

Accelerating WASH in Mali

Country Programme 2016 – 2020

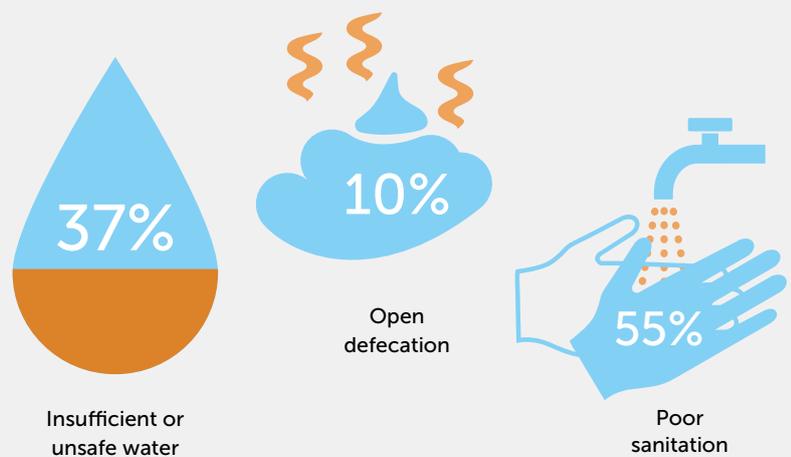
The WASH Alliance Mali envisions a world in which all people have sustainable access to WASH services. To realise this, we need to drastically change the way we approach this challenge. Traditional solutions with a major focus on building infrastructure are not sustainable and cannot meet the needs of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

Mali is one of the poorest countries in the world. Without access to safe water, communities are unable to take their first essential step out of poverty. It is estimated that around two third of the people in Mali don't have sufficient or steadily functioning water facilities and more than one third does not have access to safe drinking water source.

When it comes to sanitation, less than half of the population has access to a toilet. Hygiene practices are poor and diarrhoea is the third most common cause of death. The situation has deteriorated since the political crisis in 2012. Mali is not on track to reach the MDG target for sanitation.



36,363 Additional persons have gained access to and are using improved water

4,754 Additional persons are using improved sanitation

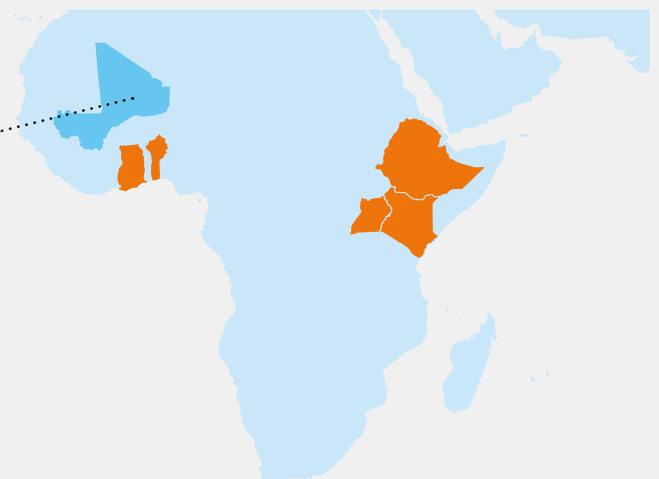
€95 Reduced WASH costs from €251 to €95 per person

402 Rainwater tanks have been built

Our work in Mali

As a result of our work in Mali between 2011 and 2015, 36,363 people used improved water resources and 4,754 people used improved sanitation facilities. We were able to deliver these results through strategically combining sanitation and hygiene promotion and sensitisation campaigns, Integrated Water Resources Management, training on environmental sustainability, the provision of WASH credits strengthening the water sector through training and capacity building, private sector development and policy influencing. During the last years, Mali WASH Alliance increasingly targeted women through training them on the Right to Water and Sanitation (RTWS) and including them in WASH committees. At the same time, people were trained on using waste to improve their economic situation. In a period of 5 years we have reduced the costs per person to get access to WASH from €251 to €95.

From 2016 to 2020, the Mali WASH Alliance intends to work on full coverage of WASH services in three (03) sub-catchments: Sanankoroba-Dialakoroba, Doumba-Sirakorola (Koulikoro) and Garalo-Yinindougou (Sikasso). The total Population that the Mali WASH Alliance intend to reach by 2020 in the three catchments is around: 240 000 people.



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 Mali 2016 – 2020

Between 2016 and 2020, the Mali WASH Alliance aims to facilitate access to improved drinking water for at least 50,000 people and access to sanitation services for 100,000 people. In order to achieve sustainable construction and management of water and sanitation infrastructure, our main priority will be building a public sector for WASH.

Another focus area in our 2016-2020 programme is the development and implementation of a Recharge, Retention and Reuse (3R) approach. **Hereby the focus will be especially on combining different strategies, such as keeping the water in the cycle, storing it and managing the water buffer. At the same time, NGOs will be encouraged to shift from a rather traditional community focus in WASH projects to a focus on catchment scale.** Additionally, the Mali WASH Alliance will work on the construction and rehabilitation of water points, the continued implementation of manual drilling, capacity strengthening of institutional and non-institutional state actors and lobby and advocacy for increased WASH sector budget at all levels.

Water scarcity and contaminated water in Mali lead to an enormous need and demand for alternative and innovative water supply options. The WASH Alliance Mali will use lobby and advocacy and budget tracking to change the behaviour of local authorities towards WASH and to ensure that more money is allocated to the WASH sector.

At the same time, community-based organisations, NGOs, state representatives, local authorities, young people and women's groups will be trained in the Right to Water and Sanitation and personal and household hygiene.



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.