

July 30, 2015

Emmanuel Odotei
Agreement Officer Representative, USAID

Subject: Quarterly Report for Cooperative Agreement No. EPP-A-00-09-00014—Ghana – Water Access, Sanitation and Hygiene for the Urban Poor (WASH-UP)

Dear Mr. Odotei,

On behalf of Global Communities I am pleased to submit our quarterly report for the above mentioned agreement. This report summarizes activities undertaken from April 1, 2015 – June 30, 2015.

Please do not hesitate to contact me or our Country Director, Alberto Wilde, should you have any questions.

Sincerely,



for
Glenn Moller
Director of Program Operations
International Operations

Cc: Harriet Luwemba, AO, USAID
Georgette Yarboi-Quayson, USAID
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Year III - Third Quarter Report

Program Name/Acronym: Water Access, Sanitation and Hygiene for Urban Poor (WASH-UP)

Country: Ghana

Donor: United States Agency for International Development

Award Number/Symbol: EPP-A-00-09-00014

Reporting Period: April – June, 2015

Submitted To: Emmanuel Odotei /AOR/USAID Ghana

Submitted By: Alberto Wilde



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Name of Project	Water Access, Sanitation and Hygiene for Urban Poor (WASH-UP) Project
Country and regions	Ghana, Greater Accra, Central, Volta, Northern and Western Regions
Donor	United States Agency for International Development
Award number/symbol	EPP-A-00-09-00014
Start and end date of project	October 2012-September 2016
Total estimated federal funding	US\$ 12,168,660
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Acronyms and Abbreviations

AMA	Accra Metropolitan Assembly
BCC	Behavior Change Communication
BDS	Business Development Services
CBO	Community-Based Organization
CLTS	Community-Led Total Sanitation
FY15	Fiscal Year 2015
GWCL	Ghana Water Company Limited
KVIP	Kumasi Ventilated and Improved Pit
LADMA	La Dadekotopon Municipal Assembly
LNGO	Local Non – Governmental Organization
NGO	Non-Governmental Organization
SHEP	School Health Education Program
SMC	School Management Committee
STMA	Sekondi-Takoradi Metropolitan Assembly
USAID	United States Agency for International Development
WASH	Water, Sanitation and Hygiene
WASH-UP	Water Access, Sanitation and Hygiene for Urban Poor
WATSAN	Water and Sanitation
WSC	Water and Sanitation Committee
WSMT	Water and Sanitation Management Team

Executive Summary

In the third quarter of Year III (FY15), five local NGO partners worked on various components in the urban poor communities in Accra Metropolitan Assembly (AMA), La Dadekotopon Municipal Assembly (LADMA), and Sekondi-Takoradi Metropolitan Assembly (STMA). These components included Water, Sanitation and Hygiene (WASH) infrastructure construction, Behavior Change Communication (BCC), and Water and Sanitation (WATSAN)-related business.

Twenty-one house/yard water connections were completed in the quarter, resulting in a total of 238 house/yard connections completed to date. These connections make safe water accessible to 9,164 people in the urban project communities. Fifteen new family latrines were also completed this quarter, bringing the total number of family latrines delivered in project communities to 217, which provide access to basic sanitation for about 4,602 residents.

All previously provided public WATSAN facilities for communities and schools continued to function under the various management structures and institutional arrangements put in place for sustainable WASH services delivery.

Under the WASH-UP extension to rural and peri-urban communities in the Volta, Northern, Central, and Western Regions of Ghana, borehole drilling activities (both manual and machine drilling) started in selected rural communities within selected districts. Construction of institutional KVIP latrines also commenced in the Northern, Central, Volta, and Western Regions with varying levels of progress by the end of the quarter.

Eighty-two facilitators, meant to champion the Community-Led Total Sanitation (CLTS) activities, were trained in the quarter. A workshop each was held in the Volta, Western, and Central Regions to introduce CLTS to selected local government staff and local NGO staff with practical field visits for triggering activities. Participants were comprised of 18 females and 64 males.

Cholera response activities were initiated in the latter part of quarter as the resurgence of cholera loomed, with floods hitting most of the Greater Accra Region, where the highest cases of cholera were reported in the 2014 epidemic.

Introduction

The WASH-UP Project is fashioned to respond to dire situations in selected poor urban communities in the Accra and Sekondi-Takoradi Metropolises. The program seeks to bring relief to residents of five slums through interventions in the area of WATSAN, and reinforce hygiene behavior change messaging to promote proper hygiene behaviors in the communities.

After three years of program implementation, due largely to demands from project communities, it was deemed necessary to continue the project and scale up interventions to significantly improve conditions in the communities. Consequently, WASH-UP (phase II) was designed. Phase II maintains the original overarching goal: increased equitable access to improved water supply and basic sanitation for poor urban communities in Ghana by improving water supply and sanitation infrastructure, behavior, and governance. The geographic scope was widened to include four more communities: one in Accra Metropolis, one in La Municipality, and two in Sekondi-Takoradi Metropolis. The project has been modified to extend its geographic scope to five regions (Greater Accra, Western, Central, Northern, and Volta).

This report covers the third quarter of implementation in Year III (FY15), and outlines the progress made in meeting the objectives of the program. WASH-UP continues to target the urban regions of La Abafum-Kowe-Abese, Nima West, Ntankoful, and Assakae, with project activities still active in Nima East, Ayidiki, and Kojokrom. In the rural and peri-urban communities in four regions of Northern, Volta, Central, and Western Regions, drilling and construction of boreholes and construction of institutional latrines began after the tendering processes and contract awards were given to winning contractors. Further, under the second modification, a workshop for the training of CLTS facilitators was also carried out in each of the three regions (Volta, Western, and Central).

Additionally, Cholera response preparatory activities commenced as the resurgence of cholera loomed with floods affecting most parts of the Greater Accra Region.

Implementation Activities by Program Objective and Expected Results

The program's overall goal is to increase equitable access to improved water supply and basic sanitation for poor urban communities in Ghana by improving water supply and sanitation infrastructure, behavior, and governance. The project set up objectives and targets as benchmarks to guide implementation. The objectives as drawn from the overarching goal are to:

1. Increase household access to affordable, improved, and sustainable drinking water supply;
2. Increase household access to improved and sustainable sanitation facilities;
3. Promote innovative economic enterprises in the area of water and sanitation;
4. Improve hygiene and sanitation behaviors among the urban poor; and
5. Strengthen local governance for water supply, sanitation service, and hygiene promotion.

These objectives were translated into action areas categorized under different components, with specific activities detailed in the project implementation plan. The five components of WASH-UP and their expected results in the beneficiary urban poor communities are outlined hereafter.

The first component seeks to continue expanding improved water supply coverage to communities and households through individual house connections and public water points. To realize the results under this component, the WASH-UP team worked closely with LNGOs and WSCs in the various project communities to mobilize households to access the facilities provided under the project. By the close of the project, the following are expected:

- 400 households will benefit from house (yard) water connections as a result of lower connection costs due to main extensions into their communities providing safe water to 6,123 people.
- Another 1,500 people will be benefiting from water supplies from public water kiosks. These are people who might not be able to connect water to their houses, and areas where water main extensions (and for that matter house water connections) are not feasible.

Activities under the second component focus on increasing household access to improved basic sanitation. Institutional sanitation will also be tackled especially in schools to increase school children's access to safe sanitation away from their homes. The objective will also look at improving solid waste management in the communities and continue to reduce areas exposed to flooding through varied strategies. These are a few among many other steps towards making the program a comprehensive one to reduce environmental health-related diseases and improve sanitary conditions. At the close of the project, efforts under the sanitation component are expected to result in:

- Improved access to basic sanitation for 8,800 people through the provision of family/yard/household latrines;
- Improved school sanitation in basic schools in project communities through construction of school latrines; and
- Reduced incidence of flooding in Avenor due to the construction of about two kilometers of secondary and tertiary drains in the community.

The third component has at its core the support and establishment of small-scale private enterprises engaged in innovative WATSAN activities. The aim is to support private initiatives in meeting local demand for WATSAN services for the urban poor in a better and more affordable way. The component also looks at supporting households with micro-credit to access household WATSAN facilities. This component also offers mentoring to the WSCs in operating and managing public facilities provided under the project. This component sees the economic opportunities that are inherent in poor urban communities with dense populations and largely under-served.

The fourth component uses BCC to improve hygiene and sanitation behaviors by focusing on decreasing open defecation, encouraging proper waste disposal and increasing handwashing with soap at five critical times through a number of strategies. BCC will work to increase household use of improved toilet facilities provided through WASH-UP intervention, building household level capacity to improve environmental sanitation and decrease disposal of solid waste into wastewater drainage systems. The team will work with private and public partners such as Ghana Health Services, Ghana Education Service through the School Health Education Program (SHEP), Department of Environmental Health as well as CBOs and local NGOs to increase handwashing with soap at five critical times, particularly by key population groups such as mothers with babies and children of school-going age. Overall, the component aims to reach over 63,000 people.

The fifth component seeks to improve WATSAN governance through local urban WATSAN planning process using participatory approaches. In this regard, capacities will be built at the local level to plan for local interventions in WATSAN as well as manage the existing facilities. It is working to expand the capacity of communities and CBOs to identify local WATSAN needs and manage resources. Here we also work with water and sanitation committees (WSCs) and sub-metro WATSAN teams building their technical and organizational skills to drive water and sanitation issues at their respective levels. Technical and organizational skills capacity building is also envisaged for the Ghana Water Company Limited (GWCL), the main urban water service provider that delivers water services to the urban poor.

Progress Report by Program Objective or Result Areas

In this quarter in the urban project communities, physical works like the construction of latrines and house/yard connections continued. Details of progress toward deliverables for the year and life of project are presented in this section. The summary of indicators can be found on page 12.

COMPONENT ONE: INCREASE HOUSEHOLD ACCESS TO AFFORDABLE, IMPROVED, AND SUSTAINABLE DRINKING WATER SUPPLY

Within the quarter, significant progress was made in improving people's access to water. Twenty-one house/yard water connections were completed this quarter, meaning 238 house/yard connections have been completed to date. A cumulative 9,164 people now have access to safe water in project communities. 25 water connections were also ongoing in project communities at the end of the quarter.

The Ntankoful Small Town Water Supply system remains operational and continues to deliver safe drinking water services to the residents of the Ntankoful community. The mechanized borehole for the Whindo-Assakae Basic Schools continues to provide water service for the school for all uses. Public water vending points in Nima East, Nima West, Kojokrom, and La continue to function as expected, providing access to safe water services to residents.

The table below summarizes work done up to the end of the third quarter of Year III.

Item		Achieved					LOP Target
		Up to end of Year II	Year III			To date	
			1 st Quarter	2 nd Quarter	3 rd Quarter		
House/yard connections	Completed	158	21	38	21	238	400
	Ongoing	-	-	54	25	25	
Water vending points	Completed	3	7	6	0	16	20
	Ongoing	-	-	0	0	0	
Borehole sourced piped scheme		-	1	0	0	1	-

COMPONENT TWO: INCREASE HOUSEHOLD ACCESS TO IMPROVED AND SUSTAINABLE SANITATION FACILITIES

Construction of household latrines for residents continued in the quarter under review. Fifteen new family/household latrines were completed this quarter, while forty-one latrines were under construction at the end of the quarter. A beneficiary count reveals that 4,602 people now have access to improved sanitation facilities in the urban project communities of Nima East and West, La, Ayidiki, Assakae, Ntankoful, and Kojokrom.

The three school latrines in La, Assakae, and Ntankoful handed over from the last quarter continue to function, delivering sanitation services to students. So far no issues have been reported; the various management committees that the project put in place at the school level appear to be handling their responsibilities very well.

A summary of progress in the sanitation component over the three past quarters is presented in the table below.

Item		Achieved					LOP Target
		Up to end of Year II	Year III			To date	
			1 st Quarter	2 nd Quarter	3 rd Quarter		
Household/ family latrine construction	Completed	152	31	19	15	217	400
	Ongoing	-	-	60	41	41	
School sanitation improvement	Completed	0	3	0	0	3	3
	Ongoing	-	-	0	0	0	

COMPONENT THREE: PROMOTE INNOVATIVE ECONOMIC ENTERPRISES IN THE AREA OF WATER AND SANITATION

Mobilization of residents and education on the opportunities for WASH related businesses and acquisition of loans for financing WASH infrastructure construction continued usually going from door-to-door. Recovery of previous loans granted to residents were also pursued successfully.

During this past quarter, five water-related businesses were supported. Out of 47 applicants, 11 loans were granted to construct household/family latrines. 89 other people applied for loans to either start or enhance their water- and sanitation-related businesses; their applications were screened and resulted in the issuance of 26 micro-loans for businesses.

COMPONENT FOUR: HYGIENE AND SANITATION PROMOTION (BCC)

General community hygiene education continued, with 2 ‘dawn broadcasts¹’ carried out in June. Market/community sensitization on hand washing, open defecation, and proper refuse disposal continued as planned. In La for instance, an information van went through some parts of the township playing audio versions of the mass media animations on hand washing, proper waste disposal, and stopping open defecation by owning household latrines. A radio program that reaches the La Township was held on Meridian FM in Tema New Town to inform people on the WASH-UP project and the importance of proper hand washing, waste disposal, and stopping open defecation.

Weekly visits to schools were also undertaken by field officers in the quarter to observe and collect data on hand washing practices. The availability of water and soap for student hand washing was also assessed, yielding positive results so far.

¹ Information sharing with communities using megaphones usually at dawn to reach community members before they leave for their workplaces in the morning. It is a common medium of outreach especially in peri-urban areas.



A resident clears a choked gutter in the community

To improve hygiene practices in local authority-provided public latrines (which are patronized by most people without household/family latrines), posters promoting hand washing at critical times and stopping open defecation were distributed in the public latrines. The committees managing these public latrines were also engaged to provide hand washing facilities with running water and soap.

Throughout the quarter, residences with household latrines were sensitized on how to maintain their cleanliness and hygiene to prevent the transmission of diseases or

infections. Visits were made to households to inform them on the need to own household/family latrines—not only to provide safe sanitation, but also for convenience.

As Ghana entered the rainy season, a time usually followed by cholera outbreaks, food vendors were sensitized on personal hygiene, hand washing, and environmental hygiene. It is expected that this education will translate into hygienic food preparation and handling, consequently blocking one of the routes of cholera transmission.

Two community-led cleanup exercises were carried out in Nima and Ayidiki. Residents, including many young people, turned up to clean and sweep sections of their community, cleaning choked gutters and clearing weeds. Interestingly, these clean-ups occurred prior to the now famous June 3rd 2015 rains, and the two communities did not experience any marked flooding. This is probably a result of the run-off being able to leave the communities quickly with the drains being clear and not choked as was the case in other parts of the Accra Metropolis.

During this past quarter, thirty-six hand washing facilities were installed in households with completed latrine facilities provided under WASH-UP. To date, 280 hand washing facilities have been distributed or installed in schools or households with latrines. An estimated 12,006 people now have access to hand washing facilities which will allow for proper and regular hand washing.

Cholera Response

By the third week of June 2015, reported cases of cholera at health facilities have reached 636² with 6 deaths. The recent surge was apparently fueled by floods on June 3rd 2015, which inundated vast areas of the Greater Accra Region for hours before receding. The WASH-UP Project responded by immediately intensifying hygiene education in the metropolis. Soon after, discussions began with the national broadcaster Ghana Television to resume transmission of animated BCC messages, which have now been translated into Ga, the local language of the people of Accra.

² [World Health Organization, Situation Report on Cholera Outbreak in Ghana, as of 21 June 2015 \(Week 25\)](#)

Preparations are also underway to begin distribution of water purification tablets in affected areas of the Greater Accra Region in the next quarter (July), backed with intensive inter-personal hygiene education.

Ebola Preparedness

The one-minute animation on Ebola, originally produced in English and translated into four Ghanaian languages (Ga, Twi, Ewe, and Dagbani), is ready for transmission in the next quarter. The animation can be found at <https://www.youtube.com/playlist?list=PLegR4U78ZPj2LcY35ybCSslSA2atdM3Po>.

COMPONENT FIVE: STRENGTHEN LOCAL GOVERNANCE FOR WATER SUPPLY, SANITATION SERVICE, AND HYGIENE PROMOTION

In this quarter, the component maintained its focus on sustainability in the operation of public water and sanitation facilities. Financial management training and mentoring have been lined up for 7 Water and Sanitation Committees with public water and sanitation facilities. A suitable consultant was procured this quarter to carry out this assignment. These trainings are due in July and will create and solidify sound financial management structures for the adequate recording and reporting of the committee's financial transactions.

WASH-UP EXTENSION TO RURAL AND PERI-URBAN COMMUNITIES

The activities outlined below were undertaken in rural communities in the Northern, Volta, Central, and Western Regions. The activities are broken into two components: water and institutional sanitation infrastructure construction, and BCC/CLTS. Photos of field activities can be found in Appendix 1.

WATER AND SANITATION

Contractors and consultants were engaged in this quarter to implement aspects of this intervention. Construction of 30 institutional KVIP latrines for schools and CHPs, manual drilling of 35 boreholes, and machine drilling of 20 boreholes by contractors began in selected rural communities in the four regions.



A KVIP latrine under construction in the Northern Region

In the Central Region, 7 KVIP latrines are under construction and progressing steadily, while 8 such latrines are at the superstructure level in the Northern Region. In the Western Region, 5 KVIP latrines are under construction with 2 yet to begin. Similarly, in the Volta Region 5 KVIPs are at the superstructure level with 3 yet to begin.

35 boreholes are expected to be drilled manually by two contractors. In the Central

Region, 10 have been drilled and capped with 7 pending, while in the Western Region 7 boreholes have been drilled and capped with 11 pending. With regard to the machine drilling of 20 boreholes, 26 wells were drilled in total, with 10 being dry wells. The remaining 16 are classified as productive wells, meaning water was found. The wells will be considered as successful when pumping tests are completed. A summary is presented below:

Region	Manual Borehole Drilling			Comments
	Target	Drilled an Capped	Pending	
Central Region	17	10	7	Drilling will continue until completed
Western Region	18	7	11	Drilling will continue until completed
	Machine Borehole Drilling			
	Target	Drilled	Productive	
Volta Region	10	13	10	3 of the wells were found to be dry. Pumping test are yet to be done on the productive wells.
Northern Region	10	13	6	7 wells were found to be dry. Pumping test are yet to be done on the productive wells

BEHAVIOUR CHANGE COMMUNICATION/COMMUNITY-LED TOTAL SANITATION

Within this quarter, training of CLTS facilitators began. Three workshops were held in the Volta, Central and Western Regions. Participants were drawn from local NGO partners working under a sub-grant, the staff of local assemblies, especially from the Environmental Health and Sanitation Unit, the Department of Community Development, District Water and Sanitation Teams, planning units and the SHEP. Participants were introduced to CLTS and had the opportunity to visit communities in respective regions to undertake triggering of resident of the communities. Triggering is the process of awakening a community to see open defecation as undesirable and recognize the need to change it.



Triggering of a community under the CLTS facilitators' training

LNGOs have been contracted to undertake the formation and training of WSMTs for communities where successful boreholes are drilled. Their workplans have been reviewed and approved for implementation.

Summary Indicator Table (urban communities only)

Indicator	FY 15						Total FY 15	LOP Target	Achieved to Date	% achieved
	Oct '14- Dec '14		Jan '15- Mar '15		Apr '15- Jun '15					
	1st Quarter		2nd Quarter		3rd Quarter					
	Target	Actual	Target	Actual	Target	Actual				
# of clean-up exercises held by residents	2	0	2	0	2	2	2	54	53	98%
# of existing private sanitation enterprise supported	2	0	2	0	2	0	-	20	2	10%
# of existing private water enterprise supported	7	45	7	28	7	23	96	200	719	360%
# of hand washing facilities distributed	38	26	38	31	40	36	93	400	280	70%
# of household WATSAN loans accessed by residents	10	59	10	0	60	11	70	200	160	80%
# of households assessing loans for WATSAN facilities	67	236	67	0	199	44	280	800	700	88%
# of meetings held between water committees and city authorities to articulate WASH issues	3	3	3	0	0	0	3	27	22	81%
# of micro enterprise loans granted	62	59	62	33	61	26	118	500	360	72%
# of new private enterprises in sanitation activities established	6	0	6	0	7	0	-	50	1	2%
# of new policies, laws, agreements, regulations, or investment agreements (public or private) that promote access to improved water supply and sanitation	103	73	103	33	102	44	150	850	484	57%
# of new private water enterprises owned and managed by women	11	13	11	5	10	3	21	90	123	137%
# of partner groups engaged in the integration of WASH activities in their activities	0	0	0	0	0	0	-	5	5	100%
# of people receiving improved service quality from existing drinking water source	1125	0	1125	0	1125	0	-	9000	15755	175%
# of people gaining access to improved drinking water source	1326	320	1326	3360	148	67	3,747	6123	9164	150%
# of people reached out to with hand washing messages	4166	6008	4166	0	0	6961	12,969	20000	49410	247%

Indicator	FY 15						Total FY 15	LOP Target	Achieved to Date	% achieved
	Oct '14- Dec '14		Jan '15- Mar '15		Apr '15- Jun '15					
	1st Quarter		2nd Quarter		3rd Quarter					
	Target	Actual	Target	Actual	Target	Actual				
# of people who have gained access to improved sanitation facility	689	460	689	0	4233	197	657	8,800	4602	52%
# of people with access to hand-washing facilities	1318	320	1318	13	2249	720	1,053	16,000	12006	75%
# of private new water related enterprises established	14	14	14	5	14	3	22	100	108	108%
Number of household having access to water connection	178	64	178	750	82	56	870	1424	1770	124%
% of households using an improved drinking water source	7.90	0.00	7.90	0.00	7.90	10.10	10.1	12.00	10.10	84.196%
Number of household having access to sanitation facility	169	92	169	57	127	30	179	1424	930	65%
% of households using an improved sanitation facility	6.75	5.65	6.75	0.00	6.75	6.3	6.297	11.70	6.30	53.82%
# of WATSAN related activities carried out jointly by Assembly, communities and GWCL	3	0	3	0	0	0	-	18	19	106%
Number of households reached with Aquatabs	0	135,540	0	0	0	1,541,260	1,676,800	0	138,560	-

Project Management

NEW DEVELOPMENTS IMPACTING IMPLEMENTATION

None.

KEY ACHIEVEMENT THIS QUARTER

Completion of procurement processes and contract awards for borehole drilling activities and construction of institutional KVIP latrines in schools and CHIP facilities in rural communities in the Northern, Volta, Central, and Western Regions of Ghana.

ACTIONS AND ITEMS PENDING RESOLUTION

None.

Appendices

Appendix 1: Selected photographs from activities in rural communities

