



## WASHUP Quarterly Report

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<b>Donor</b>	United States Agency for International Development
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## Acronyms and Abbreviations

AMA	Accra Metropolitan Assembly
BCC	Behavior Change Communication
BDS	Business Development Services
GWCL	Ghana Water Company Limited
LNGO	Local Non-Governmental Organization
NGO	Non-Governmental Organization
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
WST	Water and Sanitation Team
WSC	Water and Sanitation Committee

## Executive Summary

The Water Access, Sanitation and Hygiene for Urban Poor (WASH-UP) project was developed against a backdrop of poor urban residents not having access to improved sanitation. WASHUP works to bring relief to residents of five slums through interventions in the area of water, sanitation and reinforcing hygiene behavior change messaging to promote proper hygiene behaviors in the communities. Specifically, WASH-UP was designed to:

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

WASH-UP continues to prioritize working relationships with local governments, community members, local non-governmental organizations and other stakeholders. A review of activities of the Water and Sanitation Committees and the Sub-Metro WASH Teams were undertaken in order to re-strategize for Year II implementation activities; this was done to ensure delivery of reliable WASH services in all project communities.

In the area of water, applications were processed for household water connections; the Ghana Water Company Limited (GWCL) undertook measurements, prepared estimates and completed many connections. Some households were also connected to water main extensions after applying directly to the GWCL; they have also been considered as beneficiaries of the water intervention. Further, a consultant has been engaged to analyze the feasibility of mechanizing boreholes and using the borehole water source to design a water supply system which would serve the Ntankoful community of about 3,000 people.

The construction of latrines continued in the quarter with significant improvement in delivery. Demand has been increasing and with the advancement of micro-loans under the business development component, many households are now in a position to access personal household latrines. Proposed interventions in improving school sanitation have been bolstered with the starting of a procurement process. This process works to engage four contractors which execute water and sanitation improvements to beneficiary schools in Accra and Sekondi Takoradi.

Behavior change messaging continued in communities and schools. Ninety three hand washing facilities were fabricated and assembled to be distributed to public basic schools in eight project beneficiary communities. Work on animations for mass media campaign on behavior change messaging was carried out and the draft of the animated works submitted by the service provider.

## Introduction

The Water Access, Sanitation and Hygiene for Urban Poor (WASH-UP) Project is fashioned to respond to dire situations in selected poor urban communities in the Accra and Sekondi-Takoradi metropolises. It works to bring relief to residents of five slums through interventions in the area of water and sanitation, while reinforcing hygiene behavior change messaging to promote proper hygiene behaviors in the communities. After three years of implementing WASH-UP, 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 retaining the original overarching goal of increased equitable access to improved water supply and basic sanitation for poor urban communities in Ghana; through improving water supply and sanitation infrastructure, behavior, and governance. Additionally, the geographic scope was widened to include four more communities; one in Accra, one in the municipality and two in Sekondi-Takoradi.

To accomplish the afore-mentioned goal, Global Communities is utilizing a community-driven approach involving a broad range of stakeholders to address critical gaps in availability and access to water and sanitation services for the urban poor. WASH-UP is now working to improve services in nine poor urban settlements; five within Accra and four in Sekondi-Takoradi. The objectives of the WASH-UP project are:

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

This report covers the first quarter of FY 2014, Year II of the project implementation and outlines progress towards reaching the deliverables under the project. Efforts continue to be targeted at TheAbafum-Kowe-Abese, Nima West, Ntankoful and Assakae, with limited additional activities in Nima East, and Kojokrom.

## Implementation Activities by Program Objective and Expected Results

The overall goal of increased equitable access to improved water supply and basic sanitation for poor urban communities in Ghana is facilitated by improving water supply, sanitation infrastructure, behavior, and governance. The project objectives and targets to guide implementation of the overarching goal are to:

- *Increase household access to affordable, improved, and sustainable drinking water supply;*
- *Increase household access to improved and sustainable sanitation facilities;*
- *Promote innovative economic enterprises in the areas of water and sanitation;*
- *Improve hygiene and sanitation behaviors among the urban poor, and;*
- *Strengthen local governance for water supply, sanitation service, and hygiene promotion.*

These objectives were translated in to components as action areas, with specific activities detailed out in the project implementation plan. The five components of WASH-UP and their expected results are outlined hereafter.

### WATER

This component seeks to continue expanding improved water supply coverage to communities and households through individual household connections and public water points. To realize the results under this component, WASH-UP II will work 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:

- *Slum communities to have an additional 10km of water mains extended into their communities;*
- *1,424 households will benefit from house / yard water connections, due to a lower connection cost, and;*
- *1,500 people will benefit from public water kiosks and limited reticulated borehole source water schemes established in their communities. These people may not be able to gain connection to water otherwise.*

### SANITATION

Efforts under the sanitation component focus on increasing household access to improved sanitation, which will be household based rather than communal facilities, for health and management reasons. Communal sanitation will also be pursued; especially in schools to increase access of school children to safe sanitation away from the home. 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 among others are steps towards making the program comprehensive 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:

- *400 households having access to improved sanitation, through the provision of 400 household latrines;*
- *Improved school sanitation in project communities through construction of school latrines, and;*
- *Reduced incidence of flooding in Avenor due to the construction of 2,000 meters of secondary and tertiary drains in the community.*

### BUSINESS DEVELOPMENT SERVICES

At the core of the business development component is the support and establishment of small-scale private enterprises engaged in innovative water and sanitation activities. The aim is to support private

initiatives in meeting local demand for water and sanitation 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 water and sanitation 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 underserved.

### **BEHAVIOUR CHANGE COMMUNICATION**

This objective is to use Behavior Change Communication (BCC) to improve hygiene and sanitation behaviors by focusing on decreasing open defecation, encouraging proper waste disposal and increasing hand washing 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 Project, Department of Environmental Health as well as CBOs, and Local NGOs to increase hand washing 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 in all 9 project communities.

### **CAPACTY BUILDING AND GOVERNANCE**

Activities under this component seek to improve water and sanitation governance through local urban water and sanitation planning process using participatory approaches. In this regard, capacities will be built at the local level to plan for local interventions in water and sanitation as well as manage the existing facilities. Technical and organizational skills capacity building is also envisioned for GWCL; the main urban water service provider to deliver water services to the urban poor.

Objective 5 underpins all the above objectives as it seeks to improve water and sanitation governance through local urban water and sanitation planning processes using participatory approaches. It is working to expand the capacity of communities and CBOs to identify local water and sanitation needs and manage resources. Here we also work with Water and Sanitation Committees, Sub-Metro Water and Sanitation Teams building technical and organizational skills as well as building the capacity of GWCL.

## Progress Report by Program Objective or Result Areas

Within the first quarter of the second year, project activities continued in all component areas. As in the previous quarter, water and sanitation activities dominated, with the other component yet to reach desired levels for the quarter.

### Component One: Water Supply

With the completion of water main extensions in the Abafum-Kowe-Abese and Assakae, there has been a significant increase in activities under the component. More applications were lodged with GWCL through the local partners for house/yard connections. Residents who were pessimistic about the proposed interventions, having lived without water supply in their communities, have begun to get more interested accounting for the rise

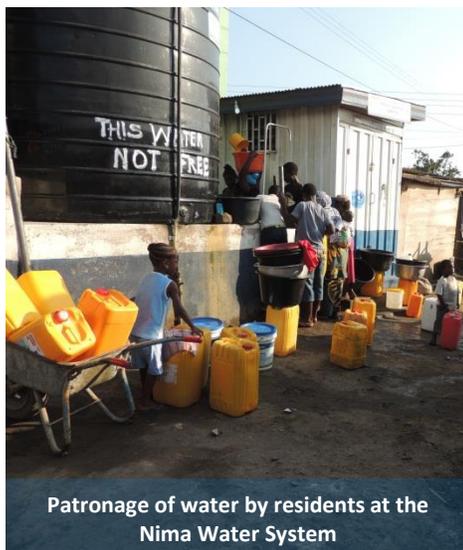


A yard connection in Nima West

of applicants from 115 to 214. In response to the increasing number of applications, GWCL has also carried out measurements to prepare cost estimates for 63 applicants. Having met all requirements, 23 house/yard water connections were achieved in the quarter under review. A public water kiosk has been constructed but is yet to be fully-operational.

Some negotiations were done with GWCL to reduce the connection fees charged, as water main extensions have reduced the level of effort needed to connect. Consequently a reduction of approximately 42% was granted for applicants in Assakae and a flat discount of GHC200 in other areas; which will serve as a motivator for interested households to take advantage of having a cheaper water connection.

It is also significant to note that GWCL has reported 49 additional houses who contacted them directly for water connections. They were connected from the water main extensions executed under the WASH-UP project. Since their connection was expedited and made possible by the water main extension and coupled with the fact that these houses are within the project area, the connections were counted as part of the project outputs.



Patronage of water by residents at the Nima Water System

With regards to finding alternative water schemes for communities where extension of GWCL water mains were not feasible, the proposed Ntankoful water supply system has reached a stage where a consultant has been procured to analyze the feasibility designing a water supply system based on a borehole source from the pool of 5 boreholes drilled by the project. Preliminary reports show the possibility of serving the entire Ntankoful community with public stand pipes and a limited number of yard connections.

Three public basic schools in project communities (Whindo Assakae Basic School and Ntankoful MA Basic School in Sekondi-Takoradi, and Anglican Basic School in the The Dadekotopon Municipality) were planned to benefit from improved water supply, to allow for better hygiene practices

by students and teachers. The process of engaging contractors to undertake the works has been completed and soon will be introduced to the sites and stakeholders.

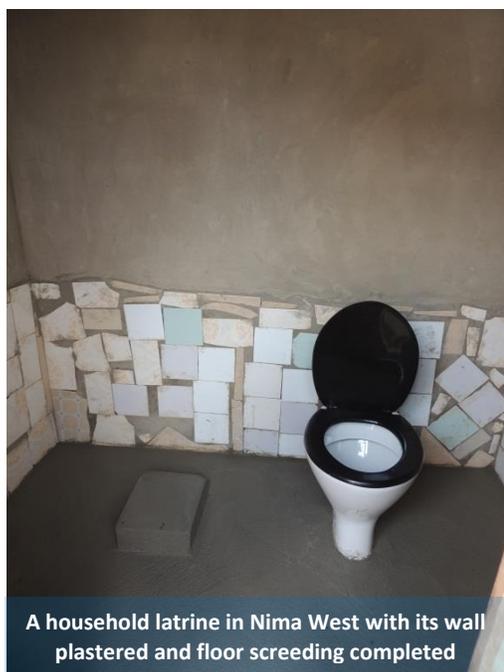
The Nima Water Scheme developed under the first phase of WASH-UP continues to work as designed providing clean, safe and reliable supplementary water to residents.

Implementation of the WASH-UP Project Water Quality Plan was started in the quarter and continues to be done. This has become necessary to ensure residents in project communities have access to water that meets the highest possible safety standards.

The table below summarizes work done in the 1<sup>st</sup> Quarter of Year II

ITEM	ACHIEVED THIS QUARTER
<b>House/yard connections</b>	214 applications received to date.
	23 connections done, 16 ongoing
	49 connections undertaken by GWCL for residents who did not go through the WSC
<b>Vending Points</b>	Construction of platform for one ongoing.
<b>Borehole Source Piped Scheme</b>	Consultant engaged for design of scheme has commenced work

## Component Two: Improved Sanitation



To increase the number of persons with access to safe and improved sanitation, the construction of household latrines continued in the quarter. Promoting the various latrine options based on ground conditions, financial capacity of the applicant and the available space, 301 applications for household latrines are being processed, out of which 23 latrines were completed in the quarter. Nima West had the highest number of latrines constructed, 14. Among the various technologies available KVIP is the dominant latrine being built, accounting for almost 60 percent of all latrines built to date, followed by water closets at approximately 25 percent.

The planned improved school sanitation facilities in the Anglican Basic School has commenced with the signing on of Biofilcom Technologies. The school latrines based on the Biofil latrine technology are designed to be female-child-friendly and efficient in the use of water and promote hand washing after using the latrine.

A summary of progress in the sanitation component, in the quarter, is presented below.

ITEM	ACHIEVED THIS QUARTER
<b>Household latrine construction</b>	23 latrines completed, 42 others are ongoing.
<b>School sanitation improvement</b>	Contractor procured and signed on.

### Component Three: Hygiene and Sanitation Promotion (Behavior Change Communication)



A pupil washing her hands in a facility provided by

The major activities undertaken under the component within the month were outreaches to worship centers and schools. However, at the end of September, the partner completed implementation and submitted an end-of-phase report which was reviewed and validated.

In the area of promoting proper hand washing, 72 hand washing facilities were delivered and installed in public basic schools in Accra and Sekondi-Takoradi, after discussions with heads of schools and school health coordinators to ensure the facilities will be put to good use and properly maintained.

The WASH-UP project, through the BCC Specialist, contributed to the 4<sup>th</sup> Ghana Youth and Children Forum of the Ghana Water Forum. This contribution was in the form of educational materials and posters on proper hygiene practices, sanitation promotion, and environmental protection. Participants were drawn from all ten regions of the country. At the close of the forum, participants were given BCC materials to continue hygiene education in their schools and communities.



A screenshot from the short animations

As part of the mass media campaign the team reviewed the animations developed and is now awaiting the final version of the animation on open defecation.

The following is a summary of achievement in the quarter.

ITEM	ACHIEVED THIS QUARTER
Hygiene education	Community, Market, health center, and worship center education was done
School Health and Hygiene	72 fabricated hand washing facilities were distributed and installed in schools within project communities

## Component Four: Business Development Services

Having carried out training of potential and existing entrepreneurs in the previous quarter, the focus in the first quarter of Year II was on granting loans to finance business and also to pay beneficiary contributions for household water connections and latrines. To date, 54 new businesses have been started in the communities, with 37 in the last quarter. Within micro-loans, 87 loans were made; 65 as business loans to support existing and new water and sanitation related enterprises, as well as 22 households were granted loans to finance construction of latrines or have house/yard water connections installed.

Our partner engaged under the component has also completed implementation activities but is yet to submit an end-of-phase report for validation.

The following is a summary of activities to date.

DELIVERABLES	Achieved to date
# of private new water related enterprises established	54
# of new private water related enterprise owned and managed by women	50
# of existing private water enterprises supported	204
# of existing private sanitation enterprises supported	1
# of WATSAN related micro enterprise loans granted	69
# of new private enterprises engaged in sanitation activities established	0
# of households granted loans to acquire household toilets and water connections	46
New enterprises trained on business management	246

## Component Five: Capacity Building and Governance



Discussions ongoing at the last partners' workshop held in Accra

A review of activities of WASH Sub-Metro Teams was held in the quarter to ascertain their level of participation in WASH activities at the local, sub-metro and metro levels. A partners' workshop was held for all local NGOs implementing components of the project. Representatives of selected WSCs were also present to represent their communities. The workshop was used to review implementation efforts as well as to strategize for the remaining period of the sub-grants. The workshop also reinforced the need for environmental safety compliance in all project activities, especially in construction activities.

Within the quarter, a training manual on Sustainable costing of wash services was finalized to be used in the training of WSCs who have

benefitted from wash infrastructure provision under the WASH-UP Project.

Three members of the WASH-UP Team, along with the Country Director, participated in the 3<sup>rd</sup> High Level Forum of Water and Sanitation in Africa held in Abidjan, Cote d'Ivoire. The team exhibited implementation activities as well as some publications from the WASH-UP Project. The team also participated in a parallel session in which a presentation was made focusing on community participation in the management of WASH services as being done under the WASH-UP Project.

## **Project Management**

### **Key achievement this quarter**

Within the quarter, environmental and safety documentation was carried out on all ongoing facilities provided under the WASH-UP project. This is a requirement for all projects with an environmental footprint.