

The WASH Alliance envisions a world in which all people have sustainable access to WASH services. To realise this, we need to drastically change the way we approach this challenge. Traditional solutions focused on building infrastructure, are not sustainable and cannot meet the needs of a growing population.

In the countries in which we are active, we therefore work on changing mindsets and creating systems for sustainable and affordable WASH services that can accelerate. This is the only way to adapt to fast population growth. We facilitate the development of a system in which all stakeholders, such as private sector, public sector, citizens and NGOs, work effectively together.



Our work in Ethiopia 2011-2014

In the last four years, the Ethiopian WASH Alliance has been successful to achieve most of its planned results in realising access to WASH. These are the results of a coherent country programme based on three pillars:

1. Building a functioning WASH market
2. Building a functioning public sector for WASH
3. Empowering and organising citizens

Highlights of our programme in Ethiopia:

Building a WASH Market

Waste management & employment creation

In urban areas in Ethiopia we created a win-win situation by combining capacity building on solid waste management systems and turning WASH services into an economic opportunity for unemployed youths. We raised awareness among governmental decision-makers and citizens, and supported business development along the sanitation service and value chain. An advantage of this approach is the cooperation between local governments, financial institutions and the private sector, which is one of result of program implementation.

Public sector for WASH

Budget tracking

Despite the fact that there is a challenge to engage for civil society organisations to publicly advocate for policy changes, a remarkable positive change on this dimension of policy impact can be observed. Ethiopian partner organisations have reached progress by increasing awareness on the importance of WASH. Consequently, local WASH budgets have increased significantly.

Training government staff

Local government departments have been trained in several WASH related topics such as CLTSH (Community Led Total Sanitation and Hygiene) and 3R (Retention, Recharge and Re-use). This helped us to encourage them to incorporate environmental sustainability, specifically in terms of water and soil management in the catchment areas, and CLTSH in their programme design, planning and implementation.

Access to clean drinking water and safe sanitation in Benin has been subject to considerable progress since the 1990s, in particular in rural areas, where coverage is higher than in many other African countries. New strategies to increase water supply in rural and urban areas have been adopted in 2005 and 2006. However, challenges remain. In Benin in 2013, more than 7 million people lack access to improved sanitation facilities and more than 3,5 million people lack access to improved drinking water sources. This is 36% percent of the total population.

WASH situation in Ethiopia



43%

Insufficient / unsafe water



37%

Open defecation



72%

Poor sanitation

Results 2011 - 2014

€ 4.458.000

country budget
2011 - 2015

41.130

additional persons are
using improved sanitation

58.477

additional persons have
gained access to and are
using improved water

€63

costs per person access
to clean drinking water
& save sanitation

47 villages achieved an ODF status

Media engagement

A very specific and successful element of our programme in Ethiopia is the engagement of the media and the training of media professionals. These media professionals are an important driving force of community awareness on the benefits of clean drinking water and safe sanitation. In addition, the last few years we saw an increase in media campaigns for improved sanitation and hygiene and increased finance for the WASH sector.

PROGRAMME 2015

Focus areas in our programme for 2015:

- 1 **(School) sanitation:**
Working on behavioural change through WASH clubs and Student Led Total Sanitation.
- 2 **Financial ownership:**
Making sure financing of the construction of sanitation infrastructure is at least partly paid by the community members themselves.
- 3 **Business approach:**
Realising access to finance for entrepreneurs that participated in our training and supporting them by setting up guarantee funds at local Micro Finance Institutions.
- 4 **Training government staff:**
Capacity building of local officials under the GLOWS (Guided Learning on Water, Sanitation and Hygiene) programme.
- 5 **Media engagement:**
Raising awareness on the benefits of clean drinking water, safe sanitation and improved hygiene practice and engage at policy level for more financing to WASH.
- 6 **Multistakeholder approach:**
Greater involvement of representatives from the private sector (including financial institutions) and increased collaboration between public and financial sectors.

Empowering and organising citizens

Demand creation for sanitation

Our sanitation impact has been reached mainly through the combined efforts in Community Led Total Sanitation Hygiene (CLTSH), hygiene and sanitation education and Eco-san technology demonstration. These approaches helped us to raise awareness on the benefits of sanitation and stimulated communities to construct sanitation facilities at household level. As the result of CLTSH implementation, in 2014 more than 8000 households built their own traditional latrines using their own materials.

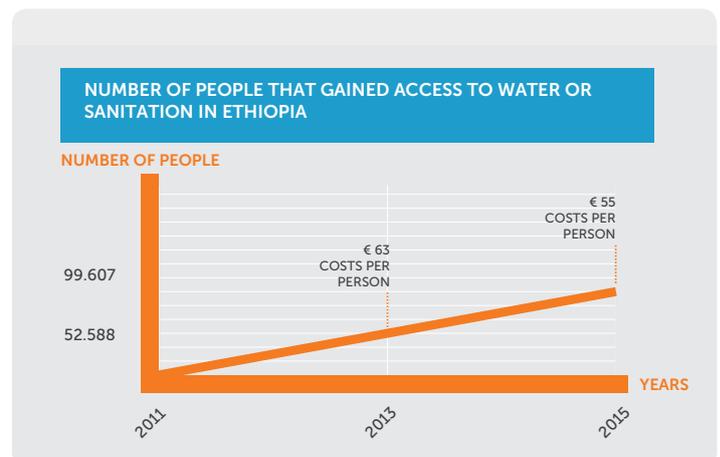
Water Supply, Sanitation and Hygiene committees

Realising access and use of improved drinking water was stimulated through the establishment of Water Supply, Sanitation and Hygiene committees (WASHCOs). In these committees, representation of women is mandatory. More than 50% of the Water Committee members that received training mainly in operation and management of the schemes, financial management, preparing community WASH plans and bookkeeping were women.

Capacity development of our partners

All members of the WASH Alliance work together on the three pillars and collaborate to ensure that WASH services will be sustained and will even scale up after our support has stopped. Therefore we support our members to fulfil their role as facilitators of change and promoters of sustainability.

In Ethiopia, for example, increased menstrual hygienic behaviour lead to higher school enrolment of girls at the participating schools. Combining sanitation and hygiene awareness with the provision of hardware facilities lead to the instalment of separate toilet blocks for girls and boys. Also sanitation and hygiene education in the schools using School WASH clubs contributed to better management of the facilities.



Sustainability

Our work is always focused on achieving sustainable results. In order to realise these goals, we have developed the FIETS sustainability approach. This approach consists of five elements of sustainability: financial, institutional, environmental, technological and social sustainability. Special focus within our sustainability approach is the recognition of the interdependencies between water, energy, food security and climate change.