need to extend basic water services to **77 million** people in the same countries
- 56% of the population have safely managed drinking water services but urban rural disparities exist
- 45% of the urban population have safely managed sanitation services
- safely managed drinking water services was reported in only 13 countries/22 countries
- safely managed sanitation services was reported in only 16 countries (No estimate in 7 countries due to lack of reporting on wastewater tx and safe disposal)

[jmp-2021-wash-households_3.pdf \(washdata.org\)](#)

PROGRESS ON
THE HEALTH-RELATED
SUSTAINABLE DEVELOPMENT
GOALS AND TARGETS IN THE
EASTERN MEDITERRANEAN
REGION, 2020



Five key challenges towards achieving SDGs in the Region

Five key challenges *that negatively affect health-related SDGs*

1. Weak governance
2. Fragmented health care services
3. Limited data availability
4. Impact of emergencies, fragile and humanitarian settings
5. Gender equality and health disparities



SUSTAINABLE
DEVELOPMENT
GOALS



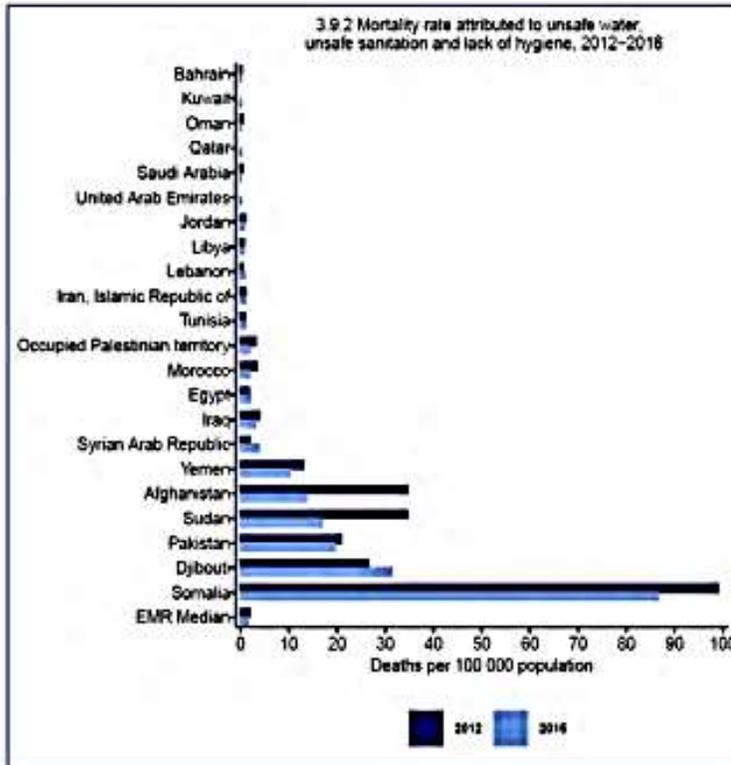
World Health
Organization
REGIONAL OFFICE FOR THE
Eastern Mediterranean



Role of WHO



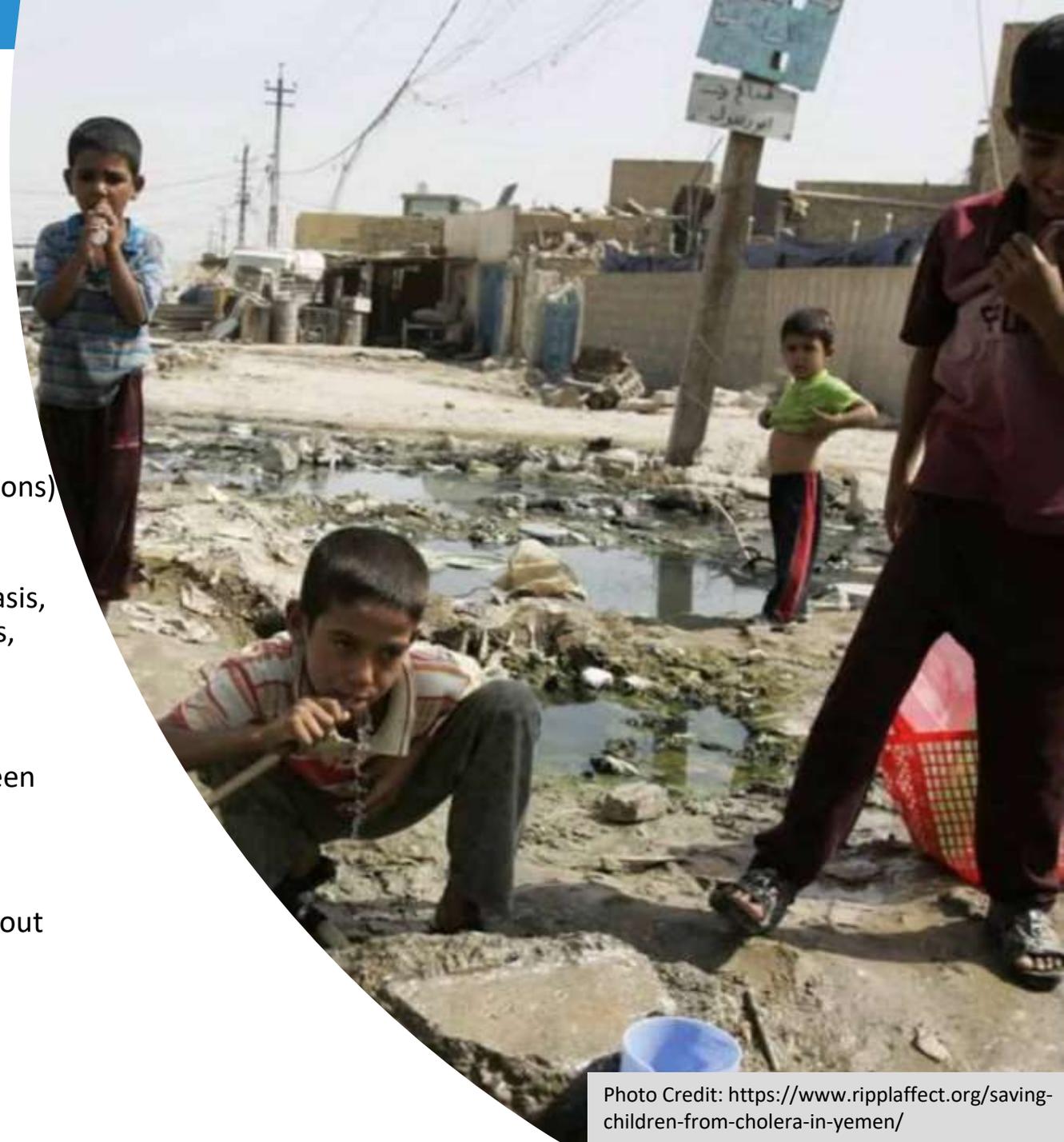
- Improve Health and WASH services in households, healthcare facilities and schools:
- Support and coordinate country contribution to **global reporting (GLAAS, SDG6 progress reports, etc.)**
- Undertake **situational analysis and assessments** of health and WASH services in healthcare facilities, including healthcare waste management.
- **Improve health and WASH services** (governance, monitoring and surveillance)
- Strengthen the **role of the health sector** within WASH
- **WHO and UNICEF collaborating on the Joint Monitoring Programme for Water Supply, Sanitation and Hygiene (JMP) (SDG 6.1, 6.2)**



Mortality Rates Attributed to Unsafe Water 2012-2014

WASH Related Health Risks in Humanitarian Settings

- **Infections related to drinking Water:** infectious diarrhea (**cholera**, salmonellosis, shigellosis, amoebiasis & other protozoal and viral infections)
- Typhoid and paratyphoid fevers, acute hepatitis A, E and F, schistosomiasis, trachoma, intestinal helminth infections, **malaria**, Japanese encephalitis, West Nile virus infection, **yellow fever** and impetigo
- **Toxic chemicals** may enter water supplies, especially when there has been massive flooding
- The most vulnerable groups are **children under five and the elderly**. About 90% of the deaths due to diarrhea occur in children under 5



Applications of WASH in Humanitarian response

- **Cholera** still endemic in some EMR countries: Yemen had the largest cholera outbreak ever
- Reducing cholera deaths by 90% by 2030, Includes:
 - Prioritizing WASH in cholera hotspots
 - Improvement of WASH conditions in HC facilities
 - Implementation of WASH with all vaccination efforts; integrating into OCV rollout as well as other vaccines for waterborne diseases (e.g., rotavirus and typhoid)
 - Integrating cholera prevention into all work on water quality, quantity, including household water treatment, sanitation, handwashing, etc.



Photo Credit: New York Times, Yemen, 2017

Applications of WASH in Humanitarian response

- **COVID-19:** WASH and waste management for SARS-CoV-2
 - Wastewater and sludge treatment
 - Standard treatment processes are effective for COVID-19, combining physical, biological and chemical processes
 - A final disinfection step (and pre chlorination) considered essential if existing treatment plants are not optimized to remove viruses



GLOBAL PROGRESS REPORT ON
WASH IN HEALTH CARE FACILITIES
Fundamentals first



“ The pandemic is a reminder of the intimate and delicate relationship between people and planet.

Any efforts to make our world safer are doomed unless they address the critical interface between people and pathogens, and the existential threat of climate change, that is making our Earth less habitable “

WHO DG Dr Tedros Adhanom Ghebreyesus, WHA, May 2020



Thank you

Way forward

Strengthen government leadership and functions

Improve good governance of SDGs (e.g. collaborative structures)

Ensure sustainable financial investments in health

Strengthen the leadership role of the health sector for multisectoral action

Expand access to health services

Promote universal health coverage

Institutionalize systems of patient safety, quality, audit and surveillance

Invest in building appropriately skilled health professional workforce

Promote intersectoral collaboration and health in all policies

Collaborate with partners for multisectoral action through the health-in-all-policies approach

Strengthen community engagement and health literacy to empower individuals to care for themselves and families

Invest in health information systems

Strengthen integrated disease surveillance systems to improve quality of mortality data

Sustainable capacity for HIS strengthening

Statistical capacity; promote data-sharing; increase availability disaggregated data

Ensure a gender- and equity-sensitive response

Strengthen health systems and research capacity

Women empowerment (decision-making on their own health)

Ensure data disaggregation by age, sex, place of residence and others to reduce health inequalities



Milestones and Achievements under SDG 6

- Inclusion of EMR countries in global SDG WASH progress reports:
 - [Progress on household drinking water, sanitation and hygiene 2000–2020: Five years into the SDGs](#)
 - [Progress on drinking-water, sanitation and hygiene in schools \(who.int\)](#)
 - [Global progress report on WASH in Healthcare facilities 2020](#)
 - UN GLAAS global reports
 - [Progress on Wastewater Treatment – 2021 Update | UN-Water \(unwater.org\)](#)
 - Regional snapshots of WASH in households and schools
- Increase in the number of countries with data on WASH services in healthcare facilities. *Progress update report to be published in 2022*
- Increase in the number of participating countries in GLAAS 2021/2022 cycle (from 11 (2018) to 17 countries)



Monitoring and Evaluation



SDG 3 WHO and UNICEF through the Joint Monitoring Programme for Water Supply, Sanitation and Hygiene (JMP) are the custodian agencies for SDG targets:

- 6.1: By 2030, to achieve universal and equitable access to safe and affordable drinking water for all
- 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

Every two years the JMP updates its global databases to incorporate the latest available national data for the global SDG indicators

WHO is the custodian agency for SDG indicator 6.3.1: the proportion of domestic wastewater safely treated.

WHO is the custodian agency for monitoring SDG targets 6a and 6b focusing on the enabling environment for WASH

1. Weak governance

- In addressing **communicable diseases, NCD prevention, traffic accidents and risk factors** for health
- **Limited investment in health**, including **high donor dependency** for specific communicable diseases
- Limited implementation of **regulatory measures** to mitigate the impact of **climate change**



2. Fragmented health care services

- **Wide variability in accessibility and quality of care** between countries of the Region
- **Suboptimal health workforce** production and imbalanced skills mix and geographical distribution



4. Impact of emergencies, including the COVID-19 pandemic, and fragile and humanitarian settings, on population health



- Most countries experiencing **humanitarian crises**
 - Wars and conflicts
 - Natural and environmental disasters
 - COVID-19 pandemic
- **Interrupted health service delivery**
- Limited access to **water and sanitation**
- **Violence and poverty**

5. Gender equality and health disparities

- **Structural and sociocultural barriers to gender equality**
 - **Women's decision-making power** about their own health
 - **Limited access to health services**
 - **Increased risk of violence**
- **Large health disparities** between and within countries



Progress in the health-related SDGs and targets in the Region, 2020

Purpose

- Presents progress on health-related SDGs
- Complements the regional health profile
- Serves as an advocacy tool for policy-makers
- Serves as a baseline and early progress measure for the health-related SDG targets/indicators



Methodology

Sources of data

- Main source: WHO regional core health indicators
- Additional sources: UN/Global estimates
- Data sources validated by technical departments

Methods

- Computes population weighted means using data from 2019 Revision of World Population Prospects
- Shows trends over time using available data from January 2010–September 2020



Health information systems and core indicators booklets