



REPUBLIC OF THE PHILIPPINES  
**NATIONAL ECONOMIC AND DEVELOPMENT AUTHORITY**

**NEDA BOARD RESOLUTION NO. 42 (s. 2024)**

**APPROVING THE DRAFT NEDA BOARD RESOLUTION PRIMARILY ADOPTING  
THE WORLD HEALTH ORGANIZATION (WHO) AND THE UNITED NATIONS  
CHILDREN'S FUND'S (UNICEF) JOINT MONITORING PROGRAMME  
DEFINITION OF TERMS FOR SERVICE LEVELS FOR DRINKING WATER,  
SANITATION, AND HYGIENE**

On motion duly seconded, be it resolved, as it is hereby **RESOLVED**, to **APPROVE**, as it is hereby **APPROVED**, the proposed amendment to NEDA Board Resolution No. 12 (s. 1995) and National Statistical Coordination Board (NSCB) Resolution No. 9 (s. 2012) to primarily adopt the Joint Monitoring Programme (JMP) definitions on access to water supply, sanitation, and hygiene (WASH) embodied in the NEDA Board Resolution below.

**NEDA BOARD RESOLUTION**

**ADOPTING THE JMP DEFINITIONS ON ACCESS TO WASH**

**WHEREAS**, Section 6 (d) of Executive Order (EO) No. 230 (s. 1987) created the National Economic and Development Authority (NEDA) Board Committee on Infrastructure (INFRACOM) to: (i) advise the President and the NEDA Board on matters concerning infrastructure development; (ii) coordinate the activities of agencies including government-owned and -controlled corporations concerned in infrastructure development; and (iii) recommend to the President government policies, programs, and projects concerning infrastructure development consistent with national development objectives and priorities;

**WHEREAS**, the NEDA Board, through its Resolution No. 12 (s. 1995), approved the adoption of common definition of terms relative to water supply, sewerage, and on-site sanitation;

**WHEREAS**, the INFRACOM, through its Resolution No. 2 (s. 2008), created its Sub-Committee on Water Resources to coordinate all activities and policies pertaining to the water resources sector, including, among others, water supply, sanitation, sewerage, irrigation, and flood management, in view of the recommendations under the 2008 Philippine Water Supply Sector Roadmap (PWSSR);

**WHEREAS**, the NSCB, through its Resolution No. 9 (s. 2012), approved and adopted for statistical purposes the official concepts and definitions for the environment and natural resources subsectors, including those under water resources, with the classification of levels of water systems mostly identical to those as defined under the NEDA Board Resolution No. 12 (s. 1995);

**WHEREAS**, the Philippines, as a party to the United Nations 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development, commits to the attainment of the 17 Sustainable Development Goals (SDG), including SDG 6, which calls for ensuring availability and sustainable management of water and sanitation for all by 2030;

**WHEREAS**, the WHO and UNICEF oversee global monitoring and reporting of SDG 6 WASH targets through their JMP, which maintains an extensive global database and has become the leading source of comparable estimates of progress at national, regional and global levels;

**WHEREAS**, in support to the attainment of UN SDG 6, the government needs to streamline and harmonize the way that water supply and sanitation (WSS) data is being monitored and reported in the country with the standard metrics used globally;

**WHEREAS**, one of the top priority actions under Key Reform Agenda No. 7 of the Philippine Water Supply and Sanitation Master Plan is to formulate guidelines and frameworks for the harmonization and integration of WSS data;

**WHEREAS**, the WSS information published by the Philippine Statistics Authority (PSA) in its various surveys, such as the Annual Poverty Indicators Survey, Family Income and Expenditure Survey, and the National Demographic and Health Survey are not comparable with each other due to their differing nature and objectives;

**WHEREAS**, the WSS-related agencies, such as the Department of Health, Local Water Utilities Administration, and the Department of the Interior and Local Government, adopt classifications of water per type of facility or service which are inconsistent with the global monitoring metrics for SDG 6 based on the JMP definitions of WHO and UNICEF;

**NOW, THEREFORE, IT IS RESOLVED, AS IT IS HEREBY RESOLVED**, by the Chairperson and the Board, to adopt the JMP definitions on access to WASH, to wit:

**SECTION 1. Adoption of the JMP Definitions for Service Levels.** The following definitions, majority of which were taken from the JMP, shall be used as the standard metric and reference for data related to access to WASH service levels across all agencies and institutions in the WSS sector.

a. Service Ladders for Drinking Water

Service Ladder	Definition
<b>Safely Managed</b>	Drinking water from an improved water source that is accessible on premises, available when needed, and free from fecal and priority chemical contamination
<b>Basic</b>	Drinking water from an improved source for which collection time is not more than 30 minutes for a roundtrip including queueing
<b>Limited</b>	Drinking water from an improved source for which collection time exceeds 30 minutes for a roundtrip including queueing
<b>Unimproved</b>	Drinking water from unprotected groundwater sources such as an unprotected dug well or an unprotected spring, or from surface water



Service Ladder	Definition
	sources such as river, dam, lake, pond, stream, canal, or irrigation canal

*Note: **Improved drinking water sources** are those that have the potential to deliver safe water by nature of their design and construction, and include piped water, boreholes or tube wells, protected dug wells, protected springs, protected rainwater collection system, and packaged or delivered water.*

b. Service Ladders for Sanitation

Service Ladder	Definition
<b>Safely Managed Sanitation</b>	Use of improved facilities which are not shared with other households and where excreta are safely disposed of on-site or transported and treated off-site
<b>Basic Sanitation</b>	Use of improved facilities which are not shared with other households and where excreta may or may not be safely disposed of on-site or transported and treated off-site
<b>Limited Sanitation</b>	Use of improved facilities shared between two or more households and where excreta may or may not be safely disposed of on-site or transported and treated off-site
<b>Unimproved Sanitation</b>	Use of pit latrines without slabs or platforms, hanging latrines or bucket latrines and where excreta are not safely disposed of on-site or transported and treated off-site
<b>No Service</b>	Open defecation - Disposal of human feces in fields, forests, bushes, open bodies of water, beaches, and other open spaces or with solid waste

*Note: **Improved facilities** include flush or pour-flush piped sewer systems, septic tanks or pit latrines, ventilated improved pit latrines, composting toilets, and pit latrines with slabs.*

c. Service Ladders for Hygiene

Service Ladder	Definition
<b>Basic</b>	Availability of a handwashing facility with soap and water at home
<b>Limited</b>	Availability of a handwashing facility lacking soap and/or water at home
<b>No Facility</b>	No handwashing facility on premises

*Note: Handwashing facilities may be **fixed or mobile** and include a **sink with tap water, buckets with taps, tippy-taps, and jugs or basins designated for handwashing**. Soap includes bar soap, liquid soap, powder detergent, and soapy water but does not include ash, soil, sand, or other handwashing agents.*

**SECTION 2. Coverage.** This resolution is being issued to guide all WSS-related agencies and the PSA in collecting and reporting data on WASH using the above definitions to harmonize monitoring of progress in the sector.

**SECTION 3. Implementing Guidelines.** Subject to the approval of the appropriate approving authority, NEDA, in coordination with the PSA, shall formulate the implementing guidelines for the operationalization of the adoption of said definitions across all WSS-related agencies. The preparation of the Implementing Guidelines shall consider the most appropriate proxy indicator in the surveys to capture the JMP service ladders on WASH.

**SECTION 4. Gathering of Comprehensive and Relevant Data on WASH.**

The PSA shall revise its surveys accordingly to incorporate the service ladders stated above. Consistent with its mandate, the PSA shall secure adequate resources necessary to effectively collect, consolidate, and analyze service data on WASH in accordance with the above definitions.

**SECTION 5. Repealing Clause.** The following provisions are hereby amended accordingly:

- a. NEDA Board Resolution No. 12 (s. 1995), *Approving the Common Definition of terms relative to Water Supply, Sewerage, and Sanitation*; and
- b. NSCB Resolution No. 9 (s. 2012) and its Annexes (*Official Concepts and Definitions for Statistical Purposes*) pertaining to Levels I, II, and III classifications of water supply facility or service.

All other orders, guidelines, rules, regulations, and issuances, or parts thereof, which are inconsistent with the provisions of this Resolution are hereby repealed or modified accordingly.

**SECTION 6. Separability Clause.** If any provision of this Resolution is declared unconstitutional or invalid, the other provisions not affected thereby shall remain in full force and effect.

**SECTION 7. Effectivity.** This Resolution shall take effect 15 days after its publication in the Official Gazette or in a newspaper of general circulation.

**UNANIMOUSLY APPROVED.**

October 16, 2024

Certified correct:

  
**ARSENIO M. BALISACAN**

Secretary of the National Economic and Development Authority  
Vice-Chairperson of the NEDA Board

