

Accelerating WASH in Ghana

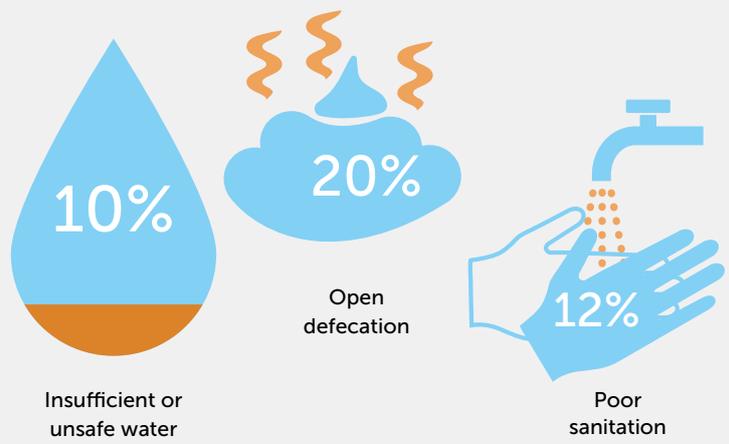
Country Programme 2016 – 2020

The WASH Alliance Ghana 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 with a major focus on building infrastructure are not sustainable and cannot meet the needs of a growing population.

It is our mission to change mindsets and create systems for sustainable and affordable WASH services that can accelerate. This is the only way to adapt to newly emerging challenges such as the fast population growth. A guiding principle in our work is therefore facilitating the development of a system in which all stakeholders, such as businesses, governments, citizens and NGOs work effectively together.

WASH in Ghana

In Ghana more than 90 percent of people have access to safe water, but it is projected that by the end of 2015 only 15% of people have access to improved sanitation. Dependency on unsafe water sources is higher in rural areas. Due to drinking contaminated water, diarrheal disease is the third most commonly reported illness at health centers across the country and 25% of all deaths in children under the age of five are attributed to diarrhea. In addition to a lack of sanitation infrastructure, some cultural beliefs and views encourage people in rural areas not to use latrines. This, while in recent years almost nine tenth of the WASH sector expenditure was directed towards urban areas in Ghana.



250,000 Additional persons have gained access to and are using improved water

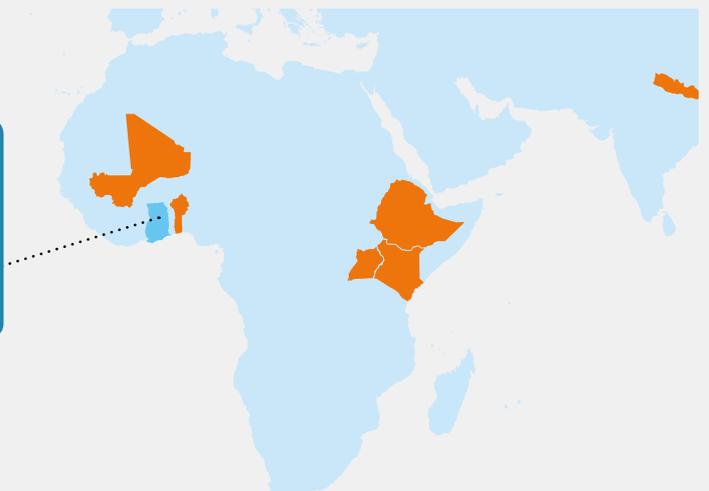
245,000 Additional persons are using improved sanitation

€9 Reduced WASH costs from €14 to €9 per person

Our work in Ghana

As a result of our work in Ghana between 2011 and 2015, 245,000 people use improved sanitation facilities and 250,000 use improved water resources. We were able to deliver these results through strategically combining awareness raising on the importance of WASH, developing multi-stakeholder platforms and creating a working sanitation market. Strengthening the WASH sector through training and capacity building, private sector development and policy influencing have been other focus areas in our work. In a period of 5 years we have reduced the costs per person to get access to WASH from €14 to €9.

The WASH Alliance Ghana works in Tamale Metro, Kumbungu, Tolon, Karaga, Nanumba North, Nanumba South, Sagnarigu, Central Gonja and Nanumba South



How we do this

To realise sustainable access to WASH services for all, we contribute to a shift from a hardware-construction approach towards a WASH sector development approach. This approach will not only sustain results after our programs stop, it will also accelerate to meet the needs of a growing population. Our work is built up in three areas:



Developing a functioning and enabling WASH market, in which businesses provide quality WASH products and services and financial institutions facilitate access to finance for both businesses and consumers.



Developing an enabling public sector for WASH, in which the government creates a supportive policy and regulatory environment for sustainable WASH services and allocates sufficient budget for WASH.



Empowering, informing and organising citizens for sustainable WASH. These citizens will demand and pay for sustainable WASH services, practice healthy behaviour and hold the government accountable for delivering quality WASH services.

Accelerating WASH in Ghana 2016 – 2020

Water service delivery (target: 350,000 people)

The water services we will provide in both rural and urban areas include the construction of water facilities (hand-dug wells, rainwater harvest tanks for irrigation farming), the extension of pipelines to nearby communities and the development of community water kiosks.

Sanitation service delivery (target: 1 million people)

In line with the national sanitation policies, the main priority in our 2016 – 2020 programme is scaling up Community Led Total Sanitation (CLTS). Strengthening our urban sanitation and waste management work in Tamale and faecal sludge management will be other focus areas.

Hygiene promotion (target: 1.2 million people)

To complement our sanitation service delivery, we will launch numerous communication campaigns to realise behavioural change via radio shows, audiovisuals and theatre. Main topics of discussion will be personal and household hygiene, including hand-washing. On an implementation level we will provide hand washing basins and drinking water containers for schools and we will train school health teachers in improved hygiene communication and practices.

Innovative finance and business development (target: 50 entrepreneurs)

Innovative financing and business models, including micro-finance for WASH, will form a critical component of this 5-year programme. We will train entrepreneurs, link them to financial institutions and develop innovative business models with them. Furthermore, production of organic fertilizer by using organic waste and cultivation of the Black Soldier fly as protein supplement in poultry feed will be advanced.

Advocacy and policy influencing (target: 1.5 million people on the Right To Water and Sanitation)

In order to build a public sector for WASH, (local) governments and service providers need to be involved. We will therefore lobby for improved and sustained WASH services and empower community groups to hold their government accountable for providing WASH services.

Capacity building

We will build the capacity of local governmental staff, NGO partners, WASH committee members and service providers on fundraising, water management, sanitation business development and budget tracking.

Sustainability

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