



LeaPPS Uganda Learning for Practice and Policy on Household and School Sanitation & Hygiene

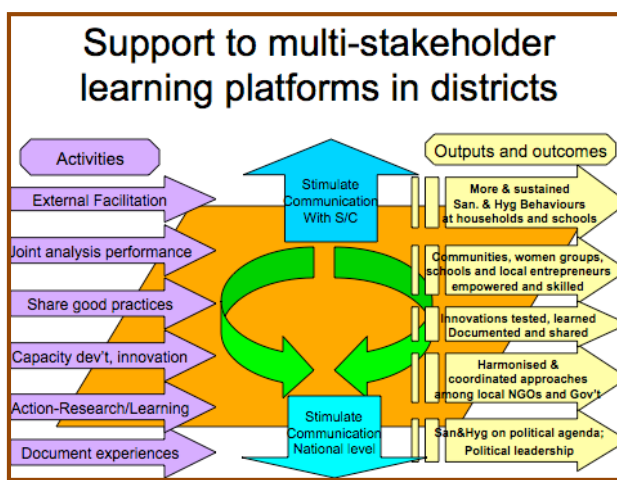
LeaPPS, an innovative and promising approach to improving sector performance

Learning for Policy and Practice in Sanitation & Hygiene (San&Hyg), or LeaPPS, is a joint initiative of IRC Int. Water and Sanitation Centre and Uganda partners SNV and NETWAS to contribute to district and sub-district enhancement of San&Hyg sector performance. This initiative has been running for a year in four districts, Kyenjojo, Kamwenge, Arua and Koboko, with the involvement of two sub-counties in each district. The content focus is San&Hyg at household/community level and primary schools. The overall aim is to generate more cost-efficient and effective San&Hyg programmes and sustainable facilities and behaviours.

LeaPPS works through district level multi-stakeholder learning sessions. It thrives on the creation of an open atmosphere of trust to allow sharing and learning by analysis of current San&Hyg sector progress, methodologies, successes and obstacles. This allows new best practices, information and linkages (e.g. HIV/AIDS, livelihoods) to be introduced for analytical discussion and consideration with a view to improving strategic processes and methodologies. All San&Hyg district stakeholders are involved: local politicians, technocrats, NGOs and private sector, with representation from Sub-counties. LeaPPS session outcomes are increasingly being linked to DWSCC meetings, where lessons learned are converted into agreed joint approaches & methodologies (=LeaPPS has included now Action Research/Learning on community/school approaches and technologies. A next step is for LeaPPS to experiment with multi-stakeholder learning at the sub-county level involving also implementers from parish, community (e.g. VHTs) and primary schools.

Several agencies are showing interest in this innovative learning for policy and practice approach for sector performance improvement and the aim is to roll the LeaPPS learning approach out in more Ugandan districts.

For specific outputs and reports:
<http://www.watsanuganda.watsan.net> - under Themes click LeaPPS.



LeaPPS results promising after four sessions in each district:

- In all four districts DWSCCs established or revived
- San&Hyg now higher on political and districts agendas
- Politicians from LC3 and LC5 became involved and are giving more support to San&Hyg activities
- Several *champions* identified
- District, S/C and NGO staff listen and learn from each other
- 'Best practices' from districts shared, visited and structurally analysed for success factors; promising practices documented and shared; new 'best practices' introduced
- Some methods now mainstreamed and locally financed;
- Government, politicians and NGOs show appetite for learning and working towards agreement on common proven approaches, methodologies and messages;
- Local media increasingly interested and involved in sharing lessons with the public.
- TSH staff involved in several learning sessions



photo: Sharing & Learning in LeaPPS-Kamwenge (Aug08)