

October 29, 2015



Emmanuel Odotei
Agreement Officer Representative, USAID

Subject: Annual 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 annual report for the above mentioned agreement. This report summarizes activities undertaken from October 1, 2014 – September 30, 2015.

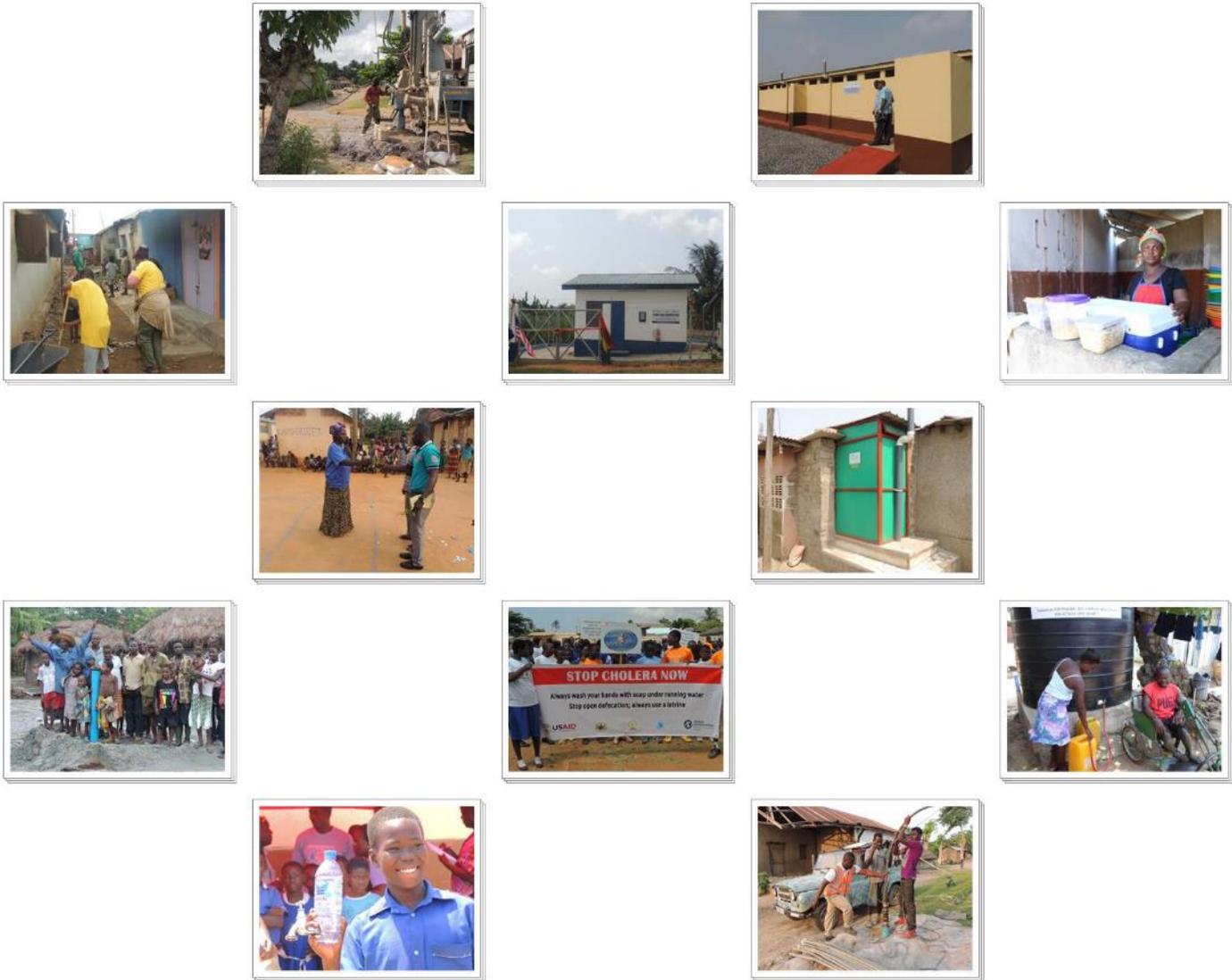
Please do not hesitate to contact me or our Country Director, Alberto Wilde, should you have any questions.

Sincerely,



Glenn Moller
Director of Program Operations
International Operations

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WASH-UP FY15 Annual 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: October 1, 2014 – September 30, 2015
 Submitted To: Emmanuel Odotei- AOR - USAID
 Submitted By: Alberto Wilde



USAID
 FROM THE AMERICAN PEOPLE



| | |
|--|---|
| 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 2009 - September 2016 |
| Total estimated federal funding | US\$ 12,168,660 |
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Acronyms and Abbreviations

| | |
|-------|--|
| AMA | Accra Metropolitan Assembly |
| AWSO | Ayidiki Water and Sanitation Organization |
| BCC | Behavior Change Communication |
| BDS | Business Development Services |
| CFR | Case Fatality Rate |
| CHPs | Community-based Health Planning and Service |
| CLTS | Community-Led Total Sanitation |
| CWSA | Community Water and Sanitation Agency |
| DFA | Development Fortress Association |
| EDSAM | Engineering and Development Services Administration and Management |
| EHO | Environmental Health Officer |
| FOAT | Functional and Organizational Assessment Tool |
| FY | Fiscal Year |
| GES | Ghana Education Service |
| GIS | Geographic Information System |
| GPS | Global Positioning System |
| GWC | Ghana Water Company |
| HDPE | High-Density Polyethylene |
| HFFG | Hope for Future Generations |
| IP | Implementing Partner |
| JHS | Junior High School |
| KVIP | Kumasi Ventilated Improved Pit |
| LNGO | Local Non-Governmental Organization |
| LOP | Life of Project |
| MDF | Management for Development Foundation |
| MLGRD | Minister of Local Government and Rural Development |
| MMDA | Metropolitan, Municipal and District Assembly |
| NADMO | National Disaster Management Organization |
| NGO | Non-Governmental Organization |
| ODF | Open-Defecation Free |

| | |
|---------|---|
| PPE | Personal Protective Equipment |
| ProNET | Professional Network Associates |
| RUDNET | Rural Development Network |
| SHEP | School Health Education Project |
| USAID | United States Agency for International Development |
| VIP | Ventilated Improved Pit |
| WASH | Water, Sanitation, and Hygiene |
| WASH-UP | Water Access, Sanitation and Hygiene for Urban Poor |
| WATSAN | Water and Sanitation |
| WHO | World Health Organization |
| WSC | Water and Sanitation Committee |
| WSMT | Water and Sanitation Management Teams |
| Y-SEF | Youth and Social Enterprises Fund |

Executive Summary

The Water Access, Sanitation and Hygiene for Urban Poor (WASH-UP) Project has gone through two significant modifications in the course of implementation since 2009, but the overall goal has been maintained. The project's objectives are to increase equitable access to improved water supply and basic sanitation for the urban poor, and now rural communities, in Ghana. This goal will be achieved by improving water supply, sanitation infrastructure, behavior change, and governance and its contributory objectives. The target populations and geographical scope has grown exponentially from 5 communities to 9 communities and now five regions covering 13 districts.

In the third year of implementation, a total of 111 house/yard water connections were completed, serving 1,424 residents. Three schools had access to safe water improved through a mechanized borehole, a rainwater harvesting system, and connection to a small town water supply system. Under the modification activities in the rural areas, 51 boreholes were drilled; 35 drilled manually and 16 drilled using machinery.

A total of 114 household/family latrines were completed within the third year, showing concrete progress toward increasing households' access to improved latrines. 67 other household latrines are also under construction across the urban poor communities. In the Sekondi-Takoradi Metropolis, two school latrines were completed and handed over to the school authorities. The retrofitted school latrine for La Roman Catholic Basic School was also officially handed over to the school authorities, who had engaged a caretaker to see to its cleanliness. The school latrines are still operational without any issues reported from the various management committees. Under the rural component, 30 institutional Kumasi Ventilated Improved Pits (KVIPs) were completed, 18 for basic schools and 12 for Community-Based Health Planning and Services (CHPs) Compounds. These latrines are meant to provide pupils in schools with safe sanitation facilities. Similarly, latrines in CHPs compounds are meant for patients and visitors to the healthcare facility. To boost latrine construction, another 17 artisans from two districts in the Volta Region have been trained in the construction of Lined Mozambique and Lined Rectangular latrines.

Within the third year, five new private, women-owned, water-related enterprises have been established. 154 water and sanitation (WATSAN) microenterprise loans have been granted to date to support these WATSAN-related entrepreneurs to expand their activities and increase their profitability. 129 enterprises have also been trained in business management in all the urban communities in La, Accra, and Sekondi-Takoradi. To support the urban poor, who are unable to

raise their contributions upfront to access household water and sanitation facilities, a total of 109 loans were granted to households toward the construction of household latrines or water connections.

Under the component of hygiene behavior change communication (BCC), messaging continued to target residents of project communities, reaching them in their homes through personal education with the aid of posters and flyers during general community educational campaigns. Education on proper hygiene practices reaches primary school pupils through school health clubs and the School Hygiene Coordinators under the School Health Education Project (SHEP). Nursing mothers are also targeted and reached through visits to child health clinics, where they are educated on personal hygiene practices as well as handwashing as a means of preventing disease transmission to their children and themselves. An estimated 57,843 people have been reached with hygiene education to date. The project has so far distributed 173 handwashing facilities to institutions (mainly schools and clinics) and installed 213 handwashing facilities in homes with household latrines within urban poor communities.

Under the rural component of the WASH-UP modification, three local non-governmental organizations (LNGOs) continued to undertake community-led total sanitation (CLTS) activities in their respective regions. Community members in these regions are responding positively to awareness of stopping open defecation and have started constructing their household latrines, of which 35 are already complete in three regions, with construction of 194 ongoing.

During the third year, airing of three short animations resumed with support from Ghana Television after they were translated into the local language “Ga” to reach the indigenous people of “LA” - Accra. Until then, the animations were only available in English and Akan. Posters and flyers based on the animations have also been printed and are being used in general hygiene education in all project communities.

In response to a looming cholera outbreak, hygiene education and distribution of water purification tablets were carried out in selected communities in Ga South, La Dade-Kotopon Municipality, and Accra Metropolis in the Greater Accra Region, and also in Awutu Senya East District in the Central Region. In all, 576,000 water purification tablets capable of purifying 11,520,000 liters of water were distributed to households in the selected communities. Monitoring reports on the cholera outbreak indicate that since the third week of June no new cholera cases have been recorded in the Greater Accra Region.

To strengthen community-level structures and to improve the financial management capacity and capabilities of Water and Sanitation Committees (WSCs) in WASH-UP project communities, two-day training sessions in Accra and Sekondi-Takoradi were held for the eight urban-based WSCs. Their training was preceded by an assessment process of the various WSCs, and in some instances vendors, and interested community members. To strengthen the ability of partner Metropolitan, Municipal and District Assembly (MMDA) staff to use Geographic Information Systems (GIS) to track and collect WASH-related data and make informed location-based analyses, a 3-day training was conducted for 15 Environmental Health Officers (EHOs) from Sekondi-Takoradi, Accra, and La Dade-Kotopon Municipality.

Under modification activities in the rural areas, three LNGOs were engaged and tasked with the formation and training of small town Water and Sanitation Management Teams (WSMTs) for all communities selected for provision of boreholes and any other public facilities. All the beneficiary communities have had their committees formed and trained, and are set to take over the facilities.

Introduction

The WASH-UP Project was originally designed to improve WASH conditions in five urban poor communities in the Accra Metropolis and the Sekondi-Takoradi Metropolis. Over time, the project has widened its geographical scope to nine communities and five regions. The project now implements activities in both urban and rural settings. The WASH-UP Project has maintained the overall goal of increasing equitable access to improved water supply and basic sanitation for poor urban (and rural) communities in Ghana. We achieve this goal by improving water supply and sanitation infrastructure, behavior, and governance. The objectives of the project are:

- To increase household access to affordable, improved, and sustainable drinking water supply;
- To increase household access to improved and sustainable sanitation facilities;
- To promote innovative economic enterprises in the areas of water and sanitation;
- To improve hygiene and sanitation behaviors among the urban poor; and
- To strengthen local governance for water supply, sanitation service, and hygiene promotion.

This report presents progress toward the project goal in the third year of implementation, in all project communities—both rural and urban. It highlights outputs and outcomes realized within the reporting period.

Project Geographical Scope

As mentioned earlier, the first phase of the WASH-UP Project (2009 – 2012) was initially implemented in five poor urban communities: Avenor, Nima East, and Ayidiki in the Accra Metropolitan Area, and Kojokrom and New Takoradi in the Sekondi-Takoradi Metropolitan Area. Following the initial project modification and extension, the benefiting communities expanded to include La Abafum-Kowe-Abese in the La-Dadekotopon Municipality, and Ntankoful and Assakae in the Sekondi-Takoradi Metropolis. The second modification further widened the project's reach into the Northern, Volta, and Central Regions, from the initial Greater Accra and Western Regions.

Appendix 1 includes a map of Ghana, showing the location of the project districts. The project is expected to reach twelve districts in five regions. Those districts are Yendi and Mion in the Northern Region, South Dayi and Adaklu in the Volta Region, Twifo Hemang, Lower Denkyira, and Twifo Ati-Mokwa in the Central Region, Amenfi Central, Amenfi West, and Sekondi-Takoradi in the Western Region, and La and Accra in the Greater Accra Region.

Indicator Narrative

Table 1 indicates that the project has far exceeded most of the targets set out for FY15, with the exception of sanitation. A comparison of the target and achieved indicators, as well as a forecast FY 16 targets, is presented below:

Table 1 WASH UP Project Indicators

| S/N | INDICATORS | FY 15 TARGET | FY 15 RESULTS | % ACHIEVED | FY 16 TARGET |
|-----|---|--------------|---------------|------------|--------------|
| 1 | Percent of households using an improved drinking water source | 5.4% | 11% | 203% | 6% |
| | Number of persons in rural areas | 2550 | 10500 | 411% | 15000 |
| | Number of persons in urban areas | 2755 | 4088 | 148% | 0 |
| 2 | Percent of households using an improved sanitation facility | 5.3% | 2.5% | 47% | 4% |
| | Number of persons in rural areas | 0 | 304 | 100% | 3037 |
| | Number of persons in urban areas | 2755 | 1514 | 45% | 0 |
| 3 | Number of policies, laws, agreements, regulations, or investment agreements (public or private) that promote access to improved water supply and sanitation | 184 | 204 | 110% | 312 |
| 3a | Number of WATSAN-related microenterprise loans granted | 55 | 154 | 280% | 0 |
| 3b | Number of household loans for water and sanitation facilities granted | 129 | 109 | 84% | 0 |
| 4 | Number of persons gaining access to an improved sanitation facility | 2755 | 1818 | 66% | 3037 |
| 5 | Number of people gaining access to an improved water source | 5305 | 14588 | 274% | 15000 |

This section describes the essential indicators tracked across the Wash-UP program, including successes and challenges related to the particular indicator.

1. Percentage of households using an improved drinking water source

In its third year, WASH-UP continued to increase access to basic water supply through household water connections, small water systems, and borehole infrastructure. With a target of 5,303 people, 14,588 people were reached (10,500 in rural communities, 4,088 in urban communities) with basic water supply. Under the WASH-UP extension (Urban WASH-UP), approximately 11% of households were provided with access to a basic water source; this result is over 100% greater than the indicator's initial target. The greatest contributor to this indicator is the installation of the Ntankoful Water System that serves over 3,000 residents, a group that constitutes roughly 90% of the total number of people reached by an improved water source in FY15. Additionally, efforts by implementing partners (IPs) to connect as many households as possible to Ghana Water

Company (GWC) mains have contributed to this achievement. The FY16 target of 6% is based on the expected percentage of households reached by boreholes constructed under the modification.

2. Number of people gaining access to an improved water source

The number of people gaining access to improved water is measured by direct count. Under WASH-UP, this is measured using a household data collection tool. In FY15, 14,588 people (10,500 in rural communities, 4,088 in urban communities) were reached through house water connections, public water points, a community water system, and boreholes. This achievement is made possible by favorable geology, groundwater quality, and yield. The underground water systems/infrastructure of the Ntankoful Water System and the borehole infrastructure in rural communities contribute to the accomplishments under this indicator. Next year's target of 15,000 people is based on the additional number of people expected to gain access to the basic water supply through newly installed boreholes and rehabilitated boreholes under the WASH-UP rural modification. No target is set for urban WASH-UP in FY16 as water supply has been earmarked for rural WASH-UP only. Achievement of this target is based on the assumption that political and socio-economic factors will remain the same and that support from all stakeholders remains the same or improves.

3. Number of persons gaining access to a basic sanitation facility

This is the count of people who have gained access to basic sanitation through Water Closets, KVIPs, or Biofil latrines. The indicator value is obtained through direct count using a household-beneficiary data collection tool. In FY15, basic sanitation reached 1,818 households, which is 34% less than the target of 2,755 households. Access to basic sanitation continues to remain a challenge particularly in urban slums where access to land for latrine construction is a challenge. Lengthy procedures for assessing the viability of site location and the counterpart's project contribution also contributed to the unexpected delays of latrine construction. Although latrine construction is subsidized under the WASH-UP extension/urban WASH-UP, households still have challenges in raising their counterpart contributions. The FY16 target of 3,037 persons is based on the backlog from the WASH-UP Extension and the life of project target for the WASH-UP Modification.

4. Percentage of households using an improved sanitation facility

In FY15, 2.5% of households were given access to basic sanitation facilities. This result is 2.8 percentage points less than the target, and reflects the challenges that the project faced with sanitation in an urban environment. With land constraints in urban slums, the rate of latrine construction has decreased dramatically over the years. The square footage required for construction limits the potential sites for latrine construction. The target for household latrine construction in FY16 is based on the backlog from the WASH-UP Extension and the expected number of households under the modification.

5. Number of policies, laws, agreements, regulations, or investment agreements (public or private) that promote access to improved water supply and sanitation

This indicator measures investment agreements (both public and private) that promote access to water and sanitation services. It includes microenterprise loans for WATSAN-related businesses and household water and sanitation facilities. The achievement in FY15 of 204 'investment agreements' surpassed the target of 184. The high success rate in this indicator can be partially attributed to the reduction in collateral from 10% to 5% by the Micro Finance Institution, the flexibility of repayment (daily instead of monthly), and the intensity of house to house sensitization. The target for FY16 is based on the backlogged LOP target for the WASH-UP Extension and Urban WASH-UP projects.

Implementation Updates

This section describes the activities undertaken under each component toward the realization of project objectives and the project's overall goal. It details the major activities of WASH-UP's team and its partners. Also addressed are the challenges and the overall outputs achieved during the reporting period.

Preparatory Activities for Year III Implementation

At the beginning of the fiscal year, preparatory activities were undertaken to onboard competent and committed partners to ensure ease of implementation. These activities are outlined hereafter.

1. Sub-grant agreements

This past year, it was planned that intermediaries would conduct many implementation activities. So, competent LNGOs were engaged through sub-grant agreements to conduct WATSAN, BCC, and Business Development Services (BDS) activities. These agreements define the partnership and the deliverables expected of sub-grantees.

A request for proposals was advertised to a pool of interested LNGOs with the requisite expertise. At the end of the process, Rural Development Network (RUDNET) was selected to implement the WATSAN component in the Sekondi–Takoradi communities (Assakae, Ntankoful, Kojokrom and New Takoradi), while Professional Network Associates (ProNET) was allocated Nima West and East. The Ayidiki Water and Sanitation Organization (AWSO) is implementing WATSAN activities in La Abafum-Kowe-Abese and Ayidiki in the Accra Metropolis. Hope for Future Generations (HFFG) was selected to implement the BCC component in all project communities of the La Municipality, Accra, and Sekondi-Takoradi metropolises, to ensure uniformity of messaging. Youth and Social Enterprises Fund (Y-SEF), a financial non-governmental organization (NGO), was selected to undertake the BDS component in all project communities.

2. Partnerships

In the third year, working relationships were maintained with local government structures within the administrative areas of the project. New, partnerships were forged with private sector entities.

Promasidor Ghana, producers of Cowbell brand products, assisted in the support of some project activities like Hand Washing Celebration Day, BCC campaigns, and Cholera prevention campaigns at various schools. Tobinco Pharmaceuticals was approached for support with the implementation of hygiene products. The project also engaged the Community Water and Sanitation Agency (CWSA), who are mandated to supervise and provide water and sanitation services to the rural areas of Ghana. Each of these partnerships has broadened the impact of our work in rural Ghana.



Water Supply

1. Household water connections

In the third year of implementation, a total of 111 houses gained water connections. 33 other connections are ongoing. Another 193 applicants are at the administrative pre-connection stage, which is overseen by the GWC. Upon the completion of registration, site surveying, and cost estimation, the GWC will affect connections to homes. The 111 completed yard connections now serve 1,424 residents.

2. Community water schemes

Development of the Ntankoful Small Town Water Supply System, planned for the project's second year, is complete and has been handed over to the community. Owing to the constraint of long connection distances, Ntankoful remained without water supply from the GWC. Consequently, residents resorted to fetching water from shallow, unprotected wells and water tankers if they could afford to. To improve the lack in water supply, the WASH-UP Project drilled boreholes and designed an appropriate water delivery system that optimally utilizes underground water resources. The resultant design



involves mechanization of the highest yielding borehole (6,000 liters/hour). Water is then pumped to a 100,000 liter, ground-level tank located at the highest geographical point in the community. There are six fetching points located at vantage points throughout the community. The system also supplies water to the Ntankoful Metropolitan Assembly Cluster of Schools, where 20,000 liter water storage tanks have been provided to ensure pupils and teachers have a reliable water supply to practice proper hygiene with.

The Whindo-Assakae Cluster of Schools is the only public primary school in Assakae benefiting from a mechanized borehole. The completed borehole and its three water storage tanks were handed over to a management committee for operation and maintenance. This borehole yields 2,100 liters/hour and now provides over 1,200 pupils and teachers at the cluster of schools with safe water.

3. Water kiosks

A privately managed water kiosk and a publicly managed one were each completed in the Nima West district. These kiosks are operated on a commercial basis by supplying water originating from the GWC's distribution lines. The water is stored in large High-Density Polyethylene (HDPE) tanks. The water kiosks cater to residents who are unable to afford yard connections or who prefer to buy water by the bucket. From time to time when water shortages occur, most residents will buy water from the kiosks' water surplus.



4. Boreholes for rural communities and institutions

Under the rural WASH-UP modification, 51 boreholes were successfully drilled. 35 of these boreholes were drilled manually, while the other 16 were drilled using diesel-powered machinery. Pumping tests and water quality tests have been completed, and the assessed boreholes meet the quality standards set by the Water Research Institute. Concrete aprons have been constructed around boreholes to serve as pumping platforms. Installation of hand pumps has commenced for boreholes with water quality that falls within the appropriate physio-chemical thresholds. Tables 2 and 3 summarize progress in the rural water intervention activities.

Table 2: Summary of Manual Well-Drilling

| Region | Target | Drilled | Productive | Comments |
|----------------|--------|---------|------------|---|
| Central Region | 17 | 17 | 17 | All platforms constructed and hand pumps supplied for installation |
| Western Region | 18 | 18 | 18 | All platforms constructed, hand pumps supplied and installation commenced |

Table 3: Summary of Machine Borehole Drilling

| Region | Target | Drilled | Productive | Comments |
|-----------------|--------|---------|------------|---|
| Volta Region | 10 | 13 | 10 | Construction of platforms and installation of hand pumps to be done in October 2015 |
| Northern Region | 10 | 13 | 6 | Platforms constructed and contractor to install the hand pumps in October 2015 |

Moving forward into the next year, broken down boreholes will be identified and repaired for communities.

Access to Improved Sanitation

Household access to improved latrines can be seen in the completion of 114 household/family latrines in the third year. Moreover, 67 household latrines are currently under construction across urban poor communities.

To date, a total of 279 household latrines have been constructed across seven districts: 86 in Kojokrom, 61 in La, 56 in Nima West, 31 in Ayidiki, 28 in Nima East, 25 in Ntankoful, and 10 in Assakae. Cumulatively, these latrines benefit 5,459 residents by increasing their access to improved sanitation. In the third year, 1,514 people gained access to improved sanitation.



1. Improved school sanitation

In the Sekondi-Takoradi Metropolis, work began on two school latrines. The 20-seater Biofil latrine with an overhead tank for the Ntankoful M/A Cluster of Schools, and the 12-seater latrine for Whindo-Assakae Cluster of Schools. Both latrines have been designed to be gender- and disability-friendly by providing changing rooms for girls and women, and ramps for easy access for the disabled. Both latrines conform to the Ghana Education Service (GES) guidelines for WASH facilities in schools. The retrofitted school latrine for La Roman Catholic Basic School was

also officially handed over to the school authorities, who had engaged a caretaker to see to its cleanliness. The school latrines are all still operational with no issues reported from the various management committees.

Modification activities in rural areas include the completion of 30 institutional KVIPs, which were started in the third quarter. 18 of these are for basic schools and 12 are for CHPs compounds¹. (See Appendix 1 for list).

These latrines provide pupils and teachers with safe sanitation facilities, while those at the CHPs compounds cater to patients and their visitors. Complementing household latrine construction with institutional sanitation facilities and proper hygiene education ensures that people's sanitation needs are met. This multi-institutional approach reinforces the BCC message to avoid open defecation.

2. Latrine artisan training

17 artisans in the Volta Region went through latrine artisan training. Artisans were invited from communities in the Adaklu and South Dayi Districts, and were taken through practical training in the construction of latrines. The artisans are expected to provide their services to households in their respective districts. The artisans have been trained to construct latrines of specific quality and to ensure safety at the construction site. It is envisaged that the Lined Mozambique and Rectangular Ventilated Improved Pit (VIP) latrine technologies will suit the demands of residents in these two districts. Currently, additional latrine artisan training is being planned for other regions in the coming year.



Governance and Capacity Building for WASH Services

1. Governance and financial management of WSCs

Strengthening community-level governance and financial management capacities of WSCs in the WASH-UP Project communities is facilitated by the Management for Development Foundation

¹ CHPs compounds form the lowest structure of the healthcare delivery system. They are provided for communities or a group of communities and aim to be the first point of contact for healthcare with at least a Community Health Nurse at the post.

(MDF). This consultancy was contracted to assess the financial management capacity of the WSCs.

The assessment process was participatory and involved members of the WSCs, and in some instances, the vendors and interested community members. The process involved the examination of all documents utilized by respective WSCs, such as cash books, receipts, bank deposits slips, minute books, and complaint books. The content of these documents was reviewed and discussed with the WSCs. In some instances, separate discussions were held with the secretaries, treasurers, and accounts officers to gain further insight. The process incorporated aspects of appreciative inquiry, emphasizing what exists and what can be done differently to make further improvements.

With the results of that investigation, a two-day training workshop in Accra and Sekondi-Takoradi for eight WSCs took place. The adult training methodologies used in the training enabled WSC members to control the flow of discussion and share useful experiences. Key topics of discussion included revenue mobilization and management, meeting structures, community relationships, vendor management, and facilities management.

2. Municipal capacity building – GIS/GPS training for environmental health officers

A 3-day training on the use of GIS and Global Positioning System (GPS) technologies strengthened the technical capacities of our MMDA partner staff. 15 EHOs from the Sekondi-Takoradi, Accra, and La Dade-Kotopon Municipalities learned to track and collect WASH-related data and to make informed, location-based analyses. Participants gained knowledge on GPS/GIS fundamentals and how to use the ARC GIS Software, in addition to conducting practical exercises where they gathered real world geographical features.

The training was designed to equip EHOs with the skills to effectively collect data related to environmental health and sanitation. These new skills aid in their annual Functional and Organizational Assessment Tool (FOAT) assessments, which aim to monitor the status of water and sanitation developments over extended periods of time. In addition to the MMDA officials, technical staff from the WASH-UP team also participated in the training. Most importantly, participants produced operational and thematic maps and datasets from spatial datum collected in the field.

3. Formation and training of new WSMTs for rural communities

Under the WASH-UP modification activities for the rural areas, three LNGOs were engaged and tasked with the formation and training of small town WSMTs.

Work has already achieved significant milestones; Comdev Consult has formed and trained all 18 WSMTs in the Western Region, four of which have opened bank accounts to save revenue gained from levies imposed on facility users. The Rural Action Foundation has also formed and trained 17 WSMTs in the central region; only one team has opened a bank account. Engineering and Development Services Administration and Management (EDSAM) Social Network was assigned ten communities in the Volta Region, where all WSMTs have been formed and trained.

Moving forward in the project, the WSMTs will work in communities that were selected to receive boreholes and any other publicly-managed facilities. The WSMTs are tasked with the proper operation and maintenance of the facilities after the WASH-UP team has completed work.

Water and Sanitation Business Development

Under this component, the project focused on empowering the urban poor, especially women, to establish WATSAN-related businesses. It also focused on providing training and support through start-ups and micro-credit. Activities under this component are presented below.

1. Community mobilization and sensitization

Urban communities in Accra, La, and Sekondi-Takoradi are continually sensitized to the support offered for household facilities, such as household latrines and water connections. House to house sensitization is undertaken continuously during loan monitoring and financial recovery visits. Additionally, the team encourages other community members to apply for loans that can enhance their standard of living or lifestyle.

2. Establishment of new businesses and support for existing businesses

Within the third year, five new private water-related enterprises have been established—all owned by women. These enterprises add to the cumulative 154 WATSAN microenterprise loans granted to date. These loans aid entrepreneurs who are expanding their activities and increasing their profitability. Loan recovery from the microenterprises is reported to be with no default.

3. Business development training

There are 129 enterprises trained in business management across the urban communities of La, Accra, and Sekondi-Takoradi. The training covered the following relevant topics:

- Basic records keeping;
- Basic concept in marketing;
- Financial literacy;
- Business purpose and operation; and
- Entrepreneurship.

4. Micro-loans for household WATSAN facilities acquisition

Loans are provided by our partnering financial NGOs who sign agreements with all households. A total of 109 loans were granted to households in urban poor communities to contribute toward the construction of household latrines or water connections. These loans are usually repaid in six to twelve months' time.

Behavior Change Communication

WASH-UP continues to undertake BCC activities through the LNGO HFFG. Projects are ongoing in all nine of the urban project communities and schools. Major interventions are outlined below.

1. House to house education

The primary location for hygiene BCC has been the home, where residents feel comfortable and are more receptive to messaging. HFFG periodically visits residents in their homes to educate them on proper hygiene practices such as the use of household latrines, proper handwashing techniques, and fostering environmental cleanliness. This personal level of education is aided by posters and flyers developed throughout the life of the project. Households with latrines are further trained on how to keep the facility clean to avoid the emission of foul odors. An estimated 57,843 people have been reached with hygiene education to date.

2. School health and hygiene

Utilizing school health clubs and School Hygiene Coordinators under SHEP, pupils have been educated on proper hygiene practices. The clubs and coordinators are provided with educational materials to facilitate the knowledge and practice of hygiene at home and at school. Provision of facilities such as Veronica Buckets, latrines, and water supply systems have contributed to better health and hygiene for pupils and teachers.

3. BCC messaging in public places

Mothers with young children are educated at healthcare centers, especially when mothers bring children on child-weighting or child health clinic days. Hygiene education is done with the help of the nurses operating the community clinics. Their participation in changing behaviors has become an integral part of the project activity. Mothers are reminded of the critical times for handwashing to protect themselves and their children from illness.

Other BCC messaging includes the proper disposal of refuse, the harm of open defecation, the correct use of household latrines, and the steps to prevent cholera. These activities occur in public places such as clinics, community markets, lorry parks, churches, mosques, and occasionally football parks.

4. Community-led clean-up exercises

Over the course of Year III, two community-wide cleanups were carried out under the auspice of WASH-UP. Besides these cleanups, many communities approached the project team through WSCs, seeking assistance in the form of wheelbarrows, gloves, rakes, and other cleaning tools to undertake community-driven cleanups. The numerous requests for assistance came in response to the “National Sanitation Day”² instituted by the Ministry of Local Government and Rural Development.



5. BCC messaging using mass media

The Mass Media BCC animations that were originally produced in English and Akan were translated into Ga, the local language of the people of Accra. In the third year, airing of the three short animations resumed with support from Ghana Television. These animations have been shared with the USAID-funded Communicate for Health



² National Sanitation Day was first declared on November 1st, 2014 in response to the 2014 Cholera Epidemic. This nationwide cleanup day is observed on the first Saturday of every month.

Project, which is further developing media resources to release nationwide. Furthermore, the animations supplement the posters currently on file for use in BCC community-based activities.

The animations cover three broad themes:

- Promoting handwashing at critical times;
- Proper disposal of refuse; and
- Stopping open defecation by using household latrines.

6. *Global hand washing day activities*

The WASH-UP Project supported and participated in Global Hand Washing Day activities in our project areas. The WASH-UP project supported and participated in the celebration of Global Handwashing Day, which was held at Bukom Square in the Ashiedu-Ketekeh Sub-Metro of Accra. Assisting in the day's celebration was the local boxing hero Braimah Isaac Kamoko, commonly known as Bukom Banku. The day was marked with a durbar and an educational walk through Jamestown, one of the oldest settlements in Accra. Members of the entourage included the Deputy Minister of Local Government and Rural Development (MLGRD), Hon. Nii Lante Vanderpuye. The group stopped along the way at handwashing stations placed at vantage points throughout the community.



Hon. Vanderpuye looks on as a pupil washes his hands at St. Mary Anglican School

The event ended at the St. Mary the Virgin Anglican School in Jamestown, where pupils demonstrated handwashing with soap under running water. On the same day, at the La Anglican Cluster of Schools, staff and students hosted school-based events to celebrate the day. Pupils showcased tippy-taps they had made and demonstrated handwashing under running water with soap.



Proper handwashing competition at the La Anglican cluster of schools

7. Handwashing facilities

The WASH-UP Project distributed 173 handwashing facilities to institutions (mainly schools and clinics), and installed 213 in homes with household latrines. A further 17 latrines are being constructed and will be installed once complete. All school latrines are built with handwashing facilities installed for pupils to wash their hands. Other handwashing facilities donated to schools are placed in front of classrooms and near canteens so students may easily wash their hands before handling food and after eating.

8. CLTS/BCC activities in rural project districts

Under the rural WASH-UP Modification, three LNGOs continue to undertake CLTS activities in their respective regions. EDSAM, operating in the Adaklu and South Dayi Districts of the Volta Region, triggered fifteen communities, prompting community members to begin latrine construction. A total of thirty household latrines were completed, and another forty-nine are under construction. These activities are backstopped by trained latrine artisans and environmental health assistants trained in the CLTS approach.

Additionally, under the sanitation component of the project, EDSAM formed school health clubs at two schools that benefited from institutional latrines. So far, seventy-three school children have been taught proper handwashing techniques and how to use and maintain their school latrines.

Codesult is the LNGO operating in the Western Region. During this year, they formed and trained three school health clubs and carried out latrine promotion activities using the CLTS approach.

The LNGO Development Fortress Association (DFA) was awarded the Twifo-Atti-Mokwa and Twifo Hemang Lower Denkyira Districts of the Central Region. To assist in reaching open-defecation free (ODF) status in these communities, DFA has identified and trained natural leaders. These distinguished community leaders are integrated into a professional network with other community leaders to share best practices, with the aim of sustaining ODF status. DFA has formed and trained a school health committee to assist in sensitizing the community to open-defecation. Within this past quarter, DFA reports that three households have completed latrines and that seventy-eight others are in the process of excavating latrine pits.

Cholera Epidemic Response

The cholera outbreak that started in June 2014 continued throughout the year and carried over into 2015. By the end of 2014, there were 28,975 cases of cholera and 243 deaths reported from

130 of the country's 216 districts. These figures amount to a case fatality rate (CFR) of 0.8%. As Table 4 shows below, there were far fewer reported cases, and resultant deaths, in the year 2015.

From January to September 2015, the number of reported cases only reached 6833, with ten deaths. Exacerbated by the floods on June 3rd, 2015 in the Greater Accra Region, incidence rates increased slightly.

Per the recommendations of the Weekly Epidemiological Bulletin published by WHO during the epidemic, distribution of water purification tablets coupled with hygiene education was carried out to impede transmission of the diarrheal disease. Interventions were conducted with EHOs, assistants, (see Appendix 3) and residents in communities in the Ga South District, the La and Dade-Kotopon Municipalities, the Accra Metropolis, and the Awutu Senya East District. These communities were identified as epicenters for previous cholera outbreaks and received priority for intervention in this latest outbreak.

In all, 57,600 households were given 576,000 water purification tablets capable of purifying eleven and a half million liters of water. Residents in the communities were given directions on proper use of water purification tablets to ensure the successful treatment of water. Approximately 2,600 posters and flyers promoting handwashing behaviors and discouraging open defecation were widely distributed in the communities. Some posters were posted at vantage points in the communities to serve as constant reminders to residents. According to the WHO⁴, for 13 consecutive weeks, no cholera cases have been recorded in the Greater Accra Region. Table 4 gives a summary of the outbreak in 2015 and trends.

Table 4: Cholera Incidence Updates for Calendar Year 2015

| | Week 25 June 21 | Week 30 July 26 | Week 34 Aug 23 | Week 38 Sept 20 | Weeks 1-38 Jan 1-Sept 20 |
|----------------------------|----------------------------|----------------------------|---------------------------|----------------------------|-------------------------------------|
| Cases (Nationwide) | 18 | 6 | 0 | 0 | 683 |
| Cases Greater Accra | 18 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 309 |
| Deaths (cumulative) | 6 | 8 | 9 | 10 | 10 |
| CFR | 0.8% | 1.2% | 1.5% | 1.5% | 1.5% |

Source: Compiled from WHO Weekly Epidemiological Report (Week 38)

A detailed account of the activities per administrative area is outlined below:

³ World Health Organization, *Situation Report on Cholera Outbreak in Ghana, as of 21 June 2015 (Week 25)*

⁴ <http://reliefweb.int/report/ghana/situation-report-cholera-outbreak-ghana-20-september-2015-week-38>

Osu-Klottey, Sub-Metro of AMA: In the Osu-Klottey Sub-Metro, Odawna/Circle, Adabraka, and Additrum-Link were hit by the cholera epidemic. Therefore, these communities were selected to receive purifying water tablets, commonly known as Aquatabs. Volunteers were trained to educate community members about the disease, preventive measures, and to paste BCC messages at vantage points throughout the community.

Ayawaso East: In Ayawaso East, 20 volunteers were trained in community entry, cholera education, use of Aquatabs, and data collection in the household. Communities selected in the sub-metro were Nima East, Nima West, and Mamobi. Each of the 20 volunteers distributed 280 strips of Aquatabs. This distribution benefited approximately 28,000 people.



A volunteer educates a community member on how to use the water purification tablets

Ablekuma Central-Sub Metro: Training was held for volunteers before the distribution of Aquatabs in Sabon Zongo, Sukura, and Russia communities. These communities recorded a high number of cholera cases during the 2014 outbreak.

Ablekuma South: In the Ablekuma South Sub-Metropolitan Area, some cholera cases were recorded, including at least two deaths. The team worked in the communities of Chorkor, Glefe, and Korle Gonno, reaching approximately 5,600 household with Aquatabs, intensifying house to house Cholera education, and pasting BCC messages at most vantage points.

Okai-Koi South: Due to the high number of cases recorded in the Sub-Metro, the team did a lot of house to house cholera education in Bubuashie, Kaneshie, Avenor, and Buzanga Lane. These communities were the most affected. Volunteers shared posters with cholera messages with individuals and households, and distributed flyers with behavior change messages. 5,600 Aquatabs were distributed to households, benefitting approximately 22,400 persons.

Ashiedu-Keteke Sub Metro: As required before the distribution, volunteers were trained on the usage of Aquatabs, household data collection, and cholera education for members of the community. Each volunteer had a bag containing 280 strips of Aquatabs to be distributed in Ga Mashie and James Town.

Ayawaso Central: Records shows that Accra New Town, Alajo, Pigfarm, and Ayidiki are cholera-prone communities. This informed the distribution of Aquatabs, house to house cholera education, and posting of behavioral change messages. Volunteers targeted restaurants, churches, and mosques, among other frequented locations.

Ga South Municipality: In the Ga South Municipality, distribution was completed in Mallam, Gbawe, Galilea, Manhean, and Bortianor communities. These communities recorded cases of cholera, and the WASH-UP team, together with volunteers, used the opportunity to educate individuals, households, food vendors, and fishermen about the causes and prevention of cholera.



Awutu –Senya East: The team took turns educating individuals, households, traders, and community members about cholera. Selected communities were Kpormitey, Adakorpey, and Wallantu. They also worked in Kasoa, which has one of the largest and busiest markets in the Central Region.

La Dade-Kotopon: Last year there was a similar outbreak in La Dade-kotopon, affecting and killing many people. Although this year the municipality recorded a minimal number of cases, Aquatabs were distributed in Lakpaana, Adjemen, and Mantiase. This was carried out by 20 volunteers who each distributed 280 strips of Aquatabs to households as a preventive measure.

Project Management

Administrative project management continues to be led by the Director and is supported by technical specialists and officers. Teams continue to provide technical support to LNGOs engaged under sub-grant agreements. Program support units at Global Communities Ghana are comprised of monitoring and evaluation, knowledge management, GIS, and environmental compliance. These teams provide essential input on activity project tracking, documentation, and reporting.

Monitoring and Evaluation

In its third year, WASH-UP continues to use standardized M&E systems, tools, and methods for performance monitoring and evaluation. With lessons from the Data Quality Audits of FY14, M&E efforts improved in FY15. As a first step, IPs prepared and used their Performance Monitoring Plans after completing collaborative working sessions to gain an understanding of required indicators. Partners were then taken through USAID Data Quality standards so they can identify and learn about USAID required data quality standards and protocols. Subsequently, data quality assessment verification and compliance to standards were ensured by all partners under the WASH-UP project.

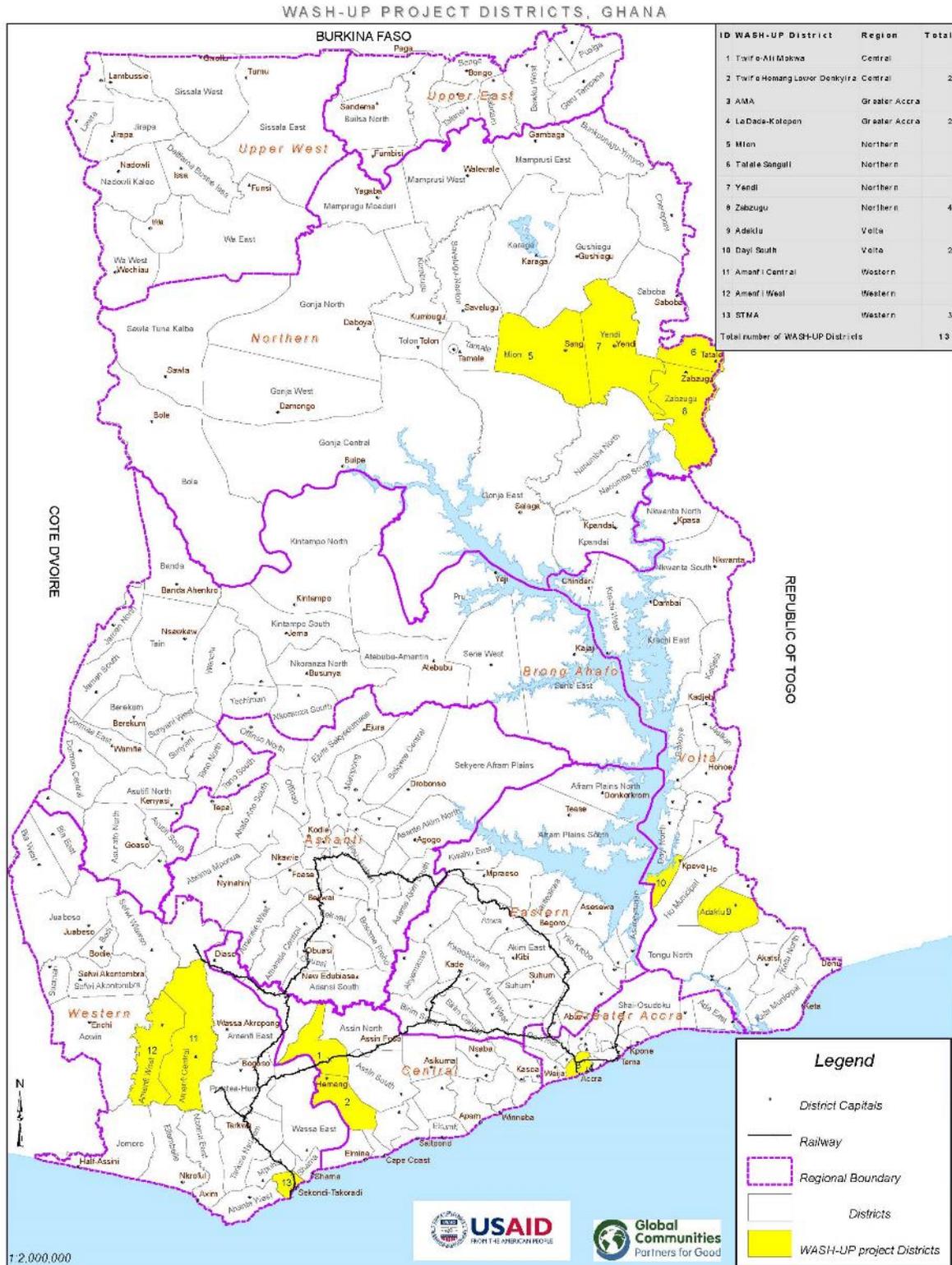
Environmental Safety and Compliance

Throughout the past year, steps were taken to ensure that negative consequences were greatly minimized, if not eliminated, as project activities took place. In the course of physical work like construction, pits and excavations are clearly marked with caution tape to alert people to the danger of an open hole. Artisans engaged by partners are also encouraged to use personal protective equipment (PPE) during construction activities. Water quality monitoring is carried out periodically on the water schemes to ensure they remain safe for use by community residents.



Appendices

Appendix 1: Map of WASH-UP Districts



Appendix 2: List of Institutions Provided with Latrines

| S/N | Region | District | Community | Name of Institution | Institution Type |
|-----|----------|-----------------------------|-----------------|----------------------------------|------------------|
| 1 | Central | Ati Mokwa | Nyinase | Nyinase CHPs | CHPs |
| 2 | Central | Ati Mokwa | Wamaso | Wamaso CHPs | CHPs |
| 3 | Central | Ati Mokwa | Ntiamoakrom | Ntiamoakrom Basic School | Primary & JHS |
| 4 | Central | Ati Mokwa | Twifo No 9 | Twifo No 9 DA Primary&JHS | Primary & JHS |
| 5 | Central | Twifo Hemang Lower Denkyira | Achiase | Achiase DA Primary School | Primary School |
| 6 | Central | Twifo Hemang Lower Denkyira | Somnyamekodur | DA Primary | Primary School |
| 7 | Central | Twifo Hemang Lower Denkyira | Shed | Shed CHPS | CHPS |
| 8 | Western | Amenfi West | Subriso | Subriso DA Primary&KG | Primary School |
| 9 | Western | Amenfi West | Sika Nti No 2&1 | Sika Nti No 2&1 DA Primary&KG | Primary School |
| 10 | Western | Amenfi West | Asankragwa | Asankragwa Model Basic Schools | Primary & JHS |
| 11 | Western | Amenfi West | Odumasi | Odumasi DA Primary&JHS | Primary & JHS |
| 12 | Western | Amenfi Central | Akyekyere | Akyekyere Catholic Primary & JHS | Primary & JHS |
| 13 | Western | Amenfi Central | Hiawa | Hiawa Catholic Primary and JHS | Primary & JHS |
| 14 | Western | Amenfi Central | Obeng | Obeng DA Primary | Primary School |
| 15 | Volta | South Dayi | Tsyokpokope | Tsyokpokope EP Primary & JHS | Primary & JHS |
| 16 | Volta | South Dayi | Abui No 2 | Abui No 2 DA Primary | Primary School |
| 17 | Volta | South Dayi | Peki Avetile | Peki Avetile DA Primary | Primary School |
| 18 | Volta | Adaklu | Avedzi | Avedzi DA Primary | Primary School |
| 19 | Volta | Adaklu | Kpatove | Kpatove DA Primary &KG | Primary School |
| 20 | Volta | Adaklu | Kpatove | Kpatove DA JHS | JHS |
| 21 | Volta | Adaklu | Afeyeyeme | Afeyeyeme CHPS | CHPS |
| 22 | Volta | Adaklu | Blidokope | Blidokope DA Primary | Primary School |
| 23 | Northern | Mion | Nadundo | Nadundo CHPs Compound | CHPS |
| 24 | Northern | Mion | Sakpei | Sakpei CHPs Compound | CHPS |
| 25 | Northern | Mion | Jimli | Jimli Health Center | Clinic |
| 26 | Northern | Mion | Kpabia | Kpabia Health Center | Clinic |
| 27 | Northern | Yendi | Oseikor | Oseikor CHPS | CHPS |
| 28 | Northern | Yendi | Kuni | Kuni CHPS | CHPS |
| 29 | Northern | Yendi | Adibo | Adobo Clinic | Clinic |
| 30 | Northern | Yendi | Malzeri | Malzeri CHPS | CHPS |

Appendix 3: List of Participants in the “STOP Cholera Campaign”

AMA Ayawaso East Sub-Metro

| S/N | DEPARTMENT/ ORGANIZATION/ GROUP | No. OF PARTICIPANTS | | |
|--------------|---|---------------------|-----------|-----------|
| | | MALE | FEMALE | TOTAL |
| 1 | Environmental Health | 6 | 11 | 17 |
| 2 | NADMO (National Disaster Management Organization) | 0 | 0 | 0 |
| 3 | Community Development | 0 | 0 | 0 |
| 4 | Social Welfare | 0 | 0 | 0 |
| 5 | Unemployed Graduates of Schools of Hygiene | 3 | 0 | 3 |
| TOTAL | | 9 | 11 | 20 |

Ablekuma Central Sub-Metro of AMA

| S/N | DEPARTMENT/ ORGANIZATION/ GROUP | No. OF PARTICIPANTS | | |
|--------------|--|---------------------|----------|-----------|
| | | MALE | FEMALE | TOTAL |
| 1 | Environmental Health | 5 | 4 | 9 |
| 2 | NADMO | 2 | 2 | 4 |
| 3 | Community Development | 2 | 1 | 3 |
| 4 | Social Welfare | 1 | 0 | 1 |
| 5 | Unemployed Graduates of Schools of Hygiene | 1 | 2 | 3 |
| TOTAL | | 11 | 9 | 20 |

Ablekuma South Sub-Metro of AMA

| S/N | DEPARTMENT/ ORGANIZATION/ GROUP | No. OF PARTICIPANTS | | |
|--------------|--|---------------------|-----------|-----------|
| | | MALE | FEMALE | TOTAL |
| 1 | Environmental Health | 4 | 5 | 9 |
| 2 | NADMO | 2 | 2 | 4 |
| 3 | Community Development | 1 | 2 | 3 |
| 4 | Social Welfare | 1 | 0 | 1 |
| 5 | Unemployed Graduates of Schools of Hygiene | 1 | 2 | 3 |
| TOTAL | | 9 | 11 | 20 |

Okai Koi South Sub-Metro of AMA

| S/N | DEPARTMENT/ ORGANIZATION/ GROUP | No. OF PARTICIPANTS | | |
|--------------|--|---------------------|-----------|-----------|
| | | MALE | FEMALE | TOTAL |
| 1 | Environmental Health | 3 | 5 | 8 |
| 2 | NADMO | 1 | 2 | 3 |
| 3 | Community Development | 2 | 1 | 3 |
| 4 | Social Welfare | 1 | 2 | 3 |
| 5 | Unemployed Graduates of Schools of Hygiene | 3 | 0 | 3 |
| TOTAL | | 9 | 11 | 20 |

Ashedu-Keteke Sub-Metro of AMA (GA mashie/James Town)

| S/N | DEPARTMENT/ ORGANIZATION/ GROUP | No. OF PARTICIPANTS | | |
|--------------|--|---------------------|----------|-----------|
| | | MALE | FEMALE | TOTAL |
| 1 | Environmental Health | 3 | 4 | 7 |
| 2 | NADMO | 1 | 2 | 3 |
| 3 | Community Development | 4 | 1 | 5 |
| 4 | Social Welfare | 1 | 1 | 2 |
| 5 | Unemployed Graduates of Schools of Hygiene | 3 | 0 | 3 |
| TOTAL | | 12 | 8 | 20 |

Ayawaso Central Sub-Metro of AMA (Accra New Town)

| S/N | DEPARTMENT/ ORGANIZATION/ GROUP | No. OF PARTICIPATION | | |
|--------------|--|----------------------|-----------|-----------|
| | | MALE | FEMALE | TOTAL |
| 1 | Environmental Health | 3 | 4 | 7 |
| 2 | NADMO | 1 | 3 | 4 |
| 3 | Community Development | 2 | 1 | 3 |
| 4 | Social Welfare | 1 | 3 | 4 |
| 5 | Unemployed Graduates of Schools of Hygiene | 3 | 1 | 4 |
| TOTAL | | 10 | 12 | 22 |

Ga South Municipal (Malam/Gbawe)

| S/N | DEPARTMENT/ ORGANIZATION/ GROUP | No. OF PARTICIPANTS | | |
|--------------|--|---------------------|-----------|-----------|
| | | MALE | FEMALE | TOTAL |
| 1 | Environmental Health | 3 | 4 | 7 |
| 2 | NADMO | 1 | 2 | 3 |
| 3 | Community Development | 4 | 1 | 5 |
| 4 | Social Welfare | 1 | 1 | 2 |
| 5 | Unemployed Graduates of Schools of Hygiene | 3 | 0 | 3 |
| TOTAL | | 9 | 11 | 20 |

Awutu-Senya East (Kasoa - Kpormitey/Adakorpe)

| S/N | DEPARTMENT/ ORGANIZATION/ GROUP | No. OF PARTICIPANTS | | |
|--------------|--|---------------------|-----------|-----------|
| | | MALE | FEMALE | TOTAL |
| 1 | Environmental Health | 3 | 4 | 7 |
| 2 | NADMO | 2 | 3 | 5 |
| 3 | Community Development | 1 | 2 | 3 |
| 4 | Social Welfare | 1 | 1 | 2 |
| 5 | Unemployed Graduates of Schools of Hygiene | 3 | 0 | 3 |
| TOTAL | | 9 | 11 | 20 |

La Dade-Kotopon Mun. (Labadi)

| S/N | DEPARTMENT/ ORGANIZATION/ GROUP | No. OF PARTICIPANTS | | |
|--------------|--|---------------------|----------|-----------|
| | | MALE | FEMALE | TOTAL |
| 1 | Environmental Health | 7 | 9 | 16 |
| 2 | NADMO | 0 | 0 | 0 |
| 3 | Community Development | 0 | 0 | 0 |
| 4 | Social Welfare | 0 | 0 | 0 |
| 5 | Unemployed Graduates of Schools of Hygiene | 4 | 0 | 4 |
| TOTAL | | 11 | 9 | 20 |