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UNITED NATIONS - Economic and Social Commission for Western Asia



Monitoring Access to Water Supply and Sanitation in the Arab Region: Building upon the Millennium Development Goals

Mohamed I. Al-Hamdi

First Economic Affairs Officer, SDPD - ESCWA

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Monitoring water and sanitation services



Although;

- Monitoring is an essential element of water and sanitation services, particularly in urban areas,

And,

- Is considered an important tool that leads to improved services
 - Administrative (efficiency)
 - Technical (reliability)
 - Financial (sustainability)

Detailed utility monitoring is really NOT

- The main focus of this presentation
- Are water and sanitation utilities services part of a global development agenda? (NO!! despite international guidelines and benchmarks)

If not!

- What are the water and sanitation MDGs?

To answer, we need to ask:

- Does goal 7 (targets 7c, indicators 7.8,7.9) aim at improved water and sanitation services (with all administrative, technical, and financial elements)? And if not, how can these services be incorporated into the MDGs?

Goal 7

Ensure environmental sustainability

Target 7-C

Halve, by 2015, the proportion of people without sustainable access to safe drinking water and basic sanitation

Indicator 7.8: Proportion of population using an improved drinking water source

Indicator 7.9: Proportion of population using an improved sanitation facility

Observation: Protection of public health from water born and water related diseases is the main rationale behind the water and sanitation MDG.

- National level
 - Progress reports with assistance from UNDP
- Regional level (Arab region)
 - UN-LAS progress report
- Global level (Joint Monitoring Program – JMP)
 - Biennial reports (March 2010)
 - Country reports

JMP Water supply indicators classification



- **Access to improved drinking water source**

- **Definition of improved water source**

By the nature of their construction or through active intervention, are protected from outside contamination, particularly from faecal matter.

Unimproved

- Unprotected dug wells, unprotected springs tanker truck, surface water (river, dam, lake, pond, stream, canal, irrigation channel) and bottled water.

Other Improved

- public taps or standpipes, tube wells, protected dug wells, protected springs, and rainwater collection.

Improved

protected from outside contamination, particularly faecal matter

- Piped house connections.

JMP sanitation indicators classification



- **Access to improved Sanitation facility**

- **Definition of Improved sanitation facility**

Facilities that ensure hygienic separation of human excreta from human contact.

Open defecation

- Defecation in fields, forests, bushes, bodies of water, or disposal of human faeces with solid waste.

Unimproved

- Pit latrines without slab or platform, hanging latrines and bucket latrines

Shared (improved or unimproved)

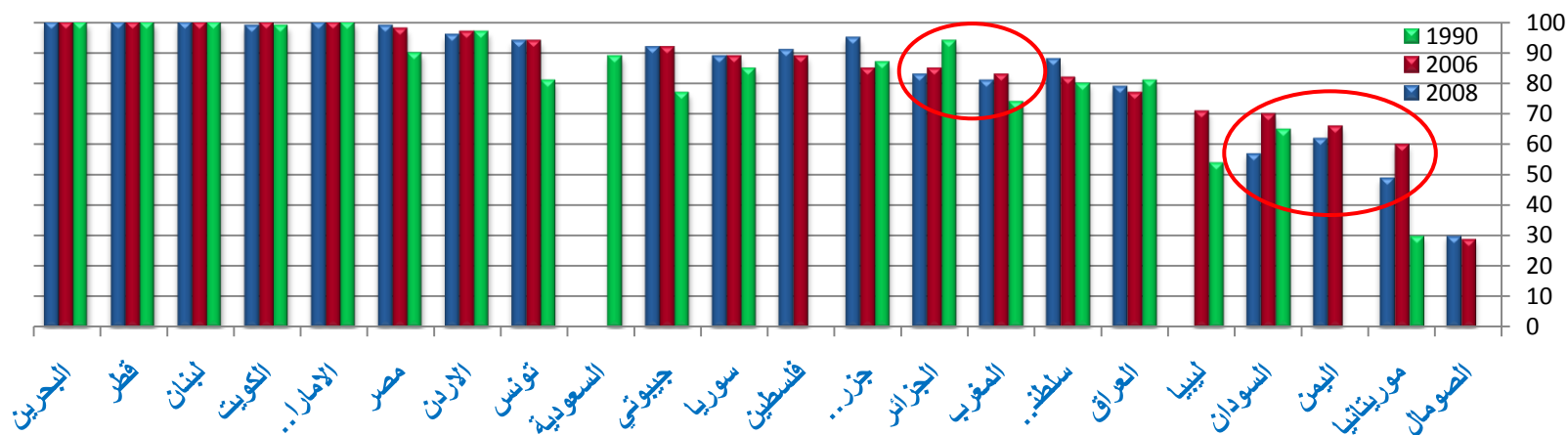
- Acceptable type, but shared between two or more households (incl. public toilets)

Improved

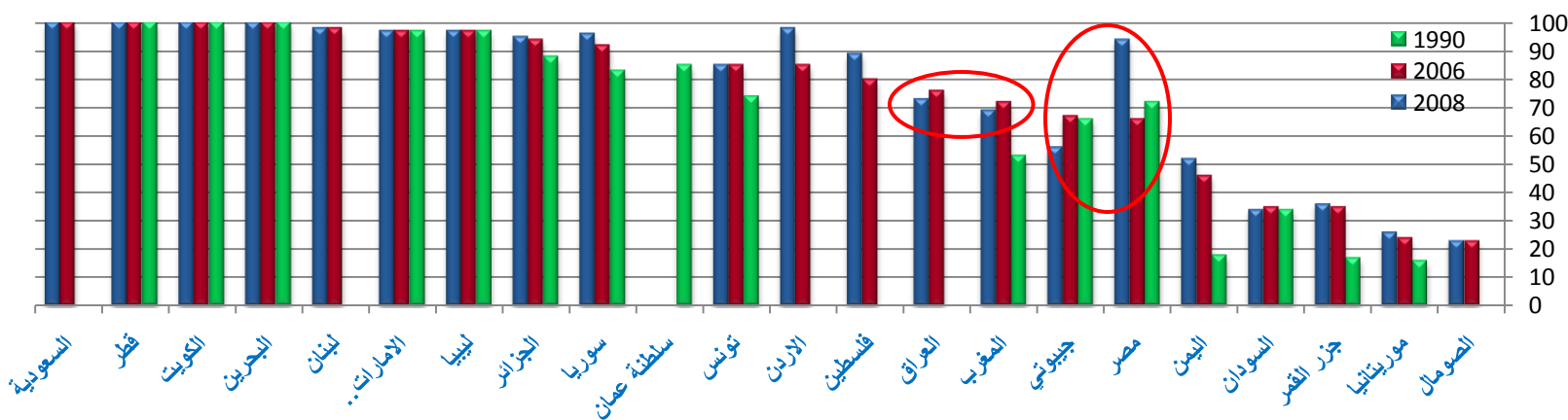
- Flush or pour flush toilet/latrine to: piped sewer system, septic tank or pit latrine
- Ventilated improved pit latrine
- Composting toilet

Status of access to improved water and sanitation in the Arab region (1)

Population with access to improved water supply source (%)



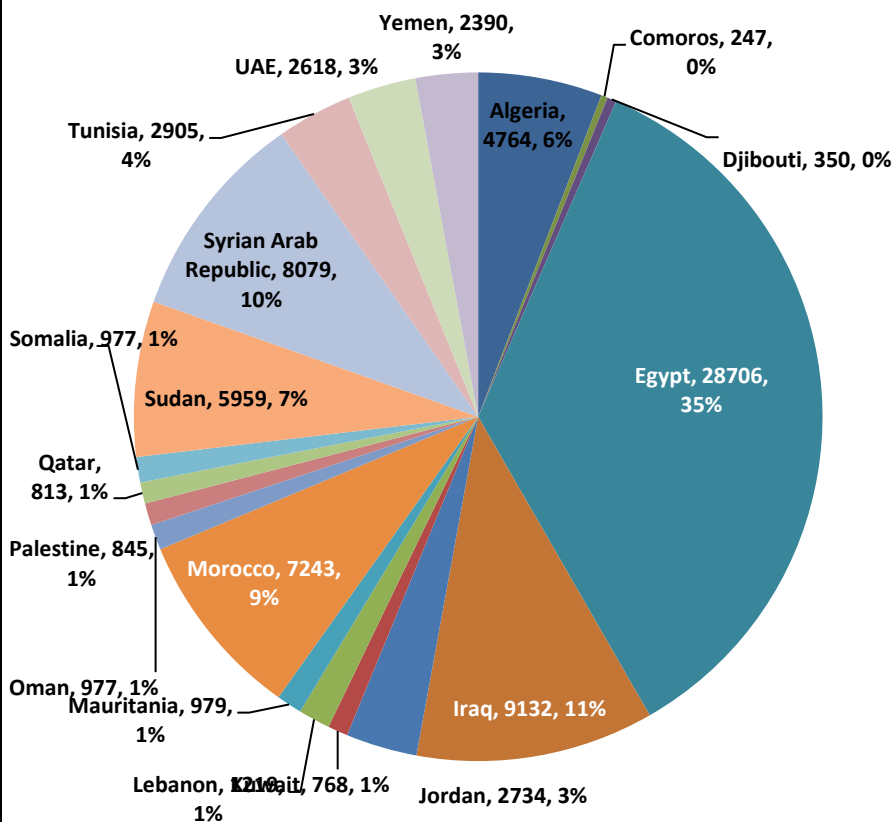
Population with access to improved sanitation facilities (%)



Status of access to improved water and sanitation in the Arab region (2)

Number of People gained access to improved Water source (1990-2008)

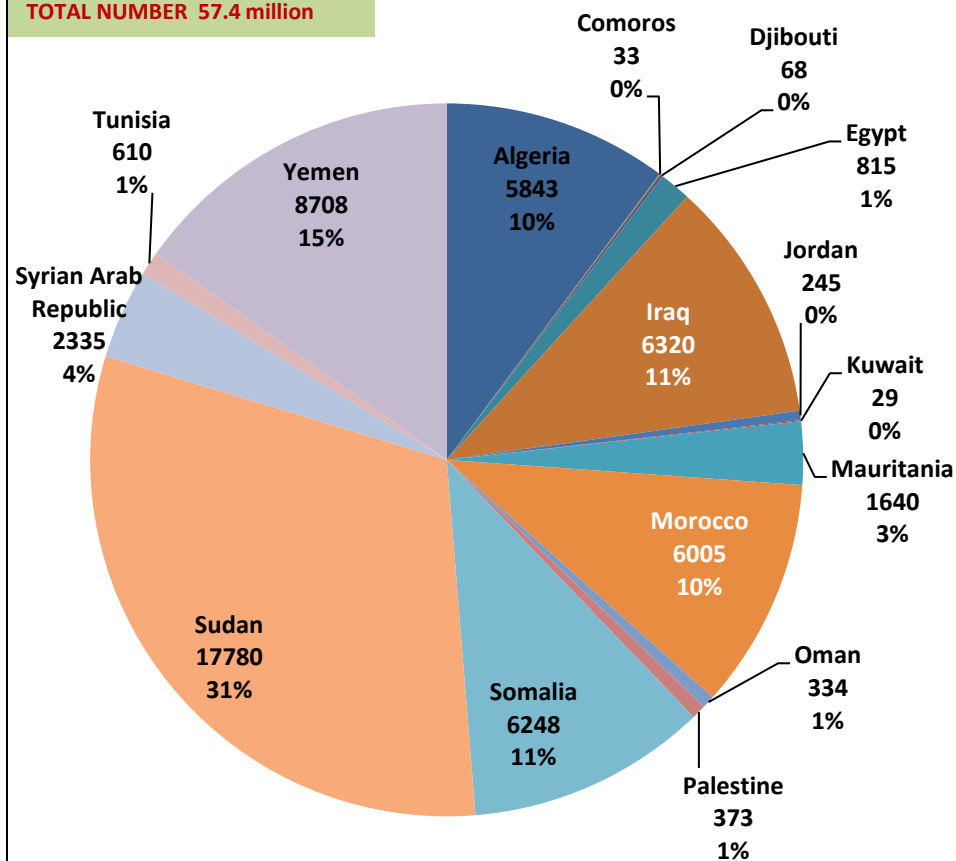
TOTAL NUMBER 81.7 million



Data source : 2010 JMP report
Figures in 000, and % are related to uncovered regional population

Number of People without access to improved Water source (2008)

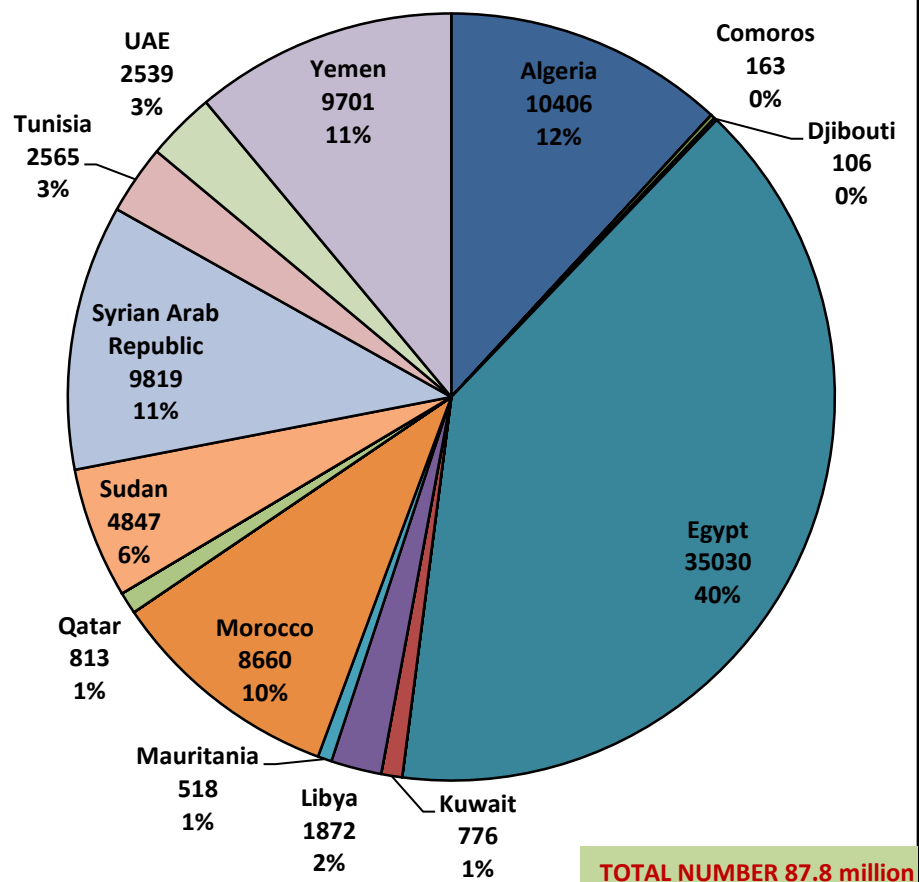
TOTAL NUMBER 57.4 million



Data source : 2010 JMP report
Figures in 000, and % are related to uncovered regional population

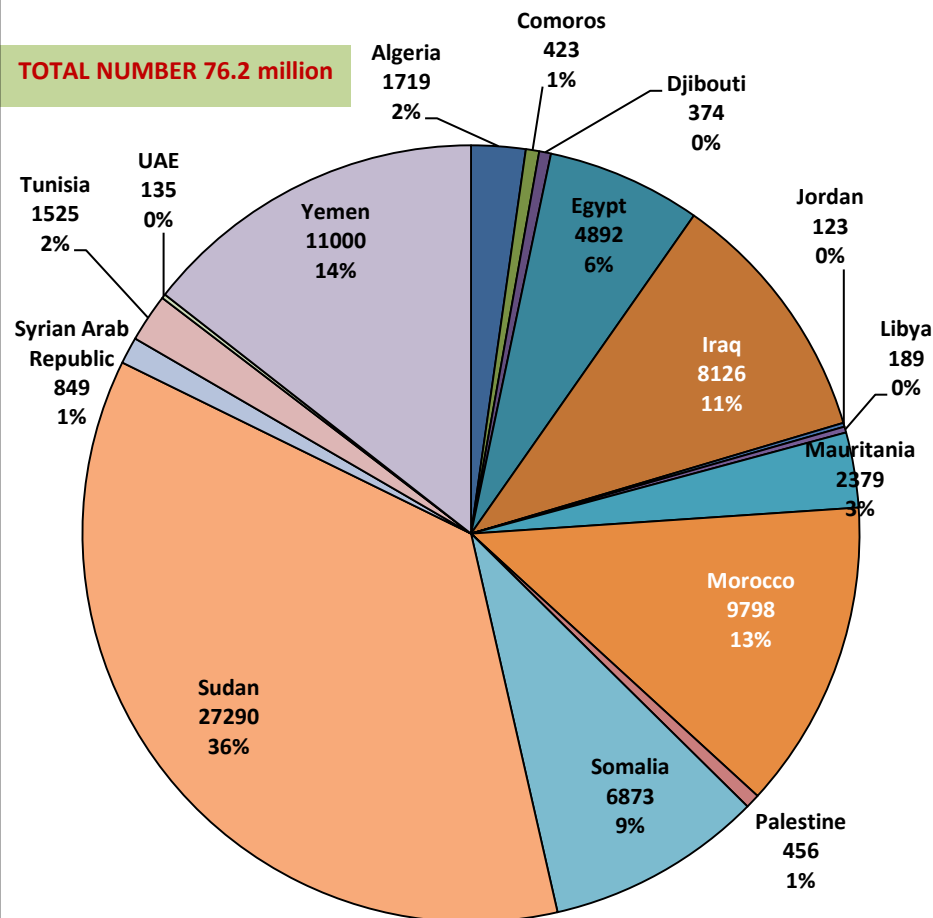
Status of access to improved water and sanitation in the Arab region (3)

Number of People gained access to improved sanitation facilities (1990-2008)



Data source : 2010 JMP report
Figures in 000, and % are related to uncovered regional population

Number of People without access to improved sanitation facilities (2008)



Data source : 2010 JMP report
Figures in 000, and % are related to uncovered regional population

- AMWC resolutions
- Scope
 - Level and quality of services
 - Environmental protection
- Regional specificities
- Timeframe of original MDGs
- Indicators
 - Maximum additions with minimum efforts
 - Availability and measurability

Water supply and sanitation service indicators



Technical

- Service coverage
- Leakages
- Water quality
- wastewater treatment
- Continuity of service
- Etc.

Administrative

- Non-revenue water
- Number of staff per 1000 connections
- Etc.

Financial

- Tariff structure
- Cost recovery
- Collection efficiency
- Etc.

- Usually there are long lists of indicators found within:
 - Standards (local or national level)
 - Guidelines and manuals (national & global)
 - Benchmarks and best practice (regional & global)
- These indicators are not incorporated within the global development agenda.
- Opportunity to expand (build on) the current MDGs to incorporate additional service related indicators.



- Water supply (scope: level and quality of service)
 - Per capita Water consumption (l/d)
 - Continuity of supply
 - Water quality
 - Distance to source
 - Financial burden
- Sanitation (scope: environmental protection)
 - Wastewater treatment (level and treatment)
 - Wastewater reuse (level and type)
 - Financial burden
- Limitations
 - Data availability and accuracy
 - Institutional capacity

- Template
 - Two forms for basic MDG indicators (definitions data sources)
 - Four forms for additional indicators
 - Two on water supply (urban and rural)
 - Two on sanitation (urban and rural)
 - [Draft template MDG+05-01-2011.doc](#)
 - Reference of the MDG+ initiative (template) in the Arab summit (Sharm El-Sheik, Egypt – 19 January 2011)

Conclusions and Recommendations



- Current water and Sanitation MDG goal was selected on the basis of public health protection.
- Current MDG water and sanitation indicators do not reflect level or quality of services.
- According to JMP, almost 82 million people have gained access to improved water supply source between 1990 and 2008, and almost 88 million people gained access to improved sanitation facilities in the Arab region.
- Still, 57 and 76 million people in the Arab region lack access to improved water sources and improved sanitation, respectively.
- The regional initiative (MDG+) is an opportunity to build on the current MDGs by incorporating additional indicators that clarify the level and quality of water and sanitation services as well as environmental concerns.
- Additional indicators were selected in a manner that allows for maximum scope and data accuracy with minimum efforts and resources.
- A comprehensive template have been prepared and to be officially approved in the coming months, and will form the basic element for data collection.
- Prerequisites to the first official progress report of the MDG+ in the Arab region include:
 - A comprehensive knowledge management system.
 - Identification of country level focal point/team.
 - Capacity building on data collection and management.
 - Etc.



Thanks for your
attention ...