

Introducing 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 introductory course provides you with the insights to accelerate 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 and will provide you with a good understanding of finance as an essential part of sustainable WASH systems. 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 objectives

By the end of the course, you will have a good understanding of finance as an essential element of sustainable WASH systems. You will know:

- How finance is essential for achieving universal and sustainable WASH services.
- What finance for universal and sustainable WASH services entails.
- The status of finance for universal WASH services.
- What a finance strategy is, and the most important elements in it.
- Why finance strategies are the foundation for financing sustainable WASH systems.

Course activities

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

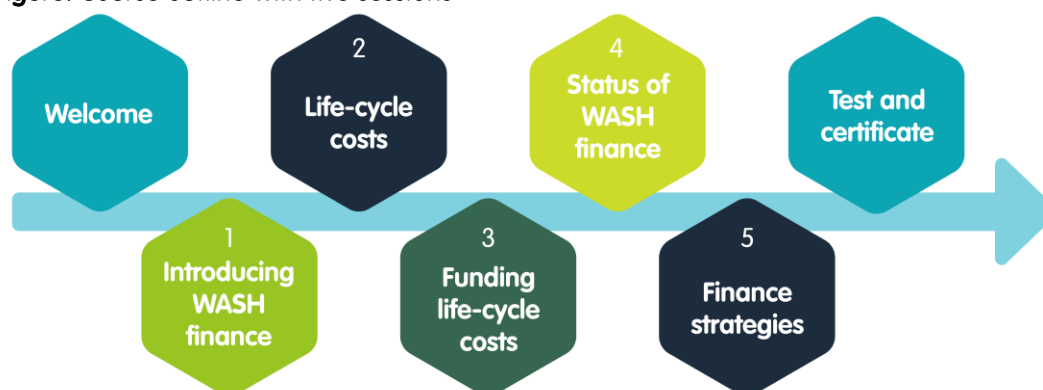
- EXPLORE tools
- UNDERSTAND key finance terms
- SEE examples of ways to strengthen finance
- HEAR podcasts by finance experts
- CREATE your own presentation on finance for WASH in your context
- CONNECT with other participants by sharing your perspective and getting inspired by others
- CHECK your understanding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

Course outline

This course consists of five sessions:

- Session 1: Introducing finance in the WASH sector
- Session 2: The life-cycle costs of sustainable WASH services
- Session 3: Funding the life-cycle costs of sustainable WASH services
- Session 4: Status of WASH finance
- Session 5: Finance strategies for sustainable WASH systems
- Test on sessions 1 to 5 and certificate

Figure: Course outline with five sessions



Complete all the sessions in consecutive order (i.e., from session 1 to 5).

Course work

- In each session of this course, we ask you to reflect and share your insights in a PowerPoint presentation (or notebook or another preferred method – if you like visuals, use drawings or pictures).
- This will build up to a five-part presentation where you describe your context, the main challenges and the priorities to be addressed regarding finance for universal WASH services.
- You can then use this presentation to discuss finance for WASH with your colleagues or partners.

Testing your understanding

This course has one multiple-choice test:

- Test 1 after Session 5: containing questions on sessions 1 to 5. You can take the test as many times as you like.

The certificate

After successfully completing the test on sessions 1 to 5, with a score of 80 per cent or more correct, you can download a digital certificate of completion.

Course duration

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

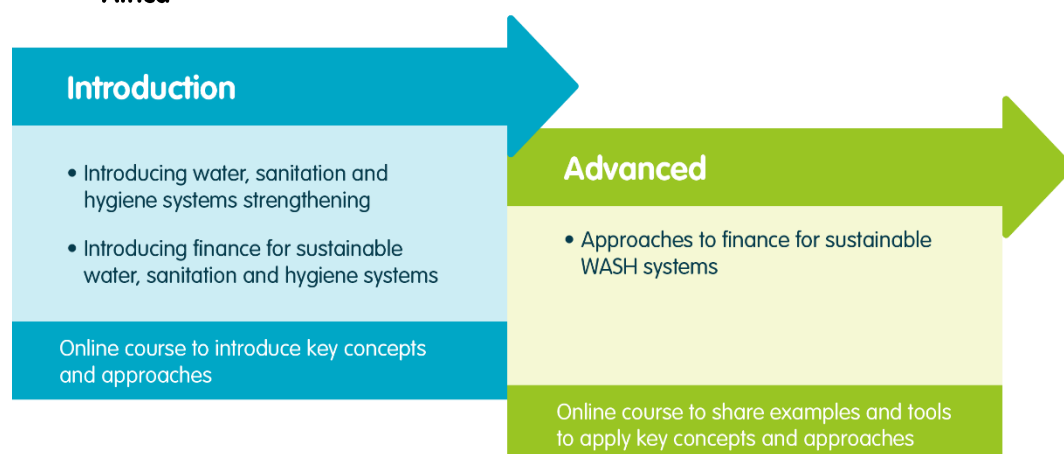
Learning Journey



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