

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

General information	
Region	Southern Africa
Surface area	30,360 km <sup>2</sup>
Total Population	2,281,454 (WB, 2021)*
Urban pop.	29%
Rural pop.	71%
Water coverage	72.18% (JMP, 2020)**
Sanitation coverage	50.32% (JMP,2020)**



### WSS Regulatory Status

	Urban		Rural	
	Water	Sanitation	Water	Sanitation
Type of Regulation	Regulation by agency			
Name of Regulator	Lesotho Electricity and Water Authority (LEWA)			
Year of establishment	2002			
Policy	Lesotho Water and Sanitation Policy, 2007			
Legal instrument	The Lesotho Electricity Authority Act, 2002 (reviewed in 2011)			
Area of Jurisdiction	National			
Number of regulated service providers	1 (Water and Sewerage Company – WASCO)			
Type of service providers	National Public Utility			
Key functions of LEWA				
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Issuing of licences</li> <li>• Setting minimum levels of service</li> <li>• assessing the performance of the regulated entities;</li> <li>• Reviewing the prices of services;</li> <li>• Protecting the interests of consumers</li> <li>• Ensuring the security of supply of urban water and sewerage services</li> <li>• Resolving customer complaints</li> </ul>				
Note: Regulation of rural water supply and sanitation				
<p>In Lesotho, water supply and sanitation services are provided by two main service providers. These are WASCO responsible for urban water supply and sanitation and regulated by LEWA and the Department of Rural Water and Sanitation (DRWS) which is responsible for infrastructure development as well as water and sanitation service delivery focussing on rural areas however, in practice, WSS services are mainly provided by local authorities and regional councils and remain largely unregulated.</p>				
* <a href="#">Source</a>		** <a href="#">Source</a>		For more information on LEWA, click <a href="#">here</a>