



**MOLE** XXXV  
CONFERENCE

# Revised Environmental Sanitation Policy (2024)

Ho, 8 October 2024



# Outline

1. Introduction
2. 2010 ESP implementation status
3. Situation assessment
4. Revised ESP framework
5. Strategies to achieve the key objectives
6. Roles and responsibilities of public institutions

# 1. Introduction: context and scope

# The global and national context calls for revising the ESP

- Commitments to SDG 6 (sanitation), SDG 11 (cities), SDG 12 (waste management)
- Presidential WASH Compact calling for an end to open defecation and the development of at least basic sanitation (liquid waste) towards safely managed services
- Commitments to the Paris Agreement and reduction of GHG (methane from poorly managed waste is a contributor to GHG emission)
- Commitments to African Union's Agenda 2063 (sustainable cities)
- NDPC has elevated sanitation to one of its five priority development targets

# Scope of Environmental Sanitation Policy (ESP)

## **SANITARY FACILITIES AND LIQUID WASTE MANAGEMENT :**

- **Excreta (blackwater/septage/faecal sludge)**
- **Greywater**
- **Stormwater**
- **Industrial wastewater**

## **SOLID WASTE MANAGEMENT:**

- **Municipal waste (including plastic and e-waste)**
- **Industrial/hazardous wastes, and**
- **Health care waste (including disposal of the dead)**
- **Cleansing of thoroughfares, markets and other public spaces**

## **BEHAVIOUR CHANGE :**

- **Environmental sanitation education**
- **Hygiene and sanitation promotion**

## **ENVIRONMENTAL HEALTH :**

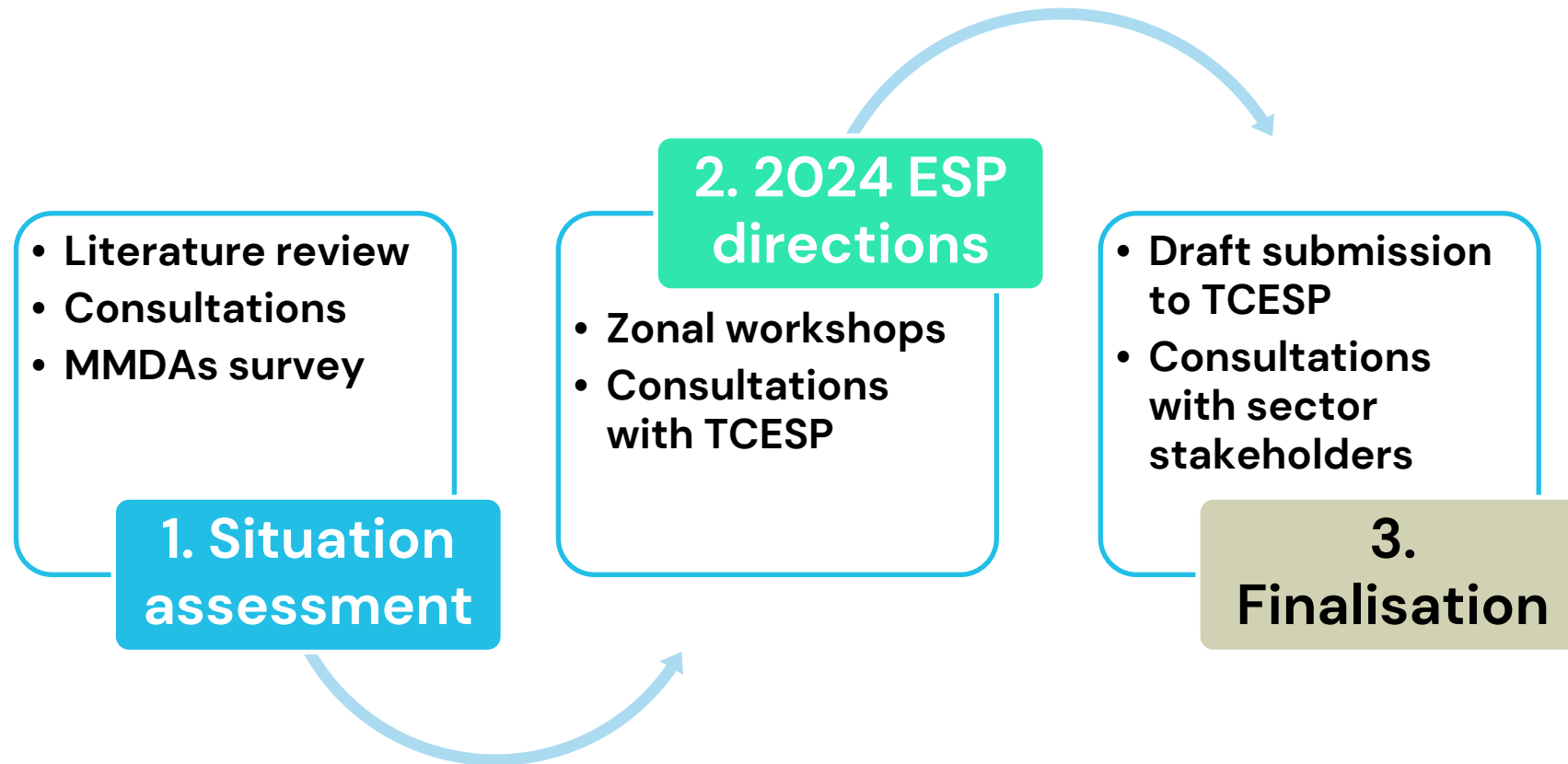
- **Control of pests and vectors of disease**
- **Food safety**
- **Control of rearing and straying of animals**

## **ENFORCEMENT :**

- **Inspection and enforcement of sanitary regulations**
- **Monitoring the observance of environmental standards**

# Process for the 2010 ESP and strategic documents revision

Consultative process led by the Ministry of Sanitation and Water Resources (MSWR), involving allied institutions (NDPC, MLGDRD)



## 2. 2010 ESP implementation status

# 2010 ESP implementation led to important achievements ...

1. CLTS and achievement of ODF in more than 2000 communities
2. Establishment of the EHSD
3. Development of solid waste and liquid waste infrastructure, including via adoption of low-cost technologies
4. Funding mobilisation
5. Development of guidelines and manuals to facilitate the uptake of environmental sanitation services
6. Introduction of the sanitation and pollution levy
7. Creation of a dedicated Ministry
8. Others: learning platforms (NTGWS, RICCS...)



# ... but challenges and bottlenecks persist

## Capacity development

- Weak human and financial capacities, limited coordination (NESPOCC not effective)

## Information, Education and Communication

- IEC implementation not delivering results at pace

## Legislation and regulation

- Gaps in environmental regulations (e.g. leachate and treatment), limited economic regulation

## Sustainable financing & cost recovery

- Gaps in estimating the full costs of service, no ring-fencing

## Levels of services

- Levels of services defined in the NESSAP not achieved (e.g. 50% of SW generated is collected)

## Monitoring and evaluation

- SIS and sector M&E yet to be fully operationalised

## Research & development

- Moving to practice and scale

### **3. Situation of environmental sanitation services**

# Key policy issues: environmental sanitation status

- **17,000 tonnes** of municipal solid wastes generated **daily** in 2024 (40,000 tonnes by 2030), yet poor services along the service chain
  - ✓ Only **33%** access door-to-door collection (census)
  - ✓ Only five facilities throughout the country can be considered as sanitary landfills, the rest being controlled dumpsites
- Recovery and recycling account for **only 5%** of the total waste collected in Ghana

# Key policy issues: environmental sanitation status

- At least **17%** of the population still practice **open defecation**, with critical hotspots
- There has been a percentage reduction between 2010 and 2024, but the number of households practicing open defecation increased almost two times to **1.5 million**
- Only **16%** of the population has access to **safely managed sanitation (liquid waste)**, or to a full range of liquid waste services from collection and treatment

# Key policy issues: environmental sanitation status

- **Sullage** dumped in the open cause pools of stagnant water in many towns and cities because of lack of effective drainage
  - ✓ Up to **71%** of the population dispose of their **greywater on the streets**
- Waste management practices from generation, handling, treatment and disposal of **industrial, medical and other special wastes** including e-wastes are poorly developed
  - ✓ **40%** of industries and municipal facilities registered with the EPA **treat their wastewater** (UN-Habitat)
  - ✓ Coverage for basic **waste management** services in **health care facilities** across the country is only **51%** (JMP)

# Key policy issues: environmental sanitation status

- Data on the status of **public cleansing** is limited
  - ✓ Limited resources available to cover the cost of cleansing across the district regularly
  - ✓ Heaps of refuse remain uncollected
  - ✓ Clean up exercises are held occasionally
- Only **42%** of the population has access to **basic hygiene services** nationally with limited improvements since 2015
- National and local-levels **environmental sanitation education** interventions remain limited due to insufficient funding

## 4. Framework of the revised ESP

# Policy Vision, Goal and Objectives

Sustainable sanitation for all for a healthy, dignified and green growth in a prosperous Ghana

Achieve universal access to environmental sanitation

Universal uptake of hygienic and sanitation behaviour at scale

Access to liquid waste management services for all from capture, collection to treatment and re-use

Access to solid waste management services for all from capture, collection to treatment and reuse

Clean, safe, attractive and liveable communities & cities

Safe handling of all waste s at all levels

Institutional and organisational capacity and collaboration for environmental sanitation

partnerships between the public and private sectors for sustainable and inclusive sanitation services

Circularity in waste management and the economy



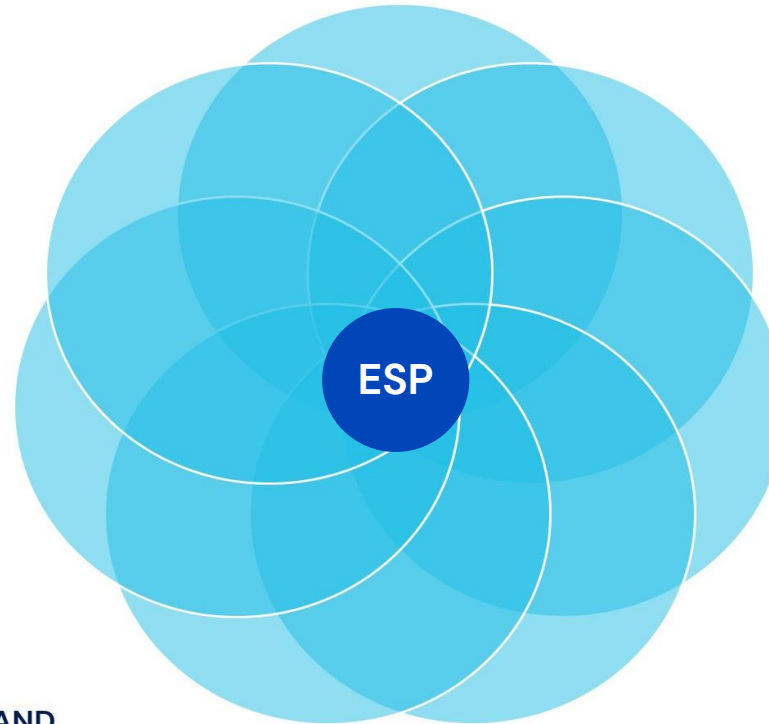
# Policy Principles

**SANITATION FOR ALL**  
Sanitation services are designed to promote social inclusion, equity, gender, empowerment and community participation

**SANITATION AS A SERVICE**  
Sanitation is a service chain from containment to treatment and valorisation

**SYSTEMS STRENGTHENING**  
Sanitation objectives are only achievable where key actors and institutions are mobilised, capacitated and aligned

**RESILIENT SANITATION**  
Sanitation systems are resilient to impacts from climate-related hazards and disasters and are designed to reduce GHG emissions



**SANITATION AS A PUBLIC GOOD**  
The government is responsible and accountable for planning and delivery of sanitation services and management of waste

**GREEN GROWTH AND CIRCULARITY**  
Waste reduction and valorisation contribute to a sustainable and thriving economy

**FINANCIALLY SUSTAINABLE SANITATION SERVICES**  
Investments and operational costs are covered

# Policy Thrusts and measures

Policy Vision: Sustainable sanitation for all for a healthy, dignified and green growth in a prosperous Ghana

Policy Goal: Achieve universal access to environmental sanitation

## Policy Thrust 1

*Institutions & organisations*

### Objective

To strengthen the institutional framework and organisational capacities for effective sanitation services oversight and delivery

### Policy measures

Activities  
Activities  
Activities

## Policy Thrust 2

*Behavior change*

### Objective

To instill citizens and other economic agents' hygiene and sanitation practices in order to maximise sanitation benefits & resource recovery

### Policy measures

Activities  
Activities  
Activities

## Policy Thrust 3

*Infrastructure development*

### Objective

To develop cost-effective and inclusive infrastructure that enable the delivery of sanitation services as per national standards

### Policy measures

Activities  
Activities  
Activities

## Policy Thrust 4

*Funding & financing*

### Objective

To establish funding mechanisms and enable financing for scaling-up and sustaining sanitation services

### Policy measures

Activities  
Activities  
Activities

## Policy Thrust 5

*Regulation*

### Objective

To improve regulations related to sanitation & hygiene behavior, service standards and performance

### Policy measures

Activities  
Activities  
Activities

## Policy Thrust 6

*Data and monitoring*

### Objective

To improve data management systems for monitoring policy implementation and learning

### Policy measures

Activities  
Activities  
Activities

## Policy Thrust 7

*Research & innovation*

### Objective

To promote research to inform policy implementation on innovations for meeting future challenges, including climate risks

### Policy measures

Activities  
Activities  
Activities

## 5. Strategies to achieve the key objectives

# Policy Thrusts



# Policy Thrust 1

**INSTITUTIONS & ORGANISATIONS**



## Objective

**Strengthen the institutional and organisational framework for effective environmental sanitation services oversight and delivery**



## Policy measures

Implement the Environmental Sanitation Policy under the leadership of MSWR, in a collaborative manner with allied organisations, and within the decentralization framework

Activate the NESPOCC and other coordinating platforms between relevant government organisations

Set-up a complementary national body for environmental sanitation

## Policy Thrust 2

**BEHAVIOUR CHANGE**



## Objective

**Incentivise citizens and other economic agents' hygiene and sanitation practices in order to maximise sanitation benefits and recover resources**



## Policy measures

Roll out national and local education and communication campaigns on hygiene and sanitation

Enact and enforce by laws

Incentivise and enforce behaviour of commercial waste producers

Develop sanitation services to facilitate the uptake of hygienic and sanitation practices

Publicly recognize and reward communities, commercial waste generators, and innovative waste handlers

## Policy Thrust 3

### INFRASTRUCTURE DEVELOPMENT



### Objective

Develop cost-effective and inclusive infrastructure that enable the delivery of sanitation services as per national standards



### Policy measures

Update local sanitation plans to identify infrastructure needs, the type of demand for sanitation services and relevant technologies

Identify and prioritise large-scale investment requirements

Identify refuse and fly tipping hotspots and develop appropriate responses

Identify hotspots where open defecation is widely practiced and implement measures until eradication

Support the development of infrastructure through private sector participation

# Policy Thrust 4

## FUNDING AND FINANCING



## Objective

Establish funding mechanisms and enable financing for scaling-up and sustaining sanitation services



## Policy measures

Allocate government funding to sanitation services and leverage private capital

Allocate public funds to adequately resource national and local institutions for policy implementation

Set tariffs and charges, considering the full cost of services and affordability constraints, and identify funding gaps

Develop cost-reflective budgets for sanitation systems' operations and ensure that funds collected from sanitation services are used for sanitation

Establish transparent and predictable funding transfers from the government to private operators

Apply mechanisms to financially support service users

Develop mechanisms to facilitate access to finance for SMEs providing sanitation services



## Policy Thrust 5

### REGULATIONS



### Objective

Improving regulations related to sanitation & hygiene behaviour, occupational health and safety, service standards, tariffs and charges and performance



### Policy measures

Develop and enforce environmental regulations

Support the implementation of the Extended Producer Responsibility (EPR) scheme

Develop and enforce regulations to protect sanitation workers

Develop and implement mechanisms for price regulation and service quality

Develop contracts that tie tariff and charges (financial returns) with performance

Enhance competitive market processes

## Policy Thrust 6

### DATA AND MONITORING



## Objective

Improve data management systems for monitoring of service performance and implementation of the ESP



## Policy measures

Define policy monitoring targets for all the different sanitation services coordinated at the central level

Consolidate, improve, and harmonise the national sanitation data management systems

Consolidate and develop the local sanitation data management system

Strengthen capacities for data management at both national and sub-national levels

## Policy Thrust 7

**RESEARCH AND INNOVATION**



## Objective

**Promote research to inform policy implementation on innovations for meeting future challenges, including climate risks**



## Policy measures

**Create a Research, Innovation and Technology Transfer Hub**

**Draw a National Program for Environmental Sanitation Research**

**Commission operational research as and when needed**

## 6. Roles and responsibilities

# Roles and Responsibilities

## MINISTRIES

- MSWR to monitor ESP & NESSAP
- Develop technical guidelines
- Coordinate with other ministries & agencies
- Funding

## REGIONAL AND LOCAL GOVERNMENT LEVEL

- DESSAP implementation and cross-sectoral planning
- Enforcement of guidelines & standards
- Regional coordination for capacity building & planning

## Private sector

- Abide by regulations
- Investment & service delivery

## INDIVIDUALS AND COMMUNITIES

- Abide by regulations
- Behavior change
- Funding

# Next steps

- Finalise the ESP with NDPC
- Present and finalise the NESSAP & SESIP (costed action plan)
- Disseminate to regional and local governments

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