

THE SEARCH FOR SUSTAINABILITY: ARE WE MOVING IN THE RIGHT DIRECTION?

KEY POINTS AND RESOURCES TO SUPPORT SUSTAINABLE OUTCOMES FROM CIVIL SOCIETY WASH PROGRAMS

KEY POINTS

There is significant evidence that while water, sanitation and hygiene interventions achieve short-term gains in providing access and changing behaviours, there is often 'slippage' backwards. Some of those gains are therefore lost.

In water supply only a proportion of systems remain functional. In sanitation only some people continue to maintain and use a toilet. And hygiene behaviour changes such as handwashing at critical times are often not sustained.

A strength of civil society organisation (CSO) work is engagement at community level. Sustaining WASH outcomes requires working in strategic ways with other actors as well, namely government and private sector.

CSOs within the Civil Society WASH Fund and beyond demonstrate a wide range of innovative ideas on how to work with government and private sector. Examples include embedding CSO staff and activities within government agendas and actions, output-based aid approaches with either the public or private sector, rights-based approaches and potential for partnership with private or social enterprises that can support supply chains and service provision.

Lastly, sustainability of WASH outcomes is at risk due to climate change. There is a need to give climate change greater thinking and prominence in programming, since climate change effects on water availability, water scarcity, flooding and disasters will directly affect if and how WASH outcomes for communities are sustained.

Vulnerability assessments and stronger links between WASH, disaster risk reduction and climate change adaptation knowledge and programming can contribute to improve practice in this area.

Many resources are available to support your program's thinking on how to sustain the outcomes into the future. Many tools exist too, to both monitor and to predict sustainability of outcomes. A selection is provided below.



RESOURCES

SUSTAINABILITY ASSESSMENT TOOLS

Mapping of WASH sustainability tools

Triple-S Working paper 10, May 2014, by Ryan Schweitzer, Claire Grayson and Harold Lockwood

http://www.waterservicesthatlast.org/media/publications/mapping_of_wash_sustainability_tools

The mapping document presents 25 tools for understanding, measuring, or predicting sustainability. Tools include those designed for sector level assessment, for program/project level assessment and technology assessment.

Examples of tools for program level assessment include:

- AGUASAN Sustainability Assessment Tool (SAT) <http://www.aguasan.ch/>
- Dutch WASH Alliance (DWA) Sustainability Monitoring Framework (SMF) <http://www.washalliance.nl/>

5th WASH Sustainability Forum June-July 2014

Discussion of practical tools to promote sustainability. Background information and resources available at <http://www.ircwash.org/news/5th-wash-sustainability-forum>. Report available at https://drive.google.com/file/d/0B9UEtrdp2w_Qd0NrWnpFajBJSmM/edit?pli=1.

SUSTAINABILITY OF SANITATION OUTCOMES

Sustainability studies including:

- Plan International study in four countries in Africa
http://www.communityledtotalsanitation.org/sites/communityledtotalsanitation.org/files/Plan_International_ODF_Sustainability_Study.pdf
- Sustainability and equity aspects of total sanitation programmes were investigated in a study of recent WaterAid-supported programmes in three countries. Global synthesis report at http://www.communityledtotalsanitation.org/sites/communityledtotalsanitation.org/files/clts_synthesis_report.pdf

Other broader information sources on addressing sanitation and ways to improve sanitation programming:

- CLTS Knowledge Hub <http://www.communityledtotalsanitation.org/>
- Sustainable Sanitation Alliance <http://forum.susana.org/>

SANITATION MARKETING

Sanitation Marketing Community of Practice (an initiative of the Australian WASH Reference Group)

<http://www.sanitationmarketing.com/>

Many useful documents are available on the Resources section of the site

<http://www.sanitationmarketing.com/resources-overview#.VGKdOjSUc3Q>, including a set of UNICEF fact SanMark fact sheets.

Various briefing papers and reports from the World Bank's Water and Sanitation Program (WSP) and International Finance Corporation (IFC) including:

- Transforming Markets, Increasing Access: Early Lessons on Base-of-the-Pyramid Market Development in Sanitation, by Will Davies and Danielle Pedi (2013)
<http://smartlessons.ifc.org/smartlessons/lesson.html?id=1747>.
- Market Intelligence Brief - an overview of market sizing data for Kenya, including key drivers and market trends
http://www.ifc.org/wps/wcm/connect/6a110500420b6e0d96fddf494779b2ad/WSP_Kenya_Market+Intelligence+Brief_FINAL.pdf?MOD=AJPERES.
- Demand Generation Brief – a summary of sanitation consumer demand characteristics and overview of potential demand generation, sales and marketing strategies to unlock this demand
<http://www.ifc.org/wps/wcm/connect/0b26bb00420b6ef5970edf494779b2ad/WSP+Kenya+Demand+Generation+Strategies+Brief+FINAL.pdf?MOD=AJPERES>.
- Product and Business Model Design – a review of the product design process used to support planning
<http://www.ifc.org/wps/wcm/connect/81daad00420b6f239717df494779b2ad/WSP+Kenya+Product+and+Business+Model+Design+Brief+FINAL.pdf?MOD=AJPERES>.

The World Bank recently published an ebook *Tapping the Markets: Opportunities for Domestic Investments in Water and Sanitation for the Poor*, written by Jemima Sy, Robert Warner and Jane Jamieson (2014)
<https://openknowledge.worldbank.org/handle/10986/16538>.

SUSTAINABLE URBAN WASH

Resources from Water and Sanitation for the Urban Poor (WSUP) <http://www.wsup.com/> including a guide for programming in urban contexts <http://www.wsup.com/resource/the-urban-programming-guide/>.

WaterAid Urban Framework 2011 <http://www.wateraid.org/what-we-do/our-approach/research-and-publications/view-publication?id=7a9a6dd3-e632-4f0f-b730-9496a6b16d3a>

SUSTAINABILITY OF WATER OUTCOMES

The Sustainable Services at Scale (Triple-S) website <http://www.waterservicesthatlast.org/> has a variety of helpful resources, including case studies of other CSO activities available at

http://www.waterservicesthatlast.org/resources/case_studies.

Guidance on post-construction support is available through the IRC International Water and Sanitation Centre at <http://www.ircwash.org/news/report-provides-guidance-resolution-problems-water-systems>.

OUTPUT-BASED AID IN WASH

WSP Learning Note: Output-Based Aid and Sustainable Sanitation

http://www.wsp.org/sites/wsp.org/files/publications/WSP_OBA_sanitation.pdf

East Meets West Foundation 2014 WEDC paper: Output-Based Aid for delivering WASH services in Vietnam: Ensuring Sustainability and Reaching the Poor <http://thrivenetworks.org/uploads/downloads/Output-Based-Aid-for-delivering-WASH-services-in-Vietnam-Ensuring-Sustainability-and-Reaching-the-Poor-Briefing-Paper.pdf>

CSO APPROACHES TO SUPPORT THE ENABLING ENVIRONMENT

Innovations and Challenges to CSOs addressing the enabling environment for WASH services for the poor: A learning paper based on the first CS WASH Fund

ISF WASH website <http://goo.gl/Dr0SHa>

ADVOCACY, HUMAN RIGHT TO WATER AND SANITATION AND INCLUSION

An inclusive approach to WASH, particularly with regard to gender, improves overall WASH sustainability.

Developed by the UN Rapporteur, recently released Handbook on the human rights to water and sanitation

www.righttowater.info,

WaterAid resources on rights-based approaches to WASH

www.wateraid.org/~media/Publications/equity-inclusion-english.pdf

Many resources on various aspects of inclusion are available at the Inclusive WASH Community of Practice site (an initiative of the Australian WASH Reference Group) <http://www.inclusivewash.org.au/>.

Resources on working effectively with women and men in WASH programs are also available at

<http://www.genderinpacificwash.info/>.

CLIMATE CHANGE ADAPTATION

WASH and climate change resources:

- Overseas Development Institute (ODI) (2014) report: Adaptation to climate change in water, sanitation and hygiene: assessing risks, appraising options in Africa <http://www.odi.org/publications/8154-climate-change-adaptation-wash-water-sanitation>.
- IRC (2011) report: Adaptation of WASH services delivery to climate change and other sources of risk and uncertainty (Thematic Overview Paper 24) <http://www.irc.nl/top24>.
- IRC WASH & climate change adaptation training module (2012) <http://www.ircwash.org/resources/wash-climate-change-adaptation-training-module>

Resources on vulnerability assessment:

- CARE Climate Vulnerability and Capacity Analysis (CVCA) http://www.careclimatechange.org/cvca/CARE_CVCAHandbook.pdf
- Red Cross Vulnerability and Capacity Assessment (VCA) <http://www.climatecentre.org/site/community-risk-reduction>.
- Participatory Capacity and Vulnerability Assessment (PCVA) (used by Plan and Oxfam) <http://policy-practice.oxfam.org.uk/publications/participatory-capacity-and-vulnerability-analysis-a-practitioners-guide-232411>.
- CRISTAL - "Community-based Risk Screening Tool – Adaptation and Livelihoods." <http://www.iisd.org/cristaltool/>.

Dr Juliet Willetts, Associate Professor, Research Director

Institute for Sustainable Futures, University of Technology Sydney

juliet.willetts@uts.edu.au; ISF WASH website <http://goo.gl/Dr0SHa>