

## **Louis Boorstin – The Bill and Melinda Gates Foundation (paraphrased)**

What works in school WASH?

I looked back at a meeting here six years ago right here in this building. Now, 6 years later have we made progress? Yes, but there is a long way to go. This is a milestone in order to figure out what we need to do.

1. The What? To get things done on the ground.
  - a. Sustainability – critical. Can you keep using the toilet?
  - b. Accountability – becomes important because people working in the field recognize that figuring this out will drive sustainability. We are still experimenting with this.
  - c. Scale – let's call this consistency. We need solutions that work in the average case - without the charismatic teacher or someone who takes this task on. What about with average people who are busy. How do we help them do their jobs? Intervention compliance – means it has to work consistently – how do we do this practically?
  - d. Difference between success in school WASH and success in community WASH. How do we work in the system and the government and with the partners? Different from maintaining a toilet in the house
  - e. Evidence – there was learning before, but dearth of hard evidence – need more evidence
2. The How? Do we all contribute to making progress in this area. Why have we made progress, how will it continue and this should guide organizations.
  - a. Combine researchers and practitioners – not often assembled in the same place. Researchers want to know what works, mechanisms and impacts. Practitioners know how hard it is. Collaboration has produced great results.
  - b. Keep learning as you go. Not actually that easy and learning is different and not always rigorous – need to be flexible to change. If we want to achieve scale and sustainability then need to maintain rigor.
  - c. Keep your eye on the prize – lots of efforts. Are others going to learn from what we have done?
    - i. Impact – lives, health, social, gender, economic
    - ii. Sustainability
    - iii. Scalability/consistency
  - d. Work with others – finders want to attribute to themselves – how are you contributing is the real question.