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04

GENDER MAINSTREAMING IMPACT STUDY



UN**HABITAT**
FOR A BETTER URBAN FUTURE

DOCUMENT

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**GENDER
MAINSTREAMING
IMPACT STUDY**

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UN  **HABITAT**

Water and Sanitation Trust Fund Impact Study Series

Gender Mainstreaming Impact Study

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Acronyms and Abbreviations

ADB	Asian Development Bank	GWA	Gender and Water Alliance
AECID	Integrated Acahualinca Informal Settlement Development	GWA	Gender and Water Alliance
AfDB	African Development Bank	HH	Household
AMCOW	African Ministers' Council on Water	HVBWSH	Human Values Based Water, Sanitation and Hygiene
AP	Action Plans	IEE	Initial Environment Examination
CAT	Community Action Teams (LAO PDR)	ISWM	Integrated Solid Waste Management
CBO	Community Based Organization	IUSP	Integrated Urban Sanitation Programme
CHH	Child-Headed Households	JMC	Jabalpur Municipal Corporation
CMWSS	Community Managed Water Supply Scheme	KENSUP	Kenya Slum Upgrading Programme
COWAN	Country Women Association of Nigeria	LED	Local Economic Development
CTLS	Community Total Led Sanitation	LF	Logical Framework
CWASC	Community Water and Sanitation Committee	LFHD	Legislature's Forum for Human Development (India)
DFID	Department For International Development (UK)	LVWATSAN	Lake Victoria Regional Water and Sanitation Initiative
DP	Development Partners	LWU	LAO Women Union
ENPHO	Environment and Public Health Organisation	MC	Micro credit
FHH	Female-Headed Households	MDG	Millennium Development Goal
FP	Focal Point	MEK-WATSAN	The Mekong Region Water and Sanitation Initiative
GEAP	Gender Equality Action Plan and the Gender Mainstreaming Strategy Framework	MOE	Ministry of Education
GFP	Gender Focal Point	MPWT	Ministry of Public Works and Transportation (Lao PDR)
GM	Gender Mainstreaming	MRC	Mekong River Commission
GMSF	Gender Mainstreaming Strategy Framework	MSE	Micro and Small Enterprises
GPRS	Growth and Poverty Reduction Strategy (GPRS II) (2006 – 2009)	MSF	Multi-Stakeholder Forum
GRET	Groupe de Recherche et d'Echanges Technologiques (Lao PDR)	MTSIP	UN-HABITAT's Medium-Term Institutional Plan - 2008-2013
GRID	Gender Resource Information and Development Center (Lao PDR)	NCRWSSSP	Northern and Central Regions Water Supply and Sanitation Sector Project
		NEPAD	New Partnerships for Africa's Development
		NGO	Non-Governmental Organization
		NGPES	National Growth and Poverty Eradication Strategy
		NORAD	Norwegian Agency for Development Cooperation



O&M	Operation and Maintenance	TOT	Training of Trainers
OD	Open defecation	UADD	Urban Administration and Development Department
OPEC	Organization of the Petroleum Exporting Countries	UN	United Nations
PEPSA	Plateau State Environmental and Protection Agency	UN-HABITAT	United Nations Human Settlements Programme
PIU	Project Implementation Unit	UNDP	United Nations Development Programme
PPP	Public Private Partnership	VEI	Village Environment Improvement
PRSP	Poverty Reduction Strategy Paper	WAC	Water for African Cities
PSWB	Plateau State Water Board	WAI	WaterAid India
RGA	Rapid Gender Assessment	WAsC	Water for Asian Cities
RGVA	Rapid Gender and Vulnerability Assessment	WATSAN	Water and Sanitation
RWH	Rain Water Harvesting	WDM	Water Demand Management
SBP	Strategic Business Plan	WRM	Water Resources Management
SESI	Slums Environmental Sanitation Initiative	WSIB	Water and Sanitation Infrastructure Branch
SGSITS	SGS Institute of Technology and Science	WSSD	World Summit on Sustainable Development
SHG	Self-Help Group	WSTF	Water and Sanitation Trust Fund
SLTS	School Led Total Sanitation	WUF	Water Urban Forum
SWM	Solid Waste Management		

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Executive Summary



The objective of this impact assessment is to identify how the water and sanitation initiatives implemented under the Water Sanitation and Infrastructure Branch of UN-HABITAT, have strategically mainstreamed gender aspects in its various initiatives and to identify achievements and impact, challenges, lessons learned and provide recommendations.

This gender thematic study is one out three impact studies supported by the WSTF. The other two are Kenya and Nepal Country Impact Assessments. Together these three constitute the first in a series, intended to assist the WSIB in its future plans for regular assessments of its WATSAN initiatives during the coming five years. The study has looked at global, regional and country activities. The country programmes reviewed are implemented in Ethiopia, Ghana, Kenya and Nigeria in Africa; India, Lao PDR, Nepal and Vietnam in Asia and Nicaragua in the Latin America and Caribbean region.

KEY CONCLUSIONS AND RECOMMENDATIONS

Overall, this Gender Impact Assessment has found that great progress has been made by UN-HABITAT's WSIB in collaboration with its partners, in demonstrating that pro-poor governance, gender mainstreaming and empowering women and youth to participate in decision-making all clearly contributes to water and sanitation improvements and benefits all members in a community. The pilot initiatives have generated a "critical mass" of achievement and experience. As shown in Table 5 in this report, the majority of the countries assessed have to a varying degree implemented work and models that are replicable. There are also examples of "multiplier effects" of approaches and models.

It is now a good time for UN-HABITAT to direct more focus into engaging all its partners and to using this “critical mass” in its policy level dialogue, with a vision to ensure that results are reflected in policies and improved systems supporting residents in informal urban settlements. Pilot initiatives on the ground being testing zones for innovations and ideas should continue and be developed further with more emphasis on sanitation improvements – and should not be viewed as contradicting the above-mentioned recommendation.

SPECIFIC CONCLUSIONS AND RECOMMENDATIONS

Normative activities are found to be of good quality, and clearly stand above work of many other international development organisations. Normative work also includes influencing policies - and impact has been found in some countries. **It is recommended** that country initiatives (under WSIB and supported by the WSTF) that to date have not developed any normative work in this field should be assisted and encouraged to do so. Only Nicaragua was found not to have progressed in this field as yet.

Regarding WSIB's Logical Frameworks, both general observations and those related to gender have been made. As gender is an integral part of the overall framework, the general observations have not been separated from the gender specific. The fact that more than one logical framework exists has complicated the process of arriving at conclusions regarding results in comparison with plans.

Although indicators of achievements are developed, they are not Specific, Measurable, Achievable and Time bound (SMART) which has made it difficult to use the logframes as instruments of assessment. This applies even in cases where baselines and benchmarks exist. The MTSIP framework is basically a good framework and can supplement the LF/RBM as it is user-friendly tool and has structure that is easy to follow. It should not replace the conventional logframe matrix as it lacks ‘objectives’, ‘activity areas’, ‘means of verification’ and ‘assumptions’.

It has been observed that the MTSIP LF has omissions regarding gender (see Chapter 5 for details). **It is recommended** that WSIB should strive to develop and maintain one uniform, user-friendly results-based LF for all its WATSAN programmes in which the top level WSIB LF should have clear links to the lower level LFs. Budgets should be clearly linked to the Outputs, as the budget is a monetary expression of the LF.

Regarding Poverty & Gender Mapping and Baseline Surveys – these are examples of comprehensive work in several countries. However, **at the time of the assessment** there seemed to be no established system to collect, disseminate and report on gender-disaggregated data on a regular basis, which makes these early baselines seem like “stand-alone” exercises with no systematic link to activities and progress (*it has since emerged that formats have been developed to be used periodically in projects*). *It is recommended* that WSIB maintain a system for gender disaggregated data at the very start of new interventions.

Regarding capacity building through gender training WSIB has also made great efforts as part of its *operational work*. As this study clearly shows, progress has been identified in several countries with Asian countries being at the forefront. An important finding is that, when programme/task managers are knowledgeable and interested in gender issues, it almost “immediately” translates into positive results both at field and Headquarters levels.

UN-HABITAT fully appreciates that this area of work deals with changing mindsets, attitudes and behaviour in vastly diverse socio-cultural environments. However, gender mainstreaming issues are often met with “fatigue” and sometimes perceived as donor-driven in developing countries. **It is recommended** that gender training be continued in all participating countries, and thus capacity-building and refresher training also need to be budgeted for in the future.

Regarding Gender Focal Points, the WSIB has strived to set up gender-balanced project staff teams with one staff member assuming the role as a focal point. **It is recommended** this is be continued but that more programme/task managers *who are in decision-making positions* do their part as well throughout planning, implementation and follow-up – *especially since it has been found that this has almost direct positive effects on implementation*.

Regarding socio-cultural norms and attitudes toward gender issues, which are found to be diverse across countries, the assessment is that the programmes, in cooperation with the GWA, have generally appreciated that different contexts require different approaches and

that “tailor-made” training materials and guidelines need to be developed – and that language translation is often not sufficient as adaptation to local contexts.

However, this realisation has not always been translated into practice - sometimes due to lack of timely resources. **It is recommended** that UN-HABITAT should ensure that strategies and guidelines used are appropriate/suited to the country or culture-specific conditions in which they are used.

As for women empowerment, the assessment found that WSIB has supported the recruitment of women at higher levels, in government agencies and institutions. Good efforts have been made in many countries to empower women by encouraging their voice and participation in decision-making bodies such as WATSAN committees and Multi-Stakeholder Forum at Municipality levels. Less information has been received about empowerment of youth, with some exceptions, and in some countries it was specifically reported that *youth have not shown interest* in getting involved in activities. **It is recommended** that innovative ways are found to empower youth in WATSAN through, for instance, linking youth clubs on water, sanitation and hygiene with income-generation and skills development and/or information and communication technologies (ICT) and education¹.

With regard to sanitation, this has been treated as a matter of particular importance for women and girls, and related to security, health, privacy, and

¹ Although it has been informed by WSIB that another department of UN-HABITAT is dealing with youth issues, as it were, specific attention needs to be placed on this category to attract also teenagers in the work and have them contribute more to reaching set goals.

In some countries where WSIB/UN-HABITAT has operations, there is a likelihood that benefits may be sustained even after its programmes/initiatives have ended, as the work has attracted interest and attention from governments and, in some cases, influenced planning and policies. There are also examples of models replicated through other technical cooperation programmes and these are mentioned under the overall conclusions.

It is, finally, recommended that, to increase the likelihood of continued and sustained benefits regarding pro-poor governance and gender strategies, UN-HABITAT should further strengthen its efforts in encouraging governments to “buy-in” and formulate policies that recognize the issues at hand and enables resources to be allocated and co-funding of WATSAN in urban informal settlements. This would include - but not be limited to - encouraging youth programmes and economic activities related to WATSAN, and gender auditing of organisations working in the sector.



Background



1.1 CONTEXT OF THE STUDY

World leaders, in a meeting at the United Nations Millennium Summit in 2000, committed themselves to attaining the Millennium Development Goal (MDG) 7, target 10, which aims to reduce by half the proportion of people without sustainable access to safe drinking water by 2015. In 2002, the World Summit on Sustainable Development (WSSD) in Johannesburg added another target: to halve by 2015 the proportion of people who do not have access to basic sanitation.

The development objective of UN-HABITAT's Water and Sanitation programme is to contribute to the achievement of these goals related to water and sanitation in human settlements with particular focus on the urban poor in order to facilitate an equitable social, economic and environmental

development. The highest priority for UN-HABITAT's Water and Sanitation programme is thus improving access to safe water and helping provide adequate sanitation to millions of low-income urban dwellers and measuring that impact.

In October 2002, UN-HABITAT established a **Water and Sanitation Trust Fund**, here called WSTF or Trust Fund, to help create an enabling environment for the achievement of the UN-HABITAT's water and sanitation programmes and related MDG targets. WSTF supports the Water and Sanitation for Cities (WAC) Programmes in Asia Africa and the Latin America and the Caribbean Regions and two regional initiatives, namely the Lake Victoria Water and Sanitation Initiative and the Mekong Region Water and Sanitation Initiative.



The **purpose** was to bring in new investment and ideas, expand service coverage for poor urban dwellers, and help build momentum for achieving the MDGs. The Water Sanitation and Infrastructure Branch (WSIB) under the Human Settlements Financing Division of UN-HABITAT, Nairobi, Kenya, is the manager of the WSTF.

WSIB plans to undertake regular assessments of the impact of its water and sanitation programmes during the coming five years. In this connection, **an Impact Assessment study was commissioned in November 2009**, being the first in a series of regular impact assessments with

the purpose to assist the organization in the establishment of a long-term impact evaluation mechanism.

This impact assessment has a **dual focus**:

- Assessment of WSTF supported projects Nepal in Kenya
- Assessment of Gender Mainstreaming of WSTF supported projects, globally.

While the findings of the Kenya and Nepal Country Impact Assessment studies are provided in two separate reports - this report includes the findings of the latter, the **Gender Mainstreaming Impact Assessment**.

TABLE 1: **Countries, cities & initiatives of the Gender Thematic Assessment**

Region	Country	Cities/project initiatives	Global/Regional Programmes
AFRICA	Ethiopia	Addis Ababa, Harar and Dire Dawa	Water for Africa Cities
	Ghana	Accra, Sabon Zongo	Water for African Cities
	Kenya	Homa Bay ¹ (Kisii, Bondo, Kibera WATSAN, Maji Data)	Lake Victoria Regional Water & Sanitation Initiative
	Nigeria	Jos	Water for African Cities
ASIA	India	Bhopal, Gwalior, Indore, Jabalpur	Water for Asian Cities
	Lao PRD	Nan and Ngoi, Houn and Namor, Sanakham and Keo-Oudom, Xamtay, Khoun, Khenthao and Namkeung.	Water for Asian Cities (<i>Northern and Central Regions Water Supply and Sanitation Programme</i>)
		Phiang, Vilabouly, Dansavanh, Paksan and Houya Khoun	Mekong Region Water and Sanitation Initiative
	Nepal	Katmandu City and Valley, Hetauda, Bharatpur	Water for Asian Cities
	Vietnam	Gia Nghia, Cam Ranh, Tuy Hoa, Thap Cham, Song Cau and Ca Na	Water for Asian Cities
		Lao Bao and Dong Ha	Mekong Region Water and Sanitation Initiative
LAT. AM. & CAR. REG.	Nicaragua	Managua	Water for Cities <i>(Improving Capacity for Solid Waste Management in Managua)</i>

1.2 OBJECTIVE OF THIS STUDY

The **objective** of this impact assessment is to identify how the water and sanitation initiatives have managed to strategically mainstream gender aspects in its various initiatives and to identify achievements and impact, challenges, lessons learned and provide recommendations. It is regarded as an opportunity for WSIB to increase its understanding regarding what has “worked”, or “not worked” to date, in the attempts to mainstream gender concerns in countries’ policies at various levels, and in planning, implementation and follow-up of activities on the ground.

1.3 APPROACH

1.3.1 SELECTION OF COUNTRIES FOR THE REVIEW

The Water and Sanitation Programme country initiatives that are reviewed in this gender thematic study have been selected in consultation with the WSIB and the Gender Mainstreaming Unit, UN-HABITAT. They are Ethiopia, Ghana, Kenya and Nigeria in Africa; India, Lao PDR, Nepal and Vietnam in Asia and Nicaragua in the Latin America and Caribbean region (Table 1). WILL HAVED TO TAKE SPELLING ON TRUST IN THIS TABLE

1.3.2 KEY ISSUES FOR THIS STUDY

The key issues of inquiry for the study are: “How has pro-poor approaches and gender mainstreaming been understood and applied by UN-HABITAT’s water and sanitation programme, including the implementing organizations? How have women and men been encouraged to take part in decision-making regarding provision and access to water and

sanitation initiatives? How have women and youth, in particular, been encouraged to raise their voice and been empowered to participate in decision-making regarding access to services in various bodies? Have achievements in this area been scaled up and/or replicated in the countries reviewed, or in other countries, or regions? When facing obstacles and challenges in mainstreaming gender – how were they addressed and/or overcome? What gaps are identified and what are the lessons?”

There are four important “common denominators” for UN-HABITAT’s water and sanitation programmes, namely the ones that combine policy dialogue and normative work with on-the-ground pilot and demonstration initiatives. The study has strived to identify achievements and impact regarding pro-poor governance and community approaches, gender mainstreaming and women empowerment, that fall under the LF/RBM framework.

These four important “common denominators” are:

- *Normative initiatives:* Development of pro-poor and gender sensitive governance frameworks, including policy options, norms, standards and management toolkits for the urban WATSAN sector
- *Operational initiatives:* Facilitate pro-poor gender sensitive investment through regional and gender responsive WATSAN programmes - advocacy², awareness raising and information exchange, value based water education, capacity building and training, and gender mainstreaming and demonstration activities

² Advocacy implies influencing action, effecting change/transformation, attention to the marginalized, engaging critical actors, awareness creation/raising follow up.



- *Model-setting initiatives:* Provide strategic support to pro-poor, gender sensitive initiatives at the local level with a focus on participatory involvement of local communities in these initiatives
- *Monitoring:* Monitoring of progress towards achievement of WATSAN related MDG/WSSD targets

1.3.3 GATHERING OF INFORMATION

Information and views for this study were gathered through the following methods:

Desk review

Available documentation has been reviewed, which includes UN-HABITAT's Gender Policy, and Gender Equality Action Plan, other gender strategies and poverty assessments, project documents, cooperative agreements, annual plans and progress reports, baseline survey and project evaluation reports and workshop reports of basic gender training (**Annex III: References**).

Country missions and field visits

The team of three consultants (for both studies) undertook missions to Kenya and Nepal, while the consultant for the gender thematic study also made a brief visit to Lao PDR (**Annex I. Persons met, consulted & interviewed**).

The visits involved briefings by UN-HABITAT staff and meetings with government representatives and involved implementing organization and stakeholders, including beneficiaries at community level, although an exception was Lao PDR where a field visit could not be organised.

These are the mission periods:

- *Kenya:* 7-13 October 2009 for meetings in Nairobi
- *Lao PDR:* 8-11 November for meetings in Vientiane
- *Kenya:* 12-20 November for meetings in Nairobi, a three-day field visit to the LV-WATSAN initiatives in Homa Bay and to attend a shoulder meeting in Kisumu
- *Nepal:* 21- 30 November for meetings and visiting UN-HABITAT's sites in Kathmandu, and a three days field visit to Kathmandu Valley, Hetauda and Bharatpur.

Interviews via telephone and e-mail correspondence

In-depth interviews with stakeholders and project staff in Ethiopia, Ghana, India, Kenya, Nicaragua, Nigeria, Senegal and Vietnam (via telephone) were held aided by a brief checklist with key issues/questions (**Annex II: Issues guiding discussions and interviews**). In the other countries for which where telephone interviews were not possible, correspondence via e-mail enabled gathering of information and documentation.

1.3.4 LIMITATION TO THE STUDY

A limitation to the study is that the documentation and information received from countries have not been uniform and different types of documents have been received. Furthermore, some key persons were not available for contacts during the review period.

1.4 THEMATIC CONTEXT AND CHALLENGES

1.4.1 DEVELOPMENT CHALLENGES IN THE WATER AND SANITATION SECTOR

A report published in 2003 stated that less than half the population in urban centres of Africa, Asia and Latin America have water piped into their homes and less than one-third have adequate sanitation³. When UN-HABITAT's Water for the World's Cities programme was launched the same year, Ms. Anna Tibajuka, Executive Director of UN-HABITAT stated in a press release: "Half the world's population - 3 billion people - live in urban areas. Among them, almost 1 billion are desperately poor and live in slums without even the most basic services like sustainable sanitation.

However, the development community continues to focus on sanitation needs as though only rural areas are in need of them" (<http://www.un.org/News/Press/docs/2003/hab184.doc.htm>).

In 2008 the world reached an invisible but momentous milestone: for the first time in history, more than 50% of the world's population lives in urban areas – a total of 3.3 billion people. By 2030, this is expected to increase to almost 5 billion.

This growth is mainly happening in developing countries and in peri-urban settlements where many urban poor reside, and the ability to cope with the demand for basic services in urban poor areas is far from sufficient. The challenges of sustainable development in informal settlements and slums are thus tremendous as they are most often highly deficient in water and sanitation services and require mobilization of resources to meet the growing cost of water provision from sources that often are degraded.

Under the MDGs, the global community made a commitment to achieving "a significant improvement in the lives of at least 100 million slum dwellers" by 2020. The 'One United Nations' (One UN) initiatives and the CEB (Chief Executives Board), presses upon all UN agencies, the IMF and the World Bank, included to coordinate its activities. The UN has calculated that the financial crisis, with high and volatile food and energy prices, has pushed at least 100 million people around the world back into poverty.

³ In Africa about 50 percent of the urban population does not have adequate water supply, while up to 180 million (60%), in urban areas lack adequate sanitation. In urban Asia, 700 million people, do not have adequate water, while 800 million people in the urban areas are without adequate sanitation. In Latin America and the Caribbean 30 percent of the urban population lacks adequate water and 40% are without adequate sanitation. The report also states that each year, 2.2 million deaths or 4% of all deaths can be directly attributed to inadequate supplies of clean water and sanitation (*Water and Sanitation in the World's Cities: Local Action for Global Goals*, report by UN-HABITAT, 2003). It is estimated that 1.4 billion people will require sanitation facilities if the 2015 target is to be met.



It is generally recognized that inadequate provision of **water** affects women and girls the most - both in urban and rural areas – because they are generally responsible to collect water for their families and households for cooking, drinking, washing, doing laundry and cleaning and for various productive purposes. This means they often have to queue for water, get up early or go late at night to fetch water.

In the area of **sanitation**, women and girls also have responsibilities that make them more vulnerable to inadequate conditions and facilities, such as disposing of human waste when provision for sanitation is inadequate, and thus exposing themselves to diseases associated with contact with human excreta. Other reasons for placing special emphasis in providing women and girls with adequate sanitation and clean water adjacent to toilets is that women are more vulnerable at times of menstruating and when they have given birth.

Both men and women in slums face problems associated with poverty, poor living conditions and lack of social safety nets **but research shows that women and girls are by far the worst affected.** Households headed by women in developing countries suffer disproportionately from multiple shelter deprivations, defined as “any combination of lack of durable housing, lack of sufficient living area, lack of access to water, sanitation, and a lack of security of tenure.

Findings – Global Level



This chapter includes the following sections: 2.1) An overview of selected Water and Sanitation initiatives, and (2.2) A brief assessment of how strategic planning and logical frameworks have, in particular, incorporated gender concerns (gender mainstreaming) and women empowerment seen from a global perspective.

2.1 UN-HABITAT 'S WATER AND SANITATION INITIATIVES

The activities under the below-mentioned programmes combine policy dialogue and normative work with on-the-ground pilot and demonstration initiatives, assisting countries to improve the management of water and sanitation in poor urban areas especially in the slums and informal settlements.

2.1.1 WATER AND SANITATION FOR CITIES PROGRAMMES

The Water for Cities Programme includes regional initiatives in Africa and Asia:

The **Water for African Cities (WAC)** programme is aimed at improving the provision of water and sanitation facilities in African cities, with the support of development partners such as the African Development Bank (AfDB). The programme started in 1999 and is a major regional water and sanitation initiative endorsed by the African Ministers' Council on Water (AMCOW).

It focuses on six areas: pro-poor governance and follow-up investment; sanitation for the urban poor; urban catchment management; water demand management; water education in schools and communities and advocacy, awareness-raising and information exchange. It is implemented in 18 cities

in 15 countries: Burkina Faso, Cameroon, Ethiopia, Ghana, Ivory Coast, Kenya, Mali, Mozambique, Nigeria, Niger, Rwanda, Senegal, Tanzania, Uganda and Zambia (Phase II 2003-2009⁴). A third phase is currently being designed/developed, and it has been informed that it will have a stronger focus on sanitation than the earlier phases.

The training and capacity building component of the programmes, delivered through partnerships with regional training institutions, has strengthened and improved efficiency in the management of utilities in the participating cities. Through its collaboration with the African Development Bank, among other partners, the programme had (in 2008) contributed USD 21.5 million to improving access to more reliable and sustainable supplies of safe drinking water and basic sanitation for about 400,000 people.

In Asia, the **Water for Asian Cities (WAsC)** programme focuses on urban poverty alleviation through community-based urban water services. Priority attention is given to urban environmental sanitation and to improving urban water governance. The Asian Development Bank (ADB) is a major supporter of this programme.

The countries in which the programme has initiated activities are Bangladesh, Cambodia, China, India, Lao PDR, Nepal, Philippines, Thailand, Vietnam and Kazakhstan. The objective is achieving MDG Goal 7 Targets 10 and 11 aimed at reducing the number of people without water and basic sanitation facilities by

half by 2015, and improving the living conditions of at least 100 million slum dwellers by 2020.

The programme focuses on **three key areas**: demand-responsive and demand-management strategies to improve efficiency of water use and give more influence to those currently deprived of water and sanitation; scaling-up sanitation provision city-wide through innovative public-private-NGO partnerships, financing mechanisms and appropriate technical choices and, finally, new pro-poor investments in urban water supply and sanitation with emphasis on serving the urban poor with piped water and formal sanitation facilities.

2.1.2 MEKONG REGION WATER AND SANITATION INITIATIVE

Under the Water for Asian Cities Programme, UN-HABITAT in 2005 also developed another initiative, named Mekong Region Water and Sanitation Initiative (MEK-WATSAN), in response to requests from several governments in the Greater Mekong⁵ Sub-region (GMS). It focuses on attaining MDGs in secondary towns in the four countries that share the Mekong river basin, namely Cambodia, China (Yunnan Province), Lao PDR, and Vietnam - **through capacity building, project design, planning and implementation, and follow-up investments.**

In 2008 it was reported that 13 town initiatives were completed, or in the process of being completed. Project proposals, mostly with a strong

⁴ Phase I (1997-2002) was implemented in Abidjan, Accra, Addis Ababa, Dakar, Johannesburg, Lusaka and Nairobi, was a direct follow-up of the Cape Town Declaration, adopted by African Ministers in December 1997. It addressed the urgent need for improved water management in African Cities.

⁵ The term Mekong Region, which is home to some 250 million people, generally refers to the geographical area centered around the world's 12 largest river, the Mekong (<http://www.unhabitat.org/categories.asp?catid=465>).

community emphasis and contributions, are submitted to UN-HABITAT for co-funding, by local utilities or public health departments - an example is revolving funds for household water connections and toilet construction. In 2008 it was reported that 13 town initiatives were completed, or in the process of being completed (the project undertakes initiatives similar to the Lake Victoria WATSAN Initiative, below).



2.1.3 LAKE VICTORIA REGION WATER AND SANITATION INITIATIVE

The Lake Victoria Region Water and Sanitation (LVWATSAN) is an initiative in Africa launched in collaboration with the Governments of Kenya, Tanzania and Uganda and in close partnership with the Secretariat of the East African Community.

It is implemented in small urban centres and secondary towns in Tanzania, Kenya and Uganda and **supports water and sanitation related activities to contribute to equitable and sustainable economic, social and environmental development**. The participating cities are Bondo, Kisii, Homa Bay (in Kenya); Bunda, Bukoba/Muleba, and Mutukula (in Tanzania) and Bugembe, Mutukula, Nyendo Seenyanje and Kyotera (in Uganda). It supports water and sanitation related activities to contribute to equitable and sustainable economic, social and environmental development.

2.2 STRATEGIC PLANS AND LOGICAL FRAMEWORKS

The Inception Report for the overall assessment study clarified that the consultants' preference is to focus on the WSTF 2008 Strategic Plan's framework, as this provides a forward-looking orientation. However, the report also states "since most of the sample projects have been designed on the basis of the LFA-RBM for the WSP (2003) it will also be necessary to assess their design and real impacts against the backdrop of this strategic framework".

In order to assess how gender concerns have been integrated (mainstreamed) in the organisations' planning instruments, this study has looked at the available frameworks. The specific gender-oriented strategies and plans have also been reviewed.

2.2.1 MEDIUM TERM STRATEGIC INVESTMENT PLAN

UN-HABITAT has developed a Medium Term Strategic and Institutional Plan (MTSIP) for 2008-2013, which has six focus areas⁶ – of which the fourth focus area is addressing basic services, including water and sanitation. The Strategic Result is defined as: "Expanded access to environmentally sound basic urban infrastructure services with a special focus on the un-served and underserved populations". **'Gender' is included in the MTSIP framework as one of five indicators in the overall framework** (for all six areas) (*MTSIP Overview Results framework – a Matrix*). Indicators at both strategic result level and accomplishment levels are formulated - but none have, as yet, been formulated as SMART (specific, measurable, achievable, time bound) indicators.

Gender disaggregated data is mentioned in Focus Areas 1 and 5, however, it is **not at all mentioned as a factor at any level in the WATSAN's Focus Area 4** – which is quite a deviation from the RBM/LF 2004-2007 where gender and pro-poor issues are frequently mentioned, and at several levels.

It is also noted that in a Partners Meeting in October 2008 about RBM in the context of this results-based MTSIP, in a presentation of RBM progress and future steps, **gender issues are only mentioned once - in relation to UN-HABITAT's "Gender Action Plan"** as one of the documents to use in relation to Developing Focus Area strategic plans in the future (*Management Excellence for the MTSIP 2008-2013, Results-Based Management in UN-HABITAT*, A PPT Presentation at the Partners Meeting, Seville, October 2008).

Assessment: The fact that gender is mentioned in the indicator area of the overall framework for UN-HABITAT is positive as it confirms that gender should be mainstreamed. However, there are shortcomings in WATSAN Focus Area 4 - where gender should be specified at results and accomplishment levels, and associated with SMART indicators in order for results to be "measured".

2.2.2 RESULTS BASED MANAGEMENT FRAMEWORK AND LOGICAL FRAMEWORK

UN-HABITAT's WATSAN programme has a combined **Results Based Management (RBM)** and **Logical Framework Approach (LFA)** covering the period 2004-2007, that seeks to provide key information on the intended outputs and outcomes of the programme (*Results Based Management Framework & Logical Framework 2004-2007*). The RBM/LF matrix lists four activity sets: normative, operational, model-setting and monitoring initiatives, and these run through all WATSAN programmes.

⁶ The term Mekong Region, which is home to some 250 million people, generally refers to the geographical area centered around the world's 12 largest river, the Mekong (<http://www.unhabitat.org/categories.asp?catid=465>).

Pro-poor and gender issues are integral to the framework and frequently mentioned, and at various levels. However, the LF's **impact, outcome and output indicators are not SMART** – which are essential characteristics when used as evaluating instruments and when compared with baseline/benchmark data. Furthermore, the LF matrix has defined “assumptions/risks” that are within the control of the programme/s and **these should be rephrased as being outside of the programme’s control** to qualify as assumptions.

Assessment: The LF/RBM Logical Framework is detailed in essentially logical and user friendly as a management tool, however, it needs improvement, such as defining SMART indicators for areas such as gender and pro-poor outputs/outcomes, and rephrasing assumptions.

2.2.3 THE TRUST FUND LOGICAL FRAMEWORK

The Trust Fund also has a separate logical framework for the strategy period 2008-2012 (*WSTF Strategic Plan 2008-2012*). It takes into account the synergy between normative and operational activities and is intended to be “used as a guiding living framework, to be reviewed and aligned as different projects and programmes progress.” (*Strategic Plan for the UN-HABITAT Water and Sanitation Trust Fund 2008-2012*).

There are three outcomes, of which Outcome 1, and respective associated indicators, targets, means of verification and assumptions that places pro-poor and gender concerns in the forefront⁷, namely: “Increased institutional capacity in partner countries for advocating/promoting and implementing **pro-poor water and sanitation initiatives and policies with focus of gender equity**, renewable energy and efficiency, and environmental sustainability”.

The LF states: “..the overriding principle for future interventions is to design new and realign existing programmes focused on consolidation and replication of successes within and across regions with a modest incorporation of new initiatives and geographical areas”.

Assessment: Indicators are quantified but not sufficiently SMART. For example, there is no time indication.

2.2.4 GENDER SPECIFIC STRATEGIES AND FRAMEWORKS

UN-HABITAT has placed much effort on developing gender specific strategies and frameworks and assisted the participating WATSAN project countries’ various institutions to follow its normative guidance.

The organisation has defined gender mainstreaming as “the process of accessing the implications for women and men of any planned action, including legislation, policies and programmes, in any area and at all levels.

⁷ The second outcome in the WSTF LF 2008-2012 is specifying increased flow of investment and has no specific gender relevance stated.

Its strategy is to make the concerns and experiences of women as well as men an integral part of the design, implementation, monitoring and evaluation of policies and programmes in all political, economic and social spheres, so that women and men benefit equally, and inequality is not perpetuated. The ultimate goal of mainstreaming is to achieve **gender equality**.

The above definition makes it clear that “gender” is not related to the needs and roles of women only, but men and women - which would include boys and girls, youth and elderly.

UN-HABITAT’s Gender Mainstreaming Unit

UN-HABITAT initiated a Women and Habitat Programme already in 1992 which has developed into the current Gender Mainstreaming Unit. In 2002 a Gender Policy was developed as a guide for management and staff to mainstream and promote a gender perspective including its collaboration with partner organisations.

Gender Equality Action Plan for 2008-2013

In **2008**, in-house consultations began regarding the development of a Gender Equality Action Plan (GEAP) for 2008-2013⁸. GEAP was endorsed in **2009** by the Member States of the Governing Council overseeing UN-HABITAT’s work programme and budget.

⁸ This document is followed “Gender Equality for a Better Urban Future, An overview of UN-HABITAT’S Gender Equality Action Plan (2008-2013), UN-HABITAT 2008.

It stated that the strategy is the organization’s “most comprehensive and ambitious strategy, to date, on incorporating gender issues into housing and urban development and into the work needed to create better conditions for the world’s one billion slum dwellers”⁹.

The GEAP was formulated to ensure that UN-HABITAT-supported initiatives promotes both men and women participating in the planning and provision of urban services that cater for their basic needs, while managing the risks of urban pollution. It is regarded as road map - covering each area of UN-HABITAT’s Medium-Term Institutional Plan (MTSIP) for **2008-2013**¹⁰. **Under its fourth focus action area (access to environmentally-sound urban services), gender concerns relate to water and sanitation, among fuel use, public transportation and urban pollution.**

The plan outlines the key tasks for the organisation, as helping to establish better governance and infrastructure on basic services, such as clean drinking water, sanitation and transportation, for which women have different priorities and needs from men;

⁹ <http://www.unchcs.org/content.asp?cid=6504&catid=5&typeid=6&subMenuId=0&AllContent=1>

¹⁰ The incorporation of gender aspects within the water and sanitation programmes draws heavily from MTSIP Gender Action Plan, Habitat Agenda Para 46 on gender equality and women empowerment, UN-HABITAT Gender Policy, ECOSOC resolution 1997/2 on gender mainstreaming in all UN entities and UN HABITAT Governing Council Resolutions (i) GC 19/16 on women’s roles and rights in human settlements development and slum upgrading of 9 May 2003, (ii) GC 20/5 on access to basic services for all within the context of sustainable human settlements, (iii) 20/7 on gender equality in human settlements development Programmes and the MDG 7, target 10 and 11 (Terms of Reference, UN-HABITAT, October 2009).

working with city planners to ensure women are engaged in the design, management and evaluation of services; training municipalities and providers of water and sanitation services on gender-responsive planning, budgeting and programming and developing women-led sanitation and microfinance programmes.

Due to women's and girls' specific needs in relation to water and sanitation mentioned above, however, UN-HABITAT has adopted a dual focus regarding gender and has declared that women empowerment

is to be given particular attention which includes supporting women's participation in decision-making, implementation and follow-up - in ways that are defined by the involved women themselves. The **rationale for gender mainstreaming in the sector** is drawn from the internationally agreed commitments on gender equality. Lessons learned from pilot and demonstration projects - in which advocacy and awareness campaigns, mainstreaming rights-based concepts and gender concerns, and promoting participatory institutional mechanisms have been implemented - have all gradually informed organisations' water and sanitation policies and strategies.

Staff composition, staff training and Gender Focal Points

UN-HABITAT Headquarters staff in Nairobi has been exposed to gender training through workshops and there are plans to involve staff further in training during 2010. However, according to one WSIB's Senior Manager, capacity-building on gender mainstreaming for *project* staff has been inadequate and more training is required.

The Water for Cities Programme has strived to establish gender balanced staff teams in which one staff member assumes the role of Gender Focal Point among other tasks, and often also has regional responsibilities. In Nepal, for instance, the Gender Focal Point has made important inputs in Lao PDR and Vietnam regarding gender training and strategies, which were to be followed by inputs in UN-HABITAT's programme in India.

The role of the Gender and Water Alliance

The UN-HABITAT has for a number of years collaborated closely with Gender and Water Alliance¹¹ (GWA), whose contributions to the organisation's efforts in this field have clearly been instrumental. GWA, a not-for profit organisation and global network established in conjunction with the 2nd World Water Forum (WWF) in 2000, promotes women's and men's equitable access to and management of safe and adequate water, for domestic supply, sanitation, food security and environmental sustainability.

UN-HABITAT and GWA jointly carried out Rapid Gender Assessments (RGA) in WAC II and LVWATSAN project countries in 2005. Based on the findings that emerged, **14 gender training workshops in 17 cities of the WAC II programme were jointly organised, and seven Gender Training Workshops in Kenya Uganda, and Tanzania.**

¹¹ GWA's main objective is to achieve gender mainstreaming in integrated water resources management. The network has a total membership of more than 1200 members mainly distributed in 110 countries in Asia, Africa and Latin America. African GWA members account for more than one third of the total membership, approximately 450 members.

GWA has also been actively engaged in the normative work under Water for Asian Cities.

UN-HABITAT, and its WSIB, has made substantial contributions in introducing specific gender training, strategies and guiding frameworks. The following are some “milestones”:

The Mombasa Gender Workshop

In **2005**, UN-HABITAT WATSAN programme organised an Expert Group Meeting (EGM) on gender mainstreaming in Mombasa, Kenya under WAC II. The meeting was a critical step in the implementation of an overall Gender Mainstreaming Strategy Initiative (GMSI). Participants interviewed have referred to

this as an “eye-opening” event – to be followed up by gender action plans in programme countries.

Key Thematic Priority Areas for WAC Phase II

As one result of the Expert Group Meeting in Mombasa, the following key thematic priority areas for WAC Phase II were identified: pro-poor governance and follow-up; sanitation for the urban poor; urban catchment management; water demand management; water education in schools and communities; advocacy; awareness raising and information exchange. A synthesis report was produced.

TABLE 2: Gender Specific, Pro-poor Governance Strategy Documents & Guiding Frameworks¹²

Gender specific & pro-poor frameworks	What it is	Under which unit
Navigating Gender in African Cities: Synthesis Report of Rapid Gender and Pro-Poor Assessments in 17 African Cities (2005).	Overview and analysis of poverty and gender status in selected cities as basis for project WATSAN capacity –building & implementation.	WSIB (developed based on the Mombasa Gender Workshop – under Water and Sanitation for African Cities).
Gender Mainstreaming Strategy Framework (2006).	Strategy that addresses imbalances and inequalities in the provision of water and sanitation services.	WSIB (developed under the Water and Sanitation for Cities programmes).
Gender Equality Action Plan for 2008-2013 (full version); and Gender Equality for a Better Urban Future - an overview of UN-HABITAT'S Gender Equality Action Plan 2008-2013.	“Road map” for mainstreaming cross-cutting issues that explicitly addresses the goal of realising gender equality and empowering women (covering each area of UN-HABITAT'S MTSIP 2008-2013 ²).	UN-HABITAT.
Gender Mainstreaming Toolkit for Water and Sanitation Actors - Gender mainstreaming in the Project Cycle and within Institutions (draft).	A toolkit for that can assist sector stakeholders to incorporate/ mainstream gender concerns in programmes, institutions.	WSIB (developed in relation to Water for African Cities & LVWATSAN programme).

¹² For information about some key strategy documents developed - examples of normative work produced relating to cross-cutting issues apart from those listed in Table 2 - see Annex III. References.



Gender Mainstreaming Strategy Framework

A Gender Mainstreaming Strategy Framework (GMSF) was designed under the Water and Sanitation for Cities programmes in 2006. The main objective is to “address imbalances and inequalities in the provision of water and sanitation services”.

It emphasizes the need to strengthen democracy and good governance through the participation of women at the municipal level. It proposes a bottom-up approach, starting at the community level to advocacy, training and capacity building and project planning and management.

This framework has facilitated the documentation of critical issues across the African and Asian continents, such as Rapid Gender Assessment Surveys (RGA) of urban water and sanitation utilities and selected poor neighbourhoods, from a gender-sensitive perspective. The RGAs were conducted in 2005 by GWA Facilitators who, through using participatory approaches, led multi-stakeholder survey teams, comprised of representatives of key water and sanitation agencies. RGAs have been carried out in 17 cities to identify the particular problems faced by women slum residents, and their potential roles in local water governance, to enable improvements in mainstreaming gender in projects.

Gender Mainstreaming Toolkit

This “Toolkit” is intended to aid various WATSAN stakeholders to mainstream gender in the project cycle and within institutions, and is developed in relation to Water for African Cities and Lake Victoria programme (under preparation). It has drawn much experience from earlier work, including the Mombasa workshop and the RGAs, as well as GWA’s global experiences from the sector. The toolkit has been simplified to ensure easy use by staff in programme management, technical work and monitoring and evaluation.

Summary Assessment of Achievements and Impact at Country Level



This Chapter first summarises the achievements, challenges/gaps and impact identified in the nine selected countries studied (sections 3.1 – 3.3).

The four important “common denominators” (100, 200, 300 and 400) in the LFA/RBM framework that combine policy dialogue and normative work with on-the-ground pilot and demonstration initiatives are used as a basic “activity platform area” for all country initiatives. It should be noted that in connection with some country work, a vast amount of information has been received – and therefore only *examples* of achievements can be reported here – while in other countries, less information has been made available.

The **expected outcomes for all four sets of activity areas** (as stated in the Trust Fund’s Logframe) is: “Enabling environment in human settlements

created, particularly in urban areas, to facilitate pro-poor, gender sensitive water and sanitation investment. Enhanced participatory involvement of local authorities and communities in WATSAN activities. Increased access to safe drinking water and basic sanitation with special emphasis for the urban poor in participating countries.”

3.1 NORMATIVE INITIATIVES

Below is a Summary (Table 3) of identified normative initiatives in the selected nine countries that relate to the development of pro-poor and gender sensitive governance frameworks, including policy options, norms, standards and management toolkits, for the urban WATSAN sector:

TABLE 3: Normative Activities (100 in RBM/LF)- Summary of Achievements, Challenges & Impact

Country	Achievements	Challenges/Gaps	Identified impact
Ethiopia Addis A., Dire Dawa, Harar	<u>WAC:</u> WUC Guidelines produced; Pro-poor urban governance strongly promoted; gender strategies developed in the cities.	Overall GM Strategy for Ethiopia not found.	Good normative work impacting significantly on communities' own action (esp. Dehocho, Harar city).
Ghana Accra, Zabon Songo	<u>WAC:</u> GM Strategy, Committees almost 50% women; support to new Education Policy (for HVBWSHE). Encouraging GWILC to do more on pro-poor governance, and disseminate lessons in sector.	GWILC work-plan need to include gender-specific as outputs have "gender relevance".	Good work developed. GWCLs & other implementers willing to promote pro-poor/gender concerns in Steering Committee, but more commitment required.
India Bhopal, Indore, Jabalpur, Gwalior,	<u>WAC:</u> GM Strategy for Madhya Pradesh & Action Plan; State-wide sector reform for community funding mechanisms & GM strategies (4 cities); Gender Budgeting advocated for; "Unheard Voices" exhibited in New York.	No particular challenges reported from India.	Excellent normative work developed, notably gender budgeting. GM Strategy for MP & AP to be adopted by Municipal Corporations. "Unheard Voices" disseminated widely.
Kenya Homa Bay (Bondo, Kisi), Kibera	<u>LWATSAN:</u> MSF with designated roles for involved stakeholders. GM Toolkit (draft, applicable for also other projects). Micro credit guidelines. <u>Kibera WATSAN – WAC:</u> Settlement Ex. Com. ensures benefits to women, men, youth through rotation of labour contracts. <u>Maji Data:</u> Normative issues not identified.	Overall GM Strategy for Kenya not found (apart from generic GM strategies, UN-HABITAT Nairobi).	Good work developed overall. Guidelines for Sanitation Micro Credit need follow-up & advise how to proceed with revolving funds for economic activities. GM strategy for Kenya should be developed.
Lao PDR 12 small district towns	<u>MEK-WATSAN & WAC:</u> GM Strategy with action plans & budgets: WUCs: > than 30 % members; Assessment and Strategy in three towns; Sector assessment & GM Strategy in policies (re. Water Law, 2009); MPWT incl. gender issues in plans, 1 st time, 30% new jobs in community reserved for qualified women; Equal access to VEIs (pref. to proposal submitted by women).	Gender disaggregated data gathering (in general) mentioned by GR/D (project GM partner) as greatly inadequate & assistance requested.	Excellent normative work has influenced sector policies, other UN agencies & ADB to incorporate community focus & GM.

Country	Achievements	Challenges/Gaps	Identified impact
Nepal	WAC: Implementers requested making Gender Action Plans in through GM workshops.	Overall GM Strategy not found.	Very good work on poverty & gender mapping, appreciated and in use by concerned gov't dept & skills transferred to projects in Vietnam, Lao, India. Follow-up on GM APs required.
Nicaragua Managua	WSTF support in LATAM & Caribb: Pro-poor or GM normative work not developed. Project's small allocation for GM & SWM in 2009 (USD 25,000).	UN-H staff Project expert finds GM "not easy" to introduce in Project. No funds used in 2009 & no plans for 2010 as yet.	Relevance & potential for Pro-poor & GM needs urgent clarification & follow-up by UN-HABITAT.
Nigeria Jos	WAC: Implementers insisting women participation in WUUCs; WDM Strategy paper.	Complex socio-cultural situation & unstable political circumstances. Overall GM Strategy not found.	Good efforts made and some good results. GM Strategy should be developed.
Vietnam 8 towns M-WATSAN, 5 towns WAC	WAC & MEK-WATSAN: Women's Union to "draw up gender action plans"; WCDM Strategy developed.	Overall GM Strategy not found	Good work developed influencing other agencies (through "One UN"). Too much responsibility for normative guiding (GM) to Women's Union may counteract mainstreaming.

3.1.1 OVERALL ASSESSMENT

It needs to be stated at the outset that **the gender concept has not been easily understood in the programme country environments and often mistakenly interpreted as “women participation” or concerns of women and girls, only.** The findings therefore reflect this situation and refer to what has been reported on women and their roles – as very little has transpired regarding the role, needs or activities of men, children (boys and girls) and elderly. These are examples of statements that reflect this situation:

- “We are really taking gender into account in this municipality - women are participating, they even dig the trenches for the water pipes!” (Kenya).
- “The project formed inclusive CBOs involving both men and women. As a result of women’s direct involvement, women’s participation was high in all stages, even construction. They helped in paving, rehabilitating water sources and the Rajkulo. Such inclusiveness made the project gender-sensitive...”¹³ (Nepal).

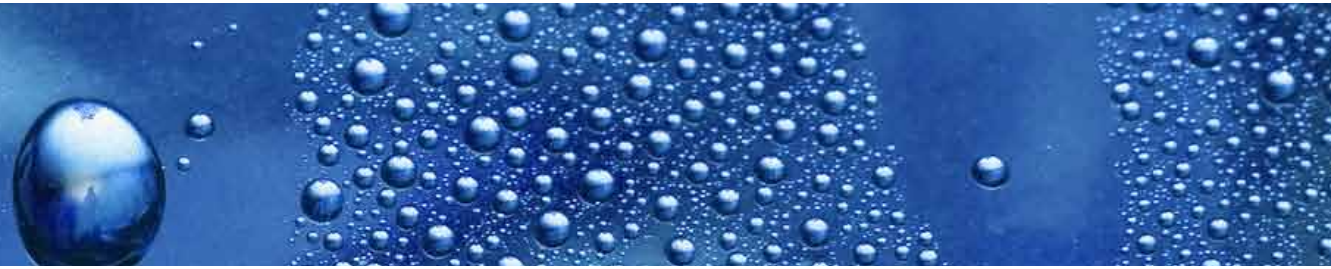
Good efforts are noted, to raise awareness on what UN-HABITAT means by “gender mainstreaming” within its normative work, from the part of project staff. NGOs, research institutions, government mass organisations (Women Unions in Lao PDR and Vietnam) have been involved in particular, as well as ministries/ departments.

The vast majority of programme countries have developed country-specific strategies, guides and frameworks. Most have also attempted to follow the guidance provided by Headquarters, through WAC/WAsC programme assisted by the GWA expertise and Gender Focal Points, although an exception is the project in Nicaragua, which reportedly has not undertaken work in this field. **The outputs are generally of good quality, in particular in some Asian countries,** such as Nepal, Lao PDR, Vietnam and India. The work has been appreciated also by organisations outside the UN-HABITAT programme environment and, most probably, has impacted on greater understanding of “software” issues in predominantly “hardware” water infrastructure sector.

Some strategies, such as in Lao PDR, seem overworked and too “ambitious” – UN-HABITAT should consider producing realistic and user-friendly plans. Information about the actual use of these materials by municipal stakeholders (such as water utilities) has not been forthcoming in this review – the likelihood is not high, although participatory/inclusive approaches have been used when developing them.

The overall assessment is that the **gender awareness-package has been picked up in most countries,** with the aid and drive of UN-HABITAT headquarters, its Gender Focal Point and GWA. It also seems as if UN-HABITAT has been aware that there exists no such thing as “one-size fits all”.

¹³ This statement is found in an Evaluation Report regarding one of the UN-HABITAT’s projects in Nepal.



Thus, after initial introductions of the basic gender concepts in the WATSAN sector has made through workshops, the country programmes have been encouraged to analyse the country-specific situation and develop strategies that are adapted to the respective country, or specific socio-cultural context within the respective country. **Overall, it seems as if countries' programmes have been encouraged to develop tailor-made strategies – and not necessarily follow blueprints.**

3.2 OPERATIONAL ACTIVITIES

Below is a summary (Table 4) of identified operational activities that include facilitate pro-poor gender sensitive investment through regional and gender responsive WATSAN programmes such as advocacy¹⁴, awareness-raising and information exchange, value based water education, capacity building and training, and gender mainstreaming and demonstration activities.

¹⁴ Advocacy implies influencing action, effecting change/ transformation, attention to the marginalized, engaging critical actors, awareness creation/raising follow up.

Table 4: Operational activities (200 in RBM/LF): Summary Achievements, Challenges & Impact

Country	Achievements	Challenges & Gaps	Identified impact
Ethiopia Addis A., Dire Dawa, Harar	WAC; Advocacy/awareness-raising, HBWSH sanitation in com's & girls schools; Rehab. & new public water taps & female-friendly toilet/shower complexes, waste bins & RWH (income to FHHs); Solid waste disposal facilities; Support to Gara-Ule Watsan Assoc. & SBPs.	Difficult socio-political circumstances. Gender initially "misunderstood" requiring much campaigning efforts. Gender-disaggregated data not adequate; Lack of Gov't funds & skills for O&M (may affect sustainability).	Good work influenced attitude/behaviour, raised demands for service; Water supply "saved" time for women & girls; More sanitation & health awareness, less drop-out of school girls. Extra incomes to women for IGAs improving HHs situation.
Ghana Accra, Sabon Zongo	WAC; Gender training workshop; Gender assessment/baseline survey; Women managing standpipes and public toilets; School Water Clubs for sanitation & hygiene; Micro-credit for toilet construction to FHH (under preparation).	Significant socio-cultural issues affecting attitudes/behaviour re: sanitation; HBWSHE great challenge due to new educ. Reforms; Dispute over land for construction of school toilets.	Generally, results are satisfactory, efforts made to overcome difficulties, Ghana Water Aid played very positive role, promoting pro-poor governance, GM & sanitation services; Massive awareness creation needed (all levels) jointly with infrastructure; Land issues to be solved before implementation.
India Bhopal, Indore, Jabalpur, Gwalior	WAC; Poverty Pocket Situation Analysis; RGA (4 cities); GM awareness targeting policy makers and Gov't at different levels; Capacity building for women (O&M); 250 WATSAN SHGs formed, 33 public toilets handed over to SHGs; 3 CWASC managing water supply in 3 cities; Micro credit & a water connection funds scheme; IUSP launched 2009 (aim: "zero-OD").	No particular challenges reported from India.	Good work accomplished with high efforts and results in influencing policy-makers/policies in the State of MP.

Country	Achievements	Challenges & Gaps	Identified impact
<p>Kenya Homa Bay (Bondo, Kisii), Kibera</p>	<p><u>LVWATSAN</u>: RGVA and GM workshops; Micro-credit for sanitation; savings schemes (Bondo) for SHGs; Water Kiosks managed by SHGs; LED training planned; Latrines in (informal) pre-schools benefiting HIV/AIDS orphans & volunteer teachers; Water supply rehab. for men & women staff & in prisons (3 towns). <u>Kibera WATSAN</u>WAC: Small-scale community based initiatives (men, women) in water, sanitation and waste management, micro credit scheme, youth groups, SME and housing cooperatives formed. <u>Maji Data</u>: No information received concerning pro-poor & gender aspects.</p>	<p>Raising awareness among e.g. water companies has been a major challenge. Micro-credit sanitation scheme (women SHGs) much delayed, but in progress; Water kiosks not yielded extra income yet. <u>Kibera WATSAN</u>: No gender training carried out (as in other WAC initiatives).</p>	<p>MSF identifying & supporting target groups (e.g. FHHS & CHHs), supporting SHGs & cross-cutting issues & voice of marginal groups; VG participatory approaches. Some good results supporting SHGs; monitoring pro-poor screening of micro-credit to be improved, LED (planned) training and water tanks (water kiosks) should be done. <u>Maji Data</u>: UN-HABITAT must ensure pro-poor & gender data is catered for in the system.</p>
<p>Lao PDR 12 small district towns (WAC)</p>	<p><u>MEK-WATSAN & WAC</u>: GM Training Workshop; & a GM Strategy Workshop; Poverty assessments & GM exercises in 12 water utilities (to develop GM Action Plans) with GRID; Awareness-raising activities (community environment, health & sanitation). <u>WAC</u>: Poverty analysis (12 district towns - start in WAC phase I). CATs formed; MC for WATSAN; attention to women's reproductive health needs (relates to WATSAN); Consultation with women before the infrastructure works begin.</p>	<p>Gender disaggregated data inadequate in e.g. progress reporting & evaluation report. Case studies show men have started businesses as result of project but minimal benefit on reducing burden of women & children.</p>	<p>Very good ground work in cooperation with DPs, influencing sector policies. Good pro-poor & gender field approaches developed (GM Training Workshop described as "eye-opener").</p>

Country	Achievements	Challenges & Gaps	Identified impact
<p>Nepal</p>	<p>WAC: Gender & poverty mapping; 3 GM workshops in total; DPs to make gender APs; Inclusive approach re. target groups (e.g. ethnic minority groups); WATISAN improvements. RWH pilot work & micro-credit for women groups; Income and better health from water bottling; OD free promotion; 7 project evaluations' with findings on gender mainly positive.</p>	<p>Some project activities seemed not to benefit poor urban residents; Stakeholders often understand gender issues as "more women participation" – sometimes adding burdens on women.</p>	<p>Impressive community work results & high effort level but impl. spread too widely, needs consolidation; more efforts needed for "understanding of gender". Unintended effects of sanitation & hygiene: Municipalities declaring OD-free zones adding value to work. Field studies by MSc. Students good practice to follow in UN-HABITAT's projects adding to transp. & lessons learned.</p>
<p>Nicaragua Managua</p>	<p>WSTF support in LATAM & Caribbean region³; No GM work reported or planned for 2010.</p>	<p>Challenges to address GM - in this project exist at several levels. Community needs not yet addressed in this waste management project.</p>	<p>UN-HABITAT and its partners should urgently assist the Project in finding ways to address GM, community & poverty governance issues in 2010 - if not the reasons should be stated.</p>
<p>Nigeria Jos</p>	<p>WAC: Rapid sanitation profile; Basic Gender Awareness Workshop & a Workshop launching micro-credit for sanitation & MC scheme for toilets construction taken off: 120 Solidarity Groups formed & 10% (of 600) toilets constructed to date (demand has increased); Water supply & house connections increased; Water Kiosks constructed and are functional; HVBWSHE in schools & communities.</p>	<p>Difficult socio-cultural & political circumstances affected pace of work. A system for gender-disaggregated data seems to be lacking.</p>	<p>Good work has been accomplished regarding GM & pro-poor approaches: "Tremendous wakening of women in Jos" reported. (NGOs have been instrumental.)</p>
<p>Vietnam 8 towns M-WATSAN, 5 towns WAC</p>	<p>Rapid poverty mapping & gender assessment (5,000 HHs) & gender specific indicators developed; Gender TOT Workshop on WRM (Dong Ha) & GM Workshops in 5 towns. MEK-WATSAN: Eight towns under improved services; Micro credit scheme for women for both water supply connections & latrine construction. WAC: Five towns in South & Central Vietnam: Water treatment plants & main pipes (3 of 5 towns completed by ADB); IEC materials in local language; WCDM Strategy developed; Distribution & connection (Gov's task); UN-HABITAT's focus: Sanitation with women as "change agents"; Micro-credit schemes for sanitation & IEC activities.</p>	<p>Project started late (2007), related to "ADB funding procedures". Progress Report 2008, describes - no mention about women, FHH, gender (1), only reference is that WU is responsible. WU should not be solely responsible for GM activities – could "counteract" GM.</p>	<p>Very good ground work: Poverty mapping & gender assessment skills learned from Nepal WAC. "Women take the lead" in organizing meetings with communities, competitions & public campaigns (particularly regarding sanitation).</p>

3.2.1 OVERALL ASSESSMENT

The number of cities and informal settlements involved in the programmes vary.

In Nepal, Lao PDR and Vietnam, many municipalities are involved, while in Nigeria and Ghana the activities are concentrated in one or two towns, albeit in several settlements in the respective towns.

The programme has specifically “targeted” poor communities in urban and peri-urban informal settlements

and those that consist of residents who are vulnerable in more than one way, including female-headed households (FHH). An example is from Ethiopia, where Dire Dawa has a high incidence of urban poor, HIV/AIDS affected households and orphaned children, and Harar where the *Dehoch* community was chosen which consisted of very poor residents, some of whom were surviving through begging.

Some countries have included poor settlements in peri-urban areas that are rural in their nature than urban, such as households chosen for the micro-credit scheme in Homa Bay, Kenya, and communities in Nepal that have rural, agro-based features and activities.

UN-HABITAT has clearly appreciated that community participation in the water sector is essential and that women, in particular, who have special responsibilities in the field of water supply and sanitation, are important agents for change. **Impressive attempts to plan for, and act, on this appreciation have been made.**

The gender mainstreaming operational steps have more or less followed the same interlinked process in all countries, again, with the exception

of Nicaragua. It has started off with rapid poverty and gender assessments and/or baseline surveys incorporating the same concerns to determine availability of WATSAN facilities and residents' needs in the settlements in order to plan for targeted interventions. Basic gender training workshops for government, private sector, NGOs and other partners involved have been held – initially with technical support and facilitation by GWA. The workshops should result in gender action plans.

Pilot micro-credit scheme involving women and self-help groups, for the construction of toilets in individual households has been spreading in most countries. The scheme is intended to benefit poor female-headed households but as those who are poor are reluctant to take loans without means to pay back, this scheme is not suitable for the poorest households. Introducing this scheme has not worked smoothly in some countries.

Tensions were found, in relation to ethnic and/or religious norm, training materials disseminated that were not adapted to the context in which it was used and delays were noticed in, for example, Kenya and Nigeria. **Among the reasons for delays was that borrowing money for toilet construction at household level does not have a “productive” purpose and does not generate money to repay the loans.** Still, demands for these loans have increased in several countries. The repayment may pose problems, as well as the mechanisms for the funds to revolve – an issue which would need guidance from UN-HABITAT. In Kenya, the ‘Solidarity Groups’ in Homa Bay were interested to use the revolving fund for economic activities once the toilets were in place.



Most of the programmes have introduced some form of economic and income generating activities and benefits for women and youth

with . Nepal being an example as part of the WATSAN work. Examples of this are women from FHHs earning some income as caretakers of public toilet/shower complexes (Nigeria), selling water such as Kenyan and Nigerian water kiosks that were handed over to SHG by the water companies and the water bottling activities in Nepal. Kenya's LVWATSAN programme, was planning training events on Local Economic Development (LED) on waste management, recycling and composting to benefit SHGs. Much should be done in this field.

UN-HABITAT, country projects and stakeholders **need to strengthen their work on gathering, processing and disseminating information and data which is gender disaggregated** for, without this, evaluations cannot determine level of achievements in this field.

Many Cooperation Agreements mention gender and pro-poor issues in vague or general terms, and some do not budget for any gender-specific or women supported activities in this area.

This was one of the reasons that gender awareness/training workshops involving signatories of CAs as participants, were regarded so important.

Even after workshops have been held and commitments made, progress may still be slow, as reported in some countries. The reasons given are related to "gender fatigue" and misunderstanding of gender as a concept and/or not appreciating the specific role gender plays in the sector.

It has been frequently pointed out, that **when UN-HABITAT managers address gender vis-à-vis government and water utilities** as being part of the priority areas, the work for focal points and field managers has become easier and progress is subsequently noted in the field.

Increased safe water supply nearer to people's homes, to their "doorsteps" or connections to houses are reported to have **"saved" time for women and girls, time which mainly seems to have been used for more economic activities** - with a few exceptions such as "more time to watch TV" (an evaluation report, Nepal). Safe water supply is reportedly already impacting on the health situation in several countries.

Access to improved sanitation in public and private areas have certainly benefitted many people.

Women, young girls and children in particular, clearly benefit from latrines/toilets built nearer to their homes. Participatory approaches such as Community- and School-Led Total Sanitation have assisted Open Defecation-free areas/zones, as was evident in Nepal. It was reported that in Addis Ababa, Ethiopia, women also use the public toilet and shower facilities constructed near a busy market place. Latrines in household backyards in peri-urban areas in Homa Bay, Kenya, have certainly increased the status and comfort of the users. Sanitation improvements in schools are said to have decreased the incidence of school drop out among young girls in countries such as Ghana but no figures have been made available to show that this was a result of the UN-HABITAT initiatives.



3.3 REPLICABLE MODEL SETTING AND MONITORING INITIATIVES

Below is a summary (Table 5) that combines identified Replicable Model Setting Initiatives to provide strategic support to pro-poor, gender sensitive initiatives at the local level with a focus on participatory involvement of local communities in these initiatives; and Monitoring Initiatives of Progress Towards Achievement of WATSAN related MDG/ WSSD targets.

3.3.1 OVERALL ASSESSMENT

Replication of Models within the WATSAN Project Environment

UN-HABITAT has put in place its programme normative models for community and stakeholder participation, for pro-poor governance such as water user committees – to ensure that these are fora used for decision-making for women, as well as men. The gender awareness “package” and gender strategies are all part of the normative model, quite successfully replicated throughout most countries assessed.

TABLE 5: Examples of Replicable Model Setting & Monitoring Initiatives Related to MDG/WSSD Targets

Country	Replicable model setting initiatives (300 in RBM/IF)	Monitoring initiatives (400 in RBM/IF) -
Ethiopia	Gara-Ule Watsan Association & support for Strategic Business Plan (Harar); Community models such as mobile toilets supported and land provided by Government beyond the CA with UN-HABITAT; WATSAN public facilities managed by SHG/women.	
Ghana	GES HVBWSHE initiatives & capacity-building in "pilot schools" & Teacher Training College; support to educational reform incorporating HVBWSHE.	Ghana Government is undertaking Gender Budgeting and a Monitoring Unit will be established in 2010 – not WATSAN sector specific yet.
India	UN-HABITAT programme has catalyzed state-wide sector reform to put in place the community-based funding mechanisms & GM strategies (of four cities); (Sector) Gender Budgeting; "Unheard Voices"; Very good case study model for wider sector audiences.	
Kenya	LWATSAN: Combination of water supply infrastructure works with "software" activities involving users is excellent, should be made more known to other WATSAN players in LV region & elsewhere; MSF; Water Kiosks; MC for toilet construction; planned LED. KIBERA WATSAN: Youth group (women/men); Rotating labour contracts; Maji Data: Gender-disaggregated data collection/dissemination.	
Lao PDR	Multiplier effects of UN-HABITAT's work resulting from good models; and MEK-WATSAN (Xieng Ngeun); Water utilities plan to expand community models to other "urban villages" with own funds (to be followed up).	WAC: Information/data on sanitation have been collected for sanitation expansion and grant support schemes; MEK-WATSAN: Preparatory monitoring of MDG targets in 17 towns has started.
Nepal	Poverty & Gender Mapping & skills; CTLS/SITS & OD-free zones; Water bottling activities.	
Nicaragua	---	
Nigeria	Jos South Local Government donated land for project construction work resulting from good models; Investments made by gov't to sector; WB committed USD 5 M to support reforms; State gov't allocating 38 per cent of the total programme budget.	
Vietnam	Multiplier effects generated resulting from good models; More support to the sector from the World Bank; UN-HABITAT's initiatives shared with WHO, UNICEF through "One UN" sub-committee meetings.	

Replication of various operational “software” models *within* the programme, such as poverty and gender mapping and assessment work successfully developed in Nepal, enriched the analytical work in other countries in this region. Other examples of replication within are community and women groups managing WATSAN facilities, the micro-credit schemes and sanitation awareness campaigns in schools and communities – although with some difficulties faced in implementation, as earlier explained.

Replication of models in national structures and programmes

As for replication of various “software” normative and operational models within national organisations, or in other international organisations/programmes, some interesting information has been received, summarised in Table 5 (the countries are listed in alphabetical order for ease of reference).

These are:

- In **Ethiopia** the work with the *Dehoch* community and the support to Gara-Ule WatSan Association in Harar town, has influenced the Government to consider supporting/developing similar community models, as well as the WATSAN public facilities managed by SHGs, including women.
- The **Ghana** Education Service has adapted and incorporated HVBWSHE initiatives in educational reforms. In **India**, the UN-HABITAT programme has catalyzed state-wide sector reform to put in place the community-based funding mechanisms and gender mainstreaming strategies of the four participating cities). The programme has also influenced Gender Budgeting in the sector, and through the exhibition “Unheard Voices” and the associated materials – these are excellent and important models for case studies.
- The combination of water supply infrastructure works with “software” activities in LVWATSAN in **Kenya** is a good model programme, which should be replicated in the Lake Victoria Region, and particularly its Multi-Stakeholder Forum. Also in Kenya, the Settlement Executive Committee ensured “rotating labour contracts” for as many residents as possible, and youth groups formed in the Kibera WATSAN project seem to be replicable models, as well as the Maji Data initiative which would be an extremely good data base model for any country, especially if it generates gender-disaggregated and poverty data which can easily be disseminated and ownership of the system is clarified (see the Kenya Country Impact Report for further assessment of Maji Data).
- In **Lao PDR**, UN-HABITAT’s work has resulting in multiplier effects such as influencing the Water Act and policies, and through influencing such as water utilities in Xieng Ngeun to plan for expanding the MEK-WATSAN community models to other “urban villages” with its own funds – **an important issue to be followed up in all countries.**

- In Nepal, the poverty and gender mapping and skills, as well as models for Community and School Led Total Sanitation¹⁵ (CTLS & STLS) campaigns to have OD-free zones and the water bottling activities are also excellent workable models.
- The **Nicaragua** programme has yet to develop some models. In **Nigeria** UN-HABITAT initiatives have inspired the Jos South Local Government to donate land for project construction work resulting from its models and the government to invest in the sector. The World Bank is here reported to have committed USD 5 million to support reforms and the State government has allocated 38 per cent of the total programme budget for WATSAN.
- Finally, **Vietnam** can also show multiplier effects resulting from good models. It is reported that more support to the sector has been forthcoming from the World Bank, and the UN-HABITAT initiatives and models are shared with WHO, UNICEF through the "One UN" sub-committee meetings (more details on the above examples are found in Chapter 4).

Monitoring Initiatives

Very little information has been received regarding monitoring activities toward meeting the sector MDG targets, but Lao PDR has reported that "preparatory monitoring" has started in 17 towns through the MEK-WATSAN programme and information and data on sanitation have been collected for sanitation expansion and grant support schemes through its WAC programme.



¹⁵ Although CTLS originated as a rapid rural approach for participatory community mobilization for improved sanitation, the way it has been "urbanized" in the UN-HABITAT projects in Nepal can be replicated in other countries. It is increasingly spreading in African countries as well, e.g. in Ghana.

Country-specific Achievements, Challenges and Impact



This Chapter includes a more detailed account of the developments and achievements in each of the nine country initiatives, based on information received.

4.1 ETHIOPIA

Background

WAC Phase II took off in Ethiopia in 2006 and includes water and sanitation activities in the cities of Addis Ababa, Dire Dawa, and Harar¹⁶. Many studies have shown that the sanitation conditions in Ethiopia are poor.

However, rapid progress has been made since the Ministry of Health adopted hygiene and sanitation promotion as a national priority, and developed a decentralised, multi stakeholder, demand-focused approach and distinct programmes for water, and sanitation and hygiene.

The Ethiopian Government has developed specific gender policies directing all government offices to incorporate gender concerns in its annual or mid-term plans at both federal and regional level and plans may not be accepted by the regional government for funding unless gender and HIV/AIDS issues are appropriately taken into account.

¹⁶ A total of 13 cooperative agreements (CAs) have been signed with nine governmental agencies and an NGO. The sources of funding are the allocation by UN-HABITAT of USD 1,168,318 and USD 392,705 from the implementing partners, making a total allocation for the project of USD 1,561,023 (Annual Report 2008). Addis Ababa was the only city that participated in Water for African Cities Phase I, implemented by the Addis Ababa Water and Sewerage Authority and the Addis Ababa Bureau of Education, between 1999-2002.

Achievements – Some Highlights

In *Addis Ababa*, water supply sources were identified for selected areas in the city where residents were poor. Eleven existing water taps have been rehabilitated and ten additional public taps have been constructed. A model toilet complex, in the proximity of the low-income residential area of the city, is expected to be used by about 1,500 persons per day. Regarding work on sanitation awareness, Human Values Based Water, Sanitation and Hygiene (HVBWSH) workshops have been held in primary and secondary schools, and sanitation related activities have also taken place in communities.

Dire Dawa is an industrial centre near the border of Somalia with a mixed ethnic population (*Oromo, Amhara, Somali, Gurage, Harari*). It a rapidly increasing population and many poverty-related socio-economic problems such as high unemployment rates (about 47% for women and 22% in men) and many homeless people, as well as high incidences of HIV/AIDS and orphaned children. The UN-HABITAT project has addressed WATSAN problems of the urban poor in Goro-Sabiyan and Gende Gerada communities in partnership with the local government agencies and NGOs.

A **Rapid Gender Assessment (RGA)** was undertaken, facilitated by GWA in collaboration with the project partners (in July 2005) involving representatives of various agencies including the Women Affairs' Bureau of Dire Dawa. The operational areas are informal poor urban settlements in Goro-sabian and Gende-Gerada communities under five Cooperation Agreements (CAs), with four implementing partners (DDWSA, DDSBA, DDBoE and DDEPA).

The improved water supply is **mainly benefits women users**, as distance and time to fetch water has been significantly reduced. Water points (public taps) have been constructed in both targeted communities and over 5,000 people now have access to safe drinking water from public taps (one public water point was also constructed in the outskirts of Genda-Gerada).

DDWSSA has developed an operational guideline jointly with community representatives, addressing the management of public water taps, water tariffs, assignment of water service providers in each public water point and other operational issues. The guideline includes a "provision" that **at least 90 % of water supply operators employed on public water taps should be women and/or girls**.

Efforts have been made to raise awareness regarding the importance of water, sanitation and hygiene at community levels among students, teachers as well as higher up in the government. Basic toilets have been constructed and solid waste disposal facilities near people's homes have also benefited communities.

Women now manage the new water and sanitation infrastructures and have been able to raise some income from four mobile toilets constructed and seven "use and pay toilets". **The management of the mobile toilets have been transferred to poor women** in organised groups, some of whom live with HIV/AIDS, while the "use and pay" toilets have been distributed to Micro- and Small-Scale Enterprise (MSE) operators, who provide services. According to an estimate made by DDSBA, the mobile toilets are on average serving 200 persons

daily and the “use and pay toilets” provide services to 3,500 persons a day.

The initiatives have **influenced the Government to finance the construction of more mobile toilets** beyond its original commitment stated in the CA, and **women have been trained as care takers** of public toilets providing a source of income. The construction of toilets has also been enabled through funds received from the World Bank, the government and NGOs - reportedly influenced by the UN-HABITAT project.

Under the HVWSHE component, the project improved the sanitation conditions in selected four “model schools” made to **serve female students** and staff. As the UN-HABITAT funds were small, the regional government, through the Bureau of Education, committed over Birr 83,000 (approximately USD 5,087) for the construction work. Solid waste management has been introduced through training and provision of equipment and is undertaken by **youth groups, mainly women**, who collect waste from households charging fees. The activity has prompted the government to support the work at a much larger scale.

In Harar¹⁷ the project beneficiaries are members of the *Dehoch*¹⁸ community, living in one of the oldest slum settlements in the city, many who belong to the poor and most vulnerable residents with a high prevalence of HIV/AIDS and orphaned children.

Gender assessment studies were carried out, with Harar Women Affairs Office playing a key role in **developing strategies addressing gender concerns**.

The **WATSAN committee has three women as members** following guidelines developed by Ministry of Water Resource for rural water supply through a Universal Access Plan. Pro-poor urban governance is reportedly in place and the ‘Gera-Ule’ community is now managing basic water supply.

Public toilets with showers have been constructed, and waste bins supplied, in May 2009. The completed toilet facilities include two building blocks with shower rooms (**one for women and one for men**) fitted with rainwater collection system that also serve as reservoirs of water from the network. **The toilets and showers are managed through user pay system, managed by women**. The demands for shower servicers have grown, and the community plans to expand the complex using revenue.

The project has been **instrumental in raising gender awareness and influencing the *Dehoch* community in setting up a small-scale service provider association** known as “Gara-Ule WatSan Association” managing their own water and sanitation facilities. The project also supports the association in making a Strategic Business Plan, and a Joint Action Plan has been drawn up between Harari Housing Development Agency and *Dehoch* community for rehabilitation of housing for the poor.

¹⁷ The total project budget is USD 109,290.00, with a UN-HABITAT contribution of USD 93,890 and a contribution of USD 15,400 by the Harar Water and Sewerage Authority (HWSA) - the executing agency. Other partners are the Harar Municipality, Bureau of Education, Bureau of Women Affairs, Bureau of Health, Bureau of Agriculture and Rural Development, Bureau of Social Affairs, Local Administration and ERHA.

¹⁸ *Dehoch* derives from Amharic and means “the poorest”.

The Harar **Municipality has provided land** for the construction of water supply and sanitation facilities and provided labour to do a survey and technical support.

Challenges

- Gender was “misunderstood” and conveying GM messages at several levels required much advocacy and awareness-raising work (Harar)
- In Dire Dawa, a change in the city administration in June 2008, which led to the replacement of three of the four implementing partners and Bureau Heads, posed great challenges to the project, disrupted coordination and delayed progress. However, implementation was, in November 2009, almost completed.
- Concern has been expressed regarding lack funds for O&M and effects of high staff turnover in the government, both jeopardizing provision of services to the communities and long-term sustainability. It was pointed out by the Addis Ababa project staff, that after the end of the project, the utilities will take over the responsibility for the water points and public toilets – and that these should be managed by the WUCs.
- A project staff (in Harar) emphasized the need for a database catering for gender-disaggregated data

Conclusion

Good results were accomplished in raising gender awareness and encouraging voice of women and men from poor communities during, at times, difficult

socio-political circumstances. Appreciation for gender concerns has increased through awareness-raising campaigns plus use of local media and training. The project initiatives have substantially impacted on the lives of the *Dehoch* community and been supportive in setting up the Gara-Ule WatSan Association. It is estimated that in Dire Dawa and Harar, the public water points and the public toilets are servicing about 6,000 and 50,000 people, respectively, and that the health impact has been significant. Furthermore, the HVWSHE activities and integration of WATSAN issues in the school curriculum have contributed to changing attitudes of students and resulted in decrease in school drop-outs.

Reports lack adequate gender disaggregated data such as who uses the model toilet complexes, school drop-outs and gender as regards to members in the Gara-Ule WatSan Association.

4.2 GHANA

Background

WAC Phase II¹⁹ started in Accra in 2006 and focuses on integrated interventions in a selected low-income area of Accra, to increase access to water and sanitation facilities and services and manage wastes (liquid, excreta and garbage) towards achieving the water and sanitation related Millennium Development Goals in the city.

¹⁹ The implementing partners are Ghana Water Company Ltd. (GWCL), Water Aid, Ghana Education Service and Water Resources Commission. An MOU was signed in April 2006 between the Government of Ghana and UN-HABITAT. The sources of funding are the Government of Ghana contributing USD 284,600 and UN-HABITAT with USD 1.611 million (Annual Report 2008).



The objective is improved health and productivity on a sustainable basis and trigger investment in the sector to meet Growth and Poverty Reduction Strategy (GPRS II) (2006 – 2009), New Partnerships for Africa's Development (NEPAD) and MGD goals.

Ghana has a National Strategy of Rural Water Supply and Sanitation for rural areas and small towns. The country's government is in the forefront in the region in finding more efficient ways by which public resources are distributed, to ensure fairness and equity to benefit both men and women, boys and girls equally for accelerated development and to ensure a harmonious society²⁰.

The Ministry of Finance is implementing policies on gender responsive budgeting with the purpose of incorporating gender perspectives in the national development budget which is to be applied in all ministries, departments and government agencies and followed up with training at local government levels. Gender Certificates and a Gender Budgeting and Monitoring Unit will be established in 2010. Regarding gender mainstreaming and sanitation services, massive awareness creation jointly with construction of infrastructure, is required in Ghana.

Achievements – Some Highlights

The second phase of the WAC project is operational in Zabon Zongo in the western part of Accra, with a population of 18,616 (2000 Population and Housing Census), mostly Muslims from Mali, Burkina Faso and Ghana's Northern region.

²⁰ <http://ghanabusinessnews.com/2009/08/11/government-agencies-without-gender-policies-to-be-sanctioned/>

It is a low-income and densely-populated area in the western part of Accra.

At the start of the project, water supplies were monopolised by a few affluent people who charged high fees “for every bucket drawn”. Raising awareness about sanitation has been described as an “enormous” task, requiring massive sensitization campaigns to ensure that the toilets and drains constructed are used properly as intended.

A comprehensive socio-economic study was carried out on the existing socio-economic situation of poor people, **especially women. It involved identifying women’s involvement in various income generating activities,** need for skills development and training for men and women, and willingness to pay for WATSAN improvements and services²¹. The survey was followed by a gender training workshop.

The pilot WAC project in Zabon Zongo, Accra, had a late start (2007). The Ministry of Women’s Affairs, through it had representation in the project’s Steering Committee, has assumed the role of assisting the project by developing Terms of References for consultants, making inputs into the cooperative agreements and liaising with the Steering Committee members and implementing partners, such as Water Aid, GWCL, Environment and Education.

²¹ *The study recommended: Demand orientation, community management and decentralization of the planning and management services to the lowest appropriate level; Private sector promotion and a shift from dependency on government to greater self-reliance by user groups with government playing a facilitating role through provision of a policy framework; Creation of an enabling environment, mobilization of financial resources and emphasis on the incorporation of gender issues into the programme (Minnnow-Hagan, 1995?).*

A Community Development Committee (CDC) was established by the project. Of the CDC’s 11 members, **five are women, and it has been pointed out that a female Assembly Member is heading the committee.** Its role is to ensure proper post construction operations and maintenance, ensuring sustainability of the facilities and being a “model” for future similar projects. It works in collaboration with the Sub-Metro in facilitating the improvement of health and sanitation in the community.

Organizations working in the area towards the project implementation include Maple Consult, WasteCare, ProNet and People’s Dialogue on Human Settlement. WaterAid Ghana has been responsible for addressing the pro-poor water governance component and has facilitated the formation of CDC (its terms of reference and constitution), sanitation infrastructure audits including water and sanitation mapping and services.

Regarding water supply, progress has been made in repairing water standpipes and constructing toilets, which are **managed by women enabling them to earn some income.**

Sanitation is one of the key components of the project. The lack of access to toilets at nights, and in emergency situations, is particularly difficult for children and pregnant women. A 20-seater WC toilet complex, a tolling booth and a refuse holding bay are being constructed.

The poor water and sanitation situation in schools has been addressed through raising awareness among students for hand washing through school water clubs. The incorporation of the HVBWSHE in

the syllabus of primary and secondary schools under the Reformed Education Policy started in 2007, and will affect all 6,5464,623 children enrolled in the 2007/2008 academic year in the primary and secondary schools in the country. **A micro-credit scheme for sanitation** was added to the sanitation work in 2008.

Challenges

- The Ghana Education Service (GES) undertakes project initiatives in “pilot schools” at Nsawan, Zabon Zongo and the Accra Teacher Training College. The project faced challenges in relation to the implementation of the HVBWSHE, in connection with the Education Policy Reform in 2007, as it required efforts to build capacity of teachers to implement new reforms in schools.
- Issues related to the legal status of the CDC, high turnover of government staff and issues of the structure/function of the local government structure all affected the progress of the project.
- Delays in implementation, dispute over land ownership and occasional vandalism of structures.
- A micro-credit revolving scheme for the construction of household toilets, benefiting female-headed households, widows and vulnerable groups to be implemented by Water Aid, had not taken off at the time of interviews for this assessment, reportedly due to “late disbursement of funds from Nairobi”.

Conclusion

Good normative work has been developed and GWCLs and other implementing partners have shown willingness to promote pro-poor/gender concerns in Steering Committee and Ghana Water Aid has played an important role in promoting pro-poor governance. Much more commitment will be required. On the operational side, results are generally satisfactory and efforts are made to overcome difficulties. Issues related to land access for infrastructure/facilities must be solved before implementation. **The micro-credit scheme should be supported and closely monitored.**

4.3 INDIA

Background

India is urbanizing very fast and, simultaneously, the slum population is also increasing. India will have 41% of its population living in cities and towns by 2030 - more than 575 million people - from the present level of 286 million and 28%. The majority of the residents in slums and informal settlements do not have basic facilities such as drinking water and sanitation.

WAC II is being implemented in the four cities (Bhopal, Gwalior, Indore and Jabalpur) in the state of Madhya Pradesh. The programme is focused on promoting pro-poor urban water and sanitation building of various stakeholders.

Gender mainstreaming²² is regarded as an important cross-cutting issue of concern in all aspects of policy making, programme planning and project design. The implementing partners are TERI India, SGS Institute of Technology and Science (SGSITS), WaterAid India (WAI), Municipalities of Bhopal, Indore, Jabalpur and Gwalior and Jabalpur Municipal Corporation (JMC). Sources of funding are the Asian Development Bank (ADB) and the UN-HABITAT Water and Sanitation Trust Fund. Partnership with the Mahila Chetna Manch, an NGO, has been instrumental in the developing of a Gender Strategy in the sector.

The State Government has reserved 50% of all seats in urban local bodies for women.

Madhya Pradesh – Bhopal, Gwalior, Indore and Jabalpur

Achievements – Some Highlights

Poverty pocket situation analysis of four projects cities has been undertaken.

Poverty mapping - a situational analysis of poverty pockets in Bhopal - was carried out in cooperation with Water Aid. A **workshop was held in March 2005 on Pro-Poor Urban Water and Sanitation Governance** with the key objective to bring together stakeholders to discuss and decide on the approach and strategy to be adopted by UN-HABITAT in the implementation of the WAC in Madhya Pradesh.

As a follow up of these recommendations, a pilot Slums Environmental Sanitation Initiative (SESI) in the slums of the four project cities has been implemented. The project demonstrates an integrated approach to environmental sanitation, waste management, low-cost sewerage and/or onsite sanitation to change health and hygiene behaviour.

It has been executed in a tri-partite partnership model, bringing together resources and expertise from UN-HABITAT, Water Aid India, AARAMBH and Bhopal Municipal Corporations, for about 5000 households that lack infrastructure



²² Currently there is a 1/3 reservation of seats for women for all local bodies both urban and rural. Recently the Union Cabinet has taken a decision to further amend the Constitution of India to raise this reservation for women in all local bodies to 50%. It is expected that the Parliament will endorse this in 2009, which is expected to impact on all sectors of the Indian economy.

regarding water supply, improved sanitation and grey water disposal.

In the first phase of the UN-HABITAT and WaterAid India's SESI (Slums Environmental Sanitation Initiative) programme the first phase of the UN-HABITAT and WaterAid India's SESI (Slums Environmental Sanitation Initiative) was undertaken, and a detailed slum enumeration exercise (Poverty Pocket Situation Analysis) was carried out during November and December 2005.

A **Rapid Gender Assessment**, which was a comprehensive baseline survey in four slum areas in Bhopal, Gwalior, Indore and Jabalpur cities, was undertaken.

A **Gender Mainstreaming Strategy and Action Plan** has been developed in partnership with the Government of Madhya Pradesh for mainstreaming gender in the water and sanitation activities. The Municipal Corporations of Bhopal, Indore, Jabalpur and Gwalior have passed resolutions adopting the Gender Mainstreaming Strategy and Action Plan to facilitate women's participation in the water and sanitation service delivery sector.

The **project has raised gender awareness activities among the policy makers, government officials of different levels and empowerment of women** through their capacity building for operation and management of community assets. To demonstrate the plight on women and sanitation issues, an exhibition called "**Unheard Voices**", produced in partnership with the Aga Khan Foundation, was displayed during the 13th session of the UN Commission on Sustainable Development.

UN-HABITAT has facilitated establishment of Legislature's Forum for Human Development (LFHD) in Madhya Pradesh with the objective to sensitize the policy makers on issues related to Human Development so that innovative approaches and best practices could be adopted for Government programmes and for policy decisions. **It has advocated for gender budgeting and during 2007-08, the Government of Madhya Pradesh introduced gender budgeting in 13 selected departments.** The fund allocation towards various schemes under these departments was categorized under two heads.

The first included schemes where 100 per cent expenditures were earmarked for women and the second category comprised those where at least 30 per cent of the funds were earmarked for women. In 2008-09, the **Government made gender budget provisions for 21 Departments.** The total budget allocation is Rs.32 Billion (USD 854.25 million). Under the budget for the Urban Administration and Development Department (UADD), Rs.178 million (USD 4.6 million) has been provided for Integrated Urban and Slum Development programme.

This provides an opportunity to **mobilize funds for the operation and management of assets for water supply and sanitation that can be managed by the women groups.**

The project has been implemented through financial support from ADB and DFID for improving the water and sanitation situation in selected slums by involving communities on the lines of UN-HABITAT supported initiatives, such as the SESI and Community Managed Water Supply Scheme (CMWSS), with an ultimate goal of developing these as models for the government, and the stakeholders in this sector.

In 2009, the Madhya Pradesh government launched the Integrated Urban Sanitation Programme (IUSP) to achieve totally sanitized, healthy, liveable cities and towns by achieving zero open defecation through introducing a self-contained system for the management of solid and liquid waste through engagement of civil societies and communities in general and **women in particular** in awareness generation, hygiene education and creation and maintenance of the sanitation infrastructure.

In the four project cities of Madhya Pradesh, a number of projects for improving water and sanitation services to the poor communities have been implemented in collaboration with UN-Habitat, Municipal Corporations, District Urban Development Agency, WaterAid and Local Partner NGOs. So far more than 250 SHGs having adequate representation of woman have been constituted in the four project cities for facilitating water and sanitation services to the poverty pockets, 33 community toilets have been handed over to such SHGs/Community

Water and Sanitation Committees (CWASC) for operation and maintenance and three CWASCs are also managing the community-managed water supply schemes in Indore, Jabalpur and Gwalior.

Revolving micro-finance schemes have been set up and guidelines developed, and these are reported to be working quite satisfactorily.

The positive outcome of the four-city programme has catalyzed state-wide sector reform to put in place the community-based funding mechanisms and **gender mainstreaming strategies deployed in the four cities**, in whose design UN-HABITAT was instrumental.

Challenges

UN-HABITAT initially faced significant problems in gaining appreciation for its gender mainstreaming policy among the stakeholders in the WATSAN sector in India. The reputed organisation Mahila Chetna Manch has clearly been instrumental in assisting the programme, developing strategies and, through its Executive Director, "open doors" to policy and decision-makers.

The Project CTA mentioned that there is a need for gender disaggregated data system in the WATSAN sector and that this had been discussed with UN-HABITAT, Nairobi. No other comments regarding challenges related to implementation of activities have been reported.

Conclusion

The normative work in India is of high quality. Its gender strategy and the “Unheard Voices” exhibition and associated materials could be good models, not only for other States in India, but perhaps for other countries in the region. The community-managed schemes for water supply and sanitation, as well as encouraging the State to spread community models and introduce ‘gender budgeting’ are examples of commendable work by the UN-HABITAT staff.

4.4 KENYA

Background

The WAC II Kenya country programme involves six initiatives; three of them through established NGOs in the region while the rest by governmental agencies. The projects focus on increased water and sanitation coverage within urban poor, with emphasis on slum settlements²³.

The Kibera Integrated Water, Sanitation and Waste Management Project (Kibera-WATSAN), which is part of the above, is supporting low cost community based demonstrations in the Soweto village of Kibera slums. The Maji Data Initiative is another ongoing project. UN-HABITAT is also implementing the Lake Victoria Regional Water and Sanitation programme (LVWATSAN), of which Kenya is one of the countries involved in the region.

Some issues related to gender assessment are noted (below) regarding Kibera and Maji Data projects. However, **this gender thematic assessment of Kenya is focused on the latter initiative (LVWATSAN)** for which a brief field visit was undertaken to Homa Bay and Kisumu during November 2009. (See the separate Kenya Assessment Report for detailed accounts of the assessments of Kibera, Maji Data and LVWATSAN projects, selected for the overall Kenya assessment).

The overall assessment of UN-HABITAT’s initiatives in Kenya studied impact of three selected projects²⁴ and is reported on separate report: “Kenya Country Impact Assessment, P. Cross, T. Damhaug and L. Nycander, March 2010”.

Kibera WATSAN

Kibera WATSAN is implemented in partnership with the Government of Kenya under the Kenya Slum Upgrading Programme (KENSUP) and the NGO Maji na Ufanisi is the implementing partner. It has contributed towards improving the livelihoods of the urban poor in Soweto East, by supporting small-scale community based initiatives in water, sanitation and waste management.

Maji Na Ufanisi has taken social inclusion and gender issues into account through the establishment of the Settlement Executive Committee (both women and men are members), which plays a very important role in the project. The committee ensures that both women and men benefit from the work and gain incomes.

²³ These are implemented in Mirera and Karagitat settlements of Naivasha and Kibera, in Nairobi.

²⁴ These are LVWATSAN Regional Initiative, Kibera WATSAN project and Maji Data project.

Through issuing labour contracts, and a rotating contract system, new residents are engaged every two weeks in various works with the purpose of benefitting as many people as possible.

Initiatives that benefit both men and women are micro finance and low cost non-motorised transport interventions for water and sanitation service provision. When finalising this report, it was informed that WSIB carried out gender training for Kibera and Mavoko representatives in January 2010,

The following community groups have been formed under the project The Soweto Youth Group (trained in waste handling for income generation), seven facility management groups (trained and registered as an enterprise managing the sanitation facilities) and four housing cooperatives.

Maji Data Initiative

The Maji Data Initiative is implemented through Water Services Trust Fund of the Ministry of Water and Irrigation in Nairobi in collaboration with GTZ. It aims at documenting water and sanitation coverage trends within the urban poor. The assessment team has not been able to verify how far the system will cater for sex-disaggregated data - which is believed to be essential in such a database.

LWATSAN: Homa Bay

In Kenya, many stakeholders in the water sector have acknowledged the significance of gender issues and it is recognized that women and girls generally bear the primary responsibility for water collection in informal settlements in urban and peri-urban areas. That women and

girls, therefore, have special interests in improvements that may ease their work burdens and reduce time spent on fetching water and costs incurred paying for water from water vendors is also quite well known. However, GWA expressed that this awareness was, at the time of the initial gender assessment undertaken by UN-HABITAT in the region, not always translated in women being represented and empowered to participate in planning and decision-making about water and sanitation.

Lake Victoria Region Water and Sanitation Initiatives (LWATSAN), was launched in 2004 in association with the Governments of Kenya, Tanzania and Uganda to address water and sanitation needs of the population, particularly the poor, in the secondary urban centres around Lake Victoria. LWATSAN is supporting participating governments to achieve the MDGs for water supply and sanitation, with emphasis on innovative solutions and speedy delivery. UN-HABITAT's project in Homa Bay town is part of this regional programme.

Achievements – some highlights

Regarding pro-poor governance and gender mainstreaming approaches and strategies, **the LWATSAN is reported to have followed in the footsteps of WAC.** Regarding gender concerns in the operational areas in Homa Bay, Kisii and Bondo of LWATSAN Initiative, the programme has made commendable efforts to address gender issues in the water and sanitation sector. Income-poor women and group leaders have been empowered with the support of UN-HABITAT's Nairobi office, in particular the Gender Focal Point at WSIB.

Initially, **partnership with the Gender and Water Alliance (GWA), resulted in a Rapid Gender and Vulnerability Assessment (RGVA) carried out in 2007, in Homa Bay and Kisii in Kenya²⁵ (Nyendo, Kyotera and Mutukula in Uganda and Bukoba, Muleba and Mutukula in Tanzania) being part of a regional initiative.**

The study was participatory, informing local stakeholders in the towns before the survey and reporting on their findings. These field studies showed that strong ethnic and socio-cultural norms and practices clearly impact on women's and girls' access to sanitation facilities in particular and therefore must be taken into account and addressed in order for the project to be successful in reaching its goals. The assessment also indicated that the dire lack of sanitation facilities could be mitigated through the enactment and enforcement of local authority by-laws such as compelling landlords in informal settlements to provide adequate sanitation facilities for their tenants.

The **field research findings helped design basic gender awareness and training workshops** involving representatives of the government, private sector, NGOs and civil society organizations. The field assessment findings also helped to develop a relevant "Toolkit", also in partnership with GWA, with the purpose to assist the programme stakeholders to integrate gender and vulnerable groups in programming and project cycle.



The findings of the above-mentioned field assessments formed the basis for some of the activities initiated.

Regarding institutional sustainability and addressing cross-cutting issues, including gender mainstreaming and local empowerment, the **Multi-Stakeholder Fori** established in all three Municipalities have clearly played a very important role in the LWATSAN project. The partners involved stated that they had appreciated the participatory and inclusive approach applied, including the municipal councils (hosting the Programme Implementation Unit), the water companies and the Multi-Stakeholder Forum (MSF).

²⁵ Bondo town in Kenya was included later in the programme, a reason why no RGVA was done in Bondu.

The MSF established in all three towns (Homa Bay, Kisii and Bondo²⁶), are umbrella organisations for representatives of the local government, NGOs, Community Based Organisations (CBOs), Self-Help Groups (SHGs) and the Community Village Bank, responsible for organizing micro credit to “Solidarity Groups”. **The LVWATSAN project has been able to make an important difference to women’s participation in decision-making, as their representation in MSF’s now is reported to be around 50% in all the ten towns covered under the LVWATSAN programme in the region.**

The MSF **plays an important role as “watchdog”**, advocating for, among other issues, the need to support attempts to access water and sanitation and including women self-help groups, youth and vulnerable groups in decision-making and changing attitudes and behaviour. Thanks to them, traditional sectoral boundaries have been crossed, related to developments in housing, lands and planning, health, urban development, environment, education and gender.

Long-term sustainability of the MSFs and their recognition is an issue of concern. Discussions were held about possibilities to establish MSFs more firmly as players in the water sector structure, and following the recent Kenya Water Sector Reform, in the post-project period. Presently they are registered under the Ministry of Culture and Social Welfare.

This issue of enabling them to attract more funds was brought up and the following three suggestions were provided: to register under the Attorney General’s office, to make them into Trust Funds and to establish them as a “wing” of the Local Government. This last suggestions was made by the Kisii MSF representative.

The project has encouraged the water companies to hand over of the management of two **Water Kiosks** to SHGs (both men and women are members). Water sold for 2 Ksh. (USD 0.02) per jerry can (20 litres). The initiative was based on the realization that low-income households and poor residents in the urban informal settlements purchase water from water vendors and generally pay much higher prices for water than the “better or off” and the quality is often low as it is collected from Lake Victoria. At the time of the field visit, the activity had not yielded much extra income though – as the activity was associated with power cuts and rationing of water.

Water kiosks handled by women groups seem to have great potential as an alternative to purchasing water of less quality from vendors but SHGs need support initially to keep up momentum. Members brought up the need to install water tanks on top of the kiosks to mitigate the problem and enable the women to sell water also during power cuts even during evenings.

²⁶ In Bondo, for example, MFS representatives reportedly identified female-headed and child-headed households for various support, e.g. for savings schemes. Other initiatives were introduction of solar cookers for households who had children below five years of age – thus reducing the need for firewood and simultaneously raised awareness about the forest environment.

A **micro-credit revolving scheme** to construct toilets facilities in individual households in peri-urban areas of Homa Bay (and in all three towns in Kenya) has taken off. The costs of the latrines (chosen by the members) range between 6,000 and 15,000 Ksh., excluding labour, and are considered rather affordable. The target has been set to provide 45,000 people with toilet facilities through micro-credit schemes by 2010 (a total of 900 in the three operational areas). In Homa Bay, the scheme had a late start as it required time and motivational campaigns by the NGO SANA (Sanitation for Africa International) to “sell the idea” that micro credit could be used for sanitation purposes.

The LVWATSAN programme emphasizes on “fast and immediate results and benefits”, however, **changes in attitudes and behaviour are not easily achieved even though improvements are perceived to be necessary**. Funds disbursement to the women groups who have saved money should be faster THAN?to the micro-credit groups (particularly regarding the Kisii scheme) in order not to lose momentum and a “no cost” extension of the micro-scheme seems necessary, to end in 2010.

Monitoring of the repayment of the loans is necessary, and the programme needs to be more engaged in assisting groups to plan for the future use of the funds, preferably in connection with skills and capacity building for economic bringing activities. Furthermore, a more thorough screening of borrowers is necessary and improved monitoring mechanisms to ensure that borrowers of micro-credit are from poor/low-income households.

The programme has also constructed **toilet facilities in (informal) pre-school and primary schools for HIV/AIDS orphaned children**. The visiting team noticed that one latrine recently constructed in Homa Bay was not designed for the use of girls – which is an issue to be closely monitored.

Preparations are under way to enrol SHGs in training events to **develop skills regarding waste management, recycling and composting** with a view to engage them in economic activities through a **Local Economic Development (LED) approach**.

Challenges

Some of the challenges brought up are raising awareness among water companies and government officials in particular to take gender issues into account when planning and implementing the work – common in all UN-HABITAT’s WATSAN programmes in all countries reviewed.

Reaching the target of 300 toilet facilities involves convincing people to borrow money to construct latrines in their homes without any income-generation attached to the activity: save 3,000 Ksh., and open a bank account for the purpose, engage artisans to be involved in the construction and finally form the programme to monitor that instalments on the loans are paid back on schedule – and this is all taking longer time than was planned.



The groups started saving only in May-June 2009 and one of the motivational factors and strategies used by the NGO vis-à-vis the women groups is that revolving funds will eventually be provided for productive, economic activities once the loans for the latrines have been repaid. **It now seems that there is a sufficient number of people willing to enrol in the micro-credit scheme, and the NGO is clearly struggling to “meet the target”.**

Regarding the water kiosks managed by Self-Help Groups, frequent power cuts result in a lack of water supply and insufficient water is running in the system. There is a risk of diminishing interest among group members, who reportedly **have not yet been able to earn much through the water selling** (most of the women members have other sources of income).

Conclusion

The MSF in the LVWATSAN initiative, is a good example of how public-private partnership has developed, bringing together the municipality, the water companies, NGOs and civil society organisations and its role has clearly made a difference through forwarding ideas and demands from stakeholders, encouraging women's voices and their involvement in decision-making in the sector. Its role as “watchdog” is vital and should be sustained.

Regarding operational work, the support to SHGs to demand services, manage water kiosks and build latrines in their homes are also examples of good work, but the project staff and the NGO known as SANA seemed to need more guidance from Nairobi, in particular regarding the development of the micro-credit scheme and how to increase the benefits of the water kiosk situation. Headquarters in Nairobi, with its Gender Focal Point, should consider monitoring the activities more closely.

4.5 LAO PDR

Background

Lao PDR has experienced a sharp reduction in poverty incidence in the past ten years with strong economic growth, achievement of rice sufficiency and increased cross-border trade. However, water supply and sanitation coverage in secondary and district towns remains a major concern.

The National Growth and Poverty Eradication Strategy (NGPES) has identified water supply and sanitation as one of four high priority sectors to be developed in order to meet the economic growth and poverty eradication objectives and has a particular focus on the improvement of the situation in the poorest districts. The national target is to serve 80% of urban population with safe water and appropriate sanitation in 2020. The NGPES is a comprehensive framework for growth and development.

During the past years, **several development policies, programme developments and institutional frameworks have been developed for the promotion of gender**, such as gender issues being mainstreamed into the National Socio Economic Development Plan (2006-2010) focusing on four sectors - health, education, agriculture, and transport.

The country's government is taking steps in all key economic sectors and through national programmes to: support poor women's economic activities; improve their access to basic services such as education and health and productive resources, such as extension services; involve women in local decision-making and generally increase their involvement and take their needs into account when developing policies and plans. The Lao Women Union plays a key role in this area, an organization equivalent to a ministry with a structure that expands from the central to the grass-root levels.

UN-HABITAT has initiated two initiatives in Lao PDR, supported by the Trust Fund: the **WAC** programme initiatives which started in 2005 in cooperation with ADB, OPEC and NORAD; and the **Mekong Region Water and Sanitation²⁷ (MEK-WATSAN)**, which collaborates with ADB, GRET, Ministry of Public Works and Transportation (MPWT), Gender Resource Information and Development Centre (GRID) (under LAO Women Union - LWU), GWA and Mekong River Commission (MRC). Both programmes relate to the ADB-funded Northern and Central Regions Water Supply and Sanitation Sector Project (NCRWSSSP).

²⁷ The goal of MEK-WATSAN is to improve the quality of life of residents in towns of Lao PDR and the specific objectives are defined as: "to provide reliable, safe, affordable and sustainable piped water supply for towns in the Mekong region; improve the environmental conditions in the towns; make physical investments in the WS and essential urban infrastructure with high priority enhancing public hygiene awareness and motivate public participation in the village improvement initiatives; improve the sector planning, managing, and regulating capacity; and promote the private sector's participation in the water supply services".

Achievements – Some Highlights

WAsC

WAsC is supporting the NCRWSSSP and is entering its third phase. **Poverty analysis** was undertaken in 12 small district towns²⁸, where UN-HABITAT has focused its activities (with start in WAsC phase I). Community Action Teams (CATs) have been formed. Awareness-raising activities in the areas of community **environment improvements, health, and sanitation** have been undertaken. **Representation of women in Water User Committees is more than 30%, and in meetings almost 50%.**

Other achievements reported concerning gender mainstreaming are:

- Equal access of women to employment, training and capacity building
- Representation (for the Ministry of communication, transports, posts and construction) by women's union on behalf of customers in the Water Authority Regulatory Committee
- Representatives of LWU in the Project Implementation Unit (PIU)
- Preference given to women for jobs created by community based improvements
- At least 30% of new jobs generated in the community will be reserved for qualified women

- Equal access to Village Environment Improvement (VEIs) with preference given to proposal submitted by women
- Special attention within the community health awareness programme to women's reproductive health needs (as it relates to water and sanitation)
- At least 30% female representation within community action team and WATSANs (these units are responsible for mobilizing hygiene campaigns, and are expected to have strong female representation and to reflect the ethnic composition of villages)
- Consultation with women before the design of roads, drainage works and sanitation facilities are finalized (e.g. separate latrines facilities for women and men)

MEK-WATSAN

The hardware activities of the overall project include access to safe water, construction of household latrines, as well as support to business activities in connection to gas stations, pure drinking water, guesthouses, shops, small-scale agriculture. UN-HABITAT supports five projects²⁹ under this initiative:

In 2008, a **gender mainstreaming exercise of 12 other water utilities** as well as learning institutions in Lao PDR, under a follow-up agreement with GRID was carried out – **to assist the utilities come up with concrete gender mainstreaming action plans for each of their utility.**

²⁸ These towns are: Nan and Ngoi (Luangprabang), Houn and Namor (Oudomxay), Sanakham and Keo-Oudom (Vientiane Province), Xamtay (Houaphan), Khoun (Xiengkhouang), Khenthao (Sayabouly), Namkeung, and Tonpheung District (Bokeo) (only 11!)

²⁹ These are located in Phiang, Sayabouly province, Vilabouly and Dansavanh, Paksan, Bolikhamxay province, Houya Khoun, Bolikhan District, Bolikhamxay province.

In these project areas, UN-HABITAT is focusing on undertaking rapid water and sanitation situation assessment, community participation, and special subsidies for water supply connections and sanitation for the poor. GRID, a technical unit under the LWU, also plays a vital role in advocating gender issue and the empowerment and undertakes gender training. Through UN-HABITAT, GRID has for the first time become engaged in the WATSAN sector.

A **gender assessment and strategy** for three project towns³⁰ has been carried out.

For all activities in the sector:

A **gender training workshop** was held in 2007, involving both WAC and MEK-WATSAN components. The objective of the workshop was to introduce the basic concepts of gender and its importance in governance. This has been referred to as an “eye-opener”.

A **gender mainstreaming strategy** was developed for the sector in cooperation with UN-HABITAT WATSAN programmes and GWA (for both WAC & MEK-WATSAN programmes). This outlines action plans and budgets to “enhance the role of women in planning and decision making functions in the utilities”. The intention is to disseminate experiences at the national level and make gender mainstreaming a core component of utility management in the country.

Data gathering has been initiated to **monitor MDG Targets 10 and 11** in 17 UN-HABITAT operational areas with the purpose of providing the basis for local action (detailed data about each household, each plot boundary and the forms of provision that already exist) – *this study has not been able to ascertain whether gender disaggregated data is gathered.*

Good policy influence by the project, including pro-poor and gender mainstreaming issues:

UN-HABITAT has enjoyed a very successful partnership with the MPWT. A meeting with the Chairperson of the law drafting in the National Assembly at the Ministry³¹ revealed that **the programme has had influence on policy frameworks in the water and sanitation sector, such as in relation to gender policies in ‘Decrees’. UN-HABITAT was given credit for having brought “rights based approaches and community participation” into the Ministry’s work.**

A woman has been recruited as a deputy director and in posts in the water sector. In 2007, a gender mainstreaming workshop was conducted for the staff on the Ministry’s initiative and training modules for the ministry are reportedly incorporating gender issues.

The study mission to Lao PDR also found that UN-HABITAT project staff has also developed very good working relationships with GRID, ADB, and although the volume of projects are comparatively small, its work is highly regarded by the UN Resident Coordinator, and by other UN community representatives.

³⁰ These towns are Xieng Ngeun, Sayabouly and Phine.

³¹ Dr. Somphone, Vice-President, Advisory Committee to the Minister.

An **impact assessment study was carried out in June 2008 to assess significant change within the project area of a community-based water supply and sanitation project in Xieng Ngeun town**, Lao PDR. The community-based water supply and sanitation project has been extremely successful, both in its execution and outcome and has had significant impacts in the lives of the residents in the targeted villages. Some highlights of the findings specifically related to gender are:

- After project interventions, 79.8 per cent of households in the 8 targeted villages of Xieng Ngeun town are now connected to the water supply network and receive safe, piped water direct to their houses for a monthly fee
- The revolving funds initiative, which allows poorer families to borrow money for water and sanitation connections and pay it back in instalments, has been deemed a success
- Women's role and participation in this project was significant

A large majority of village heads interviewed believe the burden on women and children has now dramatically reduced and women's ability to engage in productive activities has increased (*but there is no information about what the women themselves thought*)

The majority of households view the impact as allowing for people to engage in socio-economic activities such as farming or raising livestock and this will then improve their socio-economic status in the community (*no gender disaggregated data provided*)

Significant health benefits were reported (diseases related to unsafe access to water and sanitation has decreased considerably between 2005-2007) (*no gender disaggregated data provided*). (Source: *Impact Assessment Study for the Community-based Water and Sanitation Project Xieng Ngeun Town, Xieng Ngeun District Luang Prabang Province June 2008*)

Challenges

A system for gender disaggregated data collection, monitoring and reporting on gender in the WATSAN sector is lacking. The issue was discussed with GRID, whose representative expressed that support in developing skills in this field is required to enable the institution to better serve the needs in the sector. The most recent UN-HABITAT annual progress report was also poor in this respect.

Conclusion

The overall conclusions of the efforts made regarding gender mainstreaming in Lao PDR are overall positive. With comparatively small funds and a small project team, UN-HABITAT activities have generated positive results through working with local communities and local utilities and strategically linking these to initiatives at national institutional levels in an attempt to influence policy and decision-making related to gender issues in general and in the sector.

The GM Strategy developed by GRID is comprehensive work and seems too "ambitious" - UN-HABITAT should consider encouraging such strategies to be made user-friendlier. The sector assessment and strategy has influenced the policy level inputs, and can be seen from the promulgation of the Water Law (2009).

The work has generated interest for continued cooperation with government, ADB and UN agencies, as expressed by the UN Resident Coordinator.

The demand for UN-HABITAT's community-based WATSAN model (particularly under the MEK-WATSAN) has been put forward by the Government and the partners.

Great appreciation has been expressed by all stakeholders/partners discussed with, including the UN Resident Coordinator's office for the cooperation and commitment to "follow through" on mainstreaming gender in the overall work.

While meaningful participation is not easy to achieve, UN-HABITAT's participatory methods/approaches have resulted in active contribution by "targeted" communities to improve WATSAN conditions through a greater and more meaningful involvement of women, in raising their voice at communities and household levels.

The role and needs of women and girls and division of labour have been brought to light and debated among stakeholders – some of whom have not earlier focused on gender issues in this sector, notably the Ministry of Public Works and Transport and GRID. UN-HABITAT has also been able to influence policy work related to gender concerns in water and sanitation – although definite results are too early to gauge.

All partners stressed the need for continuation of support to community development ("software" activities) from UN-HABITAT. They pointed out that good preliminary results might not be sustained if support is not continued in a longer term. With the good cooperation

established with the government, the ADB (with joint implementation and good quality of working relationships) as well as the encouragement received from the international community (expressed by the UN Resident Coordinator) activities to support community development/gender mainstreaming should be continued and scaled up.

The need for more gender-disaggregated data in the water sector must be followed up by UN-HABITAT.



4.6 NEPAL

Background

The goal of the UN-HABITAT Water and Sanitation Programme is to contribute to the achievement of the internationally agreed goals related to water and sanitation in human settlements, with particular focus on the urban poor in order to facilitate an equitable social, economic and environmental development. The development objective is to support developing countries in expanding access to environmentally sound basic infrastructure and services with a special focus on the un-served and under-served populations.

The Country Support Strategy (WAC Nepal 2008 – 2012), which includes a RBM/ LF joint framework, has formulated four expected outcomes (A, B, C, D) of which outcome A specifically mentions gender and pro-poor governance issues, namely: **“Institutionalization of inclusive and gender responsive pro-poor urban governance by WAC-Nepal-supported local authorities”**. The framework provides information about development objectives, the goal, impact, outcomes, outputs, indicative actions, means of verification and assumptions/risks.

It has, however, been noted that the indicators of achievement in the WAC Nepal logical framework are not sufficiently quantified or fully SMART.

(For an assessment of 16 selected UN-HABITAT projects in the country, see *“Nepal Country Impact Assessment, P. Cross, T. Damhaug and L. Nycander, January 2010”*³²).

Achievements – some highlights

Overall, **impressive work and high level of efforts are undertaken in Nepal through various initiatives toward attaining the above-mentioned outcome**. UN-HABITAT has commissioned seven project evaluations with findings (some of which are still drafts) that are mainly positive to the achievements in the field of pro-poor and gender mainstreaming - but which also point at some emerging issues to be considered, as well as lessons learned. In addition, field studies have been conducted by external MSc students that have added to transparency of activities and processes at field level.

The following are some project examples where achievements have been found:

A workshop to enhance awareness about gender mainstreaming in the sector was conducted in Nepal in September, jointly organized by Water and Energy Commission Secretariat, UN-HABITAT under WAC and GWA. The workshop was also aimed at contributing to a framework for developing a Gender Resource Book specific to the WAC programme.

³² The consultants made field visits to the following projects to determine their achievements, namely: *“The Community-based Water Supply and Sanitation Pilot project in Peri Urban Community of Siddhipur within Kathmandu Valley”*; *“Establishment of a Community Based Waste Water Treatment Plant for Dhulikhel Municipality”* (in Kathmandu Valley); *“Provision of Total Coverage of Safe Drinking Water and Sustainable Sanitation Facilities in Urban Poor Communities”* (in Hetauda Municipality); and *“Water, Environmental Sanitation and Hygiene Programme for Urban Poor (Bharatpur, Lubhu, Narayantole)*.

Subsequently, two **gender workshops** were organised at municipality level with technical supported from UN-HABITAT office in Kathmandu, handled by the Gender Focal Point (a third workshop was planned at the time of the study visit).

Poverty and gender maps have been produced and are greatly appreciated by organizations such as the Department of Urban Development and Building Construction (DUDBC) and the municipality involved³³. Technical knowledge and lessons learned in this area have been picked up through methods which include exchange visits and included in other the UN-HABITAT's initiatives in Asia (India, Lao PDR and Vietnam).

Sanitation improvements have been made in urban poor communities in **Hetauda Municipality³⁴, complementing the efforts made through other urban environment and development projects and supported by ADB and GTZ, respectively. The project aimed to demonstrate community-based WATSAN, build the capacity of the Municipality and local groups, improve environmental sanitation and increase community awareness.**

Among the impact documented are women having saved time through access to water near their homes (community taps) enabling households to be kept cleaner, and being able attend to income earning activities.

Micro-credit had been provided for toilet construction, and monthly fees for using community taps were collected in a fund and used to provide women groups with loans for income-generating activities – which in turn had increased confidence among the involved women.

In a peri-urban community in **Siddhipur**, within the Kathmandu Valley³⁵, women, children and the poorest categories of households had gained significantly from the project, such as through pro-poor water pricing policy and administrative arrangements for water tariff collection, provision of community taps, increase in awareness of water and sanitation issues and women being encouraged to voice their concerns. Women had received training on garbage management, students had gotten more time for their studies and residents were willing to contribute money for O&M through mobilization of child clubs, nature clubs and traditional organizations such as *Guthi*.

Also in **Kathmandu Valley**, a project³⁶ has demonstrated a system for bottling water in urban low-income communities. The objectives were to address the shortage of safe drinking water by setting up a sustainable water distribution system through treatment and bottling of water from traditional water sources to the urban poor communities, and establish a model demonstration water treatment and bottling system).

³³ "Pro poor Urban Governance through Poverty Mapping and Gender Assessment in selected Municipalities, and Enforcement of Urban Environmental Guidelines - CA I"

³⁴ Name of the project: "Community Based Sanitation Improvement in Urban Poor Communities in Hetauda Municipality" implemented by ENPHO, the Municipality and local communities (2006-2007).

³⁵ Name of the project: "Community-based WSS Pilot project in Peri Urban Community of Siddhipur within Kathmandu Valley" implemented by ENPHO and Siddhipur WS&S Committee"

³⁶ Name of the project: "Demonstration of Water Bottling System for Urban Poor Communities in Kathmandu Valley"



A Project Steering Committee (PSC) was formed with two women among its members. The WUC set up by the project was “inclusive” as women and members of a Dalit group were members – which had encouraged high women’s participation “at all stages, even construction”. The evaluation report of this project reports “During the peak of the construction period, for example, it was easy to mobilise women as well as men to help”.

In a Rainwater Harvesting Pilot Project³⁷ implemented by the NGO Forum for Urban Water and Sanitation (NGOFUWS), success has been stated and great interest in the benefits of this technology. It seemed, however, through a presentation made for the evaluation team, that this particular project did not actually target or benefit income-poor communities.

³⁷ Name of the project: “Capacity Building, Dissemination, Demonstration and Promotion of Rainwater Harvesting in Kathmandu and selected towns in Nepal”.

In **Khokhana, Lalitpur³⁸**, in a project to improve the WATSAN situation, the objective was to “contribute towards increasing agriculture productivity to farmers”. The project formed “inclusive CBOs involving both men and women” and women’s participation was high in all stages, even in construction (they helped in paving, rehabilitating water sources). Some of the benefits are reported as women having “more time to watch TV”... The evaluation reports states that “such inclusiveness made the project gender-sensitive”. Women were also “empowered” through being enrolled in savings and credit schemes”.

³⁸ Name of the project: “Integrated Approach to Improve Water and Sanitation System and Increase Agricultural Productivity in Selected Communities in Khokhana, Lalitpur”



Challenges faced

- Sanitation still has a low priority in the Nepal while water supply is still the main priority
- Staff turnover within the government poses great problems in the overall implementation, and the issues of lack of elected officials at municipality level adversely affect the pace of decision-making
- NGOs' and CBOs' roles in mobilising residents to engage themselves in WATSAN improvements in urban settlements and communities are vital, however, very few NGOs have urban experience and operate in urban areas
- Many participants in the Gender Workshops are not in decision-making positions in their respective organizations, and therefore may not be able to act on resolutions made
- In the Siddhipur project, the Community and School Led Total Sanitation (CLTS/SLTS) "campaigns" had been introduced too late, training materials were not appropriately adapted to the local culture, difficulties were faced in engaging youth in the WATSAN activities, and provide services to the poorest categories of water users "due to their "scattered settlement"
- Micro credit to women and families for water and sanitation has not been provided from the ADB loans to WUCs of the Small Towns Project – except in a few cases. UN-HABITAT's contribution to this project is small in terms of funding - but has important software components and potential impact.

- The Evaluation report of the Hetauda community sanitation project recommended that a socio-economic survey and gender assessment should have been made to establish a baseline before implementation started – with which this assessment study agrees with

Conclusions

Overall, very good work has been accomplished under (sometimes) difficult circumstances in Nepal, such as a very high government staff turnover, political instability and lack of NGOs with sufficient experience to mobilise urban poor communities. Sanitation used to have a low priority in the country but, by the support of the WAsC programme, has received a much higher status in the government's policies and strategies. Sanitation has now a specific budgetary line for Government allocations.

The Logical Framework (LF) should be modified/simplified to include SMART indicators to enable it to function as an instrument to measure progress and achievements against set goals. It should also phrase outputs as tangible outputs, and not as *activities*, as has been done.

More efforts are required by UN-HABITAT to clarify that gender issues not only address women's and girls' needs and roles in the sector but also those of men, boys, elderly and vulnerable. The study team was informed that when men in communities found that women were seriously engaged in improving the sanitation situation they actively helped and supported the toilet construction works.

The appreciation that women and girls have a crucial role to play at community level in the sector is widely accepted and understood. However, the Government policy of having 33 % women representation in WUC is not fully implemented – and the project could explore what could improve the situation.

Oftentimes it is assumed, even by evaluators, ***that if women participate in the work of the project, it is a benefit per se*** – while work burdens often increase and not necessarily engaging women or vulnerable groups in decision-making processes. The project should explore activities geared to further strengthening women's strategic roles, including training and education, management skills and taking up decision-making positions at all levels.

The work to encourage municipalities to provide micro credit to self-help groups/informal groups for WATSAN purposes should continue.

UN-HABITAT's WATSAN initiatives in Nepal should consider playing a stronger role in promoting Public Private Partnerships, such as the one formed in Hetauda municipality, where a Poverty Reduction Strategy Group is filling a gap in the absence of elected officers at this level, consisting of representatives of NGOs, the Chamber of Commerce and Women groups – all "affiliated" to the municipality.

Consolidating experiences such as in the form of lessons learned of the most far-reaching achievements should be made in view of the forthcoming evaluation in 2010, such as a compilation of lessons and good practices to contribute to multiplier effects of the good work and achievements.

4.7 NICARAGUA

Background

Nicaragua was selected for the gender assessment study as part of the initiatives supported by the WSTF in the Latin America and Caribbean region. UN-HABITAT has been implementing the project "Improving Capacity for Solid Waste Management in Managua", Nicaragua, since November 2008, with ear-marked financing of Is this Euros? USD 2,550,490 (USD 2.5 million) from the Spanish Government to the Water and Sanitation Trust Fund (the overall project budget from Spain is EUR 30 million).

The programme and budget has an inclusion of a small component for "Gender & SWM – Preparatory phase"

- 2009: USD 25,000. The development objective is to "assist and integrate the AECID Integrated Acahualinca Informal Settlement Development Programme through different initiatives supporting environmental, residential, economic and social development in the target area of Acahualinca and to improve the efficiency of the SWM system in Managua and in the region". The programme has four main areas of intervention: environmental management; housing and slum improvement; economic development and social development.

The initial UN-HABITAT project document was approved by AECID headquarters in Madrid in early August 2008 and following a series of discussions with the local AECID/municipality team in Nicaragua, as well as participation in the AECID/ALMA Planning Workshop in October 2009, a revised project document was adopted. The activities included in the adopted work plan help integrate the

actions undertaken in the Environmental Management Component of the AECID/ALMA Programme into the wider municipal ISWM system.

Challenges

The very small amount allocated for GM for 2009 has not been used (“Consolidated Progress Report April – December 2009”) and there are no plans for pro-poor governance or gender mainstreaming work to be developed for 2010, yet. In an interview with a UN-HABITAT Project expert, the consultant was informed that no Gender Guidelines has been received from HQs in Nairobi. Thus, there are no activities ongoing with communities in informal settlements at this stage. She mentioned that there could be possibilities for joint activities in the future, as the UN-HABITAT project management had been approached by an organization named ‘Gender and Waste’, in Managua, for possible collaboration.

Conclusion

UN-HABITAT HQs and project staff, jointly with the implementing agency, the development partner (donor agency) should urgently review the situation in order for pro-poor and gender issues to be addressed in some form in this Project in 2010.

4.8 NIGERIA

Background

The rate of urbanization in Nigeria has been high and the local authorities have not been able to provide adequate basic services, such as potable water and sanitation services and construction of facilities. The implementation of the WAC II in Jos city will support the Federal Government in its determination to meet the MDGs on water and sanitation. The local targets set in the Plateau State Economic Empowerment Development Strategy were to improve access to safe water for 70% of the population, and provide adequate sanitation to all by the end of 2007.

Jos

The project initiatives in Jos, the capital city of the Plateau State, consist of four initiatives, three being implemented by government agencies and one by an NGO³⁹. The activities include basic water supply and sanitation services for low-income communities, WDM strategy development, development of strategy for the empowerment of the community to manage and operate the facilities, water, sanitation and hygiene education in schools hygiene promotion for the targeted communities.

³⁹ Six CAs have been signed and the implementing partners are: the Plateau State Environmental and Protection Agency (PEPSA), The Ministry of Education (MOE), Plateau State Water Board (PSWB), Water Aid Nigeria (WANF), Country Women Association of Nigeria (COWAN), the Plateau Rural Water and Sanitation Agency (PRTVC), Plateau Radio Television Corp.

Three informal settlements were chosen for the scheme in Jos metropolitan area; Jenta, Tudun Wada and Rankeng Gyel – which are mostly inhabited by low-income earners with a few houses with pit latrines (in Jenta and Tudun Wada) and basically no latrines at all in Rankeng Gyel.

Achievements – Some Highlights

A **Rapid Gender Assessment** of the Jos Water Utility, focusing on the conditions affecting poor communities in the settlements of Longwa and Gwarandok was carried out in 2005. The project mobilized communities, created awareness and trained artisans for the construction work. Social marketing has been a “large part of the work”.

In 2008 a **basic gender awareness workshop** in cooperation with GWA was carried out.

The programme in Jos has highlighted the issue of gender in water and sanitation resulting in improved capacity to implement and sustain gender sensitive pro-poor water supply projects. Regarding water supply hardware, the August 2009 Monthly Report mentions that water pipelines have been extended to Longwa and Gwarandok communities, house connections have increased, water distribution leakages fully determined, and water selling points (water kiosks) are in place and are functional.

A Water Demand Management (WDM) Strategy paper has been prepared and **gender mainstreaming in WDM has been enhanced in PSWB**, and a consumer attitude survey conducted, public awareness strategy document prepared, implemented and evaluated. The State Water Catchments Committee

supported and strengthened, and communities and farmers around the dam mobilized to improve integrated management of the urban catchment. Baseline surveys in pilot schools and communities have been undertaken, curriculum review **and training needs assessment have been introduced in schools “with gender focus”** and training has been held for communities and directors of education in the senatorial zones in the State. Sanitary facilities have been distributed to communities and pilot schools and communities members have been trained in VBWSHE – as this informal training, it has taken longer time than planned as the majority of the participants do not have formal education.

In June 2009 UN-HABITAT, COWAN and GWA organized a workshop, in which presented a **micro-credit revolving scheme for sanitation was launched**. The scheme has required massive awareness-raising campaigns and meetings. **There was minimal participation of women at the start of the project but now 120 Solidarity Groups have been formed**, and 10% (of 600) toilets had been constructed at the time of the assessment. Decisions have not yet been made as to how the revolving fund will be used and maintained after the completion of the UN-HABITAT support.

Some interesting “multiplier effects” of the programme are: the Jos South Local Government has donated land to the Water Board for construction work; the Plateau State Government has leverage further investment into the water sector in the state; the World Bank has earmarked USD 5 Million to support reforms in the Plateau State Water Board and the state government has announced the allocation of N 100 Million (US \$ 740,000) UB ITS



2006 budget as counterpart funding for the WAC. This represents 38 % of the total programme budget.

Challenges

- The implementing organizations and stakeholders had initially had difficulties in understanding the gender mainstreaming concept
- The constraints reported regarding the micro credit scheme for toilet facilities construction are a mixture of issues, such as difficult rocky terrain and socio-cultural norms and issues of tension between ethnic and religious "groups". However, there is now more acceptance and the facilities constructed have inspired other households to be involved. The attention of the government is being drawn to the environmental sanitation issues in the state as a result of the social marketing
- Lack of resources for translation of training materials regarding gender issues was brought up as an issue as materials needed to be translated to several local languages.
- The project, which started in 2007, should have been completed in 2008. A "no cost" extension was requested and it was expected that a decision would be made in December 2009
- Some of the problems faced during the implementation were the inter-communal political crisis in Jos and the change in the local administration in November 2008, lack of trust in NGOs, late disbursement of from UN-HABITAT and political "interference" in project implementation
- The implementing NGO mentioned that more support on how to handle gender issues should have been provided by the government After the end of the project, all infrastructure is government property with only toilets in the households becoming private property. A government official in an interview raised concerns about inadequate lack of resources for O&M and sustainability in management of the infrastructure created such as water tanks, water points, public toilets and rehabilitation of treatment plants.

- A government representative of an implementing agency stated in interviews that a system (database) for sex disaggregated data is missing and is a “slow and gradual progress and is inadequate”. It was noticed in this assessment that the August 2009 Monthly Report lacks gender-disaggregated information, such as whether or not water kiosks are managed by women groups and whether women as well as men are members of the State Water Catchments Committee, and whether “farmers around the dam” that had been mobilized to improve integrated management of the urban catchment refer to both women and men.

Conclusion

Good efforts have been made and some good results achieved, however, the assessment has not been able to determine if a gender mainstreaming strategy for Nigeria was developed. This assessment agrees with the UN-HABITAT staff in Nigeria that more emphasis needs to be placed on influencing decision-making, policy and legislative levels in society which would be more effective and add more weight to gender mainstreaming in the sector. Assistance on how to develop a system for gender disaggregated data and dissemination would also be an important activity.

4.9 VIETNAM

Background

UN-HABITAT programmes in Vietnam started late compared to other countries and did not take off until 2007, due to ADB related start-up procedures. WAsC supports the ADB programme “Loan project for Central Region Small and Medium Towns” to improve water and sanitation services in selected towns. This project implements the following activities:

- Pro-poor urban WATSAN Governance through partnership established in five towns, with local water utilities to prepare poverty mapping, and IEE based on methodology provided by UN-HABITAT
- Integrated Urban Water and Environmental Sanitation which addresses community based water supply and sanitation projects in five towns (Cam Ranh (Khanh Hoa), Thap Cham and Ca Na (Ninh Thuan) Song Cau and Tuy Hoa (Phu Yen)) and will provide improved water and sanitation services
- IEC materials in local language, regarding urban water demand management
- WCDM Strategy for the participating towns in partnership with water utilities, and in consultation with relevant stakeholders
- Capacity building which includes training programmes for utility staff and communities

MEK-WATSAN

Based on rapid technical and institutional appraisals, work in eight towns in Vietnam has been implemented under the MEK-WATSAN Initiative. The two most fundamental criteria for selection were the level of service coverage and the incidence of poverty. The town appraisals included stakeholder consultations and workshops, as well as key informant interviews. The partners are Ministry of Construction, Asian Development Bank, Utilities and Communities.

The activities include rapid assessment, initial environment examination (IEE) and poverty mapping; improved water and sanitation services; micro-credit as a revolving fund for water supply connections and latrine construction for income-poor urban residents. The estimated beneficiary population is 40,000 people.

Five secondary provincial towns in South and Central Vietnam are part of the WAC, supplementing the ADB-supported towns activities. The main implementer is the water utility (there are four companies), and the partners in the towns are the local government and the People's Committees, the Department of Construction and the Women's Union (WU) and women committees and groups. The project functions as liaison unit between water utilities and communities.

The WU is one of the 'mass organizations' in the country with millions of members, and branches in all communes and districts. At the local level, the WU members and leaders are active in a wide range of development activities.

The project has thus undertaken gender-related activities through the Women's Union and associated consultants, such as poverty mapping (the project learned from WAC Nepal) and gender assessment surveys. The WU also develop the indicators of the poverty survey to identify female-headed households, ethnic minority and vulnerable groups in the towns to be eligible to participate in the activities.

Four out of the five towns have completed the mapping, which first was undertaken by a consultant, through the WU, who covered 40-60 HHs after which the project completed 5,000 HHs on their own.

The ADB project supports water treatment plants and main pipes, but not the distribution issues, which are the responsibility of the local government. The programme manager (CTA) reported that the main problem that the project focuses on is sanitation, which to a large extent concerns women and girls. As sanitation is regarded as a private issue (not the government's responsibility) she stated that changes are not easy to make and poor households cannot afford to build latrines. Women are engaged as change agents and are enrolled in micro-credit schemes for sanitation and Information, Education and Communication (IEC) activities, where "women take the lead" organizing meetings with communities, competitions and public campaigns.

The work to supply water and sanitation was reportedly achieved in three out of five towns. Multiplier effects have been generated resulting in more support to the sector from the World Bank. As Vietnam is one of the pilot countries in the "One UN" initiative, experiences had been shared among WHO, UNICEF and UN-HABITAT

who sit on the same sub-committee (UNICEF focuses on rural WATSAN, and UN-HABITAT on urban and peri-urban areas).

A five-day gender training of trainers workshop related to water resources management was organized in

November 2009, facilitated by GWA and the Mekong Regional Committee (MRC) in Dong Ha City, Quang Tri Province.

This was followed by three-day gender mainstreaming workshops in five towns, to be followed by a follow up training next year. The drawing up of the **“gender action plans”** is the responsibility of the WUs in the towns, who also will train communities.

Micro-credit schemes are reportedly quite well known, through other ADB initiatives in the same province/s as the one UN-HABITAT is involved in. The WU is also handling the UN-HABITAT micro-credit revolving fund for water supply and household latrines, including the selection of participants in the scheme. It was reported that ethnic minority groups in towns were not so interested in having individual household latrines but reasons for this were not given.

Challenges

The “Narrative Progress Report” for Vietnam 2008, which describes both what has been done and activities to be undertaken, does not mention gender, women or FHHs. The only reference made to this area is that VWU is responsible.

Conclusion

Good normative work has been developed, influencing ADB and other agencies, such as through “One UN”. Very good operational work has been achieved as well and this includes the poverty mapping and gender assessment skills learned from Nepal WAC and the statements that “women take the lead” in organising meetings with communities, competitions and public campaigns (particularly regarding to sanitation) are encouraging.

The Vietnam Women’s Union (a “mass organisation” similarly as the Lao Women’s Union) has a great responsibility for gender mainstreaming and empowering women in the country, and has an infrastructure that reaches out to all areas, including to village levels. With the lack of NGOs in the country, there is a “risk” that programmes rely too much on the WU resulting in gender issues not being perceived as the responsibility of everyone (all programme actors), and thus not fully mainstreamed as intended by UN-HABITAT.

Conclusions and Recommendations



5.1 OVERALL CONCLUSION AND RECOMMENDATION

This Gender Impact Assessment has found that, overall, great progress has been made by UN-HABITAT's WSIB in collaboration with its partners, in demonstrating that pro-poor governance, gender mainstreaming and empowering women and youth to participate in decision-making – clearly contributes to water and sanitation improvements and benefits all members in a community.

The pilot initiatives have generated a “critical mass” of achievement and experience. As shown in Table 5. in this report, the majority of the countries assessed have, to a varying degree, implemented work and models that are replicable, such as influencing statewide sector reform to put in place community-based funding mechanisms; gender

strategies; case study models (Unheard Voices) for wider audiences; Multi-Stakeholder Forums; water kiosks; micro-credit for sanitation; poverty & gender mapping; CTLS/SLTS and OD-free zones and water-bottling activities.

There are also examples of “multiplier effects” of approaches and models developed by UN-HABITAT - such as identified in Vietnam, Nigeria, Lao PDR, India, Ethiopia – promoted by national governments (using own funds to spread models in other urban areas), as well as some water utilities and international organisations promoting workable models.

It is now a good time for UN-HABITAT to direct more focus into engaging all its partners and use this “critical mass” in its policy level dialogue, with a vision to ensure that results are reflected in policies and improved systems supporting residents in informal urban settlements.

Pilot initiatives on the ground being testing zones for innovations and ideas should continue and be developed further with more emphasis on sanitation improvements – and should not be viewed as contradicting the above-mentioned recommendation.

5.2 SPECIFIC CONCLUSIONS AND RECOMMENDATIONS

While the overall assessment of WSIB's work on gender mainstreaming is clearly positive there are approaches and components of the work that can be improved and strengthened.

These following are the specific conclusions and recommendations:

A. PRO-POOR AND GENDER RELATED STRATEGIES

Conclusion

The achievements made by UN-HABITAT and WSIB in the field of gender strategies related to informal urban settlements are important elements of the stated *normative activities*, which have received support from the Gender Mainstreaming Unit. These are found to be of good quality, and clearly stand above work of many other international development organisations. They emphasize the benefits of entrusting the responsibility to communities and groups of both women and men, in order to participate and take control of solving their water and sanitation problems at the local level. Normative work also includes influencing policies and such impact has been found in some countries.

Recommendation

Country initiatives (under WSIB, supported by the WSTF) that still have not developed normative work in this field should be assisted and encouraged to do so and Nicaragua is an example.

B. WSIB'S LOGICAL FRAMEWORKS (GENERAL AND IN RELATION TO GENDER SPECIFICS)

Conclusion

LFs are management and evaluation instruments to monitor progress and, in a transparent way, allow all stakeholders to have information and influence decisions about subsequent steps and adapt to the reality on ground. The fact that more than one logical framework exists has complicated the process of arriving at conclusions regarding results in comparison with plans. Although indicators of achievements are developed, they are not **S**pecific, **M**easurable, **A**chievable and **T**ime bound (SMART) which has made it difficult to use the log frames as instruments of assessment. This applies even in cases where baselines and benchmarks exist.

The MTSIP framework is basically a good one and can supplement the LF/RBM as it is a user-friendly tool with a structure that is easy to follow. It should not replace the conventional log frame matrix as it lacks 'objectives', 'activity areas', 'means of verification' and 'assumptions'.

In reviewing the MTSIP LF, this was observed: gender disaggregated data is mentioned in Focus Areas 1 and 5, however, it is not at all mentioned as a factor at any level in the Focus Area 4 (the WATSAN area) – which is quite a deviation from the RBM/LF 2004-2007 where

gender and pro-poor issues are frequently mentioned, and at several levels. Furthermore, Focus Area 4 (WATSAN area) should have included references to gender in outputs/outcomes or results and gender disaggregated data should have been mentioned. 'Assumptions' should always be defined as conditions being *outside* the control of the programme.

Recommendation

The WSIB should strive to develop and maintain one uniform, user-friendly results-based LF for all its WATSAN programmes – one that has SMART indicators of achievement, including those that relate to gender and other cross-cutting LF components. It should be used in a flexible way, and indicators may be revised when required as new/more information is received. The top level WSIB LF should have clear links to the lower level LFs. Budgets should be clearly linked to the outputs, as the budget is a monetary expression of the LF.

C. DATA GATHERING AND PROJECT REPORTING

Conclusion

The Poverty & Gender Mapping and Baseline Surveys are examples of comprehensive work in several countries. However, *at the time of the assessment* there seemed to be no established system to collect, disseminate and report on gender-disaggregated data on a regular basis, which makes these early baselines seem like "stand alone" exercises with no systematic link to activities and progress (*it has since been informed that formats have been developed to be used periodically in projects*).

Recommendation

It is imperative that WSIB maintains a system for gender disaggregated data at the very start of new interventions – as a logical step following early mapping and assessment work. While it is understood that few nationally-representative household surveys disaggregate data within urban centres it is important that UN-HABITAT in its own initiatives addresses this issue.

D. BUILDING CAPACITY AND APPRECIATION THROUGH GENDER TRAINING

Conclusion

WSIB has also made great efforts in its *operational work* through its country initiatives to raise gender awareness and training its partners and stakeholders such as through basic Gender Training Workshops. As this study clearly shows, progress has been identified in several countries – in Asian countries in particular. An important finding is that when programme/task managers are knowledgeable and interested in gender issues, it almost "immediately" translates into positive results both at field and Headquarters levels.

Since 2005, Gender Mainstreaming Training workshops are organised regularly for policy makers and women's representatives in participating towns at different levels and this also benefit field staff⁴⁰. UN-HABITAT fully appreciates that this area of work deals with changing mindsets, attitudes and behaviour in vastly diverse socio-cultural environments.

⁴⁰ It has been informed by WSIB that gender training workshop for the staff will be undertaken in 2010.

“Gender” is often understood by many partner organisations to solely mean “female representation”, such as number of women represented in WATSAN user committees, or “female participation” such as women participating in construction work. Gender mainstreaming, in particular, is often met with fatigue and sometimes perceived in developing countries as donor-driven.

Recommendation

As the progress in the field of awareness raising and capacity building on gender strategies is hampered by the high staff turnover in many partner organisations, particularly in government offices – gender training should be continued in all participating countries and thus capacity-building and refresher training also need to be budgeted for in the future.

E. GENDER FOCAL POINTS

Conclusion

WSIB has strived to set up gender-balanced project staff teams with one staff member assuming the role as Gender Focal Point (GFP). In some WAC II countries, GFP are based in ministries in charge of gender issues and, jointly with the implementing partners, ensure that gender priorities are taken into consideration in the projects such as in Ghana and Mali⁴¹. In all cases, these government officers are members of the Steering Committees of WAC II projects, and also participate in UN-HABITAT training on gender in human settlements in countries and occasionally participate in WUFs, invited by the Gender Mainstreaming Unit.

⁴¹ This information about Mali was shared by WSIB, however Mali was not part of the assessment.

Recommendation

Although an ideal situation would be that all staff promote gender mainstreaming, it is still valid and useful to nominate GFPs. At the same time, more programme/task managers who are in decision-making positions need to do their part as well throughout planning, implementation and follow-up – *especially since it has been found that this has almost direct positive effects on implementation.*

F. USE OF TRAINING MATERIALS/ GUIDELINES

Conclusion

This study has come across some of the diversity that exists in countries regarding socio-cultural norms and attitudes toward gender issues. The assessment is that the programmes, in cooperation with the GWA, generally, have appreciated that different contexts require different approaches and that “tailor-made” training materials and guidelines need to be developed and that language translation is often not sufficient as adaptation to local contexts. However, this realisation has not always been translated into practice, sometimes due to lack of timely resources.

Recommendation

UN-HABITAT should ensure that strategies and guidelines used are appropriate/ suited to the country, or culture-specific conditions.

G. ACTIVITIES RELATED TO WOMEN EMPOWERMENT

Conclusion

The study found that WSIB has supported the recruitment of women at higher levels, in government agencies and institutions. Good efforts have been made in many countries to empower women by encouraging their voice and participation in decision-making bodies such as WATSAN committees and Multi-Stakeholder Forum at Municipality levels. In many countries, the norm is to have about 30% women members in such committees but in India this may go to 50% as result of a new government policy.

Less information has been received about empowerment of youth (male and female) and their participation in various bodies – with some exceptions, such as Kenya and Nepal, and in some countries it was specifically reported that *youth have not shown interest* in getting involved in activities.

Recommendation

More innovative ways should be found to empower youth through, for instance, linking youth clubs on water, sanitation and hygiene with income-generation and skills development and/or information and communication technologies (ICT) and education.

H. MORE EMPHASIS ON IMPROVED SANITATION

Conclusion

All urban areas targeted in the programmes under review have, at the outset of interventions, had inadequate access to basic WATSAN services. With regard to sanitation, this has been treated as a matter of particular importance for women and girls, and related to security, health, privacy, and human dignity.

Poor maintenance of facilities leads to low utilization, especially by women and girls. The introduction of well maintained responsive community toilet models with separate doors greatly influence sustainable management of the facilities, thus encouraging utilization. Lack of toilets and sanitation is one of the causes of adolescent girls dropping out of school.

The programme has stressed the importance of developing “gender sensitive models” for water, sanitation and hygiene in the community and schools. Social marketing has been an important activity in this regard to create demand for sanitation facilities as there are number of socio-cultural issues and norms that make the task of improving sanitation a rather slow and difficult process, and more so than the task of providing water.

This seems to be the case particularly in the African countries. It has been suggested by one WSIB project CTA, that the third phase of Water for African Cities would focus even more on improved sanitation than earlier phases.



Recommendation

This assessment agrees that focusing even more on sanitation would be important as it has immediate benefits for women and girls in particular at household levels and has direct relations to health and hygiene outcomes. It is important that prevalent socio-cultural issues and obstacles are brought to light and taken into account in planning for an increased focus.

I. ECONOMIC ACTIVITIES AND MICRO FINANCE RELATED TO WATSAN

Conclusion

Opportunities for both women and men to gain incomes in relation to WATSAN interventions have been supported in country programmes, which is a very good development. Women in particular, show great interest in informal economic-oriented activities.

For instance, women have assumed tasks as caretakers of WATSAN facilities (toilets and water taps), water sellers managing water kiosks, and waste collectors in some countries. The micro-credit (revolving) schemes, set up in most countries under WAC to speed up the attainment of the sector MDGs, have been directed to the construction of toilets at household level. In some countries, the “selling” of the idea of poor people borrowing money for a *non-productive purpose* has met quite some challenges as this does not generate any income per se to repay the loans. The planned activity in, for example LVWATSAN in Kenya, to involve beneficiaries in training on areas such as waste management as part of Local Economic Development (LED) seems very useful.

Recommendation

Regarding the ‘micro credit for sanitation scheme’, it is recommended that UN-HABITAT, in cooperation with other stakeholders, promotes strategies in which micro-finance delivery is linked to productive activities in order to ensure that low-income borrowers are able to repay their loans. Regarding LED, linkages should also be made to organisations that can assist WATSAN users in developing informal economic activities and environmental improvements in the sector. This could include management support/training such as book-keeping and accounting and the promotion of non-traditional skills for women and youth in the sector.

J. MDG MONITORING

Conclusion

Little information has been received regarding monitoring activities toward the sector MDGs, with one exception being Lao PDR from where it was reported that the UN-HABITAT has started gathering data to monitor MDG Targets 10 and 11, in 17 UN-HABITAT operational areas, with the purpose to provide the basis for local action. The “One UN” initiative and the Chief Executives Board (CEB) press upon all UN agencies, including the Bretton Wood institutions, the need to coordinate their activities in this field and other areas. *As it has been informed that a Survey is being undertaken to follow up this issue – the original recommendation here has been removed.*



K. SUSTAINABILITY

Conclusion

Ownership of pro-poor governance and gender strategies is instrumental for benefits to be sustainable in the WATSAN sector – which applies not only to government (at all levels) but also private sector and NGOs. In some countries where WSIB/UN-HABITAT has operations, there is a likelihood that benefits may be sustained even after its programmes/initiatives have ended, as the work has attracted interest and attention from governments, and in some cases have influenced planning and policies. There are also examples of models replicated through other technical cooperation programmes – as mentioned under the overall conclusions.

Recommendation

In order to increase the likelihood of continued and sustained benefits regarding pro-poor governance and gender strategies, UN-HABITAT should further strengthen its efforts in encouraging governments to “buy in” and formulate policies that recognize the issues at hand and enables resources to be allocated and co-funding of WATSAN in urban informal settlements. This would include - but not be limited to - encouraging youth programmes and economic activities related to WATSAN and gender auditing of organisations working in the sector.

Lessons Learned



This study has pointed to a few important lessons:

Gender assessments should, in the future, be part and parcel of overall programme impact assessments as separating gender issues from overall achievements counters the very notion of mainstreaming. Cross-cutting work and outputs should be seen in the context of the overall achievements, which include participation by all relevant stakeholders.

Building up appreciation for participatory approaches and gender mainstreaming throughout water and sanitation initiatives takes time and effort, with the need to raise awareness and develop appropriate training and skills. **Appreciation for gender concerns and producing tangible outputs cannot be “fast**

tracked” – although the urgent need for change is obvious in many countries in order provide the benefits to those who need them most.

The gradual incorporation of gender concerns in UN-HABITAT’s water and sanitation has been a “learning by doing” process. For instance, some lessons learned are that project planners should not make simplistic assumptions regarding benefits of water and sanitation initiatives. One example quoted is that the decrease in time that women and young girls spend to collect water would automatically translate into them spending more time at home and giving more care to children and family members; instead it has been found that women often use the “extra time” to engage in income-generating and entrepreneurship activities.

The paradigm shift that was intended by development organisations when departing from the women-in-development approaches, which were promoted up to the mid-1990s, and into gender analysis and gender planning approaches (and mainstreaming) **seem not to be understood by many stakeholders** in the WATSAN sector. Therefore much more effort is required.

Without adequate gender disaggregated data, in planning instruments, operational plans and progress reporting, impact analysis of gender mainstreaming can at best only be estimates.

Every project should have one staff member responsible for ensuring that gender concerns are in the forefront of WATSAN community programmes. However, there is always a risk that this counteracts mainstreaming, and therefore **the role of programme managers is crucial**, both at UN-HABITAT Headquarters and in participating countries, to ensure that all staff are on board and that staff training and refresher training is part of project cycles. The rationale of logframes and gender specific indicators of achievement need to be understood by all staff team members, including managers, and revised when required, for example when new field data or information is received.

Regarding lessons learned by UN-HABITAT it is interesting to note that the organisation has learned from its experiences. An example is the Multi-Stakeholder Forum set up in LVWATSAN in the three cities for which a step-by-step guide was developed based on the organisation's learning and experiences gained in the first phase

of the Lake Victoria Region Water and Sanitation Initiative. Current thinking on multi-stakeholder partnerships and the experiences and practices of other development partners are also used to illustrate some points. It is also noted that different programmes, to a certain extent, have cross-fertilized each other also in respect of community and participatory approaches.

A lot of field experience and learning has been gained by UN-HABITAT from many parts of the world. **It is now important that key lessons from pilot and demonstration projects around the world are used to leverage more support and resources for change - vis-à-vis policy and decision-makers in the sector.**



Annexes

ANNEX I. PERSONS MET, CONSULTED & INTERVIEWED

KENYA MISSION, OCTOBER AND NOVEMBER 2009

Name	Designation	Organisation
Mr. Bert Diphoorn	Director HSFD	UN-HABITAT
Mr. Graham Alabaster	Chief Water and Sanitation Branch I, HSFD	UN-HABITAT
Mr. Andre Dzikus	Chief Water and Sanitation Branch II, HSFD	UN-HABITAT
Mr. Robert Goodwin	Chief Lake Victoria Region Water and Sanitation Initiative WSIB HSFD	UN-HABITAT
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Mr. Debashish Bhattacharjee	Human Settlement Officer, WSIB II, HSFD	UN-HABITAT
Mr. Angela Hakizimana	Human Settlement Officer WSIB HSFD	UN-HABITAT
Mr. Inam Ullah	Monitoring, Evaluation and Policy Advisor HSFD	UN-HABITAT
Ms. Anne Malebo	Human Settlement Officer WSIB, HSFD	UN-HABITAT
Ms. Suzzane Williams	Associate Human Settlement Officer, WSIB II HSFD	UN-HABITAT
Ms. Lucia Kiwala	Chief Gender Mainstreaming Unit	UN-HABITAT
Ms. Rachel M'Rabu	National Officer Gender Mainstreaming Unit	UN-HABITAT
Mr. Harrison Kwach	National Officer Kenya WSIB I	UN-HABITAT
Ms. Sahilu Tekalign Tsige	Regional Technical Advisor, WSIB I HSFD	UN-HABITAT
Ms. Sara Candiracci		UN-HABITAT
Ms. Prabhan Khosla	Consultant	
Ms. Annabel Waititu		Gender and Water Alliance (GWA)

LAO PDR, MISSION: 8-11 NOVEMBER 2009

Name	Designation	Organisation
Dr. Somphone Dethoudom	Vice President	Council of MPWT
Mr. Phomma Veoravanh	Project Director	NCRWSSP
Mr. Khamphong Chaisavang	Community Development Officer	NCRWSSP
Mr. Stefan Ekelund	Dy. Country Director	ADB
Ms. Nopakane Bouaphim	Project Officer	ADB
Ms. Theovakhet Saphakdy	Gender and Development Specialist	ADB
Ms. Ninphaseuth Xayaphonesy	Director	GRID
Mr. Keopphet phoumphone	Team Leader	GRID
Ms. Phoumvilay Siliphondeth	Gender Specialist	GRID
Ms. Vanmany Diththaphong	Officer	GRID
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Ms. Iko Narita	Head	ORC
Mr. Avi Sarkar	Chief Technical Advisor South East Asia Region	UN-HABITAT
Mr. Buahom Sengkhamyong	Chief Technical Advisor Lao PDR	UN-HABITAT
Ms. Joyce Mmaitsi	Project Officer	UN-HABITAT
Ms. Vatlana Boupha	National Officer	UN-HABITAT
Ms. Irene Alunni	Monitoring and Evaluation Officer	UN-HABITAT
Ms. Vilaysouk Ounvongsai	Office Assistant	UN-HABITAT
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NEPAL MISSION

Name	Designation	Organisation
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Rajesh Manandhar	WATSAN Coordinator	WAsC Nepal
Anjali Manandhar Sherpa	WATSAN Coordinator	UN-HABITAT Nepal
Deepa Manandhar	Admin/Finance Associate	UN-HABITAT Nepal
Pawan Joshi	Documentation Assistant	UN-HABITAT Nepal
Prafulla M. S. Pradhan	Habitat Programme Manager	UN-HABITAT Nepal
Gerhard Ferrie	Shelter Coordinator	UN-HABITAT Nepal
Suman Prasad Sharma	Joint Secretary WSS Division Ministry of Physical Planning and Works (MPPW)	GoN
Suresh P. Acharya	Joint Secretary, Ministry of Physical Planning and Works (MPPW)	GoN
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Er. Birendra Man Shakya	Chief, Water Quality Improvement & Monitoring Project.	Department of Water Supply and Sanitation (DWSS)
Deep Basnyat	Secretary, Ministry of Physical Planning and Works (MPPW)	GoN
Shiva Hari Sharma	Project Director, Department of Urban Development & Building Construction of the Urban & Environmental Improvement Project (UEIP)	GoN

Name	Designation	Organisation
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Dipendra Bahadur	Legal Officer Ministry of Local Development Solid Waste Management & Resource Mobilisation Centre	GoN
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Bidur Mainali	General Secretary	Municipal Association of Nepal (MuAN)
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Kabir Das Rajbhandari	Programme Manager	WaterAid Nepal (WAN)



Name	Designation	Organisation
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Padmaja Shrestha	Program Manager.	Environmental and Public Health Organisation (ENPHO)
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Rashimi Kafle	Chair person	Stepping Stone Kathmandu
Samiksha Thapa	Reporting and Documentation Officer, Drinking Water and Sanitation Program	Nepal Red Cross Society
Prachet K. Shresta	Chairman	Environmental Camps for Conservation Awareness (ECCA)

Hetauda Municipality

Bharat Bdr. Dhungana	Chief & Executive Officer	Hetauda Municipality
Bhim Pd. Timalina	Admin Officer	Hetauda Municipality
Dhruva Bdr. Bhujel	Section Officer	Hetauda Municipality
Bairab Bdr. Kumal	Comm. Dev. Asst.	Hetauda Municipality
Rajendra Nath Pokhrel	Focal person UN-H	Hetauda Municipality
Upendra Baral	Project Advisor	UEIP/PIU
Chiva Koirala	Chairperson	Municipal Poverty Reduction Strategy Formulation Committee

Name	Designation	Organisation
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Ganga Chanlagain	Leader	Urban Info Centre
Shankar Upadhyay	Finance Officer	Hetauda Municipality
Wilma Mohr	Technical Advisor, Municipal Regional Learning Center, Hetauda Municipality Office	German Development Service (DED)
Rajesh Manandhar		UN-HABITAT
Sudha Shrestha		UN-HABITAT
Bharatpur		
Kulprasad Lamichere	Sanitation Facilitator	Bharatpur
Shree Prasad Kadel	Mgmt Committee Member	
Dipakumasi Malla	Teacher	National Primary School Saneyadyepuri
Nilakhanta Pegial	Teacher	National Primary School Saneyadyepuri
Premkumar Gaine	Teacher	National Primary School Saneyadyepuri
Shiva Ray Ashakari	Headmaster	National Primary School Saneyadyepuri
30 November Debriefing Meeting		
Deep Basnet	Secretary	MPPU
Kamel Ray Pandesj	Joint Secretary	MPPU
Hari Prashad Sharma	Joint Secretary	MPPU
Nanayan Gopal Malego	Joint Secretary	MPPU
Roshan Raj Shrestha	Chief Technical Advisor	South Asia Region WAsC WSIB II, HSFD

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ANNEX II. ISSUES GUIDING STAKEHOLDER DISCUSSIONS AND INTERVIEWS

The gender study is particularly looking for evidence of any of the following achievements or impact resulting from UN-HABITAT's work in the field of water and sanitation. Strategies for pro-poor governance are also part of this study.

These are examples of areas where achievements or impact may be found:

- Positive results and “multiplier effects” through strategic partnerships and interventions – for instance cases where initiatives related to gender mainstreaming strategies jointly with others had larger impact - then if working on its own?
- Linking community level achievements through work with stakeholders, civil society, water “utilities” - with pro-poor governance at national institutional levels? Inputs to policy work related to gender concerns in the sector?
- Creating gender awareness and responsiveness at community/target group, institutional or national policy levels through, for example, advocacy, campaigns, capacity-building, poverty or impact assessments, development of gender strategies?
- Initiatives that have encouraged government agencies/organisations that have not earlier addressed gender issues in the water and sanitation sector?
- Increased meaningful representation and decision-making of women and men in water and sanitation committees/bodies?
- Models developed, participatory methods applied? Examples of governments or private sector organisations to undertake gender-disaggregated data collection in the water sector? Public-private partnerships promoting women or youth groups to be active in water and sanitation activities?
- Which were the obstacles/challenges faced in your work? How were they dealt with?

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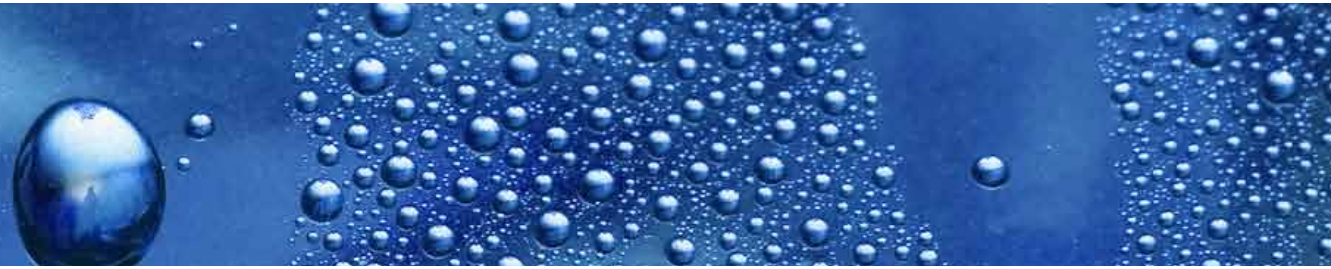
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Footnotes

- 1 The focus of the gender assessment has been on Homa Bay secondary town (part of the Lake Victoria Regional Water and Sanitation Initiative), which also is part of the overall Country Impact Assessment of Kenya. Information about Kisii and Bondo was received (but to a lesser degree and these towns were not visited) in a stakeholders Meeting in Kisumu. More information about the Kibera WARSAN project and the Maji Data initiative (part of WAC initiative) are reported on in the Kenya Country Impact Assessment.*
- 2 The incorporation of gender aspects within the water and sanitation programmes draws heavily from MTSIP Gender Action Plan, Habitat Agenda Para 46 on gender equality and women empowerment, UN-HABITAT Gender Policy, ECOSOC resolution 1997/2 on gender mainstreaming in all UN entities and UN HABITAT Governing Council Resolutions (i) GC 19/16 on women's roles and rights in human settlements development and slum upgrading of 9 May 2003, (ii) GC 20/5 on access to basic services for all within the context of sustainable human settlements, (iii) 20/7 on gender equality in human settlements development Programmes and the MDG 7, target 10 and 11 (Terms of Reference, UN-HABITAT, October 2009).*
- 3 The project supported is: "Improving Capacity for Solid Waste Management in Managua".*

04

GENDER MAINSTREAMING

WATER AND SANITATION TRUST FUND IMPACT STUDY SERIES

This impact assessment identifies how the water and sanitation initiatives implemented under the Water Sanitation and Infrastructure Branch of UN-HABITAT, have strategically mainstreamed gender aspects in its various initiatives and to identify achievements and impact, challenges, lessons learned and provide recommendations.

This gender thematic study is one out three impact studies supported by the WSTF. The other two are Kenya and Nepal Country Impact Assessments. Together these three constitute the first in a series, intended to assist the WSIB in its future plans for regular assessments of its WATSAN initiatives during the coming five years. The study has looked at global, regional and country activities. The country programmes reviewed are implemented in Ethiopia, Ghana, Kenya and Nigeria in Africa; India, LaoPDR, Nepal and Vietnam in Asia and Nicaragua in the Latin America and Caribbean region.

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