

# CSOs Review of National Accountability Mechanism for SDG 6

**AFGHANISTAN**



**6** CLEAN WATER  
AND SANITATION



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## Abbreviations

A-SDGs	Afghanistan-Sustainable Development Goals
ACSFo	Afghanistan Civil Society Forum-organization
ANGWE	Afghanistan National Guideline for WASH in Emergency
AORA	Afghanistan Organization for Research and Advocacy
CBOs	Community Based Organizations
CC	Citizen Charter
CLTS	Community Lead Total Sanitation
CSOs	Civil Society Organizations
MoE	Ministry of Education
MoEC	Ministry of Economy
MoF	Ministry of Finance
MoPH	Ministry of Public Health
MRRD	Ministry of Rural Rehabilitation and Development
MUDL	Ministry of Urban Development and Land
NHPS	National Hygiene Promotion Strategy
NPPs	National Priority Programs
PR	Private Sector
SDG	Sustainable Development Goal
WASH	Water, Sanitation and Hygiene
WSSG	Water Sanitation Support Group

## **Acknowledgment**

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We owe a great deal to our FANSA India colleagues who have been very generous and patient to us during the meetings and discussion with our partners.

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## Executive Summary

To build the mutual accountability mechanisms the study focused on the objectives, to identify and describe national mechanisms that enables or contributes to national accountability in achieving the targets of SDG 6, to assess the potentials and limitations of the existing national accountability mechanisms, to identify good practices and lessons learned on the effectiveness of national accountability mechanisms including those of other sectors related or not to the water and sanitation targets.

- WASH sector policies and strategies alignment with SDG 6:** The review of agriculture and rural development alignment matrix reveals that SDG-6 first three targets are aligned with five national programs/projects (National Water Supply and Sanitation & Irrigation Program, Construction of water supply networks based on solar power and pumps based on solar energy, Deep wells equipped with manual pump and area Management Program, including Afghanistan's CLTS movement (ACM). In 2016, Ministry of Rural Rehabilitation and Development (MRRD), Ministries of Education (MoE) and Public Health (MoPH) revised WASH policy (National Rural WASH policy-2016-2020)<sup>1</sup>; this policy provides M&E framework for WASH sector stakeholders on WASH-related program and helps implementation of activities at the rural area. The recent initiative of WASH cluster coordination body is the approval of Afghanistan National Guideline for WASH in Emergency (ANGWE) which guides the WASH sector both stakeholders (Governmental and Non-governmental institutions) on the equity, quality, WASH service provision; Furthermore, it clarifies role and responsibilities of stakeholders in the emergency situations, including M&E and emergency response planning.<sup>2</sup>

To reduce morbidity and mortality, in 2017 MoPH adopted National Hygiene Promotion Strategy-2017-2020. The strategy act as a roadmap of Afghanistan WASH sector in the area of increasing demand for safe drinking water and improving sanitation and adoption of better hygiene practices at households, communities and institutions with a special focus on women and children at the rural and urban areas. Other recent initiative in the WASH sector is the draft of Afghanistan Urban Water Supply and Sewerage Policy by Ministry of Urban Development and Land (MUDL). The recent approved guidelines by WSG, WASH cluster (MRRD) and A-SDGs executive committee narrowing policies, protocols and provide operational guides on WASH sectors policies, strategy and frameworks for stakeholders are the other documents in this sector.

- WASH Sector model and approach:** Demand driven and participatory approach at rural area envisaged by WASH policy-2016, through integration of health and hygiene education with water supply and sanitation, Community-Led Total Sanitation (CLTS), community cost sharing, ownership and management including operation and maintenance (O&M). National Hygiene Promotion Strategy (NHPS) triangle approach (advocacy, community mobilization and behavior change communication) guides all WASH stakeholders for adaption of healthy behavior, to

<sup>1</sup> The first Afghanistan Rural WASH policy was prepared in 2010.

<sup>2</sup> Restricted, from Afghanistan National Guideline for WASH in Emergency, available [https://www.humanitarianresponse.info/sites/www.humanitarianresponse.info/files/documents/files/afghanistan\\_wash\\_cluster\\_guidelines\\_8\\_april\\_2018\\_mrrd\\_approved.pdf](https://www.humanitarianresponse.info/sites/www.humanitarianresponse.info/files/documents/files/afghanistan_wash_cluster_guidelines_8_april_2018_mrrd_approved.pdf)

improve hygiene and sanitary healthy practice at household, community, school and institutions at the rural and urban level. Semi-structured interviews reveal, that decentralized sewerage and wastewater management is utilized at the urban areas by Afghan Urban Water Supply and Sewerage Corporation (AUWSSC). Household networking water supply model mostly practiced by government, provides services for sectors and INGOs at urban areas; on the other hand, at the rural areas networking model exist more at public intuitions comparing to the community level.

- **Institutions role and responsibilities:** In terms of political will and decision making, the High Council of Ministers oversees and supervises the alignment and implementation process of the SDG-6 in the country. SDGs Secretariat has been established within the Ministry of Economy (MoEC). The Ministry coordinates the development efforts of various sectors, and reports semi-annually and annually on these efforts to the High Council of Ministers and the Cabinet. National Coordination Committee deals with the political issues of SDG-6 and implementation, and Technical Coordination Committees are mainly comprised of policy directors and technical staff, who are closely engaged in policy development at their agency. Each committee focuses on issues that arise in the data process and other unforeseen challenges in the implementation phase. The SDGs High Level Board, includes the Minister of Economy, Deputy Ministers of MoEC, and the SDGs national focal points. The Board is responsible to assess and supervise the technical, financial and political status of the SDGs coordination, nationalization and implementation processes. Multiple interrelated governmental sectorial ministries and 17-sub-sectors are primarily responsible toward achieving SDG-6 first three targets by 2030 in Afghanistan. The leading ministries role and responsibilities includes Ministry of Rural Rehabilitation and Development (MRRD) is leading WASH rural area provision and WASH in emergency national programmatic coordination through existed coordination platforms at National Water Supply and Sanitation & Irrigation Program in MRDD; Ministry of Urban development and Landing is policy maker leading ministry, for urban water supply and sewerage. Afghanistan Urban Water Supply and Sewerage Corporation (AUWSSC) is national implementer body for urban water supply and sewerage. Supporting entities: Multiple interrelated governmental sectorial ministries and sub-sectors are WASH supportive entities in the area WASH Soft and hard activities prevision, monitoring, budgeting, Data collection at the urban and rural area.
- **Decentralization commitment:** The main three documents CCNPP strategy, Provincial Budgeting policy, and WASH development and service performance model in WASH Policy 2016, portrays the Government decentralization commitment in the areas of Budgeting, planning, monitoring, implementation, citizen and CSOs participation in WASH services and development projects oversight at the rural and urban areas.
- **CSOs and INGOs contribution in the NAM:** National CSOs and INGOs providing technical and financial assistance on developing and revision of policies and manuals at the national level. CSOs and INGOs contribution, is not limited only to financial and technical assistance in the national accountability mechanism, they provide institutional capacity building at both levels (national and sub-national). Semi-structured and online survey reveals that, CSOs and INGOs are implementing hard and soft activities of rural WASH. For instance, DACAAR is the leading

organization in the implementation of rural WASH covering 29 provinces of Afghanistan. But when it comes to Urban WASH, CSOs and INGOs contribution is too low, and in some rural areas CSOs do not even exist.

- **Planning, monitoring and review:** Currently, annual plan not existed for 2020 in leading agencies over rural and urban WASH. Semi-structured interview reveals that most of government entities are not following bench marks and targets that have been set, by Executive Committee on SDGs, due to lack of budget and valid baseline data. Most CSOs and INGOs do not agree with below baseline survey at the urban and rural area. Typically, the monthly, quarterly and annual reports are compiled by the lead ministries and data is used by individual Geographical Management Information System (GMIS). Currently, rural area WASH progress report is available, whereas for urban area a report of such type does not exist. The reports are uploaded on the government official website.
- **WASH management information system and access to WASH information:** The recent information management system (web-enabling system), is functioning as core Management Information System (MIS) on rural WASH. Rural WASH MIS managing by MIS unit at MRRD/Rural Water Supply, Sanitation and Irrigation Program. The absence of an urban WASH MIS undermines the national accountability mechanism, and there is a strong need to develop one for urban WASH services as well.

## **Recommendation:**

### **For GoIRA**

- a) Create a vast coordination mechanism among sectorial ministries and sub-sector departments at national and local levels; in addition, include the PS and CSOs in the processes related to WASH sector.
- b) Establishment of formal procedures in the social accountability mechanism to ensure the meaningful participation of CSOs and PS.
- c) Develop a comprehensive and single database of information at country (national) level.
- d) Standardization of WASH indicators and targets for all stakeholders and a guideline for implementation, monitoring, reporting planning and statistic survey of WASH services.
- e) Strengthening WASH management information systems. Data is often incomplete and of variable quality with reliance on periodic household surveys.
- f) Given the donor dependency of Afghanistan, a realistic and inclusive fundraising must be envisioned in order to securely finance SDG-6 implementation.
- g) Improve sector accountability to citizens through expanding social accountability approaches, monitoring human rights treaty (conventions) obligations (gender and disability) in a partnership with the media and CSOs.
- h) Increase both government and local stakeholder's capacity through conducting self-assessment and needs assessment in regards to SDG-6 targets and indicators.
- i) There is a strong need to develop urban WASH MIS, and develop the legal framework urban WASH MIS to institutionalize it. In terms of data verification and data collection, there is a strong need to develop independent and internal data verification system and procedure of urban WASH MIS to increase data accuracy and credibility.
- j) There is a strong need to improve accessibility and channel of WASH information dissemination at the local level.

### **For CSOs/NGOs**

- a) Creating strong partnership among CSOs and media for lobby and advocacy during the budget approval session of the parliamentarians to increase the investments for SDG-6.
- b) Create coalitions and committees on SDG-6 of the national and sub-national CSOs in partnership with media for systematic, regular and effective advocacy.
- c) Create coalitions and committees on SDG-6 for the national and sub-national CSOs in partnership with media and parliamentarians to keep government accountable.
- d) Creating strong partnerships with CSOs and media for an information sharing as well as advocacy for shadow report (via research or survey) to make the government more accountable.
- e) CSOs need to increase their initiative on rural and urban area WASH data collection and verification, and collective and participatory monitoring of WASH services and infrastructure project.

### **For UN agencies and international partners and donors**

- a) Cover vulnerable areas, mostly donors and international agencies are only interested to work in safe and accessible districts.
- b) Afghanistan is a donor dependent country and will require significant additional funding and commitments from its international development partners to finance SDG-6 implementation.
- c) CSOs activities depends on donors' financial support in Afghanistan; therefore, there is need to support CSOs initiatives on SDG-6.
- d) The UN and donors must help the GoIRA both financially and technical to develop A-SDGs official database in 2020.

## Introduction

Since beginning of 2018 FANSA and Watershed Consortium had an ongoing partnership embedded in a common vision of advancing the capacities of CSOs to contribute in achieving WASH commitments including SDG 6 and SACOSANs' commitments. Work plan under this partnership for 2019-20 is particularly emphasizing on capacity building of National level CSO platforms; in order to, foster strategic collaboration among sector partners, and support to governments in implementing the commitments and be accountable for the same. Afghanistan selected as priority countries to make more focused efforts in pursuing the above objective. As part of the work plan for 2018, FANSA has led the process of studying the status of Accountability mechanisms in all the eight South Asian countries contributing to Global review of national accountability mechanisms; in addition to playing a key role in bringing a global synthesis report which has been disseminated across the sector stakeholders globally. As part of the study FANSA also took lead in to disseminate the findings of the same across all the countries in South Asia.

The purpose of this initiative is mainly to find practical ways in which the SWA's spirit of Mutual Accountability Mechanism can be translated into practice at the National level. MAM empowers partners to hold each other globally accountable for progress towards the SDG targets, as well as reinforcing country-level multi-stakeholder planning and review processes. The partnership shares the belief that having different stakeholders working together towards common goals will facilitate transparency, accountability and participation. It is important that the identification of commitments supports and strengthens country planning and review processes by ensuring that commitments be drawn from the plans, strategies, targets and milestones that are developed by governments and other stakeholders, within the existing government timeframes. As part of this the partners create the Mutual Accountability Mechanism so that their work would be rooted in specific, measurable, attainable, relevant and timely (SMART) actions, and to reinforce multi-stakeholder decision-making. The Mutual Accountability Mechanism will be led by governments and is aligned with national multi-stakeholder processes to develop national plans and strategies. Governments identify priorities among their national targets and milestones, in discussion with other national partners.

Keeping this background in to perspective and to build the mutual accountability mechanisms the study focused on the following objectives:

- a) To identify and describe national mechanisms that enables or contributes to national accountability in achieving the targets of SDG 6.
- b) To assess the potentials and limitations of the existing national accountability mechanisms.
- c) To identify good practices and lessons learned on the effectiveness of national accountability mechanisms including those of other sectors related or not to the water and sanitation targets.

## Country Context

Emerging from decades of conflict, Afghanistan adopted the MDGs development strategy in 2006, almost seven years after the Millennium Declaration was issued by the UN Summit in the year 2000. The GoIRA joined the league of countries committed to pursue policies in order to ensure every individual's rights to dignity, freedom, equality, basic standard of living, and freedom from hunger and violence.

Despite strong countervailing circumstances, Afghanistan has made progress in its social, economic and political transition. The Government continues with its reform agenda and to build capacity and modern institutions. This assertion is validated by the progress monitored as per indicators established by the Tokyo Mutual Accountability Framework (TMAF). The transition to the SDGs will benchmark the continuation of these positive and formative trends continuous progress will require that GoIRA marshal all governmental, cultural and societal assets and capabilities not only to meet the Millennium Development Goals (MDGs) by 2020 but also the SDGs by 2030.<sup>3</sup>

The nationalization process of the SDGs' targets and indicators started in 2016. The ambitious global targets and indicators have been critically reviewed by different stakeholders in the country with realization of national context and circumstances. The global ambitious targets and indicators have been refined and nationalized with great efforts of different stakeholders in the country. The national consultation process reshaped the global targets and indicators into 125 national targets and 190 national indicators, 12 indicators are for WASH. At the country level, Afghanistan has developed many policies, strategies and frameworks including Afghanistan National Development Strategy (ANDS) 2008-2013. This national strategy served as Afghanistan's Poverty Reduction Strategy Paper (PRSP) and used the pillars, principles and benchmarks of the Afghanistan Compact as a foundation.

Currently, the planning and budgeting process at national and sub-national levels are using the same paradigm and methodologies as the Afghanistan National Development Strategy (ANDS) official structure. The ANDS was consisted of 3 pillars, 8 main sectors, 17 sub-sectors, 86 outcomes and 276 development indicators. Therefore, GoIRA has mainstreamed the 17-Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs) into 8 main sectors of the ANDS in order to help government institutions to align their development priorities and budget allocation for new development programs with the Afghanistan-Sustainable Development Goals (A-SDGs) targets and indicators. The implementation phase on SDGs was begun in 2018. SDGs will require substantial resources given Afghanistan's financial instability and dependence vis-à-vis the international community, innovative funding mechanisms will be required to achieve the SDGs. UNICEF and world Bank experts have estimated that yearly investments of US\$ 114 million into the WASH sectors is required over the period 2016-2030 to meet the target of universal access to basic drinking water. In US\$ 94 million/year, there is still a gap of US\$ 20 million/year to reach SDG-6 target 6.1 by 2030 in rural area. Annual base of more or less US\$ 600 million is required to safely manage water and sanitation facilities.<sup>4</sup>

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<sup>3</sup> A-SDGs alignment framework is available at:  
<http://sdgs.gov.af/231/a-sdgs-alignment-framework>

<sup>4</sup> Extracted from semi structure interview, Mr. Safi, adviser at MRRD.

## Study Methodology

In order to obtain the objectives, number of methodologies have been deployed which include a desk review, online survey, in-depth interviews, focus group discussions and meeting experts to gain their comments and views. As well as review of written policies and technical documents.

### I. Country Reporting of SDG 6

The Ministry of Economic (MoEC) is made in-charged by the government to coordinate, assess, monitor and report the SDGs progress to the UNHPLF meeting through a specific coordination mechanism. The specific coordination mechanism includes: A- SDGs Secretariat, SDGs Executive Committee, National Coordination Committee, Technical Coordination Committees, Thematic Coordination Committee and A-SDGs High Level Board at national level. The committees consist of sectorial ministers and deputy ministers, all sectorial agencies, budgeting related entities (NGOs /INGOs and UN agencies) and subsectors. The committees under the supervision of MoEC has been developed and submitted the (NVR) 2017 report on SDGs progress to the HPLF. National conference, consultation workshops and national symposiums are the means that create space for PS, CSOs and media to participate in the NVR report preparation process.

The MoEC used the secondary data (CSO, line ministries, World Bank and UN agencies) for NVR report preparation. The government official's representatives in the study emphasize that other reports regarding SDGs will be formulated through same process.

However, despite present process and coordination mechanism for the country reporting on SDGs progress. The draft report is not shared with any NGOs, CSOs and private sectors but the submitted report to the HPLF was shared on the Ministry of Economy's website.<sup>5</sup>

Still, some ministries are not fully aware of the reporting process on SDG-6. Meanwhile, lack of single validated data leads to flaws challenging the reporting process in Afghanistan. Role of parliamentarians and local authorities are still not clear, there is lack of a specific mechanism to ensure meaningful participation of CSOs and private sector as well.

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<sup>5</sup> <https://sustainabledevelopment.un.org/content/documents/16277Afghanistan.pdf>

## II. Accountability Mechanisms, Platforms or Systems for SDG 6

### A. WASH sector policies and strategies alignment with SDG 6

Significant steps carried out by government of Afghanistan in the arena of policies, strategies, National Priority Programs (NPPs) alignment with SDG-6 first three targets based on Afghanistan – Sustainable Development Goals alignment framework (A-SDGs alignment framework), through A-SDG executive committee working groups.<sup>1</sup>

The review of agriculture and rural development alignment matrix reveals that SDG-6 first three targets are in alignment with five national programs/projects (See Table.1). The policy and strategy alignment process has been done through WASH sector leading ministries, national coordination platforms and technical working committees/groups. In 2016, Ministry of Rural Rehabilitation and Development (MRRD), Ministries of Education (MoE) and Ministry of Public Health (MoPH) revised WASH policy (National Rural WASH policy-2016-2020)<sup>6</sup> The policy provides implementation and M&E framework for WASH sector stakeholders on WASH-related program and activities at the rural area.

**Table 1:** SDG-6 targets alignment with national program/ projects.

Target	National Programs/Projects
6.1 By 2030, achieve universal and equitable access to safe and affordable drinking water for all.	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1. National Water Supply and Sanitation &amp; Irrigation Program at the Ministry of Rural Rehabilitation and Development (MRRD).</li> <li>2. Construction of water supply networks based on solar power and pumps based on solar energy at the Afghanistan Urban Water Supply and Sewerage Corporation (AUWSSC)</li> <li>3. Deep wells equipped with manual pump at the ministry of rural rehabilitation and Development at Urban Water Supply and Sewerage Corporation (AUWSSC) and MRRD.</li> <li>4. Area Management Program at the ministry of rural rehabilitation and Development</li> </ol>
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.	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1. Afghanistan's CLTS movement (ACM) at the ministry of rural rehabilitation and Development.</li> </ol>

<sup>6</sup> The first Afghanistan Rural WASH policy was prepared in 2010.

The recent initiative of WASH cluster coordination body is the approval of Afghanistan National Guideline for WASH in Emergency (ANGWE), guides the WASH sector both stakeholders (Governmental and Non-governmental institutions) on the equity, quality WASH service provision and clarifies roles and responsibilities of stakeholders in the emergency situations, including M&E and emergency response planning.<sup>7</sup> The WASH cluster coordination body's members are government ministries, INGOs, CSOs and UN agencies.

To reduce morbidity and mortality, in 2017 Ministry of Public Health (MoPH) adopted National Hygiene Promotion Strategy-2017-2020. The strategy act as a roadmap of Afghanistan WASH sector in the area of increasing demand for safe drinking water and improving sanitation and adoption of better hygiene practices at households, communities and institutions with a special focus on women and children at the rural and urban area.

Other recent initiative in the WASH sector is the draft of Afghanistan Urban Water Supply and Sewerage Policy by Ministry of Urban Development and Land (MUDL). The recent approved guidelines by Water Sanitation Group (WSG), WASH cluster (MRRD) and A-SDGs executive committee narrowing policies, protocols and provide operational guides on WASH sectors policies, strategy and frameworks for stakeholders (See Table 2).

*Table 2: WASH sector policy and strategy narrowing and implementation guidelines/manuals.*

#	Guidelines/manuals	Approved by
1	A-SDGs Prioritization Guideline	A-SDG EC
2	Rural Water, Sanitation and Hygiene Implementation Manual version 2	MRRD
3	CLTS Implementation Manual	WSG
4	A-SDGs Alignment Framework	A-SDG EC

<sup>7</sup> Restricted, from Afghanistan National Guideline for WASH in Emergency, available [https://www.humanitarianresponse.info/sites/www.humanitarianresponse.info/files/documents/files/afghanistan\\_wash\\_cluster\\_guidelines\\_8\\_april\\_2018\\_mrrd\\_approved.pdf](https://www.humanitarianresponse.info/sites/www.humanitarianresponse.info/files/documents/files/afghanistan_wash_cluster_guidelines_8_april_2018_mrrd_approved.pdf)

## B. Policy and strategy covering

The policies review reveals that WASH policy specifies principles, clarified role and responsibilities of stakeholders and provides operational guides and standards of rural water supply, hygiene and sanitation at community level, rural school and health center. NHPS guides WASH stakeholders on increasing demand for safe water and sanitation including behavior change communication at the rural and urban area.

However, the national documents sets foundation of WASH sector National accountability framework at the rural and urban area (see Table.3). As well as an implementation framework for WASH program and activities across WASH sector, to achieve universal access to drinking water, sanitation, hygiene and to improve water quality by reducing pollution, eliminating dumping by 2030 in Afghanistan.

Table 3: SDG 6 Alignment with National Development plans

SDGs	Goals in Brief	ANPDF (Strategy)	Status/Comments
SDG 6	Water and Sanitation for all	Citizen Charter National Priority Program (CCNPP), National Water Management Program (NWMP) and National Infrastructure Plan (NIP)	Launched in 2016

Demand driven and participatory approach at rural area envisaged by WASH policy-2016, through integration of health and hygiene education with water supply and sanitation, Community-Led Total Sanitation (CLTS), community cost sharing, ownership and management including operation and maintenance (O&M). NHPS triangle approach (advocacy, community mobilization and behavior change communication) guides all WASH stakeholders for adaption of healthy behavior, to improve hygiene and sanitary health practice at household, community, school and institutions at the rural and urban level. Afghan Urban Water Supply and Sewerage Corporation (AUWSSC) utilize decentralized sewerage and wastewater management approach.

Household networking water supply model is mostly being practiced by government, private sectors and INGOs at urban area, but at the rural area networking model mostly existed at public intuitions than at the community level.<sup>8</sup>

However, policies, technical documents reviews and community group discussions reveal that various Water supply model are used by WASH sector service providers and Wash hard activities implementers at the rural and urban area (see Table 4). Mostly three factors affecting the water supply model utilization by WASH provider and implementer; a) geographical characteristics; b) geological aspects; and accessibility to water sources type (ground and surface water).<sup>9</sup>

<sup>8</sup> Extracted from semi structure interview, Mr. Safi, adviser at MRRD.

<sup>9</sup> Extracted from expert meeting, Mr. Haidary, EAST member.

Table 4: WASH sector policy and strategy covering.

#	Policy name	Leading ministry	Covered area/areas	Status
2	Wash policy 2016	MRRD	Rural	Adopted
3	National Hygiene Promotion Strategy 2017-2020	MoPH	Rural/Urban	Adopted
4	ANGWE	MRRD	Rural/Urban	Approved
5	Afghanistan Urban Water Supply and wastewater Policy	MUDL	Urban	Under revision process

### C. Institutions role and responsibility

The following institutions, committee and groups have significant roles and responsibilities toward achieving SDG 6:

**a) High Council of Ministries:** In terms of political will and decision making, the High Council of Ministers oversees and supervises the alignment and implementation process of the SDG-6 in the country. The Council makes sure that all budget entities have fully included the SDGs targets and indicators in their development strategies and policies.

**b) A-SDGs Secretariat:** The SDGs Secretariat has been established within the Ministry of Economy (MoEc). The Ministry is coordinating the development efforts of various sectors, and reports on these efforts semi-annually and annually to the High Council of Ministers and the Cabinet.

**c) A-SDGs Executive Committee:** Co-chaired by the Ministry of Economy, the Office of the Chief Executive and UNDP. The core focuses of the Executive Committee on SDG-6 and other SDGs includes; a) Whole of Government support to the Ministry of Economy and policy advice on proposed SDGs implementation mechanisms; b) Cross-sectorial coordination to accelerate SDGs implementation; C) Oversight of the achievement and progress of nationalized SDGs targets and indicators, including annual review. The SDGs Executive Committee is comprised of four working groups, each of them address specific topics: a) security and Governance; b) agriculture and rural development; C) Health, education, environment and social protection; and D) Infrastructure and Economy. Agriculture and Rural Development Working Group (ARDWG) is responsible on SDG-6 below aspects:

- ARDWG will develop a roadmap for the overall activities of the WG2 that shall guide the proper implementation of SDG-6;
- The Working Group consolidates the documentation made available to it by the Ministry of Economy and the SDGs Coordination Unit;
- Making policy recommendations to the Executive Committee on SDG-6;
- Ensuring existing of necessary policies, procedures and standards in line ministries and relevant agencies to address SDG-6 and other SDGs related issues.
- Evaluate and assess policies, institutions and process related to SDG-6 implementation in the country and formulating recommendation for improvements.

**d) A-SDGs Secretariat:** The SDGs Secretariat works under the supervision of the MoEc General Directorate of Policy.

**a) National Coordination Committee:** The active members in this committee are ministers and deputy ministers of the government budget entities. This committee deals with the political issues of SDG-6 and implementation

**b) Technical Coordination Committees:** These committees have been established from all leading agencies of the government. The committees are mainly comprised of policy directors and technical staff who are closely engaged in policy development

at their agency. Each committee focuses on issues that arise in the data process and other unforeseen challenges in the implementation phase.

- c) **Technical Working Groups for A-SDG:** The groups are comprised of representatives from leading sectorial agencies and different relevant stakeholders. They work on data collection, data verification, preparing progress reports and A-SDGs national document.
- d) **A-SDGs High Level Board:** The SDGs High Level Board, includes the Minister of Economy, Deputy Ministers of MoEc, and the SDGs national focal points. The Board is responsible to assess and supervise the technical, financial and political status of the SDGs coordination, nationalization and implementation processes.
- e) **Leading ministries:** Multiple interrelated governmental sectorial ministries and 17-sub-sectors are primary responsible toward achieving SDG-6 first three targets by 2030 in Afghanistan. The leading ministries role and responsibilities are as below:
- f) **MRRD:** MRRD is leading WASH rural area provision and WASH in emergency national programmatic coordination through existing coordination platforms at National Water Supply and Sanitation & Irrigation Program in MRDD. The platforms includes, Water Sanitation Group (WSG), Water, Sanitation and Hygiene (WASH) Cluster, Afghanistan (WASH Cluster), Water Technical Working Group (WTWG), Sanitation Technical Working Group (STWG), Hygiene Technical Working Group (HTWG).
- **MUDL:** Ministry of Urban development and Landing is policy maker leading ministry, for urban water supply and sewerage.
  - **AUWSSC:** Afghanistan Urban Water Supply and Sewerage Corporation (AUWSSC) is national implementer body for urban water supply and sewerage.<sup>10</sup>

**Supporting entities:** Multiple interrelated governmental sectorial ministries and sub-sectors are WASH supportive entities in the area WASH Soft and hard activities provision, monitoring, budgeting, Data collection at the urban and rural area (see Table.5).

Table 5: Water Supply model/approach at the urban and rural area

#	Model	Area	Water supply model usability aspects by policy	Citizen practice
2	Tube well with Hand Pump	Rural & urban	Drinking	Drinking & irrigation
3	Dug well with Hand Pump	Rural	Drinking	Drinking & irrigation
4	Gravity fed Piped Water Supply System	Rural	irrigation	Drinking & irrigation
5	Spring Protection	Rural area	Drinking	Drinking & irrigation
6	Infiltration Gallery	Drinking	Drinking	Drinking & irrigation
7	Karaiz	Rural	Drinking & irrigation	Drinking & irrigation

<sup>10</sup> Extracted, from semi-structure interview with Mr. Safi in MRRD.

#	Model	Area	Water supply model usability aspects by policy	Citizen practice
8	Sub-surface Dam	Rural and urban	Domestic water supply	Drinking & irrigation
9	Rain Water Harvesting	Rural & urban	Domestic water supply	Drinking & irrigation
10	Household Networking water supply	Rural & urban	Drinking	Drinking & irrigation

The UN agencies and social and economic international organization provide financial support, institutional development support and technical support through soft and hard activities to WASH key stakeholder at national level.<sup>11</sup> Most of sectorial ministries are involved in the WASH sector as policy maker and coordination body, rather than implementer. Semi-structured interview reveals that the complexity interfering and unclear responsibility still remained as challenge at national and sub-national level. The INGOs/NGOs are involved as sectorial partner in the accountability mechanisms, most INGOs and NGOs are implementing soft and hard activities. The following committees have significant role on SDG-6 and WASH related political decision making, supervision and monitoring, coordination, technical issues and budgeting:<sup>12</sup>

Table 6: WASH sector supportive entities.

#	Supportive entities name	Area	Supportive Role
1	Ministry of Public Health	Rural & urban	Soft activities (Hygiene and sanitation promotion)
2	Central Statistics and Information Organization	Rural & urban	Providing nationwide statistic data on WASH
3	Ministry of Finance	Rural & urban	Budgeting
4	Ministry of Education	Rural & urban	WASH in School
5	National Environmental Protection Agency	Rural & urban	?
7	Ministry of Economy	National & international	Coordination, policy making, developing guidelines, NVR, M&E of SDG-6 progress

<sup>11</sup> Extracted, from semi-structure interview with MUDL ministry adviser.

<sup>12</sup> Extracted from National Voluntary National Review at the High Level Political Forum SDGs' Progress Report Afghanistan available at:

<https://sustainabledevelopment.un.org/content/documents/16277Afghanistan.pdf>

## D. Decentralization commitment

In this section the main three documents CCNPP strategy, Provincial Budgeting policy, and WASH development and service performance model in WASH Policy 2016 need to be mentioned. These documents portrait the Government decentralization commitment in the areas of Budgeting, planning, monitoring, implementation and citizen and CSOs participation in WASH services and development projects oversight at the rural and urban area.

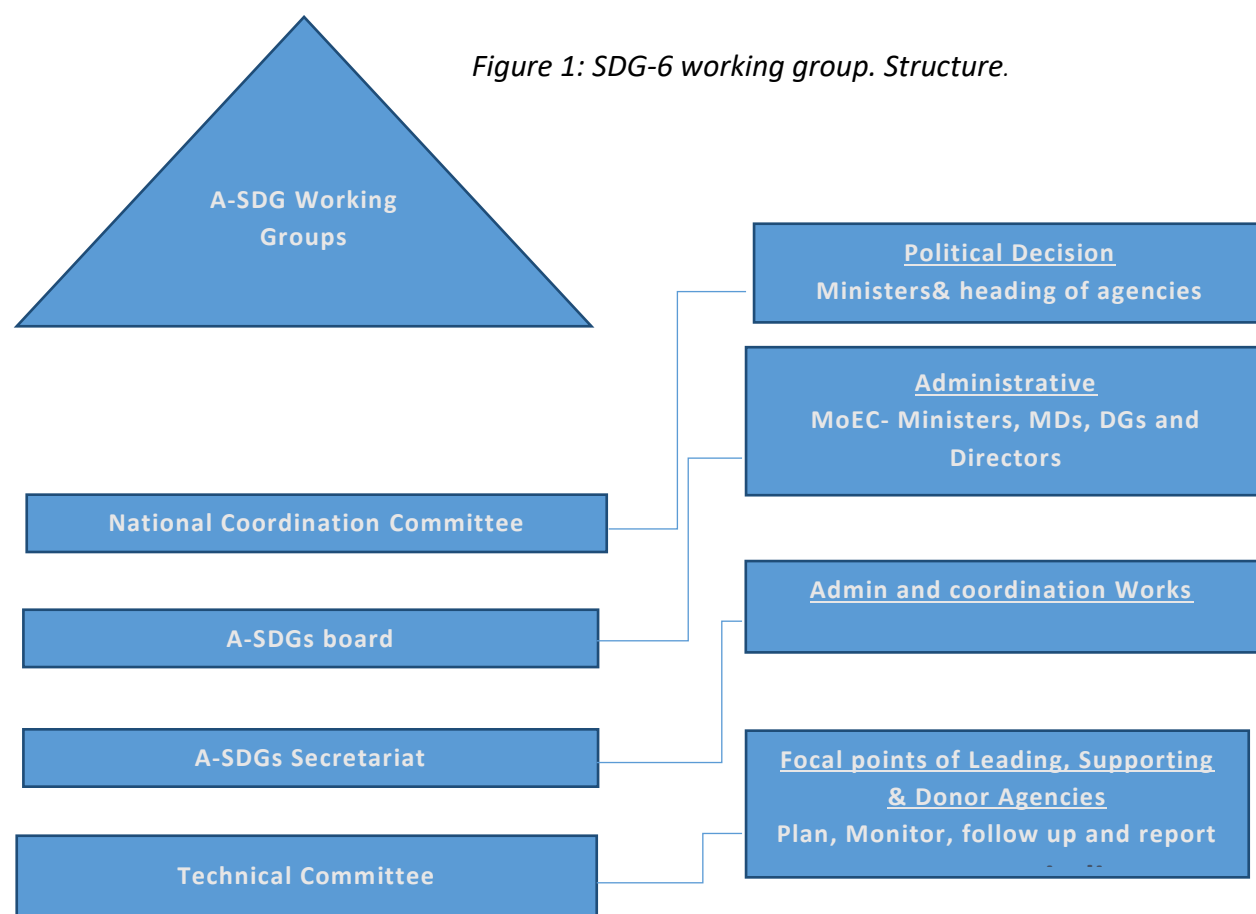


Figure 1: SDG-6 working group. Structure.

## E. SDG 6 NAM inclusiveness and coordination

### I. Inclusiveness

Achieving meaningful representation of key population, addressing needs of marginalized people of afghan society, women, children, rural area residence and internal displaced Persons (IDPs) and participation in the WASH NAM are the core mandate of WASH sector policies inclusiveness.<sup>13</sup> Currently, Citizen Charter National Priority Program (CCNPP) social accountability mechanism paved ground for community elected members participation through male and female community development council at rural and urban area. Community driven and participatory

<sup>13</sup> taken from WASH policy 2016, NHPS-2017, ANGWE, NESP III

driven approaches ensure men and women participation in the planning, budgeting, monitoring and implementation of WASH service and development project. The NAM inclusiveness based on country reality still have challenges such as capacity, information sharing flow, lack of meaningful participation of citizen in the budgeting and planning process.

## II. Coordination

There are already some efforts made to enhance coordination among the WASH stakeholders via existed coordination platform at leading ministries and technical working groups at supportive entities. The coordination platform includes:

- **Water Sanitation Group (WSG):** In this forum, all policy level and strategic WASH related matters are discussed. The WSG is supported by a number of technical working groups who report back to WSG. To assure more engagement and inclusiveness of the stakeholders, the Water Technical Working Group (WTWG) chaired by DACAAR (a Danish WASH expert NGO), Hygiene and Sanitation Technical Working Group (HSTWG) chaired by MoPH, School Health Technical Working Group (SHTWG) chaired by Ministry of Education.
- **WASH Cluster (Emergency WASH):** WASH cluster technical working groups coordinates "Emergency WASH" intervention among stakeholders at the rural area, and is chaired by UNICEF and MRRD.

However, these groups are coordinating WASH stakeholders' efforts at the rural area and meetings take place on monthly basis, but still lack of coordination platform over urban water and sanitation supply undermines NAM for SDG 6.

According to the documents, the main purpose of the platforms is to coordinate, exchange information and discuss on technical issues and to involve the CSOs and PS voices/actions in the accountable mechanism. The normal practice by the government, doesn't provide enough space for CSOs and Private Sector (PS) to present themselves and join as an equal partner. In addition to this, the government established Community Development Council (CDCs) are considered as CSOs which undermines the independent space of CSOs in the process. Most of the time, government extends the meetings invitation to its project in sectorial partners, only. The documents (WASH coordination meeting participation list statistical analysis) indicate that 4% of national CSOs participated in these platforms (see Chart 1). In the figure all the participants are the official project partners of the Afghan government in the sector. At the sub-national level there is no WASH focused platform to pave ground for systematic participation of CSOs, INGOs and PS in the accountability mechanism. CSOs coordinating their WASH rural development project through signing MoU with MRRD. There is no specific guideline to institutionalize CSOs and private sector participation in the accountability mechanism. The Only existed guideline that structured CSOs oversight and cooperation is "CSOs and MoF cooperation and oversight guideline". The guideline institutionalized CSOs oversights on WASH in School through participatory approaches in 2019.<sup>14</sup> Conferences, consultation workshops and symposiums paved ground for CSOs participation in the NAM for SDG 6, event based.

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<sup>14</sup> The guideline developed under financial support of USAID fund.

### **III. CSOs and INGOs contribution in the NAM**

National CSOs and INGOs providing technical and financial assistance on developing and revision of policy, manuals at the national level. CSOs and INGOs contribution is not limited to financial and technical assistance in the national accountability mechanism; they also provide institutional capacity building at both levels (national and sub-national). Semi-structured and online survey revealed, that CSOs and INGOs are implementing hard and soft activities of rural WASH; For instance, DACAAR is the leading organization in the implementation of rural WASH and covers 29 provinces of Afghanistan. In contrast, when it comes to Urban WASH, CSOs and INGOs contribution is to low, even they are not present at the rural area.

Generally, CSOs contribution includes initiating campaigns to inform citizens about their rights and what services they are entitled to, performing third-party monitoring through processes such as social audits and conducting analysis. The national CSOs undertake budget analysis and public expenditure tracking surveys to “check the money” from central government budgets to service providers. They undertake humanitarian approach analysis, collective advocacies on humanitarian treaties (conventions) and marginalized groups for their rights of access to WASH services. In practice, both NGOs and Civil Society Organizations (CSOs) are not involved in a meaningful way in the national accountability mechanism for SDG-6 in Afghanistan.

## IV. Planning, monitoring and review

### A. Planning and annual targets

The MoEc is responsible to monitor the SDG-6 progress in the entire country. The annual targets and budget is the main content to monitor and keep government institutions accountable on WASH services. In 2015, the Executive Committee on SDGs established annual targets and baseline to achieve the first three targets of SDG-6 by 2030 (See Table 3).

Currently, annual plan not existed for 2020 in leading agencies over rural and urban WASH. Semi-structured interview reveals that most of government entities are not following bench marks and targets that have been sited, by Executive Committee on SDGs; It is mainly due to lack of budget and validate baseline data. Most CSOs and INGOs are not agree with below baseline survey at the urban and rural area.

However, recently MUDL and AUWSSC have started conducting provincial survey over Water supply and sewerage at five provinces to develop the provinces city's water supply and sewerage master plan.

Table 7: annual target/baseline on SDG 6 first three targets.

SDG 6 Targets	Urban Area Baseline	Rural Area Baseline	Urban Area		Rural Area	
			Annual Target	Year Period	Annual Target	Year Period
6.1	30.4 %	63%	4%	2017-2020	4%	2017-2020
6.2	27 %	39%	5%	2017-2020	5%	2017-2020
6.3	21%	?	1%	2017-2020	?	2017-2020

### B. Reporting and monitoring

Typically, the monthly, quarterly and annual reports are compiled by the lead ministries and data is used by individual GMIS. Currently, rural area WASH progress report is available, where there is no such report for urban areas. The reports are uploaded on the government official website. Each leading ministries have their own monitoring and evaluation unite, which monitor and evaluate WASH services and development projects.

### C. WASH management information system

The recent information management system (web-enabling system), is functioning as core EMIS on rural WASH. Rural WASH MIS managing by MIS unit at MRRD/Rural Water Supply, Sanitation and Irrigation Program. The unit is also responsible to manage data collecting, storing, processing and dissemination data. Currently, data is collected through partners; all WASH partners are able to upload WASH data through online system. This ultimately paves the way for variance and potential inconsistency in the data. The information dissemination mechanisms are already in place in EMIS. The primary dissemination mechanism is the web based information systems. Rural WASH MIS is used to avoid duplication, coordinating partners' intervention and decision

making by leading ministries. Systematic annual data collection does not exist over Rural WASH services and development.

However, lack of urban WASH MIS undermine the national accountability mechanism, and there is a strong need to develop MIS for urban WASH services. Current rural WASH MIS system has four modules:

- a) Community Led Total Sanitation (CLTS);
- b) Pipe scheme and solar water supply system;
- c) Water supply; and
- d) Water quality

Table 8: List of Rural WASH indicators under current MIS<sup>15</sup>

<p><b>Community Led Total Sanitation (CLTS)</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Location (province and districts)</li> <li>• CDC</li> <li>• # of house hold</li> <li>• Households</li> <li>• Population in the community (Male &amp; female)</li> <li>• # of existing improved latrines before triggering</li> <li>• # of existing unimproved latrines before triggering</li> <li>• Triggering Date</li> <li>• # of post triggering conducted</li> <li>• # of Latrines newly built</li> <li>• # of Latrines improved</li> <li>• # of FHAG members trained</li> <li>• # Community elders trained</li> <li>• ODF Verification Date</li> <li>• ODF Certification Date</li> <li>• Date</li> </ul> <p><b>Water supply</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Location (province and districts)</li> </ul>	<p><b>Pipe scheme and solar water supply system</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Location</li> <li>• Drilling information</li> <li>• Drilling stratum</li> <li>• Pumping test field parameters</li> <li>• pumping test calculation parameter</li> </ul> <p><b>Hand pumped well</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Location</li> <li>• Drilling information</li> <li>• Drilling strata</li> <li>• well hydraulics</li> </ul> <p><b>Sampled water quality analysis (Chemical, physical and Bacteriological)</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Well location</li> <li>• Physical Parameters</li> <li>• Chemical Parameters</li> <li>• Bacteriological</li> <li>• Accuracy %</li> <li>• Sampled date</li> <li>• Analysis Date</li> </ul>
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<sup>15</sup> [www.ruralwash.gov.af](http://www.ruralwash.gov.af)

<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• CDC</li> <li>• Village</li> <li>• GPS Coordinates (decimal degree)</li> <li>• Beneficiaries (Male and female)</li> <li>• Type of Water Supply</li> <li>• Additional Feature1</li> <li>• Number of Stand post</li> <li>• New or Rehabilitation</li> <li>• Status</li> <li>• Start Date (construction work)</li> <li>• Completion Date (construction work)</li> <li>• Donor</li> <li>• Cost (AFS)</li> <li>• Code</li> </ul>	
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**D. Accessibility and Channel of WASH information dissemination**

When it comes to the rural WASH the primary dissemination mechanism is the web based information systems. Reports are regularly being produced and uploaded on official website of MRRD. Apart from these no other information dissemination mechanisms were observed. The web based information systems, despite being useful in their own way, do not provide a holistic picture of the WASH. A holistic picture could only emerge if the information systems are either loosely or tightly integrated and provide interfaces, which can extract information from various data sources. Besides system integration, query based data retrieval needs to be facilitated. MRRD, MUDL and AUWSSC websites are not update, most of policies, official documents, plans and other public-abele documents are note uploaded on the website. There is no clear strategy for information dissemination to build awareness and data-driven culture, and still rural area due to limited access to internet are deprived from WASH information.<sup>16</sup> In-terms of internal information dissemination; Coordination among MRRD, AUWSSC and MUDL units at the center, provincial level and is weak, even in some cases units are not in picture about plan, policy, strategy...etc. This may affect SDG 6 national accountability mechanism transparency and accountability to public, CSOs and international community.

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<sup>16</sup> Extracted from Community Group discussion.

## V. Positive experiences of participation in the accountability mechanisms

Survey, semi-structured interview and community group discussion reveal that there is inclusion of community representatives with positive experiences through CDCs in the Social Accountability Mechanism. It is more seen in the following processes:

- a) **Participatory formulation of WASH development projects:** CDCs are mandated to ensure community participation in planning and design, implementation and monitoring of WASH services and development project at the rural area and also ensure ownership and sustainability at community level. The community representatives develop annual WASH services plan through Community Development Council (CDC), District Development Council (DDC), and Provincial Development Council (PDC) in rural.
- b) **Participatory performance monitoring and evaluation:** CDC, DDC and PDC members including provincial council members and media monitor and evaluate the WASH service delivery in rural areas.
- c) **As stated earlier, CSOs and PS are involved in the accountability mechanism through common platforms (WASH coordination meetings, sector events) at national level and their positive experiences in the following areas:**
  1. **Participation of CSOs in the Afghanistan NVR process on SDGs 2017:** The A-SDGs secretariat has conducted a series of consultation meetings, workshops, and bilateral discussions with different stakeholders (civil society organizations, private sector, NGOs, gender-related entities and government institutions) to get their feedbacks on every government action regarding the A-SDGs nationalization and preparation of NVR 2017.
  2. **Participation in the nationalization process of SDGs through sector events:** As a one show program the MoEc conducted national conference on SDGs nationalization process in 2016 with CSOs, think tanks, NGOs and other organizations to get their suggestions on SDGs nationalization process.
- d) **Participation of NGOs/INGOs and CSOs in the revision of WASH policy 2016:** The rural WASH policy 2010 has been revised in 2016. In order to bring in line, the WASH services in rural areas, MRRD invited the NGOs, INGOS and CSOs in WASH coordination meetings to know their feedbacks and comments for revision of WASH policy.
- e) **Coordination:** The GoIRA has tried to increase coordination among its partner NGOs, INGOS and CSOs to decrease the duplication of projects in the implementation area. This practice is only for government project partners. No other independent partners are brought in.
- f) **Information sharing:** Participation of CSOs in the water management national consultation workshops in 2016 and 2017 has happened. MEW in 2016 and 2017 invited CSOs, research organizations, NGOs/INGOs, PS and scholars in the national consultation workshops on water management to know their suggestions regarding National Water Management Plan 2016-2020.
- g) **Inform and notify about milestones and achievement on SDG 6 targets:** participation of CSOs and other organization in the monthly WASH coordination meetings to discuss the achievements and milestones and implementation approaches. The meeting conducted by the MRRD, MoPH and MoE at national monthly base, and through annual base public accountability events the ministries provide information to citizens.

## VI. Improved needs in the accountability mechanisms

Despite the existing accountability mechanism for SDG-6, the national accountability mechanism needs improvement in the following areas.

- a) **Policy level:** The WASH polices at the rural and urban area need to ensure the sustainability of WASH services and development projects through providing specific technical and scientific criteria for measuring sustainability of projects, in term of water resource, material, environmental, eco system and social. Community group discussion reveals that most of water point that have been develop by MRRD and its partners are not sustainable. In particular, the materials used have low quality; in addition, there is strong need to narrowing policy and develop specific procedures and guidelines for the implementation policy at the urban area.
- b) **Baseline assessment and benchmarking:** The national accountability mechanism for SDG 6 is still suffering lack of validated baseline and benchmarks at the rural and urban areas. A nationwide survey is yet to be conducted. Central statistical office has not inserted the SDG 6 indicators in national surveys completely, and the documents reviewed shows that stakeholders are following their benchmarks and targets.
- c) **Planning and targets:** currently, lack of single plan among government institution over urban and rural area WASH undermines the NAM for SDG 6.
- d) **Coordination:** Coordination among all relevant WASH stakeholders is direly needed for inclusiveness. It has to be noted that still there is no specific platform to involve independent and other sectorial CSOs, private sectors, media, academic institutions in a regular manner. Meanwhile there a strong need to establish coordination platforms at the subnational level for rural and urban WASH.
- e) **Monitoring:** Progress is slow in strengthening WASH management information systems. Data is often incomplete and of variable quality with reliance on periodic household surveys. As the quality, completeness and timeliness of facility data improves, the gap between routine and survey data is likely to narrow. Data collection often lacks the private sector contribution and excludes populations and disaggregation of data remains limited.
- f) **Review:** The WASH sector review covers a very broad agenda and still is not as inclusive or transparent as it could be. Reviews are not becoming progressively more systematic and discussions more strategic. The absence of independent monitoring potentially undermines the credibility and legitimacy of the processes. Compliance with recommendations of the review can be strengthened. Governments need to see civil society as a supporter rather than an opponent and parliament as an ally in the budget processes.
- g) **Action:** Government institutions have limited budget on WASH services which create barrier to achieve the annual targets across country. This is also limiting the presence and space for inclusion of civil society and private sector in the processes. SDG-6 will require substantial resources given Afghanistan's financial instability and dependence vis-à-vis the international community and innovative funding

mechanisms will be required to achieve the SDGs. UNICEF and World Bank experts have estimated that yearly investments of US\$ 114 million into the WASH sectors is required over the period 2016-2030 to meet the target of universal access to basic drinking water.

- h) **Standardize WASH Services:** To Standardize the WASH indicators and targets for all stakeholders there is a dire need to review and improve the WASH Guidelines. This guideline is being used for implementation, monitoring, reporting, planning and statistic survey of WASH services at national level. It covers the questions of what is potable water, clean toilet, open toilet, amount of water usage, services in demand, etc. This guideline review process needs a lively participation of civil society and private sector.
- i) **Capacity:** It is not only the question of the GoIRA staff member and their capacity to understand and analyze the SDG-6 and its sphere of need, but also the lack of a similar understanding among CSOs and PS. This area needs to in-depth work; in order to, gain the objectives and the benchmarks both the national plan and the international commitments. There is still a strong need to increase the awareness and capacity of CSOs and private sectors including local authorities regarding SDG-6.
- j) **Project overlap:** Overlap in the ministerial schemes and plans is visible and is also art of the miss on proper delivery on the benchmarks and set objectives. At least six important entities from ministry to municipality and directorates are working on potable water and city water scheme but the move and deliverables are very slow.
- k) **Communication and information flow:** A clear data management and information sharing forum between the governmental authorities is missing. Access to information has become a real challenge and there is not public access to the information on sector achievements to media and public.

## **VII. Recommendation**

For GoIRA

- 1) Create a vast coordination mechanism among sectorial ministries and sub-sector departments at national and local level and include the PS and CSOs in the processes related to WASH sector.
- 2) Establishment of formal procedures in the social accountability mechanism to ensure the meaningful participation of CSOs and PS.
- 3) There is a strong need to create a coalition or committee of national and sub-national CSOs to advocate and held government accountable towards SDG-6 by 2030. Involving CSOs in the Social Accountability Mechanism is the only tool and practice for CSOs to keep government accountable at national and local level on its promises as well as deliverables.
- 4) Develop a comprehensive and single database of information at country (national) level.
- 5) Standardization of WASH indicators and targets for all stakeholders and a guideline for implementation, monitoring, reporting planning and statistic survey of WASH services
- 6) Strengthening WASH management information systems. Data is often incomplete and of variable quality with reliance on periodic household surveys.
- 7) Given the donor dependency of Afghanistan, a realistic and inclusive fundraising must be envisioned in order to securely finance SDG-6 implementation.
- 8) Improve sector accountability to citizens through expanding social accountability approaches, monitoring human rights treaty (conventions) obligations (gender and disability) in a partnership with the media and CSOs.
- 9) Increase both government and local stakeholder's capacity through conducting self-assessment and needs assessment in regards to SDG-6 targets and indicators.
- 10) There is a strong need to develop urban WASH MIS, and develop the legal framework urban WASH MIS to institutionalize it, in terms of data verification and data collection, there is a strong need to develop independent and internal data verification system and procedure of urban WASH MIS to increase data accuracy and credibility.
- 11) There is a strong need to improve accessibility and channel of WASH information dissemination at the local level.

**For CSOs/NGOs**

- 11) Creating strong partnership among CSOs and media for lobby and advocacy during the budget approval session of the parliamentarians to increase the investments for SDG-6.

- 12) Create coalitions and committees on SDG-6 of the national and sub-national CSOs in partnership with media for systematic, regular and effective advocacy.
- 13) Create coalitions and committees on SDG-6 for the national and sub-national CSOs in partnership with media and parliamentarians to keep government accountable.
- 14) Creating strong partnerships with CSOs and media for an information sharing as well as advocacy for shadow report (via research or survey) to make the government more accountable.
- 15) CSOs need to increase their initiative on rural and urban area WASH data collection and verification, and collective and participatory monitoring of WASH services and infrastructure project.

**For UN agencies and international partners and donors**

- 16) Cover vulnerable areas, mostly donors and international agencies are only interested to work in safe and accessible districts.
- 17) Afghanistan is a donor dependent country and will require significant additional funding and commitments from its international development partners to finance SDG-6 implementation.
- 18) CSOs activities depends on donors' financial support in Afghanistan; therefore, there is need to support CSOs initiatives on SDG-6.
- 19) The UN and donors must help the GoIRA both financially and technical to develop A-SDGs official database in 2020.

## Annexes

## Annex I: List of the Contributors

No.	Contributors			Type of Contribution		
	Name	Type of institution	Name of Institution/ Organization	Survey	In deep interview	Focus Group Discussion
1	Sohrab Khan	Government	(MRRD)	✓	✓	✓
2	Rahim Dil	Government	(MoEc)	✓	✓	
3	Basir Ahmad	Government	(MUDH)	✓	✓	✓
4	Dr. Jamal Naser	Government	(MOE)	✓		
5	Dr. Azizullah Safi	Government	(MoPH)	✓		
6	Majid	NGOs	Afghanistan Research and Evolution Unite (AREU)	✓	✓	✓
7	Eng. Sammy	Community structure organization	WASH cluster		✓	
8	Amanullah Sarhadi	INGOs	Relief international (RI)	✓	✓	
9	Aziz Rafiee	CSOs	Afghanistan Civil Society Forum-organization			✓
10	Dr. Shafiqullah	Government	(MoPH)	✓	✓	✓
11	M. Shafiq	Private sector	Pamir Water supply Company		✓	✓
12	Reza Amin	Private Sector	Shahrk –e- Safa Water Supply Company		✓	✓
13	M. Azim	Private sector	The Private sector water supply Union	✓	✓	✓
14	Vaezy	CSOs	Afghanistan Research & Social Change Organization (ARSCO)	✓	✓	✓
15	Jawad Aiazy	CSOs	ACSFo	✓		
16	Enjeela Hedayat	CSOs	ACSFo	✓		
17	Noor Khalid	CSOs	ACSFo	✓		
18	Esmat Haidari	CSOs	EAST	✓		
19	Pardis Rasuli	CSOs			✓	
20	Dr. Matiullah	NGOs	AKF	✓	✓	

No.	Contributors			Type of Contribution		
	Name	Type of institution	Name of Institution/ Organization	Survey	In deep interview	Focus Group Discussion
21	Azim Barat	NGOs	DACAAR			✓
22	Khaled Behzad	CSOs	AREU			✓
23	Anwar		MEDAIR	✓		✓
24	Abdul	CSOs				✓
25	Abdul Wali	NOGs	DACAAR	✓		✓
26	Reza Arman	CSOs	OHW	✓	✓	
27	Riaz Dermal	Government	MUDH	✓	✓	
28	Nasser Ahmad	Government	MRRD	✓	✓	
29	Eng. Mirwais Amini	Government	MRRD	✓		
30	Sohrab Khan	Government	MRRD	✓		
31	Zabihullah Afghani	NGOs		✓		
32	M. Shafiq	PS	Water supply company	✓		
33	Amina	Government	MUDH	✓		

**Annex II: list reviewed documents**

#	Title	Publisher & availability
1	The Afghanistan COUNTRY BRIEF	Publisher: Sanitation and water for all <a href="http://sanitationandwaterforall.org/wp-content/uploads/download-manager-files/Afghanistan%20Country%20Brief.pdf">http://sanitationandwaterforall.org/wp-content/uploads/download-manager-files/Afghanistan%20Country%20Brief.pdf</a>
2	Afghanistan National Guidelines for WASH in Emergency (ANGWE)	Publisher: humanitarian response <a href="https://www.humanitarianresponse.info/en/operations/afghanistan/document/afghanistan-wash-cluster-guidelines-3rd-draft-24-october-2017">https://www.humanitarianresponse.info/en/operations/afghanistan/document/afghanistan-wash-cluster-guidelines-3rd-draft-24-october-2017</a>
3	Aligning National Priority Programs (NPPs) with Afghanistan Sustainable Development Goals (ASDGs)	Publisher: A-SDG department <a href="http://WWW.asdg.gov.af">WWW.asdg.gov.af</a>
4	A-SDGS TARGETS PRIORITIZATION GUIDELINE	Publisher: A-SDG department <a href="http://WWW.asdg.gov.af">WWW.asdg.gov.af</a>
5	Alignment Framework Afghanistan Sustainable Development Goals	Publisher: A-SDG department <a href="http://WWW.asdg.gov.af">WWW.asdg.gov.af</a>
6	National Hygiene Promotion Strategy	Publisher: MoPH <a href="http://old.moph.gov.af/Content/files/eng_National%20Hygiene%20Promotion%20Strategy%202017-2020.pdf">http://old.moph.gov.af/Content/files/eng_National%20Hygiene%20Promotion%20Strategy%202017-2020.pdf</a>
8	WASH policy	Publisher: MRRD <a href="https://www.ruwatsipmrrd.gov.af/Attachements/English/WASH%20Policy%202010_323.pdf">https://www.ruwatsipmrrd.gov.af/Attachements/English/WASH%20Policy%202010_323.pdf</a>
9	IMPLEMENTATION MANUAL Version 2	Publisher: MRRD <a href="https://www.ruwatsipmrrd.gov.af">https://www.ruwatsipmrrd.gov.af</a>
10	Technical Working Group 4 (Economic Growth and Infrastructure) draft terms of reference	Publisher: A-SDG department <a href="http://WWW.asdg.gov.af">WWW.asdg.gov.af</a>
11	WASH IMS	<a href="http://www.ruralwash.gov.af">www.ruralwash.gov.af</a>
12	WASH M&E manual	<a href="#">Hard copy</a> <a href="#">N/A</a>
13	Rural WASH data collection forms	<a href="#">Hard copy</a> <a href="#">N/A</a>
14	Water, sanitation and hygiene ladders	<a href="#">Hard copy</a> <a href="#">N/A</a>

### Annex III: Online survey and semi-structure interview questionnaire

#### Part I. Basic information of the interviewee

Name of the interviewee: \_\_\_\_\_

Function of the interviewee: \_\_\_\_\_

Name of the organization/sector: \_\_\_\_\_

(Government national or local (municipal, provincial, and regional or district level), CSOs, INGO, NGO, etc.)

#### Part II. National policy, indicators and milestone, achievement against fixed indicators and other sectors jointly working towards SDG-6

1. Has the government already brought its national policy, strategy or national sector plan in line with the SDG-6?  Yes  No, if yes write below.

A. what is the policy, strategy or national sector plan named?

\_\_\_\_\_

B. Does the policy covers the first three SDG-6 targets; a, target 6.1 ("equitable access to safe and affordable drinking water for all"); b, target 6.1 ("access to adequate and equitable sanitation and hygiene for all and end open defecation"); and target 6.3 ("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")

C. What is the role of your institution/sector on the provision of national policy, strategy and national sector plan? Ask the interviewer to provide more details.

\_\_\_\_\_

D. Would you describe the soft and hard activities carryout by your institution/sector toward achieving the SDG-6 first three targets?

\_\_\_\_\_

2. Has the government established annual targets or milestones for achieving SDG-6 first three targets by 2030?  Yes  No, if yes, please write below

A. What is the SDG-6 target 6.1 fixed annual milestone/target at the rural and urban area? Please ask documents or written papers or online source.

\_\_\_\_\_

B. What is the SDG-6 target 6.2 fixed annual milestone/target at the rural and urban area? Please ask documents or written papers or online source.

\_\_\_\_\_

C. What is the SDG-6 target 6.3 fixed annual milestone/target at the rural and urban area? Please ask documents or written papers or online source.

\_\_\_\_\_

3. What are the current achievements against the targets fixed in terms of coverage, quality and reliability of target 6.1, 6.2 and 6.3?

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4. Are there any state and non-state institutions, that jointly working with your institution towards achieving the SDG-6 first three targets? (Access to potable water, access to hygiene and sanitation, and wastewater recycle)?

Yes  No, if yes, please write below

A. Please specify the state institution's name and contribution aspects toward SDG-6 targets. (Sectorial ministries, sub-sectors, etc.)

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B. Please specify the name of non-state institutions and sectors as well as their contribution aspects toward SDG-6 targets. (CSOs, INGOs, NGOs, CBOs, etc.)

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Part III. Data management/monitoring and accountability

5. Is/are there any steering/monitoring committee in the government institutions appointed to monitor the SDG-6 targeted indicators?  Yes  No, if yes, please write below

A. Please specify the role and responsibility of the steering/monitoring committee, institutions appointed to monitor SDG-6 progress?

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B. Due to the availability of steering committee or any multi stakeholders platform for the monitoring or tracking of SDG-6, please provide details of its composition, role and effectiveness of its functioning.

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6. Does your institution has data management system on SDG-6 targets?

Yes  No, if yes, please write below

A. How the data/evidence records on the SDG-6 indicators and what parameters are measured and at which level? ( i.e. village to national)

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B. What SDG-6 target 6.1 indicators are managing by the MIS (Covered aspects or data)?

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C. What SDG-6 target 6.2 indicators are managing by the MIS (Covered aspects or data)?

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D. What SDG-6 target 6.3 indicators are managing by the MIS (Covered aspects or

data)?

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E. what is the main content the government gives account on? Is it mainly on:

a. The activities they are undertaking in achieving the SDG-6? Please provide more details.

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b. The results achieved in relation to the SDG-6?

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c. The (annual) available budget for the sector?

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d. The (annual) spending in the water and sanitation sector?

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e. Does it include information on all subsectors (drinking water, sanitation services and IWRM) for both urban and rural in a more or less balanced way?

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f. To what extent are those reports reflective and auto-critical including lessons learned and including recommendations for improvement of the government's performance in the sector?

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7. Does the government compile regular progress reports (annual, or bi-annual) of the sector? If so how regular?

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8. Does the government compile progress reports on an ad hoc basis? If so, in what year was the last one and the before last one done?

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9. Based on what information/data those reports compiled? What are the sources?

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10. Does the government share the progress reports? If yes how:

a. On their institutional website

b. On a government website

c. By sending a soft copy to a mailing list

d. By handing out hard copies during sector meetings

e. Verbally through presentations in sector meetings

f. Verbally in meetings specifically dedicated to informing sector stakeholders on progress in the sector

g. Other?

11. Does the CSO organizations receive those reports?

\_\_\_\_\_

12. Are CSO organizations invited to sector events in which the government gives account on progress?

\_\_\_\_\_

#### Part IV: Coordination among stakeholder

13. Does the government have any mechanism in place that enables the sector actors (CSOs, INGOs, NGOs, CBOs and sectorial ministries, sub-sectors, etc.) to engage with the government on SDGs progress?  Yes  No, if yes, please write below

A. What is called this mechanism?

\_\_\_\_\_

B. Can you describe how it works? Please follow the below sub-questions

a. What are the main characteristics of this mechanism? (E.g. 1 day annual sector meeting, bi-annual 2 day multi-stakeholder forum, annual joint sector review, ad hoc sector consultation meetings etc.)

\_\_\_\_\_

b. What is the main purpose of this mechanism?

\_\_\_\_\_

c. Who convenes?

\_\_\_\_\_

d. How often does it convene?

\_\_\_\_\_

e. Who participates?

i. What is the role of the government institutions in this mechanism?

\_\_\_\_\_

ii. What contributions made by other sector stakeholders in the implementation of this mechanism?

\_\_\_\_\_

14. In your opinion, how we can build inclusive and mutual accountability mechanism and constituting an actively functioning multi stakeholders platform at the country level toward SDG-6?

\_\_\_\_\_

#### Part V: CSOs engagement and contribution in WASH sector

15. Does CSOs contributing towards achievement of SDG-6 targets?  Yes  No, if yes,

please write below

A. What soft and hard activities carryout by CSOs towards achievement of SDG-6 targets?

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B. What hard activities carryout by CSOs towards achievement of SDG-6 targets?

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16. Are the NGOs being involved in steering/monitoring committees or in any meetings related to SDG 6?

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17. In general, what is the role of CSOs in supporting of the governments to be accountable toward SDG-6?

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18. Are there any influencing platforms or opportunities created for influencing the Governments at national and sub-national level?  Yes  No, if yes, please write below

A. What is called this mechanism?

---

B. Can you describe how it works? Please follow the below sub-questions

a) What are the main characteristics of this mechanism? (E.g. 1 day annual sector meeting, bi-annual 2 day multi-stakeholder forum, annual joint sector review, ad hoc sector consultation meetings etc.?)

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b) What is the main purpose of this mechanism?

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19. Are there any new NGO networks or platforms institutionalized in WASH sector?

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20. What are the main gaps for effective CSO participation in the national accountability on sector progress and SDG-6?

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21. What are the main experiences with CSOs participation in national accountability mechanisms?

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22. What is your recommendation for improving CSO participation in national accountability on sector progress and SDG-6? What needs to be change and who needs to undertake action?

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Part VI: Gaps and Recommendations

23. What are the main gaps in the current national accountability mechanism for SDG-6 and WASH sector?

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24. What is your suggestion and recommendation to meet/solve the gaps?

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25. What is your suggestion and recommendation to improving the effectiveness of national accountability mechanisms? If yes on what actions and by who?

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26. Any Suggestions or recommendations to help determine priorities and actions required at regional and national level with regard to SDG-6 implementation.

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