The Water Supply and Sanitation Collaborative Council (WSSCC) is at the heart of a global movement to improve sanitation and hygiene for everyone. For more than two decades, WSSCC has worked to build a world where all people – regardless of their location or economic or social status – have access to decent toilets and hygiene. It is the only United Nations body solely dedicated to sanitation for the most vulnerable and marginalized people in the world. The WSSCC strategy aligns with SDG target 6.2 and links directly through its results framework to SDGs on gender equality, health, education, urbanization and climate change.

Sustainable Development Goal (SDG) 6.2: By 2030, achieve access to adequate and equitable sanitation and hygiene for all and end open defecation, paying special attention to the needs of women and girls and those in vulnerable situations.

WSSCC’S RESPONSE
- nationally-owned, community-driven programmes that deliver sanitation and hygiene improvements at scale
- policy advocacy, evidence collection and knowledge sharing to develop sanitation and hygiene services that promote equality and non-discrimination, especially for women, girls and vulnerable people
- 16 national coordinators who strengthen country coordination mechanisms, mobilize public investment and reinforce the push for more inclusive sanitation policies
- A diverse membership composed of 3,600 active members in 141 countries

WHERE ARE THE 2.4 BILLION WITHOUT SANITATION?

Where we are
- The Global Sanitation Fund is active in 13 countries
- WSSCC members are in 141 countries
- Our national coordinators work in 16 countries
In 2008, the Global Sanitation Fund (GSF) was launched, and it still remains the only global fund dedicated solely to sanitation and hygiene.

The GSF supports national sanitation and hygiene programmes in developing countries. To achieve broad based, inclusive and lasting social change, GSF-supported programmes target entire administrative areas in a country, such as districts or communes.

By demonstrating that sustainable and equitable access to sanitation and hygiene is possible at this scale, the GSF serves as a catalyst to attract additional attention and resources so that nobody is left behind. The GSF aims to achieve its vision of universal access to sanitation and hygiene by investing in collective behaviour change activities and strengthening enabling environments that are conducive to achieving results at scale. This includes working in close partnership with national governments, and building the capacity of local authorities, civil society organizations and other partners to support communities to sustain achievements.

Active in 13 countries, GSF-supported programmes achieve large-scale results in a sustainable and cost-effective manner.

THE GLOBAL SANITATION FUND

WSSCC HAS A UNIQUE STRUCTURE ALLOWING FOR GREATER IMPACT, WITH TWO OPERATIONAL ARMS:

LARGE-SCALE RESULTS

- 12 million people with improved toilets
- 15 million people living in open defecation free environments
- 20 million people with handwashing facilities

POLICY AND PRACTICE

- WSSCC does pioneering work in Menstrual Hygiene Management (MHM) and other important points of vulnerability for women and girls by: breaking the silence and stigma, managing menstruation hygienically, and the safe reuse and disposal of menstrual materials. MHM provides a powerful and practical entry point for addressing larger gender issues.
- The Leave No One Behind initiative strives to ensure that sanitation and hygiene is equally available to all people, and that the needs of those most marginalized are heard and addressed.
- WSSCC works in strategic partnership with global businesses to elevate the importance of hygiene across the life course, using research, education and innovation. WSSCC partners with UN Women on policy advocacy and direct technical programmes in Senegal, Niger and Cameroon.

GENERATING EVIDENCE, LEARNING AND SHARING

WSSCC is a hub of research, learning and sharing, contributing to filling evidence gaps in collective knowledge about sanitation and hygiene.

Innovative applied research is supported in areas such as hand washing and hygiene behaviour change, slippage, post-ODF methodologies and MHM.

ADVOCACY SUCCESSES:

- India 2013: Modification in the Nirmal Bharat Abhiya Policy Guidelines to include activities related to MHM as a permissible activity.
- Notable policy advances are taking place in Senegal, Kenya and Niger.

WATER SUPPLY AND SANITATION COLLABORATIVE COUNCIL

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