

SDG 06

This goal is about making sure everyone has access to clean drinking water and toilet facilities



Why does SDG6 matter to local governments?

Ensuring access to clean water and sanitation is usually a responsibility of local governments, and relies on effective local governance, natural resource management, and urban planning.

The challenges involved can vary hugely at sub-national level, particularly between urban and rural areas.

In urban areas, the main challenge is often a lack of access to basic services in informal settlements, or high prices and a lack of quality control of water from private vendors. In rural areas, water may be free, but it may involve long journeys to and from the source, and may be contaminated.

Local governments have a role to play in improving water quality through environmental protection measures and sustainable solid waste management.

Integrated water resources management requires horizontal cooperation in planning and environmental policy between municipalities and regions across borders. Local governments are ideally placed to support participatory management of water and sanitation by communities, including slum-dwellers.

OTHER RELEVANT INTERNATIONAL AGENDAS:

- *Financing for Development* • *Climate Change* • *Habitat III*

RELEVANT TARGETS FOR LOCAL GOVERNMENTS

6.1 by 2030, 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

6.3 by 2030, improve water quality by **REDUCING POLLUTION**, eliminating dumping and minimising release of hazardous chemicals and materials, halving the proportion of untreated wastewater, and **INCREASING RECYCLING AND SAFE REUSE** by x% [to be decided] globally

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

6.5 by 2030 implement **INTEGRATED WATER RESOURCES MANAGEMENT AT ALL LEVELS**, including through transboundary cooperation as appropriate

6.6 by 2020 protect and restore water-related ecosystems, including mountains, forests, wetlands, rivers, aquifers and lakes

6.b support and strengthen the **PARTICIPATION OF LOCAL COMMUNITIES** for improving water and sanitation management