



The Role of the World Health Organization in Drinking Water, Sanitation and Hygiene and Updated Publications

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Overview

- WHO WASH Strategy
- WHO role in WASH
- WHO priority intervention areas in WASH
- WHO latest publications on water and sanitation



Introduction



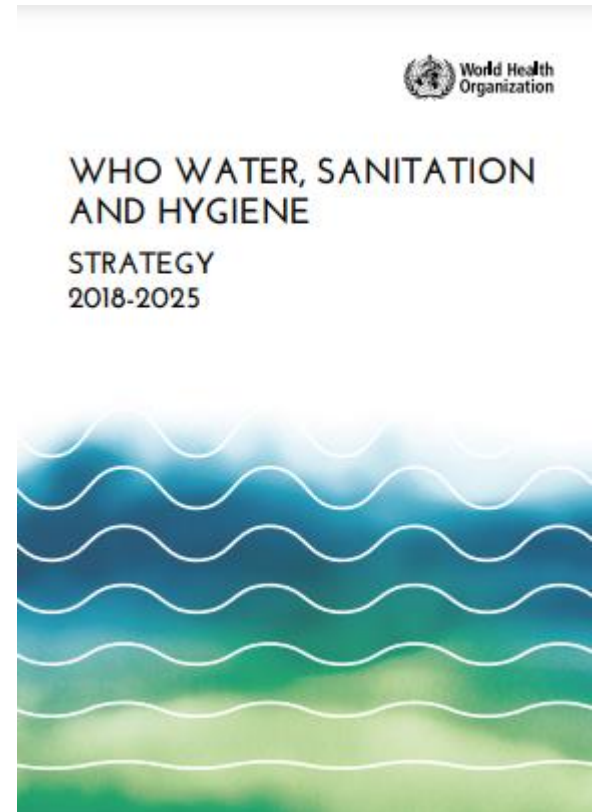
- WHO consistently issues health-based guidelines and good practice publications on WASH
- The WHO WASH Strategy: safe drinking water and sanitation as a human right
- The WHO vision for WASH is:

‘To Substantially Improve Health Through The Safe Management Of Water, Sanitation And Hygiene Services In All Settings.’

WHO WASH Strategy (2018-2025)

- Prioritize actions with the highest public health benefit
- Strengthen health sector capacities in promoting safe WASH
- Employ the highest quality science

WHO assists countries in achieving SDGs



Key WHO partners and stakeholders for WASH

- Member States
- Practitioners
- Institutions for research and development
- WASH sector partners e.g. UNICEF
- External support agencies e.g. GIZ

WHO Role in WASH

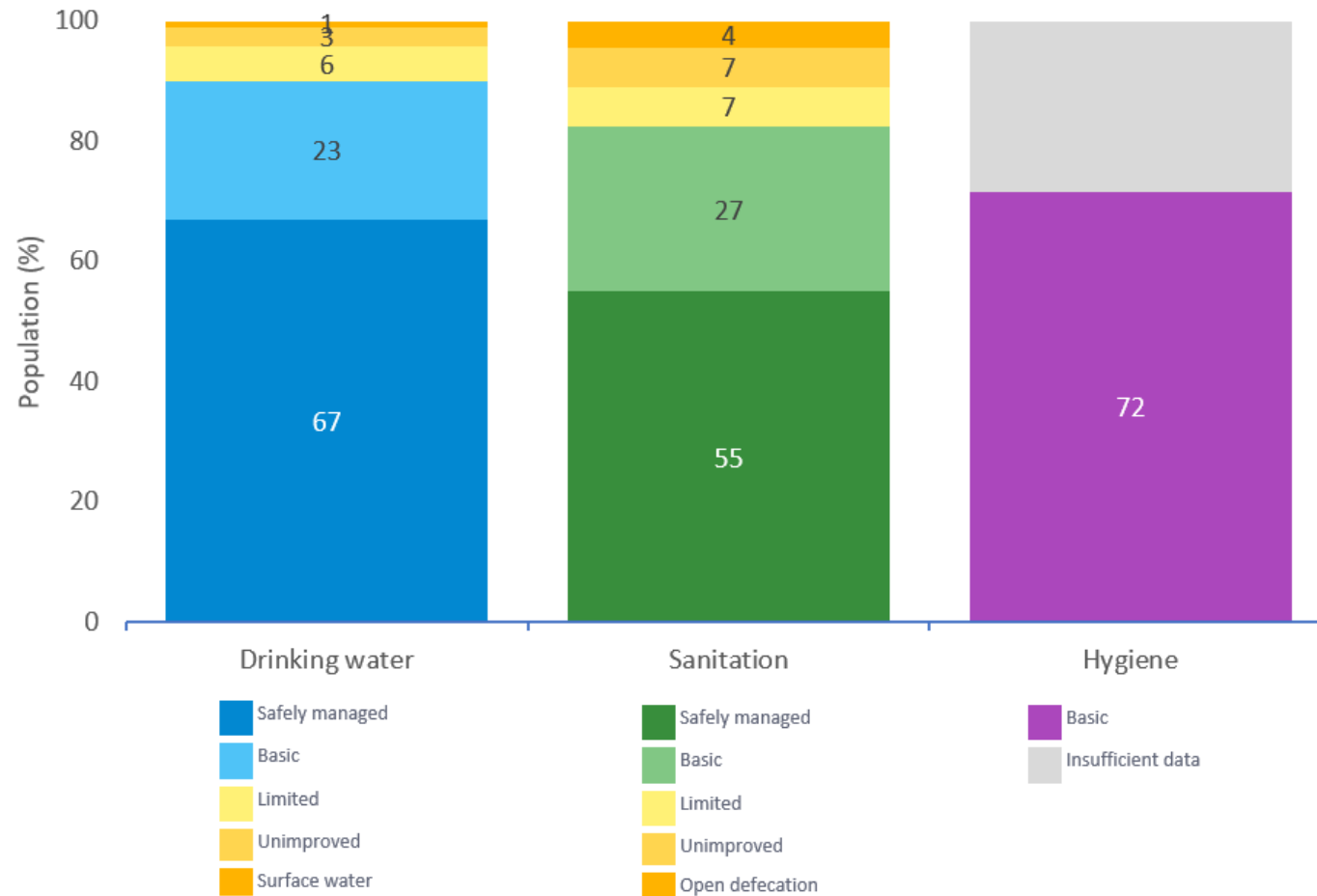
- Normative: international guidelines, standards; technical guidance on water quality management, sanitation and wastewater; and WASH policies and regulations.
- Global WASH monitoring to inform country policy decisions & WASH resource allocations. (assisting countries to improve policy, governance & monitoring ...fulfilling SDGs, esp. SDG 6)
- WASH is the subject of several World Health Assembly resolutions.





WHO, a technical agency, does not directly implement WASH infrastructure projects. It has a normative function e.g. WASH and Climate Change

Priority Intervention Areas

- Drinking water and Recreational water quality and safety: GDWQ (including small drinking-water supplies) and WSP
- Sanitation safety and wastewater management: Sanitation and health Guidelines and SSP
- WASH in health care facilities (including health care waste management)
- WASH Monitoring: JMP, GLAAS
- Integration of WASH with health and other programmes
- Emerging issues on WASH

WASH in Households in WHO Eastern Mediterranean Region



 World Health Organization
 



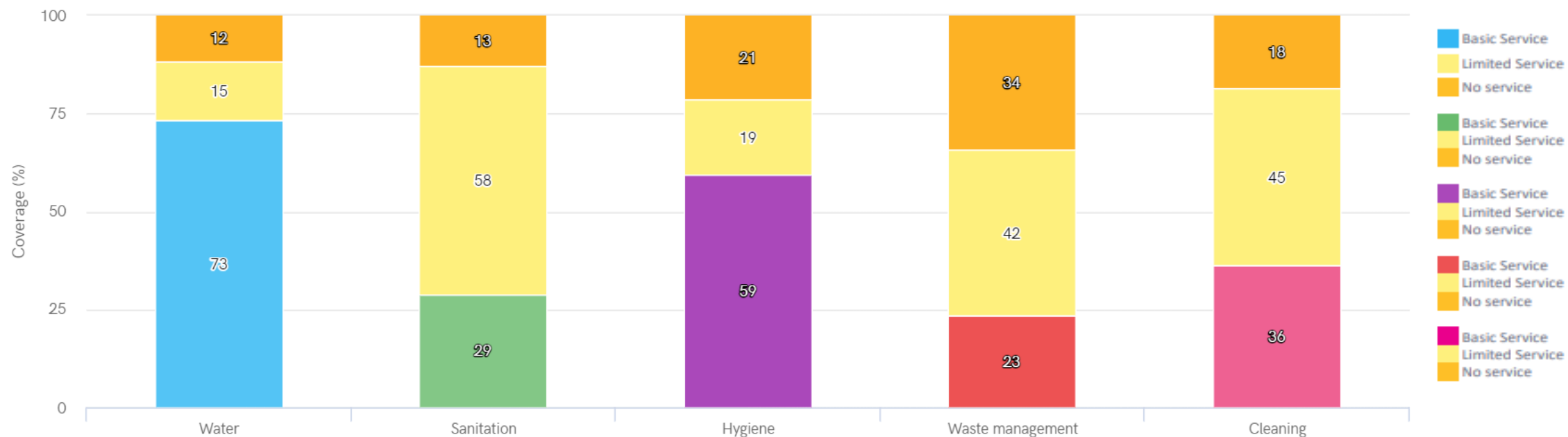
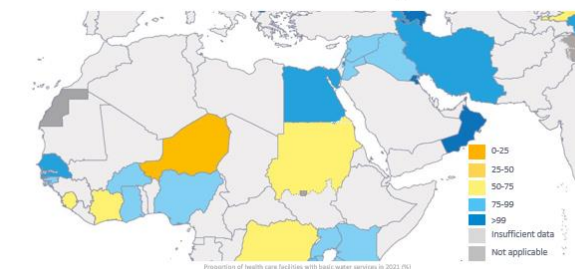
Regional snapshot of Drinking Water, Sanitation and Hygiene in Households in the WHO Eastern Mediterranean Region 2023

Prepared by:
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 Eng. Mohammad Shakkour

<https://washdata.org/reports/who-2023-regional-snapshot-eastern-mediterranean-region>

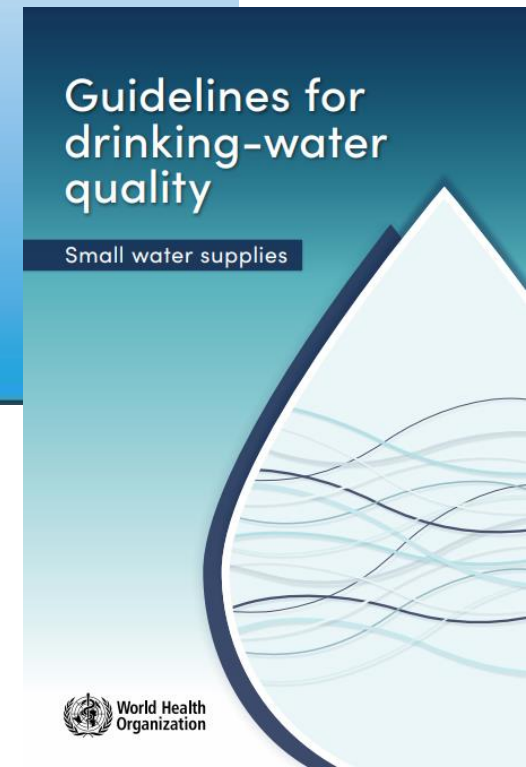
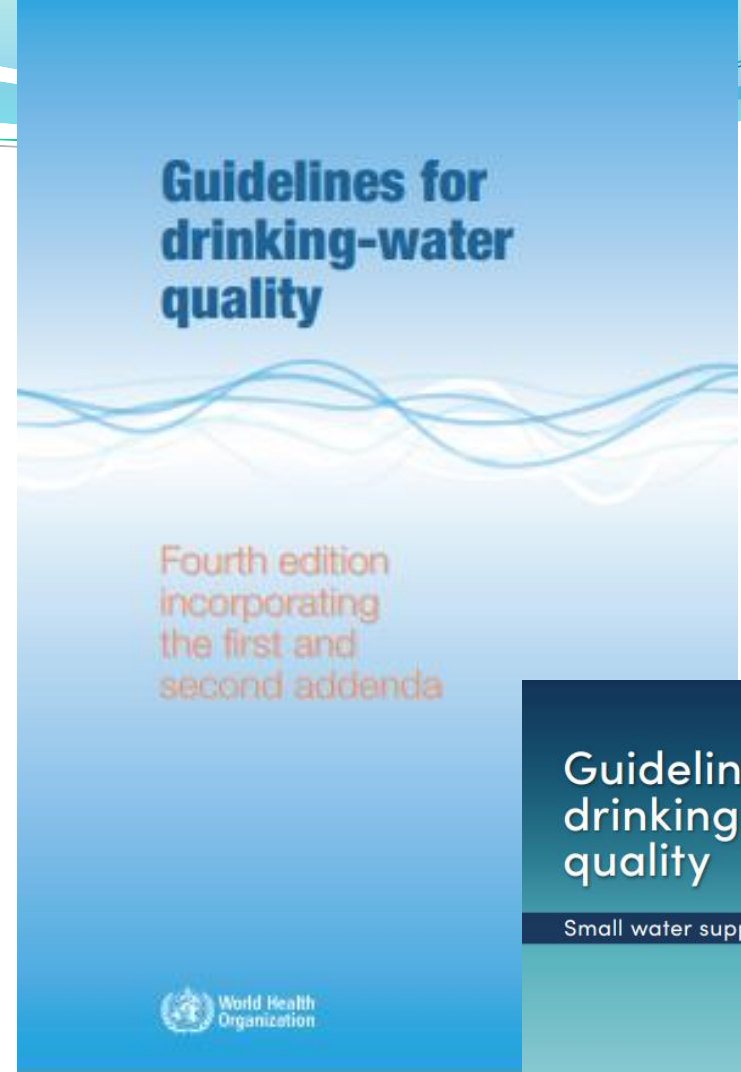
WASH in healthcare facilities in WHO EMR, 2021

Regional snapshot of Water, Sanitation, Hygiene, Healthcare Waste Management, Environmental Cleaning in Healthcare Facilities in the WHO Eastern Mediterranean Region



Guidelines for drinking water quality

The primary goal of the Guidelines is to protect public health associated with drinking-water quality.



Guidelines for drinking water quality: small water supplies and the Sanitary inspection packages (2024)

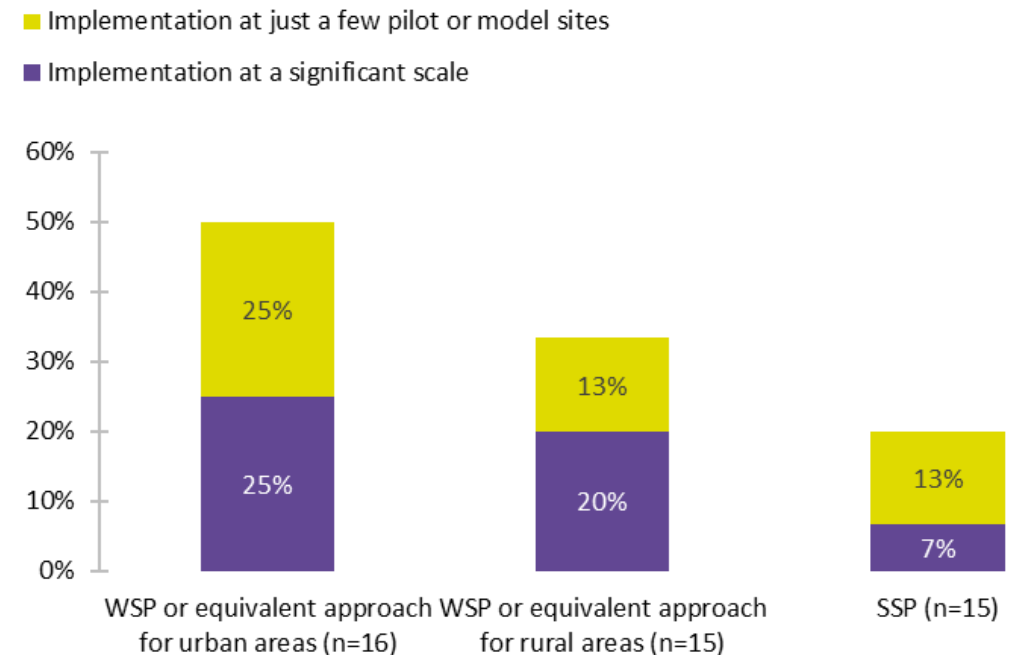
Water Safety Planning

- A comprehensive risk assessment & risk management approach to help ensure the safety of a drinking-water supply, ***from catchment to consumer***
- WHO/IWA updated WSP to provide integration of climate resilience and equity
- Target audience:
 - water suppliers
 - organizations supporting WSP, eg MOH
 - academic or research institutions

Water safety planning is
the most effective means of
consistently ensuring the safety
of a drinking-water supply
WHO Guidelines for drinking-water quality

- Over two-thirds of EMR countries have incorporated WSP or equivalent methods into their policies or regulations for both urban and rural areas.
- However, WSP is required in less than a third of these countries' policies or regulations.
- While many countries in EMR have policies or regulations for risk management approaches, *implementation lags behind*

Level of implementation of risk management approaches

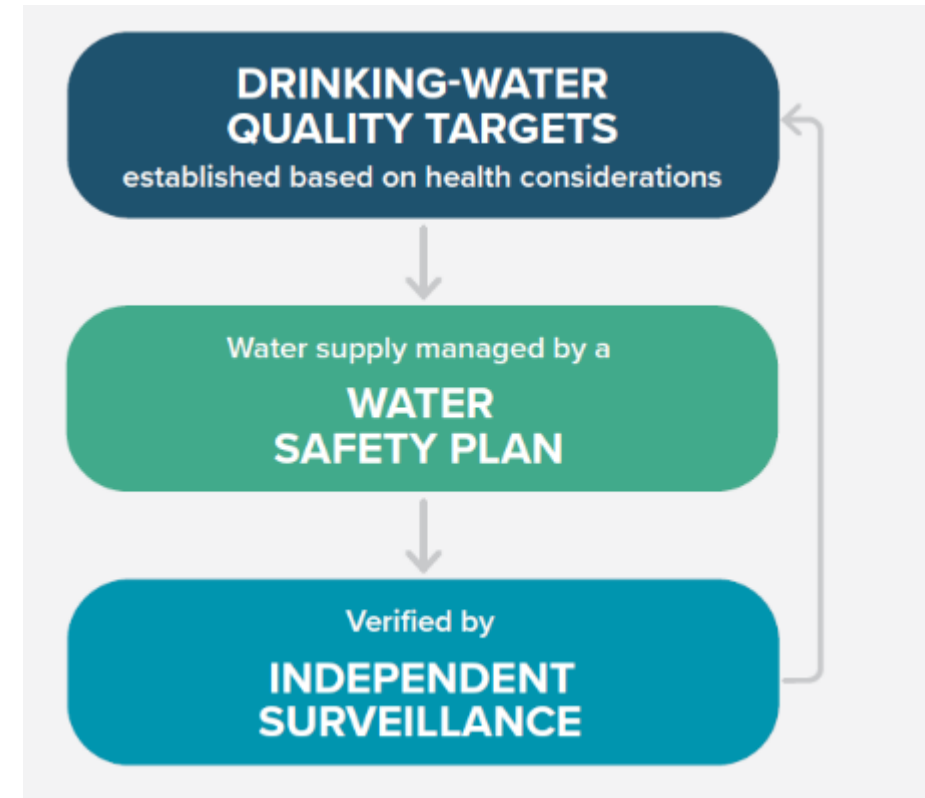


WSPs play a key role in delivering safe drinking-water

WSPs are one of three functions recommended by WHO to ensure drinking-water safety

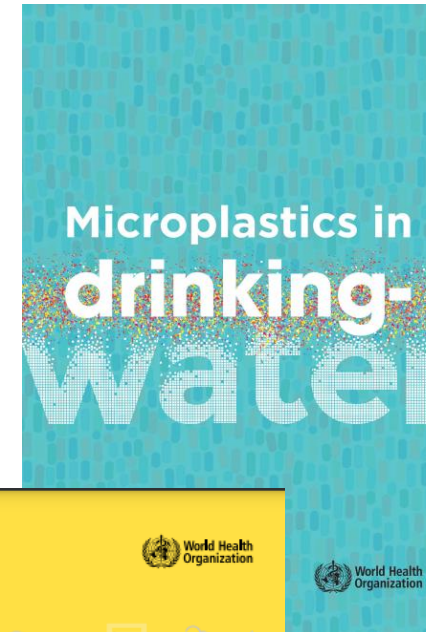
⇒ Can help water suppliers to achieve drinking-water quality targets

Framework for safe drinking-water



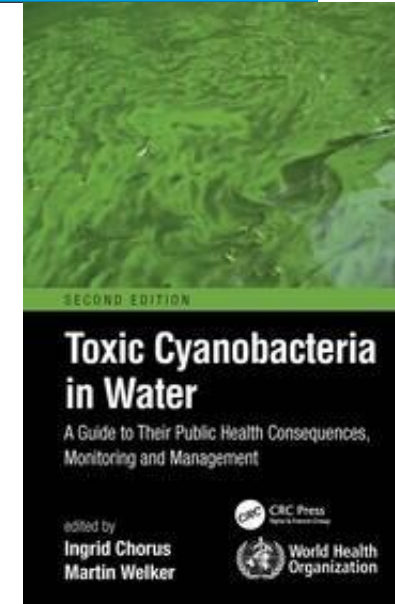
Additional WHO Resources on Water

- State of the world's drinking water: An urgent call to action to accelerate progress on ensuring safe drinking water for all
- Lead in drinking-water: Health risks, monitoring and corrective actions
- Toxic cyanobacteria in water - Second edition
- Guidelines on recreational water quality: Volume 1 Coastal and fresh waters



GUIDELINES ON RECREATIONAL
WATER QUALITY

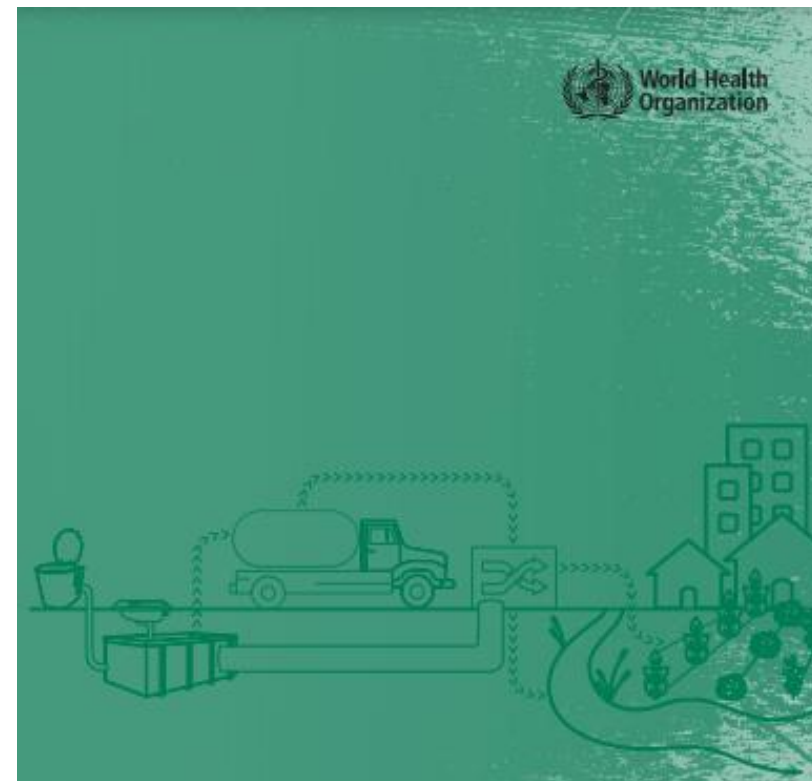
Volume 1 Coastal and Fresh Waters



Guidelines on Sanitation and Health

Comprehensive advice on maximizing the health impact of sanitation interventions.

- Summarize the evidence on the links between sanitation and health
- Provide evidence-informed recommendations
- Offer guidance for international, national and local sanitation policies and programme actions



GUIDELINES ON SANITATION
AND HEALTH

WHO 2006 Guidelines for the safe use of wastewater, excreta and greywater

These guidelines are concerned with the health implications of reusing wastewater and aim to protect the farmers, local communities and consumers, **maximizing the health benefits of safe reuse.**



Sanitation safety planning

Local risk assessment and management along the entire sanitation chain.

Identify and prioritize highest health risks to inform system improvements via a mix of control measures

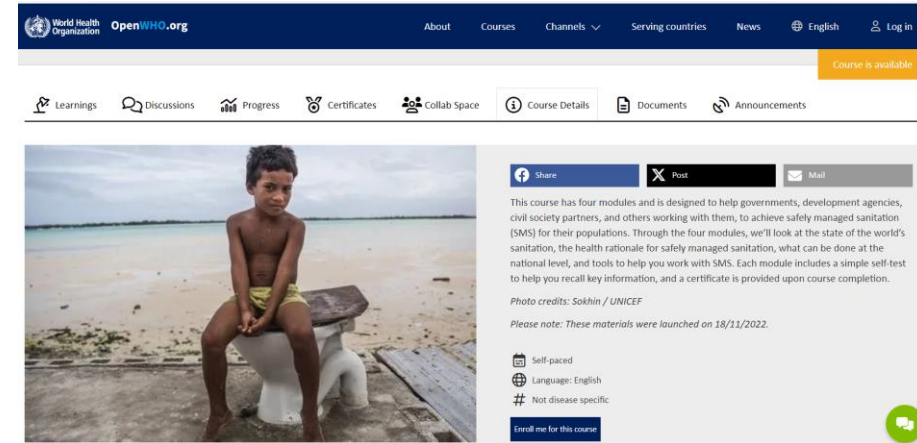
SSP manual 2nd edition (2022)

- Supports recommendations in WHO Guidelines on sanitation and health
- Simplified SSP process
- Includes climate risks



Additional WHO Resources on Sanitation

Open WHO Course: state of sanitation, impacts on health, how to accelerate progress



- HOME
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- ENGLISH

Sanitation Safety Planning (SSP) learning hub: videos, training and additional resources



SANITATION SAFETY PLANNING
Learning Hub



Thank you