AMCOW Country Status Overviews (CSOs)

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“Mission: To provide political leadership, policy direction and advocacy in the provision, use and management of water resources for sustainable social and economic development and maintenance of African ecosystems”
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What are country status overviews?

1. **Coverage trends** (past)
   - An assessment/evaluation report of the WSS status of a country.
   - Commissioned in about 30 African countries to assess performance in delivering on the WSS MDGs
   - CSO?
   - Generate country-level consensus on Sector reform steps, Financing needs and modalities.

2. **Benchmarking service delivery pathways** (present)
   - Coverage versus investment trends
   - Sector organization, planning, budgeting and monitoring
   - Benchmarking of service delivery

3. **MDG costing** (future)
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Country engagement process for CSOs

1. Invitation from AMCOW – Introduce process, mobilize and encouraged country involvement.
2. Consultant desk review + country visit – Agreed with government for consultation.
3. In-country consultation – Disseminated in-country to spark discussion on policy options along with mini regional synthesis (learning angle)
5. Sector meeting – Either an input to a JSR or initiating a JSR.
6. Final CSO – Signed off by government -> one report per country
7. Regional synthesis – Regional workshop for peer regional learning
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Country Status Overview phase 1 (CSO1)

• Facilitated by World Bank, AfDB, EUWI, UNDP
• Done in 16 countries that showed interest due to funds’ available
• Assess progress on the road map for achieving MDGs
• Country led and country specific
• Assess country preparedness
• Financing requirements to meet MDGs
• Recommendations to improve performance

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The Country Status Overview phase 1 (CSO1): criteria

- MDGs outlook
  - Capacity needs
  - Required investment
  - Key milestones

- Sector preparedness overview
  - Strategies
  - Institutions
  - Financing
  - M&E

- Sustainability scorecard
  - Institutional
  - Financial

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Outcome of CSO1

- High-light key determinants for success in the sector
- Drew attention to policy and institutional weaknesses
- Serve as an input into Joint Sector Reviews at National Levels
- Provide comprehensive analysis of sector situation between fragile and stable nations in Africa
- Inform decisions at continental levels

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Methodology for CSO2

- An outcome of CSO1
- Facilitated by (WSP, WHO, UNICEF, AfDB)
- Supported by team of local and international consultants working with ministries
- Desk reviews
- Country visits to verify and refine findings in country with government and other stakeholders
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CSO2 tools

1. CSO2 scorecard
   - Assessment framework for identifying drivers and barriers in service delivery pathway
   - Disaggregated into 4 sub groups to highlight inequalities in access (urban water; rural water; urban sanitation, and rural sanitation.)
   - Scores based on a range of specific questions

2. CSO2 costing tools
   - Excel based tool combining population, coverage and technological data to estimate required annual investment for infrastructure (new and renewed) per sector
   - Proportions to be met by public finance based on subsidy
   - Comparisons with anticipate public investment from national, donor, and NGO sources to identify investment gaps

3. Questionnaires to line ministries
   - To get more inputs on the costing model
   - Supplementary qualitative information on progress including donor coordination.
   - Other additional information on institutional issues
Main findings of CSO2

Main findings: of CSO1 & CSO2

- Economic landscape was changing in that period
- Reduction in magnitude of armed conflicts – more conducive socio-political climate
- Development partners moving from individual projects

- Socio-political stability
  - Low income stable countries took advantage of harmonized and aligned aid modalities
  - Increase in domestic resources
  - Development of PRSPs and SWAPs

- Socio-political stability key enabling factor for facilitating access to water and sanitation
  - Low income, stable countries made more progress than Resource rich and low income fragile countries
  - Development assistance influenced coverage in volumes and modalities in low income stable countries

Aid received per capita served 1995-2008

- Low income fragile
- Low income non-fragile
- Resource rich

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After CSOs: other related actions

**Sector initiatives and processes**

- Increased sector coordination and leadership (national coordination units for WASH and focal ministries)
- Development of country sector policies and strategies (WASH)
- Development of strategies for youth and gender mainstreaming in WASH
- Targeted rural Water Supply and Sanitation Interventions
- AMCOW Pan Africa M&E initiative.
- Kigali Action Plan

**Periodic reviews and peer learning**

- Africa water week series
- WASH sector sharing and learning
- AfricaSan series
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Future plans CSOs

- Targeted monitoring and reporting on sanitation
- Plans for more CSOs
- Strengthen the AMCOW Pan Africa monitoring and reporting
- Engaging partners on comparability of finding from JSRs
- Mobilization of technical and financial resources for future work
- Focus on sustainability and monitoring/reporting on inequalities in access

Plans for achieving the SDGs 6 in Africa

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Thank you