



GHANA WATER, SANITATION, AND HYGIENE (WASH) PROJECT

COOPERATIVE AGREEMENT N° 641-A-00-10-00003-00

FY 2012 ANNUAL PROGRESS REPORT

OCTOBER 1, 2011 – SEPTEMBER 30, 2012



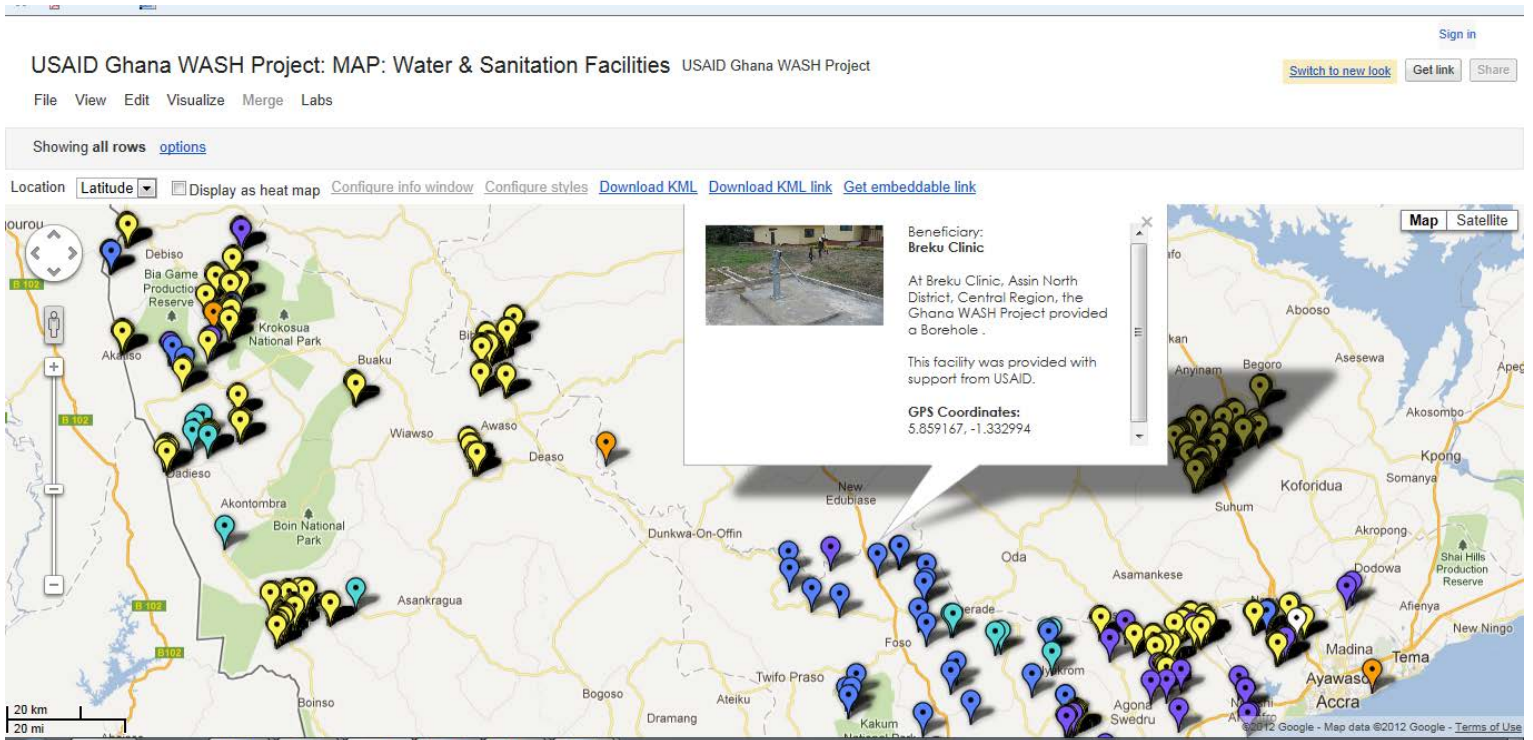
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LIST OF ACRONYMS

ADRA	-	Adventist Development and Relief Agency
BCC	-	Behavior Change Communication
CHPS	-	Community Health and Planning Services
CLTS	-	Community Led Total Sanitation
CONIWAS	-	Coalition of NGOs in Water and Sanitation
COP	-	Chief of Party
CWSA	-	Community Water and Sanitation Agency
DA	-	District Assembly
DCOP	-	Deputy Chief of Party
EHA	-	Environmental Health Agent
EHSD	-	Environmental Health and Sanitation Division
EOP	-	End of Project
FY	-	Fiscal Year
GDA	-	Global Development Alliance
GHS	-	Ghana Health Service
GIS	-	Geographic Information System
G-WASH	-	Ghana WASH Project
GWCL	-	Ghana Water Company Limited
IEC	-	Information, Education and Communication
IR	-	Intermediate Result
KNUST	-	Kwame Nkrumah University of Science and Technology
KVIP	-	Kumasi Ventilated Improved Pit Latrine
LNGO	-	Local Non Governmental Organization
LOP	-	Life of Project
M&E	-	Monitoring and Evaluation
MDG	-	Millennium Development Goals
MLGRD	-	Ministry of Local Government and Rural Development
NGO	-	Non Governmental Organization
ODF	-	Open Defecation Free
PATU	-	Pay Attention to Us (Cartoon Character)
PMP	-	Performance Management Plan
PPP	-	Public Private Partnership
RFA	-	Request for Application

RI	-	Relief International
SHEP	-	School Health Education Program
SO	-	Strategic Objective
SWN	-	Safe Water Network
UNICEF	-	United Nations Children’s Fund
USAID	-	United States Agency for International Development
USG	-	United States Government
WASH	-	Water, Sanitation, and Hygiene
WATER NGO	-	Water in Africa through Everyday Responsiveness NGO
WSDB	-	Water and Sanitation Development Board
WC	-	Water Closet
WHI/G	-	Water Health International / Ghana



1 Screen Shot of the Ghana WASH Project Facilities Map: <https://www.google.com/fusiontables/DataSource?snapid=S43866787Vi>

1. BACKGROUND, GOALS AND OBJECTIVES

The immediate goal of the Ghana WASH Project is to “improve access to safe and adequate water supply and basic sanitation facilities infrastructure for households, clinics, and schools and promote complementary hygiene practices to maximize the health impacts from this improved infrastructure.”

Relief International is partnering with Winrock International and ADRA International to implement the Ghana WASH Project. The project is also collaborating with other USAID strategic partners including Rotary International and The Coca Cola Company that have existing Global Development Alliances (GDA) with USAID, as well as with WaterHealth International (WHI), Safe Water Network (SWN) and other Ghanaian partners with mutual interest in improving the WASH sector in Ghana. The project covers underserved populations in Ghana in five regions: Central, Eastern, Greater Accra, Volta and Western.

The project has five key objectives. These are:

Objective 1: *Increase access to improved water and sanitation infrastructure for individual households, communities, schools, and clinics in the target areas.*

Objective 2: *Assist in developing innovative modes of establishing new infrastructure.*

Objective 3: *Improve the capacity of small grant recipients to mobilize community members to actively participate in: (a) the improvement and maintenance of water and sanitation infrastructure and (b) local official bodies that provide support for these efforts.*

Objective 4: *Support the development of behaviors that result in: (a) WatSan infrastructure that is well utilized by target communities and (b) increased adoption of complementary hygiene behaviors that will reduce waterborne diseases.*

Objective 5: *Manage existing partnerships and potentially develop new partnerships with private sector and/or voluntary organizations committed to achieving the same results.*

The attainments of these objectives are expected to contribute to achieving USAID/Ghana’s health sector Strategic Objective 7 (SO7) and Intermediate Results 4 (IR4). During the performance period the Performance Management Plan was modified and approved by USAID/Ghana. The revised PMP update is included in the annual report as an appendix.

2. SUMMARY OF PROGRESS

FY2012 was the most active year of the Ghana WASH Project, both in terms of hardware and software provided to beneficiary communities. GWASH continued to evolve, adding experienced managers, technical officers and administrative support staff to complement the team already on the ground. We shifted from a high-subsidy household latrine provision approach to a hybridized low-subsidy approach that used the tenets of Community Led Total Sanitation to increase demand for sanitation solutions in rural areas. We also tackled challenges on the sustainability side of the project, reaching out to tens of thousands of beneficiaries (both adults and school children) to encourage them to take responsibility for their own sanitation needs. Also, we dramatically expanded our permanent field presence with an

extensive collaboration with US Peace Corps Health Volunteers, having seven PCVs seconded directly to our project, and reaching out to an additional 20 PCVs with CLTS and Small Grant Facility endeavors.

All of these changes were part of an 18 month plan to get the project caught up on all institutional and community facilities, with the idea being that an accelerated construction calendar would allow the project to pivot to more innovative activities during the fourth year of the project. (Specifically, the focus of year four would be CLTS and HHL building, continued PPP collaboration, new initiatives such as manual drilling and borehole repair initiatives, and using BCC as a mechanism to render the facilities provided more sustainable). September 2012 served as the final month of that 18 month plan and, as a result, it is essential that we take a critical look at the progress that has been made, and the activities which remain:

Community Facility	LOP Target	Completed to Date	Balance
Institutional KVIP, WC	110	110	0
Hand Dug Wells	33	33	0
Small Town Pipe Systems	2	0	2
Rainwater Harvesting Systems	32	31	1
Boreholes	75	61	14

As of the reporting period, we have largely accomplished the objective of completing the institutional and community facilities by the start of the fourth year of the project. The most notable exception is borehole provision. That said, of the 12 that are pending completion, all only require the installation of a concrete pad and pump, or an iron removal plant prior to hand over. Eight others were not yet bid out on contract, as they were intended to be fulfilled via the borehole repair component in the final year of the project.

Therefore, it can be said that the Ghana WASH Project was successful in accelerating the construction calendar during FY2012 to enable most institutional and community facilities to be constructed before the last year of the project.

In addition, the Ghana WASH Project continued to have several opportunities to expand its collaboration with private sector partners, most notably Safe Water Network and their (separate) collaborations with the Hilton Foundation and Kosmos Energy. SWN asked us to continue to partner with them on both initiatives, but due to a number of constraints, we recently had to pare down our collaboration to a more modest level, as our current funding level didn't allow for much more support to this innovative initiative and USAID/Ghana was unable to provide additional funding to fully pursue the opportunities.

Likewise, as our cooperative agreement emphasizes the concept of using innovative practices to solve rural WASH problems, now that we have largely completed most of our community and institutional facility objectives, we can finally devote some resources to promoting more innovative practices in the final year of the project. We have committed to starting up two initiatives in year four: (1) Manual

Drilling and (2) Borehole Repair initiatives in the pilot districts of Assin North and South in the Central Region. Details on the two innovations are provided in section 5 of the annual report.

Lastly, the project also brought in personnel who could tell the story of Ghana WASH Project beneficiaries, demonstrating how USAID assistance had a direct and appreciable impact on the lives of rural Ghanaians. Through our project website (www.ghanawashproject.org) and its links to our six success stories, PPP lessons learned document, facilities map, and promotional films, we've been successful in getting the word out that the Ghana WASH Project is making a positive difference in the WASH sector in rural Ghana.

During the April 2012 semi-annual report we outlined six steps which would guide us towards the end of the project. They were:

Organize – Recruit – Tender – Spend – Complete – Handover. Of those six steps, we have largely achieved the first five and expect to complete the sixth step thanks to the BCC work planned in the final year of the initiative¹.

- **Organize** - Ensuring that subcontracting, procurement and financial systems were in place to enable us to accelerate our efforts, including project-level systems such as community, contractor and small grant tracking systems;
- **Recruit** - Ensuring that the project had the right people with the appropriate skill sets in the right positions, based in the right locations;
- **Tender** - Accelerating the procurement calendar so that procurements are completed in the rainy season and building is done in the dry season;
- **Spend** - Catching up with respect to our burn rate so as to demonstrate acceleration in the overall performance of the project;
- **Complete** - 'Delivering' our deliverables, particularly with respect to institutional and community facilities from year two and year three efforts.
- **Handover** - Ensuring sustainability of the provided facilities through capacity building and behavior change communication efforts.

2.1 - Organize (Systems Development) - As this issue has been addressed in previous reports, we will not repeat the details of the improvements made in order to enable the project to catch up. All partners (RI, WI and ADRA) have assisted in navigating the advance funding, contracting and procurement procedures to allow for this project to catch up on deliverables. The most critical aspect at present is providing increased liquidity for the provision of project-provided supplies for the building of household latrines in five targeted districts of Ghana.

During the first seven months of CLTS implementation (March – September 2012), the project made considerable progress in accelerating the building calendar so that we can achieve our project objectives of delivering 4,680 household latrines by the end of year four. Of the 1,953 latrines which were under

¹ In relation to community and institutional facilities.

construction as part of Phase One of the CLTS initiative, at present, those latrines are in the following phases of construction:

	Pit Dug	Substructure	Superstructure	Complete
Phase One	303	537	270	843

Considering that the project had only delivered 1,071 household latrines in the first 30 months of the project, this progress marks a more than three-fold increase in the speed within which we provided household latrines from past periods of performance.



Children gather around a newly built household latrine – Gomoa West, Central Region

Obviously delivering these latrines as part of a CLTS effort is only one part of the equation. Verification of the efforts is also essential as is the promotion of the proper usage of the household latrines. In terms of verification, the Ghana WASH Project has developed internal systems to track what has been accomplished in each of our target communities so that everyone from the project can be equally informed about our joint efforts. Our water, sanitation, BCC and CLTS Management Information Systems continue to

provide weekly updates on what has been accomplished at the field level. Likewise, we have also developed Hardware contractor, Peace Corps Volunteer and Small Grant facility trackers which allow relevant staff members to be looking at the same information when making a decision on a course of action.

Most importantly, however, is our effort in mapping and documenting every facility that the Ghana WASH Project is providing across the country.

<https://www.google.com/fusiontables/DataSource?snapid=S43866787Vi>

We're pleased to say that over 85% of our facilities have now been mapped and, thanks in part to our Peace Corps Volunteer partners and upcountry staff, more of these facilities are being added to the map on a weekly basis. We recommend that you explore the map at your leisure, focusing in on the clustering of household latrines in certain communities. There is much information to glean from the visual representation of what has been provided and we think that our approach to proving our efforts goes farther than most USAID/Ghana projects in making this statement a reality:

"...we will really prioritize true and effective transparency. There's no reason why someone shouldn't be able to go to a GIS map, click on a country, understand where all of our projects are, what they're doing, and the kinds of outcomes they're getting. It should be easy to access. It should be available to

laypersons. And it should make our work far more accessible and transparent. So our procurement reform is very important, but our overall reform agenda won't stop there”.

Remarks by USAID Administrator Dr. Rajiv Shah at the 2010 InterAction Forum, June 2, 2010

2.2 - Recruit (Human Resources) - While we were all fortunate that the consortium partners did a good job of hiring personnel with demonstrated experience in development work, there were some gaps that needed to be filled with respect to ensuring that the project had experienced managers at the decision-making level of the organization. As mentioned in the previous report, a DCOP, a Technical Advisor, a Communications Assistant, nine upcountry personnel, and four additional support staff were hired during the previous reporting period to improve overall performance.

During the last six months of FY2012, an additional Field Officer, Benjamin Agbemor, was hired to cover the GAVERS zone (the incumbent Field Officer for GAVERS – (Greater Accra, Volta, Eastern Region), Dominic Dapaah, was promoted to CLTS Manager and has to focus all of his efforts on those objectives going forward). Another Field Officer, Lambert Konlan, was brought on to replace the Central Region Field Officer (Joe Kwogyenga) whose contract was not renewed.

Sadly, as we approach the end of the project, more key personnel will likely depart to pursue other opportunities. Most recently, we are recruiting for a replacement for our Financial and Administrative Manager, Sulemana Ibrahim, who will be leaving the GWASH Project in November.

2.3 - Tender (Procurement Planning) – Virtually all major procurements on the project had been completed by the end of FY2012. The remaining initiatives (Small Grants Facility initiatives, manual drilling work, borehole repair efforts, household latrine building) are either small in scope or funded via the subcontract with ADRA. As such, we do not anticipate much difficulty in year four with respect to the management of procurement issues moving forward.

2.4 - Spend (Burn Rate) – The GWASH Project needs to spend approximately 34% of the project budget (approximately \$4.5 million) during the last year (25%) of the project’s length. This pace should be easily accomplished thanks to the fact that we spent \$5.526 million from August 2011 – July 2012.

2.5 - Complete (Delivering Results) – As mentioned in the introduction, our effort to complete the life-of-project deliverables for community and institutional facilities has been largely accomplished by the end of the third year of the project. For the remaining deliverables, the Water and Sanitation Advisor (Emmanuel Teye Mensah) will now take over as the individual following up on all outstanding community and institutional facilities, while the Water Coordinator, Dominic Osei, will henceforth work exclusively on only manual drilling and borehole repair initiatives in Assin North and South. By splitting the tasks in this fashion, we hope to break the cycle of having last year’s objectives impede on moving towards the more innovative initiatives that were laid out as part of the Cooperative Agreement.

2.6 - Handover (Promoting ownership and sustainability) – Much of our remaining software activities focus on the promotion of ownership and sustainability of the facilities provided. For example, each local NGO has been instructed to work with the beneficiary communities to develop an individual

Facility Management Plan that will spell out how each community will manage and maintain the facilities provided. We have also produced educational stickers for latrines which show in visual ways how to use and care for their latrines.

In addition, to sustainability of the facilities provided, we are also concerned about the general sustainability of the project's efforts. As such, we are also approaching the phase of the project where we need to take a step back and evaluate the overall performance of the project. The Rotary International - USAID H2O Global Development Alliance evaluated the overall performance of that aspect of the project during the reporting period and demonstrated largely positive results. Likewise, GWASH will also evaluate the Coca-Cola WADA initiative during the first quarter of FY2013, and has begun discussions with Water Health International to develop the appropriate survey to measure impact. Third, an overall project evaluation will take place in February – March 2013 to assist USAID in generating lessons learned from implementation of this type of a Cooperative Agreement.

3. CHALLENGES FACED DURING THE REPORTING PERIOD

As we move forward on the GWASH Project, the faster pace with which we are executing activities has led to some appreciable results to report for this period. That said, it also leads to some implementation challenges, which are highlighted below.

3.1 – GOG Challenges with the CLTS Hybrid Approach to Rural Sanitation – The performance period was met with a few difficulties from collaborators with the Ghanaian Government. Some are philosophical in nature, while others seem to have their origin in the manner within which US Government bilateral assistance currently works. In July 2012, the Central Region Environmental Health Officer sent a message to all Environmental Health Assistants in Awutu Senya and Agona East that they should stop siting locations for household latrines for the GWASH Project due to the fact that our approach was not a 'pure' CLTS approach (offering no subsidy for the construction of facilities). As we count on EHAs to site all of our latrine locations, it is critical that district level EHAs can assist our project in this fashion. The GWASH COP, DCOP and CLTS Manager met with the EHO and Deputy EHO in Cape Coast that same week and provided ample details on the philosophy of our approach and the reasons for continuing to provide a low subsidy to boost the speed within which the CLTS process can accelerate into providing actual facilities. At the end of the meeting, the Regional EHO called the District EHOs and reversed his original position on these efforts, allowing the EHAs to continue to work with the GWASH project. As a result of that meeting, we provide them with quarterly updates on our efforts in their districts.

To re-emphasize the similarities of our approach with that of the government approach, the COP and the CLTS Manager also participated in the Mole Conference², which was held in Tamale, Ghana in August 2012. The COP made a short presentation to the CONIWAS audience of WASH sector partners on the CLTS hybrid approach and answered questions from the audience to clear up any confusion on

² The MOLE conference is an annual event organized by the Coalition of NGOs in Water and Sanitation (CONIWAS) that enables governmental, non-governmental and private sector partners to discuss trends and issues in the WASH sector. It is named Mole after the fact that the first conference was held at Mole National Park in the Northern Region of Ghana.

why we needed to follow a hybrid approach instead of a pure CLTS model, as the government advocates for in policy documents.

Lastly, we do not think we can count on CWSA to support our efforts, principally at the regional levels. We suspect that this has more to do with the fact that USAID projects do not currently provide direct contributions to government agencies when implementing activities in a certain sector. As we learned at the Mole Conference, CWSA only receives approximately 15% of their governmental budget each year, and is forced to raise money to implement activities at the regional level via the NGO and private sector. As such, having an eight figure WASH sector project which is unable to provide any support to CWSA (except in the form of travel and transport support to individuals working for CWSA) creates a situation where CWSA erroneously perceives the GWASH Project as their competition, as opposed to their collaborators, and, as such, has difficulty finding anything positive to say about our efforts.

We believe that any future evaluation on the GWASH Project should not factor into its mandate an evaluatory discussion with CWSA at the regional levels. CWSA seems to erroneously view us as stepping onto their territory and it doesn't make sense to ask them to evaluate our performance as an independent, objective government entity, because they are not objective in this regard.

That said, it would be important to evaluate the project's performance at the district level, specifically among members of the District Water and Sanitation Teams, as they have more direct access and opportunities for true collaboration with the project.

3.2 – Retention of Household Latrine Artisans, Beneficiary Provision of Materials – We have found that for every two HHL artisans we train, only one ends up staying on to sign a contract and assist in the household latrine building efforts. We have used a host of methods to increase retention, including providing performance bonuses which kick in if they complete their latrines in a given time period. The reality is, however, that in certain areas, we are competing for laborers with Galamsey (traditional mining) and other endeavors which are more lucrative than building household latrines.

Likewise, even when we have a dedicated, motivated artisan, rendering them more efficient takes a lot of coordination. This is because in some communities the beneficiaries are triggered and ready, with all of their required materials available, while other communities have straggler beneficiaries who are not committing to their end of the agreement (not providing their sand, stones, cement, and the like). GWASH has had to evaluate many of these situations and move artisans to where they would be most useful, while at the same time, re-triggering the laggard communities to encourage them to hold up their end of the HHL provision agreement.



HHL artisans celebrate after completing their training

A pure CLTS approach is simpler to implement, since its up to the community to build their own latrines. By focusing on dig-and-bury as a first step on the sanitation ladder, any community can become open defecation free with no additional cost to the community in question. However, if you want to move people several rungs up the sanitation ladder to provide higher quality solutions to sanitation problems, while at the same time encouraging beneficiaries to provide actual material contributions to their own latrines, as GWASH attempts to do, that is a more challenging endeavor.

3.3 - Problematic Contractors – As mentioned in each report, some of our contractors have not lived up to our requested standards. We made a big push to go with fewer, more reliable contractors in Year 3 and the results of our efforts largely shows in the results. That said, we remain unsatisfied with some of the results achieved. For example, one of our more reliable contractors in year 2 was Joissam, a borehole and pump installation firm. As a result, in year 3 Joissam was given a contract to deliver nine boreholes in rural areas of Western Region. Unfortunately, the rig that they used was not rigorous enough for the terrain and we lost months in an attempt to secure a replacement rig to drill the boreholes. Concrete pads are now being installed on eight of the nine sites, and pumps are being attached, but some cannot yet be counted because they still need iron removal plants to be installed before the water is suitable for drinking. Year three proved that while it helps that the GWASH project was much more organized and on schedule, even supposedly reliable contractors can run into challenges that delay the implementation calendar to the point that the deliverables are further delayed. GWASH plans to submit a list of problematic contractors to USAID/Ghana for future reference so as to warn future projects about the poor performance of certain contractors in the WASH sector.

3.4 - Collaboration with Local Government – The Ghana WASH Project had provided five boreholes in the Ga East Municipality of Greater Accra Region under the Rotary International – USAID partnership. The municipality stated 18 months ago that they would mechanize these five boreholes with their own resources. While they have conducted tender, selected contractors and issued the initial contracting letters, they never provided initial funds mobilization so the work can start in earnest. In August, 2012 the Ga East Municipality told us that they would no longer be able to mechanize these five boreholes and that they wanted the project to pay for the mechanizations. Therefore, despite signing contracts with their contractors, and in some cases having these contractors invest their own resources to begin to develop the sites, the local government still reneged on the contracts in question and put our project behind for two years on these five sites. As a result, we installed concrete pads and hand pumps on the sites in question before the end of the reporting period to complete our efforts.

The reality is that the manner within which the government conducts its business has a direct, negative impact on our ability to conduct our business, even outside the scope of the Ga East ‘collaboration’. This extends into areas where we are not even attempting to collaborate on a joint project, but rather because we use the same pool of contractors, our contractors are constantly in need of liquidity to pay off debts for government ‘funded’ efforts, which, in turn, starves our project of liquidity and causes undue delays in our contractors’ ability to complete their work with us. Every one of our contractors whom we have pulled in to express our frustration with the pace of their efforts cite unpaid government contracts as the main reason for the delays. They are begging from Peter to pay Paul, and as a result, our project’s timelines suffer as a result of government inaction.

3.5 – Proper Use of Facilities Provided – While user education has been conducted for all completed facilities, follow up visits to the facilities have shown that some institutional and household facilities are not being used properly. To address this challenge, Winrock is developing stickers with key messages on proper usage and hygiene messages for display and to serve as a reminder of proper facility use. Use of the stickers will go hand-in-hand with additional interpersonal communication sessions to that proper toilet usage becomes a common practice at the facilities.

3.6 – Challenges in BCC Outreach in Peri-Urban Environments – As mentioned in the previous report, the GWASH project is principally a rural project which has been asked to engage in peri-urban initiatives due to USAID’s Global Development Alliance partnerships. Because the rural model does not work well in the peri-urban context, GWASH has established a number of new initiatives as a means to reach peri-urban areas with BCC messages about WASH issues. The most exciting and promising initiative was going to be a joint campaign with the JHU-CCP BCS Project, which would have involved using television as a medium to raise awareness of the hazards of oral-faecal transmission in a creative manner that would entertain as well as attempt to move people towards taking action to improve their sanitation needs. Unfortunately, the GWASH Project was unable to fund the campaign from existing resources, and as such, had to abandon the idea once no additional resources from USAID were available.

3.7 – Timing – A four year project offers a tight window towards promoting sustainability of efforts. Once we reorganized and finally had sufficient dry season time to implement, we made great strides, both in terms of deliverables and with respect to our burn rate. Once we focused on PPP efforts, a wealth of opportunities presented themselves that would more than double the number of beneficiaries reached with improved potable water solutions. Once we put many of the required deliverables behind us, we were able to focus on a number of innovative activities which would offer quality solutions to WASH sector problems in rural areas, as was our mandate from the Cooperative Agreement.

However, once we finally got to this point, and had some momentum, USAID/Ghana had apparently moved onto the next procurements and could offer no additional assistance on any of the requests that had been made to solidify these efforts. Whether it was the Safe Water Network initiatives that would have provided an additional 30,000 beneficiaries or the joint BCS-Ghana WASH Project awareness raising campaign (which would not only benefit the current project but, because it would have been national in scope, could have benefitted the RING initiative’s WASH sector efforts), it became clear that USAID/Ghana had moved onto other priorities.

4. PROGRESS TOWARDS ACHIEVING PROJECT OBJECTIVES AND TARGETS

As mentioned previously, with a few exceptions, we’ve largely completed most institutional and community facilities for the life of the project prior to the fourth year of operations. Speeding up the calendar was a means of allowing us to moving beyond standard deliverables so that we would have a year (or more, had we received an extension) to provide more innovative solutions to WASH sector problems in rural communities. While we did not achieve 100% of this objective, and have a few outstanding facilities to complete, we have the staff available internally to segregate out the tasks so that an entire team will be able to focus exclusively on the new initiatives in the coming year, while others will focus their efforts on bringing home the initiatives that remain pending.

Likewise, despite no additional support, we feel so strongly about the potential of the Safe Water Network initiatives around Lake Volta that we will continue to commit as much as possible to assisting our partner in bringing potable water solutions to communities bordering the lake. Obviously, we could have done much more with additional assistance and time, but we still stand by the assessment made by USAID that the SWN opportunity is precisely the type of a partnership that defines a successful Global Development Alliance (or Public Private Partnership). We are disappointed that perhaps the procurement calendar and other initiatives take precedence over adding support to this type of initiative at present, but despite this hurdle we still think that this partnership is one of our best opportunities to fulfil the innovation mandate of our cooperative agreement. As such, we have to invest as much as possible to bring more of these initiatives home.

The point of completing all institutional and community facilities for the life of the project by the end of year three was to allow the project to concentrate all of its efforts on five key areas in year four:

- CLTS activities and household latrine building.
- Behavior Change Communication and sustainability issues related to facility management.
- Public-Private Partnership initiatives.
- Promoting innovation in the rural water sector.
- Using the Small Grant Facility to broaden the impact of the GWASH Project.

As of November 1, 2012, one individual (the Water and Sanitation Advisor) will remain the sole point person for completing all outstanding facilities. The rest of the GWASH Project staff members have shifted their efforts to focus on these five areas of emphasis. This segregation of duties will enable the project to close out its activities on a high note, bringing more innovative practices (manual drilling, borehole repair and maintenance, surface water treatment) to thousands of Ghanaians who otherwise would not have been reached by traditional approaches to rural sanitation efforts. Likewise, these initiatives will also help the project to double the project's targets in terms of the number of people reached with potable water solutions, while not adding one dollar to the amount of the Cooperative Agreement. We feel strongly that GWASH moved in the appropriate direction over the course of the past 18 months and will close out the project in a way which will far exceed many of the targets set out at the project's outset.

4.1 COMPONENT 1: INFRASTRUCTURE DEVELOPMENT

The following activities were earmarked to be implemented to help achieve the key objective under this component:

1. Conduct hydro-geological surveys to select sites for boreholes and hand dug wells
2. Drill boreholes and hand dug wells and pumps
3. Construct small town water systems
4. Construct rain water harvesting systems
5. Construct household and institutional latrines
6. Establish hand washing facilities

4.1.1 Number of people in target areas with access to improved water supply as a result of USG assistance (PMP No. 1)

To date, the Ghana WASH Project has completed its facilities to benefit 54,900 beneficiaries, which amounts to 91% of the LOP total. More importantly, an additional 6,800 beneficiaries will be reached before the end of Q1 FY2013 thanks to the fact that 6 boreholes and two Small Town Pipe systems are in the final phase of construction. Thanks to our Year 4 emphasis on innovative practices in the water sector, we predict that we will deliver potable water solutions to 110,700 Ghanaians over the life of the project (with 3 additional surface water kiosks, 3 limited mechanization schemes, 62 repaired boreholes, and 40 manually drilled boreholes, in addition to a number of Small Grant-related initiatives, scheduled for Year 4). Considering that this amounts to 180% of the LOP target, we feel that GWASH has been efficient and effective in maximizing the impact USAID has on rural Ghanaians.



Local community members testing newly installed borehole pump

The first indicator in the PMP provides a measurement via the number of beneficiaries reached.

Table 1: Number of people with access to potable water, by facility type (PMP No. 1)

Facility	Beneficiaries per facility	LOP Objective	Completed	Under Construction	Year 4 Target	LOP % Reached
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Boreholes	300	22,500	18,300	1,800	18,600	183%
Hand Dug Wells	150	4,800	5,100	0	6,000	231%
Small Town Pipe Systems	2,500	5,000	0	5,000 ³	0	100%
Surface Water Kiosks	3,500	28,000	31,500	7,000	10,500	175%
Limited Mechanization Systems	1,500	0	0	0	4,500	N/A
Total		60,300	54,900	13,800	39,600	180%
CUMULATIVE PERCENTAGE		100%	91%	114%	180%	180%

4.1.2 Number of improved water supply facilities constructed and functioning (PMP No. 3)

As PMP No. 3 indicator provides similar information based on the facilities delivered, Table 2, below, provides a summary of that information.

Table 2: Number of facilities provided by the GWASH Project

Facility	Beneficiaries per facility	LOP Objective	Completed	Under Construction	Yr 4 Target
Boreholes	300	75	61	6	62 ⁴
Hand Dug Wells	150	33	34	0	40 ⁵
Small Town Pipe Systems	2,500	2	0	2	0
Surface Water Kiosks	3,500	8	9	2	3
Ltd Mechanization Scheme	1,500	0	0	0	3
Total		117	104	10	108
CUMULATIVE PERCENTAGE		100%	89%	97%	190%

4.1.3 Number of people in target areas with access to improved sanitation facilities as a result of USG assistance (PMP No. 2)

In the six months since the last report, the Ghana WASH Project has more than doubled the number of beneficiaries provided with improved sanitation solutions (22,128 to 47,888). This represents 70% of the life-of-project sanitation objective. The Ghana WASH Project made these strides despite a mid-project pivot from a high subsidy latrine provision approach to a low subsidy CLTS oriented approach. The pivot meant that beneficiaries now had to more than double their material contributions to their own latrine building activities, and while that has offered its own set of challenges (as outlined in section 3.2), yet also hints at the fact that the pivot (and all of the decentralized oversight that went with the switch) has already yielded positive results.

The Ghana WASH Project still has a long way to go in meeting its sanitation objectives (as only 2,116 household latrines are completed out of a project target of 4,680), but of those 2,564 latrines that remain, 1,241 of them are already under construction in our target districts of the project. This leaves a

³ Elluokrom (Western Region) is on the cusp of completion as of the reporting period. All that remains is the completion of the pumping station and Watsan Board office. Bokabo's piping system is complete and the overhead storage tank was under construction at the time of report submission.

⁴ Includes 62 repaired boreholes from the new initiative (14 have already been repaired and accompanying capacity building of watsan committees in those communities is pending).

⁵ 40 boreholes will be manually drilled in Assin North and South in Year 4, targeting smaller rural communities that would not often benefit from a machine drilled borehole.

lot to accomplish in the final dry season that remains, but these last six months have proven that the project has the capacity to trigger communities into taking responsibility for their sanitation needs, then pushing that triggering process along through low subsidy support for those efforts.



Water Health Kiosk – Dambai, Volta Region

Moreover, all institutional and community latrines and WCs are finished for the life of the project, as planned. 110 facilities have been provided to rural schools, rural clinics (serviced by the USAID/JSI/FOCUS Project), and other targeted areas. This accomplishment is a feather in our cap, but more importantly, it now frees up the Sanitation Coordinator and three Sanitation-oriented Field Officers to focus exclusively on household latrine building efforts moving forward. We anticipate additional requests for institutional latrine facilities

(and the accompanying software) through the Small Grants initiative, and have already approved a number of these requests, but our sanitation focus

can now be concentrated on the household level objectives moving forward. This adds to our capabilities to catch up on this challenging, yet obtainable, objective.

Table 3: Number of People with Access to Improved Sanitation Facilities (No. Facilities in parenthesis)

Facility	Beneficiaries per facility	LOP Objective	Completed	Beneficiaries High Subsidy Facilities (WADA) Under Construction	Beneficiaries Low Subsidy Facilities Under Construction	Year 4 – Small Grant I-KVIPs (Estimated Beneficiaries)	New Beneficiaries to Reach in Phase 2 CLTS - Year 4
Institutional KVIP 4 – seat model	240	18,000	18,000			8 units (1,920)	
Institutional KVIP 6 –seat model	360	12,240	12,240			4 units (1,440)	
Institutional WC (12 seat)	720	720	720			0	
Household Latrines	8	37,440	16,928	131 units (1,048)	1,110 units (8,880)	0 ⁶	1,323 units (10,584)
Total		68,160	47,888	1,048	8,880	3,360	10,584
CUMULATIVE TOTAL		100%	70%	72%	85%	90%	105%

⁶ Please note that thanks to our collaboration with Health sector Peace Corps Volunteers, over 700 household latrines are being built in ten communities around the country. While not consider Small Grants, our outreach to Peace Corps on the Small Grants mechanism had a direct impact in developing opportunities to vastly improve the sanitation of communities which host Peace Corps Volunteers. For additional information on this innovative collaboration, please see section 6.2.

4.1.4 Number of improved institutional level latrines constructed and functioning (PMP No. 6)

As mentioned above, the GWASH Project has completed all institutional sanitation facilities by the time of the reporting period. That said, we have received a score of Small Grant applications from District Water and Sanitation teams, Peace Corps Volunteers and other local stakeholders to provide additional school and clinic latrines (and the accompanying software) in communities not currently targeted by the project. We have offered guidance to the applicants, particularly with Peace Corps volunteers, to cluster their activities as practical and feasible so that an intervention in a certain area has the opportunity to increase its impact and also be managed efficiently within the time remaining on the GWASH Project.

For example, an exciting opportunity has presented itself in the Cape Three Points area of Western Region, where the GWASH Project has not focused its efforts in the past. Five Peace Corps Volunteers working in the area submitted coordinated small grant applications to improve sanitation conditions at schools in their area. Since the coastal area of Ghana is one of the most deprived southern areas in terms of improved sanitation facilities, we plan to intervene in this endeavor, while at the same time using the knowledge and enthusiasm of the PCVs to serve as our eyes and ears on the ground to ensure that the project is rendered operational within a short time frame. These synergies only come about thanks to the hard work and outreach that we have done in the past year, particularly from our communications department which has worked tirelessly to recruit and inform the Peace Corps program about the Small Grants Facility and other avenues open to PCVs working in our targeted regions. For more details on our continued collaboration with the US Peace Corps, please see section 6.2.

Table 4: Number of Institutional latrines Constructed

Facility	Beneficiaries per facility	LOP Objective	Completed	Year 4 – Small Grant I-KVIPs
Institutional KVIP 4 – seat model	240	76	76	8
Institutional KVIP 6 –seat model	360	33	33	4
Institutional WC (12 seat)	720	1	1	0
Total		110	110	12
CUMULATIVE TOTAL		<u>100%</u>	100%	111%

4.1.5 Number of hand-washing facilities established for institutions (PMP No. 7)

Each I-KVIP constructed also has a hand-washing facility as part of the contract deliverables. As such, the indicator mirrors PMP No. 6, in that 110 hand-washing facilities have been constructed and are functioning at present. The number completed therefore represents about 100% of the LOP target.

4.1.6 Number of improved household latrines constructed and functioning (PMP No. 5)

In terms of household latrine activities, 2,116 household latrines have been completed to date. This figure practically doubles the 1,071 latrines that we reported in April 2012, meaning that the GWASH project built almost as many latrines in the past six months as we had built in the prior 30 months combined. Now that our institutional latrine targets have been achieved, we can shift more personnel from the community and institutional efforts to working full time on our CLTS and household latrine



Beneficiary excited about completed household latrine

building initiatives. This will undoubtedly reap benefits in terms of the speed within which we build the next 1,000 latrines. We estimate that at our current pace, and with 1,241 more latrines already at varying levels of construction, we should be able to report 3,800 latrines completed by March 2013. This pace will bring the remaining balance of latrines into the three figure range during the final six months of the project.

As the low subsidy CLTS approach evolved, however, the GWASH project had to take a step back and evaluate what was successful and what needed to be improved upon. This meeting,

which was held in early October 2012, provided a number of lessons learned from the initial foray into implementing the hybrid approach. As a result of this discussion, a number of decisions were made:

1. The initial plan for three building phases were combined into two phases, with the second and final phase starting in the first quarter of FY2013.
2. The GWASH Project had more success where we had a permanent staff member presence (Agona East, East Akim, Aowin Suaman) and had considerably less success in districts where LNGOs served as the agents of change in the communities (Ho Municipality, Awutu Senya). Due to this reality, GWASH will focus more of its remaining efforts on areas where we have permanent staff presence.
3. Outreach to Peace Corps Volunteers who are not even seconded to our project has been overwhelmingly positive, with collaborative efforts on household latrine building efforts amounting to the planned building of almost 1,000 latrines in PCV-affiliated communities in Damanko and Jumbo (Volta), Odumase (Central), Sefwi Nkonya (Western) and six communities in Twifo-Hemang-Lower Denkyira District (Central). When you add in the contributions of our

seven seconded PCVs and the others who have applied for Small Grants Facility assistance, the outreach to PCVs has been incredibly beneficial to all parties and our beneficiaries.

4. The CLTS triggering process was mediocre to poor in some communities, particularly where LNGOs and DWST personnel did the triggering without direct support from GWASH staff, and, as a result, enthusiasm and commitment to the latrine building efforts are also lagging behind other communities, where the triggering worked as planned. As such, GWASH will endeavor to re-trigger a number of communities in Q1 FY2013 in order to re-establish the need to contribute to improvements in their own sanitation needs.
5. Proper usage is another concern, as more household level facilities are completed. As such, Winrock International has spearheaded educational campaigns which will promote proper usage through media and interpersonal communications so that the latrines are used for the intended purpose by the entire family.
6. Artisan availability and beneficiary preparedness has been out of sync in many communities. When the artisans are available to work, the beneficiaries occasionally have not had their material contributions available. When beneficiaries have been ready, oftentimes artisans are working in other communities and do not have time to intervene where the beneficiaries await their presence. This management headache can be resolved through a closer implication of our sanitation Field Officers. Thankfully, now that all institutional KVIP obligations are completed, they will finally have more time to dedicate to troubleshooting these problems at the CLTS community level moving forward.



Proud mom and daughter with new household latrine to ensure a happy healthy family

Table 5: Household Latrine Construction (No. Communities in parentheses for CLTS)

Facility	LOP Target	Completed to Date	Remaining high subsidy HHLs (under construction)	CLTS – Phase One (Under Construction)	CLTS – Phase Two Starting now	EST. TOTAL at EOP
Household Latrines	4,680	2,116	131	1,110	1,323	4,680

4.1.7 Number of liters of (rain) water storage capacity provided for hygienic use (PMP No. 4)

During the reporting period, the GWASH Project revised upward the rain water storage capacity targets in the PMP to rectify that all institutional KVIP rainwater storage capacity was omitted from the original PMP. At the end of the reporting period, the GWASH Project has reached 100% of the LOP objective for rainwater harvesting storage capacity.

That said, GWASH still has a few rainwater harvesting projects that are under construction or pending for Year four:

1) LEKMA North Cluster of Schools – Under the WADA initiative, due to budgetary constraints, no rainwater harvesting facility was planned for the second biogas treatment facility being built with Coca-Cola resources. The GWASH Project and USAID/Ghana found that to be unacceptable, as the only alternative would have been to have the school purchase tankers of potable water in order to run the biogas treatment facility. Knowing that this approach was not sustainable, we endeavored to use the Small Grant Facility to provide sufficient resources for a 120,000 liter rainwater storage facility for the LEKMA North school cluster. While the quality of the roofs of the buildings at North LEKMA are of an inferior quality to south LEKMA, a more rudimentary open gutter system will still enable rainwater to be stored so that the facility can be rendered sustainable. It is expected that the LEKMA North rainwater harvesting facility will be completed by November 2012.

2) Contest Award Winner Pilot Site – Dr. Elias Aklaku won an innovation award for his use of geodesic weight bearing technology in the building of an underground water storage facility. To expand on his innovation, the GWASH Project is working with Dr. Aklaku to put his award-winning idea into operation in Ga West. Lindsey Hanson, a PCV who works at the Accra School for the Deaf in Adjei Kojo, Ashiaman Municipality, submitted an application for a Small Grant to improve the water situation at her school. Unfortunately, the school sits in an area where the conditions have been unfavorable in hitting potable water via borehole drilling (as the groundwater in those areas has been found to be highly saline). That said, we can still assist the school by piloting Dr. Aklaku’s rainwater harvesting project at the school. As of the end of the reporting period, GWASH was working with Dr. Aklaku to ensure that the budget covered all appreciable costs and that the expectation would be that the project would begin in earnest in Q1 FY2013.

3) Additional I-KVIPs via the Small Grant Facility – As mentioned in the sanitation section of the report, it is anticipated that the project will continue to build a modest number of institutional KVIPs via the Small Grant Facility mechanism (12 are targeted at present). As our I-KVIP models all contain rainwater harvesting as part of the model, these facilities will also add to the deliverables under Indicator 4 of the PMP.

Table 6: Number of liters of (rain)water storage capacity provided for hygienic use

Facility	LOP Objective	Completed to Date	Pending and Year 4 Objectives	LOP Estimated Totals
Stand alone Rainwater Storage Facility	300,000 liters	300,000 liters	210,000 liters	510,000 liters
Potable Water Storage Facility	40,000 liters	40,000 liters	0	40,000 liters
Institutional KVIP rainwater storage capacity ⁷	154,000 liters	154,000 liters	16,800 liters	170,800 liters
Total	494,000 liters	494,000 liters	226,800 liters	720,800 liters
CUMULATIVE PERCENTAGE		100%	146%	146%

4.1.8 Innovation contest - Number of entities receiving awards/grants for WASH Sector innovations and improvements (PMP No. 8)

As mentioned in the previous report, six prizes were given out for the GWASH innovations contest. Of those six prizes, three are in the process of being implemented at pilot sites via the funds available in the Small Grants Facility.

Table 7: Full List of Contest Winners, by Category

CATEGORY	AWARD	INNOVATION	AWARD WINNER	FUTURE PROSPECTS?
Water Technology – Hand Pumps	1st Prize - \$8,000	Trapezoid Model Rope Pump	Rexford Kwadwo Fosu – Sakofs Engineering Kumasi	No – Experimental pump technologies are not welcomed by GOG partners in Ghana.
Water Technology – Hand Pump	2nd Prize - \$3,000	Aziz Hand Pump	Aziz Adam Ventures – Kumasi	No - Experimental pump technologies are not welcomed by GOG partners in Ghana.
Water Technology – Rainwater Harvesting	1st Prize - \$8,000	Fixed Dome Reservoir for Rainwater Harvesting	Dr. Elias Delali Aklaku – BioGas Engineering Ltd.	Yes – Being developed into a pilot initiative for a School for the Deaf in Ga West
Sanitation Technology –	1st Prize - \$8,000	Three in One VIP Latrine Design	Ernest Tay Awoosah	Yes – being developed into a pilot initiative

⁷ Institutional KVIP rainwater storage was omitted from previous versions of the PMP. In the April 2012 PMP revision, the LOP amount for I-KVIP facilities has been incorporated into the totals.

Household Latrine				
Sanitation Technology – Household Latrine	2nd Prize - \$3,000	Trench Latrine System with Waste Water flushing	Dr. Elias Delali Aklaku – BioGas Engineering Ltd.	No – As two prizes were won by Dr. Aklaku, it was determined that his rainwater harvesting idea had greater potential to assist our beneficiaries.
Sanitation Technology – Household Latrine	3rd Prize - \$1,000	Disability VIP Latrine	Felix Kofi Gyau, Kumasi	Yes – being developed into a pilot initiative for a school with handicapped children

4.2 COMPONENT 2: SMALL GRANT FACILITY

Amount of money allocated to small grant recipients (pending PMP No. 9)

The GWASH Project launched the Small Grants Facility in November 2011. In order to facilitate better comprehension of the process, a brochure was developed providing detailed guidance on the facility. Likewise, a template was also designed and distributed in order to standardize submissions for funding.

A significant amount of marketing and outreach was undertaken to make rural stakeholders aware of the Small Grant Facility and encourage them to come up with coherent ideas and apply for funding. That said, it is only over the course of the past four months that all of this outreach has bore fruit, with 46 applications having been received within the past six months.

Of the 46 applications, 11 have been approved and funded, 10 have been approved and sent back to the applicants for additional modifications, 16 remain pending and 9 have been rejected. The approved applications amount to over \$90,700 USD and provide a bevy of innovative activities which will expand the reach of the GWASH Project. Some examples include:

- 1) North LEKMA rainwater harvesting system for the WADA BioGas filtration system
- 2) Provision of tool kits for GWASH Project-trained pump mechanics
- 3) Borehole repair initiatives in a number of communities
- 4) BCC education on sanitation issues by DWST and SHEP partners
- 5) Provision of potable water to a CHPS compound in Patakro (Western Region)
- 6) Development of a program for an annual medical screening and health education program for school-based health vendors
- 7) Construction of several institutional latrines (and associated software activities) at a number of schools

The Small Grant Facility committee now meets twice a month to review all pending applications and give instructions and guidance to staff and applicants alike to move the requests for assistance into actual interventions. The committee, which is comprised of Avril Kudzi (DCOP), Victoria Okoye (Technical Advisor), V. Ate Ofosu-Amaah (PPP Coordinator) Emmanuel Teye Mensah (Water and Sanitation Advisor), Theodora Idun (Executive Assistant) and Benjamin Arthur (CONIWAS Executive Secretary) has

been productive and efficient in moving ideas into actions that expand the GWASH Project’s impact and also add to the hardware and software deliverables being provided to USAID/Ghana.

Table 8: Small Grant Facility Update (pending PMP No. 9)

Fiscal Year	Target	Approved to Date
FY2012	\$120,000	\$90,700
FY2013	\$130,000	N/A

4.3 COMPONENT 3: CAPACITY BUILDING

The primary objective of this component is to improve the capacity of Local Non-Governmental Organizations (LNGOs), staff of relevant government agencies and other stakeholders to mobilize community members to actively participate in the improvement and maintenance of water and sanitation facilities and local official bodies that provide support for these efforts. During the reporting period, The GWASH Project built up the capacity of staff of LNGOs, District Environmental Health Assistants, District SHEP Coordinators, Teachers, and Food Vendors among others. These entities will assist the GWASH Project maintain, manage, and support community entities to improve the access and quality of water and sanitation at the community level.

4.3.1 Number of people trained in effective communication, community profile analysis, and civic engagement (PMP No. 10). Number of people trained in water and sanitation facility maintenance. (PMP No. 12).

Table 9: Capacity Building Indicators (PMP No. 10 and 12)

Indicator	Component 3	Total to date	Target	LOP %
10	Number of people trained in effective communication, community profile analysis and civic engagement	1,467	1,439	102%
12	Number of people trained in water and sanitation facility maintenance and management and have a facility management plan in place	1,348	1,372	98%



LNGO training session in Ho, Volta Region

4.3.1.1 - LNGO Capacity Building

The GWASH Project continued to provide support and coaching to all GWASH partner LNGOs. The field team worked closely with LNGO field staff to provide support during field activities as well as with work plan development and reporting. The Field team set aside one day every month to work with each LNGO in the Districts in order to go through the activities that were implemented, review the work plans

Impact of Winrock’s LNGO capacity building efforts

“I had never worked in this field before. With the training provided by GWASH, I am confident holding community meetings with chiefs and high-level officials. My colleagues and I have learned about effective leadership, facilitation, accurate record keeping, monitoring/follow-up and working with diverse groups,” she said. “The greatest benefit is that we are also able to train others in our community on these skills.”

Faith Amevor, an EDSAM field staff officer

and reports as well as cross check and match the GWASH data collection forms with the reports in order to update the project-level MIS. The DCOP and Field Coordinator also reviewed the LNGO reports and provided feedback on the reports for continued monitoring and support. This has improved the LNGOs ability to present a high quality report. This process has generally improved the capacity of LNGOs with regard to reporting on their progress towards meeting the targets and we have also seen and improvement in the quality of their report writing.

Due to constant coaching and support from field staff, LNGO field officers have become more confident holding community meetings, sensitizing the

communities on good hygiene practices and talking about culturally sensitive subjects such as open defecation and fecal oral transmission. The box to the left highlights the impact of the GWASH team’s capacity building efforts with the LNGO staff of EDSAM.



Preparation of Facilities Management Plan at Assin Ningo Asorefie Community in Assin South District

Timely reporting continues to be a challenge for LNGOs. In year 4, field staff will continue to provide support to the LNGOs to help them meet the reporting deadlines. The GWASH team has found that conducting onsite monthly meetings have proved to be part of an effective strategy when scheduled at the end of the month when LNGOs are finalizing their reports.

In terms of specific capacity building endeavors, please see the box below:

Activity Title	Status
Component 3: Capacity Building	
Capacity Building for LNGOS	Winrock continued to provide support and coaching to all GWASH partner LNGOs. The Winrock field team worked closely with LNGO field staff to provide support in field activities as well as in work plan development and reporting.
Capacity Building for WatSan Committees and Community Based Hygiene Promoters (CBHPs)	During the period under review, LNGOs conducted refresher meetings with CBHPs and WATSANCs/WSDBs to build on their knowledge with respect to the demands of operation and management of WASH facilities, record keeping, funds management and BCC. The meetings were also focused on reviving the commitment of members to manage the facilities.
Capacity Building for Schools	Monitoring of SHEP Club activities continued during this reporting period and education on the proper use of the facilities was also intensified. In this quarter, sanitation and water facilities were handed over to LEKMA North and South Cluster of schools. During the handover, staff emphasized the need for good hygiene and sanitation practices and distributed t-shirts and comic books to school children.
Capacity Building of District Steering Teams (DSTs) and Environmental Health Agents (EHAs)	GWASH continued to hold quarterly meetings with the DSTs in 12 districts during the period under review. These meetings served as an opportunity for the GWASH project to interact with DSTs and share best practices on water, sanitation and hygiene as well as

4.3.1.2 - Capacity Building for Watsan Committees and Community-Based Hygiene Promoters



A congregation member facilitates a BCC session during a church service in Assin North Odumasi District which was organized by the CBHP.

Over the past year the GWASH field team focused on enhancing the capacity of the WatSan and water boards to better manage the WatSan facilities in their communities. The proper maintenance and operation of these facilities by communities is the key requirement to their sustainability. In the past, many of the communities struggled to ensure they had sufficient revenue and knowledge to support the operation and maintenance of these facilities. For example, many communities did not know who to call to repair the water facility when it broke down. As such, GWASH conducted refresher meetings with

WATSANCs/WSDBs to build on their knowledge with respect to the demands of operation and management of WASH facilities, record keeping, funds management and the signing of the Facilities Management Plans (FMP). The meetings also focused on reviving the commitment of members to manage the facilities. For example, meetings were held with the WSDBs and project partners from GWASH and Water Health Ghana in the 3 northern communities in the Volta region to address issues relating to the roles of the board in the management of the Water Health centers.

As the reporting period approached its final months, GWASH continued to focus on the development and signing of the Facilities Management Plans with communities, schools and District Assemblies to ensure sustainability. These FMP sessions were also used to hand over the facilities to the communities and served as a forum to discuss roles and responsibilities of the WatSan members and the community to ensure that the facilities continue to function well. To date approximately 80% of FMPs have been signed for all GWASH completed facilities. It is anticipated that all FMPs will be completed by the end of the next quarter.

The work of the CBHPs is critical in promotion of good hygiene practices. These individuals help to promote the proper use of the facilities and complementary health and hygiene behaviors needed for communities to maintain proper health and avoid diseases associated with unsafe water and sanitation behaviors. The GWASH project built the capacity of these community based individuals to convey key BCC messages. A total of 458 CBHPs have been trained. These volunteers are actively reaching out with

messages particularly in the Central region. However, in other regions the number of BCC sessions and house visits has declined recently. The primary reason for this decline is that the CBHP seek some form of incentive for their work beyond the phone cards and or T-shirts which are to be provided by the LNGOs. Refresher training opportunities in the city, financial compensation, and awards for good work provided by other projects are some of the ways other projects motivate their volunteers. GWASH is considering innovative ways to motivate the CBHPs such as providing promotional materials which can serve both as incentives while disseminating key BCC messages.

4.3.1.3 - Capacity Building for Schools

Prior to the GWASH project intervention, most of the schools targeted did not have any latrines or were inadequate and poorly maintained. In addition, schools lacked hand washing facilities and proper hygiene education - these conditions were not conducive to healthy schools and communities.

As part of the GWASH intervention, trainings were held for school based health coordinators (SBHCs) to review the roles and responsibilities of coordinators, proper hand washing, the national SHEP strategy and policy, and proper usage and maintenance of the new latrines. GWASH staff also worked with SHEP



Kids from LEKMA North and South Cluster of schools reading the comic book



BCC session with Great Vision Academy School in Obratwaowu community in Agona East District

Coordinators to develop action plans for creating meaningful change in their schools. These action plans included establishing SHEP Clubs to educate and motivate students to adopt positive hygiene behaviors. In addition, school food vendors participated in trainings to ensure students had access to food prepared, handled, and served under hygienic conditions. Workshops and SHEP club activities held for students aim to educate and empower students to practice positive WASH behaviors and promote positive WASH practices in their homes

and communities, ensuring long-term benefits and sustainability, particularly of the new sanitation infrastructure.

Activities in the final months of the reporting period were focused on monitoring the activities of the SHEP Clubs as well as conducting school quizzes to test the knowledge of pupils and SHEP club members in the GWASH project schools. In total, 102 SHEP clubs have been formed and trained under the GWASH project. SHEP Clubs are implementing activities in their action plans such as clean up exercises in schools and in communities on market days and the use of drama to deliver hygiene messages on the spread of waterborne diseases. School quiz competitions were also conducted to test the students' knowledge on WASH issues.

In addition, GWASH developed a checklist for assessing cleanliness in project-assisted schools during this reporting period. Inputs were sought from the Regional SHEP Coordinators and GWASH field staff. The checklist will be used to collect information on how water and sanitation facilities are being used in beneficiary schools. Outcomes of the exercise will enable the project to design additional need-based and targeted user education and training interventions for beneficiary schools.



A household at Ayikai-Dobolo community in Ga West District being educated on proper use and maintenance

In addition, sanitation and water facilities under the WADA partnership were handed over to LEKMA North and South Cluster of schools via a launch ceremony held at the LEKMA South School Campus. The occasion was also used to emphasize the need for good hygiene and sanitation practices. Four hundred and fifty school children from the LEKMA cluster of schools performed a dance routine that highlighted proper hand washing and cleanliness at the handing over ceremony. GWASH project t-shirts and comic books were also distributed.

4.3.1.4 - Capacity Building of District Steering Teams and Environmental Health Agents

The GWASH project builds the capacity of the District/Municipal Steering Teams (D/MST) and the EHAs to monitor activities of community structures such as the WatSan and Water Boards in the operation and maintenance of the water and sanitation facilities provided under the project. The D/MST supports GWASH in monitoring of implementation of activities in the communities. The Environmental Health Agents (EHAs) are responsible for the siting of the sanitation facilities and are frequently called upon to assist in the monitoring of the construction of these latrines. GWASH collaborates with the (M/DST and

EHAs) to encourage ownership of the project as well as ensure sustainability when the project ends. It is expected that the D/MST will continue to support WASH objectives and encourage the communities to operate and maintain these facilities following the completion of the project.

That said, as mentioned in 3.4, our district-level collaborations with EHAs and DWSTs do have detractors, particularly at the regional level. As such, it was important in the reporting period to meet with Government of Ghana authorities in the Water and Sanitation sector to try and win their support for the initiatives being implemented at the district and community levels. As one gets closer to the implementation level of our efforts, our ability to collaborate with the government becomes richer and mutually beneficial, however, often the district level personnel must report to higher level authorities at the regional level, and it is here where we have been running into challenges.

That said, part of the challenge stems from USAID/Ghana's inability to establish a standardized approach to compensatory remuneration for Ghana Government officials whom we ask to assist on the project. We would like to bring in more regional support from entities like the Environmental Health Office or Community Water and Sanitation Authority. But until recently, no guidance was provided on how we could do that without crossing the line of 'paying government officials to do their own jobs', which is a fundamental issue with all USAID bi-lateral funding. At the most recent Health partners meeting, USAID presented a draft M&IE and lodging scheme which, if finalized, would go a long way towards resolving some of the conflicts we have had with certain regional personnel at the CWSA and EHO. The schedule will not solve all conflicts (as CWSA still expects a percentage of remuneration for any oversight they provide) but on at least an individual basis, we would now have a way in which to compensate civil servants to provide necessary services, such as latrine siting and construction monitoring in areas where they are geographically responsible, and this effort would, in turn, help to thaw some of the more intransigent challenges we have had due to our inability to tithe at the regional level.

GWASH continued to hold quarterly meetings with the DSTs in the districts during the period under review. These meetings serve as an opportunity for the GWASH project to interact with DSTs and share best practices on water, sanitation and hygiene as well as community mobilization. DST members have begun monitoring visits to GWASH projects to supervise the construction and also assess the work of the WatSan committees. Field staffs have held joint monitoring trips with the DST member which is a positive indicator that the District has taken ownership of the projects. Additionally, it reflects their interest in the facilities and commitment to ensuring that these facilities are maintained even after the end of the GWASH project.

As mentioned in 3.4, a meeting was held between Ghana WASH and the Central Region's Environmental Health unit. The purpose of the meeting was to discuss the way forward for GWASH's hybrid CLTS approach in Agona East and Awutu Senya districts following the withdrawal of the EHAs from the GWASH project. We agreed at the close of the meeting that the GWASH project will continue with the current hybrid approach but manage the spread of 'subsidy' to other communities in order to minimize the effect of the subsidy on the EHA's other CLTS activities. The District Environmental Health Officers (DEHOs) should be involved in the quarterly review meetings at the district level so they are aware of the status of activities in the districts.

In the next quarter GWASH will work closely with the DST and Community Water and Sanitation Agency to celebrate World Toilet Day.

4.3.2 Number of local artisans trained in latrine facility construction (PMP No. 11)

Table 10: Capacity Building Indicators (PMP No. 11)

Component 3: Capacity Building	No. of people trained to date	LOP Target	Percentage Achieved to Date
11. Number of local artisans trained in latrine facility construction	310	300	103%

A total of 147 artisans were trained during the reporting period, bringing the total number of artisans trained by the project to 310. There was a variety in the models promoted and techniques used to conduct the trainings, mostly focusing on two model types – the Mozambique VIP and the Kumasi Ventilated Improved Pit latrine, both with iron roofs and cement or brick superstructures.

As mentioned in 3.2, slightly more than half of the artisans trained under the GWASH Project fail to build any latrines after the initial training. This has led to significant delays in certain communities and has also led the project to overburden those artisans interested in sticking with the project.

Another vexing challenge is that we have some artisans who are unable to stick to the agreed upon building schedule, yet are loath to share the efforts with additional artisans sent to assist, due to the fact that they would then forfeit the revenue made on the latrines that they did not build. This has been especially difficult in some of the WADA communities, which is our final foray into the supply-side high subsidy approach to latrine building efforts, and has dragged out the building process for several additional months.

During the final year of activities, we will continue to train more artisans, but we are attempting to learn lessons from previous efforts. Some of those strategies are:

- 1) Allowing for performance bonuses based on the successful completion of latrines during a fixed period of time;
- 2) Inserting clauses in artisan contracts which allow us to reduce their HHL quota if they are unable to meet building target times;
- 3) Training more artisans than will be needed, particularly in areas with Galamsey opportunities, as we are unable to compete with those efforts in terms of the amount paid for services rendered;
- 4) Increasing the number of HHLs provided in previously targeted communities, with the assumption being that current artisans will be able to add to their efforts without logistical challenges of moving to other communities.
- 5) Ensuring that provision of materials and availability of artisans are more in synchronicity than they have been during the first phase of CLTS efforts.

4.4 COMPONENT 4: STRATEGIC BEHAVIOR CHANGE

Table 11: Strategic Behavior Change Indicators (PMP No. 13, 14 and 15)

Indicator	Component 4	Total to date	Target	LOP %
13	Number of communities/schools that have adopted Open Defecation Free (ODF) behaviors	-	50	0%
14	Number of people trained in behavior change and hygiene messages as a result of USG assistance	45,459	78,387	58%
15	Number of people (students) reached through BCC and hygiene messages as a result of USG assistance	15,941	10,900	146%
	COMBINED TOTALS FOR INDICATOR 14 and 15	61,400	89,287	69%

The GWASH project sees strategic behavior change as the key foundation for the success of the project and is combining a variety of behavior change approaches which will support the development of good behaviors and practices in infrastructure usage as well as the increased adoption of complementary behaviors that will reduce waterborne diseases. This component cuts across all activities of the project and serves to ensure much needed project sustainability for years to come.

Component 4: Strategic Behavior Change	
Community Awareness of Water and Sanitation	User education on household latrines (HHL) was conducted during the quarter to encourage proper facility use. House-to-house visits were conducted for beneficiaries of HHL and group sessions were held for beneficiaries of institutional facilities in all GWASH communities.
Formation and Strengthening of WatSan Committees	During period under review, continuous guidance and monitoring of activities of WATSANCs was intensified. In line with this, 96 Facilities Management Plans were signed with communities across the 5 GWASH Project regions where water and institutional latrines have been completed.
Development of Behavior Change Messages	Winrock developed critical hygiene messages which will be printed on 5,000 stickers to be displayed on institutional and household facilities. These messages will serve as constant reminder of proper hygiene behavior to emphasize behavior change in the GWASH communities and schools. An additional 230 copies of the Participatory Health and Hygiene Education Tool Kit (PHHE) were printed. These will be distributed to schools, communities and District Water and Sanitation teams for their use to educate community members on good practices.

Community Led Total Sanitation (CLTS)	CLTS activities during the quarter focused on monitoring the construction of HHL in the beneficiary communities. User education was also intensified in the beneficiary communities.
Using International Events as an Opportunity to Reach Captive Audiences with BCC Messages	GWASH played a major role in using Global Handwashing Day as a forum to reach beneficiaries at the Regional levels throughout our intervention zone.

4.4.1 - Community Awareness of Water and Sanitation

This quarter, our efforts to increase community awareness of water and sanitation practices focused on user education of institutional and household latrines. Our strategy aimed to combat past experiences where facilities were unusable or in poor condition due to lack of community knowledge on facility use and maintenance. The Field staff intensified user education during this quarter through house to house visits of HHL beneficiaries as institutional facilities in all GWASH communities.

4.4.2 - Development of Behavior Change Messages

Behavior Change messages have been developed and used by GWASH to promote hygienic practices and to trigger a change in behavior in our project communities. During this reporting period as part of efforts to intensify and sustain behavior change, GWASH developed behavior change messages which

will be printed on stickers and other BCC materials. These will be used to target CLTS communities as well as peri-urban communities where our community mobilization approach has proved to be a challenge. The messages focus on information for proper usage of household latrines and therefore, primarily will target direct beneficiaries of household latrines. The messages are emphasized with pictures to enable easy understanding. The pictures depict proper and improper user practices for household latrines. They have simple messages such as: “drop all anal cleansing materials into the drop hole”, “make sure the door is closed at all times”, “check and replace the net on the vent pipe regularly”, etc. Other hygiene messages such as “always wash your hands with soap under running water after you visit the toilet”, and “always use the latrine and not the bush as your toilet” will also be



Sample sticker depicting proper usage of latrine



Beneficiaries discussing the proper use of HHLs

printed. The stickers will be distributed during the next quarter to serve as constant reminder and emphasize good hygiene behavior in the GWASH communities and schools.

As GWASH has progressed into Year 4, software activities continue to emphasize empowering the institutions and their communities to lead and sustain the efforts in hygiene promotion and behavior change. During the quarter an additional 230 copies of the Participatory

Health and Hygiene Education Tool Kit (PHHE) were printed and distributed to schools, communities and District Water and Sanitation teams for their use to educate community members on good practices. GWASH conducted a workshop in Quarter 1 to train stakeholders on the use of the participatory tools for health and hygiene promotion (PHHE tools). The objective of the workshop was to enhance the knowledge and skills of participants towards effective delivery of behavior change messages in target communities. Participants completed the workshop with an understanding of participatory training methodologies, enhanced facilitation skills, and the ability to use PHHE tools to facilitate discussions with community groups. During the training participants practiced these skills and by its close were well equipped to facilitate discussions using the toolkit in their respective communities. The printing and distribution additional copies will ensure that communities have access to tools which they can use to continually reach out to their members and other nearby communities even after the GWASH project has ended.

That said, as mentioned previously under the capacity building section, GWASH has been unable to come up with a satisfactory model which would successfully work towards motivating the Community Based Health Promoters into coordinated action. There are a host of challenges, not the least of which is that it is unwieldy to monitor the activities of 100 + groups across five regions of the country. Some groups have proven their willingness to exceed our expectations and have been guided towards the Small Grant Facility as an option to receive funding for more robust activities. That said, however, the capacity of the CBHP individuals, with many of them being illiterate or low literate, makes it virtually impossible for them to contribute in any meaningful way towards the overall project objectives.

4.4.3 – Hybrid Community Led Total Sanitation (CLTS)

The GWASH project is using a hybrid approach to CLTS to promote hygiene and healthy water and sanitation practices in its communities. Under this approach, communities are encouraged to play an

active role in their water and sanitation health by digging pits and making contributions to their own latrines.

CLTS activities during the quarter focused on mobilizing beneficiaries to provide their contributions for the construction of HH latrines and educating beneficiaries on the proper use of the facilities. Monitoring visits were intensified during the reporting period. The main objective of this monitoring was to encourage beneficiaries to mobilize their materials as soon as possible. Follow-up house to house visits were made to targeted beneficiaries whose materials were not ready. Interactions were held with beneficiary households, opinion leaders, and artisans to discuss the challenges regarding materials mobilization at the household level and supply and distribution of construction materials by the suppliers which both contribute to construction delays.

The GWASH Project has yet to begin any meaningful efforts towards achieving the goal of a community reaching open defecation free status, but plans to work on that deliverable intensively in the fourth year of the project. With a pure CLTS approach, ODF declaration is relatively straightforward, in that through the triggering process you encourage latrine building, but emphasize interim solutions (such as the dig and bury method of defecation maintenance). That way, a community can become ODF without even one brick being laid towards an improved sanitation solution. Due to our fixed objectives, and our hybrid approach, the GWASH Project is using triggering as a way for beneficiaries to make a meaningful and immediate contribution to their sanitation needs, by providing the equivalent of 60% of the cost of an VIP model latrine. This makes for a much more challenging endeavor as opposed to simply convincing everyone in the community to carry a hoe along when they need to defecate. Long term, however, we anticipate that the ODF solutions will be more sustainable and offer permanent structural solutions to a rural communities sanitation needs.

That said, our efforts in certain communities have created increased demand from community members who did not sign up the first time around, as they expressed suspicion as to whether we would fulfill the promises made. Now that they see hundreds of HHLs going up in their communities, many are regretful that they did not sign up during the initial phase. GWASH is trying to accommodate these requestors during the second phase of activities, and this will also play a role in helping 50 over our communities become truly ODF before the end of the project.

4.4.4 – Global Handwashing Day

The Ghana WASH Project collaborated and provided support to the Community Water and Sanitation Agency (CWSA) for the celebration of the Global Handwashing Day in four regions. The theme for the celebration was ‘Five years of global hand washing; going beyond the 5th birthday of children’. GWASH support included the following:

- Provision of T-Shirts,
- Development of a drama script to be acted by school children
- Screening of handwashing videos
- School quizzes and debates with prizes

- Route march
- Refreshments for school children
- Logistics for the Planning Committees

Eastern Region Celebration - The Eastern Region celebration was held in Asokore, Koforidua, at the Methodist JHS. The event was attended by approximately 2,500 school children, 200 adults (including teachers, representation from the District Assembly, Ghana Education Service, Ghana Health Service, CWSA, opinion leaders, and



Methodist JHS performing a drama on the importance of hand washing



School children waiting to wash their hands during the mass hand washing event in Asokore

washing exercise, led by the Senior Nursing Officer of the Asokore Hospital.

food vendors/hawkers). There were series of activities to disseminate the importance of hand washing with soap. These include a drama by the Methodist JHS, songs and poetry recitals, speeches, presentation of prizes for winners of the Clean Schools Competition as well as a mass hand



Community Video show in Nyive

Volta Region Celebration - The event was held at Akatsi. However, prior to the commemoration of the event at Akatsi, series of activities were carried out to raise awareness about the importance of proper hand washing with soap.

Community video shows: Video shows were held in three communities (Abutia-Teti, Nyive and Wute) in the evenings, and the films covered such areas as hygiene and sanitation-related diseases, faeco-oral transmission routes and the importance of hand washing with soap under running water. The movies shown included 'Be a Toilet Angel', 'The Story of



Route March in Akatsi

Cholera' and UNICEF/CWSA piece on hand washing with soap. Pre-tests were done prior to the shows to gauge the levels of knowledge/awareness of people about some common poor hygiene/sanitation related diseases and the five critical times of hand washing. Incentives were used to encourage community members to contribute during question and answers sections, and this approach was hugely successful. In all a total of 865 people attended the video shows.

educate the public about the importance of hand washing with soap. The placards that were used during the route march contained messages on the five critical times of hand washing, and the role of hand washing in disease prevention.

Durbar to commemorate Global Handwashing day celebration: The grand durbar for the Global Hand Washing Day celebration was held at the premises of the Roman Catholic Basic Schools at Akatsi. The event was attended by over 5,200 school children and 550 adults (including teachers, representation from the Akatsi District Assembly, Ghana Education Service,



School children on a route march in Gomoa Afransi



A school girl from Methodist Primary demonstrating proper handwashing in Gomoa Afransi

Akatsi, School of Hygiene, Ho, Akatsi College of Education, opinion leaders, and food vendors/hawkers). There were series of activities to disseminate the importance of hand washing with soap. These included a drama by the Akatsi RC School, and a mass hand washing exercise which was facilitated by students from the School of Hygiene,

Ho.

Central Region Celebration - GWASH supported the

Gomoa East District Education Service (GES) to celebrate the day in Gomoa Afransi. Three basic schools namely AME Zion, SDA Primary and Methodist Primary took part in the event. The event began with a route march by pupils through the principal streets of the district. The pupils had placards depicting the benefits of hand washing with soap/ash under running water. The pupils then convened at the school compound where they were addressed by the representative from GES and the district SHEP Coordinator on the benefits of hand washing with soap/ash under running water. She emphasized the importance of handwashing in preventing diseases like diarrhea, typhoid, dysentery and cholera. The school pupils recited poems and acted a drama. The event was well attended with about 1,560 pupils, 40 food vendors, 36 teachers and 100 community members.



Presentation of prizes to schools in Juaboso

Western Region Celebration - In Western Region, the Global Handwashing day was celebrated in Juaboso District. Quiz competitions were organized for the 12 GWASH project schools made up of 8 primary schools and four Junior High Schools. Presentations were given on the importance of hand washing. The school Health Club in Eteso D/C Primary performed a drama on hand washing and food handling. The event brought together about 850 people comprising of 300 adults and 500 children. There were representatives from the District Assembly including the newly-appointed District Chief Executive of the District, the District Steering Team members, teachers from all the 12 schools and the

community members.

4.5 COMPONENT 5: PUBLIC PRIVATE PARTNERSHIP

4.5.1 Support and technical assistance to existing Global Development Alliances (GDA)

The GWASH Project started to phase out some of the collaborative GDA efforts during the reporting period. Rotary International and USAID conducted a 'sustainability audit' on the H2O partnership as a way to assess the likelihood that communities assumed ownership for the facilities that were provided to them under the collaboration. While GWASH, USAID/Ghana and Rotary International/Ghana have heard that the results of the evaluation were largely positive, as of the end of the reporting period none of the local partners who participated in the evaluation has received a copy of the assessment report, despite repeated requests to our respective headquarters.

With respect to the Coca-Cola USAID partnership, most of the hardware facilities had been provided by the end of the reporting period. GWASH still has a number of household latrines to complete in the five targeted communities, but more than 70% of the 234 facilities were completed at the time of reporting. More importantly, GWASH has taken an active role in providing additional resources to ensure sustainability for Coca-Cola investments. Two examples of that is the rainwater harvesting facility

provided via the Small Grants mechanism at the North LEKMA Cluster of Schools and also the development of the sanitation education comic book entitled “Who Will Go For the Ball”, which promoted proper use of sanitation facilities.

Thanks to that partnership, GWASH will expand on the idea of the comic book during the fourth year of operations and will develop a 32 page activity book to be used with school children, which will teach them more about proper hygiene and sanitation in the school and home settings.

GWASH Project will also lead an evaluation of the WADA partnership starting in Q1 FY2013 and GWASH is in contact with WHI to ensure that the evaluation properly measures the impact of their facilities on their host communities.

Perhaps the highlight of the Coca-Cola initiative was the launch of the BioGas treatment facility at the south LEKMA Cluster of Schools (which also stood as an inauguration of the facilities at LEKMA North, Manhean and Nsakina, Ga West). As mentioned in the BCC portion of the report, over 450 school children



LEKMA school children interacting with Ms. Patricia Alsop, the Deputy Chief of Mission of the US Embassy during the handing over of the facilities

participated in a choreographed dance number that included proper hygiene and sanitation gestures as part of the dance routine. A children’s choir also lent their vocals to the event, singing a song of thanks for the stakeholders who saw their way fit to support them with this facility. Also, a photo exhibit was on display in the school library so that honored guests could see all that went into this innovative activity.

4.5.2 Number of Public Private Partnerships (PPPs) established (PMP No. 16)

In terms of new Public-Private Partnerships, the Ghana WASH project now has four PPP agreements. The four partners that have signed agreements with the Ghana WASH Project are:

1. Water in Africa Through Everyday Responsiveness (WATER NGO)
2. Water Health Ghana
3. Safe Water Network / Hilton Foundation

4. Price Waterhouse (Provision of two boreholes at schools in Central Region)

With the fact that it is now highly unlikely that GWASH Project will receive any additional resources and additional implementation time, we no longer will be pursuing any additional strategic partnerships through the remainder of the project.

Safe Water Network / Hilton Foundation

SWN is currently building two surface water kiosks in Aveme, South Dayi District (VR) and Akateng, Upper Manya-Krobo District (ER). GWASH is providing support on all monitoring and evaluation efforts and also on mobilization, capacity building and behavior change communication efforts in the communities.

As originally planned, this was only to be the first year of a three year initiative with Hilton Foundation, where SWN had hoped that GWASH would be able to continue to provide monetary and community level support for all of their efforts going forward. We also had high hopes that this partnership represented a rare synergy in the water sector whereby a private sector entity and a publicly funded initiative could work hand-in-hand to increase the effectiveness of a joint project. We still feel this project represents the embodiment of the objectives of USAID's Global Development Alliance initiatives.

That said, USAID has other priorities moving forward and is unable to invest any additional time or resources into this partnership, despite the expressed need that we have conveyed. Despite this reality, GWASH still wants the partnership to succeed, but since we have to use existing resources, we are unable to provide even half of what was expected of us in FY2013. This compromises the partnership, and due to Hilton Foundation's 50% cost share requirement, with no additional support it is likely that the scale of the project will be compromised, as SWN now has to fill a \$300,000 funding gap moving forward.

As such, our expectations are that SWN will now build three additional surface water treatment systems and three limited mechanization schemes in the final year of the GWASH project. We would then provide the same level of support in those six communities as we are providing in Aveme and Akateng. At these levels, the SWN partnership will add 15,000 more beneficiaries to our deliverables. That said, we had hoped to add more than 30,000.

4.5.3 Amount of resources (funds) leveraged through PPPs (PMP No. 17)

In terms of funds leveraged, the Ghana WASH project through the three PPPs have been able to surpass the LOP target of \$1,000,000. To date, the three PPPs have contributed in total, US\$ 1,022,386 in cost share for several water and sanitation facilities in PPP targeted areas. The amount leveraged includes US\$8,000 from Price Waterhouse, US\$29,000 from the WATER NGO PPP, US\$485,364 from the Hilton foundation/Safe Water Network/GWASH collaboration and US\$500,022 from the WaterHealth/GWASH collaboration. During the fourth year of the project, an additional \$500,000 in applicable cost share should be generated from the SWN activities, bringing the total to \$1,522,386.

In addition, while not from private sector sources, the GWASH Project is able to estimate that household latrine beneficiaries will contribute an additional \$1,498,000 due to the in-kind contributions of materials and labor for the household latrine building efforts. This amount is provided on the project budget, but not in the revised PMP, as pending PMP indicator 17 only tracks PPP contributions, not individual household contributions to the project.

In total, the estimated cost share of all partners (public, private, individual) is expected to be more than \$2,600,000 for the life of the project.

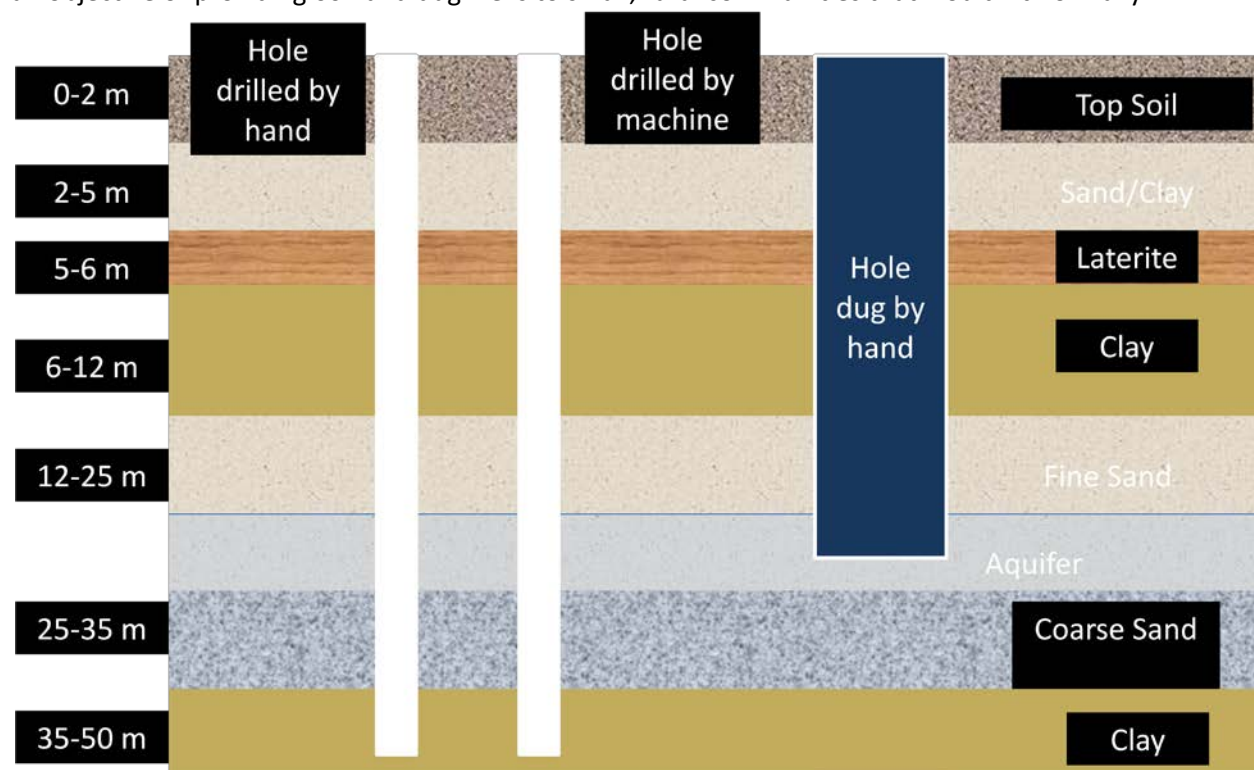
Table 12: Amount of resources (funds) leveraged through PPPs (PMP No. 17)

Activity	LOP Target	Present Total	Percentage Achieved
Resources Leveraged through PPP	\$1,000,000	\$1,022,386	102%

5. YEAR 4 INITIATIVES, SUCCESS STORIES, LESSONS LEARNT AND VISITORS TO THE PROJECT

5.1 YEAR FOUR INITIATIVES

Manual Drilling in Assin North and Assin South, Central Region – The Ghana WASH Project originally had an objective of providing 60 hand dug wells to small, rural communities that wouldn't normally



Manually drilled boreholes can reach similar depths as machine-drilled boreholes under favorable conditions, and much greater depths than hand-dug wells.

warrant a machine drilled borehole. After experiencing a host of technical problems with hand dug wells in the second year of the project, GWASH sought to reduce the number of hand dug wells by 29 and increase the number of boreholes provided by 15 to keep the number of people reached with potable water solutions equivalent.

That said, drilling more boreholes does not necessarily benefit those small communities that need access to potable water, but do not have the population figures to merit consideration for a machine drilled borehole. As such, Relief International's Enterprise Works division has a wealth of experience in teaching gangs the techniques of manually drilling boreholes, though less experience in Ghana.

As shown in the image above, manual drilling techniques can permit a trained gang to reach equivalent depths as a machine drilled borehole, and can far exceed the depth reached via the hand dug well digging process. The Ghana WASH Project hopes to train three teams and provide contracts to two of the three teams to drill a total of 40 boreholes by hand in Assin North and South during the fourth year of the project. By doing this, we expect to reach an additional 6,000 beneficiaries with potable water solutions and, perhaps more importantly, pass new technologies onto southern Ghanaian water drillers so that they are able to promote these approaches in the private sector in the years to come.

Borehole Repair and Maintenance in Assin North and Assin South, Central Region – At the same time, in the same districts, the GWASH Project plans to launch an outreach campaign to work with communities to identify, repair and leave behind functional Watsan committees so that there are far fewer boreholes broken down in the pilot communities.

The origin of this idea came about after GWASH Project conducted a successful pump mechanics training in Western Region in 2012. During the training, 12 boreholes were repaired. While some only required minor repairs, others had more serious problems and needed extensive support. However, when analyzed, we discovered that communities were going months without access to their borehole because no one could repair the pump or no committee was functional to the point where they had raised money to make any repairs. While not shocking for anyone who works in the WASH sector, what was unsettling was the fact that no one in the sector was working towards any concrete solutions to pump breakdowns, as though the incentives for the projects ended at the installation of a pump, rather than the proper maintenance of a pump for a certain duration of time.

We have selected the same districts as the manual drilling activity purely for logistical purposes, to promote economies of scale for the Water Coordinator and his team who will head up both of these innovative initiatives.

As mentioned above, the project will provide both the necessary software to enable the communities to raise levies for the upkeep of their borehole, but will also provide the initial repair to get the pump back into good working order. The project will likely also experiment with a 'hotline' type of approach, where a phone number is provided so that communities can call to reach a technician who can help with their repairs (as well as trigger the GWASH software team into action about rendering the borehole management more sustainable after the repair has been made).

By doing this, we expect to reach an additional 6,000 – 12,000 beneficiaries, depending on the size of the communities targeted.

5.2 SUCCESS STORIES

The GWASH Project has now developed five success stories and one lessons learned document over the past year, thanks to the efforts of the Technical Advisor and the Communications Intern. As these documents have been shared with USAID as produced, they will only be listed below:

- Borehole Construction & Community Management
- WASH Workshops & Comic Book, LEKMA South Cluster of Schools
- Sanitation and Latrine Construction
- Women and WASH (Developed as a tribute to International Women’s Day)
- LNGO Capacity Building
- Lessons learned – GWASH and PPP Partners

In addition, the GWASH Project had the good fortune to receive a visit from Michael Fasman, a professional videographer who volunteers his time to Relief International efforts around the world. He developed an 18-minute video on the GWASH Project which can be found at the following website:

- <http://youtu.be/KK9G6JmfYb8>

Finally, the GWASH team has also developed an instructional video on building a Mozambique Pit Latrine, using still photography from an artisan’s training that took place in preparation for CLTS endeavors. This video can be found at the following website:

- <http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=FYGjODuaWkU&feature=youtu.be>

5.3 LESSONS LEARNT

Moderating our expectations – As cited throughout this report, we feel that the GWASH Project has made a notable turnaround from the initial 18 months of the project. Through a host of coordinated efforts, we were able to achieve most of our stated deliverables during the first three years of the project, with the idea of shifting towards more innovative practices in the fourth year of the initiative. Despite the complexity of the project, we were able to connect up with private sector entities as a way to provide a multiplier effect for USAID in terms of the deliverables achieved thanks to shared resources. We accelerated our burn rate almost three-fold in order to achieve our results during a compressed calendar. Likewise, we listened to our donor and made changes to our project on numerous occasions to better suit their intentions. A few of these initiatives included:

- 1) Shifting all borehole and institutional latrine efforts from schools to FOCUS Project supported facilities at the start of FY2012.
- 2) Building a valuable partnership with Safe Water Network as a way in which to offer multiple solutions to surface water treatment kiosk technologies.
- 3) Collaborating with BCS Project on an awareness raising campaign which had the potential to not only build demand for rural sanitation solutions in our existing communities but build a base whereby follow on WASH sector initiatives could also build upon.
- 4) Using existing resources to fulfill more innovative practices so that we could deliver final results which would in some cases double the anticipated results of the project.

GWASH had to launch an intensive and coordinated effort for the past 18 months to get ourselves in a position where we could catch up on our deliverables (and our burn rate) and put ourselves in a position to pivot to more innovative practices starting in the fourth year of the project. Regrettably, however, it seems that the priorities for the donor leave us in a situation where many new WASH sector activities will be part of an integrated campaign in northern Ghana. We are disappointed that all of our efforts have not led to any additional investments in time or resources. While project performance is only one factor in determining whether a cooperative agreement merits renewal (or extension) we thought that the efforts made, and the opportunities in front of us (with SWN and BCS, in particular) merited at least a second look at allowing us to achieve at a similar pace as we had in the past year.

That said, we are obviously appreciative of the fact that USAID/Ghana showed as much patience as it did as we caught up with respect to burn rate and deliverables.

5.4 VISITORS TO THE PROJECT

Relief International Board of Directors - In September 2012, Relief International held their annual Board of Directors meeting in Accra, Ghana. This annual forum allows for the Board of Directors to decide on strategic leadership issues and make decisions impacting the direction of the NGO in the months to come. During the meeting, Ghana WASH Project took advantage of the presence of our esteemed colleagues and spent a day in the field visiting water and sanitation sites in the Greater Accra area. In addition to the Board of Directors, the CEO of Relief International, Farshad Rastegar, and a few additional senior staff members also visited the project.

Jon Naugle – The Technical Director of Relief International, Jon Naugle, made an annual visit to support the project while the Chief of Party was on vacation. His trip served a dual purpose and allowed for Ghana WASH Project to set the ground in motion for a manual drilling pilot project which is starting up during Q1 FY2013. The project now has one complete manual drilling kit and will be procuring a second kit from local suppliers. In late November, the training of three gangs will begin in Assin North and South as we pursue an objective of providing 40 additional manually drilled boreholes in the coming year.

Vincent Bertholon – The principal backstop on the project, Vincent Bertholon, also made a visit to provide coverage during the absence of the COP for his family vacation. Vincent worked on a number of issues, primarily on a recently completed budget realignment.

6. MONITORING AND EVALUATION

6.1 GEOTRACKING

As indicated in 2.1, the GWASH Project continues to rely on its mapping capabilities to validate and verify the efforts being made across the country. About 85% of all facilities (including incomplete facilities such as partially-built household latrines) have already been mapped. The mapping exercise has provided significant tangible benefits, essentially serving as a one-stop site to demonstrate a great level of detail on each facility provided.

With some of our seconded Peace Corps Volunteers, we've also managed to use the global positioning data as a way to follow up on the progress of individual household latrine sites in a certain community. Luke Campanella (PCV in Aowin Suaman, Western Region) had commented that as PCVs they were having great difficulty in convincing an artisan or community leader to spend half a day with them while they inspected the progress of latrine building efforts in their target communities. As such, he would visit a community, only to sit and not have the ability to do the job he intended to do for that given day. With the GPS coordinates, however, he can now download the sites into a portable GPS tracking device and find the sites of the HHLs independent of other people's support. While this has limited applicability with some of our lower level staff, for others it has proven to be a useful tool in reporting on progress in rural sites.

Facility Map - <https://www.google.com/fusiontables/DataSource?snapid=S43866787Vi>

6.2 UPDATE ON PEACE CORPS VOLUNTEER CONTRIBUTIONS

6.2.1 GWASH Seconded PCVs

As mentioned in the previous report, the Ghana WASH Project has seven Peace Corps Volunteers seconded to our project. We have six PCVs residing in targeted CLTS communities, with a seventh PCV serving with us in Accra as a Communications Assistant.

For the six PCVs in CLTS communities, they are each charged with software and hardware support in a varying number of communities that they can reach by bicycle. As each PCV has different interests and opportunities, we are starting to see an evolution in the way in which each PCV defines their role with GWASH and their support to the project. Some recent examples of their efforts:

- 1) Hardware monitoring – some of the PCVs provide monthly updates on the state of the latrine building efforts in their target communities. This involves canvassing the communities and visiting each of the compounds where HHLs are being built. Some PCVs have even experimented with using GPS coordinates to find the HHLs in new communities, as they have had difficulty on occasion in getting artisans to show them the locations of each HHL in certain communities.
- 2) User Education – the canvassing of the communities allows them to interact with the beneficiaries and promote user education sessions at the household level. A recent PCV report from Ryan Amico in Abutia Teti stated, “A number of beneficiaries were not properly maintaining their latrines, by not throwing anal cleansing materials in the pit and allowing the vent pipes to be covered by trees.” As a result, Ryan and his LINGO counterpart were able to meet with the family and encourage a positive change in the behaviors of the beneficiaries.
- 3) Hygiene Education – some PCVs prefer to emphasize hygiene education with school children, most notably Adam Perrell in O Obratwaowu, Agona East, Central Region. Adam frequently uses songs and clapping games to teach children about proper hygiene behaviors.
- 4) Environmental Sanitation Efforts – Luke and Malia Campanella, based in Aowin Suaman, have undertaken clean up campaigns in some of their target communities as a way in which to improve the overall sanitation environment in the communities where they work. They are also branching into institutional sanitation improvements through the Small Grants Facility application process, requesting funds to build I-KVIPs at schools where they work.
- 5) Youth Club Efforts – Paul Michaels, based in Adjomoku, East Akim, Eastern Region, has focused some of his outreach efforts through youth club hygiene sessions.
- 6) Capacity Building – Some of our PCVs are also assisting in the training of Watsan committees in the CLTS communities, ensuring that an entity is functional and can influence communities to move towards Open Defecation Free status in the months to come.

With respect to the efforts of our Accra-based PCV Monica Jeannormil, please see additional details on her efforts in section 7.

6.2.2 PCVs Collaboration on Household Latrine Building

A number of PCVs have reached out to the Ghana WASH Project in an attempt to improve the household sanitation situation in their host communities. Whenever practical and logistically manageable, we have tried to accommodate their requests. Working with Peace Corps Volunteers on HHL building efforts has been an overwhelmingly positive experience, since their constant presence at the community level (as opposed to LNGO or direct hire personnel who only visit the sites from time to time) enables them to keep tabs on both the hardware and software efforts to have a successful initiative. For details on these initiatives, please see the chart below:

PCV	Communities	# of HHLs	Status
Kristi Moses	Damanko, Baduli, Ogyiri, Pibilla (Nkwanta North, VR)	104	Completed
Steve Burgoon	Sefwi Nkonya (Sefwi Wiawso, WR)	48	Completed
David Fields	Mokwa-Bremang, Sebenso (Twifo-Hemang-Lower Denkyira, CR)	144	Artisans in place and trained, under construction
Danielle Dunlap	Ahwiam, Krobo, Watreso (Twifo-Hemang-Lower Denkyira, CR)	190	Artisans in place and trained, under construction
Katie Woodruff	Odumasi/Abrafo (Twifo-Hemang-Lower Denkyira, CR)	81	Artisans in place and trained, under construction
Linda Smiddle	Jumbo, (Nkwanta South, VR)	100	Materials being gathered by beneficiaries
Bob Forrester	Obrachire, (Awutu Senya, CR)	70	Materials being gathered by beneficiaries
		737	

6.2.3 PCVs Applying for the Small Grants Facility

The GWASH Project made several trips to Kumasi during the reporting period to meet with PCVs participating in their In Service Trainings (ISTs). The purpose of these trips was to promote the use of the Small Grants Facility to PCVs working our targeted regions. This outreach is paying dividends, as 15 applications have come in from PCVs requesting funds to improve water and sanitation environment in the communities where they serve.

For example, a group of five PCVs in the Cape Three Points area of Western Region are requesting assistance in the building of 12 institutional KVIPs and the associated BCC that would go with that support at five schools in their communities. While Cape Three Points is out of our primary zone of operation, the fact that they clustered their requests into one submission helps greatly in terms of evaluating the requests and eventually identifying the contractors to undertake the efforts.

7. STAFF CHANGES

During the past six months, a number of staff changes occurred. However, they have already been highlighted in 2.2. Future changes will be listed below:

- Winrock International hired an additional BCC Agent to cover the GAVERS zone (Greater Accra, Eastern, Volta). This vacancy was created due to the incumbent BCC Agent, Dominic Dapaah, assuming additional responsibilities as the CLTS Manager. The new hire's name is Benjamin Agbemor and began his work with us in May 2012.

- The Communications intern, Avery Doninger, was replaced by a PCV named Monica Jeannormil. Ms. Jeannormil comes to the Ghana WASH Project with eight years of experience in operations and logistics. She served one year as a Peace Corps Volunteer in Mali before being evacuated due to the recent coup d'état in March 2012. Monica has assumed the essential function of assisting the M&E Specialist in verifying all of the facilities provided to targeted communities. She alone has mapped more than 1,200 facilities during her short tenure with the GWASH Project. In addition, she also wrote the recent success story on Capacity Building Efforts with local NGOs.
- Joyce Aidoo, the Financial Assistant, departed for a four month maternity leave. Aaron Okyere, the Financial and Administrative Support Assistant, assumed Joyce's role for the period of the maternity leave. Another individual, Emmanuel Akakpo, was hired to fulfil Aaron's role for the duration of the maternity leave. Plans are still in the works to hire an additional junior financial assistant.
- Our Financial and Administrative Manager, Sulemana Ibrahim, tendered his resignation, providing one month of notification. Both a local and international recruitment is being conducted concurrently in an attempt to quickly find a suitable candidate who can step into the role and function from the first day of employment.
- The Technical Advisor, Victoria Okoye, was promoted to Communications Manager due to additional managerial responsibilities that she assumed. Her contract was extended to the end of the project in September 2013.

8. FINANCIAL REPORT

The financial report will be submitted under separate cover.

9. LINKS

- GWASH Promotional Video – <http://youtu.be/KK9G6JmfYb8>
- GWASH Household Latrine Instructional Video - <http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=FYGjODuaWkU&feature=youtu.be>
- Completed Facility Map - <https://www.google.com/fusiontables/DataSource?snapid=S43866787Vi>
- CLTS Community Map - <https://www.google.com/fusiontables/DataSource?snapid=S442573bXxT>

APPENDIX 1: PERFORMANCE INDICATOR TRACKING TABLE - FY2012

Indicator	LOA Target	FY10 Actual	FY11 Actual	FY2012 Actual	% LOA Actual vs Target FY2011	% LOA Actual vs Target FY2012	EOP Projections - Sept 2013	% LOA Actual vs Target at EOP
Project Goal: Improves access to safe and adequate water supply and basic sanitation infrastructure for schools, clinics and households and promote complementary hygiene practices to maximize the health impact from this improved infrastructure.								
Component 1: Water and Sanitation Infrastructure Development – to enable communities, schools and clinics access adequate safe water and sanitation								
IR: Improve access to improved water and sanitation infrastructure for individual households, communities, schools, and clinics in the target areas								
1. Number of people with access to improved water supply as a result of USG assistance (M)	60,300	0	7,050	54,900	12%	91%	110,700	184%
2. Number of people in target areas with access to improved sanitation facilities as a result of USG assistance (M)	68,160	0	5,696	47,888	8%	70%	71,760	105%
3. Number of improved water supply facilities constructed and functioning (M)	117	0	29	104	25%	89%	225	192%
4. Number of liters of rainwater storage capacity provided for hygienic use (M)	494,000	0	190,000	494,000	38%	100%	719,400	146%
5. Number of improved household latrines constructed and functioning (M)	4,680	0	245	2,116	5%	45%	4,680	100%
6. Number of improved institutional level latrines constructed and functioning	110	0	17	110	15%	100%	122	111%
7. Number of hand-washing facilities established for institutions (M)	110	0	17	110	15%	100%	122	111%
Component 2: Small Grants Facility – links with sustainability issues on structures under component 1 in facilitating establishment of institutions that can make delivery of water and sanitation services sustainable.								
IR 2: Assist in developing innovative modes of managing new infrastructure								
8. Number of entities receiving awards/grants for WASH Sector innovations and improvements (M)	6	0	0.0	6	0%	100%	6	100%
9. Amount of funds distributed to small grant recipients/entities	\$250,000	0	0.0	\$90,700	0%	36%	\$250,000	100%
Component 3: Capacity Building Support – efforts aimed at enhancing the skills of individuals and institutions to make delivery of water and sanitation services affordable and sustainable								
IR 3: Improve the capacity of small grant recipients to mobilize community members in actively participating in: (a) the improvement and maintenance of water and sanitation infrastructure; and, (b) local official bodies that provide support for these efforts.								
10. Number of people trained in effective communication, community profile analysis, and civic engagement.	1,439	0	785	1,467	55%	102%	2,032	141%
11. Number of local artisans trained in latrine facility construction	300	0	153	310	51%	103%	330	110%
12. Number of people trained in water and sanitation facility maintenance	1,372	0	558	1,348	41%	98%	1,752	128%
Component 4: Strategic Behaviour Change Interventions – believed to be a catalyst to the adoption of good practices and in the sustainable use of safe water and adequate sanitation								
IR 4: Support the development of behaviours that result in: (a) water and sanitation infrastructure that is well utilized by target communities and (b) increased adoption of complementary hygiene behaviours that will reduce waterborne disease.								
13. Number of communities that have stopped Open Defecation (OD) behaviours (M)	50	0	0	0	0%	0%	50	100%
14. Number of people (adults) reached through behaviour change and hygiene messages as a result of USG assistance (M).	78,387	0	550	45,941	1%	59%	78,387	100%
15. Number of people (students) reached through behaviour change and hygiene messages as a result of USG assistance (M).	10,900	0	0	15,941	0%	146%	17,441	160%
Component 5: Public-Private Partnerships – to link private sector to the development of water and sanitation and integrate their efforts in the project work								
IR 5: New partnerships developed to ensure sustainability of the WASH project								
16. Number of Public Private Partnerships (PPPs) established (M)	5	0	3	4	60%	80%	5	100%
17. Amount of resources (funds - US\$) leveraged through PPPs annually (M).	1,000,000	0	789,000	\$ 1,022,386	79%	102%	\$ 1,700,000	170%