



# WATER SUPPLY, SANITATION AND HYGIENE (WASH) POLICY

ABRIDGED VERSION



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# DEFINITION OF TERMS:

The following are the definition of terms for the purpose of this Water Supply, Sanitation and Hygiene (WASH) policy:

- 1.0.** A **rural water supply scheme** is defined as a simple scheme serving a population of less than 5,000 people with minimum supply standard of 50 litres/per capita per day.
- 1.1.** A **semi-urban water supply scheme** is defined as a scheme providing water to population between 5,000, - 20,000 with a minimum supply standard of 80 litres/capita per day.
- 1.2.** An **urban water supply scheme** is defined as that providing water to a population larger than 20,000 people with a minimum supply standard of 120 litres/per capita per day.
- 1.3.** **Basic service** means a protected, year-round supply of 50 litres/ per capita per day above the 30 litres basic minimum utilized by UN Agencies preferably within 250 metres of the community and not exceeding 500 metres, serving about 250 persons 1.per outlet.
- 1.4.** **Access to water:** Access to safe water is defined as the availability of potable water of at least 50 litres per person per day, located within 250-500 meters of every household.  
Access to safe drinking-water also includes coverage which refers to the percentage of the population accessing "improved" water sources. It further involves a range of other aspects such as:
  - **Regularity:** how frequent is the service available to people and when;
  - **Sufficiency:** how much water is available per person (the level of service);
  - **Affordability:** in relation to their income; can people afford the service?
  - **Quality:** what is the quality (of water and sanitation facilities) of the service available;
  - **Safety:** safety and cultural acceptability of access to and use of facilities.
- 1.5.** **Sustainable access** has two components with respect to water:
  - o One stands for environmental sustainability, the other for functional sustainability.
  - o The former insists on environmental protection through limiting extraction of water to a capacity below what is available. The latter reflects program sustainability in terms of supply and management."
- 1.6.** **Access to Sanitation:** at least one sanitary latrine to serve 10 persons in the community and 50 persons in the school environment. Public sanitary facilities must be accessible within 200 metres of need.
- 1.7.** **Affordability:** the standard measurement is that households are not expected to spend more than 5% of income on water and sewage.
- 1.8.** **Community:** group of people living in a particular place and linked by common interests.
- 1.9.** **Cross-Subsidy:** pricing strategy in which some users pay below average

tariff (subsidized), while others pay above average tariff (subsidizers). This is commonly used in the water and sanitation sector in an attempt to provide basic services at low or no cost to the poor.

**1.10.Demand-Responsive Approaches:** approach to infrastructure service planning in which households or communities select a level of service that corresponds to their needs, preferences, and ability to contribute to associated costs.

**1.11.Drinking Water:** All water either in its original state or after treatment, intended for human consumption in both domestic and production purposes.

**1.12.Community Managed Water Systems:** On-site or centralized drinking water systems protected, operated and maintained by community water committee.

**1.13.Drinking Water Quality Control:** Water tests conducted on routine basis by the water utility/quality expert to ensure that water supplied to the consumers meet the standard.

**1.14.Drinking Water Quality Surveillance:** Water tests and sanitary inspections conducted by an independent agency to ensure that water utilities and other suppliers meet the Standard.

**1.15.Drinking Water Service Level:** Measure of quality, quantity, accessibility, coverage, affordability and continuity of drinking water supplied to the population

**1.16.Basins:** A Geographical area drained by a single major stream; consists of a drainage system comprised of streams and often natural or man-made lakes.

**1.17.Drainage Basin** Part of the surface of the earth that is occupied by a drainage system, which consists of a surface stream or water body together with all tributary surface streams and water bodies. The term is used synonymously with watershed, river basin, or catchment.

**1.18.Groundwater Basin** A groundwater basin is an underground reserve of water which may take the form of a single aquifer or a group of linked aquifers.

**1.19.Independent Providers:** Private entrepreneurs who provide supply service, for example; water supply or sanitation services to customers for negotiated prices.

**1.20.Kiosk:** A stationary vending location where water is sold or distributed by the container.

**1.21.Latrine:** a receptacle (as a pit in the earth) for use as a toilet

**1.22.Pour-flush toilet:** a type of latrine that requires the use of little water to flush the feaces

**1.23.Integrated Water Resource Management(IWRM):** process that promotes the coordinated development and management of water, land and related resources without compromising the sustainability of vital ecosystems.

**1.24.Improved drinking water:** technology and levels of services that are

more likely to provide safe water. Examples include household connections, public standpipes, boreholes etc.

**1.25.Unimproved water sources** include: unprotected dug well, unprotected spring, surface water (river, lake, stream, canal,) cart with small tank/drum, tanker-truck.

**1.26.Improved sanitation facilities:** technology and levels of services that are designed to ensure hygienic separation of human excreta from human contact.

**1.27.Unimproved Sanitation Facilities** are facilities which do not ensure separation of human excreta from human contact

**1.28.Sanitation:** safe management of human excreta, including its safe confinement treatment, disposal and associated hygiene-related practices.

**1.29.Adequate Sanitation:** means access to safe excreta disposal facilities, services to households, public facilities, and disposal of liquid and solid wastes without contamination of water sources that can lead to health hazards to people and deterioration of the environment

**1.30.Water Service Provider:** an organization or person engaged in the processes, activities, means and resources necessary for abstracting, treating, distributing or supplying drinking water and for providing the associated services.

**1.31.Sewage, Sewer, Sewerage:** Sewage is the effluent in a pipe network. Sewer is the conduit used to carry off water and waste matter. Sewerage is the complete system of sewers

**1.32.Subsidies:** a grant by a government to a person or company to assist an enterprise.

**1.33.Standpipe, stand post:** A pipe riser with a tap (faucet) used as a source of water delivery, usually strategically located to ensure ease of access to the public.

**1.34.Ventilated Improved Pit latrine (VIP)** a dry latrine system, with a screened vent pipe to trap flies and often with double pits to allow use on a permanent rotating basis.

**1.35.Water Supply Regulators:** Independent regulatory bodies that monitor the performance of water utilities or any other water supply operators

**1.36.Water Source:** means either groundwater or surface water.

**1.37.Water Safety Plan:** Essential actions that are the responsibility of the drinking water provider in order to ensure that drinking water is safe.

**1.38.Water Vendors:** persons or organizations selling water to households or at collection points.

**1.39.Willingness to pay:** is the maximum price or below which a consumer will buy water supplied and/or sanitation service.

# EXECUTIVE SUMMARY

The WASH Policy reviews the current status of the Imo State Water Supply and Sanitation Sector with a view to identifying the challenges militating against sustainable development of the WASH sector and undermining the achievement of the SDGs as well as proffering options and solutions for addressing these challenges.

A baseline study was conducted by USAID (E-WASH) which identified the need for Imo State Government to review the WASH policy and legislation to provide enabling environment that will transform to the achievement of the SDGs in the State.

This policy applies the principles of Integrated Water Resources Management for sustainable delivery of WASH services and below are some of the initiatives proposed in the restructuring of the WASH Sector in Imo State:

- Institutional and legal framework review to promote the clear separation of functions amongst all participants;
- Establishment of a new Small Towns Water Supply and Sanitation Agency (STOWA) whose focus is to be on service delivery tailored to the needs of small towns.
- Recommendations that the Imo State Water Corporation shall maintain and operate the status of a corporate entity with full autonomy.
- Recommendation that the ownership, operation and maintenance of rural water supply facilities shifts to communities with support and technical assistance from the newly reformed RUWASSA.
- The introduction of The Imo State WASH Supply and Sewerage Regulatory Commission (ISWSRC) which shall serve as the sector regulator.
- Renaming of the parent Ministry for WASH as Ministry of Water Resources in the State.
- The introduction of the WASH Sector Coordination/Steering Committee which is made of all key players in the sector headed by the Executive Governor or his representative.
- This policy seeks to encourage the formation of WASH Customer Forum at the urban level, and Water Consumer Association at the semi urban and WASHcoms at the Rural
- The introduction of water safety plans to ensure the safety of drinking water

# Introduction

## 1.1 Background to Policy Development

This policy aims to provide a framework for engagement in the WASH sector to support its core business: water supply and sanitation services to urban, small towns and rural areas.

It sets out to address issues on sector coordination, funding, technology choice, community management and mechanisms for sustainable service delivery. The Policy aims to provide context for involvement and participation by Federal and State MDAs, External Support Agencies, NGOs and the private sector in the development and utilization of water resources, human resources; water research and development; information management, monitoring and evaluation within the water and Sanitation sector in the State and creating an enabling environment for Public-Private Partnership (PPP). In addition, it aims to articulate how Imo State should be involved and engaged in hygiene and health promotion.

The underlying philosophy of this Policy is that people of Imo State must start viewing water as a key to socio-economic growth and as a scarce commodity having real value which must be managed holistically. There are thus two major principal goals of this Policy:

- protecting and enhancing the quality of the water resources;
- promoting the wise and efficient management and use of water.

## 1.2 POLICY CONTEXT

### 1.2.1 Policy Purpose

The current thrust of the State WASH Policy is restructuring of government owned utilities to operate on commercial principles for cost recovery. It is expected that utilities under the supervision of the Ministry of Water Resources will eventually transform into incorporated companies where feasible.

This policy also recognizes that due to the capital-intensive requirements of the sector, Government will continue to make capital investment in water supply infrastructure in the short and medium term. The WASH Policy is expected to provide a good governance structure that will create enabling environment for the water sector in which the delivery of

water related services are optimized and from which consumers are able to choose and are willing to pay for.

### 1.2.2 Main Policy Goal and Objectives

The main Policy objectives are:

- To provide guidance and direction in institutional, economic and legal reforms that will lead to improved water governance at all levels throughout the State.
- To improve access to safe and adequate water supply and provide adequate sanitation and hygiene in an affordable and sustainable way for the people of Imo State.
- To advance the management and sustainability of water resources.

The specific Policy objectives of Imo State Water and Sanitation Policy are:

- To provide safe water, effective sanitation and hygiene.
- To increase access to safe water and effective sanitation and hygiene for all residents in Imo State using efficient technologies with low maintenance costs.
- To reduce the incidence of water-related diseases.
- To provide a strategic framework for the design and sustainable implementation of integrated interventions in the water, sanitation and hygiene sector.
- To stimulate increased investment and funding in the sector.
- To develop innovative solutions to water, sanitation and hygiene challenges
- To promote market principles and encourage private sector participation in the sector.

### 1.2.3 Policy Vision Statement

*A State with an integrated approach to the design of water resources management in an efficient manner towards a sustainable, safe, uninterrupted, accessible and affordable water supply, sanitation and hygiene services to her citizens who are aware of their WASH responsibilities.*

#### **1.2.4 Policy Mission Statement**

*To ensure effective planning and coordination of the WASH sector that clearly results in the delivery of sustainable, accessible and affordable safe water, sanitation and hygiene services to the residents of Imo State as well as for food production, agriculture and fisheries and for industries and commerce in the State.*

#### **1.2.5 Justification for Policy Initiative**

The current production levels of good quality water do not sufficiently cater for the envisaged increase in consumer demand which is expected to grow in line with the on-going increase in population of the State. It is also expected that there will be an increase in the development of commercial, recreational and industrial activities within the State.

The above throws up critical management issues relating to the sustainable use and management of water resources in Imo State. Such critical issues include:

- Fragmented control, role overlap and management of water resources by various institutions.
- Lack of direction defining the strategic aims of the sector, weak institutional and regulatory framework for administration and service delivery.
- High operating costs, inadequate funding, poor revenue collection, inadequate and low investment in water infrastructure, limited private sector participation in the State.
- Public Health and Sanitation.
- Need for community understanding and appreciation of sustainable water management.
- Competing and conflicting demands for water resources by both consumptive and non-consumptive users (Hoteliers).
- Planning for irrigation and agriculture activities.
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#### **1.3. POLICY THRUST**

The Imo State WASH Policy thrust is to attain and sustain the SDGs target No 6 on water supply and sanitation by the year 2030 and for government to discontinue being service provider by restructuring government owned utilities to operate on commercial principles for cost recovery.

#### **1.4 POLICY TARGET**

##### **1.4.1. Policy Targets**

In line with the Policy vision, goals and objectives, Imo State shall strive to achieve the following targets for water supply and sanitation coverage by the year 2019, 2023, 2027 and 2030 respectively.

- *Increase access to potable water In Urban and Small Towns from the present 3360m<sup>3/day</sup> to 281,950m<sup>3</sup> by 2030.*
- *To rehabilitate and restore Otamiri water scheme to its designed capacity and upgrade deserving ones.*
- *Increase access to potable water in Rural settlements from the present 2259m<sup>3</sup> to 103,000m<sup>3</sup> by 2030.*
- *Provision of Sewage treatment plants in each of the three senatorial districts (Orlu, Okigwe and Owerri) in the State.*
- *Provision of water and gender sensitive sanitation facilities in all public schools.*

##### **1.4.2 WATER AND SANITATION COVERAGE TARGETS**

*Safe water supply coverage targets for Imo State are as follows:*

**TABLE 1: IMO STATE TARGETS FOR WATER SUPPLY COVERAGE**

##### **WATER SUPPLY COVERAGE TARGETS**

	<b>2019</b>	<b>2023</b>	<b>2027</b>	<b>2030</b>
URBAN	65%	75%	85%	100%
SUB URBAN	65%	75%	85%	100%
RURAL	55%	75%	90%	100%
<b>AVERAGE</b>	<b>61%</b>	<b>75%</b>	<b>86%</b>	<b>100%</b>

**TABLE 2: TARGETS FOR SANITATION AND COVERAGE**

##### **SANITATION COVERAGE TARGETS**

	<b>2019</b>	<b>2023</b>	<b>2027</b>	<b>2030</b>
URBAN	80%	90%	95%	100%
SUB URBAN	80%	90%	95%	100%
RURAL	75%	85%	95%	100%
<b>AVERAGE</b>	<b>78%</b>	<b>88%</b>	<b>95%</b>	<b>100%</b>

By the year 2030, sanitation coverage levels are expected to be as follows:

- Rural:** Each household in rural areas (community of population of less than 5,000) must own and have access to safe sanitary facility of at least VIP latrine
- Small Towns:** Each household in semi-urban areas (population of 5,000 to 20,000) must own and have access to safe sanitary facility of at least VIP latrine.
- Urban:** Each household in urban areas (population above 20,000) must own and have access to safe sanitary facility of at least pour-flush toilet.

### 1.5. Domestic Water Demand

Domestic consumption is estimated based on water demand per capita per day: rural areas in Imo State, a provision of 50 litres /capita per day is assumed, 80 liters/day in small town areas and 120 litres/capita per day in urban centers.

**Table 3: Consumption standards and Service levels – (Water).**

Settlement	Size	Consumption Standard
Rural	Population of less than 5,000	At least 50 litres per capita per day
Small Town	Population of 5,000 - 20,000.	At least 80 litres per capita per day
Urban	Population greater than 20,000	At least 120 litres per capita per day

- The Nigerian Standard for Drinking Water Quality shall be the minimum standard for monitoring and measuring water quality in the State. However, this Policy specifies that where necessary and applicable, Imo State shall develop any other state-specific standards in collaboration with Standards Organization of Nigeria (SON)*

### 1.6. Industrial Water Demand

The total area provided for industries and hospitality (Hotel) infrastructure is about 4,000 hectares. Allowing a gross provision of 50 m<sup>3</sup> per hectare of land per day for industrial use, a provision of 200,000 m<sup>3</sup> per day projected for this purpose.

### 1.7. State Water Demand Projection to targeted year proposed

The projected population of Imo State in 2015 is 5,221,794 out of which 2,044, 099 or 39% live in the rural areas, 1,858,620 or 36% live in small towns and 1,319,075 or 25% live in urban centers. The total water demanded in the State was about 175,786 m<sup>3</sup>/day for 2015. In 2020 the total water demand will be 432,763m<sup>3</sup>/day, by 2030, the total water demand will be 653,367m<sup>3</sup>/day.

It is estimated that about 25% of the people live in Urban centers while 36% live in Small Towns/Semi-Urban area. The rest 39% live in rural communities. The estimated total demand for water to meet the needs of people is 432,763m<sup>3</sup>/day, but only about ¼ of the population is nearly adequately served. This situation clearly makes water supply and sanitation services delivery a critical issue to Imo State Government.

Based on the 2015 Baseline survey, 1991 population projection and the disaggregated population for the LGAs of Imo State, the total future safe water demand are as follows;



LGA	2015		2020		2025		2030	
	Population	Water demand (m <sup>3</sup> )						
ABOH MBAISE	259,056	13,014	302,731	31,695	368,393	38,571	414,815	43,431
AHIAZU MBAISE	227,196	5,835	265,500	17,815	323,086	21,679	363,799	24,410
EHIME MBANO	173,665	7,149	202,944	18,488	246,962	22,498	278,082	25,331
EZINIHITTE MBAISE	224,460	7,229	262,303	16,420	319,196	25,153	359,418	28,321
IDEATO NORTH	207,694	8,030	242,710	20,848	295,354	25,370	332,571	28,567
IDEATO SOUTH	211,010	5,682	246,585	16,274	300,069	19,803	337,881	22,299
IHITTE/UBOMA	158,827	3,522	185,605	10,505	225,862	12,784	254,323	14,395
IKEDURU	199,150	6,542	232,726	17,966	283,204	21,863	318,890	24,618
ISIALA MBANO	262,703	5,496	306,993	16,178	373,579	21,895	420,655	22,169
ISU	218,556	5,743	255,404	17,597	310,800	21,413	349,964	24,112
MBAITOLI	315,840	10,675	369,089	30,265	449,144	36,828	505,741	41,470
NGOR- OPKALA	209,951	5,779	245,348	16,124	298,563	19,434	336,185	22,269
NJABA	190,835	4,460	223,009	13,343	271,379	16,337	305,576	18,395
NKWERRE	106,759	3,867	124,758	10,329	151,818	12,570	170,949	14,154
NWANGELE	169,829	5,588	198,461	14,864	241,507	18,087	271,940	20,367
OBOWO	156,185	3,613	182,516	10,823	222,104	17,768	250,091	14,830
OGUTA	189,312	6,781	221,229	15,599	269,213	22,182	303,137	24,978
OHAJI/EGBEMA	243,245	9,895	284,255	26,037	345,909	31,685	389,498	35,607
OKIGWE	176,492	5,725	206,248	15,530	250,983	18,898	282,609	21,279
ONUIMO	132,159	3,233	154,441	9,842	187,939	11,933	211,621	13,437
ORLU	189,913	8,746	221,932	22,082	270,068	26,870	304,100	30,261
ORSU	159,898	3,677	186,856	11,024	227,385	13,416	256,037	15,105
ORU EAST	148,618	3,642	173,674	11,028	211,344	13,420	237,976	15,111
ORU WEST	153,886	6,726	179,831	16,778	218,836	20,417	246,411	26,989
OWERRI NORTH	166,698	10,511	194,803	18,740	237,055	22,805	266,926	25,677
OWERRI WEST	234,524	4,625	274,064	21,925	333,508	26,680	375,533	30,041
OWERRI URBAN	135,333	10,002	158,149	18,788	192,451	22,863	216,702	25,744
<b>TOTAL</b>	<b>5,221,794</b>	<b>175,787</b>	<b>6,102,164</b>	<b>432,763</b>	<b>7,425,711</b>	<b>582,222</b>	<b>8,361,430</b>	<b>653,367</b>

### 1.8. Water Governance Policy Targets

By 2030, water governance systems will be in place to achieve the following:

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**Participatory processes:** All citizens of Imo State will have a voice in Water and Sanitation planning processes, either directly or through organizations representing their interests.

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**Transparency:** Information will flow freely between different stakeholders and decisions/decision-making processes will be transparent and open to public scrutiny.

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**Integrated planning:** Water and Sanitation decision-making will take place within an Integrated Water Resource Management Framework (IWRM Framework).

#### Poverty reduction and social Inclusiveness:

Water and Sanitation planning at all levels will be aligned with poverty reduction and Gender, Equity and Social inclusive strategies.



### 1.9. Water Resources Management Targets

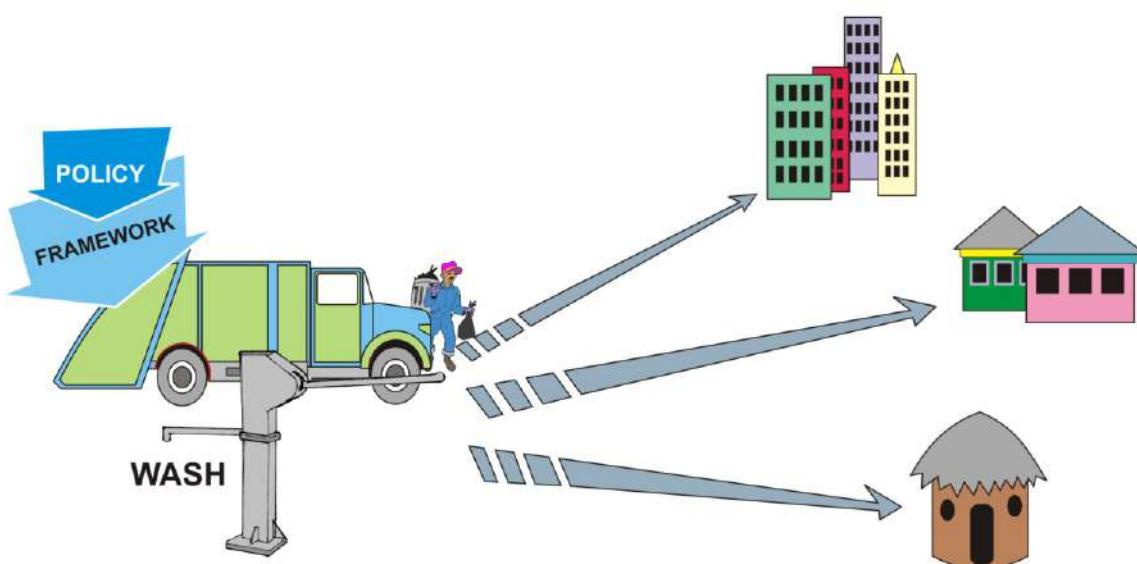
By the end of 2030, water management initiatives and innovations will lead to the establishment of:

- **State-wide Water Information Database:** Establishment of a state-wide water management information database.
- **Integrated Water Resource Management (IWRM):** Establish State-wide IWRM aimed at sustaining efficient and equitable water management and protection of fragile ecosystem.
- **Regulatory Framework.** Regulatory body for the water sector shall be fully established and operational
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### 1.10. Water and Sanitation Facilities Standard:

This Policy seeks to meet minimum standards as set below:

- Minimum water and sanitation facilities for rural communities and small towns shall be improved latrine while that of urban area shall be pour flush toilet system.
- Designated areas to serve as collection points and recycling to take care of urban solid and liquid waste and sanitation shall have a minimum clearance of about 5km radius or as may be determined by the relevant Ministry from where there shall be no drinking water sources.



# OVERVIEW OF IMO STATE

## 2.1 IMO STATE GEOGRAPHIC AND SOCIAL ECONOMIC PROFILE

### 2.1.1 Political & Administrative Structure

Imo State came into existence in 1976 having been previously part of East-Central State. Part of it was carved out in 1991 as Abia State and another part later became Ebonyi State.

There are twenty-seven Local Government Areas in the State. There are also elected councilors from each of the electoral wards in the LGA. There are 305 electoral wards and 647 Autonomous Communities in Imo State (2019).

### 2.1.2 Geographic Landscape of Imo State.

Imo State lies within latitude  $4^{\circ}45'N$  and  $7^{\circ}15'N$ , and longitude  $6^{\circ}50'E$  and  $7^{\circ}25'E$  and covers an area roughly 5,289.49 square kilometers.

The map of Imo State showing the Local Government areas is shown on FIG 1



### 2.1.3 Climate and Vegetation

There are two climatic seasons witnessed in Imo State; the rainy season (starts in March and lasts towards the end of October) and the dry season (from October to March). During the rainy season, there is high rainfall of about 2,500mm annually. The dry season is associated with spells of high temperatures of which about  $38^{\circ}C$  has been recorded. This seasonal climate of high temperatures and heavy rainfall has implications for water supply. The demand for water by household is expected to be highest during the hot dry seasons while heavy rainfall support rain water harvest as a source of drinking water as well as recharge perennial streams and underground aquifers.

### 2.1.3.1 Vegetation

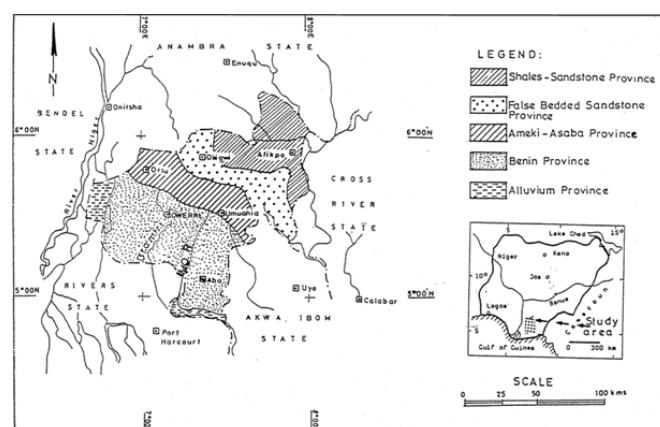
Imo State vegetation is tropical rainforest type. This vegetation belt is widely spread in Nigeria.

### 2.1.4 Geology, Hydrology and Hydro-geology of Water Resources of Imo State

The major drainage landscape feature in the area is the Imo River supported by rivers like Orashi, Otamiri, Iyi Mbaa, and Njaba Rivers, Abadaba and Oguta Lakes. Some of these have potentials for development while some have been developed for provision of potable water to Imo communities.

The geology consists mainly of the Deltaic plain and coastal plain sands, Bende Amaki formations and Awo-omamma clay formations.

FIGURE 2: FIG 2. HYDROGEOLOGICAL MAP OF IMO STATE.



### 2.1.5.Socio-Economic Status

The State is rich in natural resources including crude oil, natural gas etc economically exploitable flora like the iroko, mahogany, rubber tree and oil palm tree. However, high population density and over farming has degraded the soil density and much of the native vegetation has disappeared. This deforestation has triggered soil erosion which is compounded by heavy seasonal rainfall. Industries established in the State have suffered great set back. These under-performing industries present an opportunity for Public-Private Partnerships to realize their full potentials. It is only the privately-owned industries in the State that are growing but do not have adequate capacity to employ, hence the teeming unemployed labour in the State. Prominent among such privately owned companies include Hospitality Industries and filling stations.

**TABLE 6: LIST OF LGAS IN IMO STATE AND THEIR POPULATION FIGURES PROJECTED FROM 2006 CENSUS FIGURE.**

NAME OF LGA	1991 Population	2006 Population	2015 Population	2020 Population	2025 Population	2030 Population
ABOH MBAISE	115,360	194,779	259,056	302,731	368,393	414,815
AHIAZU MBAISE	96,170	170,824	227,196	265,500	323,086	363,799
EHIME MBANO	97,145	130,575	173,665	202,944	246,962	278,082
EZINIHITE MBAISE	92,462	168,767	224,460	262,303	319,196	359,418
IDEATO NORTH	118,519	156,161	207,694	242,710	295,354	332,571
IDEATO SOUTH	79,236	158,654	211,010	246,585	300,069	337,881
IHITTE/UBOMA	69,009	119,419	158,827	185,605	225,862	254,323
IKEDURU	108,367	149,737	199,150	232,726	283,204	318,890
ISIALA MBANO	106,170	197,521	262,703	306,993	373,579	420,655
ISU	62,139	164,328	218,556	255,404	310,800	349,964
MBAITOLI	148,531	237,474	315,840	369,089	449,144	505,741
NGOR OKPALA	135,711	157,858	209,951	245,348	298,563	336,185
NJABA	81,517	143,485	190,835	223,009	271,379	305,576
NKWERRE	47,190	80,270	106,759	124,758	151,818	170,949
NWANGELE	78,840	127,691	169,829	198,461	241,507	271,940
OBOWO	64,277	117,432	156,185	182,516	222,104	250,091
OGUTA	87,415	142,340	189,312	221,229	269,213	303,137
OHAJI/EGBEMA	119,116	182,891	243,245	284,255	345,909	389,498
OKIGWE	79,229	132,701	176,492	206,248	250,983	282,609
ONUIMO	54,470	99,368	132,159	154,441	187,939	211,621
ORLU	117,343	142,792	189,913	221,932	270,068	304,100
ORSU	87,172	120,224	159,898	186,856	227,385	256,037
ORU-EAST	84,172	111,743	148,618	173,674	211,344	237,976
ORU-WEST	81,719	115,704	153,886	179,831	218,836	246,411
OWERRI MUNICIPAL	51,223	125,337	166,698	194,803	237,055	266,926
OWERRI NORTH	98,507	176,334	234,524	274,064	333,508	375,533
OWERRI WEST	78,948	101,754	135,333	158,149	192,451	216,702
<b>TOTAL</b>	<b>2,439,957</b>	<b>3,926,163</b>	<b>5,221,794</b>	<b>6,102,164</b>	<b>7,425,711</b>	<b>8,361,430</b>

#### 2.1.6 Demography in Imo State

In 1991, the National Census population for Imo State was 2,485,935. By the 2006 National Population Census, the population had increased to 3,926,163 out of which 1,976,471 were males and 1,949,692 were females. Demographic distribution of Imo per LGA is shown in Table 6 above.

The population figures for 2015 to 2030 are projections using 3.2% annual growth rate.

The Table shows that in 2015, there were about 5,221,794 persons in Imo State both male and female while in 2020 there will be about 6,102,164 and in 2030 about 8,361,439 persons in the State. All these would require safe water and improved sanitation and hygiene services.

#### 2.1.7 Urbanization

As defined by the National Water Supply and Sanitation Policy 2000, urban centers are settlements with population of 20,000 and above while Small Towns (Sub-Urban area) are settlements with population of 5,000 but below 20,000. Rural centers are settlements with population below 5,000. In terms of the population spatial distribution and settlement, there is a growing number of urban and small towns in Imo State. The number of people living in centers with population above 5,000 has been on the increase, growing from about 21% in 1991 to about 27% in 2010 as shown below on Table 7

**TABLE 7: IMO STATE URBAN POPULATION GROWTH 1991 - 2010**

SETTLEMENT TYPE	YEAR	1991 Population	%	2006 Population	%	2010 Population	%
RURAL		1,974, 279	79.4	2,953, 348	75.2	3,251, 819	73.3
URBAN		511, 656	20.6	972, 815	24.8	1,186, 327	26.7
TOTAL		2,485, 935	100	3,926, 163	100	4, 438, 146	100

*Note; 2010 population was projected*

Table 8 below shows the disaggregated population of Imo State in 2015 for each LGA based on the defined population of urban centers in accordance with the 2000 National Water and Sanitation Policy. Imo State has 34 Urban Centers with population above 20,000.

**TABLE 8: DISAGGREGATED POPULATION OF IMO STATE, 2015**

S/N	LGA	NO. URBAN (%)	NO.SMALLTOW N (%)	RURAL (%)	TOTAL
1	ABOH MBAISE	(6) 73	188,341 (2) 12	29,926 15	40,789 259,056
2	AHIAZU MBAISE	(0) -	0 (10) 57	129,078 43	98,118 227,196
3	EHIME MBANO	(3) 45	77,824 (5) 32	56,236 23	39,605 173,665
4	EZINIHITE MBAISE	(1) 15	34,463 (12) 61	136,115 24	53,882 224,460
5	IDEATO NORTH	(2) 41	84,208 (5) 24	50,740 35	72,746 207,694
6	IDEATO SOUTH	(1) 10	20,527 (7) 30	64,043 60	126,440 211,010
7	IHITE/UBO MA	(0) -	0 (5) 22	34,501 78	124,326 158,827
8	IKEDURU	(2) 23	45,723 (7) 37	72,982 40	80,445 199,150
9	ISIALA MBANO	(0) -	0 (3) 9	24,181 91	238,522 262,703
10	ISU	(0) -	0 (15) 63	137,213 37	81,343 218,556
11	MBAITOLI	(1) 20	61,846 (19) 60	188,434 20	65,560 315,840
13	NJABA	(0) -	0 (8) 34	64,337 66	126,498 190,835
14	NKWERRE	(1) 31	33,421 (4) 37	39,449 32	33,889 106,759
15	NWANGELE	(2) 27	46,549 (2) 20	32,909 53	90,371 169,829
16	OBOWO	(0) -	0 (7) 31	48,948 69	107,237 156,185
17	OGUTA	(2) 30	56,924 (7) 38	71,742 32	60,646 189,312
18	OHAJI/EGBE MA	(3) 41	99,560 (7) 43	104,771 16	38,914 243,245
19	OKIGWE	(1) 25	43,556 (6) 26	45,341 49	87,595 176,492
20	ONUIMO	(0) -	0 (6) 45	59,031 55	73,128 132,159
21	ORLU	(1) 57	108,473 (7) 32	60,876 11	20,564 189,913
22	ORSU	(0) -	0 (8) 30	47,943 70	111,955 159,898
23	ORU-EAST	(0) -	0 (7) 45	67,009 55	81,609 148,618
24	ORU-WEST	(3) 55	85,015 (3) 16	24,735 29	44,136 153,886
25	OWERRI MUNICIPAL	(1) 100	166,698 (0) -	0 0	166,698
26	OWERRI NORTH	(3) 57	132,899 (5) 21	50,462 22	51,163 234,524
27	OWERRI WEST	(1) 24	33,048 (7) 44	59,646 32	42,639 135,333
	TOTAL	(34) 75	1,319,0 (191) 1,858,620	2,044,099	5,221,794

## SUMMARY

Type of Settlement	No. of Centers	Population	Percentage
Urban	34	1,319,075	25.26%
Small Towns	191	1,858,620	35.59%
Rural	-	2,044,099	39.15%
Total		5,221,794	100%



# WATER AND SANITATION SITUATION IN IMO STATE

### **3.1 Water Supply and Sanitation Situation in Imo State.**

In 1982, Imo State designated 34 growth points and 15 LG Headquarters as Urban centers and Growth Poles.

Four regional Water Zones were created as follows:

- Owerri Regional Water Scheme: installed capacity of about 60,000 m<sup>3</sup>/day
- Okigwe Regional Water Scheme: capacity of 40,000m<sup>3</sup>/day
- Orlu Regional Water Scheme: output capacity of about 20,000 m<sup>3</sup>/day
- Obowo/Mbaise Regional Water Scheme.
- Imo/Umuahia Regional Water Scheme.

Other key events on Public Water Supply and Sanitation efforts from 1990 include;

- Rehabilitation of broken-down water schemes
- Procurement of Water drilling equipment and pipes with funding from EXIM BANK
- Strengthening of WASH sector institution;

### **3.2 Water Supply**

Several MDAs at Federal, State and LGA levels are involved in delivery of water supply services in Imo State. These include Federal Ministry of Water Resources and its Agencies, namely the AIRBDA; MPUPS, ISWC, IWADA, RUWASSA at the State level and WASH Units at the LGA level. Donor Agencies such as EU, UNICEF, World Bank etc are also intervening in the water sector in the State.

#### **3.2.1 Urban Water Supply and Small-Towns Water Supply**

The Agency responsible for Urban/Small Town water supply in the State is the Imo State Water Corporation (ISWC). Out of the 127 water schemes operated and managed by ISWC, about 93% are not functional. This Agency is largely funded through the State Government budgetary allocation.

#### **3.2.2 Rural Water Supply**

The Agency responsible for water supply to rural communities having a population below 5,000 in Imo State is the Rural Water Supply and Environmental Agency (RUWESA). At inception, RUWESSA began with the construction of hand pump water schemes in rural communities in Imo State and later progressed to the construction of motorized and solar powered borehole schemes.

### **3.3 SANITATION**

Liquid waste in Imo state is purely being managed by unguided private sector, while solid waste management is solely the responsibility of ENTRACO an Agency in the Ministry of Environment. The Imo State Water Corporation is expected to anchor liquid waste management in the Urban areas of the state.

#### **3.3.1 Urban Sanitation**

The Departments of Sanitation and Waste Management in the Ministry of Environment and Natural Resources have some form of involvement in urban sanitation (Solid waste management using ENTRACO). ENTRACO is the implementing Agency responsible for solid waste management in urban areas while Ministry of Environment and Natural Resources has the responsibility of ensuring that the environment is pollution free.

#### **3.3.3 Small Town and Rural Sanitation**

In Urban and small towns, the Ministry of Environment and Natural Resources still construct sanitation facilities in public places in rural communities. RUWASSA collaborates with the WASH unit of LGA, relevant external support agencies in the delivery of sanitation services to rural communities and also on sanitation and hygiene promotion in primary and secondary schools.

### **3.4 ISSUES ARISING**

Understandably, there are two major aspects of sanitation, namely water sanitation and environmental sanitation. Ministry of Water Resources and its implementing agencies deal only in the aspect of **water (Liquid) sanitation** while Ministry of Environment and Natural Resources and its implementing agencies deal with **environmental sanitation**. Other overarching issues on Sanitation in the State include the following among others:

- Absence of clearly stated responsibility for sanitation at any level in Imo State
- Overlap in the responsibility of RUWESA, IWADA and Ministry of Environment and Natural Resources for the delivery of water sanitation facilities in rural areas.
- ISWC is currently not involved with the development and management of sewage systems.
- No urban community has a sewage system in Imo state.
- High incidence of open defecation in the rural communities

# POLICY RATIONALE

## **4.1. Need for Policy**

### **4.1.1 The Need for Integrated and Sustainable Water Resource Management**

As a scarce and valuable resource, water usage must be planned along with conservation and management measures, on an integrated and environmentally sound basis, keeping in view the socio-economic needs of the State.

### **4.1.2 Need for an Independent Water Supply, Sanitation and Hygiene (WASH) Regulatory Agency**

There is a necessity to set up an independent Regulatory body that will serve as an umpire between Water Service Providers, consumers and government especially in the area of setting standards, approving tariffs, and resolving issues.

### **4.1.3. Need to fulfill some of the conditions and implement the program objectives of the USAID (E-WASH) Program.**

Imo State is one of the selected states participating in the USAID E-WASH program a program which promotes management autonomy for State Water Corporation and also promotes corporatization, Public Private sector Partnership (PPP) in WASH service delivery, commercialization of water utility, and the establishment of an independent Regulator for WASH.

### **4.1.4. The Need for Innovative Planning, Effective and Efficient Allocation among Users**

The major use of water in the State has been for domestic, livestock, business, industrial and irrigation purposes. Domestic and industrial demand for water will increase abruptly as the ongoing WASH Sector reform and development programs improve economic conditions and more industries come up.

### **4.1.5. Need to change the name of the Supervising Ministry to reflect its functional scope, clearly define the role of the Supervising Ministry, and WASH sector Agencies- for Urban, Small Towns and Rural areas;**

The supervising Ministry at the Federal level adopts the name 'Water Resources', and thus states are expected to be decentralized for same role with the same nomenclature.

This will give the state Ministries direct linkages to its Federal body for developments and programs.

### **4.1.6. Need to set up a Coordinating Inter-ministerial, Departments and Agencies Stakeholders Steering Committee.**

Water supply and sanitation projects and programs are presently implemented by many organizations and agencies with insufficient coordination. A water sector steering committee shall be set up which shall meet quarterly and on demand to deliberate and gather information on activities within the WASH sector in the State with a view to harmonization of same.

### **4.1.7 The Need to Protect Water Sources, Water Quality Monitoring and Surveillance**

Water quality is adversely affected by untreated or inadequately treated industrial run-off and sewage flowing into rivers or affecting the surface and ground water, sand mining activities, dumping of refuse in rivers and water sources etc. Thus, there is need for improvements in existing strategies to eliminate the pollution of surface and ground water resources to restore the primeval quality of water in line with the Nigerian Standard for Drinking Water Quality Standards (NSDWQ).

### **4.1.8. Need to create strategies for Human Resources Development in the WASH sector.**

The Policy will promote the need to develop the skills and competences of all the Agencies and other service providers in the sector by incorporating structured capacity building programs relevant for all staff to improve service delivery and reliability in the sector.

### **4.1.9.The Need for Equitable Distribution of Water Resources**

Multifaceted issues of Gender, Equity and social Inclusion (GESI) with regards to water usage, and distribution must be addressed systematically in this Policy, thereby leaving no one behind.

### **4.1.10. Need to define the Agencies that should be responsible for WASH services provision in Urban, Small Towns, and Rural areas;**

Presently, Imo State Water and Sewage Corporation is responsible for WASH supply in both urban and small-town communities, while RUWESA and IWADA are doing same role in rural areas.

### **4.1.11. Need to set up Government Policy on cost reflective tariff, cost recovery, subsidies etc**

This Policy should address issues relating to how tariffs should be determined and put all conditions for the State Water and Sewage Corporation to operate on commercial principle.

#### **4.1.12. Need to set out the mechanism for financing**

##### **Water Infrastructure**

This Policy is expected to identify means of generating adequate funds to meet the operations, maintenance and capital needs of the WASH Agencies.

#### **4.1.13. Need to encourage and define the role and level of involvement of Private Sector in WASH service delivery**

This Policy shall address private sector participation in WASH sector in order to give the private sector comfort for their envisaged roles for total service coverage as the public sector has in the past dominated WASH service delivery.

#### **4.1.14. Need to introduce WASH Customer Forum (WCF) and set out the roles of all other Stakeholders;**

There is need to involve the WASH customers in the planning and implementation of WASH related activities and functions. The WCF is intended to bridge the gap that has existed over the years between service providers and customers.

#### **4.1.16. Need to adopt the proposed Water Investment and Mobilization Guidelines (WIMAG)**

The Federal Government of Nigeria (FGN) is developing a Policy for decentralizing to the States more responsibilities and finances for the implementation of WASH sectoral projects. This Policy is to be known as the Water Investment and Mobilization Guidelines (WIMAG). This WASH Policy needs to proactively adopt the guidelines that will ensure that Imo State participates and benefits from this FGN novelty.

#### **4.1.18. Need to define Agency that should be responsible for Sanitation services in Urban, Small Towns, and Rural areas;**

Presently in Imo State, ENTRACO, oversees solid waste management in Urban and Small towns. The sanitation division of the Local Government oversees rural areas. These agencies need to be empowered to function efficiently and effectively.

#### **4.1.19. Need to set out the Cost sharing arrangements for Capital, Operation and Maintenance in Water and Sanitation service delivery in Urban, Small Towns and Rural areas**

The State has adopted the cost sharing arrangement stated in the National Policy, but this must be reviewed to determine

its suitability and applicability in Imo State context.

#### **4.2. Key Sanitation Policy Issues**

##### **4.2.1. Poor Awareness**

There is little awareness about the inherent linkages of sanitation with public health.

##### **4.2.2. Social and Occupational aspects of Sanitation**

The occupational hazard faced by sanitation workers daily.

##### **4.2.3. Clearly Defined Institutional Roles and Responsibilities**

Overlaps in institutional roles and responsibilities at State and local government levels as well as communities should be identified and resolved.

##### **4.2.3. An Integrated Holistic Approach**

Sanitation investment needs to be planned in a manner that will consider the full cycle of safe confinement, treatment and safe disposal.

##### **4.2.4. Technology Choices**

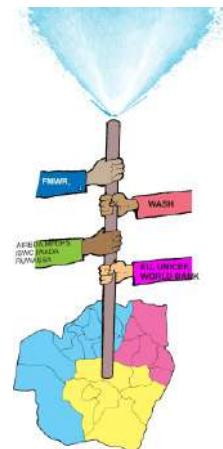
Technologies need to be focused on options that are sustainably cost-effective. Sustainability of technology has over the years been an issue.

##### **4.2.5. Reaching the Un-served and Poor**

Urban poor communities and residents of informal settlements have been constrained by economic limitations in obtaining affordable access to safe sanitation. The Policy should address these questions.

##### **4.2.6. Demand Responsiveness**

Sanitation has been provided by public agencies in a supply-driven manner, with little regard for demands and preferences of communities as customers of sanitation service.



# POLICY STRATEGIES

- 6.0. Policy Statements and Strategies for Sustainable WASH Service Delivery include:**
- 6.0.1** State-wide access to improved water supply and sanitation services, to meet the level of demand in the sector for effective socio-economic activities.
- 6.0.2** Integrated Water Resource Management for WASH Governance
- 6.0.3** Ensure that Nigerian Standard for Drinking Water Quality is maintained by service providers
- 6.0.4** Public-Private Sector Partnership initiative in WASH service delivery
- 6.0.5** Learning Alliance/Peer-to-peer Learning
- 6.0.6** Gender Mainstreaming/Role of Women in WASH Service Delivery
- 6.0.7** Leaving no one behind in WASH service delivery: Discourage denial of less privileged, physically challenged and the poor access to basic water supply and sanitation services.
- 6.0.8** Monitor and Evaluate the performance of the sector for necessary Policy review and improvement of water supply and sanitation
- 6.0.9** Institutional Framework
- 6.0.10** Sector Planning
- 6.0.11** Surface and Ground Water Monitoring
- 6.0.12** Water Pricing and Tariff setting
- 6.0.13** Encourage Demand Responsive Approach
- 6.0.14** Legal and Regulatory Reform of the WASH Sector
- 6.0.15** Development of Capacity
- 6.0.16** Research and Technological Development
- 6.0.17** Sewage (Waste Water) and Environmental Management
- 6.0.18** Electric Power Supply
- 6.0.19** Promote Awareness Creation, Education and Training
- 6.0.20** Water Service Delivery
- 6.0.21** Development of Water Safety plans (Water Quality Monitoring and surveillance)
- 6.0.22** Infrastructure funding arrangement
- 6.0.23** Sanitation Technology
- 6.0.24** Sanitation Management
- 6.0.25** Institution of Awards

## 6.1. Policy Statement 1 – Access to Water and Sanitation

Imo State Government shall effectively facilitate equitable access to safe, sustainable and reliable water supply and adequate sanitation facilities for its citizens.

**Strategy - below are some of the strategies to be adopted:**

- Develop a WASH sector Master Plan for the provision of water and sanitation services in the State for the period up to 2030 in order to achieve universal access.
- Undertake water supply and sanitation feasibility survey for the State to acquire baseline data for proper investment planning.
- Rehabilitation and modernization of existing water supply works.
- Construction of Regional water schemes in the State to support the existing water facilities.
- Expansion of existing urban booster water supply works.
- Comprehensive metering of all water supply schemes to customer connections.
- Provide technical support for capacity building at State and Local Government levels for the construction of waste disposal facilities.

# FUNDAMENTAL GUIDING PRINCIPLE FOR THE POLICY

This Policy Statement should be in line with the current thinking and direction of the FGN together with other actors in the water sector especially to improve service delivery.

## 5.1. Water Supply General Principles and Guiding Philosophies

*Below are some of the underlying principles of the Policy are;*  
Water is a limited resource requiring an integrated approach to its management.

- Safe and affordable water supply shall be the basic right of every citizen of Imo State.
- Water service delivery should be “bottom-up” and “demand-driven”.
- Women play a central role in the provision, management and safeguarding of water, which should be reflected in effective participation at all levels.
- All citizens of Imo State shall contribute to the management of their water supply systems in a sustainable way through payment of water rate or some other forms of contribution.
- The Imo State Ministry of Water Resources should be at the helm of such coordination in a structured manner.
- Government should gradually disengage from funding the operation and maintenance of water systems as a social service.
- Tariffs must be based upon a definite determination mechanism which allows for adjustments in the face of prevailing realities.

## 5.2.2. Urban Water Supply Principles

- Water supply in urban areas is a commercial undertaking and should be seen as a business.
- Water supply to the poor should be guaranteed through carefully designed arrangements.
- All urban water supply systems must work on cost recovery principles while ensuring effective, efficient, and sustainable service delivery.
- Autonomy of water providers shall be guaranteed.
- Clear Sector governance shall be established through appropriate Regulatory reforms that will separate service provision, Policy and regulation and encourage private investment.
- Commercial orientation and customer focus must be the bedrock of urban water supply.

## 5.2.3. Small Towns and Rural Water Supply Principles

- Water supply provision should be demand driven.
- The demand for the WASH service provision should emanate from the Water Consumers Association or

WASHcoms in the Rural areas.

- The provision of water supply needs should be community based, with the communities in the driving seat from the project inception up to the management of completed schemes.
- Communities need to be mobilized, trained and motivated to actively participate in developing their water and sanitation facilities and to eventually own the systems.
- Water supply infrastructure development needs to involve cost sharing arrangement between State, Local Government Areas and the communities in a coordinated manner.

## 5.2.4. Sanitation Principles and Philosophy

- An integrated approach for good sanitation, effective hygiene practices and potable water services are needed to promote good health and quality of life of all people in Imo State.
- Poor sanitation negates any positive gain made through improved supply of potable water.
- Contaminated water and unsanitary conditions are the causes of prevalent water and sanitation related preventable diseases such as cholera, typhoid, diarrhea etc.
- Increased and sustained political will is required at all levels to generate commitment and interest in sanitation activities for improved coverage.
- The disease burden on households especially children as a result of poor hygiene and lack of sanitation facilities has direct impact on women.
- Various options of safe low-cost household excreta disposal will be studied, and low-cost replicable systems will be promoted.
- Hygiene education will be promoted in schools especially through the formation of Environmental Health Clubs.

## **6.2. Policy Statement 2 - Integrated Water Resources Management**

The Government of Imo State will apply Integrated Water Resources Management principles for effective water management and conservation in the water sector in the State.

**Strategy - below are some of the strategies to be adopted:**

- Support and Inaugurate the State-wide WASH Sector Steering Committee in collaboration with relevant Ministries and external support agencies to facilitate reforms.
- Introduce groundwater abstraction / removal licensing program, to regulate the use of groundwater and avoid over-depletion whereby;
- Drilling of boreholes will require prior authorization and all boreholes must be registered
- Standards for the construction and location of boreholes will be applied

Implement appropriate measures that prevents pollution of water resources, particularly groundwater, such as:

- Creation of water resources protection zones
- Create system of issuing and monitoring permits for the discharges of waste water from industrial premises

## **6.3. Policy Statement 3- Drinking Water Quality and Standards**

Imo State Government commits to ensuring that in implementing this Policy, relevant sector standards are applied, including:

**Quality of Drinking Water:**

- The quality of water supply in the State shall at a minimum be in conformity with the Nigerian Standard for Drinking Water Quality.
- The Nigerian Standard for Drinking Water Quality covers all drinking water except mineral water and packaged water in Imo State.

***Water service providers shall request for authorization from the bodies listed under the quality of drinking water above or from the Ministry of Health for the use of water for human consumption or for food processing issued when following requirements are met:***

- Water quality comply with allowable limits
- Construction requirements and water treatments are met
- Minimum safe distance is observed around water point

**Strategy - below are some of the strategies to be adopted:**

- Facilitate and support State water regulatory body to collaborate with Standards Organization of Nigeria to develop, issue and enforce relevant regulations, codes and standards to be adopted by all players in the system.
- Organize routine campaigns for all stakeholders in the sector to ensure that construction and material standards on safety and best practices are applied.
- Ensure that construction of water and sanitation delivery systems in the State comply with relevant National Codes of Practice and Standards.
- Water quality results shall be accessible to the general public.
- Traditional water supply sources shall be protected, and traditional water quality practices shall be promoted.

## **6.4. Policy Statement 4. Encourage Public-Private-Partnership Initiatives to improve WSS service delivery**

Private Sector involvement and participation in all aspects of water supply and sanitation infrastructure and service delivery shall be promoted.

**Strategy - below are some of the strategies to be adopted:**

- Collaborate with relevant MDAs and Development Partners to create enabling environment and establish Public Private Partnership (PPP) for the water and sanitation sector in the State.
- Explore internal and external opportunities for engaging sustainable PPP arrangement in operation and management of urban and small-town water and sanitation provisions in Imo.
- Encourage private sector initiatives and innovations to improve water and sanitation services
- Encourage Private sector to cooperate with LGAs and relevant MDAs on matters relating to environmental protection.

#### **6.4. Policy Statement 5. Establishment of Learning Alliance/Peer -to-Peer Learning.**

**Strategy - below are some of the strategies to be adopted:**

- Exchange visits between Imo State WSS Agencies and identified well performing WSS Agencies in other States, and outside Nigeria.
- Study visits by officials of Imo State WSS to other State Water Agencies to share experiences and acquire knowledge about innovative ways of solving local problems.

#### **6.5. Policy Statement 6 – Gender Mainstreaming/ The Role of Women**

- Women shall be encouraged to take active roles in the operation, monitoring and management of water schemes and in the leadership of WCAs and WASHCOMs.

**Strategy - below are some of the strategies to be adopted:**

- Facilitate adequate representation of women in all Water and Sanitation decision making organs and processes at the State, local, and community levels.
- Promote active gender participation and mainstreaming in the water sector in the State.
- Capacity building programs on gender mainstreaming in organizations, community projects and general administration should be handled by implementing partners.
- Membership and leadership positions of CDA and WASHCOMs shall comprise at least 30% of women.

#### **6.6. Policy Statement 7 – Avoid denial of less privileged, physically challenged and the poor access to basic water supply and sanitation services.**

Imo State Government shall ensure that the needs of the poorest of the poor, physically challenged are accommodated in WASH service delivery.

**Strategy - below are some of the strategies to be adopted:**

- Cross subsidy shall be implemented to accommodate the needs of the urban poor.
- Government shall subsidize for the poor where cross subsidy is not applicable.

#### **6.7. Policy Statement 8 – Monitor and evaluate the performance of the sector for necessary policy review and improvement of water supply and sanitation**

The Government of Imo State will institutionalize Monitoring and Evaluation and Reporting of activities and projects in the water sector to track progress.

**Strategy - below are some of the strategies to be adopted:**

- Develop and implement comprehensive Monitoring and Evaluation systems at State and local government levels in accordance with the National Monitoring and Evaluation (M&E) system.
- Institutionalize Monitoring Task Group at State and local tiers of Government to operate and manage Monitoring and Evaluation units.

#### **6.8. Policy Statement 9 – Institutional Framework**

Imo State Government adopts the following institutional framework:

##### **6.8.1. The Role of State Government:**

Government shall gradually disengage from direct involvement in the management and provision of water and sanitation services and focus on Policy, monitoring, coordination, supporting and capital financing of the sector.

Thus, the Government has adopted below strategies:

- Better organization and management of water supply and sanitation in rural areas
- Better organization and management of water supply and sanitation systems in small towns.
- Placing the delivery of Urban water supply and sanitation services on a more autonomous and commercial footing thus gradually introducing Cost Recovery Principle.

#### **6.9.1.1. Through Improved Planning and Implementation**

Imo State Government shall prepare/enact as a matter of urgency a Master Plan for the Development of Water Supply and Sanitation Services in the State. The Master Plan will entail:

- A thorough examination of the existing situation including the cataloguing and appraisal of existing schemes and assets.
- A detailed assessment of needs in all areas of the State.
- The prioritization of investment and development needs

#### **6.9.1.2. Through Participatory Approach and Appropriate Technology**

The following approaches will be applied:

- Increased community participation in planning, implementation, management, monitoring and evaluation.
- Choosing appropriate and affordable technology which takes account of the social, economic and environmental characteristics of Imo State.
- Improved mechanisms for water sanitation delivery, promotion and hygiene education

#### **6.9.1.3. The Imo State Government believes that access to sufficient, safe, affordable and sustainable water for personal and domestic uses and safe sanitation is a fundamental human right; and therefore, shall apply the following among others:**

- Ensure that every resident of the State have access to safe sanitation, at least 50 litres of potable water daily within a distance of 250metres.
- Provision of safe water and sanitation facilities will be made mandatory for all public institutions; as well as in Private institutions employing more than 5 persons.
- It shall be the responsibility of the State and Local Governments to provide Water and Sanitation facilities in public Secondary and primary schools respectively.
- All private and public Agencies developing Estate and New Settlements in the State are required to develop

and provide sanitation systems and wastewater management facilities.

- All water connections from Public utilities shall be metered.
- For on-site drinking water system, a minimum distance of 15 meters shall be kept between the water system and potential source of contamination.
- It shall be illegal for any household or Corporate body to construct a Water Supply System within 30 meters radius from any latrine or graveyard

#### **6.9.2. The Role of Imo State Water and Sewerage Corporation:**

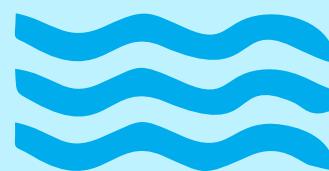
ISWSC shall provide service in urban areas and its assets shall be publicly owned. Its operations shall either be managed by the ISWSC staff or through innovative Public -Public Partnership or Public Private Partnerships.

#### **6.9.3. The Imo State Small Towns Water Supply Agency:**

The IWADA shall be renamed Imo State Small Towns Water Supply Agency (STOWA) and shall provide service in small towns and its assets shall either be owned by the entity or by the Community Development Association depending on the cost and the scale of the technology adopted for each WSS project in a small town.

#### **6.9.4.The Imo State Rural Water Supply and Sanitation Agency:**

The Imo State Rural Water Supply and Sanitation Agency shall be known and recognized as RUWASSA to continue providing services in rural areas, and its assets shall either be owned by the entity or by the WASHcoms in the Community depending on the cost and the scale of the technology adopted for each WSS project in the community.



- 6.9.5. The Role of Imo State Water and Sewerage Regulatory Commission**
- Collaborating with water service providers, Water Consumers' Association and other water sector stakeholders to establish and implement effective and efficient water tariff.
- To regularly review water rate in collaboration with all relevant stakeholders in the State.
- Monitoring and enforcing the standards of service as specified in this Policy in cooperation with the body responsible for the monitoring of drinking water quality including
- Discouraging water egoism in the management of water supply and service delivery.

#### 6.10. Policy Statement 10 - Sector Planning

Imo State Government shall ensure that preparation and implementation of a Master Plan for Water Supply and Sanitation in the State.

**Strategy - below are some of the strategies to be adopted:**

- A Long-term investment strategy
- A Medium-term investment plan of five years' duration
- Financing provisions
- Monitoring and oversight arrangements
- Review procedures whereby the Master Plan is appraised annually and updated

The Master Plan will be developed by the Ministry of Water Resources in collaboration with all key stakeholders in the sector and in a participatory manner.

The Master Plan will be developed and implemented in accordance with the principles above.

#### 6.11. Policy Statement 11 – Surface Water and Ground Water Monitoring

The Government of Imo State shall focus on effective monitoring of its surface water and ground water resources in support of Integrated Water Resources Management

**Strategy - below are some of the strategies to be adopted:**

- Ensure adequate, timely and effective monitoring and surveillance of all water sources
- Facilitate collaboration with relevant Federal and State MDAs and external support agencies
- Establish adequate hydrological and hydrogeological facilities to monitor surface water and ground water resources in the State.

#### 6.12. Policy Statement 12 - Water Pricing and Tariff setting

Water rates and tariffs will be subject to regulation by the Water and Sewerage Regulatory body in the State. The key criteria for the setting of water rates and tariffs will be:

- Cost recovery at the appropriate level
- Efficiency of service provision
- Affordability for consumers

**Strategy - below are some of the strategies to be adopted:**

- Conducting surveys to determine income levels of various segments of the customers
- Ensuring domestic consumers do not spend beyond 5% of their monthly income in accessing water supply in line with International standards
- Ensuring water supply service cost reduction measures shall be pursued.
- Ensuring all customers are metered starting with Industrial and commercial consumers to communal outlets down to domestic customers.
- Ensuring service is extended to the poor and vulnerable through public taps
- Ensuring tariff Policy guarantees cross subsidy to accommodate for the poor.



### **6.13. Policy Statement 13 – Demand Responsive Approach**

Government shall promote a demand-responsive approach to service provision whereby communities are guided to make informed choices regarding their participation, service level, and service delivery mechanisms for Water and sanitation

**Strategy - below are some of the strategies to be adopted:**

- Adopt Demand Responsive Approach (DRA) in the selection process of water projects in communities and small towns in the State.
- Create forum for participatory meetings where demand for water supply and sanitation services shall be made.
- Promote the concept of cost and role sharing in planning, construction, ownership, operation and management of water supply and sanitation schemes or facilities.

- Retooling and infrastructure capacity has to be enhanced;
- Support service providers in ensuring sustainable and efficient delivery of services
- Improve autonomy and decentralized management in all water Agencies and institutions in the State whilst ensuring adequate accountability
- Inventory of different expertise and needs-assessment will be done;
- Training program will be prepared for implementation;
- Succession plan for the sector staff will be developed and implemented.

**Strategy - below are some of the strategies to be adopted:**

- Periodically assess the capacity building needs of all the water supply and sanitation Agencies.
- Develop and implement human capital development strategies for the water sector
- Review and undertake capacity building programs for all water institutions in the State.
- Support, mobilize and train Water Consumers Association in small towns to develop and adopt appropriate water management strategies.
- Support, mobilize and train communities in rural areas to form Water, Sanitation and Hygiene Committees that will manage community water supply.

### **6.14. Policy Statement 14 – Legal and Regulatory Reform**

Imo State government shall introduce legal reforms to fully support the effective implementation of this Policy

**Strategy - below are some of the strategies to be adopted:**

- A legislative review shall be undertaken to identify:
- Legal provisions that are in conflict with this Policy
- The most appropriate means by which to address these issues

### **6.15. Policy Statement 15 - Capacity Building**

To have efficient and sustainable WASH service delivery, sustainable water supply and sewage service delivery in urban area, requires building of strong institutions in terms of physical and human resources. Infrastructural capacity has to be enhanced. Thus:

### **6.16. Policy Statement 16- Research and Technological Development**

Applied research and technological development shall be promoted.

**Strategy - below are some of the strategies to be adopted:**

- Collaboration with WASH sector stakeholders, local and international research institutions will be strengthened.
- Mechanisms for coordination and dissemination of sector research will be developed and institutionalized.
- Local researchers' initiatives will be encouraged.

### **6.17. Policy Statement 17- Waste Water and Environmental Management**

To effectively Manage waste water, Imo State Water and Sewerage Corporation shall develop a wastewater treatment system which is environmentally friendly.

**Strategy - below are some of the strategies to be adopted:**

*To ensure domestic and industrial wastewater is not haphazardly discharged to contaminate water sources and the environment, the following will be done:*

- Sewage systems and sludge disposal facilities (Treatment Plants) will be constructed.
- Soak away emptying services will be established and /or contracted to the private operators, Soak away emptiers' will be required to discharge only at sewage treatment facilities.
- Imo state Water and Sewage Corporation shall co-operate with industries/institutions in the research and development of low cost technologies for wastewater treatment and recycling.
- Industries shall be required to use environmentally friendly raw materials with less toxic elements and adopt cleaner production technology.

### **6.18. Policy Statement 18 - Electric Power Supply**

The Government of Imo State shall support the improvement of electric power supply to existing water supply utilities in the State.

**Strategy - below are some of the strategies to be adopted:**

- Ensure improvement of electric power supply to water utilities in the State.
- Promote the use of alternative energy sources for water utilities in the water sector

### **6.19. Policy Statement 19- Awareness Creation, WASH Education and Training**

Imo State Government shall implement measures to educate and raise public awareness of water issues including water conservation, benefits of sanitation and best hygiene practices.

**Strategy - below are some of the strategies to be**

**adopted:**

- Facilitate knowledge-based education campaigns for integrated water resources management best practices for effective water governance in the State.
- Putting WASH in and through schools (WINS) in school curriculum to increase child to child learning while broadening knowledge on school and Community hygiene
- Organize effective sensitization campaigns on drinking water quality for urban, small towns and rural dwellers in the State through encouraging Household water treatment(boiling), safety and storage.
- Sensitize local communities on environmental pollution through the practice of Open Defecation.

### **6.20. Policy Statement 20 – Water Service Delivery**

**Delivery**

Imo State Government shall take measures to ensure effective, efficient and reliable delivery of water supply and sanitation services

**Strategy - below are some of the strategies to be adopted:**

- Strengthen water service providers in urban areas and small towns in the State through:
- Requiring these service providers to apply modern business management approaches:
- The principle of commercial viability including cost effectiveness and efficiency
- Customer focused orientation;
- Ensuring affordability of services;
- Accountability to customers and the government.
- Pro-poor incentives in their respective operation and management strategy.
- Develop guidelines for control and reduction of wastages and unaccounted-for and Non-Revenue - water in all water schemes in the State.
- The inclusion of capacity building programs in all water supply and sanitation projects
- Develop and implement guidelines and strategies for private sector participation and community involvement within the water and sanitation sector in the State.
- Afford reasonable autonomy to urban water supply

service providers

- Facilitating best practices of the water service providers
- Review and strengthening of operation and maintenance arrangements
- Develop strategies to ensure customers water needs are met during period of natural disaster and health emergencies.
- Provide technical assistance to support private or Informal water sector

#### **6.21. Policy Statement 21- Development of Water Safety plans (Water Quality Monitoring and surveillance)**

Imo State water service providers in the Urban, Small Town and Rural Areas and community water committees shall have Water Safety Plan developed that will ensure minimal contamination of water sources.

**Strategy - below are some of the strategies to be adopted:**

- The Water Safety Plans shall be approved by the Drinking Water Quality Surveillance department of the Water Agencies, validated and enforced by the Regulatory Commission.
- If the system is not capable of meeting the standards for drinking water quality, a program for upgrading shall be initiated to ensure that the drinking water meets acceptable standard.
- The State Agencies responsible for providing water and sanitation services shall support water service providers in establishing and implementing the Water Safety Plans.

#### **6.22. Policy Statement 22 – Infrastructure Funding Arrangements**

The Government of Imo State shall take primary responsibility for the funding arrangements for capital infrastructure investments in the water supply sector.

**Strategy - below are some of the strategies to be adopted:**

- Enhance the public sector contribution by seeking funds for development projects in water and sanitation sector in Imo State through Federal, State and LGA budgetary allocations
- Seek grants from External Support Agencies,

Development Partners, grants, loans and credits from International and local financing institutions.

- Encourage effective coordination and harmonization of funds in a concerted manner.

#### **6.23. Policy Statement 23 – Sanitation Technologies**

Imo State Government shall ensure appropriate and standardized water sanitation technology is developed, operated, maintained and promoted in respective rural communities and small towns in the State.

**Strategy - below are some of the strategies to be adopted:**

- Construction of appropriate GESI compliant technological sanitation facilities in an economically viable and sustainable manner for rural communities and small towns.
- Design and promote appropriate latrine technology options for use by different households and communities in the State
- Establish sanitation centres in small towns and rural communities where people can receive information on technology options and buy materials for construction of improved latrines.

#### **6.24. Policy Statement 24 - Sanitation Management**

The delivery of effective sanitation provisions shall be promoted by Imo State Government.

**Strategy - below are some of the strategies to be adopted:**

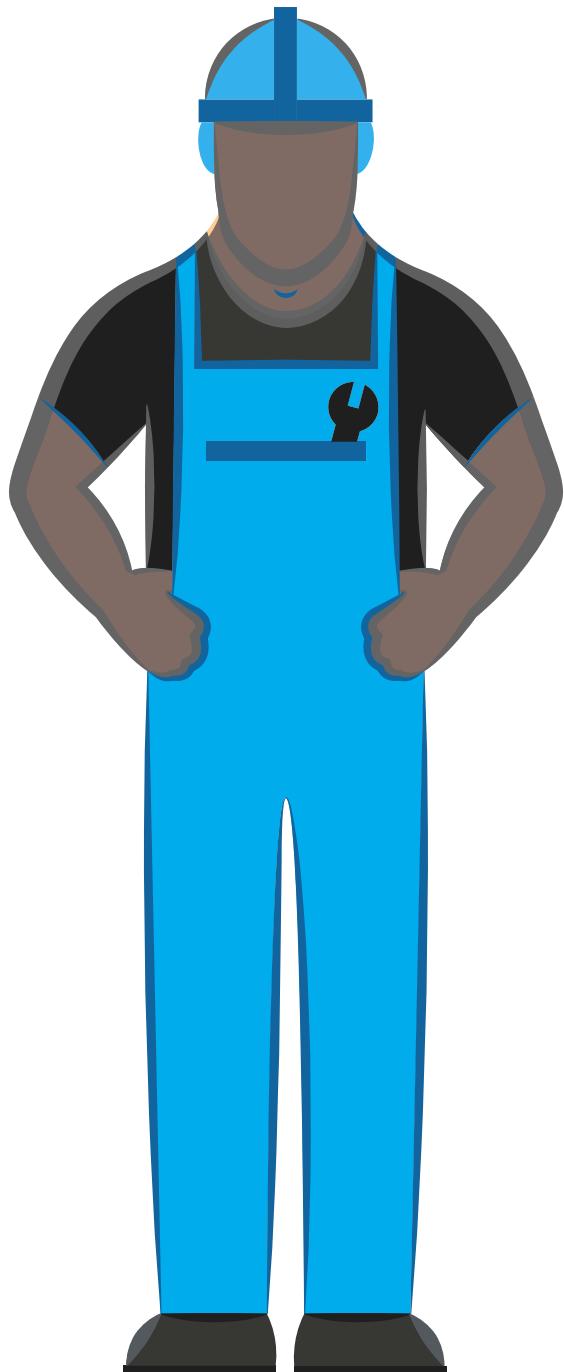
- Liaise with relevant MDAs and development partners on sustainable water sanitation service delivery mechanisms at Urban, rural community and small-town levels.
- Collaborate with relevant Federal and State MDAs, External Support Agencies and CSOs/NGOs to assist communities to build improved household latrines.
- Collaborate with NGOs and CSOs for innovation and support in creating wider access to sanitation service delivery in the State.
- Promote community led management structure for effective sanitation service delivery to small towns and rural communities.
- Liaise with relevant MDAs and development partners to implement CLTS or any other adoptable best practices for triggering, operating, marketing and managing water sanitation.

## 6.25. Policy Statement 25- Institution of Award

- Imo State Government will provide motivations in the form of annual awards/rewards, to be given during the world/National Water and Sanitation Day celebration

**Strategy - below are some of the strategies to be adopted:**

- Acknowledgement of the Best School Environmental Health Clubs which shall be determined using a tool developed by the inter-ministerial steering committee
- Acknowledgement of the Best sanitary observed market in the state
- Acknowledgement of the Best three (3) community WASHcoms that have effectively operated, maintained and managed their WASH facilities
- Acknowledgement of the Cleanest Working Environment (Private & Government)
- Acknowledgement of the cleanest Motor Parks in the state
- Acknowledgement of the Open Defecation Free (ODF) communities in the state



# WASH INSTITUTIONAL ARRANGEMENTS

## STAKEHOLDERS RELEVANT TO WASH SECTOR

### POLICY IMPLEMENTATION IN IMO STATE

The following institutions and their respective roles and responsibilities are either recognized or recommended in this Policy as having significant roles to play in the promotion and maintenance of successful water resources management:

- Imo State Government
- Imo State Ministry of Water Resources
- Imo State Ministry of Environment and Natural Resources
- Imo State Ministry of Health
- Imo State Ministry of Education (Basic Education, Tertiary and Non formal etc.)
- Imo State Ministry of Information
- Imo state Ministry of Gender Affairs
- Imo State Ministry of Agriculture
- Imo State Ministry of Economic Planning, Budget and Statistics
- Imo State Ministry of Justice
- Imo State Ministry of Works
- Imo State Ministry of Housing
- Imo State Ministry of lands, Survey and Urban Planning
- Imo State Water and Sewage Corporation.
- Imo State Small Towns Water Supply and Sanitation Agency
- Imo State Rural Water Supply and Sanitation Agency (RUWASSA)
- Imo State Water Services and Sewerage Regulatory Commission
- Bureau of Statistics
- Imo State House of Assembly
- Local Governments WASH Departments
- Civil Society Organizations /Non-Governmental Organizations
- External Support Agencies (ESAs)
- Donor Agencies
- Communities
- The Private Sector
- WASH Customer Forum (WCFs)
- Water Consumer Association and Water Sanitation and hygiene Committee
- Imo State WASH Sector Steering Committee
- The Due Process Office
- Imo State Civil Service Commissio

#### a. **Imo State Government shall:**

- Enact relevant water supply, Sanitation and Hygiene laws to implement water, sanitation policies and reforms.
- Finances capital project in the short and long term.
- Establish the WASH Sector steering Committee
- Establish Technical Task Groups to support the Sector Coordination Committee
- Promote Private sector Participation in water services delivery through Procurement contracts, Consultancies, Service and Management contracts.
- Approve and Implement new International and National policy instruments for the development of the sector
- Grant increased autonomy to the WASH Agencies and insulate them from political Interference

#### b. **The Imo State Ministry of Water Resources;**

The Ministry shall implement the following actions among others:

- Policy formulation, review and production of Imo State Water supply, Sanitation and Hygiene Policy and its implementation Guidelines;
- Developing Government programs on Water Resources and Sanitation throughout the State.
- Facilitating financing from the Government and international sources for projects
- Drive Water Resources Management; Liaise with Integrated Water Resources Management Commission to develop, review and implement catchment management plans for effective development and utilization of the entire surface water and ground water resources in a sustainable way.

The Ministry shall coordinate the activities of the Imo State Water and Sewage Corporation, Small Town Water Supply and Sanitation Agency and Rural Water Supply and Sanitation Agency in the following respects among others:

- Carry out its designated role as the Policy formulation organ for the water supply, sanitation and Hygiene sector.
- Receive periodic reports of activities from the Urban, Small-Town Water Supply and Sanitation Agency and Rural Water Supply and Sanitation Agency
- Supervise and evaluate the implementation of their programs.

#### c .**The Imo State Ministry of Environment and Natural Resources**

The Ministry shall support the WASH Sector by the following among others:



- Formulating Policies such as; Policy on solid waste disposal and sanitation in markets.
- Ensuring the protection of Water sources in collaboration with the MWR.
- Develop strategies for the proper management of water run offs, drainages, channels and domestic solid waste.

#### **d. Imo State Ministry of Health**

The State Water Services and Sewerage Regulatory Commission in collaboration with the State Ministry of Health shall develop minimum water quality standards in accordance with National Guidelines;

- Upgrade the Epidemiology unit to the Department of Epidemiology and Water Safety, to cater for drinking water quality surveillance and enforcement strategy.
- Ensure the Department of Epidemiology and Water Safety shall have a pool of inspectors in charge of drinking water quality investigations, water sampling and sanitary inspection, control and enforcement of water safety plans and enforcement of Nigerian Standard for Drinking Water Quality in Imo State.
- Generate and disseminate data on Water and Sanitation related diseases; through its epidemiology, and Public Health Unit.
- Collaborate with State Ministries of Water Resources and Environment in the promotion of Water sanitation and hygiene.

#### **e. Imo State Ministry of Education (Basic Education, Tertiary and Non-Formal etc.)**

Imo State Ministry of Education shall among others:

- Collaborate with Ministry of Water Resources and other relevant MDAs on matters of school sanitation and hygiene education;
- Review primary and secondary school curricula to include Water and Sanitation issues
- Develop IEC materials and Jingles on sanitation and hygiene for public enlightenment
- Ensure the observation of weekly sanitation days in schools within the State

#### **f. Imo State Ministry of Information**

State Ministry of Information shall among others:

- Collaborate with MWR, ISWSC, STOWA and RUWASSA to develop and implement communication strategy for the implementation of this Policy for improved public awareness on the linkages between WASH and the rest of the 16 SDGs.
- Collaborate with Ministry of Water Resources on sharing and dissemination of information on Water and Sanitation through public enlightenment programs, Jingles and News tracks;
- Liaise with all relevant Agencies to conduct enlightenment campaigns.
- Collaborate with relevant MDAs to pursue vigorous campaigns for re-orientation of the citizenry towards sound Water and Sanitation consciousness.

#### **g. Imo State Ministry of Gender Affairs**

State Ministry of Gender Affairs shall motivate women participation in Water and Sanitation activities; ensure gender mainstreaming into water and sanitation issues in the state.

- Collaborate with Ministry of Water Resources in information dissemination, awareness creation and positive behavioural changes on Water, sanitation and hygiene among women and Menstrual Hygiene.
- Work together with Ministry of Water Resources on women empowerment through participation in procurements in the State, training and retraining on the delivery of Water and Sanitation services in rural, small towns and urban centers.
- Educating, Training, and catering for the children, who are the most vulnerable during water or sanitation crisis.
- Conduct of Awareness creation program for women groups on disaster and risk management on water disaster.

#### **h. Imo State Ministry of Agriculture**

State Ministry of Agriculture shall among others:

- Work in partnership with Ministry of Water Resources to harness available water resources for agricultural development in the State.
- Work with relevant MDAs to develop and implement strategies to control water pollution from inappropriate use of Agrochemicals and fertilizers
- Collaborate with relevant MDAs to create awareness on the danger of drinking from polluted water bodies around farmlands/settlements, agricultural processing facilities and abattoirs

#### **i. Imo State Ministry of Economic Planning, Budget**

##### **and Statistics**

State Planning Commission shall among others:

- Work together with Ministry of Water Resources to develop sustainable development plans for the water and sanitation sector in the state.
- Collaborate with Ministry of Water Resources to guarantee steady processing of the release of funds for budgetary allocations for water and sanitation projects and programs in the state.
- Collaborate with Ministry of Water Resources to provide and advance technical planning advice for effective implementation of water and sanitation activities in the state.

#### **j. Imo State Ministry of Justice**

State Ministry of Justice shall:

- Partner with Ministry of Water Resources and other stakeholders in reviewing relevant laws and drafting water law for the State.
- Work with Ministry of Water Resources in providing legal guidance on relevant legal issues in the sector in the State.
- Collaborate with relevant MDAs in the water and sanitation sector to prosecute offenders, defaulters and contraveners of provisions of the proposed water law.

#### **k. Imo State Ministry of Works and Mineral Resources**

State Ministry of Works shall among others:

- Collaborate with Ministry of Water resources and its MDAs, during Road Construction or expansion to monitor in order to ensure that Water pipelines are secured.
- Ensure all building plans or plans to extend old buildings have provision for sanitary facilities located at least 30 meters to underground source of water supply.
- Ensure all Building plans or extension plans for old buildings have provision for water facilities either through connection to public water supply or wells and boreholes

#### **l. Imo State Water & Sewerage Corporation**

ISWSC shall among others;

- Plan, establish, control, manage, extend and develop urban water works as considered necessary for the purpose of providing wholesome, potable water for consumption by the public for domestic, trade, commercial, industrial, scientific and other uses.
- Plan, establish, control, manage, and develop sewerage (waste water) treatment facilities as considered necessary in collaboration with the relevant MDAs and stakeholders
- Charge and collect approved water rates by Imo State Water supply and Sewerage Regulatory Commission or the body so designated for approval of water rates.
- Ensure that adequate wholesome and safe water is supplied to its customers in line with relevant National Standards for Water Quality.
- Facilitate the access of all water facilities to Drinking Water Quality Surveillance inspectors.

#### **m. Small Town Water Supply Agency (STOWA) shall be**

##### **responsible for;**

IWADA shall be upgraded to serve as Small Town Water Supply and Sanitation Agency and the staff shall be regularized; thus shall carry out functions as underlisted among others;

- Establish, control, manage, extend and develop water schemes for small towns using a demand responsive approach.
- Ensure coordination of all small towns' water supply and sanitation schemes vested in the Agency with full collaboration with LGAs and WCAs.
- Facilitate the access of all water facilities to Drinking Water Quality Surveillance inspectors.
- Inform Imo State Ministry of Health in case of failure of water treatment process.
- Collection of water tariffs in Small Towns
- Monitoring and evaluation of water services delivery with a view to achieving policy targets and quality control
- Promoting private sector participation in water services delivery through Procurement Contracts, Consultancies, Service and Management contracts.
- Small towns Water data acquisition and management

#### **n.Imo State Rural Water Supply and Sanitation**

##### **Agency (RUWASSA) shall among others**

- Collaborate with Ministry of Water Resources to develop, review and implement the Imo State Water and Sanitation Policy
- Work together with relevant MDAs, and rural communities in the State to ensure that standards for Water and Sanitation facilities are adhered to by service providers.
- Support communities to establish Community WASHcoms for operation and maintenance that will transform to sustainability of water facilities.
- Promote Rural Water and Sanitation data acquisition and management.
- Train LGA WASH Departments, Community artisans to promote household sanitation strategies.
- Support Local Government Area WASH Departments in the establishment of VLOM systems.
- Facilitate the access of all water facilities to Drinking Water Quality Surveillance inspectors in rural areas.
- Monitor and Evaluate State Rural WASH Programs.

#### **o. Imo State Water & Sanitation Services Regulatory**

##### **Commission (ISWSRC)**

There will be established an independent Regulatory Commission for the WASH Sector. In particular, the Commission is expected to among others;

- Regulate, set and arbitrate on tariff matters among all water service providers and users.
- Approve from time to time the rates and scales of charges payable for water supply, waste water, sewage and other services within the State.
- Set standard, approve and from time to time review standards of performance of services in the water and sanitation sector.
- Provide regulatory rulings on regulatory submissions from any private participant and the water and sanitation agencies in the State.
- Ensure citizen involvement, voice and accountability in determining water rate.
- Regulate and approve conformity of Water Tariffs and price regulation charged to consumers.
- Issuance of Water Services Provider Permits.

##### **The procedure for issuing WSP Licenses.**

- The determination of standards for the provision of prescribed Water Services, including Water Quality Standards in line with the NSDWQ
- The method and manner by which the Tariffs that may be charged by Water and Sanitation Services Providers.
- Monitoring and enforcing the duties, powers, rights, and obligations of a Water and Sanitation Services Provider
- The resource procurement policies of and entry into PPP agreements by the Water or Sanitation Services Providers.
- Set, approve and from time to time review standards of performance of services by the Water or Sanitation service providers.



**p. The State Government shall establish a State WASH Sector Steering Committee who shall among others;**

- Organize and coordinate State efforts for sanitation and hygiene promotion
- Implement the Effective Water Sanitation Hygiene Policy in Imo State
- The Ministry of Water Resources shall be the Coordinating Ministry (as well as the secretariat). There shall be Four Task Groups created out of the WASH Sector Steering Committee.

**q. Primary Health Care Development Agency shall;**

- Collate and disseminate information on sanitation related diseases in the State
- Collaborate with line agencies in capacity building for sanitation workers, both public and private.

**r. Local Governments WASH Departments shall be**

- responsible for below among others:
- Implementation of rural water supply and sanitation programs through their WASH department in conjunction with RUWASSA and community development associations/NGOs.
- Contribution to policy formulation within its jurisdiction
- Funding of water and sanitation programs within its jurisdiction.
- Liaising with CDAs on water and sanitation issues
- Institutional capacity building.
- Payments of tariffs to the relevant agencies for public stand pipes within the locality of each LGA
- Shall establish a viable sanitation unit within the water and environmental sanitation department charged with the responsibility of actualizing the policy objectives of 100% sanitation by the year 2030 at the LGA level
- Enactment of bye laws on sanitation towards management of newly emerging sanitation challenges
- WASH officers shall visit Schools regularly to enforce Sanitary regulations
- Development of Water Safety Plans in conjunction with the Community

**s. Water Consumers Association**

- Liaise with the Imo State Small Towns Water Supply and Sanitation Agency for the development of water systems in small towns based on Demand Responsive approach and community ownership and management.
- Operate and maintain own water facility with support of contractors, Imo State Small Towns Water Supply and Sanitation Agency or trained members of the community
- Collect revenue for initial investment, O&M and for replacement costs
- Identify and contract maintenance personnel for their water facilities
- Attend the opening of their own procurement tenders
- Monitor and evaluate water supplies – post construction

**t. Communities through the Community Development Associations (CDAs) shall be responsible for the following among others:**

- The management of water schemes in rural areas in conjunction with Local Government, RUWASSA and private sector.
- Demanding water services as part of a demand - driven approach to water service delivery
- Payments of tariffs
- Counterpart funding as per cost sharing formula
- Hygiene promotion
- Local-level water management and environmental protection

**u. NGOs, CSOs and CBOs – among others:**

- NGOs and CBOs will be encouraged to assist communities in mobilizing for sanitation related programs and projects and will assist the relevant government agencies.
- The ISWSC and other service providers should work in conjunction with CBOs, CSOs, WCFs and NGOs towards identifying customer needs and concerns.

**v. Development partners:** The roles of development partners shall include:

- funding of projects for water and sanitation sector development
- Capacity building
- Resource mobilization
- Monitoring and evaluation
- Advocacy
- Research and development and, where appropriate, facilitation of learning alliances
- Guidance and planning, strategy implementation and review of policy targets.

**w. Private sector shall among others:**

- Provision of water supply through water sachets, table water, water kiosk, or water tankers.
- Financing water infrastructure development through loans and funds
- Capital investment for the construction of water works, dams, waste water and sanitation facilities through PPPs arrangements such as Management contracts or Build, Own and Operate contracts
- Provision of alternative sources of power supply for existing water schemes.
- Collection of tariffs for public or private water service providers
- Collection and disposal of waste
- Emergency water supplies using tankers or similar facilities; or
- Operation and maintenance of small-town scale water schemes such as boreholes at urban, small towns, local or community levels

**x. Individual Households shall among others:**

- Prompt payment of water rates for drinking water sourced from the public utilities
- Each household shall take full responsibility for cleaning his immediate environment
- Build latrines, keep the inside and surroundings of their property clean and not to dispose waste in the

streets, storm water drains and public spaces.

- Each household/individual shall be available for health and hygiene Education
- Individuals must recognize the dangers of breeding disease vectors in their environment and shall ensure prevention of such situation
- Every household/individual shall observe accepted sanitation norms and sanctions for defaulting.

### **7.27. Role of the Media**

- Propagate built-in sanitation related messages in its entertainment programs and to develop educational programs on sanitation and health related issues.
- Publish news and articles to make people aware of sanitation related issues and motivate them to improve sanitation and hygiene practices in their houses, neighborhoods and settlements through jingle, drama etc

### **7.28. Water Service Providers (WSPs) shall among others:**

- Drinking water supplied by ISWSC and other water service providers shall comply with Nigerian Standards for Drinking Water Quality.
- WSSPs shall: Request an authorization from the Ministry of Health for the use of water for human consumption or for food processing. The authorization shall be issued when the following requirements *are met*:
  - Water quality comply with allowable limits
  - Construction requirements and water treatments are met
  - Minimum safe distance is observed around water points.
- Operate and maintain water facilities in order to provide drinking water complying with standards. An internal routine water quality control shall be conducted, and water providers shall be equipped with minimum laboratory facilities to carry out routine water quality control. Results of internal routine water quality control shall be made available to Ministry of Water Resources and to Drinking Water Quality Surveillance inspectors.

# LEGAL REFORM

The following issues have legislative implication and may require some legislative arrangement in order to actualize the provisions of this Policy.

- Draft and Enact a Water supply, Sanitation and Hygiene (WASH) Law.
- Review existing legislations impacting the state water and sanitation sector in order to develop for enactment by the state House of Assembly, a Law that adequately captures the changes and reform proposed in this Policy.
- This law, to be known as Imo State Water Supply, Sanitation and Hygiene (WASH) Law will provide the legal framework for the sector.
- Establish Imo State Water Supply and Sewerage Regulatory Commission (ISWRC).
- Reposition Imo State Water Corporation. This will require some amendments in the existing law that established the Imo State Water Corporation.
- Conversion of IWADA to Small-Towns Water Supply and Sanitation Agency (STOWA) and Regularization of the staff.
- Strengthening of Rural Water Supply and Sanitation Agency (RUWASSA). The required legal provisions for statutory establishment of STOWA and strengthening of RUWASSA shall be provided for in the proposed Imo State Water supply , Sanitation and Hygiene Law.
- Establishment of Imo State Water and Sanitation Sector steering Committee for effective coordination of the Water and Sanitation sector.
- Rename Ministry of Public Utilities to be Ministry of Water Resources
- Assist Local Government Areas in establishing Water Sanitation and Hygiene (WASH) Departments.



## **Following these reforms, the key public sector institutions**

### **in the sector will be:**

- Ministry of Water Resources
- Imo State Water and Sanitation Services Regulatory commission
- Imo State Water and Sewage Corporation
- Small Towns Water Supply and Sanitation Agency (STOWA)
- Imo State Rural Water Supply and Sanitation Agency (RUWASSA)
- State Water and Sanitation Sector Steering Coordination Committee (inter-MDAs body)
- Local Government Area Water Sanitation and Hygiene Departments (LGA WASH Dept/Unit)

# SECTOR FINANCING OPTIONS

## 9.1. Funding Sources

Funding for the development of the water supply and sanitation sector in the state shall generally come from the following sources:

- *The Federal Government of Nigeria acting through budgetary allocations*
- *The Imo State Government acting through budgetary allocations and counterpart contribution.*
- *Local Governments in the state.*
- *Household, Commercial and Industrial consumers through payment of tariffs.*
- *Informal suppliers, such as water vendors operating boreholes, water tankers etc.*
- *Private companies, either local or foreign through Build, Operate and Transfer Contracts or Concessions.*
- *Individuals or Charities.*
- *Non-governmental organizations raising funds from private contributions or grants from national or international agencies.*
- *Benefiting communities through participatory investment or Community financed projects.*
- *Local or International Financial institutions offering short-term, medium-term loans.*
- *International grants from External Support Agencies.*

## 9.2. Cost Recovery

**9.2.1.** Capital projects of the Imo State Water and Sewage Corporation shall be contributed jointly by the Federal and State Government while capital projects of the Imo State Small Towns Water Supply and Sanitation Agency, and the Rural Water Supply and Sanitation Agency shall be funded by participatory investment of the Federal Government, the State Local Government and benefitting communities.

**9.2.2. Operation and maintenance cost**, the Imo State Water and Sewage Corporation, the Imo State Small Towns Water Supply and Sanitation Agency would aim for revenue enough to cover their recurrent costs (operating and maintenance) and they should develop sustainable long-term cost recovery policies, anticipating all future cash flow needs.

**9.2.3. In the Rural Water Supply and Sanitation**

Project, upon completion the projects will be handed over to the community for effective management.

## 9.2. Tariffs

### 9.2.1.

- All water supply connections in urban areas shall be metered starting with Industrial and commercial customers to household customers.

### 9.2.2.

- All water supply to public places in the semi urban areas shall be metered starting with schools, banks, industries, hotels, hospitals etc

### 9.2.3.

- The Tariffs of the Imo State Water and Sewage Corporation shall cover operation and maintenance cost and shall be determined by the State Water Supply Regulatory Commission as proposed by the ISWSC.



# CONCLUSION.

This Water and Sanitation Policy is only a first step in the process of achieving water supply, sanitation and hygiene services delivery targets. The Policy will be supported with necessary legislation to facilitate implementation and subsequent achievement of Policy targets.

Prior to Policy implementation, there is a critical need for baseline survey to determine or validate the present water and sanitation coverage in the State. The survey will cover an audit of water and sanitation infrastructure including the condition of each infrastructure in terms of its functionality.

The Policy will benefit from a State-wide enlightenment campaigns to empower the public to demand water and sanitation services delivery in line with coverage targets each year.

The way ahead for implementing the Policy involves several steps some of which include:

- Establishment of wide political support for the Policy that eventually leads to ratification.
- Wider consultation amongst stakeholders at all levels with the aim of removing gaps and weaknesses.
- The operation of a carefully-targeted awareness with the aim of obtaining popular support.
- Development of investment plan for the sector.
- Development of implementation guidelines for the policy.
- Use of the Policy to leverage funds from Federal Government and donor agencies.
- Pilot-test the concepts and mechanisms proposed in the Policy as part of a learning process for the institutions to be involved in policy implementation, monitoring and evaluation.
- Development of detailed capacity building and change management plans including staff motivation.
- Periodic review of the Policy to keep the sector abreast of relevant national and international developments.

#### **Immediate Implementation Steps.**

In order to implement this policy, the State Government will focus on the following key measures over the next five years:

- Completion of the Institutional Framework; (institutional re-organization, the realignment of roles and responsibilities, staff recruitment and repositioning, capacity building and skill development for effective sector service delivery).
- Amendment of legislation; (review of existing legal framework for the sector; The Water Supply and Sanitation Law will make provisions for these reform elements).
- Planning priority measures and Guidance on project implementation, Monitoring and Evaluation.
- Financial support and provisions

#### **Activities to attain Policy Goals**

The Imo State WASH Policy will guide the preparation and review of strategic plans, conservation and management plans and any other relevant plans and regulations for the development and the management of the WASH sector within the State. The Policy implementation will be carried out through the formulation of local planning strategies organizational restructuring plans and the consideration of proposals for urban, small towns and rural development together with the collaboration and advice of other relevant Agencies.

#### **Medium Term Activities-Immediate to 5 years**

**Short Term Activity 1** - The development and implementation of the water sector management strategy and plans.

**Short Term Activity 2** -Water Resources within the State should be mapped to allow for planning and forecast of use of the water resources.

**Short Term Activity 3** - The corporatization of the Imo State Water and Sewage Corporation should commence to allow for the concentration on the urban areas. The Corporation will be required to operate on the commercial principles of

efficient and effective service, cost recovery and customer orientation.

**Short Term Activity 4** – Imo State Small Towns Water Supply and sanitation Agency should be established, to allow for the provision of water supply to the semi urban areas and the participation of the stakeholders.

**Short Term Activity 5** – The RUWASSA should be allowed for sustainable development and operation of water supply, sanitation and hygiene services to rural areas and participation of stakeholders.

**Short Term Activity 6** – A Commission for Water Regulatory functions to be set up to drive improvement within the Water Sector by implementing a program of policy, regulatory and institutional reform. This will provide protection to consumers, operators and prospective PPP investors by putting in place an open and transparent process. In particular, the Regulatory Commission will be concerned with ascertaining adequacy of the standards of the water services to be supplied and the monitor of compliance with same. It will carry out Economic and Technical Regulation of water supply services and enforce compliance with its regulations and standards.

**Short Term Activity 7** – Redesign of water pipeline network to allow for water to be supplied while some other areas undergo construction or rehabilitation.

**Short Term Activity 8** - Survey and licensing of boreholes and septic tanks to be carried out. This will allow for a report the location of the boreholes and water quality assessment. This will monitor borehole license compliance. It will form a planning tool for revenue generation

**Short Term Activity 9** – Imo State Water and Sewage Corporation (ISWSC) to commission a water tariff study determine its potential consumers' "ability and willingness to pay" for its water supply service and subsequently design an appropriate tariff targeted towards gradual reduction in subsidies over a few years. Revenue generation exercise is to commence once the Imo state Water and Sewage Corporation has started water service delivery. Currently, water tariff is very low as present tariffs are lower than unit production cost without any provision for covering the shortfall for sustainability of service. The water supply service delivery as currently undertaken in the State is from being sustainable. Revenue generation from urban water supply (which should ordinarily provide necessary funds to operate and maintain the system) is almost non-existent. Revenue has been derived only from satellite boreholes sale of water to water tankers over the last few years.

**Short Term Activity 10** - WASH Sector Steering Committee to be inaugurated. The contributions of the External Support Agencies, Development Partners, INGOs and other stakeholders active in the sector need to be structured to work in a coordinated manner.

**Short Term Activity 11**- Baseline data gathering for all LGAs to determine service delivery.

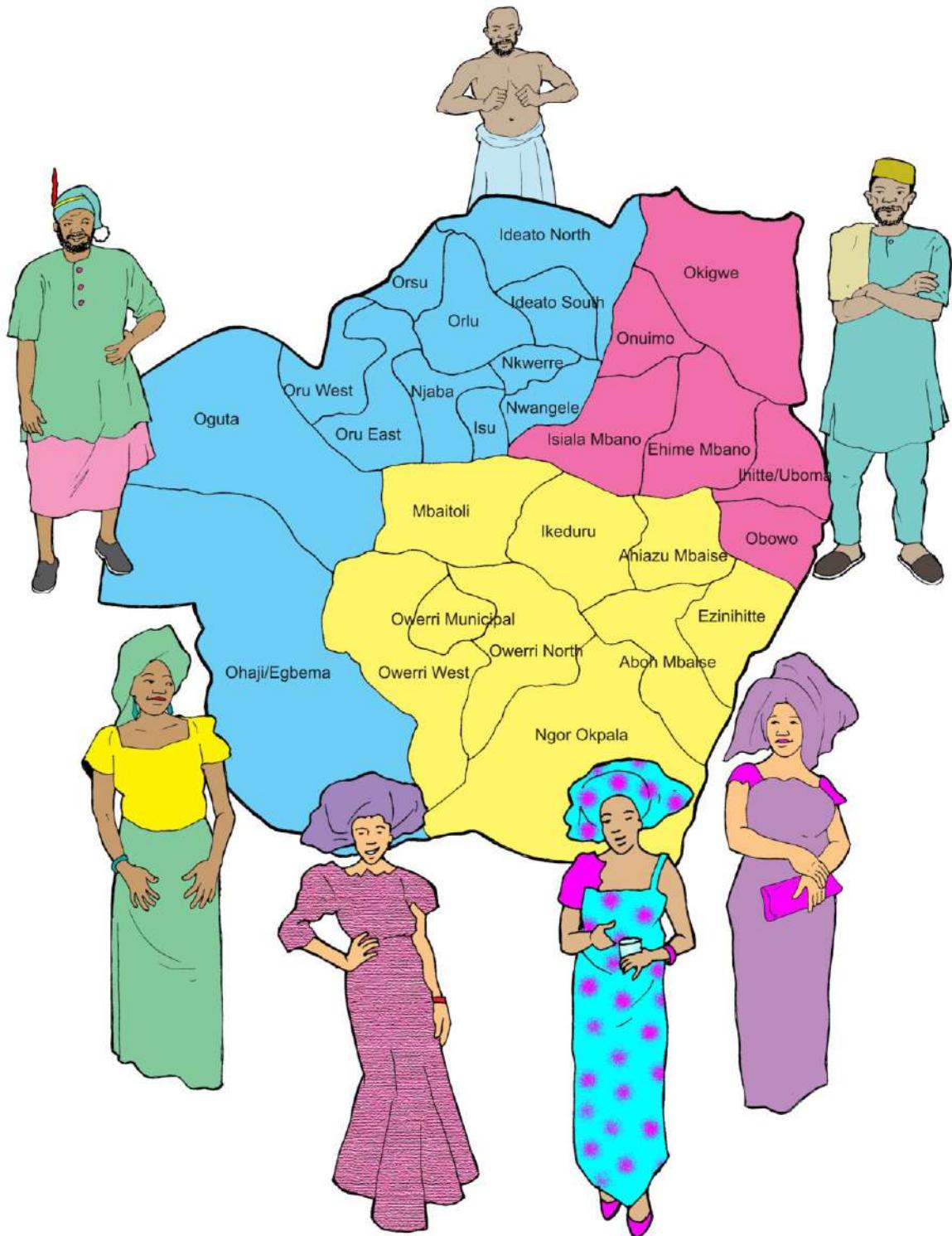
#### **Medium to Long Term Activity-5 to 10 years**

Review of Imo State Water Policy 2019 in line with future technological and economic developments.

#### **Long Term Development Goals**

The Water demand projection implies significant capital requirements for infrastructure expansion, estimated to be in the range of Five Hundred Billion – One trillion Naira per year over the next 11 years





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