

Approaches to finance for sustainable water, sanitation and hygiene systems

Course plan and learning journey



How does this course work?

It's time to talk and act on finance. This eight-hour advanced course provides approaches to strengthening finance for more resilient water, sanitation and hygiene (WASH) systems that can deliver sustainable services to all. It brings together the latest thinking from all over the world.

This course has been created by a partnership of UNICEF, IRC and Water For People, with funding from the Directorate-General for International Cooperation (DGIS) of the Government of the Netherlands.

Course objective

The key objective of this course is to know multiple ways to strengthen finance for more resilient WASH systems towards the realization of the SDG WASH Goal: ensuring the availability and sustainable management of water and sanitation for all.

Examples to inspire

Many of the examples in this course are extracted from the Sanitation and Water for All (2020) "Handbook for Finance Ministers – How to make public investment work". The handbook is a tool to better use public funding and mobilize new financing sources.

The course also provides information on the different elements required to develop country finance strategies and examples are extracted from the finance strategies guide developed by UNICEF (2022) in collaboration with Sanitation and Water for All (SWA), Agence Française de Développement (AFD) and IRC Water and Sanitation Centre.

Course activities

The activities in each session are different, but expect to:

- EXPLORE tools
- UNDERSTAND key finance terms
- SEE examples of ways to strengthen finance
- HEAR podcasts by finance experts
- DO create your presentation on finance for WASH in your context
- CONNECT with other participants by sharing your perspective and getting inspired by others
- CHECK your understanding with quiz questions
- TEST your knowledge to earn certificates

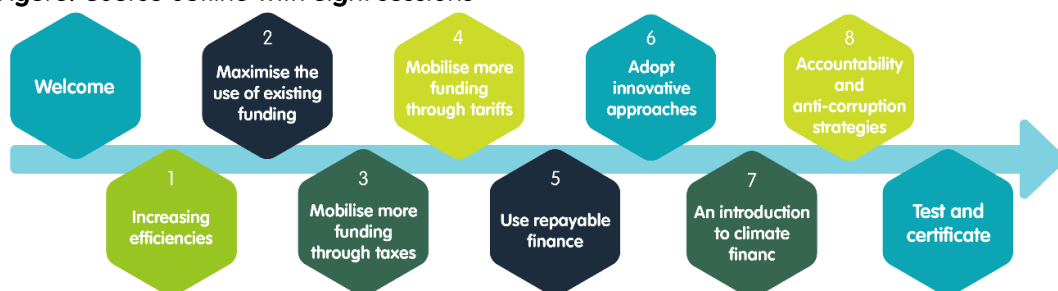
Course outline

This course consists of eight sessions:

- Session 1: Increasing efficiencies
- Session 2: Maximize the use of existing funding
- Session 3: Mobilize more funding through taxes
- Session 4: Mobilize more funding through tariffs
- Session 5: Use repayable finance
- Session 6: Adopt innovative approaches
- Session 7: An introduction to climate finance
- Session 8: Accountability and anti-corruption strategies
- Test sessions 1 to 8 and certificate

Complete all the sessions in consecutive order (i.e., from sessions 1 to 8) or choose which sessions you want to focus on. To download a certificate of completion, you do need to complete all sessions and pass the multiple-choice test at the end of this course.

Figure: Course outline with eight sessions



Course work

- In each session of this course, we ask you to reflect and write your understanding in a PowerPoint presentation (or notebook or another preferred method (if you like visuals, use drawings or pictures)
- This will build up to an eight-part presentation where you prioritize what areas of the system need to be strengthened concerning finance for universal WASH services in your context
- You can then use this presentation to discuss finance for WASH with your colleagues, implementing partners and consultants

Testing your understanding

This course has one multiple-choice test containing questions on sessions 1 to 8. You can take the test as many times as you like.

The certificate

After successfully completing the tests sessions 1 to 8, with a score of 80 per cent or more correct, you can download a digital certificate of completion.

You can also complete the sessions individually, but you will not be able to get the certificate.

Course duration

The estimated course duration is eight hours. Each session has an average estimated duration of 60 to 90 minutes.

For whom is this course?

This course is developed for UNICEF personnel and partners that want to learn more about WASH finance. More specifically, professionals working for:

- Regional and national governments
- Non-Governmental Organisations, Civil Society Organisations, multilaterals, bilaterals, private organisations
- Training institutes, consultants and experts working on systems strengthening

How to work offline

You can download all the session texts of the online course in the 'Course resources' tab. This allows you to follow (part) of this course offline. But you will need to connect with the online platform to participate in forum discussions, answer poll questions and test your knowledge in the multiple-choice tests.

Code of conduct

To ensure all participants can enjoy this course, please adhere to this simple code of conduct:

- Do not judge the ideas of others
- Be respectful of other points of view
- Let ideas flow – be creative
- Freewheel – build on other people's ideas

Language

This course is available in English and French.

Course contacts

From UNICEF Anu Paudyal Gautam apgautam@unicef.org

From IRC training@ircwash.org

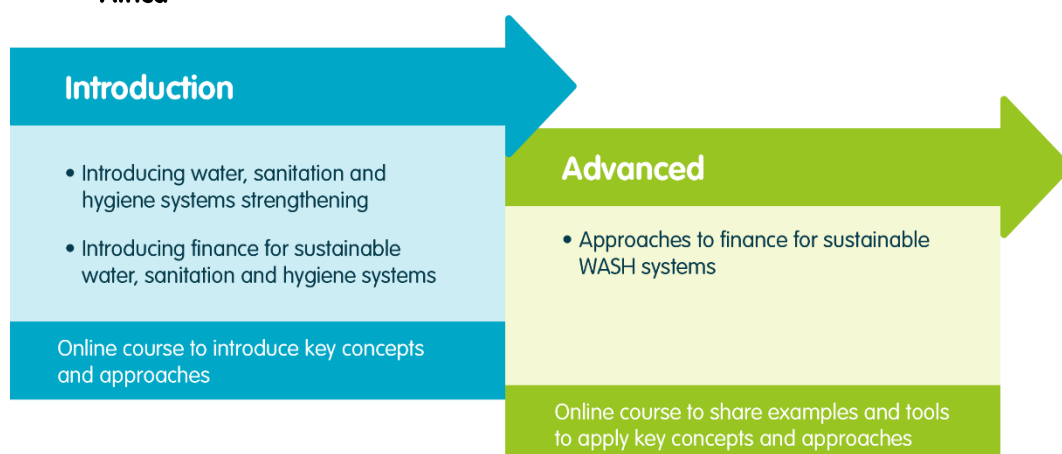
Learning Journey



Be a WASH systems champion

This course is part of three online courses (see Figure below) selected by the partnership for WASH systems in Africa (of UNICEF, IRC, Water For People).

Figure: Overview of the three online courses offered by the partnership for WASH systems in Africa



Through the introduction and one advanced course on WASH systems strengthening and WASH finance anyone, can learn what it takes to create sustainable services and be part of the change needed to leave no one behind.

All three online courses are free on both UNICEF's [Agora platform](#) and IRC's [WASH Systems Academy](#) in English and French. All courses are offered as self-paced and self-guided courses, which you can start at any time.

The two introductory courses introduce key concepts and approaches, and the advanced course shares examples and tools to apply key concepts and approaches.

See the Figure below for the key topics discussed in each course.

Figure: Key topics discussed in each of the WASH finance courses

Online course	Key topics and terms discussed
Introducing water, sanitation and hygiene systems strengthening	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Systems strengthening approach• Actors in the WASH system• Collective action• Leaving no one behind (LNOB)
Introducing finance for sustainable water, sanitation and hygiene systems	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Life-cycle costs• Three Ts of finance (taxes, tariffs and transfers)• Finance strategies
Approaches to finance for sustainable WASH systems	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Mobilize more funding through taxes, tariffs or transfers• Use repayable finance• Use innovative approaches such as blended finance, climate finance