



State of the world's **SANITATION**

An urgent call to transform sanitation for better health, environments, economies and societies



World Health
Organization



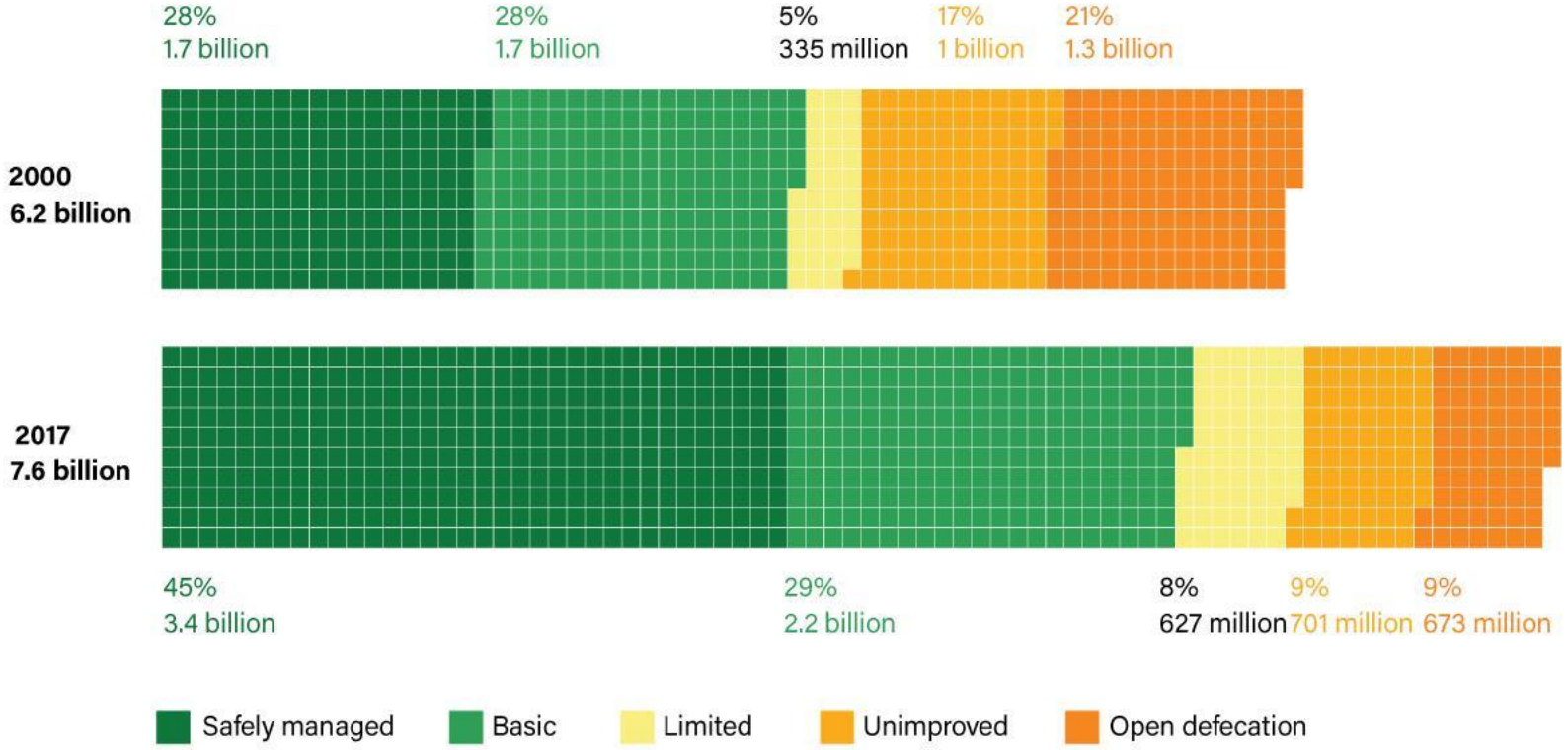
for every child

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**The world is
alarmingly
off-track to
deliver universal
access to safe
sanitation by
2030**

Despite progress, 2 billion people still lack even a basic level of sanitation service



**GLOBAL POPULATION USING DIFFERENT LEVELS OF SANITATION SERVICE IN 2000 AND 2017
(EACH UNIT REPRESENTS 10 MILLION PEOPLE)**



Poor sanitation has devastating consequences

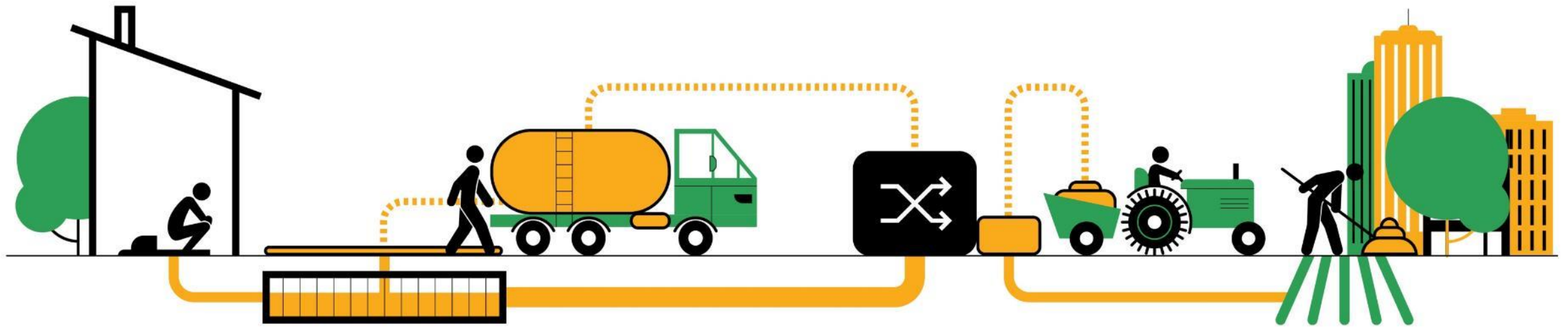
Illness and disease

Affronts to dignity,
safety and equality

Financial costs

Disproportionate impacts
on the most vulnerable

Safe sanitation for all requires addressing risks at every step



TOILET

Without quality toilets that everyone uses, families and communities are at increased risk of disease, anxiety and violence.



CONTAINMENT - STORAGE / TREATMENT

Without proper onsite containment or treatment, water used for drinking, recreation and agriculture can be contaminated.



CONVEYANCE

Workers without adequate protections face life-threatening risks when emptying pits and septic tanks and cleaning sewers. Waste spilled or dumped before treatment puts whole communities and food supplies at risk.



TREATMENT

Communities are put at risk when untreated wastewater and sludge pollute beaches, drinking water, and water sources used for irrigation of food crops.



END USE / DISPOSAL

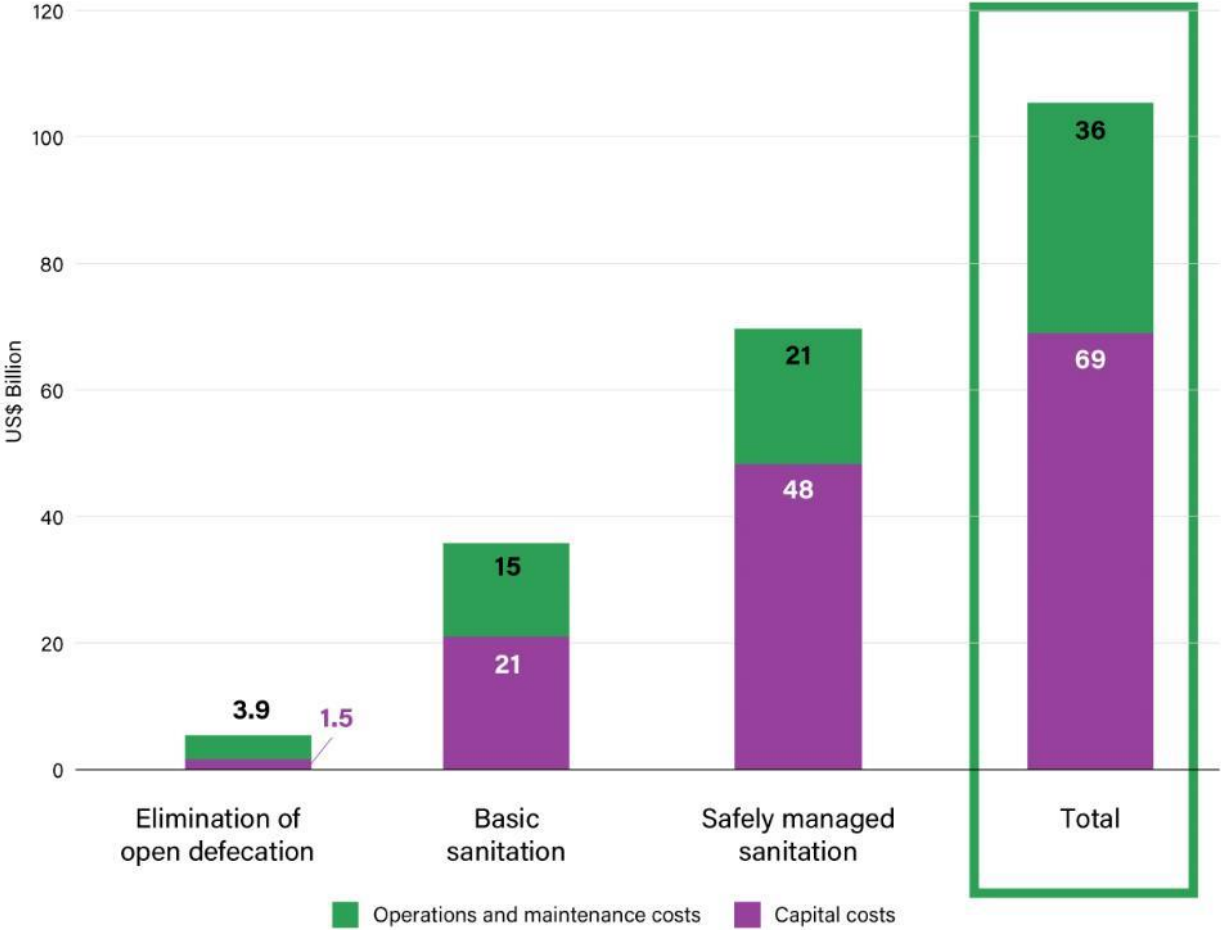
Drinking or coming into contact with untreated water perpetuates the cycle of infection – especially of intestinal worms and diarrhoea.

If wastewater and sludge are used safely, valuable water, nutrients and energy can be returned to the circular economy.



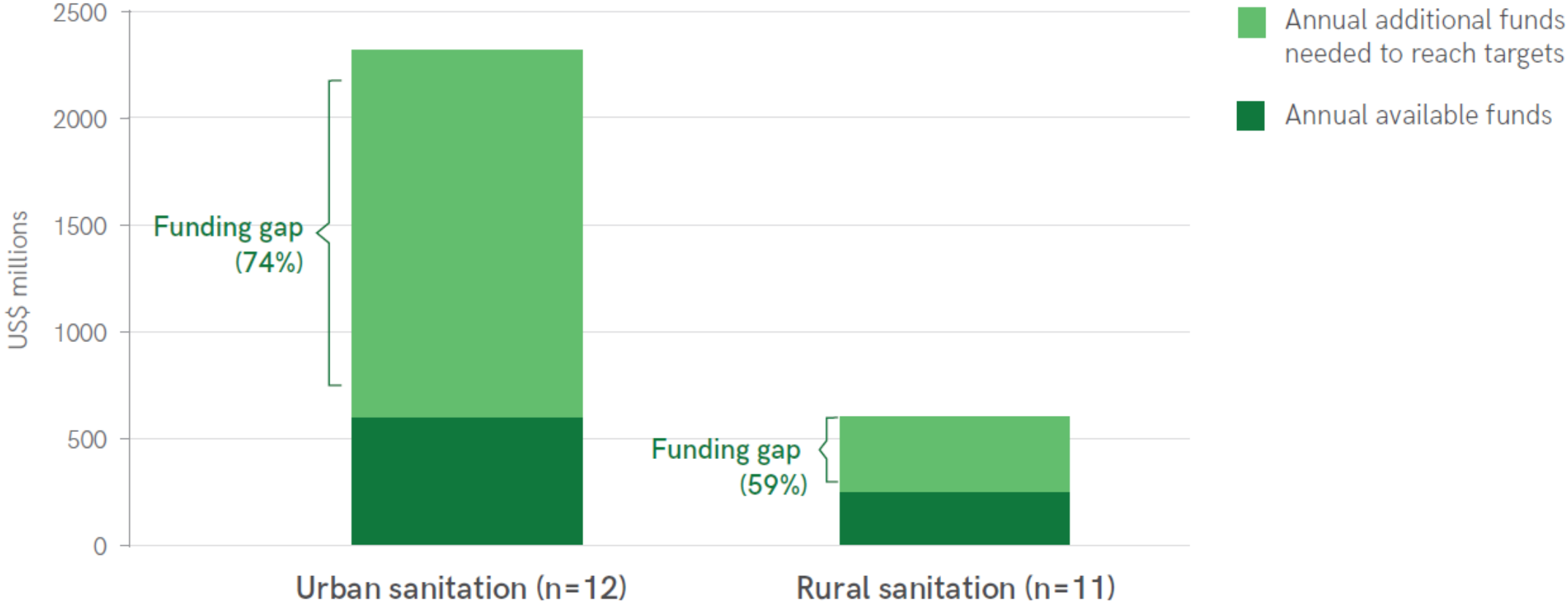
**Sanitation is
a public good**

Achieving universal access to safe sanitation will be expensive, but inaction brings greater costs



THE ANNUAL COSTS TO ACHIEVE UNIVERSAL SANITATION BY 2030 ARE ESTIMATED TO BE US\$105 BILLION

80% of countries reported insufficient funding to meet their national sanitation targets



ANNUAL RURAL/URBAN FUNDING GAP TO REACH NATIONAL SANITATION TARGETS, 2018

**Imagining a better future: a
dramatic acceleration in
progress is possible**

Setting goals for health-protective sanitation based on global research and practice

WHO Guidelines on Sanitation and Health

Everyone, everywhere needs to have and **use decent toilets**

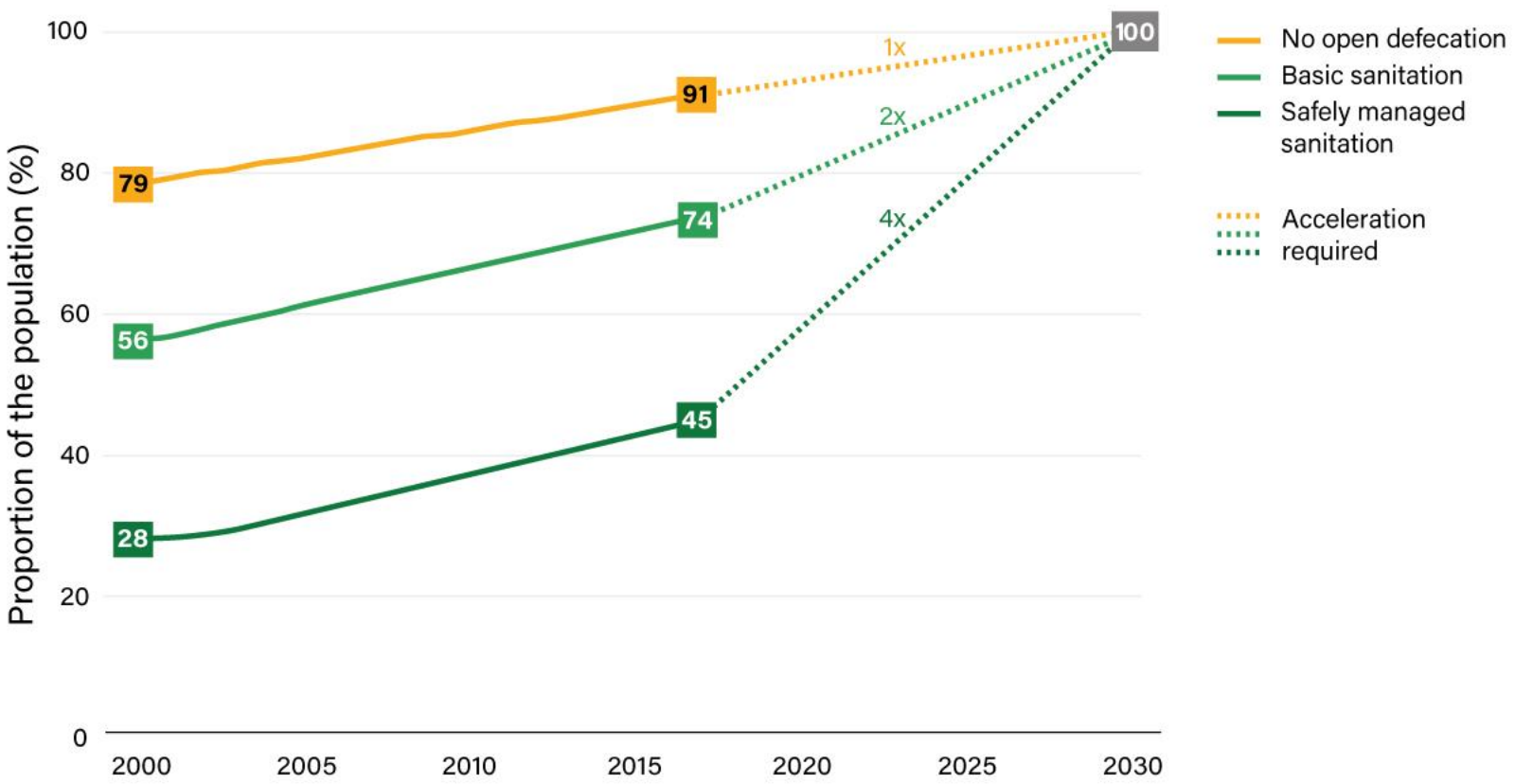
To properly protect health, toilets must be connected to **safe systems and services**, from defecation to safe disposal and use

Many **more sanitation workers** are needed

Efficient and sustainable **sanitation needs to have a higher profile** in its own right, and be addressed in coordination with other local services

Health actors have critical functions to ensure sanitation protects health and reduces the burden on the health system

Achieving universal access to sanitation by 2030 will require dramatic acceleration...





While the challenge is significant, history shows that it is possible

**Governments can accelerate
sanitation progress with
proven, effective approaches**



United Nations

UN WATER



Delivering the promise: Safe water and sanitation for all by 2030

The SDG 6 Global Acceleration Framework

IN BRIEF

Five accelerators to achieve SDG target 6.2

Governance

Financing

Capacity development

Data and information

Innovation



**Good governance
begins with
leadership,
effective
coordination
and regulation**



**Smart public
finance unlocks
effective
household
and private
investment**



Capacity at all levels drives progress and sustains services



**Reliable data
support better
decision-making
and stronger
accountability**



**Innovation leads
to better
approaches and
helps meet
emerging
challenges**

ACCELERATION

CHILD SURVIVAL

More children survive and grow up to be healthy adults.

HEALTH SERVICES

Less stress on health systems. Higher utilization of health services, particularly among women, due to better facilities. Fewer healthcare acquired infections.

CHOLERA

Elimination of cholera in 20 countries with recurrent outbreaks and no more uncontrolled outbreaks in fragile settings.

POLIO

Polio could become the second human disease in history to be eradicated freeing humanity from a debilitating virus.

INTESTINAL WORMS

Achievement of global targets for control of neglect tropical diseases stand a greater chance of being met. Infections are less likely to rebound if drug administration is scaled back.

NUTRITION

Children can realize the full benefits of investment in better nutrition, are less stunted and learn and achieve more at school.

ANTIMICROBIAL RESISTANCE (AMR)

Less antimicrobial use for preventable infections extending the useful life of last line of defense antimicrobials. Fewer untreatable sanitation related infections such as drug resistant typhoid.

SAFETY AND MENTAL HEALTH

Dignity, safety, less stress contributing to more equal world

FOOD SAFETY

Safe use of wastewater and sludge in agriculture, horticulture and aquaculture can support nutrition and the circular economy and also reduce use of chemical fertilizers and recover some of the cost of sanitation services.

ENVIRONMENTAL JUSTICE

Communities – particularly those with lower incomes – have a cleaner environment and healthier neighborhoods.

CLIMATE CHANGE

Resilient sanitation services protect investments in essential sanitation services and ensure sanitation systems are better prepared to cope with future shocks

DECENT WORK

Millions of new formalized jobs created that will sustain sanitation services, contribute to the green economy and protect public health

RECREATION

Millions of new formalized jobs created that will sustain sanitation services, contribute to the green economy and protect public health



CHILD SURVIVAL

Every year 830,000 people will die from preventable diseases.

HEALTH SERVICES

Health services in communities with poor sanitation will be burdened with treating preventable infections. Where health centres lack sanitation, women will choose not to give birth there and there will be more infections among patients.

CHOLERA

Outbreaks will continue in hotspots with poor sanitation. Precious funds will be spent on WASH for outbreak response that could be more sustainably spent on sanitation to fix the underlying cause.

POLIO

The goal of global eradication may remain just out of reach due to re-emergence in areas with poor sanitation.

INTESTINAL WORMS

Regular drug administration will keep infections at bay, but people will continue to be re-infected where open defecation and use of untreated wastewater for irrigation is practiced.

NUTRITION

Repeated diarrhoea, caused by poor sanitation, resulting in poor gut function will prevent people, especially children, from absorbing the nutrients in food needed to grow and thrive.

ANTIMICROBIAL RESISTANCE (AMR)

Hundreds of millions of doses of antimicrobials will be used each year for infections that could have been prevented with better sanitation. Wastewater laden with resistant bacteria will continue to spread AMR.

SAFETY AND MENTAL HEALTH

Without sanitation at home, schools and workplaces people, especially women and girls will continue to suffer of anxiety, shame and fear while trying to find a safe place urinate, defecate and manage menstrual hygiene.

FOOD SAFETY

Increasing water scarcity and urbanization will increase demand from peri-urban farms for water and nutrients. Unsafe use of wastewater and sludge will cause outbreaks and a increase in chronic foodborne diseases.

ENVIRONMENTAL JUSTICE

Poor and marginalized groups, particularly in low lying areas, will continue to be disproportionately affected by other people's unmanaged faecal sludge and sewage.

RECREATION

Beaches polluted with wastewater will continue to deter or sicken swimmers and damage economies in places that rely on clean water bodies for tourism and sports events.

CLIMATE CHANGE

Sanitation system will become more vulnerable to flooding from storms and sea level rise or have less water for flushing and conveying sewage. Even small losses will affect the health of whole communities.

DECENT WORK

Sanitation workers, especially in the informal sector, will continue to suffer indignity and disease and even death though poor working conditions.

BUSINESS AS USUAL



**World Health
Organization**

Kate Medicott
Team Leader - Sanitation

unicef 
for every child