The role of public finance for reaching scale and sustainable WASH services

@IRCWASH

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About the Chairperson and Moderator

Catarina Fonseca  Patrick Moriarty
About the speakers and panellists

Guy Norman

Sjef Ernes

Katina Gikas

Pieter Walhof
Why public finance? Why now?

Catarina Fonseca
Last serious discussions on financing for development took place 14 years ago
Focus of Millennium Development Goals financing discussions

- The role of aid
Focus of Sustainable Development Goals financing discussions?
Public Finance remains unfashionable

WASH debates (and funding) around:
- Market solutions
- Repayable finance
- Supporting bottom of pyramid entrepreneurs
- Tech innovation…

Less attention to the need to raise domestic public finance and make it more effective

Norman et al. 2014. Mobilising Public Finance for WASH: a Call to Action
Private finance only strives with public finance

Report to Intergovernmental Committee of experts on Sustainable Development Finance
http://sustainabledevelopment.un.org/content/documents/4588FINAL%20REPORT%20ICESDF.pdf
A few figures (2012)

Tax revenue in low income countries
10%-14% GDP

Increase in tax collection (% of GDP)
Stagnant for several decades

Tax per person in 32 African countries
Less than 1$
However, other figures also show that

Total tax collected in Africa in 2012
10 times the volume of aid

Aid for sorting tax systems
0.1%

Aid for stopping illicit financial flows
Unknown

IRC position

“We are motivated by a vision of the state’s role in smoothing the inevitable inequities of the market, while at the same time clearly understanding the role of the market in resolving needs and creating wealth.

Without a strong and empowered state, without state finance, there will be no equity and no universal access.”

IRC CEO, 2014
About the speakers and panellists

Guy Norman

Sjef Ernes

Katina Gikas

Pieter Walhof
PharmAccess

http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=D_D4PsyitRA