

# SECTOR WIDE INVESTMENT AND FINANCING TOOL (SWIFT)

SWIFT is a computer-based decision-support tool for water supply and wastewater financing. It was developed in response to the demand from African governments for a tool that can help create long-term financial plans and budgets and support decision-makers in analysing the financial viability of WASH sector programs. SWIFT was developed by the World Bank's Water and Sanitation Program (WSP) in the African region with financial support from the World Bank and in collaboration with the EUWI Finance Working Group. Designed for application at the country level, SWIFT uses financial plans and budgetary information to identify gaps in financing, better understand resource flows and model scenarios for future spending. The financial gap analysis is conducted by sub-sector (rural/urban, water/sanitation), which can assist sub-national planning units. The tool also highlights strengths and weaknesses in existing information monitoring systems and presents results incorporating the uncertainty of planning based on poor information. The cost of each application is unclear. It has been tested at various stages in Uganda, Mozambique and Kenya by WSP staff. This tool is not publicly available.

## GENERAL DESCRIPTION

**Target:** National and sub-national governments.

**Objectives:** To support government understanding of financial balances in the water sector and allow strategic analysis of options available to close those gaps.

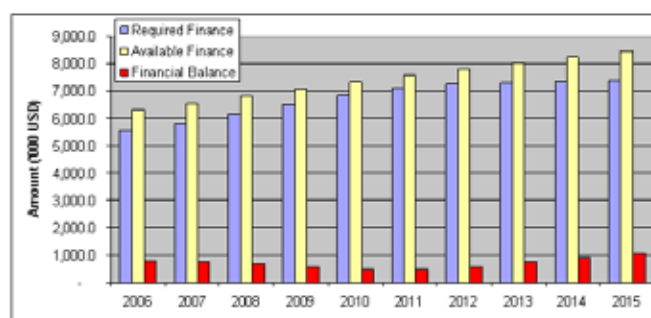
**Areas:** The tool takes the form of five modules: sector definition and target setting; public finance (can show financial flows between institutions and specify regional allocations of funds for capital and O&M expenditure); sector development; service delivery; and policy scenarios, under which separate analyses are conducted.

**Methodology:** Data from country level inputted into the spreadsheet, a hypothetical scenario presented, policy analysis performed, and financial balances in the baseline presented, after which, indicative policy options are explored.

**Outputs:** Appropriate expenditure generated using costing methodology designed by PEM Consult to reach specified targets.

**Tool format and language:** Spreadsheet-based programme; English.

**Resource Link:** <http://www.ircwash.org/resources/sector-wide-investment-and-financing-tool-swift-model-overview-working-paper-draft>



## IMPACT AND FINDINGS

Application of SWIFT in Uganda, Mozambique and Kenya positively influenced financing of the WASH sector. Anecdotal evidence suggests the tool has had an important impact, leading to increased funding and more strategic funding within the WASH sub-sectors. Comparison of the SWIFT model with the OECD/COWI FEASIBLE model led to a global review on the design of water supply and sanitation financing strategies. Although there were initial plans to roll out SWIFT to all African countries, the SWIFT is no longer actively used.

Strengths	Limitations
Consults country sector institutions and sector stakeholders	Involves a relatively complex technical analysis which cannot be done by unskilled staff
The results produced are disaggregated to a regional level	Significant contextualisation required with each application
Advanced public finances module	
Allocates specific mandates to institutions	