The Global Water and Sanitation Initiative
A 10 year initiative 2005 to 2015
‘further contributing to the UN Millennium Development Goals’

What is the Global Water and Sanitation Initiative (GWSI)?

The GWSI outlines a common approach among Red Cross and Red Crescent National Societies to establish larger-scale, longer-term sustainable water and sanitation programmes to contribute more effectively in meeting the UN MDG’s. The GWSI in combination with the MDG initiative and the launch of a second UN Decade for Water (2005-2015) intends to target 15 million vulnerable people worldwide over 10 years, assisting them to gain access to an improved water supply, basic sanitation facilities and encourage behavioural change in hygiene practices.

Why the Global Water and Sanitation Initiative?

The problem

- Worldwide, over 2.6 Billion still do not use improved sanitation and 800 million still lack access to an improved water supply (Unicef/WHO).
- At least two million die annually as a result, mostly children under five.
- Lack of access to improved sanitation and water supply is a major hindrance to developmental efforts and creates a significant loss of productivity.
- Access to sanitation and water is a human right, and an issue of human dignity.

Original target to serve 5 million beneficiaries will now be trebled to 15 million beneficiaries by 2015.
What are the Global Water and Sanitation Initiative criteria?

To ensure that the GWSI projects fit within the parameters of the initiative, and the Federation’s water and sanitation policy, an integrated approach has to be adopted as a ‘strategic approach for the equitable, efficient and sustainable management of water resources’ and it is expected to contribute to improved health status and hygiene awareness within the target population-reducing water and sanitation borne diseases through increased sustainable access to safe water, appropriate sanitation, application of good hygiene practices and community water management. The strategic approach proposed is based on internationally agreed core principles concerning the need to protect the ecosystem, and to extend the health-giving and productive properties of freshwater resources equitably and efficiently among humankind, with special emphasis on poorer and underserved people.

The GWSI contains the guiding criteria to ensure an integrated approach and establishes a common approach for all Red Cross and Red Crescent water and sanitation development projects. Some of these criteria are:

- **Beneficiary identification:** Targeting of vulnerable communities with significantly low water and sanitation coverage.

- **Technical criteria (hardware):** Appropriate, affordable and sustainable technology options.

- **Scale of projects:** Large, longer-term projects giving increased economy of scale and lower cost-per-beneficiary. Longer-term funding packages, more secure resource mobilization.

- **Engagement and health promotion (software):** Improved community participation, management and hygiene/sanitation promotion.

- **Impact:** Greater, more measurable impact, clearly defined impact indicators.

- **Gender:** Increased gender awareness and considerations in the planning and implementation process.

- **Government and other external partners’ integration:** Being in-line with Government National Water and Sanitation Planning, the International Federation water and sanitation policy, and Integrated Water Resource Management (IWRM).

- **Environment:** Ensure that technical options are environmentally sound, and that any potential negative impact is minimized.

### Key findings of the mid-term review

From analysis:

- As of March 2012, we have mapped over 300 projects in 55 countries.
- The mapping includes completed projects, on-going projects and planned projects which are fully funded.

- There are 75 National Societies engaged. **55 Host National societies and 20 Participating National Societies**
- Targeted Direct Beneficiaries = 11.3 million
- Beneficiaries Served-to-Date = 5.5 million
- Average Cost per Beneficiary = 34 (CHF)
### 55 PARTNER HOST NATIONAL SOCIETIES (HNS)

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<thead>
<tr>
<th></th>
<th>Afghanistan Red Crescent</th>
<th>19. Haiti Red Cross Society</th>
<th>38. Sao Tome and Principe Red Cross</th>
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<tr>
<td>2</td>
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<td>28. Mongolian Red Cross Society</td>
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<td>53. Yemen Red Crescent Society</td>
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<td>35. Nigerian Red Cross Society</td>
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<td>The Comoros Red Crescent</td>
<td>37. Papua New Guinea Red Cross Society</td>
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### Number of targeted direct beneficiaries per project

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Category</th>
<th>Number of Projects</th>
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<tr>
<td>&gt; 20,000</td>
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<tr>
<td>5,000-20,000</td>
<td>41</td>
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<tr>
<td>&gt; 5,000</td>
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### Multilateral project-beneficiaries

- 67% > 20,000
- 27% 5,000-20,000
- 6% > 5,000

### Bilateral project-beneficiaries

- 53% > 20,000
- 32% 5,000-20,000
- 15% > 5,000
20 PARTICIPATING NATIONAL SOCIETIES (PNS)

1. American Red Cross
2. Australian Red Cross
3. Austrian Red Cross
4. Belgian Red Cross
5. British Red Cross
6. Canadian Red Cross
7. Danish Red Cross
8. Finnish Red Cross
9. French Red Cross
10. German Red Cross
11. Irish Red Cross
12. Red Cross of Monaco
13. The Netherlands Red Cross
14. New Zealand Red Cross
15. Norwegian Red Cross
16. Qatari Red Crescent Society
17. Spanish Red Cross
18. Swedish Red Cross
19. Swiss Red Cross
20. Japanese Red Cross

Partners

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