

WATER, SANITATION AND HYGIENE BOTTLENECK ANALYSIS TOOL (WASH-BAT)

WASH-BAT is a sector analysis and monitoring tool developed in 2011 by UNICEF and World Bank as part of the Marginal Budgeting for Bottlenecks approach. It aims to assess the enabling environment of WASH delivery by tracking the removal of barriers to sustainable and efficient services at national, regional, service provider and community levels. The performance of enabling factors is scored and activities for the removal of each bottleneck are identified, sequenced and prioritised. Funding is then sought and allocated to the activities ranked highest priority. The tool caters to the need of the user and each enquiry can vary in scope (water/sanitation and hygiene, urban/rural), level of detail and the time period covered. The tool was pilot tested in 2012 and the roll-out of version 1.0 is underway in priority countries. The average cost per assessment is unknown.

GENERAL DESCRIPTION

Target: Principally line ministries responsible for WASH, as well as Ministries of Finance, external partners and the sub-national level, including service providers.

Objective: To remove barriers at different service levels to sustainable and efficient WASH service delivery, and increase sector resources.

Areas: Environment and equity, supply, demand and quality.

Indicators: 32 enabling factors: national (18); sub-national (17)—same factors as ‘national’ omitting legal framework; service provider (10) community (4); each enabling factor assessed by six criteria.

Methodology: Each criteria scored between 0 and 1 by increments determined by user. Scores totalled and categorised by a traffic light system: 0 to 3.0 (red), 3.1 to 5.3 (orange) and 5.4 to 6.0 (green). A low score equates to the presence of a bottleneck. Bottlenecks, their causes and remedial activities identified. Costs of activities estimated, activity funding determined (fully-partially-not funded) and activities prioritised (high-medium-low-not a priority). Bounded and unbounded impact analyses can be generated.

Outputs: Overall summary report containing Score Report, Funding Report, Activities Report determining how, when and the means by which these bottlenecks will be removed.

Tool format and language: Excel spreadsheet; English, French, Spanish, Vietnamese.

Resource Link: <http://www.slideshare.net/ircuser/6-hutton-wash-bat>



Rural Water		Urban Water	
Enabling Factor	Score	Enabling Factor	Score
Legal framework	4.6	Legal framework	3.4
Policy	5.6	Policy	5.3
Targets	6.0	Targets	4.8
Social norms	4.6	Social norms	2.3
Institutional leadership	4.7	Institutional leadership	4.1
Stakeholder coordination	5.6	Stakeholder coordination	3.3
Investment plan	4.9	Investment plan	3.6
Programming	3.5	Programming	2.2
Annual review	3.9	Annual review	2.7
Sector and service monitoring	4.7	Sector and service monitoring	2.1
Analysis of equity	3.3	Analysis of equity	3.1
Budget and expenditure adequacy	3.3	Budget and expenditure adequacy	2.8
National budgeting and accounting structure and coverage	2.5	National budgeting and accounting structure and coverage	1.4
Budget utilisation	3.8	Budget utilisation	3.8
Decentralization	3.7	Decentralization	3.2
Promotion and scaling up water services	3.4	Promotion and scaling up water services	2.4
Private sector development	3.1	Private sector development	1
Supply chain and services	2.9	Supply chain and services	3.3

IMPACT AND FINDINGS

The WASH-BAT has become increasingly popular as a sector analysis tool due to the increasing demand for evidence-based, scaled up, comparable and regularly performed data collection led through country-led processes. It was featured in the UN-Water GLAAS 2012 Evaluation Meeting and has been used to support country-level commitments made by sector ministries for the Sanitation and Water for All High Level Meeting in April 2014. The BAT has the potential for wide-scale use as it is available in four languages and two currencies (EUR/USD).

Strengths

- Can be used to strengthen national and sub-national monitoring through country-driven processes
- Participatory process involving sector stakeholders
- Straightforward scoring process
- Can be applied at national or sub-national level, to all aspects of WASH or to identify bottlenecks for specific sub-sectors

Weaknesses

- Can be used autonomously from national monitoring processes
- Takes significant time to apply; a simplified fast-track version would be useful, particularly for application at sub-national levels