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GLOBAL WATER STRATEGY

INDICATOR HANDBOOK



USAID
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Acronyms & Abbreviations

CSO	CIVIL SOCIETY ORGANIZATION
FACTS INFO	FOREIGN ASSISTANCE COORDINATION AND TRACKING SYSTEM
GBV	GENDER-BASED VIOLENCE
GDA	GLOBAL DEVELOPMENT ALLIANCE
GHG	GREENHOUSE GAS
GIS	GEOGRAPHIC INFORMATION SYSTEM
JMP	JOINT MONITORING PROGRAMME
LGBTQI+	LESBIAN, GAY, BISEXUAL, TRANSGENDER, AND INTERSEX
MEL	MONITORING, EVALUATION, AND LEARNING
OU	OPERATING UNIT
PIRS	PERFORMANCE INDICATOR REFERENCE SHEET
PPP	PUBLIC-PRIVATE PARTNERSHIP
PPR	PERFORMANCE PLAN AND REPORT
SO	STRATEGIC OBJECTIVE
USAID	UNITED STATES AGENCY FOR INTERNATIONAL DEVELOPMENT
USG	UNITED STATES GOVERNMENT
WASH	WATER, SANITATION, AND HYGIENE
WRM	WATER RESOURCES MANAGEMENT
WSSH	WATER SECURITY, SANITATION, AND HYGIENE

Overview

Purpose

The *Global Water Strategy Indicator Handbook* presents the set of performance monitoring indicators used to measure progress against the [U.S. government Global Water Strategy](#). These indicators are designed to measure progress aligned with strategic objectives (SOs) in the Global Water Strategy results framework and global monitoring efforts related to the Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs).

This handbook is intended for use by USAID staff and implementing partners involved in water security, sanitation, and hygiene (WSSH) programming to ensure correct use of USAID's standard indicators. It includes all current standard performance indicators and recommended custom indicators. The handbook also provides guidance on how to measure specific indicators for a variety of programming types, including identifying when results can be plausibly attributed to USAID activities. The indicators and monitoring guidance provide a basis for demonstrating how activities can be linked to the achievement of water and sanitation objectives.



Photo credit: Eva Lotta Jansson, Oxfam America

Introduction

Monitoring is the ongoing and systematic tracking of data or information relevant to USAID strategies, projects, and activities. Relevant data and informational needs are identified during the planning and design phase. This may include output and outcome measures that are directly attributable to or affected by USAID interventions as well as measures of the operating context and programmatic assumptions.¹ Monitoring USAID's water and sanitation development activities is key to accountability and learning. The Agency is committed to ongoing efforts to improve monitoring.

Performance monitoring is designed to measure the expected outputs and outcomes of strategies, projects, or activities based on a Mission's Results Framework or the project or activity theory of change.² Performance indicators are the basis for observing progress and measuring results compared to expected outcomes.

Indicators provide a quantifiable measure of the characteristics or conditions of people, institutions, systems, or processes that may change over time. They can be categorized as either output or outcome indicators. **Output indicators** measure what is produced as a direct result of inputs. Outputs are the tangible, immediate, and intended products or consequences of an activity within USAID's control or influence. **Outcome indicators** measure the condition of people, systems, or institutions that are expected to be affected by USAID interventions. Outputs contribute to outcomes, but outcomes have broader inputs than any single output indicator.

Monitoring is integrated throughout the Program Cycle. Information from partners helps Missions learn from and adaptively manage programs. These data also enable USAID, as an Agency, to understand its achievements and tell its story to Congress and the American people. Monitoring is not limited to an activity's interventions; it also includes tracking programmatic assumptions within the operational context to recognize trends and shifts in external factors that might affect the activity's performance.

¹ ADS Chapter 201, Program Cycle Operational Policy

² For more information on theories of change, see "[What is this thing called 'Theory of Change'?](#)" and [Theory of Change Workbook](#).

Standard Indicators

Standard indicators are measures that USAID and the Department of State use worldwide to collect performance data that can be aggregated globally, enabling USAID to consistently collect and report comparable data from multiple operating units (OUs). Standard indicator results for water and sanitation are aggregated across the U.S. government and help justify funding requests, identify operational challenges, assess progress, and support external reporting. USAID uses subsets of these indicators to report separately on *first-time* access to water and sanitation services, as required under the [Water for the World Act of 2014](#). It is therefore critical that implementing partners report accurately on these indicators.

Results are aggregated using the established definitions and measurement instructions—which do not differ across OUs—in USAID’s standard performance indicator reference sheet (PIRS). The PIRS is a tool used to define indicators, ensure data quality, and maintain consistency in reporting. The PIRS outlines acceptable data sources and methods for tracking each standard indicator and can be found in [Annex II](#). Because every activity is unique, a PIRS will need to be adapted for all indicators, detailing what data sources the activity plans to use, how these data will be collected, and any data collation that will be needed.

All standard performance indicators are required-as-applicable (RAA) to ensure consistent reporting and meaningful aggregation of results. RAA indicators must be reported on by any activity that is making progress toward those outcomes. The timing of indicator reporting is established within each activity agreement. Standard indicators are vital for USAID to tell its story.

All of the standard indicators related to water security, sanitation, and hygiene are found under HL.8 in the Department of State Office of Foreign Assistance’s [Standardized Program Structure and Definitions](#) (SPSD). The indicators for reporting on water and sanitation map to the [Global Water Strategy](#) strategic objectives, shown in Exhibit I.

EXHIBIT 1: U.S. GOVERNMENT GLOBAL WATER STRATEGY STRATEGIC OBJECTIVES AND STANDARD PERFORMANCE INDICATORS

GWS STRATEGIC OBJECTIVES	STANDARD PERFORMANCE INDICATORS
 STRATEGIC OBJECTIVE 1 Strengthen Water and Sanitation Sector Governance, Financing, Institutions, and Markets	HL.8.3-3 Number of water and sanitation sector institutions strengthened to manage water resources or improve water supply and sanitation services as a result of USG assistance HL.8.4-1 Value of new funding mobilized to the water and sanitation sectors as a result of USG assistance SO 1 Supplementary Indicators
 STRATEGIC OBJECTIVE 2 Increase Equitable Access to Safe, Sustainable, and Climate-Resilient Drinking Water and Sanitation Services, and Adoption of Key Hygiene Behaviors	HL.8.1-1 Number of people gaining access to a basic drinking water service HL.8.1-2 Number of people gaining access to a safely managed drinking water service HL.8.1-3 Number of people receiving improved service quality from an existing basic or safely managed drinking water service as a result of USG assistance HL.8.1-4 Number of health facilities and schools gaining access to basic drinking water services as a result of USG assistance HL.8.2-2 Number of people gaining access to a basic sanitation service as a result of USG assistance HL.8.2-3 Number of people gaining access to safely managed sanitation services as a result of USG assistance HL.8.2-7 Number of people received improved sanitation service quality from an existing “limited” or “basic” service as a result of USG assistance HL.8.2-8 Number of health facilities and schools gaining access to basic sanitation and hygiene services as a result of USG assistance SO 2 Supplementary Indicators
 STRATEGIC OBJECTIVE 3 Improve Climate-Resilient Conservation and Management of Freshwater Resources and of Associated Ecosystems	HL.8.5-2 Number of people benefiting from the adoption and implementation of measures to improve water resources management as a result of USG assistance SO 3 Supplementary Indicators
 STRATEGIC OBJECTIVE 4 Anticipate and Reduce Conflict and Fragility Related to Water	SO 4 Supplementary Indicators

Water Directive Funding and Required Indicators

All OUs receiving water directive funding are required to report on all standard indicators to which a water directive-funded project contributes results. If an OU expects an activity to generate results that are measured by the indicator, the OU must establish a baseline, set targets, and report results for the indicator.

Missions that receive water directive funds are assigned standard indicators to report against in the Foreign Assistance Coordination and Tracking System (FACTS Info). Each Mission with directive funding is assigned at least one indicator. However, Missions should report against all HL.8 indicators they possibly can in FACTS Info.

If an OU cannot report against an assigned indicator, it is required to provide an “opt-out” narrative explaining why. **Acceptable reasons for opting out of reporting would include:**

- » The OU is targeting a different service level and has therefore selected other standard indicators to report against. In these cases, a different indicator will be assigned in future years to match programming.
- » The OU is designing or at the start of a new activity and does not have results to report. Out- year targets should be set in this case.
- » The OU is focused solely on water and/or sanitation and cannot report on one of the specific assigned indicators.

Drinking Water Indicators (HL.8.1)

USAID has four standard indicators for measuring an increase in sustainable access to safe drinking water, which align with SO 2 (Exhibit 2).

EXHIBIT 2: STANDARD INDICATORS FOR DRINKING WATER



HL.8.1-1 Number of people gaining access to a basic drinking water service



HL.8.1-2 Number of people gaining access to a safely managed drinking water service



HL.8.1-3 Number of people receiving improved service quality from an existing basic or safely managed drinking water service as a result of U.S. Government (USG) assistance



HL.8.1-4 Number of health facilities and schools gaining access to basic drinking water services as a result of USG assistance



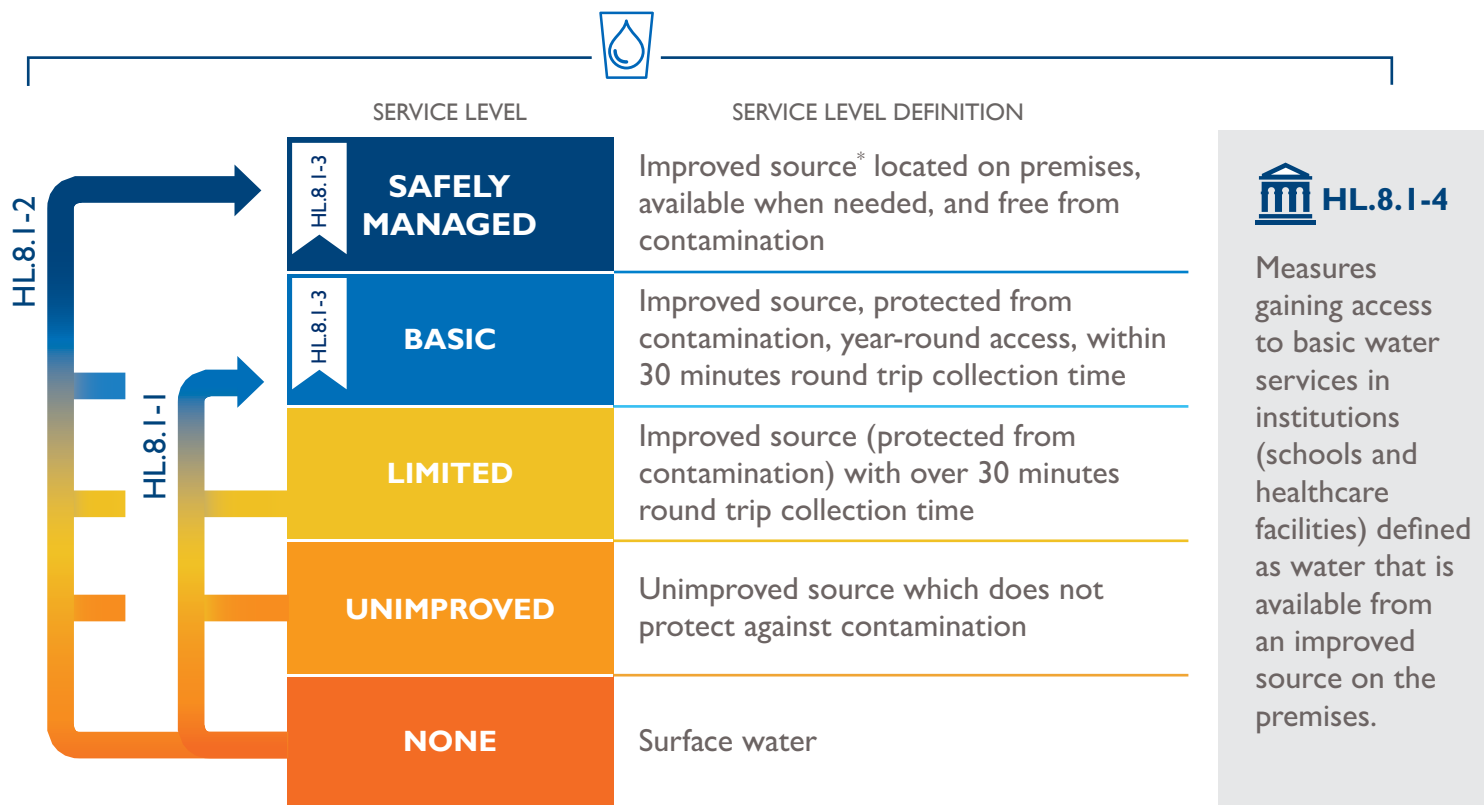
Identifies household access indicators



Identifies drinking water indicators designed to monitor institutional settings

The indicators above align with definitions used by the Joint Monitoring Programme (JMP) and are designed to capture progress along the JMP service ladder, which is adapted below to illustrate where USAID's standard drinking water indicators fall along the service ladder (Exhibit 3).

EXHIBIT 3: ALIGNMENT OF USAID'S STANDARD DRINKING WATER INDICATORS WITH JMP SERVICE LADDER



*Improved drinking water sources are those that have the potential to deliver safe water by nature of their design and construction, and include: piped water, boreholes or tube wells, protected dug wells, protected springs, rainwater, and packaged or delivered water. While water quality is not a part of this definition, USAID environmental compliance procedures must be followed in all activities.

New access is counted when reaching the **basic or safely managed** service level. There are no standard indicators for achieving access to service levels below basic. Basic water services include a water source that is protected from contamination by the nature of construction—e.g., borehole, protected spring, protected dug well—known as an “improved” water source. A household must also be able to collect water from this source and return home within 30 minutes. The service must be available year-round, with no seasonal outages. However, water does not have to be available all day or every day. Safely managed services must include an improved water source, but must also be available on the premises of the household, be available when needed, and be free from biological and chemical contaminants.

Regardless of the service level attained, USAID’s environmental regulatory framework recommends that partners monitor water quality for small-scale water systems. The eight USAID-recommended key drinking water quality parameters consist of four health-related parameters—arsenic, fecal coliform, fluoride and nitrate—and four operational parameters—electro-conductivity, total dissolved solids (TDS), pH, and turbidity.

Indicators HL.8.1-1 and HL.8.1-2 are designed to capture **new access only** at the household level. This means that beneficiaries can only be counted if they did not have access to that level of service prior to USAID’s activity. Baseline data are generally required to verify this.

However, many USAID water programs are designed to support those who already have a basic service. These programs might focus on improving the accessibility, reliability, affordability, or quality of drinking water. Indicator HL.8.1-3 is the standard indicator for reporting on beneficiaries who see a service quality improvement as a result of USAID’s activities. **These three indicators are used for reporting on household access to water services.**

Indicator HL.8.1-4 is used for reporting on new access to water services at **health facilities and schools** as a result of USG assistance.

Data Sources and Methods

Due to the nature of these indicators, more than one data source may be used to quantify the indicator. Acceptable data collection methods for drinking water include the following.



DIRECT OBSERVATION AND MEASUREMENT

In some situations, it is possible to directly count the beneficiaries of a particular intervention. For example, if an activity is supporting the construction of a new rural water point designed to serve an entire community that does not currently have a water scheme, then direct observation of the water service is possible. In this case, the entire community can be counted as people gaining access, so long as the water point produces enough water to meet the standard of 20 liters per person per day.

Prior to any activity intervention, the partner should confirm that the target households have **no current access** to a water service that meets the basic service definition. This can be determined using distance as a proxy for time to collect. For example, if households have no improved water source within 1 kilometer, then they likely do not have access to a basic service. An activity can verify this through direct visits to households, a sample survey, interviews with leaders and community members, or a mixture of these methods.

A basic service must meet all of the standards set in the PIRS. Once construction is complete, the partner should verify that the new service meets the basic standard before counting the full population as beneficiaries. The number of beneficiaries is commonly calculated using a standard household size and multiplying by the total number of households.

Water quality improvements (which could be part of improved service quality under indicator HL.8.1-3 or result in a service achieving safely managed status for the first time under indicator HL.8.1-2) are also typically measured directly via water quality testing. Upon confirmation of quality, everyone using the water service can be counted as beneficiaries. Note that household water treatment cannot contribute to this indicator because the improvements must be at the service-delivery level (through activities such as constructing of water treatment systems, supporting service providers in chlorinating water, protecting source water, or implementing a water safety plan).



SAMPLE SURVEY

When an activity will result in a new water scheme, which may not be the only basic water service available to a target population, sample surveys can be used to account for the population gaining access to new or improved services. Questions for this survey should build off JMP's [Core Questions on Water, Sanitation and Hygiene for Household Surveys](#) and must include:

- » **What is the water source?**
- » **What is the time required to access the water point?**
- » **What quantity of water can be accessed in one day?**
- » **What is the reliability of the water service?**

These questions should be asked before and after any activity interventions. The baseline survey data should be analyzed to determine what percentage of the population has an existing basic service and what portion does not. The endline survey should also calculate this proportion to determine how many people gained access to basic service as a result of the intervention. These percentages estimated in the baseline and endline will need to be multiplied by the overall population to convert the percent to the number of people gaining access. Comparisons of the two measures, and relevant sub-parameters pertaining to other measures of service quality (e.g., reliability measured from service records, water quality from tests), can also be used to ascertain if there were service quality improvements that should be counted for people who already had basic service.



SERVICE PROVIDER RECORDS

When an activity is working directly with a service provider (e.g., utility, private operator, community management committee), customer or service records may be used as a source of data. Where service providers extend services to new customers as a result of an activity, those customers can be counted as people gaining access. To understand if the beneficiaries previously had access to a basic or safely managed water service, this tracking method would need to be combined with either direct observation or a sample survey. If a provider's service quality (e.g., reliability, water quality) improves as a result of an activity, its customers can be counted as receiving improved service quality (indicator HL.8.1-3) **once** during the life of the activity. The implementing partner should determine when benefits are reasonably expected to have occurred to inform the timing of the measurement.

Required Disaggregates

Disaggregates allow USAID to more precisely capture the impact of programs.

All activities reporting on drinking water indicators that count the number of people reached (HL.8.I-1, HL.8.I-2, and HL.8.I-3) are required to provide data for the following disaggregate:

- » **Sex (Female, Male):** This disaggregate captures the number of females and males benefiting from drinking water services. Data can be collected via survey or, if a general population is being reached, census data can be used to generate an estimate.

All activities reporting on the institution level indicator (HL.8.I-4) are required to provide data for the following disaggregate:

- » **Institution Type (School/Health Facility):** This disaggregate allows USAID to report on the number of schools and health facilities affected.

Attribution of Results

Many of the standard indicators note that the result must be achieved “*as a result of USG assistance.*” Whether and how results can be attributed to specific USAID-funded interventions are frequent questions. USAID interventions are always implemented as part of a wider system, with many other actors contributing to ultimate outcomes. A facilitative approach, centered on working with service providers and other sector institutions to expand access to services, is critical to achieving sustainability and self-reliance. However, it can present challenges for monitoring, so data must be collected along the theory of change³ to ensure plausible attribution of results.

For indicators related to expanding access to water services, interventions may range from direct construction, to assisting service providers, or working with the government to develop policies and plans that result in expanded service. In general, results can be attributed to USAID activities when implementing partners are doing direct construction activities or working directly with the service provider. Service providers are defined as those who are directly responsible for the operations of a water source. Depending on the context, they may be communities, private sector providers, utilities, or local governments.

³ For more information on USAID's approach to theories of change, visit [USAID Learning Lab's Theory of Change Workbook](#)

Different information is required to demonstrate attribution, depending on the type of intervention:

DIRECT CONSTRUCTION⁴

When the implementing partner's construction activity results in new or improved access to a water service, the partner must document: (1) the number of people relying on that service as their primary drinking water source, (2) the water service for that population prior to the intervention, and (3) the service level being provided after intervention.

TECHNICAL ASSISTANCE TO SERVICE PROVIDER

When working to improve services by supporting a service provider, demonstrating attribution can be more complex. Again, the partner must document: (1) the number of people relying on that service as their primary drinking water source, (2) the water service level for that population prior to the intervention, (3) the service level being provided after intervention, as well as (4) what changed within the service provider as a result of interventions, and (5) broader trends around access to account for the fact that access rates may be improving as a result of factors beyond USAID's activities.

NUMBER OF PEOPLE GAINING ACCESS TO A BASIC DRINKING WATER SOURCE

For an activity aiming to report against a standard indicator, it is important to understand where the interventions fall on the spectrum of how directly the activity is engaged (see Exhibit 4). When an activity is not working directly (through construction or technical assistance activities) with a water service provider, the results cannot be reported under HL.8.1 indicators. The type of intervention implemented will dictate what information is needed to demonstrate attribution.

For activities that are not working with a service provider, but are working on underlying governance and finance, consider using indicator HL.8.3-3 or HL.8.4-1, if applicable.

⁴ Note that direct construction is often not an appropriate intervention, despite the fact that it may drive short-term access numbers and be easily attributable. Direct construction is best-suited for low capacity and commitment environments that require initial infrastructure investments. These types of interventions must be coupled with other interventions aimed at building the capacity of the system to operate and manage water services.

HL.8.1 ATTRIBUTION EXAMPLE

EXHIBIT 4: EXAMPLE OF DIRECT AND INDIRECT DRINKING WATER INTERVENTIONS

USAID ACTIVITY		ATTRIBUTABLE TO HL.8.1?
Direct construction or rehabilitation of water points providing a basic level of access		Example: Providing a new borehole, pump, and standpipe to a community that previously relied on a water source 5 km away. 
Technical assistance to a water service provider resulting in expanded access	 → 	Example: Supporting a utility that only covers 25% of a city to develop project plans, improve financial management, and take a loan, resulting in service to 40% of the city. 
Technical assistance to governments resulting in expanded access	 →  → 	Example: Supporting a county to pass a law on tariff levels that results in increased revenue generation which is used by a WSP to expand the service area. 

WHAT DO WE NEED TO KNOW?

- » Previous type of access
- » Service level provided
- » Number of people served
- » Previous status of water service provider (WSP)
- » Interventions and outcomes along the theory of change
- » Previous type of access
- » Number of people served
- » Secular trends*

* “Secular trend” refers to the long-term, external trend for the indicator.

Drinking Water Scenarios



SCENARIO 1: REHABILITATING A RURAL WATER SCHEME

An activity is working in a rural village of 250 people, with the goal of improving drinking water services. There is a hand-dug well with a hand pump at the center of the village, but it has not been functional for the past three years. The implementing partner decides to rehabilitate the hand pump.

The following steps can help the partner determine the correct indicator to use.

? What is the baseline status for access to drinking water?

The partner must perform an initial assessment of current drinking water access. Through discussions with the community and direct observation, the partner learns that the nearest water point meeting the standard for an improved source, a borehole with motorized pump, is **2.5 kilometers** away from the village.

Using distance as a proxy for time, it is clear that the inhabitants of this village must take **longer than 30 minutes** to collect their drinking water. Therefore, the 250 people in this village **do not** currently have access to a basic drinking water service.

? What indicator should the activity use?

Because the activity intends to provide a drinking water service to people who currently do not have one, the appropriate indicator is **HL.8.1-I**, the number of people gaining access to basic drinking water services.

? What data are needed to confirm this result?

The partner must document the completion of the new drinking water service and demonstrate that it meets the definition of a basic service. This would likely include a certificate of completion, signed by a local government official or a firm providing quality assurance, confirming that the infrastructure was rehabilitated. The partner should also verify that all members of the village can collect water within 30 minutes. This could include direct observation of household locations and wait time at the water point.

? Can these results be attributed to **USG assistance?**

Yes! This example falls into the category of direct rehabilitation of a water service, so the results are fully attributable to USG assistance.



Photo credit: Whave



SCENARIO 2: STRENGTHENING A WATER UTILITY

An activity is providing technical assistance to improve the operations of a water utility serving 20,000 households in an urban area. The goal is to set the utility on a more commercially viable path, while also improving and expanding services. The interventions will not include direct construction but will provide the utility with technical assistance on human resources, financial management and commercial finance proposal preparation. The desired outcome of this activity is to improve the utility's performance, which will enable it to invest in service improvements and potentially access new sources of finance to further expand services.

The following steps can help the partner determine the correct indicator to use:

? What is the baseline status for access to drinking water?

In this scenario, it is clear there is already a water service in the intervention area. A baseline assessment is needed to understand the service level, so the partner conducts a sample survey in the service area (stratified by neighborhood to ensure various types of beneficiaries are included). This survey shows that all 2,000 households in the service area receive drinking water from the utility via public access points (i.e., standposts), and the time to collect water is under 30 minutes. However, for all customers, water is only available for three to five hours per day, three to four days per week, year-round. Therefore, these customers have access to a basic water service, but service reliability is a challenge.

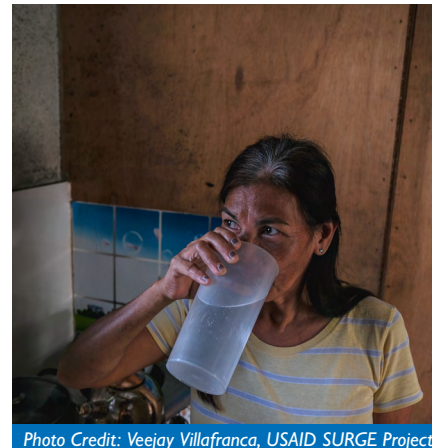


Photo Credit: Veejay Villafranca, USAID SURGE Project

The survey preparations uncovered a new informal settlement of 1,000 households just outside the utility's service area. These households were included in the survey, which established that they are purchasing bottled drinking water from a private vendor. Their only other water source is an unprotected well, which they use for domestic needs other than drinking and cooking. Therefore, this group of 1,000 households lacks even basic access to drinking water.

Based on the household survey, the activity determines that the average household size in this area is five people. This number is used to convert the number of households to a number of people in the service area.

What indicator should the activity use?

Two water access indicators are recommended:

1. Because the utility is currently serving 100,000 people, but reliability is an issue for all of these customers, the activity can report on indicator HL.8.1-3 to capture improvements in service quality.
2. If the activity results in the utility expanding to serve the new informal settlement of 5,000 people, it would be able to report on indicator HL.8.1-1.

What data are needed to confirm this result?

To measure service quality improvements for the existing customers, the activity uses utility records. Operations records show the volume of water delivered to the standposts throughout the systems. These demonstrate that system reliability has increased from providing water three or four days per week to providing water daily to all customers, therefore all 100,000 customers (20,000 households x 5 people per household) can be counted as having received improved service quality (indicator HL.8.1-3).

The activity also documents that the utility received a concessional loan for a system expansion as a result of a proposal the activity helped it develop, and that funds were disbursed to the utility. The activity then documents that construction works were completed and the informal settlement of 5,000 people (1,000 households) now has 10 standposts providing water. A small household sample survey is completed to check the time to collect water, and the activity finds that all households can collect water within 30 minutes. Therefore, the activity can report that 5,000 people gained access to a basic water service (indicator HL.8.1-1).

Can these results be attributed to USG assistance?

Yes! In this example, the partner is working with the water service provider, so the benefits to customers can be attributed to USG assistance. However, since this activity is taking a facilitative approach, it is important to track custom indicators along the activity's theory of change to ensure that results can be attributed to the interventions rather than external factors.

In this scenario, the activity is documenting the proximate results of its technical assistance by measuring utility performance improvements through an annual utility capacity assessment. Based on this assessment, the activity can document that the utility has a lower rate of non-revenue water, improved financial management capacity, fewer staff vacancies, and is following standard operating procedures for system maintenance.

Sanitation Indicators (HL.8.2)

USAID has four standard indicators for measuring increases in sustainable access and use of sanitation and the practice of key hygiene behaviors, aligned with SO 2 (Exhibit 5).

EXHIBIT 5: STANDARD INDICATORS FOR SANITATION



HL.8.2-2 Number of people gaining access to a basic sanitation service as a result of USG assistance



HL.8.2-3 Number of people gaining access to safely managed sanitation services as a result of USG assistance



HL.8.2-7 Number of people receiving improved sanitation service quality from an existing “limited” or “basic” service as a result of USG assistance



HL.8.2-8 Number of health facilities and schools gaining access to basic sanitation and hygiene services as a result of USG assistance



Identifies household access sanitation indicators

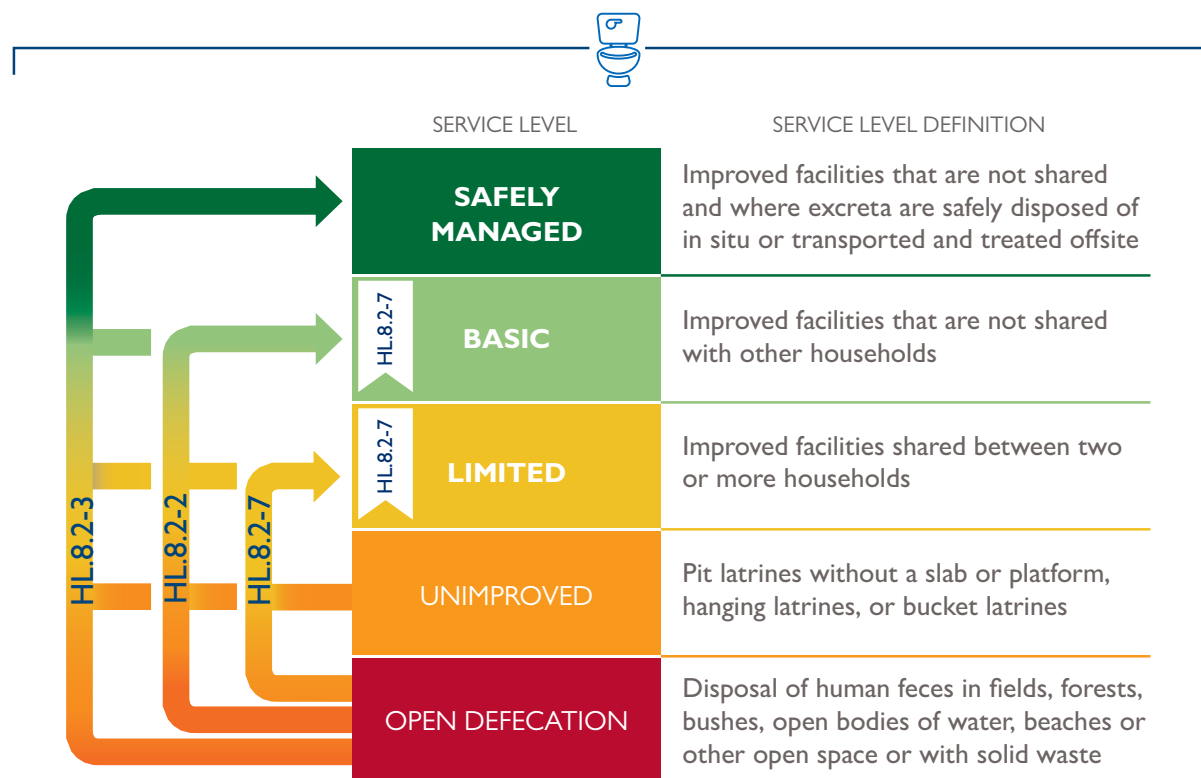


Identifies sanitation indicators designed to monitor health facilities and schools

The sanitation indicators are aligned with definitions used by the JMP and are designed to capture progress along the sanitation service ladder (Exhibit 6). When beneficiaries gain **new access** to basic sanitation (an improved facility that is not shared), the number of people can be reported under indicator HL.8.2-2. When beneficiaries gain **new access** to a safely managed sanitation service, the number of people can be attributed to indicator HL.8.2-3. Some activities address specific components of the sanitation service chain⁵ and seek to move households up the sanitation ladder from basic, but cannot satisfy all aspects of safely managed sanitation services. These activities can attribute measured improvements (such as improved containment, safe emptying/transporting, or fecal sludge treatment improvements) to indicator HL.8.2-7.

⁵ The sanitation service chain is the management of fecal waste from capture to transport to safe treatment and disposal.

EXHIBIT 6: ALIGNMENT OF USAID'S STANDARD SANITATION INDICATORS WITH JMP SERVICE LADDER



HL.8.2-8

Measures gaining access to basic sanitation services in institutions (schools and healthcare facilities) defined as a health facility with improved sanitation facilities that are usable with at least one toilet dedicated for staff, at least one sex separated toilet with menstrual hygiene facilities, and at least one toilet accessible for people with limited mobility and functional hand hygiene facilities must be available at all toilets and points of care; or a School with improved sanitation facilities on premise that are single sex, usable, and meet host country standards regarding the ratio of users per squat hole. Additionally, handwashing facilities with soap and water must be available within or near latrines.

Data Sources and Methods

The PIRS for each standard sanitation and hygiene indicator outlines acceptable data sources and tracking methods. As with the drinking water indicators, each activity will need to develop its own adapted PIRS, detailing specific data sources, collection methods, and any data collation needed. Acceptable data collection methods for sanitation and hygiene include the following.



DIRECT OBSERVATION

For sanitation, an implementer may choose to directly observe the presence of all new latrines following an intervention. If the latrines are observed to meet basic sanitation standards, a direct count of beneficiaries can be completed.



HOUSEHOLD SURVEY

Sanitation access can also be measured with household surveys, either a complete census or a sample survey. For example, if partners are implementing behavior change, demand generation, or market facilitation activities in target communities, baseline and endline surveys may be used to determine how many community members gained access to basic sanitation. Surveys must be designed to assess whether facilities meet the criteria for basic sanitation (an improved facility that is not shared with other households). It is important to assess the baseline status of sanitation access to determine if the activity resulted in new access to sanitation.



SERVICE PROVIDER RECORDS

In some cases, service provider records may be used to report on access to sanitation services. For households to achieve safely managed sanitation, an activity may be working with a utility, a private pit-emptying business, or another service provider. In this scenario, records of new customers who adopt these services may be used to determine the number of beneficiaries who gained access to safely managed sanitation services or whose service quality improved. These records should provide information on the prior level of service or be combined with other sources of information.

Required Disaggregates

Disaggregates allow USAID to more precisely capture the impact of programs.

All activities reporting on sanitation indicators that count the number of people reached (HL.8.2-2, HL.8.2-3, and HL.8.2-7) are required to provide data for the following disaggregate:

- » **Sex (Female, Male):** This disaggregate captures the number of females and males benefiting from sanitation services. Data can be collected via survey or, if a general population is being reached, census data can be used to generate an estimate.

All activities reporting on the institution-level indicator (HL.8.2-8) are required to provide data for the following disaggregate:

- » **Institution Type (School/Health Facility):** This disaggregate allows USAID to report on the number of schools and health facilities affected.

Attribution of Results

Many of the standard indicators note that the result must be achieved “**as a result of USG assistance.**” Whether and how results can be attributed to specific USAID-funded interventions are frequent questions. USAID interventions are always implemented as part of a wider system, with many other actors contributing to ultimate outcomes. A facilitative approach, centered on creating behavior change and working with service providers to expand access to services, is critical to achieving sustainability and self-reliance. However, it can present challenges for monitoring, so data must be collected along the theory of change to ensure accurate attribution of results.

Interventions for indicators related to expanding access to sanitation (HL.8.2-2, HL.8.2-3, HL.8.2-7) might include direct construction (e.g., communal septic systems), demand-generation activities, facilitation of supplies and services, and/or working with government to develop policies and plans that result in behavior changes or increased access. **In general, results can be attributed to USAID programs when implementing partners are doing direct construction activities, implementing behavior change activities (either through their own staff or staff who have received training and/or other support from the activity), or working directly with service providers.** Service providers are those who deliver sanitation products or services, such as hardware stores that sell sanitation products, masons who construct latrines, or businesses that manage fecal waste transport, treatment, and/or disposal. Beneficiaries who receive a service from a provider that a USAID activity is supporting (such as a latrine seller or pit emptier) can be counted because they are directly benefiting from USAID’s intervention. However, if another enterprise decides to enter the same business without USAID support, their customers would not be counted.

The spontaneous spillover of improved practices does not count as a deliberate service delivery strategy. If participants’ neighbors apply new practices based on their observations of or interactions with the participants outside of a deliberate service delivery strategy, the neighbors should not be included in reporting. The sample frame for any survey aiming to measure indicators attributable to USG assistance would only include areas where the activity implemented social and behavior change or other interventions. Larger-scale surveys can track population level changes as custom indicators; USAID’s activities may contribute to these larger changes, but they cannot be directly attributed.

HL.8.2 ATTRIBUTION EXAMPLE

EXHIBIT 7: EXAMPLE OF DIRECT AND INDIRECT SANITATION INTERVENTIONS

USAID ACTIVITY	ATTRIBUTABLE TO HL.8.2?
Behavior change campaigns at the community or household level 	Example: Implementing a community-led total sanitation initiative resulting in construction of improved latrines for the first time. 
Technical assistance to private suppliers of sanitation products  	Example: Providing business development services and marketing support to sanitation enterprises that build latrines. 
Technical assistance to government resulting in expanded access   	Example: Supporting a project management unit to implement a national sanitation behavior change campaign. 

WHAT DO WE NEED TO KNOW?

- » Previous type of access
- » Interventions and outcomes along theory of change
- » New latrine meets basic service criteria
- » Secular trends*

* “Secular trend” refers to the long-term, external trend for the indicator.

Note: Direct construction of household sewer connections or latrines is not included because these activities are not part of USAID programming

Sanitation Scenario



SCENARIO: URBAN MARKET-BASED SANITATION ACTIVITY

An activity aims to improve sanitation in a city of 50,000 people. To achieve this goal, the activity is implementing multiple interventions, including:

- » Providing business development services to enterprises that sell latrine products;
- » Introducing new products to these same enterprises;
- » Supplying technical assistance and new equipment to enterprises that offer pit-emptying services; and
- » Supporting sales and citywide marketing for both sanitation products and services.

The following steps can help the partner determine the correct indicator to use:



What is the baseline status?

Determining the appropriate indicators for such a complex set of interventions requires establishing a baseline status of access. The activity conducts a household survey that shows 70 percent of the total population already meets the standard for having a basic sanitation service (a non-shared household latrine that safely prevents human contact with excreta). Those who do not meet the basic service standard (30 percent) share a sanitation facility with neighbors, use public sanitation facilities, or openly defecate. The entire community has a population of 100,000 people.

The survey results also show that only 10 percent of the total population has a sanitation facility connected to a piped sewerage network. To better understand the full sanitation service chain, the survey also asks about containment, emptying, and transport for those with on-site sanitation. The results show that half of the population with on-site, basic sanitation services reports having used a service to empty their latrine and transport the waste off site.

Household surveys can have some data limitations. In general, they are only able to report on the emptying and transportation of fecal waste and lack insight into where the waste ultimately ends up. To understand this, the activity accesses records from both the service providers who empty pits and the regulator. These records show that waste emptied from pits is taken to a designated treatment site, where it is treated to national standards.



The survey provides the activity with the following baseline results:

- » 40 percent of the population has access to safely managed sanitation (10 percent sewerage, 30 percent on-site);
- » 30 percent has basic access to sanitation; and
- » 30 percent lacks basic access to sanitation.



What indicator should the activity use?

Based on this information, the activity should report on indicators HL.8.2-2 and HL.8.2-3. The 30 percent of the population (30,000 people) without basic access are potential beneficiaries who may get first-time access to basic sanitation as a result of the activity (HL.8.2-2), or could move directly to having a safely managed service (HL.8.2-3). The 30 percent of the population (30,000 people) who have basic, but not safely managed, sanitation may achieve first-time access to safely managed sanitation (HL.8.2-3) once they begin using pit-emptying services. If these beneficiaries do not meet the full criteria for safely managed sanitation, but have received an improvement in service quality, then the activity can report on HL.8.2-7.



What data are needed to confirm this result?

Because the activity is working with service providers to extend sanitation services, service provider records will be the primary data source for measuring these indicators. The activity needs to set up a monitoring system with the supported service providers to ensure that records will yield all of the necessary information. For the latrine suppliers, records will show how many new latrines have been sold and whether they are the customers' first private, household latrines. Pit-emptying service providers should also track new customers who can be counted as gaining access to safely managed sanitation.



Can these results be attributed to USG assistance?

Yes! Because the activity is working with the sanitation service providers (those who supply pit-emptying services or household latrines), results can be attributed to the activity. Given that the approach is aimed at working through the private sector, it is important to track custom indicators across the theory of change to ensure that the technical assistance is achieving results and outcome indicators can be attributed to the activity. In this scenario, the activity documents that the enterprises are offering new products, have improved their financial management and customer service, and are taking a more active sales and marketing approach.

Policy & Governance Indicators (HL.8.3)

The standard indicators for measuring “Strengthened sector governance and financing” (SO 1) are categorized under two parts of the Office of U.S. Foreign Assistance’s Standardized Program Structure and Definitions: Policy and Governance (HL.8.3) and Sustainable Financing (HL.8.4). There is one standard indicator for policy and governance.

EXHIBIT 8: STANDARD INDICATOR FOR POLICY AND GOVERNANCE



HL.8.3-3 Number of water and sanitation sector institutions strengthened to manage water resources or improve water supply and sanitation services as a result of USG assistance

Institutions counted under this indicator can include local, regional, or national organizations. These may be government organizations such as:

- » District water offices;
- » National ministries;
- » Regulatory authorities;
- » Basin organizations; and
- » Water user associations.

This category can also include utilities and other service providers, such as public or private institutions that are directly contributing to water, sanitation, and hygiene services. Civil society organizations that work to improve government policymaking and implementation, water security, sanitation, or hygiene, can also be counted.

Data Sources and Methods

This indicator measures improved performance based on an activity-specific performance metric. The metric (or metrics) identified should capture changes in performance, not changes in capacity. Capacity is not visible until it is used, so this indicator focuses on performance. Further, the metric should capture organizational results, not implementation of a USG-supported activity. For example, having an organization participate in a training does not demonstrate improved performance.

Contributions to a policy, plan, or strategy can only be counted under this indicator if implementation of the policy, plan, or strategy can be measured through a performance metric, or if it is designed to help prepare for possible future shocks. For example, support for a new policy to reduce non-revenue water would only be applicable if its implementation led to a measurable decrease in non-revenue water. However, if the policy or plan's explicit purpose is to improve an organization's future performance in the event of a shock, the existence of such a plan could be used as a metric because having a plan in place builds resilience. Scenarios where a plan could be used as a metric could include plans to ensure service continuity in case of floods, droughts, conflicts, or other shocks. The performance metric may measure changes in an organization's:

- » Operating Framework, if they are measurably implemented (i.e., policies, strategies, regulations, and implementation plans);
- » Human resources;
- » Use of data (including monitoring, analysis, and data-driven decision-making);
- » Financial stability (including revenue, access to finance, budget execution, and ability to pass an annual audit);
- » Performance on project planning and management of implementation;
- » Enforcement of policies (including watershed protection and allocation systems);
- » Equity (including setting user fees or “tariffs” improving equity in service delivery, and enhancing staff equity);
- » Stakeholder accountability (including transparency, participation, accountability, and equity); and
- » Shock preparedness (i.e., developing adaptive approaches for changing circumstances, interventions to counteract instability, and partnerships between humanitarian, development, and peace-building stakeholders).

Because types of institutions and activities vary widely, activity managers are encouraged to adopt the approaches most appropriate for their program and adapt the tools best suited for local needs. Activity managers may also engage with Advisors in Washington when identifying an appropriate performance metric. There are many methods for collecting data related to institutional capacity. Some use quantitative scoring systems and others use qualitative data; some use questionnaires, while others employ focus groups; some use external evaluators, and others rely on self-assessments. Some metrics may allow for the use of performance data already available within the agency (revenue, non-revenue water, staffing data, compliance with policies, number of complaints addressed, etc.). When developing the method for data collection, activities should consider:

- » How to limit subjectivity in ratings;
- » Comparability over time;
- » Appropriateness of quantification of qualitative ratings; and
- » Practicality and time burden.

A single institution can only be counted once in a single reporting year, regardless of the amount of improvement. It may be counted again in subsequent years if further targets are achieved. The “First Strengthened This Year” disaggregate must be used to count the unique number of institutions strengthened per this indicator during the reporting period that were not previously reported by the activity.

Activity monitoring, evaluation, and learning (MEL) plans must include information about the performance metric(s) being used, including the target(s) and measurement methods. This information should also be documented in the Indicator Analysis section of the Performance Plan and Report (PPR). The activity theory of change should reflect how achieving the targeted improvement is predicted to increase water security or access to water, sanitation, and/or hygiene products or services, and how USG support contributes to the improvement.

EXHIBIT 9: ILLUSTRATIVE PERFORMANCE METRICS



Eligible

- » Percent of non-revenue water
- » Percent cost recovery
- » Percent of required data collected
- » Number of customer complaints addressed
- » Number of vacant positions
- » On-time project completion rate



Non-Eligible

- » Number of training sessions in which staff participated
- » Number of certifications received



Possible

- » Number of policies/plans developed, but only if they lead to measurable performance results or focus on how to handle future potential shocks.

Required Disaggregates

All activities reporting on HL.8.3-3 are required to provide data for the following disaggregates:

- » **First Strengthened This Year:** This disaggregate should capture the number of organizations strengthened for the first time under this activity in the current reporting period. Over the life of the activity this disaggregate should count the total number of unique institutions with improved capacity.
- » **Institution Primary Focus (Drinking Water, Sanitation, Water Resources Management):** Institutions can be counted in more than one focus. For example if a Ministry of Water and Sanitation was strengthened, it could be counted under both drinking water and sanitation as long as the work improved the Ministry's performance in both areas of service delivery.

Attribution of Results

Results under this indicator can be attributed to USG assistance when a USG-funded activity is directly working with the institution to improve capacity. Activities may achieve results under this indicator using a variety of interventions including, but not limited to, providing training programs, mentoring, twinning, supporting planning processes, or developing new institutional systems (e.g., monitoring information systems, financial management systems).

Relationship to CBLD-9

USAID is tracking indicator CBLD-9, percent of USG-assisted organizations with improved performance, Agency-wide⁶ to measure the outcomes of its work to strengthen the performance of local entities and locally established partners. Results reported under HL8.3-3 may be reported under CBLD-9 as long as the results meet the criteria of that indicator.

⁶ For more information, visit the [CBLD-9 Capacity Building Indicator Resource Page](#).

Policy and Governance Scenario



SCENARIO: REGIONAL WATER AUTHORITY CAPACITY-BUILDING ACTIVITY

An activity aims to strengthen the capacity of a regional water authority. This authority is mandated to regulate water services within the region. This includes taking responsibility for monitoring water service functionality, regulating water quality, issuing permits to water operators, and auditing the finances of these water operators. The activity provides technical assistance to the staff of these regional water authority via training, ongoing mentoring, and support to develop and use a new monitoring information system.

The following steps can help the partner determine the correct indicator to use:

? **What indicator should the activity use?**

This activity can report on indicator HL.8.3-3 because it is aiming to strengthen the water service authority. Note that the activity should also report on CBLD-9.

? **What data are needed to demonstrate this result?**

The activity measures the indicator with an organizational performance metric developed in consultation with the water authority. While this metric could include one or more indicators from the categories listed in the PIRS, the priority is to increase the regulator's capacity to complete an annual audit of all regulated service providers. The percent of full audits completed is already a performance indicator tracked by the regulator.

The activity uses data from the last three years to establish a baseline for the authority it is supporting, and measures against the baseline annually by reviewing data provided by the regulator. When the percent of completed full utility audits increases, the activity can count that institution under indicator H.L.8.3-3. The first time the water authority is counted under indicator H.L.8.3-3, it will also be counted under the "First Strengthened This Year" disaggregate.

? **Can these results be attributed to USG assistance?**

Yes! If the activity is working to build capacity and is able to document that change, this can be attributed. The activity should document any interventions that resulted in capacity-building, such as the

development of monitoring systems, mentoring, or training programs. The activity-specific PIRS must note what documentation (e.g., training rosters, mentoring plans, staffing analysis, budget evaluation) is being collected and stored in the activity monitoring files. The PPR indicator narrative should summarize the performance metric, improvement, and interventions implemented.



Photo credit: Conservation International/Patrick Nease

Financing for Water & Sanitation Indicators (HL.8.4)

The standard indicator for water and sanitation financing that aligns with SO 1 in the results framework is HL.8.4-I.

EXHIBIT 10: STANDARD INDICATOR FOR FINANCING



HL.8.4-I Value of funding mobilized to the water and sanitation sectors as a result of USG assistance

This indicator measures the total value (in U.S. dollars [USD]) of new funding mobilized during the reporting year to expand or improve water or sanitation services or implement water resources management activities. Types of funding mobilized under this indicator may include:

- » Domestic public resources (increased budget allocations);
- » Domestic public financing (bond issuance);
- » User payments (“tariffs,” purchase of goods or services);
- » Private/commercial financing (such as via a commercial bank or microfinance institution);
- » Private financing through public-private partnerships (PPPs) or Global Development Alliances (GDAs); and
- » Development partner or donor funds.

Only new funding that would not otherwise be available or is unlikely to be spent on water security, sanitation, or hygiene without USG assistance can be counted toward this indicator.

Funds that are counted under HL.8.4-I could also be counted under EG.11-4 (Amount of investment mobilized [in USD] for climate change adaptation as supported by USG assistance) if all criteria are met for that indicator.

Data Sources and Methods

At a minimum, data sources must demonstrate that the amount of new funding attributed to the indicator was mobilized and that USG activities resulted in this mobilization. Potential data sources to demonstrate mobilization of funding include:

- » Documentation of loans made by commercial banks or microfinance institutions;
- » Documentation of funds leveraged through GDAs or PPPs;
- » National or subnational budget information showing an increase in allocations and disbursements for water; and
- » Documentation of funding issued by development partners and/or donor partners.

Required Disaggregates

All activities reporting on HL.8.4-I are required to provide data for the following disaggregates:

- » **Sector:** Water/Sanitation/Water Resources Management: This disaggregate captures the purpose of the funding mobilized. Hygiene should be captured with sanitation. Dollars can be double counted in multiple categories for this disaggregate.
- » **\$ Mobilized for Climate Resilient Water and Sanitation Services:** To track progress against USAID's commitment to mobilize \$1 billion to support climate-resilient water and sanitation services by 2030⁷, the activity documentation should satisfy three criteria: (1) Describes the activity context related to risks, vulnerabilities, and impacts related to climate change; (2) States the intent to mobilize finance to address the identified risks, vulnerabilities, and impacts; and (3) Articulates a direct link between the identified risks, vulnerabilities, and impacts, and the goals of the finance being mobilized. This approach aligns with the methodology outlined in the [2020 Joint Report on Multilateral Development Banks' Climate Finance](#).

⁷ See [USAID's Robust Targets Advance President Biden's PREPARE Climate Initiative Fact Sheet](#).

EXHIBIT II: ILLUSTRATIVE EXAMPLES: FINANCE MOBILIZED FOR CLIMATE RESILIENT WATER AND SANITATION SERVICES

The statements below provide examples of the three criteria required to count funds under the “\$ Mobilized for Climate Resilient Water and Sanitation Services” disaggregate. Information demonstrating each of the three criteria should be included in the indicator narrative.

Context	Intent to Mobilize Funds Related to Context	Link between Context and Funds
Studies have found that floods are increasingly likely in the program area as a result of climate change. These studies were cited in the activity's statement of work.	As a result, USAID helped mobilize funds intended to create flood safeguards within sanitation infrastructure. This was stated in the Year 1 annual report.	The funds mobilized will seed an affordable, scheduled desludging service where vacuum trucks make regular trips to communities to empty latrines and septic tanks to reduce hazardous spills during more frequent future floods. This was described in this year's work plan.
New data show that urbanization in this country is increasing as a result of climate change-linked impacts on rural economies. This was documented in the annual report.	Given these data, USAID's partner contributed to mobilizing funds intended to address climate-related migration stress on urban infrastructure. The work plan specifically noted this issue.	The funds mobilized have supported additional water mains to convey water to areas where large numbers of climate migrants have relocated.
Studies have found that rainfall is decreasing in frequency and volume as a result of climate change. This challenge was cited in the Initial Environmental Examination (IEE).	This activity is mobilizing commercial finance intended to address the impacts of climate change on precipitation. This link was noted in the annual work plan.	The funds mobilized will support a new pipeline to transport water from an underused source to the city, where water supplies are increasingly inadequate due to limited rainfall.

Attribution of Results

There are multiple ways U.S. government assistance can lead to mobilization of funds, including:

- » Advocacy for increased national and county budgets for WASH or WRM;
- » Development of financial proposals, business plans, or financial products;
- » Structuring and implementation of PPPs or GDAs;
- » Credit enhancements (such as development credit guarantees); and
- » Capacity improvements that enhance the creditworthiness of service providers or small businesses.

Activities reporting against this indicator must be working directly with the funder (e.g., government, financial institution, private sector entity, development partner), the organization receiving the funding (e.g., utility, local government agency), or both. Activities must also monitor appropriate intermediate outcomes to demonstrate the linkage between USG activities and funding mobilized as a result of these interventions.



Photo credit: Rose Odengo, USAID WASH-FIN Project Kenya

Financing for Water and Sanitation Scenario



SCENARIO: URBAN WATER UTILITY EXPANSION ACTIVITY

An activity aims to increase access to commercial finance for ten urban water utilities. The utilities all intend to use these funds to treat water from a new source because climate change is reducing the availability of water from their current sources. This allows the utilities to build resilience. The activity will support these efforts by (1) providing technical assistance to improve the creditworthiness of utilities and (2) linking local financial institutions that have existing USAID-supported credit guarantees with creditworthy utilities.

The following steps can help the partner determine the correct indicator to use:

? What indicator should the activity use?

This activity can report on indicator HL.8.4-I because it aims to increase commercial finance to water utilities, which is a mobilization of new funds.

If, during the life of the activity, new funds are mobilized and a utility completes construction work to increase availability using water from a new source, then it may also be possible to report against HL.8.1.3. However, this will require the activity to have baseline data on access to water services in the city.

Because the funding is advancing climate-resilient water and sanitation services and meets the three criteria for the disaggregate, the funds can also be counted toward the “\$ Mobilized for Climate Resilient Water and Sanitation Services” disaggregate. In this case, the PPR narrative for the indicator should summarize the relevant information for each of the three criteria.

? What data are needed to demonstrate this result?

The activity can report on this result once a loan agreement is signed and funds are disbursed, allowing the utility to begin work. Records from financial institutions and utilities can be used to document that the funds were mobilized.

Existing project documentation is needed to show that the funds meet the criteria for the “\$ Mobilized for Climate Resilient Water and Sanitation Services” disaggregate. This can include the Initial Environmental Examination (IEE), Climate Risk Management (CRM) documentation, Environmental Mitigation and Monitoring Plan and Reports (EMMP/R), annual work plans, annual MEL plans, or any

supplementary reports developed by the activity. Additionally, the indicator narrative itself can serve as the relevant program documentation.

? Can these results be attributed to USG assistance?

Yes, if the loan was enabled by the activity's work. To attribute the new funds to USG assistance, the activity must document the interventions that led to new finance by monitoring results along the activity's theory of change. In this case, the activity would measure the utility's creditworthiness before and after interventions, since the activity's hypothesis was that intervention would result in new finance. Credit ratings from national institutions can be used to document this, where they exist. Where that is not possible, the activity would need to show documentation of the change in creditworthiness, whether the evaluation was performed by a financial institution or the activity itself. The activity should also maintain records of the technical assistance provided and document any activities related to linking utilities with the financial institutions, such as through meeting notes. The activity MEL plan should note what documentation (e.g., training rosters, mentoring plans) is being collected and stored in the activity monitoring files.



Photo credit: Rose Odengo, USAID WASH-FIN Project Kenya



Photo credit: USAID/Nigeria

Water Resource Productivity

Indicators (HL.8.5)

The standard indicator to support measuring achievement of SO 3 (Improve Climate-Resilient Conservation and Management of Freshwater Resources and Associated Ecosystems) of the U.S. Global Water Strategy is HL.8.5-2.

EXHIBIT 12: STANDARD INDICATOR FOR WATER RESOURCES MANAGEMENT



HL.8.5-2 Number of people benefiting from the adoption and implementation of measures to improve water resources management as a result of USG assistance

This indicator provides a standard approach to estimating how many people benefit from measures to improve water resources management as a result of USG assistance. People are considered to benefit if they meet any of the following criteria:

- » Live in a watershed in which one or more measures to improve water resources management have been implemented;
- » Live downstream from a watershed in which one or more measures to improve water resources management have been implemented AND experience measurably improved conditions in their watershed or the source water supply they use as a result of the measures; or,
- » Experience a benefit to their livelihoods or other perceived benefit as a result of measures implemented to improve water resources management.

These benefits can result from a wide range of measures to improve water resources management. To be included, the measures implemented must be designed—through a documented, evidence-based theory of change—to achieve positive change in at least one of the following objectives described in the U.S. Global Water Strategy:

- » Increased equitable and efficient allocation and use of water resources;
- » Enhanced reliability and quality of water resources through watershed management, including protection, restoration, and nature-based solutions; or
- » Improved climate resilience of water resources management.

Illustrative measures that meet this criteria may include, but are not limited to:

- » Strengthening natural systems and promoting nature-based solutions to maintain ecosystem goods and services, such as soil conservation, upstream reforestation, and wetland restoration and conservation;
- » Constructing other green infrastructure such as infiltration ponds, sand dams, and vegetative buffer strips to improve water quality and increase water storage capacity;
- » Changing water tenure schemes to improve the equity or efficiency of water supply to different users;
- » Deploying water conservation and use restrictions to address water-related risks and improve resilience using information from early warning systems, climate information services, and other data collection methods;
- » Strengthening enforcement of regulations and policies (e.g., for permitting systems, water quality regulations, collection of water abstraction and user fees);
- » Practices and innovations that improve water use efficiency, conservation, and water reuse; and
- » Reducing or mitigating water contamination (e.g., from untreated wastewater, agricultural runoff, industrial pollution).

Note that development of training courses, policies and plans, or financing approaches alone is not considered a measure for this indicator. Improvements to planning and policy may be captured in HL.8.3-3, and mobilizing finance may be captured in HL.8.4-1. Results may also be appropriate to count under EG.11-5, EG.11-6, EG.3.2-24, and EG.3.2-25.

The number of people may be a direct count, or may be determined by multiplying the number of households with benefits by the average number of people per household. Individual people can only be counted one time over the life of the activity, regardless of the degree or accumulation of benefit(s). “Implementation” of measures means all tasks related to the measure that are included in the activity scope have been completed.

Measures must be implemented through USG assistance. Measures that are the result of training courses, policies and plans, or financing approaches can be counted if their implementation is verified.

Data Sources and Methods

Determining the number of people who benefit from the implementation of measures to improve water resources management can be challenging due to extended timescales and the potential for indirect benefits that people may not be aware of. Therefore, three different methods for measuring this indicator can be used.

Method 1—People Living in the Watershed: People can be counted if they live in a watershed in which one or more measures to improve water resources management has been implemented. To estimate the number of people, acceptable data sources and methods include using a geographic information system (GIS) to identify the watershed boundaries and estimating the population living in that watershed.

Method 2—People Living Downstream: People can be counted if they live downstream from a watershed in which one or more measures have been implemented only if the conditions in their watershed have improved or their source water supply has been improved as a result of the measures implemented. Acceptable data sources and methods include GIS identification of watershed boundaries and populations within watersheds, data from utilities about their source water supplies and customer base, and measuring physical watershed parameters (e.g., water quality, stream flows, ecosystem health) that align with the documented theory of change to capture downstream changes as a result of activities, including both a baseline and endline. Counting people living downstream requires significant data collection and analysis, and may not be appropriate in all cases, especially where improvements to water resources management take longer than the activity timeline. In those cases, Method 1 is preferable.

Method 3—People Experiencing Individual Benefits: People can be counted if they experienced a benefit to their livelihood or another identified benefit. They may include people whose jobs relate to the implementation of activities to improve water resources management, or people who identify as being directly affected by such activities (i.e., rely on water flows for business, or benefit in terms of recreation opportunities). The data must show an objective or identified benefit as a result of the activity. Collecting these data could include representative sampling surveys before and after an intervention, focus group discussions to identify whether individuals have experienced benefits, or obtaining employment records of those working to improve water resources management as a result of USG assistance.

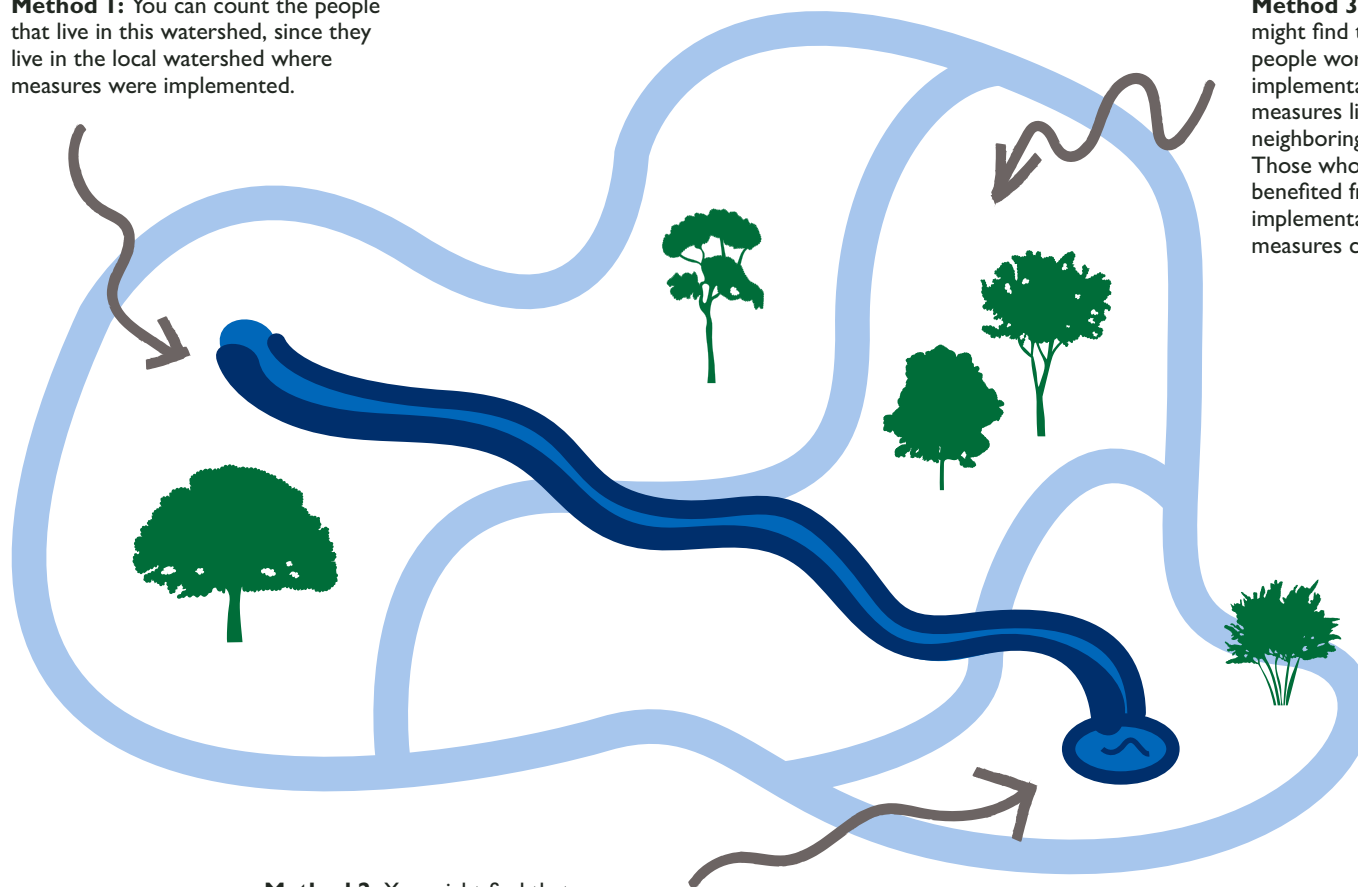
Note on Watershed Size: Watersheds can be delineated to multiple levels, so the smallest feasible delineation of watershed boundaries should be used when counting people living in a watershed toward this indicator. In most cases, this will be the HydroSHED sub-watershed Pfafstetter 6⁸ level.

⁸ This aligns with the use of the Hydrologic Unit Code Level 6 (HUC 6) in the U.S. Department of Agriculture Forest Service's [Watershed Condition Framework](#), given the generally similar scales of HUC 6 and Pfafstetter 6 delineations.

EXHIBIT 13: VISUALIZATION OF METHODS FOR MEASURING WATER RESOURCES MANAGEMENT BENEFICIARIES

Method 1: You can count the people that live in this watershed, since they live in the local watershed where measures were implemented.

Method 3: You might find that some people worked on the implementation of measures live in the neighboring watershed. Those who directly benefited from the implementation of these measures can be counted.



Method 2: You might find that, as you expected in your theory of change, the project measurably reduced sediment in this reservoir. As a result, you can count people that source their water from this reservoir.

EXHIBIT 14: ILLUSTRATIVE SCREENSHOT OF THE SUB-WATERSHED POPULATION TOOL SHOWING A WATERSHED IN SENEGAL.

The **Sub-Watershed Population Tool** allows users to quickly estimate the population living in a given sub-watershed at the Pfafstetter 6 level, as described in the HL.8.5-2 indicator. Users can simply click any location on the map or enter coordinates to get an estimate of the number of people living in a given sub-watershed. This helps to estimate the people that live either in a sub-watershed where measures to improve water resources management have been implemented or in a downstream sub-watershed that has experienced measurably improved watershed conditions.

Required Disaggregates

All activities reporting on this indicator are required to provide data for the following disaggregate:

- » **Sex (Female, Male):** This disaggregate captures the number of females and males benefiting from the implementation of measures to improve water resources management as a result of USG assistance. Data can be collected via survey or, if a general population is being reached, census data can be used to generate an estimate.

Attribution of Results

Activities working to achieve results under this indicator may be involved in a variety of interventions, including direct implementation of watershed restoration measures or directly supporting a watershed stakeholder to implement these measures. Broader support, such as capacity-building that does not support the implementation of specific measures, should not be included. Interventions can result in benefits that are attributable to USG assistance, as long as the activity is working directly with the institutions and/or people involved in actions that result in improved water resources management. This can include work with basin authorities, community groups, private sector entities, or other institutions as appropriate.

In addition, the measures implemented must be captured in and monitored along a theory of change that links implementation to physical impacts in watersheds or individual benefits. This documentation is especially important when using Method 2, because the attribution of changes observed in the downstream watershed or source water supply must be clearly linked to the measures implemented through a theory of change.

Water Resource Productivity Scenarios



SCENARIO: LOCAL WATERSHED IMPROVEMENT ACTIVITY

To improve water quantity and quality for a major city, an activity is working along upstream portions of the river that flows into the city's primary reservoir. Heavy sediment and decreasing water flows were identified as major challenges, so the activity is supporting local community organizations in two upstream areas to conduct reforestation and invasive species removal.

The following steps can help the partner determine the correct indicator to use:

? What indicator should the activity use?

The activity should report on indicator HL.8.5-2 because it is implementing measures designed to enhance the reliability and quality of water resources through watershed management, including protection, restoration, and nature-based solutions.

? What data are needed to demonstrate this result?

The activity should document the theory of change linking the reforestation and invasive species removal to improved water quality and quantity in the downstream reservoir.

Each of the three methods for counting can be considered:

Method 1: The people living in the local watersheds where the reforestation and invasive species removal can be counted. To do this, use GIS to determine the boundaries of the smallest feasible delineation around the location of the interventions and use population data to estimate the total number of people living in that watershed.

Method 2: While the activity is designed to measurably improve the quantity and quality of the downstream reservoir, people relying on that water source can only be counted if such improvements can be measured. In this case, if there is evidence that sediment has decreased and water flows into the downstream reservoir have increased, the downstream community can be counted. This requires a firm understanding of both the water quantity and quality before the activity and related trends. If a measurable and attributable change can be identified, data from the service provider can help determine how many people are affected by the improved source water. However, this type of impact may be

difficult to measure and attribute, so Method 1 and/or Method 3 may be preferable.

Method 3: Many people living nearby, including some that lived outside the boundary of the watershed, were employed in the removal of invasive species. Staff logs from the local community organizations that include information on where people live can help to identify who financially benefited from the work and has not already been counted under Method 1.

? Can these results be attributed to USG assistance?

Yes! In this case, since the activity directly implemented watershed protection activities, the population benefiting from the activity is attributable.



Photo credit: Michael Stulman, Catholic Relief Services

Climate Indicators for WSSH Programming

Overview

USAID has set ambitious targets through the USAID Climate Strategy, including to:

- » Partner with countries to support activities that reduce, avoid, or sequester six billion metric tons of carbon dioxide equivalent.
- » Support the conservation, restoration, or management of 100 million hectares with a climate change mitigation benefit.
- » Enable the improved climate resilience of 500 million people.
- » Mobilize \$150 billion in public and private finance for climate.
- » Align the Agency's development portfolios with climate change mitigation and adaptation commitments in at least 80 countries by 2024 and support our partners to achieve systemic changes toward meeting those commitments in at least 40 countries.
- » Support our partners to achieve systemic changes that increase meaningful participation and active leadership in climate action of Indigenous Peoples, local communities, women, youth, and other marginalized and/or underrepresented groups in at least 40 partner countries.

The climate targets can be categorized as contributing to either adaptation or mitigation. In the USAID Climate Strategy, *adaptation* is defined as “reducing climate vulnerability and improving resilience to climate impacts” and *mitigation* is defined as “reducing and sequestering emissions.” While the water and sanitation sectors are central to increasing resilience in the places where USAID works, there is potential for contributions to be made to adaptation and mitigation targets as well.

Adaptation

The Climate Risk Management (CRM) process incorporates climate adaptation into activity planning and implementation. This ensures that interventions focused on water and sanitation access or water resources management will make households and communities more resilient. Therefore it is important to capture and record these contributions to adaptation targets through standard adaptation indicators (these include EG.II-4 and EG.II-5; see the table below).

Illustrative WSSH-related adaptation activities may include:

- » Selection of locations for infrastructure or protective berms that minimize or avoid flood water damage;
- » Reduction in non-revenue water, to minimize waste and maximize supply;
- » Collection of rainwater for use;
- » Incorporating risk assessments into planning processes;
- » Installation of groundwater recharge ponds; and
- » Installation of meters to track water usage.

Mitigation

Any water or sanitation activity that includes the use of renewable energy sources, such as solar panels or biogas, or reduces greenhouse gas emissions will contribute to mitigation targets. Mitigation indicators that estimate greenhouse gas (GHG) emissions avoided should be considered for these activities (EG.I2-6 and EG.I2-7; see the box and table below).

ESTIMATING GHG EMISSIONS FOR EG.12-6, EG.12-7, EG.13-6, AND EG.13-7

Two tools are available to estimate GHG emissions that were reduced or avoided: the **Clean Energy Emission Reduction (CLEER) Tool** and the **Agriculture, Forestry and Other Land Use (AFOLU) Carbon Calculator**. Both are publicly available, and meant to be used by implementing partners in their reporting to USAID Operating Units.

The CLEER Tool provides simple, standardized methodologies to estimate, track, and report GHG reductions from switching to lower-emission clean energy sources like solar, or fuel switching. The tool assists implementers in reporting GHG emissions reduced, sequestered, and/or avoided (USAID standard indicator EG. 12-6), as well as projected GHG emissions reduced or avoided through 2030 from clean energy actions (USAID standard indicator EG.12-7).

The AFOLU Calculator employs accounting methods adapted from Intergovernmental Panel on Climate Change (IPCC) best practices that allow users to estimate the CO₂ benefits and potential climate impacts of eight types of land-based project activities: forest protection, forest management, afforestation/ reforestation, agroforestry, cropland management, grazing land management, forest degradation by fuelwood, and support/development of policies. The AFOLU Calculator assists implementers in reporting land-based GHG emissions reduced, sequestered, and/or avoided (USAID standard indicator EG.13-6).

Illustrative WSSH-related mitigation activities may include:

- » Conversion of treatment plants from internal combustion to renewable power sources;
- » Installing a solar-powered water pump;
- » Sustainable landscape work that sequesters carbon, as part of WRM activities; and
- » Implementing methane abatement approaches in fecal sludge treatment.

CROSS-WALKING THE WSSH AND CLIMATE INDICATORS

The table below captures how results reported to HL.8 indicators might also be counted toward standard climate indicators. See the [Global Climate Change Standard Indicator](#) handbook for definition sheets of each climate indicator.

If reporting on:	And results contribute to climate adaptation or mitigation, also report on:	Explanation:
HL.8.1 and HL.8.2 Any water and sanitation access indicator or HL.8.5.2 Number of people benefiting from measures that improve water resources management (WRM)	EG.11-5 People supported to adapt to the impacts of climate change	Activities that increase or improve access to water or sanitation or that support WRM interventions often help people adapt to climate change since climate change may reduce water availability or quality and/or increase risk of contamination (see PIRS for EG.11-5 for qualifying activities).
HL.8.1 and HL.8.2 Any water and sanitation access indicator reported for an activity that uses sustainable energy sources.	EG.12-6 GHG emissions reduced or avoided related to clean energy EG.12-7 Projected GHG emissions reduced or avoided related to clean energy	Any activity that transitioned energy sources from fossil fuel to solar, wind, or hydropower for pumps used in collection, treatment or distribution. Use the CLEER Tool to estimate.
HL.8.5.2 Number of people benefiting from measures that improve water resources management	EG.13-6 GHG emissions reduced or avoided related to sustainable landscapes EG.13-7 Projected GHG emissions reduced or avoided related to sustainable landscapes EG.13-8 Hectares under improved management expected to reduce GHG emissions	Any WRM activity that preserves biodiversity, ecosystem health, or ecosystem services likely also preserves or sequesters carbon. Use the AFOLU Calculator to estimate contributions to EG.13-6 or EG.13-7. For EG.13-8, all qualifying hectares can be included.

If reporting on:	And results contribute to climate adaptation or mitigation, also report on:	Explanation:
HL.8.4-I Funds mobilized for the water and sanitation sectors	EG.11-4 Amount of investment mobilized for climate change adaptation* or EG. 12-4 Amount of investment mobilized for clean energy generation* or EG.13-4 Amount of investment mobilized for sustainable landscapes*	Any funding mobilized which resulted in more climate-resilient water or sanitation services should be counted for climate adaptation. Funds mobilized that resulted in clean energy generation should be counted for clean energy generation. Any funding mobilized that preserves biodiversity, ecosystem health, or ecosystem services should be counted under sustainable landscapes.

**Note: You may not double count across the EG finance indicators (EG.11-4, EG 12-4, or EG 13-4). So each dollar mobilized can only be counted towards one of the 3 indicators. However, you are allowed to count toward both an EG finance indicator and HL.8.4-I.*

Supplementary Indicators

The standard performance indicators for water security, sanitation, and hygiene are designed to capture key steps in the theory of change, as reflected in the [Global Water Strategy results framework](#), and allow for consolidated external reporting. However, each water and sanitation project or activity should have its own theory of change that clearly articulates how its interventions lead to the desired outputs, outcomes, and impacts. The set of standard indicators on their own will likely be insufficient to monitor progress along that theory of change, or support learning and adaptation at an Operating Unit (OU) or activity level. Therefore, supplementary indicators should be used.

In addition to reporting on the HL.8 standard indicators outlined in this handbook, activities may be able to report on standard indicators from other sectors, and should consider these. In some cases, no standard indicators exist and activities must be monitored using custom indicators. Below is a list of possible supplementary indicators, including both non-HL.8 standard indicators and custom indicators for each SO and Operating Principle. This list is not exhaustive, and each new activity is expected to develop an appropriate mix of standard and custom indicators. USAID staff can access [PIRS for all the standard indicators](#) (USAID access only).



SO 1: STRENGTHEN WATER AND SANITATION SECTOR GOVERNANCE, FINANCING, INSTITUTIONS, AND MARKETS

Standard

- » Number of mechanisms for external oversight of public resource use supported by USG assistance (DR.2.4-2)
- » Number of USG-assisted civil society organizations (CSOs) that participate in legislative proceedings and/or engage in advocacy with national legislature and its committees (DR.4.3-1)
- » Percentage of new USAID development activity designs for which a formal Cost-Benefit or Cost-Effectiveness Analysis (CB/CEA) was completed (EG.1.1-3—Water and Sanitation)
- » Number of microenterprises supported by USG assistance (EG.5-3)
- » Number of institutions with improved capacity to assess or address climate change risks supported by USG assistance (EG.11-2)

Custom

- » Number of districts with monitoring information systems in place and used as a result of USG assistance
- » New national policy, standards, and guidelines for WASH or WRM that exist as a result of USG assistance
- » New or improved mechanisms for CSOs to advocate for WASH or WRM as a result of USG assistance
- » Percentage of national or subnational budget dedicated to WASH as a result of USG assistance
- » Percentage increase in government investment in water resources management as a result of USG assistance



SO 2: INCREASE EQUITABLE ACCESS TO SAFE, SUSTAINABLE, AND CLIMATE-RESILIENT DRINKING WATER AND SANITATION SERVICES AND ADOPTION OF KEY HYGIENE BEHAVIORS

Standard

- » Projected GHG emissions reduced or avoided through 2030 from adopted laws, policies, regulations, or technologies related to clean energy as supported by USG assistance (EG.12-7)
- » Number of people supported by the USG to adapt to the effects of climate change (EG.11-5)

Custom

- » Number of communities verified as open defecation free (ODF) as a result of USG assistance
- » Percent of households with soap and water at a handwashing station on premises
- » Change (percentage) in non-revenue water as a result of USG assistance
- » Percentage improvement in operating ratio of water service providers as a result of USG assistance
- » Change in organizational capacity index for water utilities as a result of USG assistance
- » Number of service providers with new water safety plans in place as a result of USG assistance
- » Percentage of assets registered and accounted for in service authority monitoring systems as a result of USG assistance
- » Change in attitudes and norms around open defecation as a result of USG assistance
- » Change (percentage) in sanitation enterprise revenues as a result of USG assistance
- » Percentage of women and girls who report having changed their habits due to menstruation as a result of USG assistance
- » Number of people gaining (or projected number of people likely to gain) access to climate-resilient (water or sanitation) services
- » Number of people gaining [or projected number of people likely to gain] access to low-emissions (water or sanitation) services
- » Percentage of people with increased knowledge of sanitation, hygiene, and/or menstrual health and hygiene information and/or behaviors through exposure to USG-supported events, communications materials, and products (disaggregated by sex, age, marital status, disability)



SO 3: IMPROVE CLIMATE-RESILIENT CONSERVATION AND MANAGEMENT OF FRESHWATER RESOURCES AND ASSOCIATED ECOSYSTEMS

Standard

- » Number of host government or community-derived risk management plans formally proposed, adopted, implemented or institutionalized with USG assistance [IM-level] (RESIL-1)
- » Number of hectares under improved management practices or technologies with USG assistance [IM-level] (EG.3.2-25—Water Resources Management)
- » Number of hectares under improved management expected to reduce GHG emissions as a result of USG assistance (EG.13-8)
- » Number of people supported by the USG to adapt to the effects of climate change (EG.11-5)

Custom

- » Number of households adopting water security measures as a result of USG assistance
- » Number of hectares under watershed rehabilitation actions as a result of USG assistance
- » Number of basins with management plans and stakeholder engagement mechanisms in place as a result of USG assistance
- » Number of hectares under improved water resource, watershed, or basin resource management as a result of USG assistance
- » Number of women or women's groups participating in stakeholder consultations on water resource allocation plans and management
- » Percentage of water resources that are monitored and managed for climate shocks and stresses
- » Change in runoff ratio in targeted catchments
- » Change in water quality as measured by water turbidity



SO 4: ANTICIPATE AND REDUCE CONFLICT AND FRAGILITY RELATED TO WATER

Standard

- » Number of new groups or initiatives created through USG funding, dedicated to resolving the conflict or the drivers of the conflict (PS.6.2-1)
- » Number of USG supported events, trainings, or activities implemented to build support for peace or reconciliation among key actors to the conflict (PS.6.2-3)

Custom

- » Change in number of water disputes reported
- » Change in number of violent incidents reported at water points (including destruction of infrastructure)
- » Change in number of incidents of inflammatory rhetoric about water-related issues in the media (including social media)
- » Number of multi-stakeholder policy reforms implemented
- » Number of joint WASH or WRM maps developed documenting humanitarian, development, and stabilization actor presence
- » Number of joint planning exercises or joint analyses conducted among humanitarian, development, and stabilization actors
- » Percentage of households reporting they feel confident that their water or sanitation service provider or basin authority has a plan in place in preparation for a shock



PRINCIPLE 1: WORK THROUGH AND STRENGTHEN GLOBAL, NATIONAL, AND LOCAL SYSTEMS

Standard

- » Number of USG-supported activities designed to promote or strengthen the civic participation of women (DR.4-1)
- » Number of CSOs receiving USG assistance engaged in advocacy interventions (DR.4.2-2—Number of groups working on LGBTI issues, women's rights groups, Indigenous people's groups, disability rights organizations, groups working on religious freedom)
- » Number of firms receiving USG-funded technical assistance for improving business performance (EG.5.2-1)
- » Number of private sector firms that have improved management practices or technologies as a result of USG assistance (EG.5.2-2)
- » Percentage of USG-assisted organizations with improved performance (CBLD-9)
- » Number of USG-assisted CSOs that participate in legislative proceedings and/or engage in advocacy with national legislature and its committees (DR.4.3-1)

Custom

- » Percentage of USG-assisted collective action coalition members demonstrating an improved understanding of water or sanitation systems
- » Percentage of USG-assisted water or sanitation networks showing an improvement in network strength



PRINCIPLE 2: FOCUS ON MEETING THE NEEDS OF MARGINALIZED AND UNDERSERVED PEOPLE AND COMMUNITIES AND THOSE IN VULNERABLE SITUATIONS

Standard

- » Number of human rights organizations trained and supported (DR.4.2-1—Number of groups working on LGBTI issues, women's rights groups, Indigenous people's groups, disability rights organizations, groups working on religious freedom)
- » Number of legal instruments drafted, proposed or adopted with USG assistance designed to promote gender equality or non-discrimination against women or girls at the national or subnational level (GNDR-1)
- » Percentage of female participants in USG-assisted programs designed to increase access to productive economic resources (assets, credit, income or employment) (GNDR-2)
- » Percentage of participants reporting increased agreement with the concept that males and females should have equal access to social, economic, and political resources and opportunities (GNDR-4)
- » Number of persons trained with USG assistance to advance outcomes consistent with gender equality or female empowerment through their roles in public or private sector institutions or organizations (GNDR-8)
- » Number of people with secure tenure rights to land, with legally recognized documentation and who perceive their rights as secure, as a result of USG assistance (EG.10.4-6)
- » Number of youth at risk of violence trained in social or leadership skills through USG assisted programs (YOUTH-1)
- » Number of laws, policies, or procedures adopted and implemented with USG assistance designed to promote and improve youth participation at the regional, national, or local level (YOUTH-2)

Custom

- » Percentage of participants who report increased self-efficacy at the conclusion of USG-supported training/programming (disaggregated by sex, gender, age, disability, ethnic group)
- » Number of USG-assisted organizations and/or service delivery systems strengthened that serve marginalized persons

- » Number of civil society groups participating in stakeholder consultations on water resource allocation plans and management (disaggregated by LGBTQI+, women's rights, Indigenous peoples, disability rights, and religious freedom organizations)
- » Percentage of menstruators who were able to change their menstrual materials when they wanted to while at [home/school/elsewhere]
- » Percentage of women who report not participating in social activities, school, or work due to menstruation in the last 12 months
- » Number of women and girls who report improved safety and security from gender-based violence (GBV) as they go about their daily activities, including when collecting water and during sanitation and hygiene activities
- » Percentage of women reporting that reduced time spent collecting water resulted in the opportunity to engage in productive labor
- » Percentage of women/youth/Indigenous peoples/LGBTQI+ persons/persons with disabilities with access to education or professional training in water supply and sanitation (disaggregated by age)
- » Number of marginalized persons benefiting from USG-supported water, sanitation and/or hygiene services (by sex, gender, age, disability, ethnic group, identification as LGBTQI+ or Indigenous, or other context-specific marginalization)
- » Percentage of USG-supported water/sanitation facilities constructed using universal design standards
- » Number of laws or policies addressing gender equality (e.g., menstrual health and hygiene, GBV, female-friendly toilets, workforce equality) enhanced, drafted, approved or implemented at national, district, municipal, or utility level as a result of USG support
- » Number of women and girls who report improved safety and security from GBV as they go about their daily activities, including when collecting water and during sanitation and hygiene activities

Note: Additional disaggregates can be added to existing standard indicators to better capture activities that meet the needs of marginalized and underserved people and communities and those in vulnerable situations



PRINCIPLE 3: LEVERAGE DATA, RESEARCH, LEARNING, AND INNOVATION

Standard

- » Number of peer-reviewed scientific publications resulting from USG support to research and implementation programs (STIR-I2)
- » Number of USG-funded activities that are digitally enabled (STIR-I6)
- » Number of digital public goods used by USG-funded activities (STIR-I5)
- » Number of investments in the digital ecosystem (STIR-I4)

Custom

- » Number of decision-makers trained in use of data-driven decision support tools
- » Funding achieving increased impact as a result of new insights
- » Change in data quality (up-to-date points, coverage, etc.) as a result of activity investments



PRINCIPLE 4: INCORPORATE RESILIENCE ACROSS ALL ASPECTS OF THIS STRATEGY

Standard

- » Number of people supported by the USG to adapt to the effects of climate change (EG.II-5)

Custom

Monitoring systems of resilience activities should include data on covariate shocks and stresses, coping strategies, and well-being outcomes that are highly sensitive to shocks or stresses, e.g., acute malnutrition. These data help us understand progress over time in resilience strengthening and can facilitate adaptive management and monitor progress toward activity results and indicator targets. Activities can use participant-based surveys and routine monitoring methods through the course of implementation to collect this information at the same time as data collection for standard performance indicators.

Annex I: FAQs

Where do I find the Standard Foreign Assistance Indicators (or “F indicators”) and associated PIRS?

The Standard Foreign Assistance Indicators are [available for download](#). For water and sanitation indicators, please see the “Health” indicator reference sheets and for gender indicators, please see the “Cross cutting” indicator reference sheets. Detailed guidance on USAID activity monitoring, including information on selecting indicators, determining baselines, and setting targets, is available at [USAID’s Learning Lab](#).

What is “first-time access”? Doesn’t everyone have some kind of water source?

First-time access means that particular beneficiary did not previously have that level of service. For example, someone relying on a water point that takes more than 30 minutes to collect water does not have a basic water service. So, if a USAID intervention results in access that now meets the definition of a basic service, this would be first-time access.

Indicator HL.8.1-2 (safely managed), states that new access may be the result of a water system being “rehabilitated from non-functional state.” Would this definition encompass improving water quality from non-potable to potable quality for households that already have piped water? For example, in a city where households served by a small water utility are unable to use their water supply for drinking due to poor quality, a USAID project resulted in improvements in water quality. Would that count?

If the beneficiary did not previously have access that would meet the standard for safely managed (which would be the case if it did not meet the standard of being free from fecal or priority chemical contaminants), then yes, this could be considered new access to a safely managed drinking water service. The activity would need to confirm that the water service does now meet the standard for a safely managed service.

Do public toilets (e.g., in markets or bus stations) count for the institutional latrine indicator?

No. Institutional latrines are those associated with schools and health care facilities, but not widely open to the public. However, you can create a custom indicator for any program that results in new public latrines.

Can we report results under indicator HL.8.1-2 (safely managed) if the activity will rehabilitate water supply systems for schools that are currently used as evacuation centers for internally displaced persons (IDPs)? New indicators HL.8.1-4 and HL.8.2-8 (institutional settings gaining access) would correspond to improved access in schools, but if the intent is to provide access to people who were displaced from their homes, can we use the standard HL.8.1-2, instead?

If the rehabilitated water supplies would not only be serving students at the school, but also be used as the primary domestic drinking water source for the displaced people, who previously did not have access to a drinking water source then yes, you could report on HL.8.1-2. However, the “safely managed” standard is quite high and requires that the water quality meets certain standards and is available on premises. Depending on the living arrangements in this situation, you should make sure the access to water is close enough to where people live to be considered “on premises.” If not, you could report on the “basic drinking water” (HL.8.1-1) indicator instead.

We need your assistance for the clarification on the data source section for the PIRS: HL.8.1-1 “Number of people gaining access to basic drinking water services as a result of USG assistance.” This section mentions two acceptable data collection methods for this indicator. Should we use both methods?

The two data sources listed in the PIRS for this indicator are: (1) direct observation of new services and count of beneficiaries and (2) household surveys of a representative sample of those gaining access. You do not need to use both of these data sources. Either one would be acceptable. The methods listed in the PIRS are those that we know would be acceptable, but the data sources within each activity-specific PIRS must be customized to clearly explain what you intend to use. Depending on the specific interventions being implemented, it may be necessary to augment these data sources with others.

What does “as a result of USG assistance” mean? How do I measure attribution for new access to water or sanitation services if we are not doing direct construction?

This will depend on your particular program, because there are many ways to assess whether results were a product of USAID’s assistance. In general, you will need to create indicators for lower-level outputs or intermediate indicators that create a causal trail from the specific intervention to the outcome of access to services.

How have these indicators changed?

November 2021 update:

- » **HL.8.6-1** was removed as a standard indicator.
- » **HL.8.3-3** was updated to clarify that the index categories provided can be considered for inclusion, but are not all required, and to note that newly formed eligible institutions can be counted under this indicator even in the absence of a baseline.
- » **HL.8.4-1** was updated to clarify that user payments, including the purchase of goods or services, can be included, and to clarify that cost savings, such as reduced water loss, should not be counted.

May 2023 update:

- » **HL.8.3-3** was further clarified by changing the language from “activity-specific institutional assessment index” to a simple “performance metric.” Additionally, service providers were captured and the list of categories for performance metrics was expanded to align with the GWS. A WRM disaggregate was added and a new disaggregate was included to capture the total number of unique institutions reached during an activity.
- » **HL.8.4-1** now includes a disaggregate and definition for “\$ Mobilized for Climate Resilient Water and Sanitation Services.”
- » All individual-level water and sanitation indicators (**HL.8.1-1, 1-2, 1-3, 2-2, 2-3, 2-7**) now include disaggregates for “marginalized populations reached.”
- » **HL.8.2-4** was replaced by HL.8.2-8, which captures the number of institutions gaining access to basic sanitation, rather than the number of squat holes provided.
- » **HL.8.5-1** was replaced by HL.8.5-2, which provides a more systematic approach to understanding the impact of water resources management activities.

November 2024 update:

- » Retiring HL.8.2-1 (Number of communities verified as open defecation free (ODF) as a result of USG assistance) and HL.8.2-5 (Percent of households with soap and water at a handwashing station on premises). These can still be used as custom indicators.
- » Clarifying under HL.8.4-1 that “increasing the proportion of a total budget in a sector that is successfully disbursed” can be counted.
- » Clarifying under HL.8.2-7 that gaining “access to a shared facility... after previously practicing open defecation or unimproved sanitation” can be counted.

Annex II: Performance Indicator Reference Sheets (PIRS)

Quick Links



Drinking Water PIRS (HL.8.1)



Sanitation (HL.8.2)



Policy & Governance (HL.8.3)



Financing (HL.8.4)



Water Resource Productivity (HL.8.5)

Drinking Water PIRS (HL.8.I)

HL.8.I-I	Number of people gaining access to basic drinking water services as a result of USG assistance
Indicator Type	Outcome
Reporting Type	Integer/Number
Definition	Basic drinking water services, according to the Joint Monitoring Programme (JMP), are defined as improved sources or delivery points that by nature of their construction or through active intervention are protected from outside contamination, in particular from outside contamination with fecal matter, and where collection time is no more than 30 minutes for a roundtrip including queuing. Access must be measured from the beneficiary's place of residence, and does not include access at a day school, health facility or place of work. Drinking water sources meeting this criteria include: » piped drinking water supply on premises; » public tap/standpost; tube well/borehole; » protected dug well; protected spring; » rainwater; and/or » bottled water (when another basic service is used for hand washing, cooking or other basic personal hygiene purposes). All other services are considered to be “unimproved”, including: unprotected dug well, unprotected spring, cart with small tank/drum, tanker truck, surface water (river, dam, lake, pond, stream, canal, irrigation channel), and bottled water (unless basic services are being used for hand washing, cooking and other basic personal hygiene purposes). The following criteria must be met for persons counted as gaining access to basic drinking water services as a result of USG assistance: I. The total collection time must be 30 minutes or less for a round trip (including wait time). Given this definition, the number of people considered to have “gained access” to a basic service will be limited by the physical distance to the service from beneficiaries’ dwellings, the amount of time typically spent queuing at the service, and the production capacity of the service.

Definition Continued...	2. The total collection time must be 30 minutes or less for a round trip (including wait time). Given this definition, the number of people considered to have “gained access” to a basic service will be limited by the physical distance to the service from beneficiaries’ dwellings, the amount of time typically spent queuing at the service, and the production capacity of the service. 3. The service must be able to consistently (i.e. year-round) produce 20 liters per day for each person counted as “gaining access.” This amount is considered the daily minimum required to effectively meet a person’s drinking, sanitation, and hygiene needs. 4. The service is either newly established or was rehabilitated from a non-functional state within the reporting fiscal year as a result of USG assistance. 5. Persons counting toward the indicator must not have previously had similar “access” to basic drinking water services, prior to the establishment or rehabilitation of the USG-supported basic service. The “Marginalized People Gaining Access” disaggregate requires the prior identification of marginalized groups in the local context (such as through an inclusive development analysis). Once identified, any members of those marginalized groups can be counted under this disaggregate. The indicator narrative should describe the characteristics considered in using this disaggregate. Note that neither sex nor wealth should be used as a stand alone determinant of marginalization, as they are already captured in the separate sex and wealth disaggregates. However, a subset of one of these groups (i.e. rural women) could be counted if identified as marginalized in an inclusive development analysis. Other groups that may be included if identified in an inclusive development analysis may include persons with disabilities, lesbian, gay, bisexual, transgender, and intersex (LGBTQI+) people, Indigenous Peoples and other ethnic minorities, youth (aged 10-29), and others that often suffer from discrimination in the application of laws and policy and/or access to resources, services, and social protection. Note: Although USAID expects that all drinking water services supported by USG assistance be tested for fecal coliform and arsenic during the program cycle, compliance with water quality standards is not required for attribution to this indicator. For guidance on water testing requirements during the program cycle, contact USAID/E3/Water Office. Limitations: Providing “access” does not necessarily guarantee beneficiary “use” of a basic drinking water service and thus potential health benefits are not certain to be realized from simply providing “access.” This indicator does not capture the full dimensions of a water service’s reliability or affordability—two other important factors that influence the likelihood that those defined as having “access” will actually use the service. For more information on these factors please refer to indicator HL.8.1-3.
Long Term Linkages	Use of a “basic” drinking water service, as defined, is strongly linked to decreases in the incidence of waterborne disease especially among children under age five. Diarrhea remains the second leading cause of child deaths worldwide. While not guaranteeing “use” of the drinking water service, this indicator measures progress in making basic drinking water available in a manner that typically leads to use of the service.

Use of Indicator	Foundational for reporting on targets contained in the Global Water Strategy as required by the Water for the World Act and for use in the Global Water Strategy Annual Report.
Data Source	Upon completion of construction or rehabilitation of a basic water service, data must be collected by USAID staff, implementing partners, or a third party evaluator. USAID staff, implementing partners, or a third party evaluator must reasonably demonstrate the linkage between USG assistance and new services provided in order to attribute results to this indicator. Acceptable method(s) by which data for this indicator should be collected are: » Observations of water services and direct count of beneficiaries or households with estimates of the number of people living in those households. This must include an assessment of the "time to collect," where only people living within that radius of the service currently not using a basic drinking water supply service according to the baseline is the initial estimate of those "gaining access" to the service. This number might be further reduced, however, depending upon the measured production volume of the service in comparison to the 20 liters/capita/day minimum standard. » Household surveys of a representative and statistically significant sample of those who gained access to verify that the water services meets the standards in the definition for a basic water service. This data source requires that a baseline must be established among potential beneficiaries before the start of activity implementation to measure current "time to collect" and type of existing "main drinking water services" through an initial household survey, using a representative sample of households, conducted by the implementing partner or a third party. This indicator can be difficult and time consuming to measure accurately and requires robust data quality assurance on the part of USAID.

HL.8.1-I Disaggregate Information

Title	Disaggregate	Reporting Type
Rural	HL.8.1-Ia	Integer/Number
Wealth (4th quintile)	HL.8.1-Ib	Integer/Number
Sex: Male	HL.8.1-Ic	Integer/Number
Wealth (1st quintile)	HL.8.1-Id	Integer/Number
Wealth (3rd quintile)	HL.8.1-Ie	Integer/Number
Urban	HL.8.1-If	Integer/Number
Wealth (2nd quintile)	HL.8.1-Ig	Integer/Number
Wealth (5th quintile)	HL.8.1-Ih	Integer/Number
Sex: Female	HL.8.1-Ii	Integer/Number
Marginalized People Gaining Access	HL.8.1-Ij	Integer/Number
Sex: Neither	HL.8.1-Ik	Integer/Number
Sex: Disaggregates Not Available	HL.8.1-Il	Integer/Number

HL.8.1-2	Number of people gaining access to safely managed drinking water services as a result of USG assistance
Indicator Type	Outcome
Reporting Type	Integer/Number
Definition	A safely managed drinking service is defined as one that meets the definition of a basic drinking water service (see indicator HL.8.1-1), and is also: » Located on premises: water is provided directly to the household or on premises; » Available when needed: consistently produces 20 liters per day for each person counted as “gaining access.” This amount is considered the daily minimum required to effectively meet a person’s drinking, sanitation, and hygiene needs; » Compliant with fecal (and priority chemical) standards: meets a fecal coliform standard of 0 CFU/100 mL, arsenic standard of 10 parts per billion, and (at a minimum) host country standards for other chemicals that have been identified to pose a site-specific risk to human health. Persons are counted as “gaining access” to a safely managed drinking water service if the service is either newly established, rehabilitated from a non-functional state, or upgraded from a basic water service within the reporting fiscal year as a result of USG assistance, and these persons did not previously have similar “access” to a safely managed drinking water service prior to the establishment or rehabilitation of the USG-supported safely managed service. The “Marginalized People Gaining Access” disaggregate requires the prior identification of marginalized groups in the local context (such as through an inclusive development analysis). Once identified, any members of those marginalized groups can be counted under this disaggregate. The indicator narrative should describe the characteristics considered in using this disaggregate. Note that neither sex nor wealth should be used as a stand alone determinant of marginalization, as they are already captured in the separate sex and wealth disaggregates. However, a subset of one of these groups (i.e. rural women) could be counted if identified as marginalized in an inclusive development analysis. Other groups that may be included if identified in an inclusive development analysis may include persons with disabilities, lesbian, gay, bisexual, transgender, and intersex (LGBTQI+) people, Indigenous Peoples and other ethnic minorities, youth (aged 10-29), and others that often suffer from discrimination in the application of laws and policy and/or access to resources, services, and social protection. Limitations: Providing “access” does not necessarily guarantee beneficiary “use” of an safely managed drinking water service and thus potential health benefits are not certain to be realized from simply providing “access.” Although, the chosen definition of “access” does attempt to define standard ease of use/accessibility and minimum volume of water to meet potential user needs, this definition does not capture the water service’s affordability. For more information on this factor please refer to indicator HL.8.1-3.

Long Term Linkages	Use of a “safely managed” drinking water service, as defined, is strongly linked to decreases in the incidence of waterborne disease especially among children under age five. Diarrhea remains the second leading cause of child deaths worldwide. While not guaranteeing “use” of the drinking water service, this indicator measures progress in making high quality drinking water available/ “accessible” in a manner that typically leads to use of the safely managed service.
Use of Indicator	Foundational for reporting on targets contained in the Global Water Strategy as required by the Water for the World Act and for use in the Global Water Strategy Annual Report.
Data Source	Upon completion of construction, rehabilitation, or upgrading of water services that meets the standard for a safely managed service, data must be collected by USAID staff, implementing partners, or a third party evaluator. USAID staff, implementing partners, or a third party evaluator must reasonably demonstrate the linkage between USG assistance and new services provided in order to attribute results to this indicator. Acceptable method(s) by which data for this indicator should be collected are: » Observations of water services and direct count of beneficiaries or households with estimates of the number of people living in those households; » Water quality tests of any USG-constructed water services; » Household surveys of a representative and statistically significant sample of those who gained access to verify that the water services meets the standards in the definition for “safely managed”; » Third-party data provided by a water utility or other local entity responsible for provision of water demonstrating new connections. The implementing partner assisting the third-party must demonstrate the linkage between USG assistance and new water supplies.; » Government records for water services managed directly by the government demonstrating new connections and water quality. The contractor or grantee must demonstrate the linkage between USG assistance and new water supplies. Limitations: This indicator can be difficult and time consuming to measure accurately and requires robust data quality assurance. If a sample survey is used to estimate the number of those “gaining access”, then a baseline must be established before the start of activity implementation through an initial household survey conducted by the USAID partners implementing activities or a third party evaluator using a representative sample of households in the zone of influence. Any use of sample surveys or third-party data (e.g. from utilities or government entities) must also account for baseline service levels and demonstrate the link between USG-assistance and new access to safely-managed water service.

HL.8.1-2 Disaggregate Information

Title	Disaggregate	Reporting Type
Wealth (3rd quintile)	HL.8.1-2a	Integer/Number
Wealth (4th quintile)	HL.8.1-2b	Integer/Number
Wealth (5th quintile)	HL.8.1-2c	Integer/Number
Sex: Female	HL.8.1-2d	Integer/Number
Sex: Male	HL.8.1-2e	Integer/Number
Rural	HL.8.1-2f	Integer/Number
Urban	HL.8.1-2g	Integer/Number
Wealth (1st quintile)	HL.8.1-2h	Integer/Number
Wealth (2nd quintile)	HL.8.1-2i	Integer/Number
Marginalized People Gaining Access	HL.8.1-2j	Integer/Number
Sex: Neither	HL.8.1-2k	Integer/Number
Sex: Disaggregates Not Available	HL.8.1-2l	Integer/Number

HL.8.1-3	Number of people receiving improved service quality from an existing basic or safely managed drinking water service as a result of USG assistance
Indicator Type	Outcome
Reporting Type	Integer/Number
Definition	A person is counted for this indicator when their current primary drinking water service qualifies as a “basic,” or “safely managed” (see indicators HL.8.1-1 and HL.8.1-2) but, the quality of “service” they receive is further “improved” as a result of USG assistance in terms of its ease of accessibility, reliability, water quality and/or affordability. Access must be measured from the beneficiary’s place of residence, and does not include access at a day school, health facility or place of work. Specifically, “improved service quality” is defined as being achieved if: » The accessibility measure, time taken to collect water from a basic or safely managed service, is further reduced to less than the minimum requirements for a basic water service (see indicator HL.8.1-1) or safely managed water service (see indicator HL.8.1-2); and/or » Reliability of supply improves such that the person’s main service is available regularly or more frequently, i.e. there is no regular rationing or seasonal failure of their improved service, or mechanical failures are addressed more quickly; and/or, » Water quality improvements are made that would be reasonably expected to result in long term improvements to the fecal, biological or chemical contamination of a drinking water sources (e.g. construction of water treatment systems, support to service provider to consistently chlorinate water, implementation of a water safety plan); and/or, » Affordability of their basic or safely managed drinking water services improves such that the average price they pay for water is no higher than two times the average water tariff for piped water into the dwelling in their country (where applicable). The “Marginalized People Gaining Access” disaggregate requires the prior identification of marginalized groups in the local context (such as through an inclusive development analysis). Once identified, any members of those marginalized groups can be counted under this disaggregate. The indicator narrative should describe the characteristics considered in using this disaggregate. Note that neither sex nor wealth should be used as a stand alone determinant of marginalization, as they are already captured in the separate sex and wealth disaggregates. However, a subset of one of these groups (i.e. rural women) could be counted if identified as marginalized in an inclusive development analysis. Other groups that may be included if identified in an inclusive development analysis may include persons with disabilities, lesbian, gay, bisexual, transgender, and intersex (LGBTQI+) people, Indigenous Peoples and other ethnic minorities, youth (aged 10-29), and others that often suffer from discrimination in the application of laws and policy and/or access to resources, services, and social protection.

Long Term Linkages	Poor quality service (i.e., difficult to access, unreliable, or expensive) from basic or safely managed drinking water services discourage people from consuming the minimum amount of water required for drinking, sanitation and hygiene and thus contributes to elevated waterborne disease. Poor water quality is linked to diarrheal disease and other poor health outcomes. Unreliable supplies can also force individuals to switch to unsafe services during times of shortage. Finally, being forced to rely on expensive drinking water services creates adverse economic burdens on many of the poor; this diversion of household resources away from other important expenditures on food and other household staples also has implications for health.
Use of Indicator	Foundational for reporting on targets contained in the Global Water Strategy as required by the Water for the World Act and for use in the Global Water Strategy Annual Report.
Data Source	Upon completion of construction, rehabilitation, or upgrading of water services, data must be collected by USAID staff, implementing partners, or a third party evaluator. USAID staff, implementing partners, or a third party evaluator must reasonably demonstrate the linkage between USG assistance and new services provided in order to attribute results to this indicator. Acceptable method(s) by which data for this indicator should be collected are: » Program records and observations of water supply systems constructed/renovated. » Household surveys of a representative and statistically significant sample of those who received improved drinking water service quality. » Intercept survey at the point of water distribution. An intercept survey is a short structured interview carried out by an enumerator at a desired location, which, in this case, would be the water distribution point. » Water quality testing must be used to confirm results related to improvements in water quality upon completion of the intervention. Water quality improvements require baseline testing of water quality. Service quality improvement information will be defined as: » Accessibility: the total time to collect water from the service » Reliability: the number of days within each quarter that the service was operational » Affordability: price per volume of water sold. » Quality: the chemical, physical, and/or biological characteristics of water. This indicator can be difficult and time consuming to measure accurately and requires robust data quality assurance on the part of USAID. Note: The same beneficiaries cannot be counted against this indicator and indicator HL.8.1-1 or HL.8.1-2 within the same year of reporting.

HL.8.I-3 Disaggregate Information

Title	Disaggregate	Reporting Type
Urban	HL.8.I-3a	Integer/Number
Sex: Male	HL.8.I-3b	Integer/Number
Wealth (5th quintile)	HL.8.I-3c	Integer/Number
Sex: Female	HL.8.I-3d	Integer/Number
Wealth (2nd quintile)	HL.8.I-3e	Integer/Number
Wealth (3rd quintile)	HL.8.I-3f	Integer/Number
Wealth (1st quintile)	HL.8.I-3g	Integer/Number
Rural	HL.8.I-3h	Integer/Number
Wealth (4th quintile)	HL.8.I-3i	Integer/Number
Marginalized People Gaining Access	HL.8.I-3j	Integer/Number
Sex: Neither	HL.8.I-3k	Integer/Number
Sex: Disaggregates Not Available	HL.8.I-3l	Integer/Number

HL.8.I-4	Number of health facilities and schools gaining access to basic drinking water services as a result of USG assistance
Indicator Type	Output
Reporting Type	Integer/Number
Definition	Institutional settings are defined as schools and health facilities. Schools in the context of this indicator are day schools for children 6 to 18 years of age who return home after school. Schools may be public or private. Health facilities may provide different levels of service, but it is anticipated that water services will be installed in health facilities at the lower echelons of the service hierarchy. Health facilities may be public or private. An institution is considered to have gained access to a basic drinking water service if: » The service is either newly established or rehabilitated from a non-functional state within the reporting fiscal year as a result of USG assistance, and this institution did not previously have similar “access.” » The service is on the premises of the institution. » The service meets the definition of a basic drinking water service as defined in indicator HL.8.I-1. Limitations: The definition of this indicator does not consider reliability, seasonality or water quality. It only measures the most basic level of service at an institution.
Long Term Linkages	Per WHO guidelines, “Schools with poor water, sanitation and hygiene conditions, and intense levels of person-to-person contact, are high-risk environments for children and staff, and exacerbate children's particular susceptibility to environmental health hazards.” Health facilities, like any other public space, must have water service to reduce the possibility of spreading disease.
Use Of Indicator	Pursuant to annual appropriations language, such as House Report 118-146, USAID is required to report to Congress on investments that advance WASH in health care facilities. These data are foundational to that report.
Data Source	Direct observations of all institutional setting sites targeted by USG assistance conducted by the USAID implementing partners or a third party evaluator both before and after the intervention to capture changes as a result of the activity. USAID staff, implementing partners, or a third party evaluator must reasonably demonstrate the linkage between USG assistance and new services provided in order to attribute results to this indicator.

HL.8.I-4 Disaggregate Information

Title	Disaggregate	Reporting Type
Schools	HL.8.I-4a	Integer/Number
Health Facilities	HL.8.I-4b	Integer/Number

Sanitation (HL.8.2)

HL.8.2-2	Number of people gaining access to a basic sanitation service as a result of USG assistance
Indicator Type	Outcome
Reporting Type	Integer/Number
Definition	A basic sanitation service, defined according to the Joint Monitoring Programme (JMP), consists of 1) a sanitation facility that hygienically separates human excreta from human contact (i.e. an improved sanitation facility), that 2) is not shared with other households. » Improved sanitation facilities include the following types: » flush or pour/flush facility connected to a piped sewer systems, septic systems or a pit; » composting toilets; » pit or ventilated improved pit latrines (with slab). All other sanitation facilities do not meet this definition and are considered “unimproved.” Unimproved sanitation includes: flush or pour/flush toilets without a sewer connection; pit latrines without slab/open pit; bucket latrines; or hanging toilets/latrines. Households that 1) have an unimproved sanitation facility, or 2) have an improved facility that is shared with other households are not counted as having access to a basic sanitation service. A household is defined as a person or group of persons that usually live and eat together. Persons are counted as “gaining access” to an improved sanitation facility, either newly established or rehabilitated from a non-functional or unimproved state, as a result of USG assistance if their household did not have similar “access”, i.e., an improved sanitation facility was not available for household use, prior to completion of an improved sanitation facility associated with USG assistance. This assistance may come in the form of hygiene promotion to generate demand. It may also come as programs to facilitate access to supplies and services needed to install improved facilities or improvements in the supply chain(s). The “Marginalized People Gaining Access” disaggregate requires the prior identification of marginalized groups in the local context (such as through an inclusive development analysis). Once identified, any members of those marginalized groups can be counted under this disaggregate. The indicator narrative should describe the characteristics considered in using this disaggregate. Note that neither sex nor wealth should be used as a stand alone determinant of marginalization, as they are already captured in the separate sex and wealth disaggregates.

Definition Continued...	However, a subset of one of these groups (i.e. rural women) could be counted if identified as marginalized in an inclusive development analysis. Other groups that may be included if identified in an inclusive development analysis may include persons with disabilities, lesbian, gay, bisexual, transgender, and intersex (LGBTQI+) people, Indigenous Peoples and other ethnic minorities, youth (aged 10-29), and others that often suffer from discrimination in the application of laws and policy and/or access to resources, services, and social protection. Limitations: It is important to note that providing “access” does not necessarily guarantee beneficiary “use” of a basic sanitation facility and thus potential health benefits are not certain to be realized from simply providing “access.” Not all household members may regularly use the noted basic sanitation facility. In particular, in many cultures young children are often left to defecate in the open and create health risks for all household members including themselves. The measurement of this indicator does not capture such detrimental, uneven sanitation behavior within a household. Additional limitations of this indicator are that it does not fully measure the quality of services, i.e. accessibility, quantity, and affordability, or the issue of facilities for adequate menstrual hygiene management.
Long Term Linkages	Use of an improved sanitation facility by households is strongly linked to decreases in the incidence of waterborne disease among household members, especially among those under age five. Diarrhea remains the second leading cause of child deaths worldwide.
Use of Indicator	Foundational for reporting on targets contained in the Global Water Strategy as required by the Water for the World Act and for use in the Global Water Strategy Annual Report.
Data Source	Data must be collected by USAID staff, implementing partners, or a third party evaluator. USAID staff, implementing partners, or a third party evaluator must reasonably demonstrate the linkage between USG assistance and new services provided in order to attribute results to this indicator. Acceptable method(s) by which data for this indicator can be collected include: Direct count of beneficiary households and estimates of the number of people living in those households by the USAID partners implementing activities in the zone of influence or a third party evaluator and summarized on a quarterly or annual basis. This method would be most appropriate when the technical approach being pursued involves some direct household engagement by the USAID implementing partner, e.g., when a household is provided a subsidy for the construction of an improved sanitation facility. Household surveys of a representative and statistically significant sample of those who gained access to verify that the sanitation facility meets the standards in the definition for a basic facility. This data source requires that a baseline must be established before the start of activity implementation through an initial household survey conducted by USAID, the implementing partner, or a third party evaluator using a representative and statistically significant sample of households in the zone of influence. This indicator can be difficult and time consuming to measure accurately and requires robust data quality assurance on the part of USAID.

HL.8.2-2 Disaggregate Information

Title	Disaggregate	Reporting Type
Rural	HL.8.2-2a	Integer/Number
Sex: Female	HL.8.2-2b	Integer/Number
Wealth (4th quintile)	HL.8.2-2c	Integer/Number
Wealth (2nd quintile)	HL.8.2-2d	Integer/Number
Urban	HL.8.2-2e	Integer/Number
Wealth (3rd quintile)	HL.8.2-2f	Integer/Number
Sex: Male	HL.8.2-2g	Integer/Number
Wealth (1st quintile)	HL.8.2-2h	Integer/Number
Wealth (5th quintile)	HL.8.2-2i	Integer/Number
Marginalized People Gaining Access	HL.8.2-2j	Integer/Number
Sex: Neither	HL.8.2-2k	Integer/Number
Sex: No Disaggregate	HL.8.2-2l	Integer/Number

HL.8.2-3	Number of people gaining access to safely managed sanitation services as a result of USG assistance
Indicator Type	Outcome
Reporting Type	Integer/Number
Definition	A safely managed sanitation service is defined as a basic sanitation facility service (see indicator 8.2-2) that is not shared with other households and where excreta is safely disposed in situ or removed to be treated off-site. Safely managed sanitation services are those that effectively separate excreta from human contact, and ensure that excreta do not re-enter the immediate environment. This means that household excreta are contained, extracted, and transported to designated disposal or treatment site, or, as locally appropriate, are safely re-used at the household or community level. Persons are counted as “gaining access” to a safely managed sanitation service if their household did not previously have similar “access”. This may include households who previously had a basic sanitation facility, but did not have safe removal or disposal of excreta. The “Marginalized People Gaining Access” disaggregate requires the prior identification of marginalized groups in the local context (such as through an inclusive development analysis). Once identified, any members of those marginalized groups can be counted under this disaggregate. The indicator narrative should describe the characteristics considered in using this disaggregate. Note that neither sex nor wealth should be used as a stand alone determinant of marginalization, as they are already captured in the separate sex and wealth disaggregates. However, a subset of one of these groups (i.e. rural women) could be counted if identified as marginalized in an inclusive development analysis. Other groups that may be included if identified in an inclusive development analysis may include persons with disabilities, lesbian, gay, bisexual, transgender, and intersex (LGBTQI+) people, Indigenous Peoples and other ethnic minorities, youth (aged 10-29), and others that often suffer from discrimination in the application of laws and policy and/or access to resources, services, and social protection. Limitations: It is important to note that providing “access” does not necessarily guarantee beneficiary “use” of a basic sanitation facility and thus potential health benefits are not certain to be realized from simply providing “access.” Not all household members may regularly use the noted basic sanitation facility.
Long Term Linkages	Use of a safely managed sanitation facility by households is strongly linked to decreases in the incidence of waterborne disease among household members, especially among those under age five. Diarrhea remains the second leading cause of child deaths worldwide.
Use of Indicator	Foundational for reporting on targets contained in the Global Water Strategy as required by the Water for the World Act and for use in the Global Water Strategy Annual Report.

Data Source	Data must be collected by USAID staff, implementing partners, or a third party evaluator. USAID staff, implementing partners, or a third party evaluator must reasonably demonstrate the linkage between USG assistance and new services provided in order to attribute results to this indicator. Acceptable method(s) by which data for this indicator can be collected include: » Direct count of beneficiary households and estimates of the number of people living in those households by the USAID partners implementing activities in the zone of influence. (This method would be most appropriate when the technical approach being pursued involves some direct household engagement by the USAID implementing partner). For sanitation facilities where excreta is safely disposed in situ (those rural locations where excreta can be safely abandoned or where the sanitation facility itself provides on-site treatment, e.g. composting toilets), acceptable data sources include: » Sales records from USG-supported enterprises demonstrating that a household has purchased a latrine. Number of persons in a household may be estimated based on existing data. » Household surveys of a representative and statistically significant sample of the population. This will be most appropriate when the USAID grantee or contractor is working to create demand at a wide scale and not directly engaging with households. For sanitation facilities where excreta is removed to be treated off-site (e.g. sewerage systems, desludging services), acceptable data sources are: » Records from enterprises (private sector or government) providing waste removal services demonstrating household use of such services. The implementing partner must demonstrate the linkage between USG assistance and new services provided. » Records from enterprises (private sector or government) providing waste removal services demonstrating increased capacity to provide waste removal and transport services. This must be combined with data demonstrating that the expanded capacity is a result of USG assistance and there is demand for such services (e.g. by households with new latrines that do not require emptying by the end of the activity). » Household surveys of a statistically significant sample of the population. This will be most appropriate when the USAID implementing partner is working to create demand for waste removal services at a wide scale and not directly engaging with households. If a sample survey is used to estimate the number of those “gaining access”, then a baseline must be established before the start of activity implementation. Any use of third-party data (e.g. utilities or government entities) must account for baseline service levels and demonstrate the link between USG-assistance and new access to safely-managed water service. For any projects expanding the capacity of fecal-sludge management providers, the implementing partner will be responsible for demonstrating that the expanded capacity has led to use of services. This indicator can be difficult and time consuming to measure accurately and requires robust data quality assurance on the part of USAID.
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HL.8.2-3 Disaggregate Information

Title	Disaggregate	Reporting Type
Sex: Male	HL.8.2-7a	Integer/Number
Sex: Female	HL.8.2-7e	Integer/Number
Urban	HL.8.2-7d	Integer/Number
Rural	HL.8.2-7f	Integer/Number
Wealth (1st quintile)	HL.8.2-7b	Integer/Number
Wealth (2nd quintile)	HL.8.2-7c	Integer/Number
Wealth (3rd quintile)	HL.8.2-7g	Integer/Number
Wealth (4th quintile)	HL.8.2-7i	Integer/Number
Wealth (5th Quintile)	HL.8.2-7h	Integer/Number
Marginalized People Gaining Access	HL.8.2-7j	Integer/Number
Sex: Neither	HL.8.2-7k	Integer/Number
Sex: Disaggregates not Available	HL.8.2-7l	Integer/Number

HL.8.2-7	Number of people receiving improved sanitation service quality from an existing "limited" or "basic" service as a result of USG assistance
Indicator Type	Outcome
Reporting Type	Integer/Number
Definition	A person is counted for this indicator when their current primary sanitation service qualifies as “basic” (see indicator HL.8.2-2) or “limited” (shared), and they gained an improvement in their sanitation service quality as a result of USG assistance. This indicator should only be used when that improvement is not sufficient to move to a “basic” or “safely managed” service level from their current level of service, but it improves to or within the “limited” or “basic” sanitation ladder levels. Specifically, “improved sanitation service quality ” is defined as being achieved if: » The number of people sharing a sanitation facility is reduced; » Access to a shared facility is gained after previously practicing open defecation or unimproved sanitation; » Household excreta containment (e.g. septic tank) is improved to be more safely stored, emptied and transported to an officially designated location for disposal/treatment; or » Fecal sludge transport service is established and used (e.g. extending FSM service to new HHs); or » Delivery to a designated location for treatment is ensured (e.g. establishing truck GPS monitoring); or » Improvements are made to the treatment of fecal sludge in-situ at households The “Marginalized People Gaining Access” disaggregate requires the prior identification of marginalized groups in the local context (such as through an inclusive development analysis). Once identified, any members of those marginalized groups can be counted under this disaggregate. The indicator narrative should describe the characteristics considered in using this disaggregate. Note that neither sex nor wealth should be used as a stand alone determinant of marginalization, as they are already captured in the separate sex and wealth disaggregates. However, a subset of one of these groups (i.e. rural women) could be counted if identified as marginalized in an inclusive development analysis. Other groups that may be included if identified in an inclusive development analysis may include persons with disabilities, lesbian, gay, bisexual, transgender, and intersex (LGBTQI+) people, Indigenous Peoples and other ethnic minorities, youth (aged 10-29), and others that often suffer from discrimination in the application of laws and policy and/or access to resources, services, and social protection. Note: People counted against this indicator cannot also be counted against indicator HL.8.2-2 or HL.8.2-3.

Long Term Linkages	Use of an improved sanitation facility by households is strongly linked to decreases in the incidence of waterborne disease among household members, especially among those under age five. For sanitation coverage purposes, the WASH sector divides households into five service level categories: open defecation (no service), unimproved sanitation, limited (shared) sanitation, basic sanitation (improved facility not shared), and safely managed. These categories are used to define a sanitation ladder. The WASH sector seeks to have households move up the sanitation ladder and eventually arrive at safely managed sanitation in order to meet sanitation-related Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs). Improvements in sanitation service quality is an indication that there is movement toward reaching the sanitation-related SDGs in the expected direction.
Use of Indicator	Foundational for reporting on targets contained in the Global Water Strategy as required by the Water for the World Act and for use in the Global Water Strategy Annual Report.
Data Source	Upon completion of promotion, technical assistance, capacity building, construction, rehabilitation, or upgrading of sanitation services that improves sanitation service quality, data must be collected by USAID staff, implementing partners, or a third party evaluator. USAID staff, implementing partners, or a third party evaluator must reasonably demonstrate the linkage between USG assistance and new services provided in order to attribute results to this indicator. Acceptable method(s) by which data for this indicator should be collected are: » Program records and observations of sanitation facilities or treatment systems constructed/renovated » Household surveys of a representative and statistically significant sample of those who received improved sanitation service quality. Note that this approach requires a baseline. » Service partner records of service rendered such as truck operators, manufacturers, or sales agents » Partner government records, policy, by-laws, or regulations Number of people may be a direct count, or may be determined by multiplying number of households with benefits by the average number of people per household. This indicator can be difficult and time consuming to measure accurately and requires robust data quality assurance on the part of USAID.

HL.8.2-7 Disaggregate Information

Title	Disaggregate	Reporting Type
Sex: Male	HL.8.2-3a	Integer/Number
Wealth (1st quintile)	HL.8.2-3e	Integer/Number
Wealth (2nd quintile)	HL.8.2-3f	Integer/Number
Urban	HL.8.2-3c	Integer/Number
Sex: Female	HL.8.2-3b	Integer/Number
Rural	HL.8.2-3d	Integer/Number
Wealth (3rd quintile)	HL.8.2-3g	Integer/Number
Wealth (5th quintile)	HL.8.2-3i	Integer/Number
Wealth (4th quintile)	HL.8.2-3h	Integer/Number
Marginalized People Gaining Access	HL.8.2-3j	Integer/Number
Sex: Neither	HL.8.2-3k	Integer/Number
Sex: Disaggregates Not Available	HL.8.2-3l	Integer/Number

HL.8.2-8	Number of health facilities and schools gaining access to basic sanitation and hygiene services as a result of USG assistance
Indicator Type	Output
Reporting Type	Integer/Number
Definition	Schools in the context of this indicator are day schools for children 6 to 18 years of age who return home after school. Schools and health facilities may be public or private. An institution can be counted for this indicator if it didn't meet the following sanitation AND hygiene criteria below and now does meet the sanitation and hygiene criteria as a result of USG assistance: » Health care facilities must have improved sanitation facilities that are usable with at least one toilet dedicated for staff, at least one sex separated toilet with menstrual hygiene facilities, and at least one toilet accessible for people with limited mobility. Additionally, functional hand hygiene facilities (with water and soap and/or alcohol-based hand rub) must be available at all toilets and points of care. » Schools must have improved sanitation facilities on premise that are single sex, usable, and meet host country standards regarding the ratio of users per squat hole. Additionally, handwashing facilities with soap and water must be available within or near latrines. Improved sanitation facilities include the following types: » flush or pour/flush facility connected to a piped sewer systems, septic systems or a pit; » composting toilets; » pit or ventilated improved pit latrines (with slab). All other sanitation facilities do not meet this definition and are considered “unimproved.” Unimproved sanitation includes: flush or pour/flush toilets without a sewer connection or pit/tank; pit latrines without slab/open pit; bucket latrines; or hanging toilets/latrines. Providing basic sanitation and hygiene services in schools and healthcare facilities typically requires convenient access to water supply. New access to basic water services in health facilities and schools can be captured under HL.8.1-4. Limitations Access to sanitation facilities does not guarantee use. Additionally, the cleanliness of the sanitation facility will not be reflected either.
Long Term Linkages	Per WHO guidelines, “Schools with poor water, sanitation and hygiene conditions, and intense levels of person-to-person contact, are high-risk environments for children and staff, and exacerbate children's particular susceptibility to environmental health hazards.” Health facilities, like any other public space, must have sanitation facilities to reduce the possibility of spreading disease. Per-WHO guidelines, “hospitals and health centers have special requirements for sanitation as they may have to deal with patients who are infected with diseases such as cholera, typhoid and hepatitis.

Use of Indicator	Pursuant to annual appropriations language, USAID is required to report to Congress on investments that advance WASH in health care facilities. These data are foundational to that report.
Data Source	Direct observations of all institutional setting sites targeted by USG assistance conducted on an annual basis by the USAID implementing partners or a third party evaluator. USAID staff, implementing partners, or a third party evaluator must reasonably demonstrate the linkage between USG assistance and new services provided in order to attribute results to this indicator.

HL8.2-8 Disaggregate Information

Title	Disaggregate	Reporting Type
Health Facility	HL.8.2-8a	Integer/Number
School	HL.8.2-8b	Integer/Number

Policy & Governance (HL.8.3)

HL.8.3-3	Number of water and sanitation sector institutions strengthened to manage water resources or improve water supply and sanitation services as a result of USG assistance.
Indicator Type	Outcome
Reporting Type	Integer/Number
Definition	This indicator will measure the number of water sector institutions that demonstrate an improvement in governance or operations based on achievement of a relevant performance metric target. The performance metric can be activity-specific, but must follow guidelines below and must be able to capture a measurable positive change in performance on the identified metric. Changes must result through USG assistance and meet targets set at the beginning of the activity. Institutions under this indicator may include: » Local, regional, or national government institutions contributing to increased access to water security, sanitation, and hygiene services (i.e. district water offices, National Ministries, regulators, and basin organizations, water user associations); » Service providers (i.e. public or private institutions directly contributing to water security, sanitation and hygiene services) » Civil society organizations that conduct activities in support of government policy-making & implementation Improvements will be measured using an activity-specific performance metric. The metric will measure performance based changes for the institution among one or more of the following categories: » Operating Framework (i.e. policies, strategies, regulations, and implementation plans) » Human resources; » Use of data (including monitoring, analysis, and data driven decision making) » Financial stability(including revenue, access to finance, budget execution, ability to pass an annual audit); » Project planning and management of implementation » Enforcement of policies (including watershed protection, allocation systems) » Equity (including tariff setting, poor inclusive policy, gender mainstreaming policy) » Stakeholder Accountability (including transparency, participation, accountability, and equity) » Shock preparedness (i.e. developing adaptive approaches for changing circumstances, interventions to counteract instability, and partnerships between humanitarian, development, and peace-building stakeholders)

Definition Continued...	The performance metrics identified should capture performance, not latent capacity. Capacity is a form of potential that is not visible until it is used. Therefore, performance is the key consideration in determining whether capacity has changed. Further, this metric should capture organizational performance results, not activity implementation. Implementing planned capacity development support (i.e. participation in training) does not typically imply improved performance. Contributions to a policy, plan, or strategy can only be counted under this indicator if it is being implemented to ensure it improves organizational performance and not just organizational capacity. A single institution may only be counted once in a single reporting year, regardless of the amount of improvement achieved. An institution may be counted again in subsequent years if further targets are achieved. The “First Strengthened This Year” disaggregate should be used to count the number of institutions that were strengthened as per this indicator during the reporting period and were not and previously reported by the activity. Activity MEL plans must include information about the performance metric being used, including the target and measurement methods. This should also be documented in the Indicator Analysis section of the PPR. The activity theory of change should reflect how achieving the targeted improvement is predicted to increase access to water security, sanitation, and/or hygiene services, as well as how USG support contributes to the improvement. Note: Organizations that meet the relevant criteria may also be counted under CBLD-9.
Long Term Linkages	Improved governance and institutional capacity for the water and sanitation sectors is critical to achieving the Global Water Strategy vision of a water secure world.
Use of Indicator	Foundational for reporting on targets contained in the Global Water Strategy as required by the Water for the World Act and for use in the Global Water Strategy Annual Report.
Data Source	The indicator will be measured using an activity-specific performance metric that is designed and validated at the outset of the activity. A metric baseline must be done to be able to track progress towards the predetermined target. This performance metric should measure organizational performance results, not activity results. Additionally, the metric should capture organizational performance rather than organizational capacity.

HL.8.3-3 Disaggregate Information

Title	Disaggregate	Reporting Type
Institution Scale: national	HL.8.3-3a	Integer/Number
Institution Scale: regional	HL.8.3-3b	Integer/Number
Institution Scale: local (e.g. county, district)	HL.8.3-3c	Integer/Number
# of Institutions First Strengthened This Year	HL.8.3-3d	Integer/Number
Institution Focus (Can Double Count): Drinking Water	HL.8.3-3e	Integer/Number
Institution Focus (Can Double Count): Sanitation	HL.8.3-3f	Integer/Number
Institution Focus (Can Double Count): Water Resource Management	HL.8.3-3g	Integer/Number

Financing (HL.8.4)

HL.8.4-I	Value of new funding mobilized to the water and sanitation sectors as a result of USG assistance
Indicator Type	Outcome
Reporting Type	Integer/Number
Definition	This indicator will measure the total value (USD) of new funding mobilized or leveraged to expand or improve water or sanitation services, or implement water resource management activities. Finance mobilized may be reported under this indicator at financial closure. Financial closure is when the contract or agreement is signed by all relevant parties, when public financing is formally approved, or when a transaction is completed with an individual in the case of payment for goods or services. Funding under this indicator may include: » Domestic public resources (budget allocations, taxes) » Domestic public financing (bond issuance) » User payments (tariffs, purchase of goods or services) » Private/commercial financing (such as via a commercial bank or microfinance institution) » Private financing through public-private partnerships (PPPs) or Global Development Alliances (GDAs) » Development partner or donor funds leveraged » *Note that this may not include USG funding This funding must be applied towards the water and sanitation sector including: » capital investment projects for the new construction, replacement, rehabilitation or improvement of WASH infrastructure » operation and maintenance of existing infrastructure » new product development and marketing » expansion capital for small businesses providing products or services » government social behavior change campaigns » increasing equitable and efficient allocation and use of water resources » enhancing reliability and quality of water resources through watershed management, including protection, restoration, and nature-based solutions Funding counted towards this indicator must be new funding that would not be available to the sector without USG assistance. USG assistance leading to mobilization of funding may include:

**Definition
Continued...**

- » advocacy for increased national and county budgets for WASH and allocation of public funds
- » development of financial proposals, pipelines and financial products
- » structuring and implementation of PPPs or GDAs
- » creation of development credit guarantees
- » capacity improvements that enhance credit-worthiness of service providers or small businesses
- » increasing the proportion of a total budget in a sector that is successfully disbursed

Mobilized finance reported under this indicator should be disaggregated as domestic or international. Domestic finance is investment which originated within the country in which it is implemented (e.g. national government funds to support implementation of a project within that country) and international finance is cross-border finance (e.g. a private company based in one country contributing funds for a project in a different country).

Funds counted under this indicator can often also be counted under EG.11-4, EG.12-4, or EG.13-4 as long as the criteria in those PIRS are met.

Note: Cost savings such as reduced water loss resulting from leak repair, should not be counted towards this indicator; but could be incorporated in a performance metric under HL.8.3-3.

Use the following definitions for sectoral disaggregates:

- » Count funds mobilized under “Drinking Water” if the funds mobilized support the provision of drinking water.
- » Count funds mobilized under “Sanitation” if the funds mobilized support the provision of sanitation services (including disposal of excreta).
- » Count funds under “Water Resource Management” if the funds mobilized support water resource management beyond drinking water or sanitation as described above. These funds could support green infrastructure, more efficient irrigation practices, data collection about environmental flows, or other activities that advance water resources management.

\$ Mobilized for Climate Resilient Water and Sanitation Services (Disaggregate):

To meet the requirements of this disaggregate, aligned with the Common Principles for Climate Change Adaptation Finance Tracking, the following criteria must be met:

- » Activity documentation clearly describes the activity context related to risks, vulnerabilities and impacts related to climate change;
- » Activity documentation explicitly states the intent to mobilize finance to address the identified risks, vulnerabilities and impacts; and
- » Activity documentation articulates a direct link between the identified risks, vulnerabilities and impacts, and the goals of the finance being mobilized.

Definition Continued...	Activity documentation may include » Initial Environmental Examination and Climate Risk Management documentation, » Environmental Mitigation and Monitoring Plan and Reports, » Annual work plans, » Annual monitoring, evaluation, and learning plans, » PPR reports, or » Any supplementary reports developed by the activity. For example, CRM analysis for a WASH finance activity is likely to have identified key risks associated with water quality and quantity due to climate change that are driving up the costs of service delivery and exacerbating the WASH finance gap. As a result, the annual work plan focuses on improving mobilizing public and private finance to address increasing financial challenges forecasted as a result of water quality and quantity challenges. Where possible, brief descriptions of the climate change vulnerability context and the link to the expected use of mobilized finance can be captured in the indicator performance analysis narrative in the PPR. This disaggregate should capture only those funds mobilized that are clearly linked to the identified risks, vulnerabilities and impacts.
Long Term Linkages	Increased financing for the water and sanitation sector is critical to achieving USAID's goal of increasing availability and sustainable management of safe water and sanitation for the underserved and most vulnerable. There is a significant funding gap between existing funding and needs to reach universal access. In order to achieve sustainability, it is important to mobilize other funding, including private finance and domestic public expenditure. Progress on this indicator will demonstrate progress towards USAID's development results and increased self-reliance in target countries.
Use of Indicator	Foundational for reporting on targets contained in the Global Water Strategy as required by the Water for the World Act and for use in the Global Water Strategy Annual Report.
Data Source	Data will be collected by USAID program managers and from implementing partners. At minimum, data sources must demonstrate that new funding was mobilized and that USG activities resulted in this mobilization. Potential data sources for measurement of this indicator include: » project documentation to demonstrate outcomes of USG-funded activities » documentation of loans made by commercial banks or microfinance institutions » documentation of funds leveraged through GDAs or PPPs » national or sub-national budget information showing an increase in allocations and disbursements for water Activities reporting on this indicator must monitor appropriate intermediate outcomes to demonstrate the linkage between USG activities and finance.

HL8.4-I Disaggregate Information

Title	Disaggregate	Reporting Type
Funding Source: Domestic	HL.8.4-Ia	Integer/Number
Funding Source: International	HL.8.4-Ib	Integer/Number
Funding Type: Public	HL.8.4-Ic	Integer/Number
Funding Type: Donor	HL.8.4-Id	Integer/Number
Funding Type: Private	HL.8.4-Ie	Integer/Number
Sector: Drinking Water (can be double counted)	HL.8.4-If	Integer/Number
Sector: Sanitation (can be double counted)	HL.8.4-Ig	Integer/Number
Sector: Water Resources Management (can be double counted)	HL.8.4-Ih	Integer/Number

Water Resource Productivity (HL.8.5)

HL.8.5-2	Number of people benefiting from the adoption and implementation of measures to improve water resources management as a result of USG assistance
Indicator Type	Outcome
Reporting Type	Integer/Number
Definition	“People benefiting” includes people who: » live in a watershed in which a measure(s) to improve water resources management has been implemented; » live downstream from a watershed in which a measure(s) to improve water resources management has been implemented AND who experience measurably improved conditions in their watershed or the source water supply they use as a result of the measures; or, » experience a benefit to their livelihoods or other perceived benefit as a result of measures implemented to improve water resources management. As described in the U.S. Global Water Strategy, “measures to improve water resources management” are measures that are designed, through a documented and evidence-based theory of change, to achieve positive change in at least one of the following: » Increased equitable and efficient allocation and use of water resources, » Enhanced reliability and quality of water resources through watershed management, including protection, restoration, and nature-based solutions, and/or » Improved climate resilience of water resources management. Illustrative “measures to improve water resources management” may include, but are not limited to: » Strengthening natural systems and nature-based solutions to maintain ecosystem goods and services, such as soil conservation, upstream reforestation, and wetland restoration and conservation » Constructing other green infrastructure such as infiltration ponds, sand dams, and vegetative buffer strips to reduce siltation and improve water quality, reduce surface water runoff and flooding, and increase water storage capacity » Changing water tenure schemes to improve the equity or efficiency of water supply to different users » Deploying water conservation and use restrictions to address water-related risks and improve resilience using information from early warning systems, climate information services, and other data collection methods » Strengthening enforcement of regulations and policies (e.g. for permitting systems, water quality regulations, collection of water abstraction and user fees)

Definition Continued...	» Practices and innovations that reduce water extraction by improving water use efficiency, conservation, and reuse » Reducing or mitigating water contamination (e.g. from untreated wastewater, agricultural runoff, industrial pollution) Development of trainings, policies and plans, or financing approaches alone are not considered measures for this indicator. Improvements to planning and policy may be captured in HL.8.3-3, and mobilizing finance may be captured in HL.8.4-1. Results may also be appropriate to count under EG.11-5, EG.11-6, EG.3.2-24, and EG.3.2-25. "Implementation" of measures means all tasks related to the measure that are included in the activity scope have been completed. Measures must be implemented as a result of USG assistance. Measures as a result of trainings, policies and plans, or financing approaches can be counted if their implementation is verified.
Long Term Linkages	Improved water resource management is critical to achieving USAID's goal of increasing availability and sustainable management of safe water and sanitation for the underserved and most vulnerable.
Use of Indicator	This indicator is required for reporting performance of activities across multiple OUs that support the achievement of Strategic Objective 3 (Improve Climate-Resilient Conservation and Management of Freshwater Resources and Associated Ecosystems) of the U.S. Global Water Strategy. These data will be used to assess progress towards achieving this development result, and may be reported in USAID's annual Water Sector Report to Congress and other key stakeholders.
Data Source	Data sources must demonstrate that measures were implemented as a result of USG assistance. Acceptable data sources and methods for measuring the number of people benefitting vary depending on the category of "people benefitting." » For counting people who live in a watershed in which a measure(s) to improve water resources management has been implemented, data must confirm the number of people living in the watershed and verify that the measure has been implemented in that watershed. Acceptable data sources and methods include GIS analysis to identify watershed boundaries and populations living within watersheds. Note that benefits must be identified in the theory of change, though they may not be measurable at the time of counting. » For counting people who live downstream from a watershed in which a measure(s) has been implemented AND conditions in their watershed have been improved or the source water supply they use as a result of the measures implemented, data must confirm the number of people living in the downstream watershed (or dependent on a downstream drinking water supply), as well as demonstrate a physical change in the downstream watershed (or drinking water supply). Acceptable data sources and methods include GIS to identify watershed boundaries and populations within watersheds or data from service providers that documents populations dependent on a water source, as well as measurement of physical watershed health parameters that align with documented theory of change to capture downstream changes as a result of activities (e.g. water quality, streamflows, ecosystem health, etc.).

Data Source Continued...	» For counting people who live downstream from a watershed in which a measure(s) has been implemented AND conditions in their watershed have been improved or the source water supply they use as a result of the measures implemented, data must confirm the number of people living in the downstream watershed (or dependent on a downstream drinking water supply), as well as demonstrate a physical change in the downstream watershed (or drinking water supply). Acceptable data sources and methods include GIS to identify watershed boundaries and populations within watersheds or data from service providers that documents populations dependent on a water source, as well as measurement of physical watershed health parameters that align with documented theory of change to capture downstream changes as a result of activities (e.g. water quality, streamflows, ecosystem health, etc.). » For counting people who have experienced a benefit to their livelihoods or other perceived benefit as a result of measures implemented, data must show an objective or perceived benefit as a result of the activity. Acceptable data sources and methods include representative sampling survey pre- and post-intervention or focus group discussions to identify whether individuals have experienced benefits or employment records of those employed to improve water resources management as a result of USG assistance. Note: Where GIS data is used to identify boundaries and the populations living within them, the smallest feasible delineation of watershed areas should be used. In most cases, the HydroSHED sub-watershed Pfafstetter 6 level of delineation is appropriate for use in measuring this indicator. The sub-watershed population tool can be used to assist in identifying populations. The tool is available at https://www.globalwaters.org/resources/assets/subwatershed-population-tool. Number of people may be a direct count, or may be determined by multiplying the number of households with benefits by the average number of people per household. Note that individual people can only be counted once over the life of the activity, regardless of the degree or accumulation of benefit(s).
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HL 8.5-2 Disaggregate Information

Title	Disaggregate	Reporting Type
Sex: Male	HL.8.5-2a	Integer/Number
Sex: Female	HL.8.5-2b	Integer/Number
Sex: Neither	HL.8.5-2f	Integer/Number
Sex: Disaggregates Not Available	HL.8.5-2g	Integer/Number
Type of Measure: Water Allocation	HL.8.5-c	Integer/Number
Type of Measure: Watershed Management	HL.8.5-d	Integer/Number
Type of Measure: Climate Resilience	HL.8.5-e	Integer/Number



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