



Strengthening national capacities for WASH sector learning

Sub-theme 1: 2nd Technical session - Tuesday 19 July 2016 | 09:00 - 10:30 hrs | Room: Ruaha Hall

6th Africa Water Week (AWW-6), Dar es Salaam, Tanzania
Achieving Universal Access and Equitable Access to Water and Sanitation for All

Convenor: IRC

Co-convenors: Africa Joint WASH learning initiative members: Water Supply and Sanitation Collaborative Council (WSSCC), Rural Water Supply Network (RWSN), Programme Solidarité Eau (pS-Eau), UNICEF West and Central Africa Regional Office (UNICEF-WCARO), Sanitation and Water for All (SWA) and African Ministers' Council on Water (AMCOW)

Background

The agreement of Sustainable Development Goal 6 (SDG 6) "Ensure availability and sustainable management of water and sanitation for all" – provides a new context for the water, sanitation and hygiene (WASH) sector. Achieving the Africa Water vision 2025, the Agenda 2065 and the SDG target of universal access require innovation and using the best and proven methods and approaches. But what methods, approaches, institutional arrangements, finances and tools are required for universal access? Who has the capacity to find and develop contextualised solutions? How can we collaboratively work to empower African countries to lead innovation processes to find contextualised solutions?

In this session we will be looking at the importance of Knowledge Management and Sector Learning as essential components in strengthening national sector systems. The session will highlight two initiatives that have put Knowledge Management and Sector Learning high on the agenda: the **Africa Joint WASH Learning Initiative**, a collaborative effort for better use of knowledge for reaching universal access to sustainable WASH services (Implementation of one coordinated and aligned WASH learning agenda in Africa); and the **UNICEF-IRC partnership (2015 - 2017)** which aims to support 11 West and Central African countries' in their knowledge management and sector learning ambitions to ensure that the best lessons are shared and built upon for the delivery of sustainable and equitable water and sanitation services. UNICEF and IRC have carried out a study to explore possibilities for more structured Knowledge Management and Learning in West and Central African countries. The results of this study will be shared in this session.

Outcomes and objectives

The main expected outcome of the Africa Water Week is to develop a roadmap for developing a comprehensive plan for action for Africa aimed at the immediate translation of the high-level commitments including the N'gor Declaration on Water Security and Sanitation into implementation at country, sub-regional and continental levels. This session aims at ensuring that Knowledge management and Sector Learning become an integrated part of the envisioned roadmap to implement the high level commitments towards achieving the SDGs in the water and sanitation sector.

The session aims to:

- Advocate for the importance of strengthening national capacities for learning in support of achieving universal and sustainable access to WASH services in Africa
- To contribute to enhanced insights in the existing capacities and the bottlenecks for improved knowledge management and learning in the WASH sector in Africa
- Formulate recommendations for strengthening capacities for WASH sector learning and identify next steps for the Joint Africa WASH Learning initiative

¹ Countries included in the partnership programme are Benin, Burkina Faso, Central African Republic, Cote d'Ivoire, Democratic Republic of Congo, Ghana, Mali, Mauritania, Sierra Leone, Niger and Nigeria.

Strengthening national capacities for WASH sector learning

Join this interactive session to discuss the value of learning in strengthening national capacities for ensuring universal access to sustainable WASH services.

PROGRAMME

Welcome

Erma Uytewaal, IRC

Setting the scene. Strengthening national capacities for WASH sector learning

Kitchinme Bawa Gotau. African Ministers' Council on Water (AMCOW)

Strengthening capacities for improved WASH learning in Africa: three cases

1. The story of emerging African groundwater movements

Kerstin Danert, Skat Foundation and Rural Water Supply Network (RWSN); and Moustapha Diene, Université Cheikh Anta Diop, Senegal and Africa Groundwater Network (AGWNet)

2. Learning from collective behaviour change in sanitation

Rija Fanomezwa, Global Sanitation Fund

3. Knowledge Management in the WASH sector in Burkina Faso. Strategic plan 2017-2020

Ousmane Ouédraogo, Ministry of Water and Sanitation (Ministère de l'Eau et de l'Assainissement), Burkina Faso

Group discussions

Assessment and identification of key opportunities for improved knowledge management and learning in the WASH sector in Africa, formulation of recommendations and concrete next steps for building a stronger support capacity for countries in Africa for national centred learning. Identification of concrete ideas and next steps in support of strengthening national capacities for KM and sector learning in WASH, in Africa.

Table 1: The story of emerging African groundwater movements (English)

Table 2: The story of emerging African groundwater movements (French)

Table 3: Learning from collective behavior change in sanitation (English)

Table 4: Learning from collective behavior change in sanitation (French)

Table 5: Knowledge Management in the WASH sector in Burkina Faso. Strategic plan 2017-2020 (English)

Table 6: Knowledge Management in the WASH sector in Burkina Faso. Strategic plan 2017-2020 (French)

Table 7: Africa Joint WASH Learning Initiative (English)

Table 7: Africa Joint WASH Learning Initiative (French)

Plenary session

Bringing together the different perspectives on the way forward. What are the options for stronger African leadership in defining the WASH learning agenda? Identification of next steps for the Joint Africa WASH Learning initiative. Reflections, conclusions and recommendations; Closure

For more information

Contact the session convenors and co-convenors

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For more information on the UNICEF-IRC partnership

Visit this page
<http://www.ircwash.org/projects/knowledge-management-and-sector-learning-west-and-central-africa-countries>

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