



# Monitoring for Sustainability

A learning seminar on Tuesday 9 August 2016 at Getfam Hotel, Addis Ababa

Organised by IRC with the One WASH National Programme (National WaSH Coordination Office), UNICEF, COWASH project and Aguaconsult

This seminar aims to share some of the latest experiences in monitoring for sustainability, and to identify next steps for the wider use of relevant tools within the Consolidated WaSH Account (CWA) and the wider One WaSH National Programme.

The sustainability of improved access to water, sanitation and hygiene services is a critical concern for sector stakeholders whether consumers, service providers, service authorities, politicians or donors. In its second Growth and Transformation Plan the government has identified specific measures to improve functionality and ensure high service levels are maintained. This includes more post-construction support units and enhanced capacity. Monitoring also has a crucial role to play. Spotting and reporting gaps in service delivery (operational monitoring) or capacity and other aspects of the enabling environment is currently a major area of innovation. At the same time, the OWNP is developing its M&E systems, and other key initiatives include new O&M guidelines for rural water supply.

Sustainability Checks capture occasional but regular information about the functionality of infrastructure and quality of WaSH services received by users as well as the capacity and performance of the institutions providing services and related support. In small towns, UNICEF/DFIDs One WASH Plus Programme has trialled the use of Sustainability Checks to improve performance<sup>1</sup>. In rural areas, Aguaconsult have applied the Sustainability Index Tool working with Save the Children and USAID<sup>2</sup>. Similar tools have also been developed with a focus on sanitation. Such assessments aim to trigger medium to long-term actions and capacity building at a range of levels to improve sustainability.

The seminar will consider these case studies and critical questions with respect to the wider practice of sustainability monitoring:

- What is the potential and relevance for further uptake of sustainability

<sup>1</sup> [www.ircwash.org/resources/measuring-factors-predict-if-wash-services-are-sustainable](http://www.ircwash.org/resources/measuring-factors-predict-if-wash-services-are-sustainable)

<sup>2</sup> [www.aguaconsult.co.uk/resources/publications/wash-sustainability-index-tool-assessment-ethiopia/](http://www.aguaconsult.co.uk/resources/publications/wash-sustainability-index-tool-assessment-ethiopia/)

assessments and checks?

- What are the costs and resource requirements of such checks, and what else is required for their wider application?
- How can we move from project based innovation (often by NGOs) to sector wide application?
- How can sustainability checks be integrated with, and make use of data, within OWNP M&E systems as these are developed?
- What are the similarities and differences between monitoring for sustainability in water supply, and sanitation and hygiene?

### **Draft agenda**

0900-0915: Introduction: sustainability and the OWNP (NWCO)

0915-0945: Development of national WASH M&E systems and the monitoring of sustainability (MOWIE)

0945-1030: Case study 1 – sustainability checks and plans for 8 small towns in the ONE WASH Plus Programme (IRC/ UNICEF with DFID support)

1030-1100: *Break*

1100-1145: Case study 2 – testing the sustainability index tool in rural Ethiopia (Aquaconsult/ SCF/ with USAID support)

1145-1230: Case studies on monitoring ODF sustainability (UNICEF, PLAN and tbc)

1230-1330: *Lunch*

1330-1400: The new national O&M management manuals for rural water supply: monitoring and sustainability (MOWIE/ COWASH)

1400-1430: Break-out groups on key issues

1430-1530: Panel discussion (with invited representatives from e.g. MoWIE, MoH, UNICEF, DFID, WB, regional government, TWUs and civil society) on the wider use of sustainability checks and assessments

1530-1600: Conclusions and wrap up

1600: *Tea/ coffee and departure*

*A follow-up seminar is tentatively planned September/October 2016 on operational monitoring, maintenance and capacity for post-construction support with a focus on new ICT innovations including sensors and messaging systems. Please contact us if you would be interested to co-organise or contribute.*

