

## Water Supply and Sanitation (WSS) Regulators in Africa – Country Profile Malawi



| General information                   |                          |
|---------------------------------------|--------------------------|
| Region                                | Southern Africa          |
| Surface area                          | 118,484 km <sup>2</sup>  |
| Total Population                      | 17,563,749 (MPHC, 2018)* |
| Urban pop.                            | 16%                      |
| Rural pop.                            | 84%                      |
| Access to basic water supply services | 88.6% (JMP, 2020)**      |
| Access to basic sanitation services   | 36.5% (JMP,2020)**       |

### WSS Regulatory Status

|   | Urban   |  | Rural        |            |
|---|---|--|--------------|------------|
|   | Water Supply  | Sanitation   | Water Supply | Sanitation |
| Type of Regulation  | Ministerial Regulation  |  |              |            |
| Name of Regulator   | Ministry of Water and Sanitation (MoWS)   |  |              |            |
| Year of establishment   | N/A   |  |              |            |
| Policy  | No policy explicitly articulates regulatory actors responsible for WSS Regulation |  |              |            |
| Legal instrument  | WaterWorx Act No 17, 1995   |  |              |            |
| Area of Jurisdiction  | National (urban and small towns)  |  |              |            |
| Number of regulated service providers   | 5 Parastatal Water Boards   |  |              |            |
| Type of service providers   | Regional  |  |              |            |
| Key functions   |   |  |              |            |
| <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Monitoring, inspections and audits;</li> <li>• Enforcement and issuing orders;</li> <li>• Tariff setting</li> <li>• License removal or suspension.</li> </ul>  |   |  |              |            |
| Note  |   |  |              |            |
| <p>The Ministry of Water and Sanitation (MoWS) is the lead regulatory actor of WSS. Its regulatory role principally relates to Malawi’s five parastatal Water Boards serving urban and peri-urban areas and some small towns and rural growth centres with piped water supply and sewered sanitation services.</p> <p>The Ministry of Health and Ministry of Local Government have limited but meaningful regulatory responsibilities in certain sanitation services including emptying and transport of faecal sludge. They can also exercise regulatory powers such as setting standards, issuing orders and fines.</p> <p>On the other hand, Water Services Association of Malawi (WASAMA) plays a regulatory role in monitoring and benchmarking the performance of five parastatal Water Boards.</p> |   |  |              |            |
| *Source   | **Source  | For more information on MoWS, click <a href="#">here</a> |              |            |