



IRC's WASH Advocacy work in Uganda

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Supporting water sanitation
and hygiene services for life

IRC's WASH Advocacy work in Uganda

- IRC International Water and Sanitation Centre in Uganda is currently involved in three policy advocacy campaigns:
 1. With WaterAid and Water for People, integrating Service Delivery Indicators in Sector monitoring and performance
 2. Scaling up the Sub County Water Supply and Sanitation Boards
 3. **With Uganda Water and Sanitation NGO Network (UWASNET) supporting the Ministry of Water and Environment convince the Ministry of Finance Planning and Economic Development (MoFPED) to increase budget allocations for Operations and Maintenance (O&M) of rural water facilities from 13% to 15% by February 2016.**

Advocacy work to increase O&M funds is ultimately to change the budget allocations in the District Water and Sanitation Conditional Grant

Increase of O&M funds - Activities

Action research to collect evidence

Video documentaries and audio recordings

Meetings of the Functionality Thematic Group

Breakfast /other meetings with Members of Parliament

National and district policy advocacy dialogues, meetings and consultations

IEC materials; posters, policy briefs, flyers,

Capacity building sessions for Civil Society Organizations e.g., use social accountability approaches

Media and on-line communication; collaboration with Water and Environment Media Network, newspaper articles/features, documentaries, radio and TV programming,

Presentations at key sector events; Joint Sector/Technical Reviews, Sector Working Groups, District/Sub County Budget Conferences

Increase of O&M funds - Successes

- Contracts with different funders interested in the advocacy work
- Partnership with UWASNET – MoU signed, shared purpose and resources
- Strong commitment and support from Government and UWASNET – ready to invest time and money, lead the district level engagements
- Well developed joint operational plan with inspiring activities
- Research on budget tracking and financing WASH
- The Uganda Parliamentary WASH Forum agreed to work with us
- The WSS development partners are allies and partners
- Both IRC and UWASNET have the technical expertise and experience in advocacy
- IRC & UWASNET effectively communicating with each other and to the policy makers at national and district level

Increase of O&M funds - Challenges

- 111 districts to reach out to and involve, within a short period
- Multiplicity of actors with different interests and demands and many factors and influences, beyond our control.
- Political interference and misinterpretation of facts and issues
- Changes in the political landscape; campaigns, elections
- Policy changes related to budget are long-term processes
- Changes in the composition of the Functionality Working Group
- DWSCG allocation formula is complicated
- Change in planning and budget cycle
- Belief that budget related advocacy is only for the economists
- Capacity to do practical advocacy at the decentralised level is lacking

THANK YOU FOR LISTENING