

Strengthening water and sanitation regulatory systems

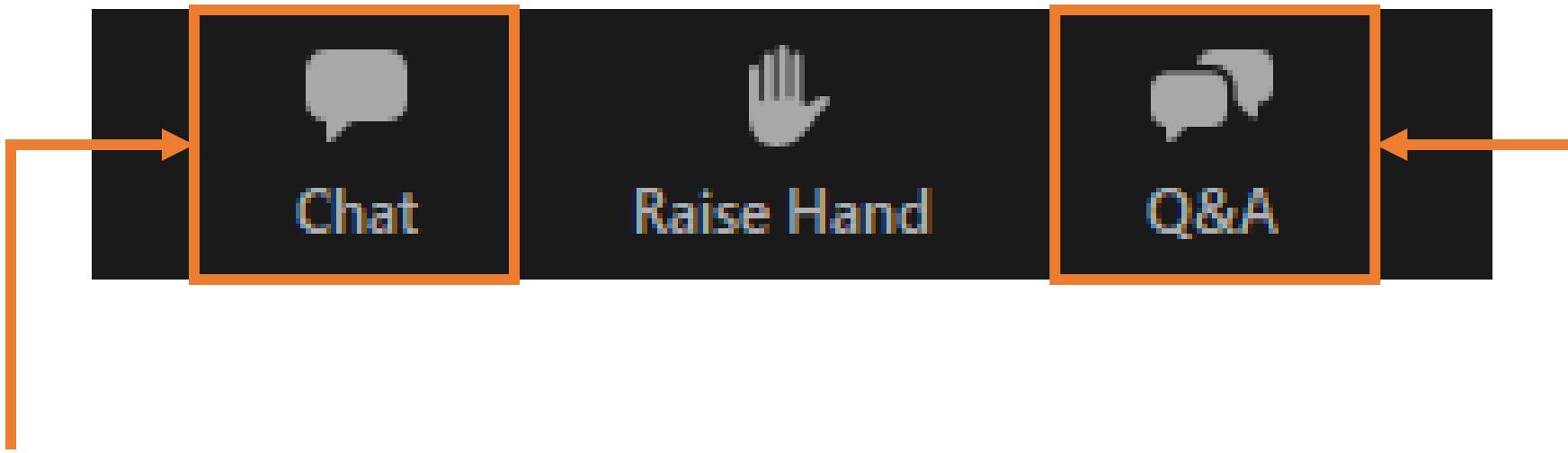
A Global Call to Action

Survey Feedback Webinar
1 November 2024

Webinar information

- The webinar will be **recorded and made available** on the Call to Action web platform, with presentation slides and other information.
- The **speakers** are responsible for **securing copyright permissions** for any work that they will present of which they are not the copyright holder.
- The opinions, hypotheses, conclusions or recommendations contained in the presentations and other materials are the sole **responsibility of the speakers**.

Webinar information



'Chat' box: please use this for general requests and for interactive activities

'Q&A' box: please use this to post questions to the speakers.

Moderator and speakers



Robert Bos
International Water Association
Switzerland
(moderator)



Funke Adepoju
Lagos State Water Regulatory
Commission
Nigeria



Batsirai Majuru
World Health Organization
Switzerland

Agenda

Welcome and webinar overview (5 min)	5 min	Daniela Bemfica IWA
Trivia question	2 min	Robert Bos IWA
Strengthening political will for water and sanitation regulation	12 min	Funke Adepoju Lagos State Water Regulatory Commission
Call to Action overview and summary of survey feedback	15 min	Batsirai Majuru WHO
Q&A	15 min	Robert Bos IWA
Breakout group discussion:	20 min	Jorge Alvarez-Sala UNICEF Isabela Espindola IWA Faith Olajide WYN Rita Amaral LIS-Water
Feedback from breakout discussions	15 min	All
Wrap up and next steps	5 min	Batsirai Majuru, Dave Trouba WHO

Trivia question



Which country was the first to establish a comprehensive national water regulation system, and when?

Mentimeter: scan the QR code or use the link in the chat

Trivia question - Answer

Home > Pre 1922 Acts > 1847 > Waterworks Clauses Act, 1847

Waterworks Clauses Act, 1847

[View by Section](#) [View Full Act](#) [Commencement, Amendments, SIs made under the Act](#) [?](#) [Print Full Act](#) 

WATERWORKS CLAUSES ACT 1847

CHAPTER XVII.

An Act for consolidating in one Act certain Provisions usually contained in Acts authorising the making of Waterworks for supplying Towns with Water.
[¹] [23rd April 1847.]

[Preamble.]

Incorporation [1.] This Act shall extend only to such waterworks as shall be authorised by any Act of Parliament hereafter to be passed which shall declare that with special Act. this Act shall be incorporated therewith; and all the clauses of this Act, save so far as they shall be expressly varied or excepted by any such Act, shall apply to the undertaking authorized thereby, so far as the same shall be applicable to such undertaking, and shall, with the clauses of every other Act which shall be incorporated therewith, form part of such Act, and be construed therewith as forming one Act.

And with respect to the construction of this Act, and any Act incorporated therewith, be it enacted as follows:

Interpretation. 2. The expression "*the special Act*" used in this Act shall be construed to mean any Act which shall be hereafter passed authorising the construction of waterworks, and with which this Act shall be incorporated; and the word "*prescribed*" used in this Act in reference to any matter herein stated shall be construed to refer to such matter as the same shall be prescribed or provided for in the special Act, and the sentence in which such word occurs shall be construed as if instead of the word "*prescribed*" the expression "*prescribed for that purpose in the special Act*" had been used; and the expression "*the lands and streams*" shall mean the lands and streams of water which shall by the special Act be authorised to be taken or used for the purposes thereof; and the expression "*the undertaking*" shall mean the waterworks, and the works connected therewith, by the special Act authorised to be constructed; and the expression "*the undertakers*" shall mean the persons by the special Act authorised to construct the waterworks.

Interpretations in 3. The following words and expressions in both this and the special Act, and any Act incorporated therewith, shall have the meanings hereby this and the assigned to them, unless there be something in the subject or context repugnant to such construction; (that is to say,) special Act:

Waterworks Clauses Act, 1847, United Kingdom

<https://www.legislation.ie/eli/1847/act/17/enacted/en/print.html>



Strengthening Political Commitment in Water and Sanitation Regulation: Perspectives from Lagos State, Nigeria

FUNKE ADEPOJU
Lagos State Water Regulatory Commission



Regulating WSS for Result: The Power of Political Will”



Institution/ Legal Framework:

1

Establishment of Lagos State Water Regulatory Commission (LASWARCO) to oversee water and sanitation services in 2004 by the water sector law, repealed in 2017 and replaced by the EMPM law 2017

2

Development of Lagos State WASH Policy (2024)

Overview of water and sanitation services in Lagos State, Nigeria

Water Services

- An estimated 20.3 million people live in LMA covering 978km² of the 3,472km² of Lagos State.
- Population density of Lagos is 6,462 people per km² but the density in LMA is 20,368 people per km² (USAID/LUWASH)
- growth rate - 2.2% a year, population annual rate of 6.1% over the last 16 years.
- Public Water Supply: less than 10%
- Groundwater : 90% of the

Sanitation Services

- 90% of the population rely on on-site containment particularly septic tanks with soak pits
- Improved Sanitation Facilities 30 - 40% of the population have access to AISF – WHO/UNICEF JMP
- Sewage collection and Treatment : limited coverage , with most of the sewage generated in Urban areas (LMoE)



Why Political Commitment?

Policy and legislation: Effective water and sanitation regulation relies on steadfast political commitment to pass and implement enabling laws and policies.

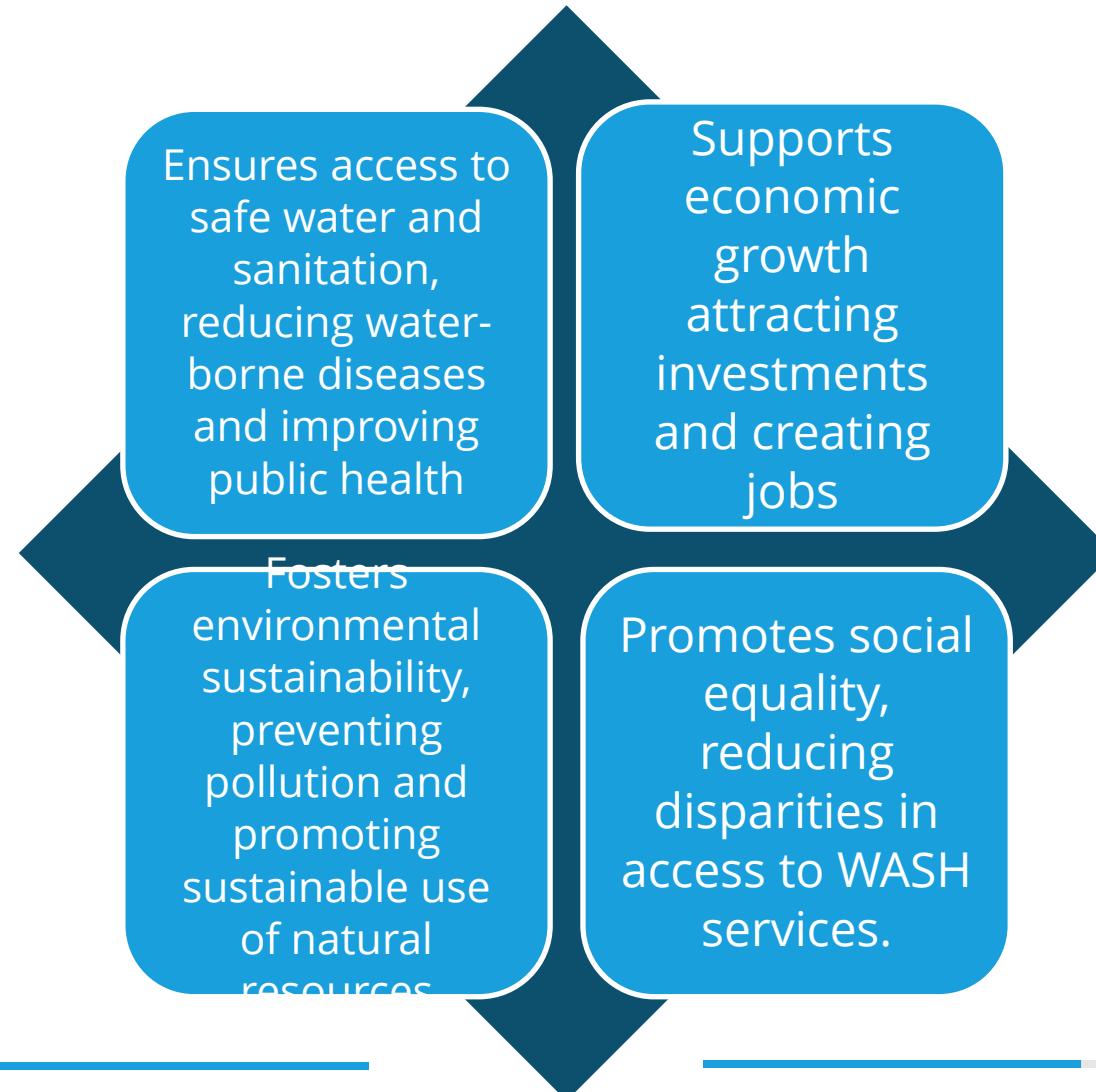
Resource allocation: Budgeted control exercised by policymakers/politicians determine the effectiveness of water regulation and sanitation service delivery.

Prioritization of water and sanitation demonstrates commitment to improving public health, economic growth and environmental sustainability.

International cooperation: political commitment can leverage international partnerships and funding.

Strong Regulatory Frameworks require sustained political will

Benefits of strong political commitment in strengthening Water and Sanitation regulatory systems



Issues with regulation of WSS in Lagos State

- Institutional and governance framework is weakened by **low political drive**
- **Inadequate Infrastructure:** leading to inefficient service delivery
- **Lack of required human capital:** insufficient skilled personnel, hindering effective regulation and management
- **Inadequate knowledge** of the dynamics and value of regulation in the WSS sector
- **Inadequate funding/poor investment** exacerbates the challenges faced by the water and sanitation sector in Lagos State
- **Deficient regulatory environment:** The existing regulatory framework is insufficient, making it difficult to ensure compliance with standards and regulations .
- **Rapid urbanization:** puts pressure on existing infrastructure, making it challenging to provide adequate water and sanitation services

Efforts so far

Other Initiatives

- Water Policy (2024)
- The Lagos International Water Conference (LIWAC) as a platform for engagement with stakeholders and policy makers was initiated by the Lagos State Water Regulatory Commission in Year 2020 and has played host to over 4,000 participants, 44 speakers, 78 Panelists and over 60 recommendations for financing opportunities and Water Governance
- USAID's Water and Sanitation Investment Plan (LUWASH): Supports infrastructure development and regulatory strengthening of 44M USD for Lagos state
- WaterAid's intervention of 3.8M in Lagos WASH sector
- Continuous stakeholder engagement

What needs to be done

- Strengthen regulatory frameworks and institutional capacity.
- Develop institutional capacity that can enhance regulation and service delivery
- Increase investment in water and sanitation infrastructure.
- Promote community engagement and participation.
- Implement climate-resilient water and sanitation solutions.
- Enhance water quality monitoring and enforcement



By sharing Lagos State's experiences, it is hoped that it will contribute valuable insights to the global discussions on the need to strengthen regulation of water and sanitation services.

Strengthening water and sanitation regulatory systems

A Global Call to Action

Batsirai Majuru, World Health Organization

Why a Call to Action..?



Weak enabling environment



Persistent inequalities
in types of services /
geographic areas that
are regulated

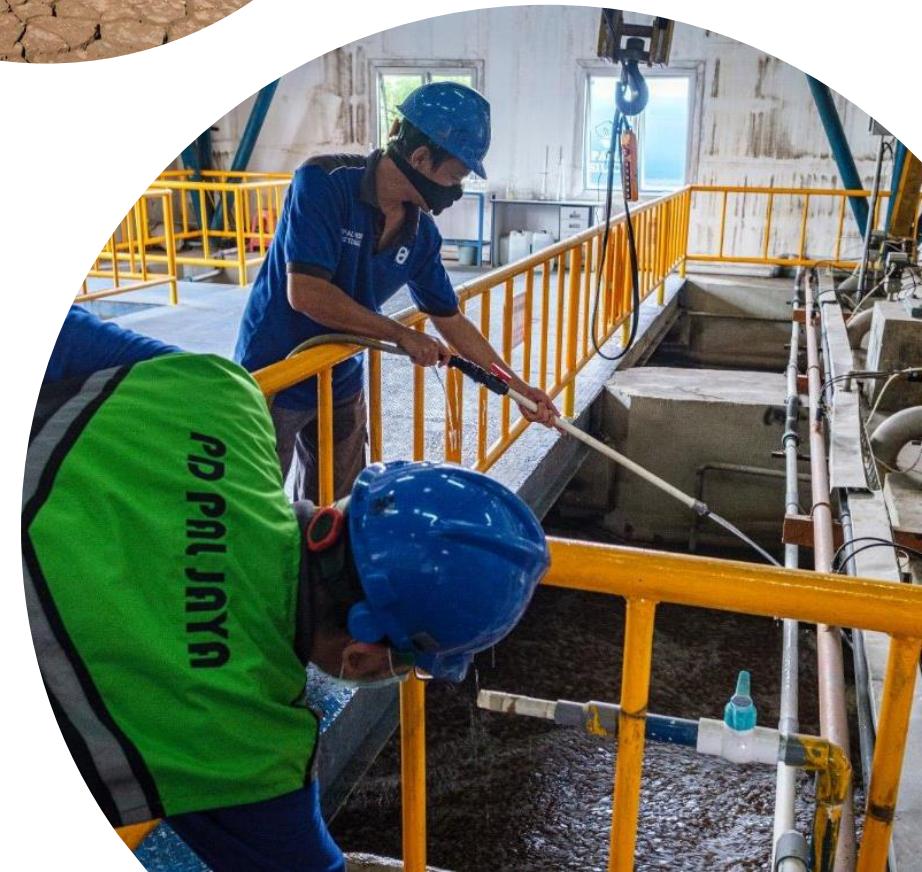
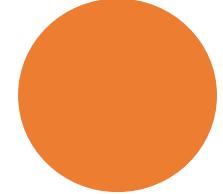


Chronic
underinvestment in
water and sanitation
services

Exacerbated by climate change, all these factors severely threaten progress towards universal access to safely managed drinking water and safely managed sanitation

Vision

- **An enabling environment:** Improve the political space that regulators are working in
- **Addressing inequalities:** Establish / extend regulatory mandates to services that are currently unregulated
- **Strengthening implementation:** strengthening existing regulatory institutions + regulators' associations, supporting establishment of additional ones

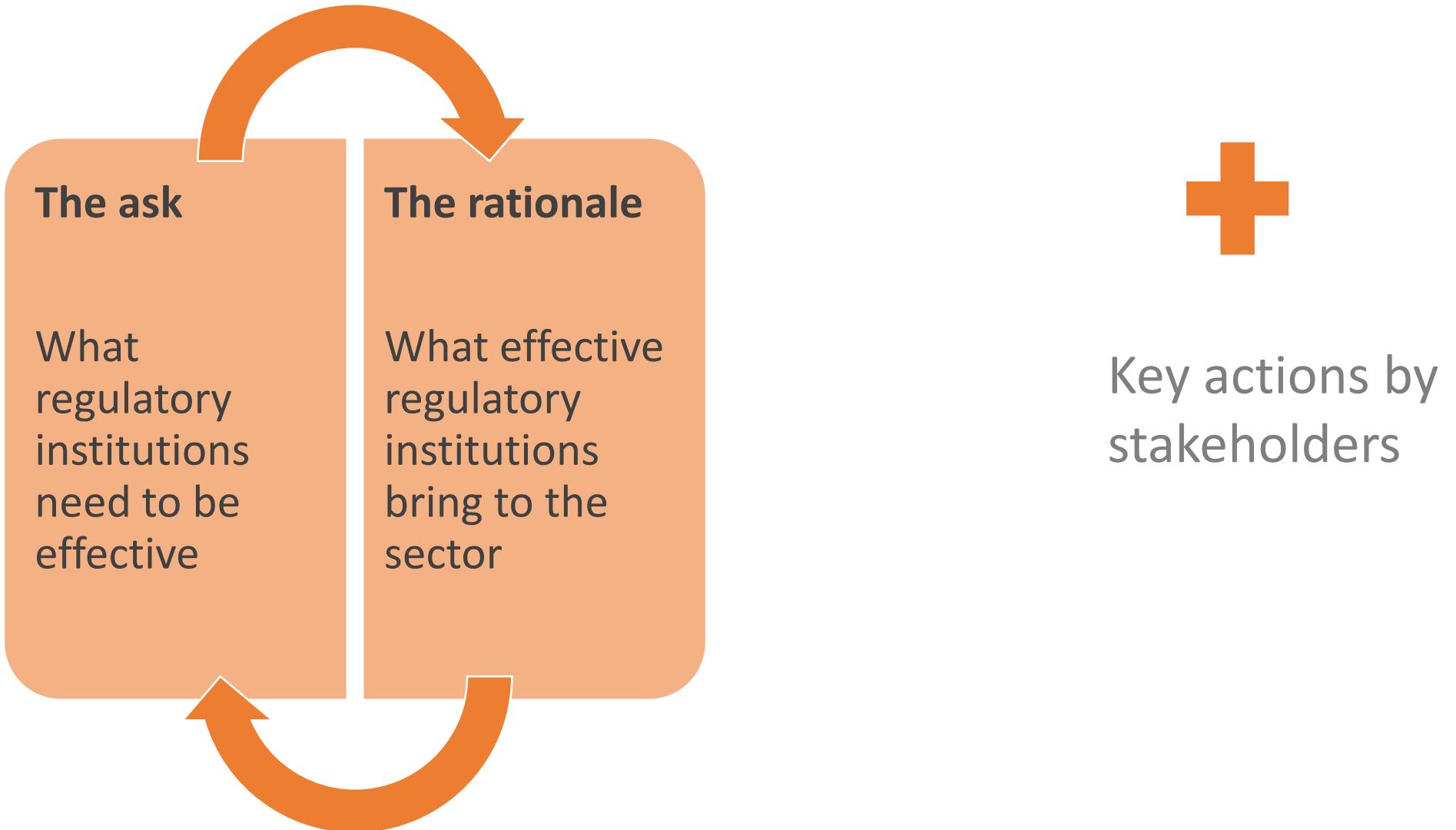


Objectives

- 1. Increasing political recognition of the role of effective regulation in improving water and sanitation services**
- 2. Promoting uptake of good regulatory practices, including working frameworks and approaches that improve service delivery.**
- 3. Promoting enhanced and better coordinated technical assistance from external support partners**
- 4. Strengthening monitoring of the status of water and sanitation regulation**



What would be in the Call to Action?





Who is implicated?

- Water and sanitation regulators
- Utilities / service providers
- Governments
- External support partners
- Financing institutions

Who is involved?

Secretariat: WHO, IWA, LIS-Water, ESAWAS, ADERASA

Core partners

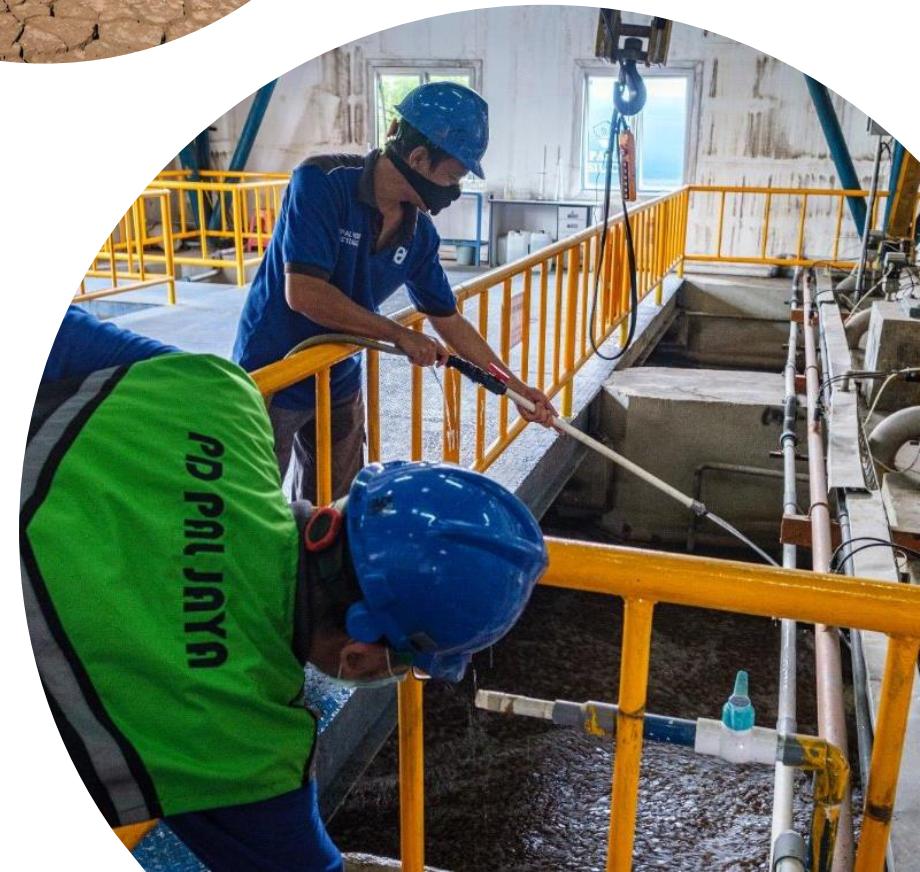
- Commitment to Call to Action's near / long-term objectives
- Strategic influence and advocacy
- Regional or sectoral representation
- Relevant expertise and/or resources
- Active engagement

Supporting partners

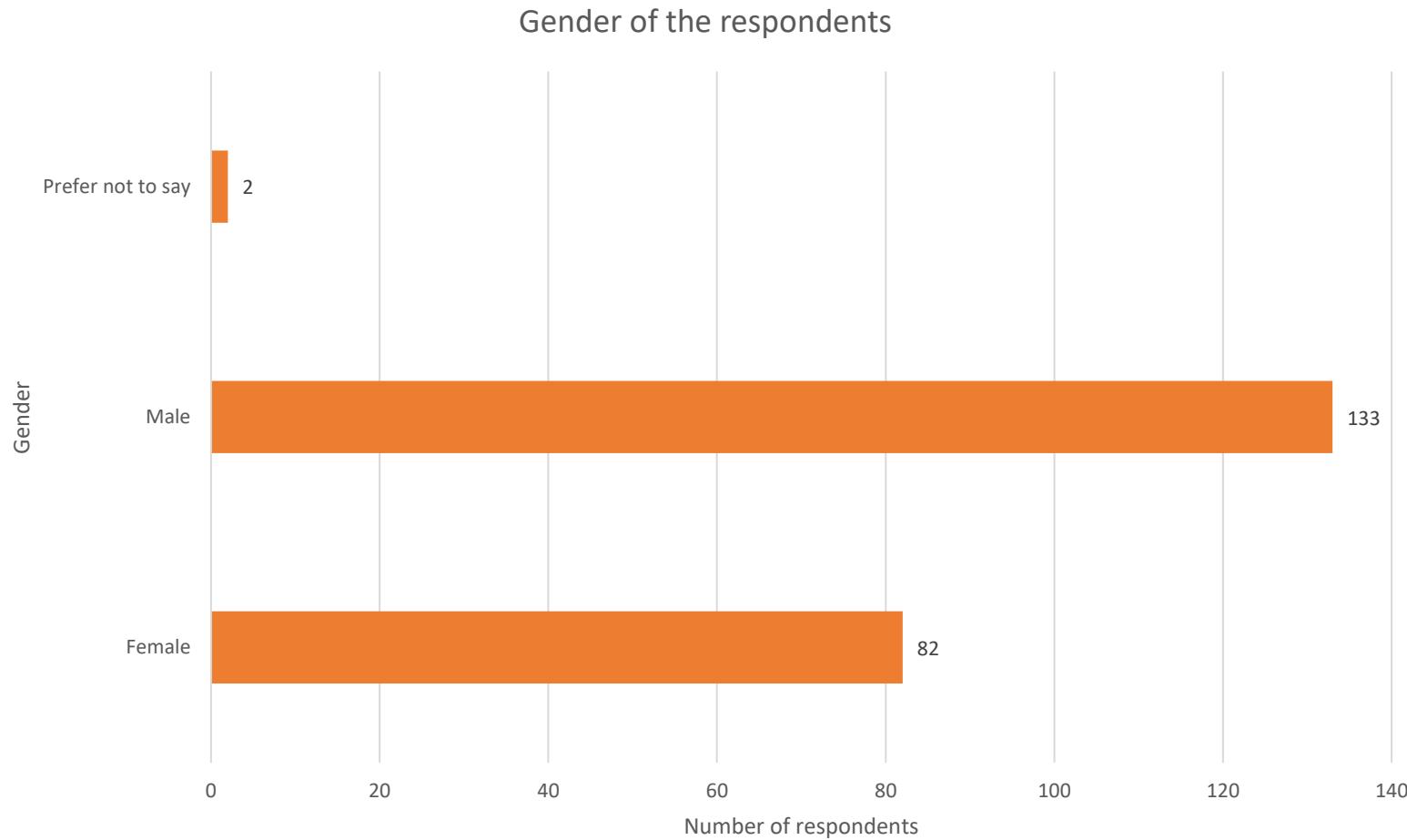
- Commitment to Call to Action's near / long-term objectives
- Amplify and support dissemination of the Call to Action among key audiences

Survey

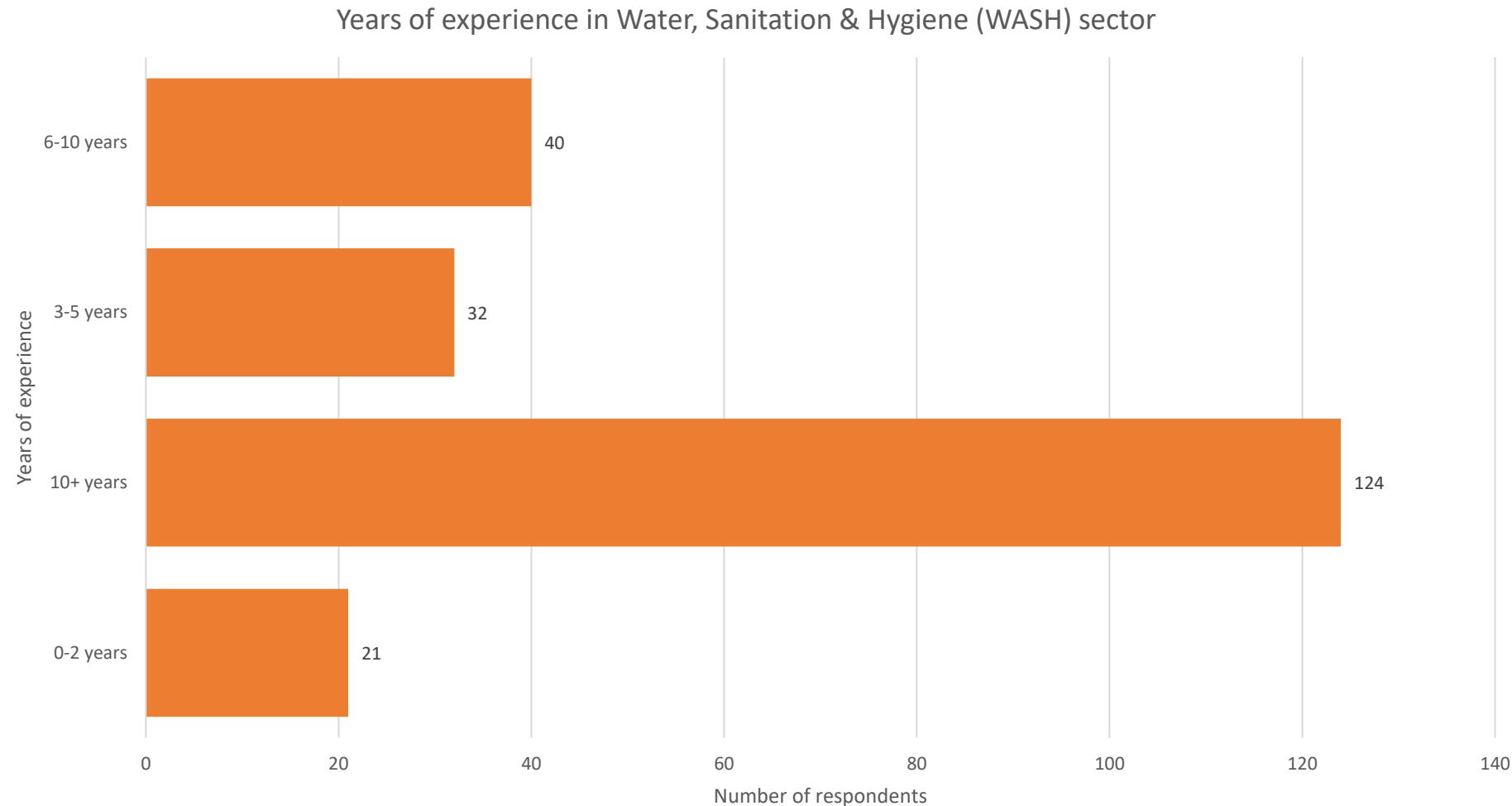
- Status of water and sanitation regulation
- Feedback on draft Call to Action
 - Stakeholder engagement and capacity development
 - Implementation and monitoring
- **218 survey responses received**



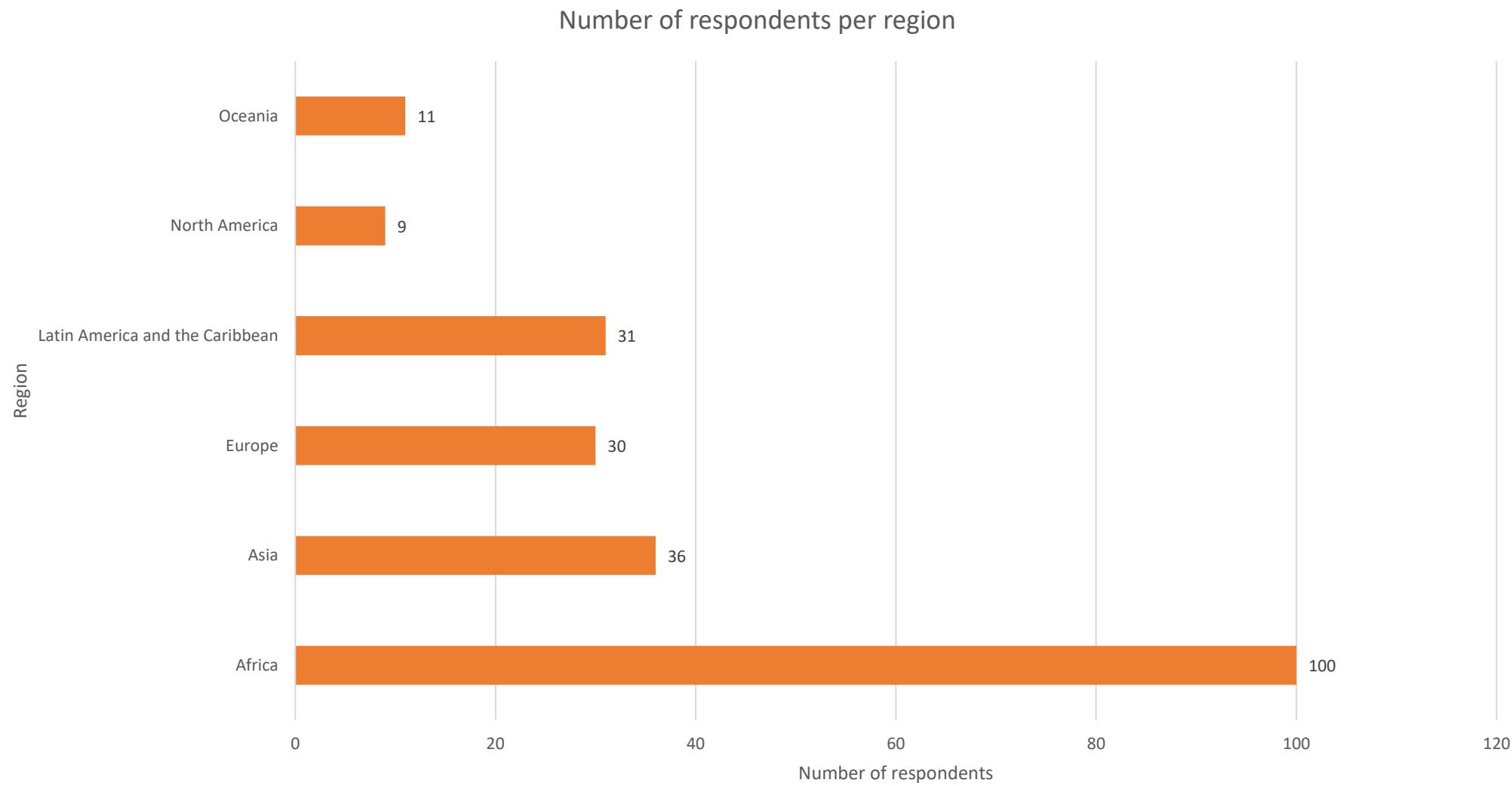
Survey respondents: gender



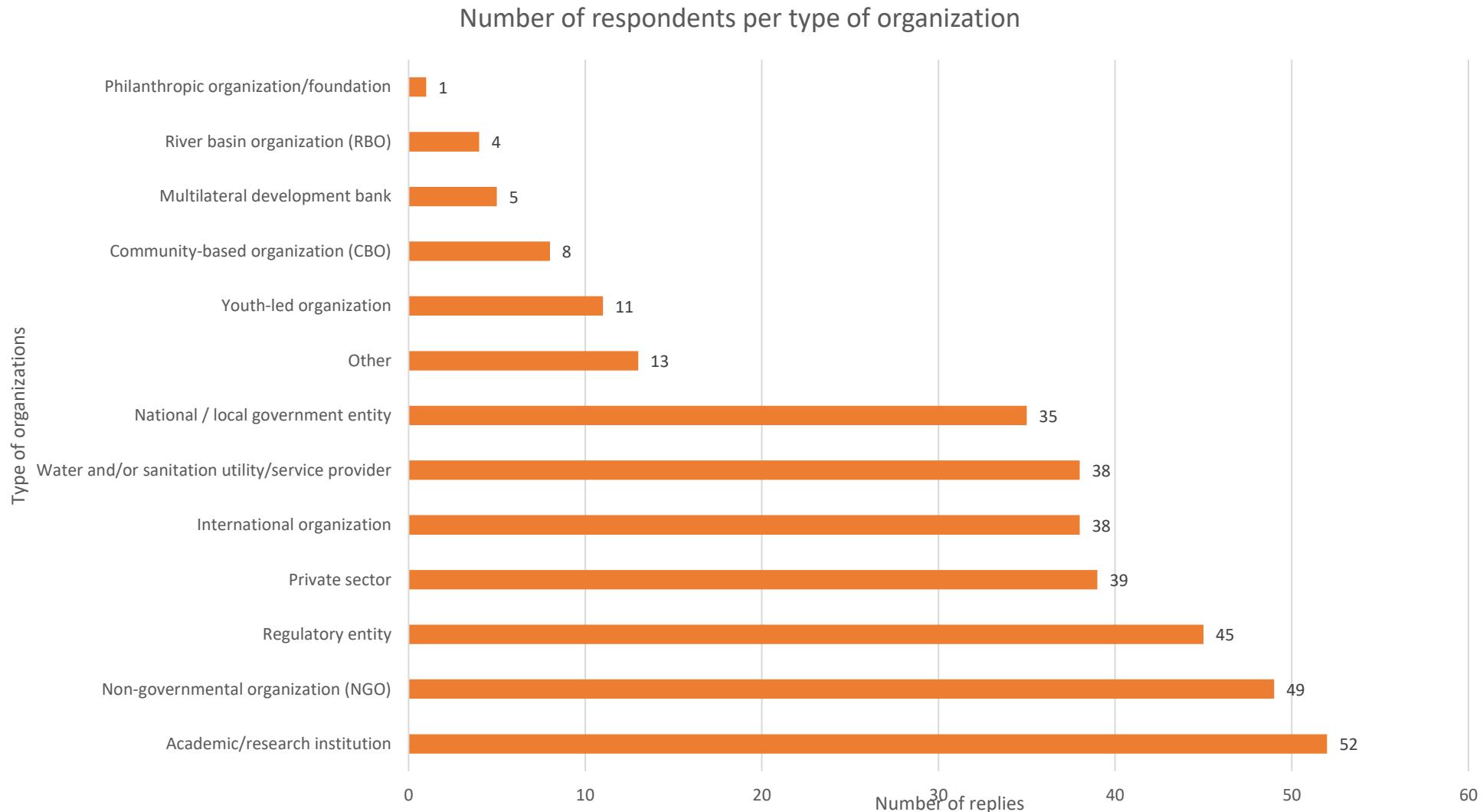
Survey respondents: years of experience in WASH sector



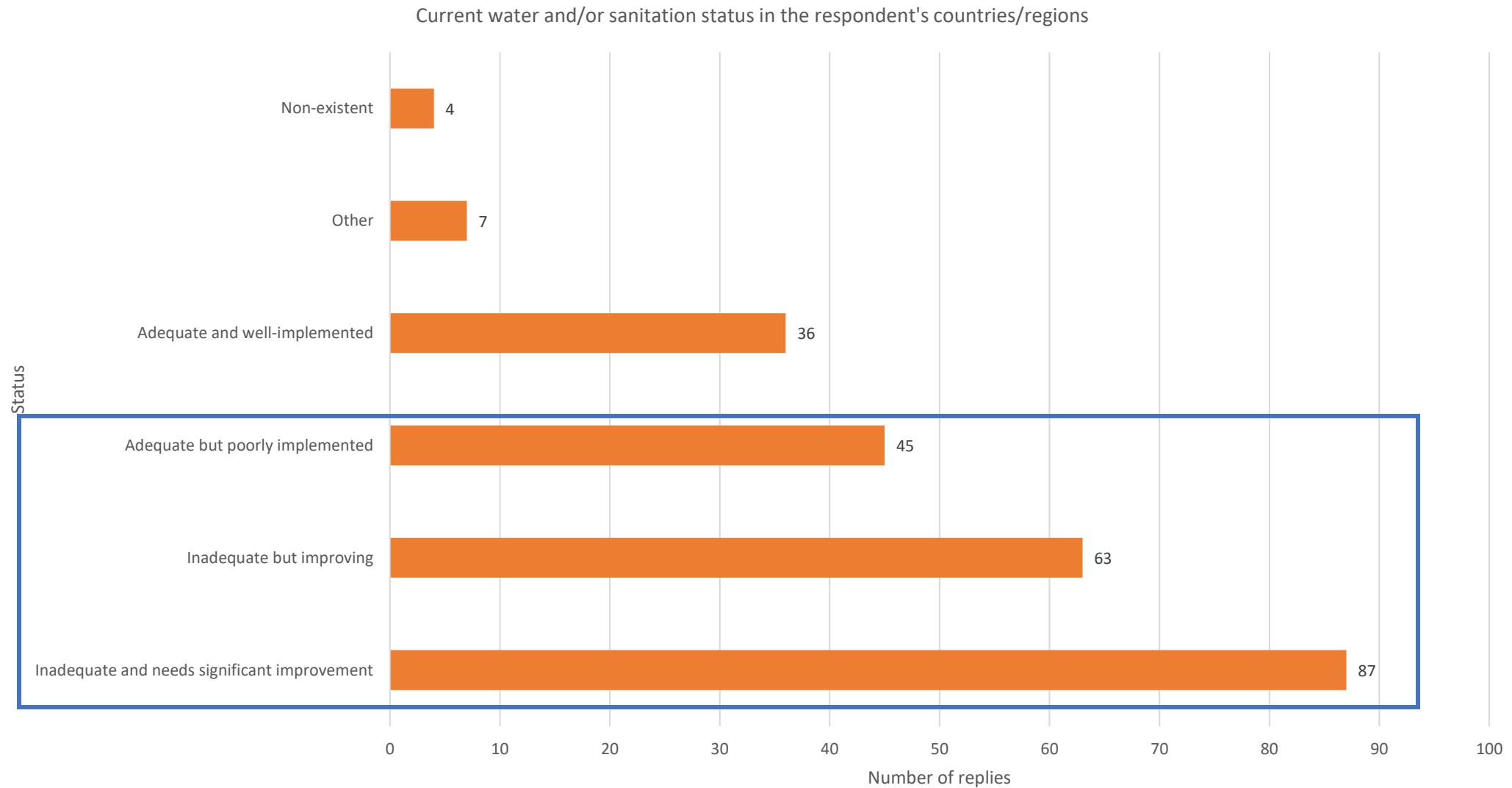
Survey respondents: region where located



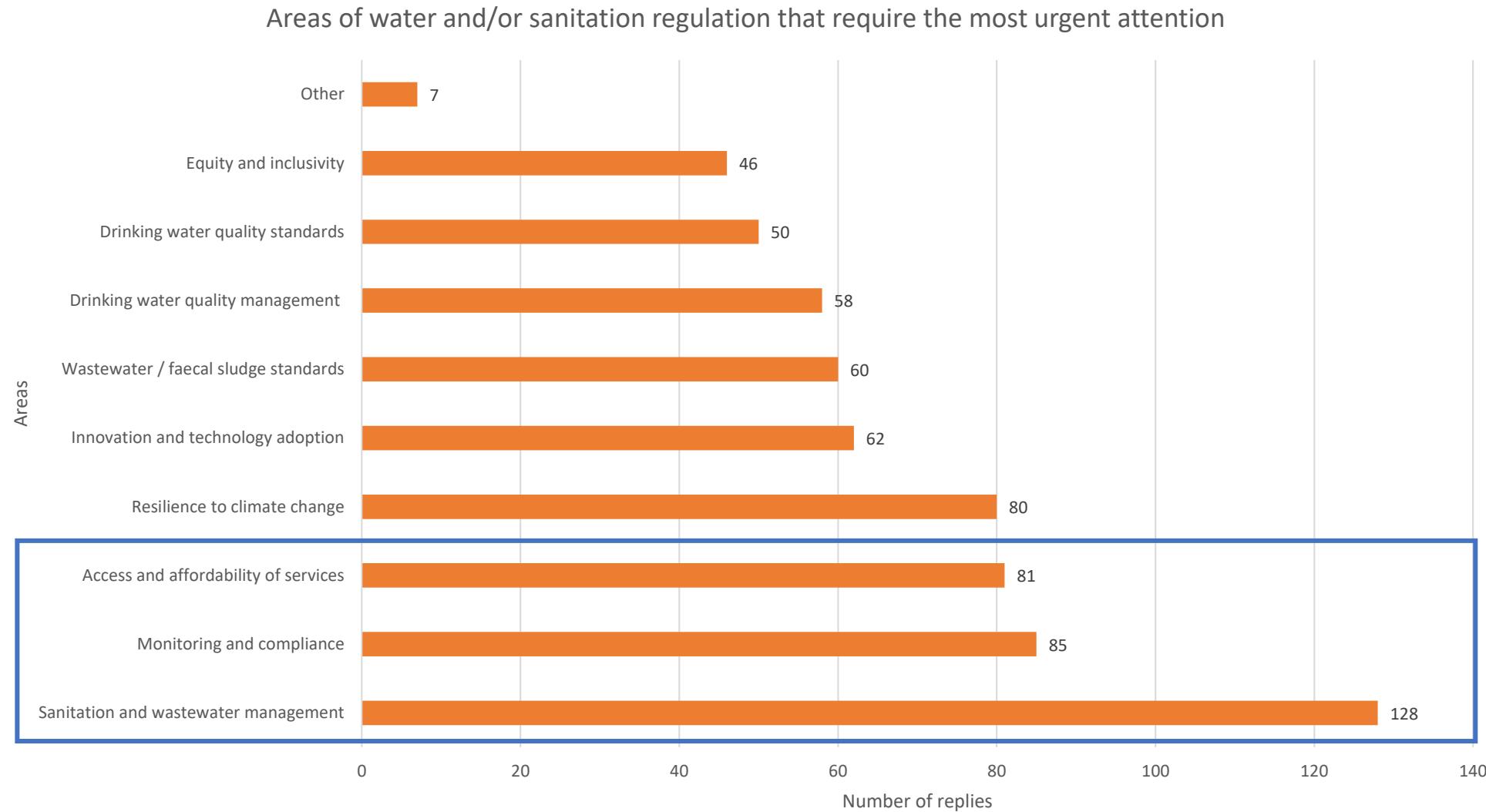
Survey respondents: sector represented



How would you describe the current state of water & sanitation regulation in your country?



Which areas of water and/or sanitation regulation do you think require the most urgent attention?



What are the most critical challenges faced by water and/or sanitation regulators in your context?

Inadequate or weak regulatory/governance frameworks

Data collection challenges

Inconsistent enforcement of regulations

Lack of political will and/or interference from governments

Insufficient technical capacity

Lack of financial resources

Lack of coordination

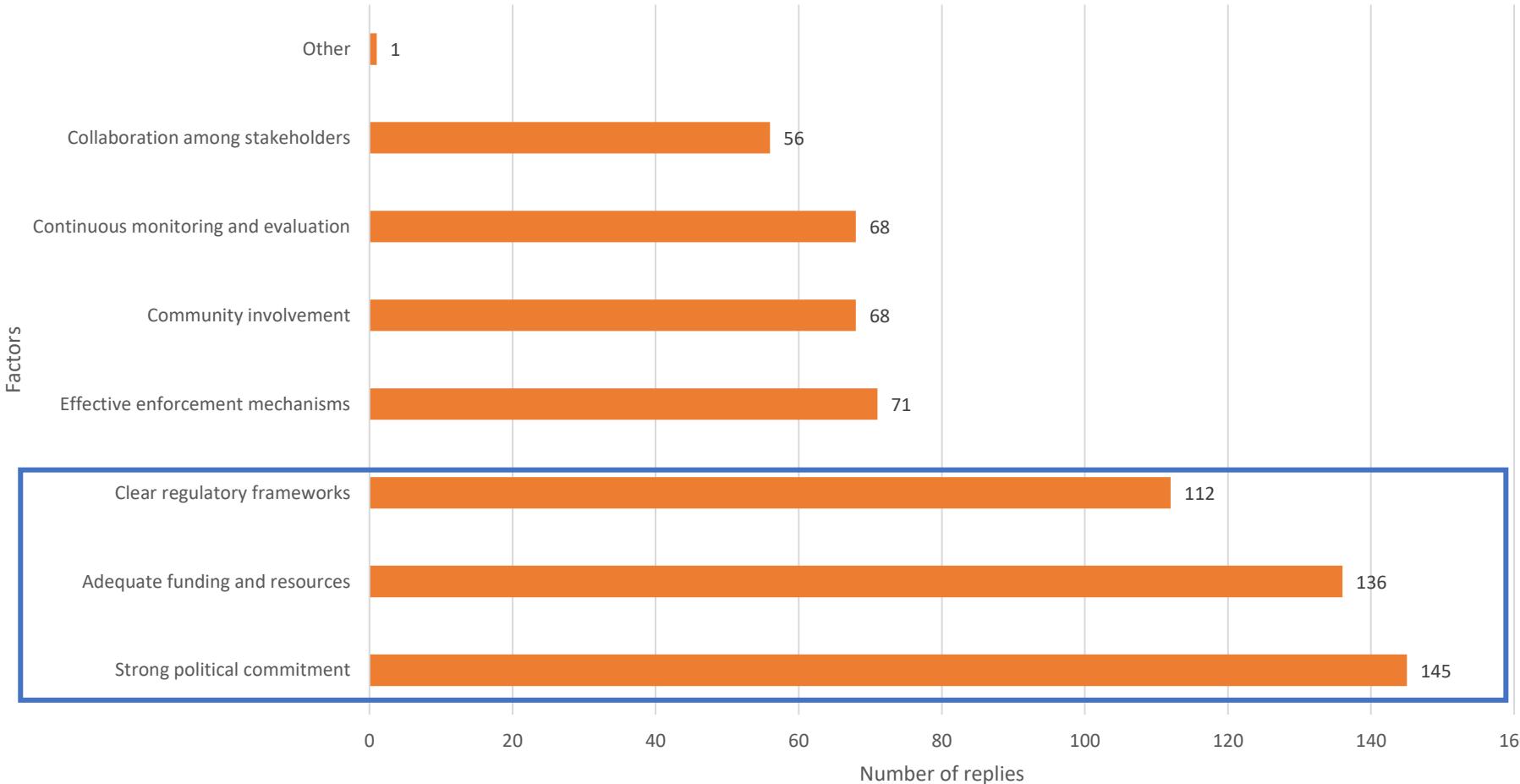
Lack of public awareness and engagement

Difficulty with regulatory enforcement

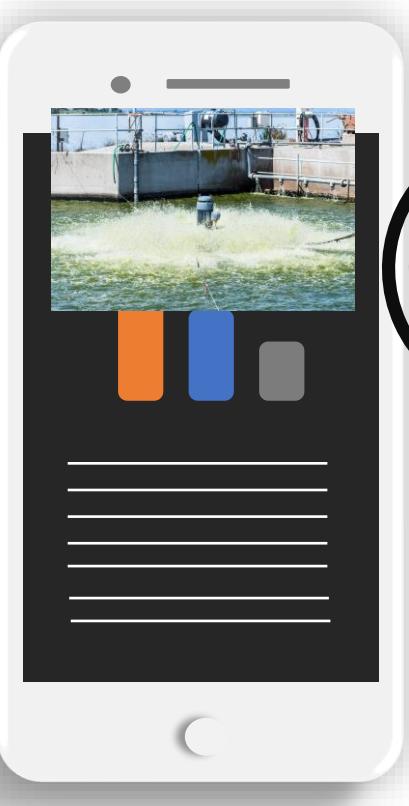
Inequalities in resource allocation

What are the key factors for successful implementation of water and/or sanitation regulations in your context?

Key factors for successful implementation of water and/or sanitation regulations



What should the Call to Action focus on?



- 1 Adaptable, enforceable regulations and independent, transparent regulatory bodies for fair oversight without political interference
- 2 Clear legislative frameworks and institutional mandates, true commitment to respecting them, and **clear pathways for action for governments**
- 3 Universal water and sanitation access, prioritizing marginalized groups and gender equality for women and girls..
- 4 Incremental, context-adapted strategies for strengthening political will for **sanitation service improvement and regulation**
- 5 Integrate climate change into planning, promote holistic IWRM for **resilient, sustainable water and sanitation**.
- 6 Transparent monitoring and reporting for improved accountability. and **educating policymakers on data implications**
- 7 Professionalize service providers, including educating on the need for a balanced regulatory framework.
- 8 Inclusive partnerships and **public awareness** to engage stakeholders in co-creating water and sanitation solutions.
- 9 Innovative technologies and digital tools for sustainable water management and improved decision-making.

Written feedback

Equity and Inclusivity

- Multiple comments emphasized the need for **stronger language on equity and inclusivity**, such as ensuring that marginalized communities are actively included in regulatory frameworks and decision-making processes. Some suggested replacing terms like "enhanced stakeholder collaboration" with "**meaningful participation**".

Regulatory Independence and Integrity

- Suggestions stressed the importance of **regulatory independence, both politically and financially**, to ensure decisions are made without undue external pressures. Additionally, there was a call to integrate more language around transparency, integrity, and the **need to address corruption risks**.

Monitoring and Data

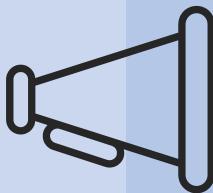
- Several comments highlighted the need to expand on monitoring, emphasizing the importance of disseminating data and fostering knowledge-sharing among regulators. There was also a focus on integrating robust feedback mechanisms to **connect consumers with regulatory bodies**.

Structural and Thematic Revisions

- Cut down on the detailed descriptions of the global acceleration framework, and focus **more on what an enabling regulatory environment brings to the sector**. Others recommended making the CtA more concise by consolidating sections

Sentiment shifts

Urgency and Optimism



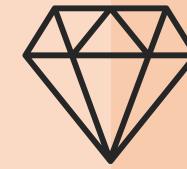
Respondents express a **strong sense of urgency** in addressing water and sanitation challenges promptly and optimism about **collaborative efforts** bringing meaningful change.

Desire for Practical Action



Emphasis on the need for **actionable, incremental solutions** rather than additional declarations, with a focus on implementation and enforcement.

Readiness to Participate



Many respondents express willingness to contribute expertise and engage in capacity-building efforts.



Q&A

Strengthening Water
and Sanitation
Regulatory Systems



*A Global
Call to
Action*

Group discussion facilitators

Group 1 - What are the most significant regulatory gaps hindering progress on SDG 6?



Jorge Alvarez-Sala
United Nations Children's Fund

Group 3 - What specific actions can utilities and service providers take to strengthen regulatory systems?



Faith Olajide
Water Youth Network



Isabela Espindola
International Water Association

Group 2 - How can regulators increase political commitment to water and sanitation?



Rita Amaral
LIS-Water - Lisbon International Centre for Water

Group 4 - How can civil society and external support agencies contribute more effectively to regulatory improvements?

Group discussion reports

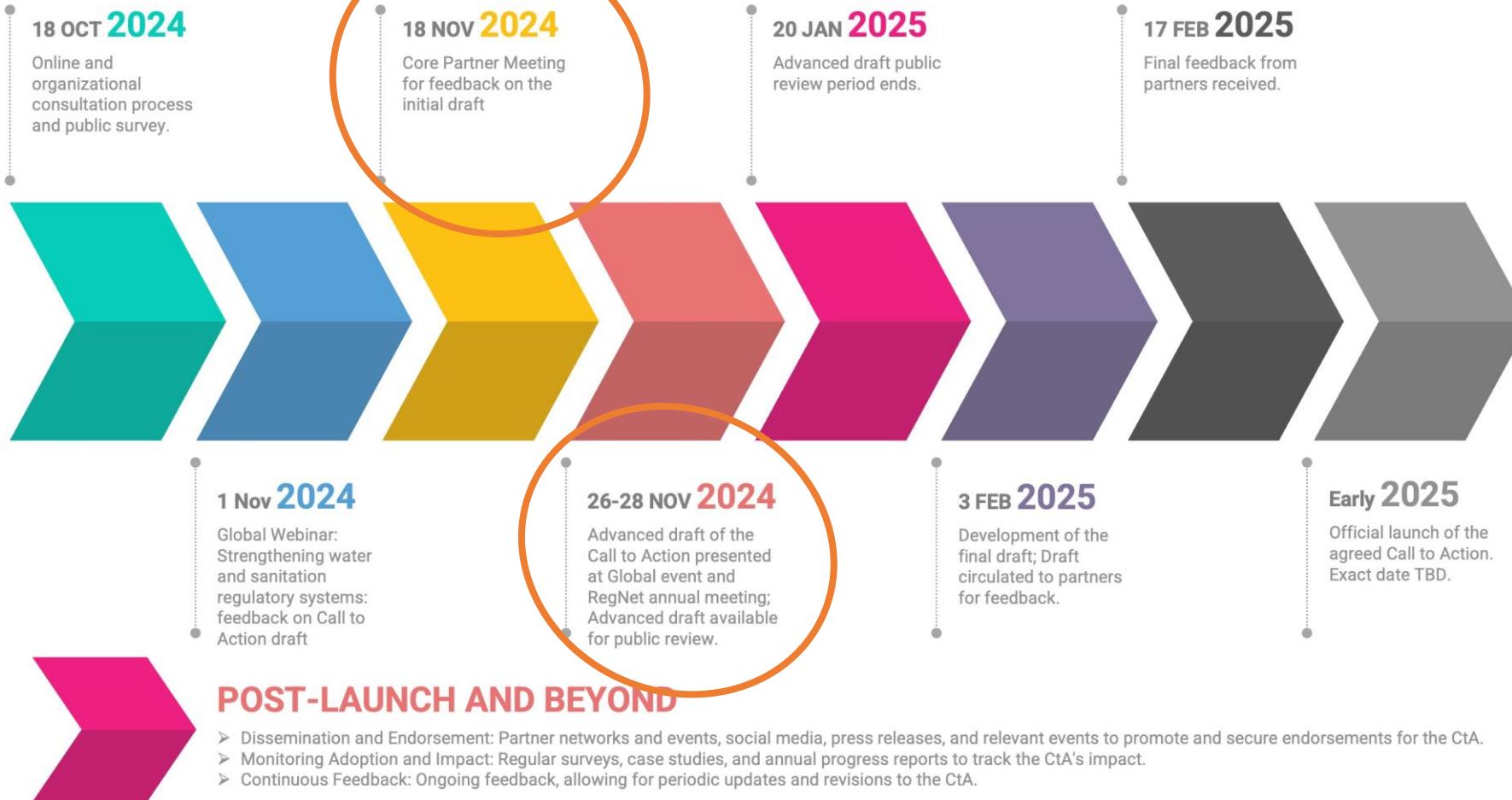


Strengthening Water
and Sanitation
Regulatory Systems

*A Global
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What's next?

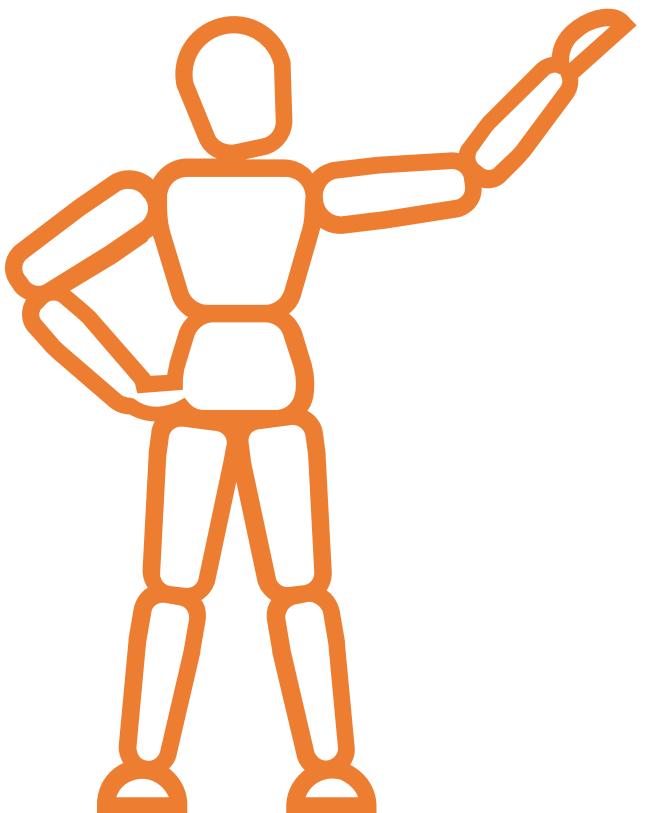
Call to Action Timeline



First full meeting of Core Partners

- Week of 18 November
- 75-minutes
- One meeting per month
- Agenda for first meeting: welcome and introductions, a brief overview of the Call to Action's objectives and progress, a discussion of key priorities and feedback on the draft text, a review of core partners' roles and contributions, and a look at next steps and upcoming events.

We need you to act...



- Identify how you / your organization can support the Call to Action
- Share the Call to Action amongst your networks
- Participate in future consultations and engagement

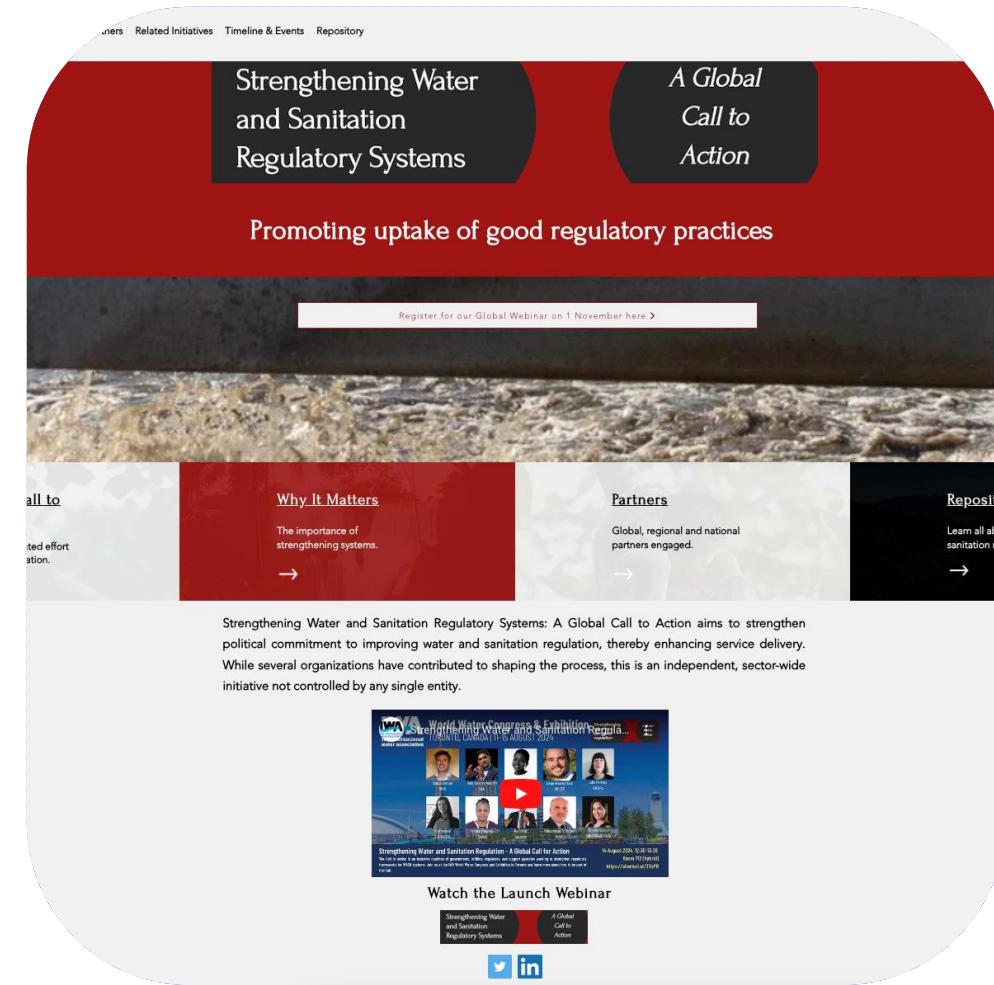
Call to Action Web Portal

- ✓ About
- ✓ Why it matters
- ✓ Get involved
- ✓ Partners
- ✓ Timeline & events
- ✓ Repository
- ✓ Social channels:

<https://x.com/WASHRegCall2Act>



<https://www.linkedin.com/company/call-to-action-on-strengthening-water-and-sanitation-regulatory-systems>



The screenshot shows the homepage of the 'Strengthening Water and Sanitation Regulatory Systems: A Global Call to Action' website. The header includes navigation links for 'About', 'Related Initiatives', 'Timeline & Events', and 'Repository'. The main title 'Strengthening Water and Sanitation Regulatory Systems' is on the left, and 'A Global Call to Action' is on the right. Below the title, a subtext reads 'Promoting uptake of good regulatory practices'. A banner image shows water flowing. A call-to-action button says 'Register for our Global Webinar on 1 November here'. The page is divided into sections: 'Call to Action' (with a subtext about political commitment), 'Why It Matters' (with a subtext about the importance of strengthening systems), 'Partners' (with a subtext about global, regional, and national partners), and 'Repository' (with a subtext about learning about sanitation regulation). A summary text at the bottom states: 'Strengthening Water and Sanitation Regulatory Systems: A Global Call to Action aims to strengthen political commitment to improving water and sanitation regulation, thereby enhancing service delivery. While several organizations have contributed to shaping the process, this is an independent, sector-wide initiative not controlled by any single entity.' A 'Watch the Launch Webinar' section features a thumbnail of the webinar and social media links for Twitter and LinkedIn.