

PROGRAM – East Asia Regional Learning Event

12-15 July 2016, Hanoi, Vietnam

Theme: Bridging private and public spheres for improved sanitation.

Thematic objectives of the EARLE include:

1. Strengthen understanding of the fundamental importance of sanitation supply chains and sanitation marketing to achieving the goal of 100% hygienic sanitation and to demonstrate how market-based approaches to sanitation are working towards this outcome;
2. Explore the value of other/additional approaches to extending access to sanitation, especially those that target poor and disadvantaged households and achieve the expected sanitation access and health outcomes; and
3. Build awareness and capacity of Change Agents and CSOs to identify appropriate (mixes of) approaches for their contexts and the regulatory and policy frameworks required to foster these approaches.

Learning Objectives of EARLE include:

4. Improve the effectiveness and sustainability of WASH projects within the Fund by facilitating knowledge exchange and learning;
5. Strengthen relationships between CSOs, local government and other change agents to extend specific areas for collaboration and sharing; and
6. Provide a forum to build the East Asia WASH community of practice within the Fund, and learn from and share with the wider WASH sector.

DAY 1 – OPEN DAY

Note: Day 1 includes participants from organisations external to CS WASH Fund projects. All other days include Fund participants only.

Time	Tuesday 12 July
8:00 – 9:00	Registration
9:00 – 9:10	Welcome <i>MC- Ha Viet Quan, Local Facilitator</i>
9:10 – 9:25	Official opening <i>VM Hoang Van Thang, Vice-Minister, Ministry of Agriculture and Rural Development, Government of Vietnam</i>
9:25 – 9:40	Australian Aid and WASH in Vietnam <i>Layton Pike, Charge d’Affaires, Australian Embassy Hanoi, Australian Department of Foreign Affairs and Trade</i>
9:40 – 10:00	Keynote Presentation <i>Assoc. Professor Juliet Willetts, Topic Expert, Research Director, Institute Sustainable Futures University of Technology Sydney (ISF UTS)</i>
10:00 – 10:15	Current status of Water in Vietnam <i>Mr. Le Thieu Son, Director, National Center for rural water supply and sanitation (NCERWASS), Ministry of Agriculture and Rural Development (MARD)</i>
10:15 –10:30	Current status of Sanitation in Vietnam <i>Mr Do Manh Cuong, Vietnam Health Environment Management Agency (VIHEMA) of the Ministry of Health (MOH)</i>
10:30 – 11:00	Break
11:00 –11:15	Introduction to the learning event program and objectives <i>Bronwyn Powell, Knowledge and Learning Manager (KALM), CS WASH Fund Management Facility</i>
11:15 – 12:00	Presentations and panel discussion <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1) Market-based approaches to sanitation delivery and the private sector - <i>Ms Hang Diem Nguyen, WSP World Bank</i> 2) Study to Measure Impact of Output Based Aid and Sanitation Marketing on Sanitation Adoption in Cambodia – <i>Nguyen Hong Hanh, Thrive Networks</i>

12:00 – 1:00	Lunch
1:00 – 2:00	Workshop Activity – Private sector context and sanitation roles in 2016 – A/Prof Juliet Willetts, ISF UTS
2:00 – 2:05	CS WASH Fund video
2:05 – 2:20	Australian Aid support to WASH and the Civil Society WASH Fund <i>Robyne Leven, Water, Sanitation and Hygiene Section, Australian Department of Foreign Affairs and Trade</i>
2:20 – 2:35	Communities of Practice and Innovation for CSO and WASH Sector Learning <i>Bronwyn Powell, KALM</i>
2:35 – 2:50	CS WASH Fund progress and trends <i>Dr Paul Crawford, Monitoring, Evaluation and Review Panel (MERP)</i>
2:50 – 3:00	Question and answer session
3:00 – 3:30	Break
3:30 – 4:40	“Marketplace” of CS WASH Fund projects in East Asia
4:40 – 5:00	Day 1 Wrap-up session
	Travel from Sheraton to Australian Ambassador’s Residence (buses provided)
6:00	Welcome Function at Australian Ambassador’s Residence

Theme

The overarching theme for the EARLE is: ***Bridging private and public spheres for improved sanitation.***

Sanitation coverage lags behind water coverage in East Asia, and this is particularly true for the poor, the vast majority of whom suffer a lack of hygienic sanitation. Governments and CSOs are working to increase demand for sanitation through approaches such as Community-Led Total Sanitation, now a national approach across many East Asian countries (for example, Indonesia and Vietnam). In Vietnam, whilst total sanitation coverage is 78%, this is made up of 94% urban and 70% rural coverage, highlighting inequity in access between urban and poorer rural communities.¹

Matching demand with low-cost technologies and financing options has spawned a number of subsidy and non-subsidy approaches. Sanitation marketing is being promoted in various forms as a means of encouraging the development of sustainable sanitation supply chains and increasing coverage. There is growing consensus that some level of subsidy may be required to reach the poorest, and that finding an appropriate financing mechanisms to support this remains a challenge for the sector.

In Vietnam, as in other East Asian countries, public funding to sanitation is an essential aspect of financial flows to the sector and has contributed to the rapid increases in sanitation coverage in the Millennium Development Goal period. The Government of Vietnam is exploring user-pays and private investment approaches to maintain and extend sanitation. CSOs, working with government, the private sector and other partners, play an important role in augmenting and tailoring market approaches to improve service equity and inclusion and facilitate feedback mechanisms.

Within this context, the EARLE will explore the roles of CSOs, relevant local government agencies and latrine suppliers in fostering market-based approaches to sanitation. It will address how gender and social inclusion, particularly disability, fit within a market-based approach to sanitation and highlight the latest evidence relating to financing mechanisms to enable sanitation access by the poor, including Output Based Aid and smart subsidies. Whilst focused on sanitation, the event will also identify effective ways hygiene can be promoted as an essential partner to sanitation for holistic WASH outcomes.

¹ WHO/UNICEF Joint Monitoring Program (2015) A Snapshot of Drinking Water and Sanitation in the South-east Asia region.