



USAID
FROM THE AMERICAN PEOPLE

GHANA

Enhancing WASH Activity

QUARTERLY REPORT

April 1, 2022 to June 30, 2022

Submission Date: July 29, 2022

Agreement Number: 72064121CA00001

Submitted to: AOR Name: Salamatu Futa

Submitted by: Alberto Wilde, Chief of Party

Global Communities

#63 Tripoli Street, East Legon, Accra

Tel: +233 302 522568, +233 025 4404

Email: awilde@globalcommunities.org



This document was produced for review by the United States Agency for International Development/Ghana

UNICEF United Nations International Children's Emergency Fund

USAID United States Agency for International Development

USG United States Government

VSLA Village Savings and Loans Association

ACTIVITY INFORMATION

Activity Title	Enhancing Water, Sanitation, and Hygiene Activity
Agreement Number	72064121CA00001
Name of Prime Implementing Partner	Global Communities
Name(s) of Subcontractor(s)/Subawardee(s)	Afram Plains Development Organization (APDO) Aquaya Institute Be Girl Deloitte Safe Water Network The Manoff Group Total Family Health Organization (TFHO) Water4 WaterAid, Ghana World Vision
Activity Start Date	October 01, 2021
Activity End Date	September 30, 2026
Reporting Period	April 1, 2022 – June 30, 2022

DISCLAIMER

The author's views expressed in this publication do not necessarily reflect the views of the United States Agency for International Development or the United States Government.

CONTENTS

ACTIVITY INFORMATION	2
ACRONYMS AND ABBREVIATIONS	iii
1. EXECUTIVE SUMMARY	4
1.1. Activity Description.....	5
2. PROJECT ACTIVITIES	8
2.1 Inception Updates.....	8
2.2 Activity Progress	9
<i>Monitoring, Evaluation, Research and Learning (MERL)</i>	12
2.3 Implementation Activities.....	12
2.4 CoVAX Project Implementation.....	13
3.1. Environmental Compliance	14
4. STAKEHOLDER COLLABORATION	15
4.1. Collaboration and Coordination with Other Key Stakeholders	15
5. LESSONS LEARNED	15
5.1. Challenges and Relevant Solutions to Activity Implementation	15
6. ACTIVITIES PLANNED FOR NEXT QUARTER	17
7. APPENDICES	19
I. Success Stories and Press Coverage	20
II. Financial Information.....	20
III. Grants and Contracts	20
IV. Activity Oversight & Technical Assistance Support	20
V. M&E Issues	21
VI. Management and Administrative Issues	21
VI. Map of Project Activity Sites/ Facilities by District.....	23
VII. Photos.....	24
COVAX Activities	24
Igniting Behaviour Workshop for IPs	24
Menstrual Hygiene Day.....	25

Colby's Visit.....26

Water426

ACRONYMS AND ABBREVIATIONS

BCC	Behavior Change Communication
CLTS	Community-Led Total Sanitation
COP	Chief of Party
COVAX	Covid-19 Vaccination
DA	District Assembly
DCOP	Deputy Chief of Party
DICCS	District Inter-Agency Coordinating Committee on Sanitation
EHA	Environmental Health Assistant
EHO	Environmental Health Officer
EMMP	Environmental mitigation and monitoring plan
ENA	Essential nutrition actions
EPI	Expanded Program on Immunization
EWA	Essential WASH actions
GC	Global Communities
GES	Ghana Education Service
GoG	Government of Ghana
HIO	Health Information Officer
M&E	Monitoring and evaluation
MHM	Maternal Health Management
MMDA	Metropolitan, Municipal District Assembly
MMDCE	Metropolitan, Municipal, and District Chief Executives
MSWR	Ministry of Sanitation and Water Resources
NL	Natural Leaders
OD	Open defecation
ODF	Open defecation free
PPP	Public-private partnership
RICCS	Regional Inter-Agency Coordinating Committee on Sanitation
SBCC	Social and behavior change communication
TMG	The Manoff Group
TOR	Terms of Reference
USAID	United States Agency for International Development
USG	United States Government
W4H	WASH for Health
WASH	Water, Sanitation, and Hygiene
WHO	World Health Organization
WSMTs	Water and Sanitation Management Teams
WV	World Vision
VSLA	Village Savings and Loans Association

1. EXECUTIVE SUMMARY

The Enhancing WASH Activity (EN-WASH) aims to facilitate access to and use of sustainable water, sanitation, and hygiene services, as well as financing and governance of northern Ghana through systems strengthening approach that has been unwavering throughout the third quarter (FY22 Q3). A series of engagements with the local Government, key sector players, implementing partners (IPs), and the private sector, including Duraplast (Digni-Loo producer) have taken place to ensure the success of EN-WASH.

During Q3, IPs and Metropolitan, Municipal, and District Assemblies (MMDAs) are well grounded in the behavior-led approach to implementation, and awareness of Menstrual Hygiene Management (MHM) in Zones of Influence (ZOI), during this quarter to build their capacities in achieving the EN-WASH Results. Capacities of IPs have also been built further on the behavior-led approach to implementing this project. They were also taken through the Community Entry Guides for community implementation. Health Care Facilities (HCF) have also been trained to improve WASH practices in their facilities using WASH Facility Improvement Tool (WASHFIT). The private sector, including Asano Mines, Ghana Manganese, World Cocoa Foundation, and Famerline, has also been engaged in innovative ways to invest in WASH activities.

In line with Result 3 of EN-WASH, the team took advantage of the Menstrual Hygiene Day commemoration to build awareness of MHM based on the theme “We are committed to creating a Ghana where every girl and woman would have access to period-friendly facilities.” The team embarked on a month-long MHM social media campaign and a week-long commemoration in Upper East, Upper West, Savannah Regions, and Greater Accra Regions, featuring activities including sensitization of women groups and radio discussions.

A total of 8,288 citizens now have access to improved sanitation. This achievement is through the construction of 1,036 basic/improved sanitation facilities in Nkwanta North, Krachi East, Bole, and Sawla Tuna Kalba project communities in the Oti and Savannah Regions since the inception of the project. In addition, 6,440 citizens have access to 805 newly constructed household latrines through CLTS in Q3. About 4,635 people in Nyoli, Upper West Region, have access to safe water from the newly constructed water system distributed to 40 households. Additionally, a limited mechanization water system (2no standpipes, 20,000 liters storage tank from a borehole water source) is under construction at Potripo, which is 80% complete.

During the quarter, more citizens are being vaccinated against COVID-19 despite the level of hesitancy. Global Communities embarked on a week-long vaccination campaign, as part of the National Immunization Day (NID), from May 18 – 27, 2022, in all 6 regions and 64 districts and administered a total of 320,383 doses. So far, 853,649 vaccines have been administered since its inception in February amidst training of health personnel and behavior change sensitization nationwide.

FY22 Q3 was then completed with Dr. Atul Gawande’s visit to Ghana. Dr. Gawande paid a courtesy visit to the Nanton District Health Center, a beneficiary health facility, on June 14, 2022. He inspected the WASH facilities of the health center, constructed under the USAID WASH for Health Project, and observed the ongoing Covid-19 vaccination in the Nanton community. He marveled at the level of impact funds from the American people made in the lives of the Nanton community members.

The EN-WASH team has quickened the pace of activities in FY Q3 to stay on target. Based on the stipulated planned activities in section 6, FY22 Q4 will witness significant progress and more community implementation of EN-WASH in the project Zones of Influence.

1.1. Activity Description

The EN-WASH Program aims to facilitate access to and use of sustainable water, sanitation, and hygiene services, financing, and governance of northern Ghana. EN-WASH will work in 30 districts across six regions in Ghana (Northern, North-East, Oti, Savannah, Upper East, and Upper West), including USAID/Feed the Future zone of influence (ZOI), comprising 17 districts in four regions. Global Communities will spearhead EN-WASH with ten other partners with technical expertise in WASH, namely Afram Plains Development Organization (APDO), Aquaya, Be-Girl, Deloitte, Safe Water Network, The Manoff Group, Total Family Health Organization (TFHO), Water4, WaterAid, and World Vision.

The partners are working together to achieve these four main results, which form the core of the EN-WASH Activity Project

- Result 1: The Government of Ghana (GoG) and Metropolitan, Municipals and District Assemblies (MMDAs) efficiently and effectively plan, budget, implement, and monitor water and sanitation services;
- Result 2: GoG and other actors improve the enabling environment for private sector participation in the WASH sector;
- Result 3: Citizens and institutions adopt and sustain improved WASH practices; and
- Result 4: WASH service providers adopt improved management, operational, and finance model products in target districts.

All strategies are designed to collaboratively prioritize, fund, and implement with the GoG to achieve key behavioral changes and outcomes and ensure sustainability.

It is anticipated that, at the end of the EN-WASH project, 300,000 people will gain access to basic sanitation services, and 250,000 people will gain access to basic drinking water services. In addition, EN-WASH will support MMDAs to enable 70 percent of target communities to be certified as Open Defecation Free (ODF) and 60 percent of households to adopt and sustain improved WASH practices, including through the transformation of household/community gender roles and norms.

Result 1: MSWR and MMDAs effectively and efficiently plan, budget for, implement, and monitor water and sanitation services and policy.

Result 1 seeks to strengthen government structures responsible for ensuring the WASH needs of the citizens are met. To achieve this, the project works with the MSWR at the national level to advocate for more funding for WASH services. The MMDAs supported through capacity building on WASH-related issues to prioritize WASH service delivery. The project works with the MMDAs to include WASH Plans in medium-term District Development Plans, budget for WASH services, and engage relevant stakeholders in the process. There is vigorous education and citizen empowerment to ensure WASH service delivery is budgeted for by the MMDAs and implemented to improve the well-being of the citizens.

The project would achieve this main result by ensuring that:

- i) MMDAs incorporate WASH investment plans into District Development Plans**
- ii) National and MMDA increase and efficiently spend their budgets for WASH services in northern Ghana**
- iii) MMDAs or other water services authorities monitor water quality, quantity, and sanitation coverage**

Result 2: GoG and other actors improve the enabling environment for private sector participation in the WASH sector.

As seen in the other areas of development in the country, the Government needs the support of the private sector to leapfrog WASH service delivery and work towards the achievement of SDG 6. To achieve Result 2, the project is to work with government actors at all levels in the WASH service delivery to create an enabling environment for private sector participation. For this to be possible, the citizens are empowered through education and access to financial services to pay for WASH services so that the interest from the private sector would be sustained and they can sustain the service they are delivering. Access to finance would also be created through engagement with financial institutions to enable large-scale investment in the WASH sector and non-formal sectors such as VSLA to support the purchase of WASH services. Government mechanisms such as the pro-poor guidelines would be implemented to ensure no one is left behind and all persons have access to dignified and affordable WASH services.

The project will achieve this result by ensuring:

- iv) GoG supports policies that encourage private sector sanitation service providers to reach the poor**
- v) Households, SMEs, and service providers use financial products for WASH**
- vi) GoG implements water governance accountability mechanisms to ensure efficient responses to local concerns**

Result 3: Citizens adopt and sustain improved WASH practices.

Result 3 ensures access to improved sanitation and water and adopting good hygiene behaviors. EN-WASH was designed to use a behavior-first approach during implementation. This methodology seeks to work with the stakeholders to identify their internal behaviors that need improvement to make achievements in WASH service delivery sustainable. Community members identifying behaviors affecting their collective well-being and taking steps to address them is key in bringing about sustainable WASH delivery. Through this approach, the project will work with the communities and families to identify behaviors they want to change around access to sanitation and water and which hygiene behaviors they believe, when improved, would lead to positive health outcomes. The project will work with the communities and institutions towards the construction and use of improved basic latrines and access to improved water sources using the identified behaviors as a catalyst to increase the adoption of other improved behaviors.

The project will work to achieve this result by ensuring:

- i) Citizens use basic sanitation facilities**
- ii) Citizen's access safe and convenient water and sanitation services**
- iii) Citizens efficiently pay for affordable water and sanitation services**
- iv) Institutions efficiently pay for affordable water and sanitation services**
- v) Family members, basic school children, and health and school staff adopt improved hygiene practices**

Result 4: WASH service providers adopt improved management, operational, and finance models.

As the project encourages the private sector to invest and play a key role in WASH service delivery, they should adopt financial models that will make them efficient and profitable to sustain their investment and guarantee affordability. The project would work with the private sector to innovate and increase access to affordable wash products and services. These innovations in the WASH products would help reach a critical mass of citizens and make universal access to WASH possible in the project districts and regions. Market surveys would be conducted to help affordably design products and increase access to WASH services.

The project will achieve result 4 by ensuring:

- i) Private sector increases sales**
- ii) Water service providers improve district-wide operational efficiency**
- iii) Water service providers improve financial performance**

2. PROJECT ACTIVITIES

Progress has been made since the last quarter. Activities have been fast-tracked in Q3 to ensure project implementation commences in Q4 as the guidelines for community entry have been finalized. Below is the summary of key accomplishments to date

S/N	Key Outputs	LOP Target	FY22 Target	Results as of FY22 Q2	FY22 Q3 Results	FY 22 Results	% Achieved for FY 22
1	Household Latrines constructed	37,500	1,250	231	805	1,036	83%
2	Number of people benefiting from improved sanitation	300,000	10,000	1,848	6,440	8,288	83%
3	Community Water Facilities installed	215	5	0	1	1	20%
4	People with access to water	250,000	20,000	0	4,635	4,635	23%
5	Number of people receiving COVID vaccination (doses administered)	4,494,709	4,494,709	533,266	320,388	853,649	19%
5b	Number of people fully vaccinated	4,494,709	4,494,709	286,276	171,993	458,269	10%

2.1 Inception Updates

The EN-WASH team has been trained again on Igniting Behavior Change (IBC) to equip them to implement the project in line with the behavior-first approach. This workshop focused on community entry guidelines from May 26 – June 2, 2022. Another event during the quarter was the organization of a webinar for the EN-WASH implementing partners (IPs) to review the research and learning agenda. The research and learning agenda focused on generating evidence to support and inform partners in implementing the EN-WASH project. The webinar highlighted three priority topics (economics of rural water supply; ODF sustainability; and Market-based survey) for research and learning and drew lessons from past research conducted in Ghana.

Initial review of one of the priority topics, ODF sustainability, and sustainability of WASH facilities, in general, requires continuous monitoring by the DAs. Advocacy towards allocating resources to the MMDAs would intensify under the project. The advocacy highlights the need to allocate more resources toward building resilient climate structures. The EN-WASH team has developed Terms of Reference (ToR) to streamline transparent processes and engagements with the Coalition of NGOs in Water and Sanitation (CONIWAS). CONIWAS is a key Civil Society Organization in the WASH Advocacy space. World Vision's proposed collaboration with them is expected to leverage the advocacy skills and expertise of CONIWAS to increase and enhance stakeholder engagement on

WASH financing at the national, sub-national, and district levels. The collaboration will also result in developing relevant Technical Briefs and Advocacy documents.

EN-WASH considers the impact of climate change on providing facilities. This informs the plans to deploy groundwater level data loggers across the 16 MMDAs to monitor groundwater sustainability with respect to climate change in the second year. The EN-WASH team conducted a preliminary groundwater assessment of eight selected boreholes in the Gushegu Municipality and Karaga Districts. Even though this activity is planned for the second year, the preliminary assessment conducted during the wet season is necessary to identify suitable boreholes to deploy data loggers in the ensuing year. The analysis and reporting of the field-level activities are ongoing. EN-WASH is taking gender integration to the heart of the project implementation. In rural Ghana, women and girls take the responsibility to ensure the WASH facilities continue to serve their families. When it comes to WASH services, the impact of climate change affects them more than other family members. In view of this, a section of the EN-WASH team has been educated on integrating gender and inclusion of marginalized groups including the youth, persons with disabilities, during the project's planning, budgeting, implementation, and monitoring phases, in relation to WASH governance. For instance, the project plans on targeting more female representatives from MMDAs, youth, and persons with disability during trainings/meetings and project implementation in communities.

Furthermore, one area the EN-WASH project focuses on is WASH in Health Care Facilities (WinHCFs). Improving WASH activities such as handwashing has the potential to prevent infections, and the COVID-19 pandemic has highlighted the importance of improving WASH services for HCFs. The team also organized a 2-day workshop to develop a common strategy for implementing the WinHCFs of the EN-WASH project. The strategy focuses on WASH Infection Prevention & Control (IPC), the WASH Facility Improvement Tool (WASHFIT), and Clean Clinics.

The project continues to seek the commitment of the MMDAs and encourage them to create the enabling environment to attract private firms who are into WASH services delivery into their Districts. This is gaining traction, and one of the service providers under EN-WASH project, Water4, has signed Memoranda of understanding (MOUs) with the Wa East and Wa West District Assemblies, Sawla Tuna Kalba District Assembly and Wa Municipal Assembly. These agreements are for 20-year concessions, the first such agreements with the Government in Ghana that aids in the water infrastructural development under EN-WASH.

2.2 Activity Progress

Result 1 That the Government of Ghana, through the Ministry of Sanitation Water Resources and Metropolitan, Municipal, and District Assemblies (MMDAs), effectively and efficiently plans, budgets for, implements, and monitors Water and Sanitation Services and Policy.

The project team and the decentralized department within the MMDAs, such as the Planning unit, Community development department, District Engineers, Environmental Health Officers, GES, and GHS, have started preparation for community engagement. 242 representatives from 48 selected communities in four districts (Karaga, Gushegu, Nanton, and Sagnarigu) have been engaged to help in the project implementation. The following were outcomes of the engagement:

- Commitment letters from communities to participate in and support the project
- The deliberate inclusion of Chiefs, Opinion leaders, Magazias, and marginalized groups
- The district social mobilization teams are finalizing engagement in all four districts.

As part of the community engagement process, 77 communities in Nanton District have been clustered into 25 zones for Water and Sanitation (WATSAN) mapping in the district. 47 enumerators (16 female and 34 males) were selected for the exercise. The EN-WASH has led this exercise, and the enumerators have been trained to use KOBOLLECT software for the mapping. The exercise will help the EN-WASH project and the DA plan facility allocation.

In the same geographical area, the project is piloting the Result Base Financing (RBF) with the Environmental Health Officers of Sagnarigu, Nanton, Gushiegu, and Karaga Districts. They have been trained on an RBF system. The RBF is used to work with identified staff from their units and other departments to support igniting behaviors during community implementation and sustaining the gains in the identified communities.

78 MMDA staff have been engaged, and the following actions were taken:

- A Result Based Financing (RBF) model was discussed with MICCS/DICCS members to work with identified social mobilization team members in the selected 15 communities in each assembly. The RBF was unanimously accepted to facilitate the achievement of results (Open Defecation Free-ODF) in communities. The social mobilization teams are expected to meet their ODF targets every quarter and will be incentivized on a monthly basis. However, it was indicated that this model will be tried for three months and reviewed based on the outcomes of its implementation. It was proposed that the teams be incentivized on 30:30:40% monthly plan (after their results per month have been reviewed) over the 3-month trial period. Based on this model, the team will receive most of their incentives after meeting their targets for the quarter.
- MICCS/DICCS members were briefed on forming teams to implement direct field activities by the Social Mobilization Team members. The validated 15 communities per district were assigned to the teams.
- MICCS/DICCS members were challenged to come up with innovative ways to provide motorbikes to support field officers towards improved results at the community level.
- The teams were informed of the collaboration between the project and the Zongo and Inner-city Development Secretariat (ZICDS) to work in the deprived Zongo Communities within the MMDAs. These Zongo Communities would be part of the communities selected for implementation each year.
- Organize refresher training on the verification protocol for both MICCS and Social Mobilization Team (SMTs)
- Monthly MICCS/DICCS and social mobilization team meetings to be organized.

Result 2 That Government and other actors improve the enabling environment for private sector participation in the WASH sector.

The team has completed initial desk research on the enabling environment, policies, and barriers related to Pro-Poor policies and private sector engagement in Ghana's water and sanitation sectors by interviewing some IPs on exposure to pro-poor policies and understanding barriers to private sector engagement. Government officials, financial institutions, service providers, sanitation entrepreneurs, community members, and NGOs in Accra's Upper West, Upper East, and Northern regions have verified the findings. The findings from these engagements enable the team to assist the Government in creating the enabling environment for private sector participation in the WASH sector.

Result 3 That citizens adopt and sustain improved WASH practices.

In FY22 Q3, the team completed preparation for successful engagement. FY22 project communities have been selected and validated for implementation. A total of 225 communities in 23 MMDAs will be entered. Led by GC and TMG, the team will enter these communities using behavior-first sensitization sessions and audiovisuals to change WASH-related social norms and behaviors. These sessions will target opinion leaders, women, and persons with disabilities. To harmonize the community engagement, Community Entry Guides have been developed for the team to commence CLTS activities. As a result, checklists have been drafted for use by WASH Officers during the community and institutional (basic school and HCF) implementation of EN-WASH. These checklists enumerate practices and infrastructure that must be present in communities and institutions at various stages of implementation.

To meet the SBCC messaging requirement of the EN-WASH, the team has been reviewing and making recommendations for repackaging the SBCC Communication Package developed under the previous project (WASH for Health) to meet the specific needs of EN-WASH Audiences. The communication package constitutes key WASH messages to be promoted in communities and basic schools to adopt improved WASH behaviors.

During the quarter, 805 improved basic household latrines were constructed in Savannah and Oti Regions, giving access to sanitation to 6,440 citizens. Since the commencement of the EN-WASH project, a total of 1,036 household latrines have been completed through CLTS, and 8,288 citizens in Nkwanta North, Krachi East, Bole, and Sawla Tuna Kalba project communities in the Oti and Savannah Regions now have access to improved basic latrines. As explained in the second quarter, these districts benefited from the previous W4H Project and were carried over into the EN-WASH project to consolidate the gains made. Trained artisans constructed these latrines. The project works with the MMDAs to train more artisans to support families to construct improved/basic latrines in all project communities.

In providing access to water for citizens, Nyoli, a community in Wa West Municipal Assembly, is the first community to benefit from a mechanized water system under the EN-WASH Project. Approximately 4,635 people in Nyoli have access to safe water under the Water4/4Ward WA community water development initiative. 40 households have been connected to the water system constructed and commissioned during the quarter. This is the first of 10 water systems to be provided for 10 communities in the Upper West and Savannah Regions. GC is also leading the construction of a limited mechanization water supply system for the Potripo community in Nkwanta South District in the Oti Region. The system consists of a mechanized borehole, 20,000 liters (about 5,283.44 gal) storage tank, and two standpipes. The system is about 80% complete.

Result 4 WASH service providers adopt improved management, operational, and finance models.

During Q3, GC supported TFHO to recruit and train a total of 67 sales agents in Yendi, Mamprugu Moagduri, and East Mamprusi districts on product knowledge, sales and selling skills, sales activation skills, installation of some of the products, and subsequently, deploy them to promote and sell all the EN-WASH sanitation products and services in communities in the project districts. Also, 104 environmental health staff have been trained on instituting community-based financial systems or VSLAs. Deloitte would do further work to strengthen VSLAs to support families in acquiring WASH products,

Monitoring, Evaluation, Research and Learning (MERL)

EnWASH has received approval from USAID for a budget realignment to carry out the project baseline. The team is yet to receive approval to engage Aquaya for the study. Considering that project activities have gone ahead of the baseline, measures will be put in place to safeguard the baseline results. For sampling only communities that have not yet be entered with BCC messaging and other activities will be considered by the end of next quarter, it is expected that baseline data collection will be completed before rolling on the next batch of communities for FY23.

To harmonize research in the WASH sector, TetraTech and FSG have been engaged to identify opportunities for EN-WASH to collaborate with WASHPaLS II under the MBS research topic. During the reporting quarter, the EN-WASH team, led by Aquaya Institute, has identified eight research questions related to 1) Economies of rural water supply: comparison of different service delivery models and community willingness-to-pay (WTP) for operating and maintaining water supply systems; 2) Open defecation free (ODF) sustainability: post-ODF follow-up and community incentives; and 3) Market-based sanitation (MBS): WTP for sanitation products and services, strategies to incentivize sanitation enterprises, analysis of supply chains, and financing for sanitation. The team is developing the inception report for the first research topic and putting the inception report together to be shared with partners and stakeholders.

For data management, the EN-WASH project uses CommCare as the main M&E Software for data collection and analysis. During the quarter under review, the M&E team also participated in HPNO monthly meeting to discuss implementing partners' M&E support to GoG health data information systems support. The M&E team continued to train IPs during the quarter.

2.3 Implementation Activities

During the quarter, GC supported the partners in developing an anti-trafficking in person compliance plan (TIP) following the United States Government's zero-tolerance policy regarding trafficking in persons by government contractors and award recipients. The EN-WASH team is expected to comply with the terms of the TIP.

Sanitation Marketing

- **Digni-Loo**

Measures have been put in place to make it easy for residents of project communities to construct improved latrines, and Digni-Loo plays a key role in getting communities to ODF status. All the regional project offices have received stock, and promotional activities, led by GC with support from TFHO, are ongoing to create demand. Vendors have been engaged to sell the Digni-Loo across the country, and other LNGOs and CBOs have been engaged to help increase the sales of Digni-Loo. Unfortunately, the constant depreciation of the Ghana Cedi against the US Dollar has negatively impacted the cost of raw material and the purchase price of the product.

- **Sales made for quarter 3**

- o Updates on sales made for the quarter are as shown below.
 - 6 slabs sold
 - 16 seats sold
 - 13 drums sold

Public-Private Partnership/Business Development

The EN-WASH project continues to benefit from the Partnership with Ghana Broadcasting Corporation (GBC). GBC has been broadcasting BCC/WASH infomercials and jingles for GC. Every quarter, the transmission certificates for these broadcasts are released to GC. This partnership is helping the project to reach more people with SBCC messages and promotional materials. GC continues to work with Duraplast to produce and distribute Digni-Loos. Duraplast and Ghacem have also supported the project with discounted products, vent pipes, and cement respectively to help construct improved latrines. The partnerships with these two organizations have been instrumental in the CLTS process. The team is discussing with Gold Field Foundation to continue supporting their community WASH improvement program.

EN-WASH Project continues to seek collaboration with the private sector to support MMDAs and communities improve their WASH situation. Four corporate organizations have been briefed on GC's interventions and areas of interest under the EN-WASH project. Three companies from the mining sector have seen the work GC is doing with Gold Fields and want the same for their communities; the fourth is World Cocoa Foundation.

Outreach / Communications Update

On June 14, 2022, Dr. Atul Gawande, USAID Assistant Administrator for Global Health, visited Ghana to observe the WASH and COVID-19 impact being made by USAID through its implementing partner, Global Communities. Within the one and half hour visit, he witnessed the impact of the WASH for Health Project (W4H) at the Nanton health center and was taken through the ODF journey of Jegun Kukuo; and the impact of the Global Vaccination Technical Support (Global VAX) Project. The story of his visit has been shared with Global Communities HQ for publishing.

WASH Commemorative Days Observed

- **Menstrual Hygiene Day (MH Day 2022)**

The commemoration of MHM Day was marked with a series of events and activities over one week (May 22 – 28, 2022) in Upper-East, Upper-West, Savannah, and Greater Accra Regions; and a month-long MHM social media campaign. The essence of the commemoration, as anchored on the theme, was to sensitize and raise awareness among the public on the need to support women and young girls; socially, financially, emotionally, and psychologically to hygienically manage their menstruation. Activities ranged from in-person MHM sensitization with religious, traditional, and women groups; on-air MHM sensitization; group counseling of adolescent pupils; route march through principal streets of the regions; and inter-school quiz competitions on MHM.

2.4 CoVAX Project Implementation

The purpose of the 180-day CoVAX project is to provide implementation support to the Ghana Health Service (GHS) to accelerate the delivery of 5,866,502 COVID-19 vaccinations in northern Ghana per the geographic scope. The activity will jointly plan and implement COVID-19 vaccination assistance with GHS at national, regional, and local levels to fulfill emergency requirements of the COVID-19 infectious disease outbreak. The goal of this activity/project is consistent with the goal of the *U.S. COVID-19 Global Response and Recovery Framework*, which is to end the pandemic

Activity Implementation

- **Objective 1: To train 64 districts and Regional data officers to provide onsite training to vaccination teams on data capturing and synchronization**

335,004 people (223,336 Females and 111,668 Males) have been trained on COVID-19 vaccine-related topics with USAID support. 16,169 healthcare workers and non-healthcare workers (10,779 Females and 5,390 Males) have also been trained on risk communication, and community engagement, and 1,078 vaccination sites have been established because of USAID direct support.

The CoVAX team also worked with the National- Expanded Program on Immunization (EPI) to validate data on a daily basis and at the end of the NID week.

At the regional level, Regional EPI officers and Health Information Officers (HIOs) have reviewed district data captured into DHIS accurately and timely manner on a daily, weekly, and monthly basis. Weekly discussions of report updates and relaying agreed-upon actionable points to districts have also been held. The regional team also monitors and supports the districts in data capturing.

The district DHIS data capturing team has been set up at the district level and provided with good internet access locations. A weekly discussion of report updates is held, and agreed actionable points are relayed to sub-districts and vaccination teams while monitoring and supervising activities.

Two (2) members, the data entering clerk and social mobilizer) of the vaccination, the team has been tasked to enter data daily. They also update data online at vaccination sites more than offline data entering. The vaccination team has met their daily, weekly, and monthly data entering targets.

- **Objective 2: To reach all eligible population (72%) in the 64 districts of the six implementing regions with hard to find in an identified geographical location**

GC's NID week commenced from May 18 - 27 in all 6 regions and 64 districts, with 320,383 doses. 853,649 vaccines have been administered since its inception in February, and out of this figure, 337,071 received the first dose, 456,861 received the second dose, and 186,032 received the first booster dose.

- **Objective 3: To reach all eligible population (72%) in the 64 districts of the six implementing regions with hard to vaccinate through various approaches for vaccine acceptance**

The CoVAX team supported the SBCC sensitization activities a week before the NID week in the 6 regions and 64 districts from May 10 to the end of the NID week. The team also supported High-level national and regional monitoring in all regions and district monitoring during the period to ensure work was effectively carried out at all levels.

3. CROSS-CUTTING ISSUES

3.1. Environmental Compliance

- EN-WASH Project continues to implement the EMMP for program activities. Plans are underway to conduct refresher training on Environmental compliance in Q4 for District Environmental Health Officers (DEHOs) and Environmental Health Assistants (EHAs) in project districts as the construction activities progress.

4. STAKEHOLDER COLLABORATION

4.1. Collaboration and Coordination with Other Key Stakeholders

- Series of engagements and review meetings have been organized in the zones of influence in collaboration with the MMDAs, Regional & District Coordinating Councils, and implementing partners. This collaboration increases their support of the project and augments its adaptation in the various communities they oversee.

5. LESSONS LEARNED

5.1. Challenges and Relevant Solutions to Activity Implementation

- Civil and Local Government Staff Association Ghana (CLOGSAG) industrial strike earlier this quarter hindered MMDA engagements in some project districts. The Strikes were called off in mid-May, and engagements have commenced.
- Motorbikes and some vehicles are not yet available, hindering community engagement. However, the team is making do with available means of transportation. The biggest challenge we faced was the delays from the supplier TractAfric and the recent changes made by the Ministry of Finance on the duty-free exception. The motor vehicles are expected to be cleared and delivered in Mid-July.
- Some communities are sparsely dispersed, which is likely to pose a challenge. Plans are in place to sub-divide such communities for faster implementation of EN-WASH.
- The Food and Drugs Authority has not yet approved the use of BeGirl's reusable menstrual panties in the country, hindering the promotion of the product in project communities. In launching water stations in year two. There has been a challenge in accessing data on water resource potential, climate resilience, and other socioeconomic characteristics that are critical in determining viable locations for investing in safe water enterprises. To address this challenge, state and non-state sector institutions are being engaged to obtain and review existing data. This situation further emphasizes the need to set up a digital platform with a repository of critical information for climate-resilient water resource planning.
- The slow pace of behavior-led approach to project implementation.

a. Lessons learned or best practice

- Forming social mobilization teams which include; the environmental health officers, community development department, Ghana Education Service, Ghana Health Service, Works department, and the Planning Unit, creates a strong bond that would facilitate effective collaboration and collective responsibility.
- Demand is high for safe, convenient water in the Upper West, and customers are more willing to pay for water after extensive community engagement.

a. Innovative Practices

- Commitment letters from communities to participate in and support the project
- The deliberate inclusion Magazias, and marginalized groups in project planning and implementation.
- Commitment letters from communities to participate in and support the project

- The piloting of the verification protocol to verify communities before the start of the ignition behavior activities enables easy assessment of the adoption of positive behaviors under the Ghana Enhancing WASH activity.
- Closely working with the sisters of Dagbon chiefs since they positively influence the chiefs and the high level of respect, they command in the communities will enhance WASH behaviors in communities.
- Water4's co-funding has hired Hydrologica to provide additional training and oversight on water well drilling to 4Ward staff. This enables the staff to provide better oversight and quality control of drilling, leading to higher drilling success rates. Thus far, the team has been in the Upper West doing geophysical investigations, and there have been four drillings with an 82% success rate to date, including wells with high yields.

b. Sustainable Practices

- The close collaboration to be established with CONIWAS will continue to foster knowledge and experience sharing in the WASH advocacy space.
- The reliance on groundwater level data to develop and implement groundwater quantity monitoring programs can be sustainable.
- The involvement of chiefs and opinion leaders in the inception meeting would ensure their full participation and commitment throughout the period.
- Including all four (4) departments of the assemblies has created a formidable team ready to support the project.
- Monthly MICCS/DICCS meetings ensure sustainability.
- The concept of sales agents is to build entrepreneurial enthusiasm in the agents who continues to work with sanitation distributors in the various regions beyond the project duration and ensure continuous availability and access to sanitation products and services. These sales agents earn a commission on sales they make as an incentive to want to continue to remain in the trade. Sales agents willing to become sanitation service providers in addition to the sales will be given the training needed to be fully certified as service providers.

b. Opportunities to raise the visibility of the project

- The team has assisted in publishing two blogs on the impact of COVID-19 vaccination and MHM. Links to the stories are featured under Section 7.1 - Success Stories.
- The team submitted an Abstract to Aquaya for the IRC Symposium scheduled for October 2022.
- Activities are undertaken to commemorate MH Day 2022 in the Upper East, Upper West, and Savannah Regions.
- Participation in an interview to share what makes quality SBC and Behavior Integration experiences on the W4H Project with USAID Advancing Nutrition.
- Participation in four Regional-level stakeholder meetings on implementing the Community Engagement for Health and Wellbeing (CE4HW) under the USAID Accelerating Social and Behavior Change Activity (ASBC) in Tamale, Walewale, Bolgatanga, and Wa. The purpose was to sensitize stakeholders on the Goal, Approach, and Implementing Partners for the ASBC Project.
- Collaboration with CONIWAS will promote the visibility of the project through the prioritization of WASH services delivery in Northern Ghana and strengthen WASH Advocacy and Financing at the national and sub-national levels.

6. ACTIVITIES PLANNED FOR NEXT QUARTER

Result 1: The GoG (MSWR And MMDAs) Effectively And Efficiently Plans, Budgets For, Implements, And Monitors Water And Sanitation Services And Policy

- Work with Hon Presiding Members, DCEs, and Member of Parliament to support the Ghana Enhancing WASH Activity
- Water and Sanitation Mapping training for selected enumerators and pre-testing in communities in Nanton District
- Organize review meetings for project implementing partners, including communities.
- Organize DICCS and SMT meetings.
- Advocacy with Ghana Health Service, Ghana Education Service, and relevant government ministries to support a waiver-seeking process to pilot our products in Ghana.
- We are mapping out key actors, including NGOs and institutions.
- We are working on contextualizing the educational package reflecting and building on the existing MH national package.
- Continue the process of obtaining authorization for Be Girl's products in Ghana.
- Engage Coalition of NGOs in Water and Sanitation (CONIWAS) and Menstrual Health National Technical Working Group to reconstitute subgroups to advocate for sustainable menstrual hygiene products.
- Stakeholder engagements and gap analysis at the National and MMDAs levels
- Prepare District WASH investment Plans in 6 Districts
- Analysis of National and International data on access to WASH.
- Hold planning meetings with the Upper East Regional Health Directorate and the project District Health Management Teams. The meeting is expected to discuss the strategies for implementing the WinHCFs component to secure stakeholder buy-in and support.

Result 2: Government And Other Actors Improve the Enabling Environment for Private Sector Participation in the WASH Sector

- Recruitment of WASH Marketing Officer
- Engagement of business development consultant
- Continue with the recruitment of sales agents in the other project regions and districts
- Build the skill and capacity of all sales agents and deploy them in the districts.
- Commence recruitment of distributors and retailers in project districts.

Result 3: Citizens Adopt And Sustain Improved Wash Practices

- Implementation of CLTS activities (Pre-triggering, triggering, and post-triggering) in project communities
- Training of natural leaders in project communities
- Training of latrine artisans to support the construction of household latrines
- Training of CLTS facilitators
- To complete the solar mechanization for Potripo water scheme and Jabal Akura's borehole platform construction with handpump and train the WATSAN on their usage
- To complete the Construction of Solar Powered Energy for Damango's Health Centre's cold room.

- Igniting behavior change processes of the beneficiary communities targeting chiefs, religious leaders, women leaders (magazias), fetish priests, and youth leaders using verification protocol level 2.
- Compile the list of all influential persons in the 60 communities (15 per district).
- Conduct a pilot with a group of girls in the designated EN-WASH intervention areas
- Undertake further research on the eight pre-selected districts in preparation for the implementation of five H2OME!
- Finalize and roll out Community Entry Guides.
- Adapt the IBC Workshop ppt. for Private Sector, LNGOs/CBOs, Communities, and Community Leaders.
- Organize IBC Workshops for Communities and Community Leaders.
- Organize IBC Workshop for RCC and MMDAs in Oti and Savannah Regions.
- Hold Stakeholder meetings with MMDAs / Decentralized Departments to review IBC Outputs to ensure Behavior Integrity.
- Continue to work on reorganizing the BCC Package for specific EN-WASH audiences.
- Reproduce new communication materials for Igniting Behavior Change with Communities and Community Leadership.
- Follow-up with IPs to assess their SBC needs and review their work plans to ensure behavior integrity.
- Organize a full stakeholder meeting on EN-WASH “IBC” Lessons learned and the way forward.
- Define sub-phases for the three Phases of the Behavior Integration Guidance.
- Develop BI/SBC/SBCC Year Two Work Plan.
- Carry out Monthly monitoring visits to ensure behavior integrity.
- Train DHMT on data Collection tools (WASHFIT and Clean clinics)
- Prioritize behaviors to promote under the behavior-led approach
- Conduct HCF assessment and selection
- Train HCF staff in WASH FIT 2.0 Expanded
- Train HCF staff in Hygiene Technical Training
- Develop a radio-based hygiene campaign (compose jingles, select & train panelists)

Result 4: Wash Service Providers Adopt Improved Management, Operational, And Finance Models

- Submission and review of Current State Assessments of enabling environment for poor-inclusive WASH, leveraging Ghana’s Pro-Poor Sanitation Policy, and availability of financial products for water and sanitation in northern Ghana.
- Sensitization on Village Savings and Loan Association for WASH
- Water Stations Training for WSMTs and WSPs on water services management and operational protocols by September 2022.
- Training for Districts Assemblies on water safety planning & life cycle costing by July 2022.

Monitoring, Evaluation, Research and Learning (MERL)

- Write a research brief for the EN-WASH research and learning agenda
- Develop inception reports on two out of three research topics identified from the consultation process and refine the study design for the “Economics of rural water supply” and MBS research topics

- Begin the consortium-wide baseline data collection (determine communities to be covered by partners, draft data collection tools, train enumerators to collect data, and start data collection).

CoVAX

- Post National Immunization Day (NID) review meeting in all the implementing districts
- Training of Health Promotion Officers on Social Behavioral Communication Change (SBCC)
- Logistics supply for the next quarter
- Conduct GC- Immunization Day (GC-NID) in all the implementing districts
- Provision of social mobilization funds throughout the quarters
- Monitoring and supportive supervision before, during, and after National Immunization Day (NID)
- Continue with COVID-19 education at churches, mosques, communities, funerals, Outpatient departments, child welfare clinics, and specialized groups.
- Continuous collaboration with all stakeholders to increase COVID-19 uptake
- Support district DHIS data capturing team with good internet access locations
- Encourage the district to weekly discuss the report and relaying agreed actionable points to sub-districts and vaccination teams
- Support to National, regions, and districts to continue to provide monitoring activities at all levels.

7. APPENDICES

I. Success Stories and Press Coverage

- A success story/blog [Protecting Ghana from the Spread of COVID-19. One Community at a Time⁰⁸¹ - Global Communities](#), has been published on the impact of the COVAX project in Ghana.
- A blog on MHM, with inputs from Ghana, has also been published: [Working to End Period Shame and Poverty in Parts of Africa - Global Communities](#)

II. Financial Information

- To be submitted separately.

III. Grants and Contracts

- Execution of Sub Awardees Grants Agreement: During the period under review, World Vision International and Total Family Health Organization had their Agreements fully executed. An inception meeting was conducted with World Vision International to orient them on the reporting requirements and expectations and activity and budget realignment due to the delayed start of their project. The Awardees have since commenced implementing their activities, which will peak in the coming quarters.
- Sub Awardees Management: There has been continuous engagement with Awardees on their financial reporting through reviews of their financial reports and provision of feedback. This has further enhanced financial reporting and ensured compliance with the sub-agreements' terms and conditions.
- Compliance or Monitoring Visit to Awardee: The Grants and Finance Unit made a joint visit to one of the Awardees – APDO, as part of its compliance and expenditure checks scheduled. The visit was successful and offered the opportunity for learning and capacity-building support to the Awardee's Finance and Programs Team. This undoubtedly will enhance Awardees reporting and documentation practices and ensure compliance and efficiency.

IV. Activity Oversight & Technical Assistance Support

TABLE 1: MONITORING VISITS DURING REPORTING PERIOD

Date of Site Visit	Monitoring Team Members	Site(s) visited	Significant observations and/or findings from site visits (Concise bullet points)
June 14- 16, 2022	Ing. Moses Arkoh (Water Team-lead)	Potripo and Jaba Akura	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • The need to include an alternative power source for the Potripo No. 2 project to make the mechanization possible. A solar power is recommended in this regard. • Given the already high expectation of chiefs and elders, women, men, children, etc. of the community, in anticipation of the water facility, it is recommended that work on the project recommences as soon as it is practicable to avoid any reputational risk. • The community has a population size of less than 500 however it was observed that, there are a number of settlers around the community who do not have

Date of Site Visit	Monitoring Team Members	Site(s) visited	Significant observations and/or findings from site visits (Concise bullet points)
			<p>access to potable water. The completion of the mechanized facility will therefore be of immense use since the community can later extend the piping to nearby households/settlements around the community to further reduce the walking distance to accessing the facility.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Sustainability plan should be developed by the community on how the project will be managed and maintained for long-term viability of the project. • There is the need to improve upon the engagement and involvement of the District Assembly on the technical supervision of the projects in the 2 communities. This will ensure quality of work and timely technical update from the site and for future maintenance support by the Assembly.

TABLE 2: TECHNICAL ASSISTANCE (TA) PROVIDED DURING REPORTING PERIOD

Organization and/or person(s) who provided	Type of TA	Purpose of TA	Dates of TA
Global Communities, HQ	Programs	Colby Berry	June 20 – July 2, 2022, 2022

TABLE 3: INTERNATIONAL TRAVEL

Name of traveler(s)	Purpose of international travel	Destination	Travel dates
Alberto Wilde & Family	Annual Travel Leave	Bolivia	June 20 – July 23, 2022

V. M&E Issues

Indicator and/or Target Adjustments

- Project Indicators are yet to be finalized.

VI. Management and Administrative Issues

Administrative Updates

- None at the moment

Staff Changes/Updates

- **Water4**
 - Gabriel Opolot: Finance and Administration Manager
 - Geogrey Okwalinga: Accountant and Admin Officer
 - Joan Nassuuna Kalema: Sales and Marketing Manager
- **Be Girl**
 - Frederick Ankomah (Finance and Operations Manager)
- **GC**
 - Seth Ayisi (Office Support, Wa Office)
 - Gifty Aniaa (Office Support, Bolga Office)
 - Patience Alagskomah (Gender and Youth Specialist, Tamale Office)
 - Nicholas Ayensu Appiah (Grants and Contracts Specialist, Accra Office)
 - Luiz Amoussu-Gohoung (Clinical Advisor, CoVAX Program)
 - Naa Odoley Oteng (Program Support, CoVAX Program)
 - Richard Boateng (Regional Coordinator, Northeast Region, CoVAX Program)
 - Boniface Nyewie (Regional Coordinator, Savannah Region, CoVAX Program)

Procurement

- APDO procured six (6) laptops and assigned them to Officers accordingly.
- Eight (8) Ford Ranger pick-ups and two (2) Ford SUVs have been procured, Five (5) pick-ups and the SUV have been delivered. The remaining motor vehicles will be delivered in July.
- World Vision has successfully procured four (4) new Nissan Navara pick-up vehicles (3 (three) XE plus model and 1 (one) LE manual plus model) for project implementation across the 17 MMDAs. The vehicles come to the program as part of their cost contribution.

Budget Issues

- A budget realignment was submitted to the mission for approval. The realignment request is to increase the Construction Activities and the Contractor's line item to increase the budget ceiling for Aquaya.

Issues with Collaborators and Other Stakeholders

- None at this time.

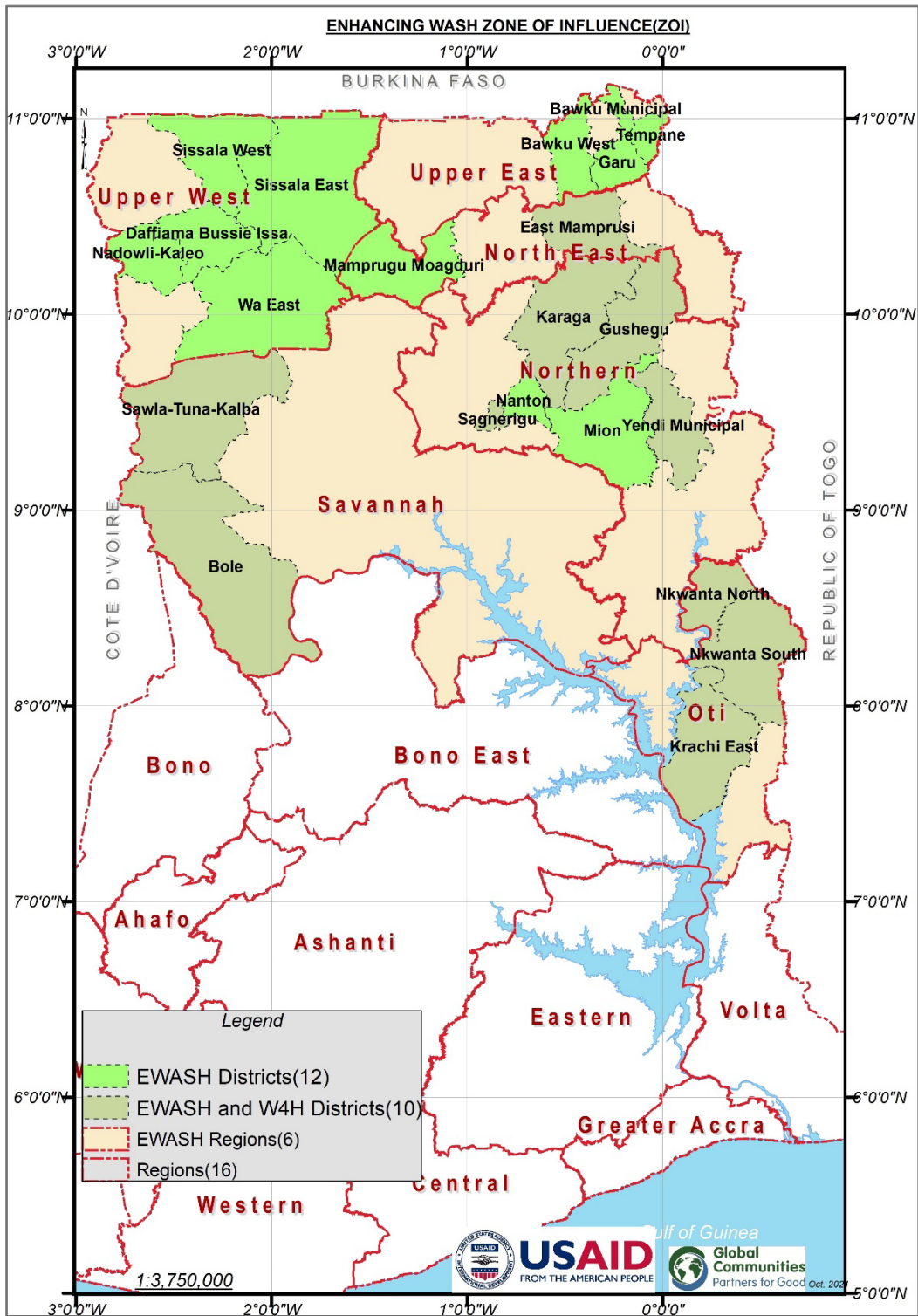
Other

Vehicular Incidents

- None at this time.

A/COR comment/recommendation from previous reporting period and/or relevant evaluation/research recommendation	Brief Description of Follow-up Action Taken	Date Action was taken or is planned to be taken
NONE	NONE	NONE

VI. Map of Project Activity Sites/ Facilities by District



VII. Photos

COVAX Activities



COVID-19 sensitization on vaccination



Covid-19 vaccination on an island community, Tokpo



Vaccination volunteers boarding a speed boat, in their life jackets

Igniting Behaviour Workshop for IPs



Break-out session



Group discussions



Presentation by the BCC team

Menstrual Hygiene Day



MHM set-up at the MHM National event



Route march with basic school pupils



MHM radio sensitization on Radio Upper

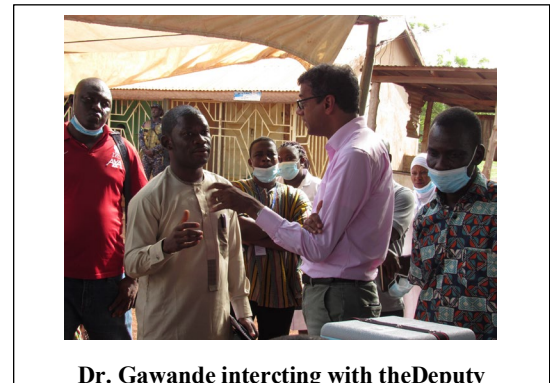
Dr. Atul Gawande's Visit



Dr. Gawande being briefed on Digni-Loo



Dr. Gawande at the incinerator



Dr. Gawande interacting with the Deputy Director of Public Health in the Northern Region, Hilarius Abiwu, on COVID-19

HQ's Program Support Visit to the field



Colby visiting a traditional leader, assisted by Global Communities and APDO staff



The team with the Jegun Kukuo community



Community walk through Jegun Kukuo

Water4



Nyoli's previous source of water



One of the household connections in Nyoli



Water 4, Deloitte and Global Communities staff at Nyoli