

## **Show notes – WASH Talk EP08 on Delivering Gender Positive WASH in the SDG Era**

Gender sits within the broader human rights-based agenda, so gender equality is not just a good thing to do, it is a basic fundamental agreement that these are people's rights.

To ensure the rights of women and girls are established and current, including the barriers and norms that need to be addressed.

Existing data should be analysed to understand issues and to ensure programmes are reaching everyone, and including the men in triggering events and community meetings.

Beyond community level, focus should go to the district and important issues, and the benefits of supporting women and girls to play a more active role.

It's important that the implementing organisations themselves are supporting women in leadership and programme management, such as supporting men to take active roles in gender equality interventions.

Internal challenges within organisations come from the unwillingness to go further than gender neutral outcomes within WASH programmes i.e. where no harm has been done, but where gender equality has not been improved either.

WASH programmes present a real opportunity to achieve gender positive outcomes, such as getting women in leadership roles or training women in WASH supply mechanisms that will improve their economic opportunities.

When going beyond the community, we need to get a higher number of women into leadership roles, and encourage them to be the champions at district and national levels.

Once these efforts have been institutionalised in policy, supporting women to know their rights and give them the confidence to not just participate, but also influence the agenda going forwards.

We discuss practical steps to get relevant inclusion using the data, with which we can influence decision makers on why it's important, which is a first step in getting monitoring systems built in, budgeted and actually implemented by governments.

Gabrielle's vision of success is a world where women at all levels have the policies, the budgets and are prioritising these activities, that can be monitored, acknowledging that there are differences in the needs of men and women, girls and boys.

### **Links to resources:**

Grant, M.L., Huggett, C., Willetts, J. & Wilbur, J. Australian Water Partnership 2017, Gender Equality and Goal 6: The Critical Connection., Canberra, <https://opus.lib.uts.edu.au/handle/10453/115346>

Carrard, N.R., Crawford, J., Halcrow, G., Rowland, C. & Willetts, J.R. 2013, 'A framework for exploring gender equality outcomes from WASH programmes', Waterlines: international journal of water, sanitation and waste, vol. 32, no. 4, pp. 315-333. View/Download from: UTS OPUS or Publisher's site: <https://opus.lib.uts.edu.au/handle/10453/37894>

IRC – November 2017