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Enhancing WASH Activity

QUARTERLY REPORT

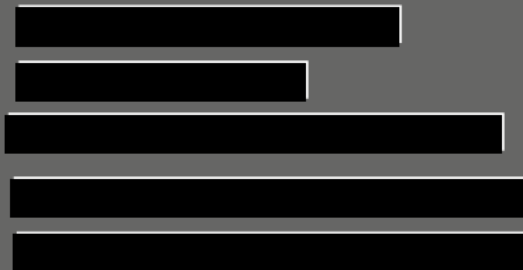
January 1 to March 31, 2023

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ACTIVITY INFORMATION

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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
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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
WASH FIT	Water Sanitation and Hygiene Facility Improvement Tool
WHO	World Health Organization
WSMTs	Water and Sanitation Management Teams
WTP	Willingness To Pay
WV	World Vision
VSLA	Village Savings and Loans Association

I. EXECUTIVE SUMMARY

The Enhancing WASH (En-WASH) Activity has seen the attainment of various targets under each of the four project's Results throughout the second quarter of FY23. The quarter saw to the empowerment of MMDAs to plan efficiently and effectively, budget, implement, and monitor water and sanitation services. Several project communities have been trained and assisted in forming village savings and loans associations (VSLA) to improve an enabling environment for private sector participation. Communities and healthcare facilities have also been assisted in adopting improved WASH behaviors. Finally, WASH services providers have been identified and assisted to adopt improved management, operational, and finance models across all project regions.

In FY23 Q2, the Bawku West District directly demonstrated their commitment to achieving **Result 1** by fully funding a dissemination workshop led by our implementing partner World Vision, evidence of the effectiveness of the MMDA training done in the past. The media was actively engaged to education how to effectively report WASH-related activities. In collaboration with project MMDAs and Ghana Health Service (GHS), 71 health care facilities (HCFs) were assessed to expose the need for district assemblies to allocate funds for improving WASH in health care facilities.

As part of **Result 2** activities, 130 Village Savings and Loans Associations (VSLAs) were formed in the Northern, Upper East, and Savannah Regions. These VSLAs are sustainable funding models for communities and households to finance the construction and maintenance of improved WASH facilities without depending on donor support. The formation of the VSLAs is preceded by series of trainings by the En-WASH teams for community members, especially women. This approach increases ownership and sustainability of WASH facilities. The Deloitte team has also drafted a brief focusing on improving the credit worthiness of SMEs in northern Ghana. The brief will be verified in the next quarter.

In the second quarter, more than 6,112 people had access to improved latrines, leading to a cumulative total of 22,272 persons with access to improved household latrines. These figures are securely recorded in CommCare and BaSIS for reference. Over 2,000 people gained access to safe water this quarter. Some communities in the Nanton and Gushegu districts will gain access to water next quarter as boreholes have been drilled for the construction of two small-town water systems. In curbing the spread of covid-19 and reducing the rates of hesitancy, behavior change approaches have been adopted to sensitize the citizens, leading to over 500,000 vaccine doses being ministered and over 200,000 people fully vaccinated. Healthcare workers have also undergone training to adopt improved WASH behaviors at healthcare facilities as means to attain the **Result 3** of the En-WASH Activity.

This quarter, **Result 4**, was characterized by plans to merge sanitation marketing strategies for the promotion of both Digni-Loo and SaTo Pan, products of Global Communities and TFHO, respectively. The En-WASH team engaged the private sector, including the Ghana Enterprise Agency, through their participation in training sessions organized for latrine artisans. Through these training sessions, the private WASH service providers are equipped with valuable skills to adopt improved management, operational, and finance models.

In the second quarter of FY23, most of the tangible targets for the projects were attained with works underway to achieve more targets in the third quarter.

1.1. Activity Description

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

The consortium is working together to achieve 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.

1.2. Consortium Organizations, Geographical Scope and Activities Implemented

Global Communities (Contributing to Results 1, 2, 3, and 4)

Global Communities is the lead implementer with expertise across all the four results areas and working in 39 districts across all the six project regions. SBCC and MHM activities are carried out across all the 6 regions and leads CLTS implementation in Upper East, Upper West, North-East, Savannah and Oti Region; water provision in Upper East, North-East, Northern, and Oti Regions; the implementation of WASH-IPC in all the regions except Upper East; and Lead M&E activities in all the regions. They also play supervisory roles in the activities undertaken by the consortium partners. These are the major activities carried out during the quarter under review:

- Worked with the district facilitators to promote behavior change in the project regions.
- Trained artisans on the construction of durable latrine technologies

- Formed 96 VSLA groups in 7 districts across the project regions.
- Facilitated construction of household latrines across the project regions. 764 latrines were completed in Q2 given access to 6,112 people.
- Carried out hydrogeological survey, siting of boreholes and drilling of high yielding boreholes for the two Small Town Pipe Systems in Nanton and Gushiegu Districts and completed the design and drawings for the systems.
- Carried out WASH-IPC activities in Upper West and Savannah Regions
- Trained district facilitator on MHM implementation
- Completed the baseline studies.
- Collected data into CommCare and BaSIS and carried out data audit for quality assurance.

Afram Plains Development Organization – APDO (Contributing to Results 1, 2 and 3)

APDO has extensive experience in community-based WASH interventions. Under the En-WASH project, they contribute to the implementation of WASH in the Nanton, Gushegu, Sagnarigu and Karaga Districts in the Northern Region. These are major activities carried out during the quarter under review:

- Facilitated VSLA training for 168 people in the Oti region, Savannah, Upper West North-East Regions.
- Formed 36 VSLA groups in their project districts.
- Held monthly meetings with DICCS/ MICCS in the four districts to discuss progress of activities.
- Trained 16 persons of the sanitation management teams in Nanton and Sagnarigu districts in collaboration with the (RICCS) on the use of BaSIS application.
- Trained 253 natural leaders from 60 communities.
- Organized a review meeting with DICCS/ MICCS and field facilitators to assess the work progress of the FY22 communities.
- Constructed 433 household latrines access their project communities.
- Assisted in the ODF verification of 28 communities by DICCS.

Aquaya Institute (Contributing to Research and Learning)

Aquaya is leading the research and learning arm of the En-WASH Project and their activities cut across all the six regions. Aquaya’s work will help the other consortium member to improve implementation and help share learnings with the sector. These are significant activities carried out during the quarter under review:

- Started preparation towards the economics of rural water supply studies.
- Trained enumerators that will collect data for the willingness to pay studies for water services.
- Identified 24 districts for the implementation of the incentive research by Deloitte and TFHO.
- Pre-tested and trained five field staff in preparation for the revealed willingness to pay (WTP) study focusing on the Digni-Loo.
- Completed the baseline studies for En-WASH.

Be Girl (Contributing to Result 3)

Be Girl has vast experience in Menstrual Hygiene Education and products development. They contribute to menstrual hygiene management (MHM) and education under the project with a long-term goal of establishing a supply chain for the Be Girls reusable period panties and pads. They undertook the following activities this quarter:

- Developed market research plan for poor-inclusive menstrual market in Ghana.

- Had active social media campaigns to demystify the myths about menstruation and developed guide for radio discussions on MHM.

Deloitte (Contributing to Result 2, and 4)

Deloitte's role in the consortium is to use their years of experience in developing financial models to help the project beneficiary access funds for WASH products. They will also investigate factors that could help the private sector to increase sales of WASH products. Their focus is on the ZOI districts, and the project will replicate their models in all the regions. They undertook the following activities this quarter:

- Drafted a brief, focusing on improving creditworthiness of SMEs in northern Ghana.
- Reached out to GHAMFIN and MCAG to gather data on microfinance institutions who may lend to WASH SMEs in En-WASH districts in the Northern, Upper East, and Upper West regions.
- Prepared an incentive program budget and implementation materials.

Safe Water Network (Contributing to Results 2 and 3)

Safe Water Network is one of the leading enterprises providing water to the underserved communities. Their role is to provide water to communities in the Northern East Regions and build capacity of MMDAs to manage life cycle costing and monitor water quality in their districts. These are significant activities carried out during the quarter under review:

- Completed the procurement process to engage a consultant for hydrogeological studies and siting of borehole for Water Systems in three communities in Northeast Region.
- Prepared and signed BOOT agreement with East Mamprusi Municipal Assembly for the construction of H2OME.

The Manoff Group (Contributing to Results 1, 2, 3, and 4)

The Manoff Group is leading the behavior integration (BI) and social and behavioral change communication (SBCC) under the project. En-WASH is being implemented using the behavior first approach and the role of TMG is to ensure the partners and other stakeholders such as MMDAs, GHS, Ghana Education Service (GES) and project communities adopt and address behaviors that will lead to long term sustainability of gains. These are significant activities carried out during the quarter under review:

- Trained district facilitation teams, WASH Officers and relevant GES staff on the use of communication materials to promote MHM in the schools and communities.
- Oriented district facilitation teams in West Gonja, North Gonja, Wa Municipal, Wa West , Bongo and Binduri District Facilitation Teams on igniting behavior change with communities and their leaders.
- Continued to facilitate and support the 240 FY22 communities and their Leaders in 16 districts in the ZOI in prioritizing and planning for their WASH needs.

Total Family Health Organization (Contributing to Result 4)

THFO is a social enterprise promoting the sales of WASH products. Their role in the consortium is to ensure family have access to sanitation products across all the project regions. These are major activities carried out during the quarter under review:

- Signed an MOU with GEA to undertake a joint capacity building for sanitation entrepreneurs, (distributors) who have had been recruited to stock, promote, and sell SATO brands, and Digni-Loo sanitation products in two regions.
- Trained 217 latrine artisans in the Zebilla, Garu, Sagnarigu, Nanton, Mion, Karaga, Gushiegu, Yendi, and Tempene districts on the installation of Digni-Loo and SaTo Pan range of products; and other improved latrine technologies.

- Recruited 26 additional entrepreneurs (distributors) to be trained to stock sanitation commodities.
- Developed a brand strategy for Digni-Loo promotion.

Water4

Water4 working through its subsidiary, 4Ward West Africa, is one of the private entities providing water to rural communities in Ghana. They work closely with the MMDAs and CWSA to target all the communities in the districts they operate in. They work towards district-wide water coverage to complement the sanitation. They are currently focusing on the districts in Upper West and Savannah Regions with plans to expand to Northern Region under the project. These are major activities carried out during the quarter under review:

- Signed service delivery agreement with Nadowli Kaleo and Daffiama Bussie Issa Districts to extend delivery of water services to communities.
- Carried out water quality test for community water points.

WaterAid (Contributing to Result 3)

WaterAid with experience and expertise in WASH-IPC is leading the WASH improvement for HCFs in the Upper East Region. Their role is to work closely with GHS, and the MMDAs, to train health workers on the use of the Water Sanitation and Hygiene Facility Improvement Tool (WASH FIT), and Clean Clinics tools to build capacity in the infection prevention and control. Additionally, they are to provide WASH facilities to HCFs to improve access to health care. These are major activities carried out during the quarter under review:

- Carried out life cycle costing capacity training for districts in Upper East Region.
- Organized a dialogue meeting to advocate for increase budget for WASH in HCFs in Upper East Region.
- Assessed WASH status and behaviors of health workers in Garu and Tempene Districts.
- Organized WASHFit training for HCFs in four districts in Upper East Region.
- Continued work on a solar mechanization system for Tilli Health Centre.

World Vision (Contributing to Result 1)

World Vision with their experience in advocacy and institutional strengthening, is working with the Ministry of Sanitation and Water Resources (MSWR) and MMDAs to improve access to WASH delivery. Their core mandate is to work with these two institutions to budget for WASH services, track the budget utilization and plans to increase WASH budget in the ZOI. They are working in 16 out of the 29 districts. These are major activities carried out during the quarter under review:

- Engaged relevant stakeholders in a town hall meeting across 16 MMDAs to disseminate and validate the outcome of the planning, budgeting, implementation, and WASH services monitoring system gap analysis conducted last year.
- Trained 326 Water and Sanitation Management Teams (WSMT) from 35 communities and key MMDAs staff to monitor water systems and water quality.
- Engaged 22 News editors and Morning show hosts on WASH reportage.
- Team engaged key staff of the Nanton, Sagnarigu, Yendi, Karaga and Gushegu MMDAs develop sustainable water quality monitoring system for checking water service providers at the district level.

2. PROJECT ACTIVITIES

Below is a summary of key accomplishments for FY23 (Table 1) and LOP (Table 2):

Table 1: Accomplishment for FY23

S/N	Key Outputs	FY23 Target	FY23 Results		Q2 TARGET	% Achieved for Q2	FY23 Total Results	% Achieved for FY23
			Q1	Q2				
1	Household Latrines constructed	8,750	603	764	2,500	31%	1,367	16%
2	People benefiting from sanitation facilities	70,000	4,824	6112	20,000	31%	10,936	16%
2b	People benefitting from safely managed sanitation facility	3,200	32	2,784	1,056	263%	2,816	88%
3	Community Water Facilities installed (boreholes)	34	1	4	4	100%	5	15%
4	People with access to water	70,000	2,112	7419	7,419	100%	9,531	14%
4b	People with access to safely managed drinking water services	1,600	0	2,608	640	407%	2,608	163%

Table 2: Achievement for LOP

S/N	Key Outputs	LOP Target	Yearly Results					Achievement to date	% Achieved for LOP
			Year 1	Year 2*	Year 3	Year 4	Year 5		
1	Household Latrines constructed	37,500	1,417	1,367	-	-	-	2,784	7%
2	People with access to basic sanitation service	300,000	11,336	10,936	-	-	-	22,272	7%
2b	People benefitting from safely managed sanitation facility	9,600	32	2,816	-	-	-	2,848	30%
3	Community Water Facilities installed (boreholes)	215	7	5	-	-	-	10	5%
4	People with access to basic drinking water service	250,000	15,326	9,531	-	-	-	22,857	10%
4b	People with access to safely managed drinking water service	4,800	320	2,608	-	-	-	2,928	61%

* Results as of Q2.

2.2 Activity Progress

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

During the second quarter, En-WASH Start-up meetings and Igniting Behavior Change workshops with Government Partners were organized in Wa West and North Gonja Districts. Communities in eight new districts (North Gonja, West Gonja, Wa West, Wa Municipal, Bongo, Binduri, Bunkprugu Nakpanduri, and West Mamprusi Districts) were validated and confirmed. Additionally, there was a field visit by the SBC Team to Gushegu Municipality to interact with the Central Administration and Municipal Field Facilitation Team. The Team also visited one ignited community (Sogu) to familiarize itself with the status of the behavior change implementation. Subsequently, the SBC team worked with WASH officers and district facilitation teams to ignite behavior change and supported the project communities and their leaders in prioritizing and planning for their WASH needs.

As part of the private sector involvement in WASH services delivery, a new service delivery agreement was signed in January and February with the Nadowli Kaleo and Daffiama Bussie Issa (DBI) Districts to provide a set of communities with NUMA water services, leading to six districts of active operations. Implementation in communities in these two districts will begin later this

year. Routine water quality monitoring was carried out, and 95% of the water met the WHO standard on bacteriological contamination. The remaining 5% was disinfected with chlorine.

The project also engaged relevant stakeholders in a town hall meeting across 16 MMDAs to disseminate and validate the outcome of the gap analysis as a follow-up to the gap analysis in the planning, budgeting, implementation, and monitoring system for WASH services in 16 Metropolitan, Municipal and District Assemblies (MMDAs) carried out last year. The engagement resulted in the development of action plans accompanied by signed declarations and concrete commitments by stakeholders towards addressing the gaps in the planning and budgeting for WASH services in MMDAs. The signed commitments are towards addressing the gaps in:

- The existing MMDA's capacity to review and prepare WASH Investment plans.
- The existing coordination mechanisms at the MMDA level, taking into consideration the MDTPs.
- The execution rate of WASH plans and budgets, as against the entire MMDA plan and budget.

Overall, five hundred and thirty (530) people participated in the Town Hall Meeting. Out of this, 412 are males, and 118 are females across four regions (**Upper East region:** Garu, Tempene and Bawku West District; **Northeast region:** Mamprugu Moagduri and East Mamprusi; **Northern region:** Sagnarigu, Nanton, Mion, Yendi, Gushegu, and Karaga; **Upper West region:** Nadawli- Kaleo; Sissala East, Sissala West, Wa East and Daffiama Bussie Issa). The participants included; District Chief Executives, District Coordinating Directors, Presiding Members, Planning Officers, Finance Officers, Budget Officers, District Engineers, District Environmental Health Officers, Director of Education, GHS Director, Community Development and Social Welfare, Local NGOs/CBOs, Representative from Youth Groups, Representative from Women's Group, Traditional leaders, Assembly members, Representative of People Living with Disabilities, and Chairmen of various committees in each MMDA.

As part of increasing budget allocation towards WASH service delivery, there was a follow up engagement with key staff of the 16 MMDAs during the reporting period. The purpose of this follow up was to assess measures taken towards the signed commitments in 2022 by these 16 DCEs, and Coordinating Directors, to increase WASH budget allocations and dedicate a considerable percentage of their Internally Generated Funds (IGF) to WASH services. The engagement revealed the following:

- Most MMDAs were conservative in the budget allocations based on the experiences of the previous year; where they receive and spend less than what was budgeted.
- Most MMDAs dedicated zero budget of their IGF to WASH services due to their inability to generate enough IGF.
- Almost all the MMDAs indicated and included proposed contributions from interventions of NGOs and other development partners as part of their allocated budget for WASH in their 2023 budgets.
- The budget allocated for solid waste management is about 80% more than the budget allocated for other WASH sectors such as water supply, hygiene services and monitoring.

- The Nadowli-Kaleo and Bawku West districts indicated marginal increment of WASH budget allocation compared to 2022 budget.
- MMDAs engaged indicated plans to review budget allocations of WASH upwards in the mid-year budget reviews.

The project will continue to follow up and track WASH budget allocation and spending at the MMDA level. Other advocacy approaches will be explored to improve on MMDAs prioritization of WASH services by dedicating a certain percentage of IGF to WASH services.

As part of improving service quality, a 2-day training was organized for WSMTs from 35 communities in Sissala West, Nadowli Kaleo, Daffiama Bussie Issa, Sissala East, Wa East, Yagaba Kubori and East Mamprusi MMDAs. 326 participants were trained consisting of 267 males and 59 females. The training focused on capacity building of WSMTs to easily identify, regularly assess, monitor, and report potential water contamination for immediate attention by experts at MMDAs. The highlights of the training were sources of possible water contamination, safe water storage and use, how and when to disinfect water routinely, and how to improve management and operations for satisfactory service.

The project continues to work with the Regional Coordinating Councils (RCCs), the Regional Environmental Health Units and the Regional Interagency Coordinating committees on Sanitation (RICCS) to improve uptake of WASH services and provide support when needed. The project has instituted monthly meetings with DICCS/ MICCS to review progress of implementation. The review meeting was held across the project districts. All the DICCS/MICCS provided backstopping to the project and carried out field monitoring to interact with the community members and opinion leader and reinforced the need for them to construct latrines and adopt good behaviors.

Other activities leading to the attainment of **Result 1** during quarter 2 are:

Media Engagement: the project engaged 22 News editors and Morning show hosts (Males-18 and Female-4) from selected media houses, as part of efforts to build the capacity of the media on reporting WASH issues and to increase advocacy for political prioritization of WASH in Northern Ghana. Recognizing advocacy as a continuous activity, World Vision in collaboration with GBC News hosted a one-hour live studio discussion on one of the most watched television programs, WASH Hour on GBC news TV. The one-on-one interview focused on the WASH inequalities between north and south, Ghana's low prioritization of WASH, and the need to increase budget allocation and spending to the WASH sector.

The project continued to follow up on MMDAs on the implementation of the action plans to operationalize the NDWQMF across 16 MMDAs. As a result of the continuous follow ups, the Bawku West District, during the reporting period, organized a one-day training for 32 water vending operators (Sachet water producers, Water tanker sellers, Water system management teams) on the NDWQMF, water safety and water quality. The training was fully funded by the Bawku West District Assembly at a cost Gh¢15,000. This shows that the sensitization of MMDAs to give prominence to WASH services delivery and allocate more resources towards it is yielding results.

The project organized Life-Cycle Cost Assessment (LCCA) training in four districts in the Upper East Region – Bawku West, Binduri, Garu, and Tempene. WASH services sustainability can be achieved when Life-Cycle Cost is considered during planning and budgeting for WASH facilities.

To influence increased funding for WASH in HCFs in the project districts (Bawku West, Binduri, Garu, and Tempene), the En-WASH activity organized dialogue meetings in each district in March 2023 to engage the District Health Management Teams, Sub-district heads, and facilities In-Charges (heads). The meetings also brought together District Chief Executives (DCEs), District Coordinating Directors, and other decentralized agencies as well as civil society organizations working in the districts. The District Chief Executives pledged their support to improve WASH access in health facilities in their respective districts, especially in hard-to-reach and most deprived communities. The DCEs indicated they would ensure that WASH is given the needed attention during their Annual Action Plans (AAPs) preparation. A total of 203 participants, made up of 68 females and 135 males (Health professionals and key stakeholders) were reached with the activity.

In line with the En-WASH Activity district entry procedures, the project team carried out a *pre-entry assessment* of the WASH status and behaviors of health workers in HCFs in the Garu and Tempene districts. The assessment took place in 71 HCFs: 38 in Tempene and 33 in Garu districts, respectively. From the assessment, 30% of the HCFs have no source of water, and 12% have piped supplies inside the facilities. At the time of the assessment, 85% of the HCFs with access to water sources indicated that water was available at the facility. The remaining 15% indicated they had no source of water at the time of the assessment. About sanitation, the most common type of toilet is the pit latrine with a slab as 37% of the facilities use this type of latrine. Only 10% (8) have flush or pour-flush toilets connected to sewers. However, 43% of the HCFs do not have toilet facilities. Staff and clients practiced open defecation. Of the facilities with toilets, 92.5% have no functioning hand washing facility located within 5 meters. This implies that staff and clients may not wash their hands after defecation. At the entrance or Outpatient Department (OPD) of the HCFs, 46% had functional hand-washing facilities. However, it was observed that both clients and staff did not practice regular hand washing. For example, staff on arrival at the facility did not wash their hands before proceeding to work. Also, some clients did not practice hand washing on arrival at the facility and they were not reminded by staff to wash their hands. More than half (53%) of the facilities did not have functional handwashing facilities. Although Veronica buckets were present (from observation) at the time of the survey, they were either not filled with water or there was no soap available. These behaviors and practices have the potential to compromise the quality of health care.

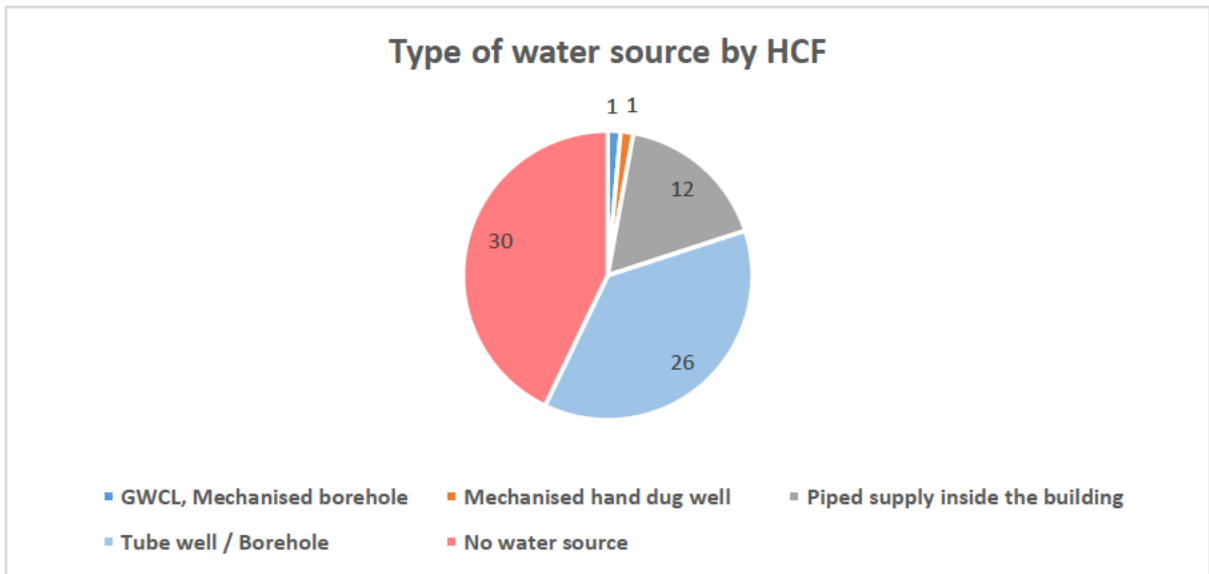


Figure 1: Type of water source by HCF

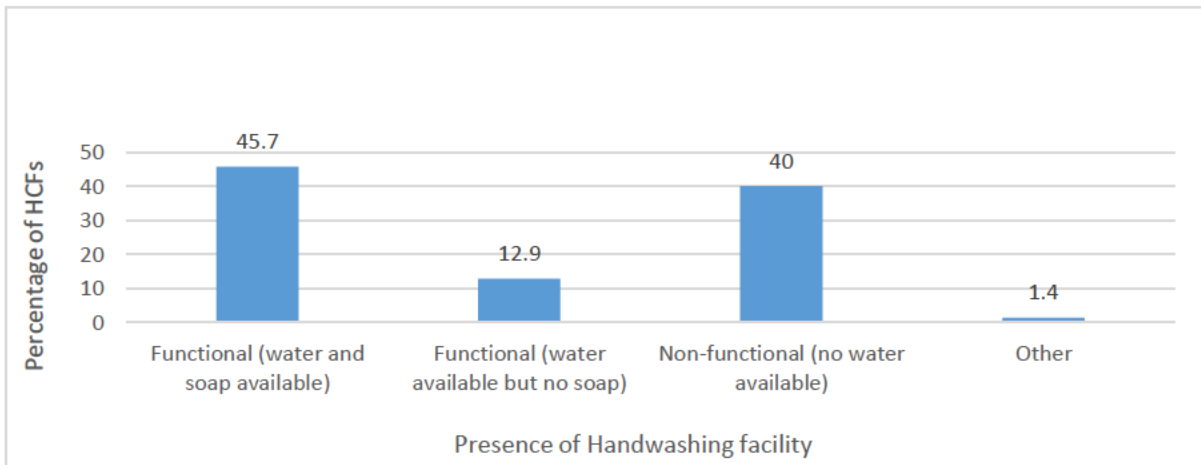


Figure 2: Presence of handwashing facility

Medical waste management practices were also observed to be very limited. Sharps (syringes, blades) are segregated from other waste and put into safety boxes and transported to the District Health Directorate (DHD) for incineration. All other forms of waste are lumped together and disposed of in open pits and burned. Hazardous and non-hazardous wastes are not stored separately before they are disposed of.

Additionally, no staff is appointed for waste management across all the facilities from Community Health Planning and Services (CHPS) to Health Centre. The “In-Charges” who head the health centers are responsible for waste management, however no in-service training has been organized for staff on waste management. Facilities provided to support proper hygiene practices and environmental sanitation were either abandoned or not used correctly. These observations will be reflected in the content of the WASHFIT, Infection Prevention, and Control (IPC) and Hygiene training for the staff

as well as management of the Health Directorates. The project, with the assistance of the MMDAs, will take steps to address these challenges in the coming months.

In March, the project built the capacities of 57 (18 Females and 39 Males) frontline health staff using the Human Right Based Approach (HRBA) on patient charter. Frontline health staff were from different levels of the health-system hierarchy, ranging from the Community Health Planning and Services (CHPS) level to the hospital level including private and Christian Health Association of Ghana (CHAG) facilities. Participants were selected from all 47 health facilities in the Bawku West District and the District Health Directorate. The training helped the participants in deepening health workers' understanding of using and applying the patient charter in their health facilities. The training used the adult-learning methodology to stimulate discussions about the provision and experience of care among healthcare professionals in the district to strengthen health-worker and patient communication and service delivery. During the training, participants shared personal and institutional experiences of how they have applied the patient charter to improve service delivery.

Key issues discussed during the training were patients' privacy and confidentiality, the right to information and alternative treatments, and the identity of caregivers. In addition, the training focused on how facilities will champion users' WASH rights to reduce Healthcare Associated Infections. During the discussions, the health workers pledged to make maximum use of the WASH facilities in the HCFs by ensuring that water and soap are available in the Veronica buckets for use by clients and staff. They created sufficient space during the consultation to guarantee patient confidentiality. They further pledged to sensitize their clients and the communities they serve on their rights and obligations in the patient's charter during community durbar and at OPD sessions.

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

Within the there has been sensitization and formation of VSLA groups and the introduction of sanitation funds across the 11 project districts to enable community members easily access loans for latrine constructions and maintenance to ensure the sustainability of the gains made (ODF and improved WASH behaviors). A cumulative total of 130 VSLA groups have been formed in eleven districts under this program. Below is a summary of lists of VSLA groups formed.

District VSLA Data

No.	District	Number of Groups
1	Gushegu	12
2	Karaga	6
3	Nanton	7
4	Sagnarigu	9
5	Mion	16
6	Yendi	15
7	Garu	25
8	Bawku West	20
9	Tempene	7
10	Sawla	10
11	Bole	3
Total		130

The project trained MMDAs staff on VSLA formation and how to incorporate WASH in the constitution for districts in Oti, North-East, Upper West and Savannah Regions. A total of 168 people have been trained across all project regions: 86 persons trained in Nkwanta-North, Nkwanta-South and Krachi- East; 28 from West Mamprusi, East Mamprusi, Mamprugu-Moaduri and Bunkpurugu Districts (14 were new to the concept in the North East Region), Wa municipal, Wa-East, Wa-West, Daffianma Bussie Issa, Nadowli-Kaleo, Sissala East and Sissala West Districts; 54 trained from West Gonja, North Gonja, Bole, Sawla, Tuna Kalba Districts in the Savannah Region. All the MMDAs Action plans were developed to aid in the implementation of VSLA and WASH in the communities for FY23 in the project Districts.

The VSLA is a means of equipping communities to mobilize funds at the community level to access WASH products. The project also worked on access to fund by the WASH SMEs, the lead partner on finance, Deloitte, has drafted a brief focusing on improving creditworthiness of SMEs in northern Ghana, including research on applicable case studies on improving access to finance for WASH SMEs. The availability of financial products in Northern Ghana were mapped for the Consortium to use in briefing for MMDAs. This brief will be verified in the field. Institutions like Ghana Microfinance Institution Network (GHAMFIN) and Microcredit Association Ghana (MCAG) were assessed to gather data on microfinance institutions who may lend to WASH SMEs in En-WASH districts in the Northern, Upper East, and Upper West regions.

However, the viability of WASH SMEs would depend on the patronage of their service by the community members. To help the SMEs to develop products that will meet the purchasing power of the community members, the research partner, Aquaya, is working with the consortium on the economics of rural water supply Operation and Maintenance (O&M) cost tracking research. The research would consider water facility constructed by Global Communities and managed by either private sector or WSMTs, water facilities constructed by Water4 (NUMA), and the construction of the H₂OME! Stations by SWN.

Result 3 *That citizens adopt and sustain improved WASH practices.*

Sanitation

During the second quarter of FY23, construction of household latrines continued with the support of latrine artisans in project communities. In the quarter, **6,112** citizens had access to **764** improved basic household latrines constructed in project communities. Since the inception of the En-WASH project, a total of **2,784** household latrines have been completed through CLTS and IBC activities, and **22,272** citizens in project communities in the Oti, Upper West, Upper East, North-East, Northern and Savannah Regions now have access to improved basic latrines. The project continued to capture completed latrines unto CommCare and BaSIS.

The increase in the construction and use of improved household latrines is partly due to the increase in trained latrine artisans. This quarter alone, the project trained 104 latrine artisans and 5 EHAs in the Upper East and some Districts in the Northern Region. The artisans that were trained in the Upper East Region were drawn from Binduri, Bongo, Bawku West, Tempene and the Garu Districts. They were trained on latrine technologies such as Digni-Loo, Mozambique VIP, Rectangular VIP, KVIP, pour flush and the Bio-digester toilet technologies. They were also trained on the use of the four inches trapezoidal blocks to line latrine pits to stop them from caving-in. A total of **44** artisans and **5** EHAs were involved in the training. Also, a total of **60** artisans in the Mion and Yendi were given a special training on the use of stones to line latrine pits. The training became necessary since the technology is affordable and stones are readily available in communities.

Natural leaders, also referred to as community volunteers, serve as sanitation volunteers who encourage behavior change among community members towards the achievement of water, sanitation and hygiene (WASH) goals. For natural leaders to effectively carry out their roles and responsibilities to attain Open Defecation Free (ODF) status in their communities, a 3-day natural leader's training was organized from the February 6 - 18, 2023 in Sagnarigu, Nanton, Gushegu and Karaga Districts. A total of 253 (186 males: 67 females) natural leaders were trained in a community-based Natural Leaders training from the 60 engaged communities for FY22. Employing participatory methodologies such as the use of PLA tools, role plays, plenary discussions, group work and use of games, the topics treated were volunteerism, mentoring, team building, organization of meetings, action planning, evaluation, community self-assessment and record keeping. The following were the outcome of the training:

- Participants made commitments on dates to carry out community self-assessments and also to invite DICCS/MICCS to verify them for ODF.
- Low performing communities' behaviors were ignited and natural leaders vowed to speed latrine construction.
- The inclusion of women gave a balance to the training such that discussions were generally relatable.
- Natural leaders pledged to engage chiefs, elders, opinion leaders and community members to enforce community sanitation byelaws to improve sanitation and hygiene practices.
- The development of action plans by all natural leaders in all the 60 communities to aid in monitoring and tracking progress.
- The female NLs pledged to update their respective VSLA groups on the training to also encourage each member to stop open defecation.

All these efforts are geared towards the construction and usage of improved latrines and clean environment. The effort is yielding results and a total number of **28** communities from Gushegu,

Nanton and Karaga districts having been assessed and are ready for ODF verification by the MICCS/DICCS and RICCS.

Water Access

The project carried out hydrogeological studies for the drilling and construction of high yielding boreholes in Northern and Northeast Regions for the construction of Small Town Pipe Systems by Global Communities and Safe Water Network. Drilling of the boreholes have been done and pumping test carried out. The consultant engaged for the two systems in Gushegu and Nanton has submitted the design report for the two water systems, and it is going through technical review. Hydrogeological studies siting of additional 29 boreholes for HCFs and communities were advertised and received proposals from interested consultants. These boreholes will be mechanized, and all maternity wards will be connected to other areas that need constant flow of water for good housekeeping.

In line with the project's WASH-IPC strategy, five high volume hospitals in Northern Region (Tamale Central, Tamale teaching, Tamale West hospital, Nalerigu Baptiste hospital and Yendi hospital) will receive WASH improvement with emphasis on water supply. Procurement has been completed and contract has been awarded to five contractors M/S Joissam Ghana, M/S Nakwab trading, M/S Geocoast Engineering and Benghazy Development Ltd.

Household Water Treatment and Safe Storage

The Ministry of Sanitation and Water Resource (MSWR) embarked on monitoring visits to communities in the Nanton and Gushiegu districts on Household Water Treatment and Safe Storage (HWTS). In Nanton, five communities (Moya, Golori, Tahakpamo, Looni, and Zali) were visited by the team, and in Gushiegu Municipal, the team visited four project communities and one non-project community. The four project communities visited includes: Bogu, Pushegu, Nateli and Zanteli communities under the En-WASH activity and to a non-project community Bulugu. They were generally impressed of uptake of latrines and advised the project to work with the poor and vulnerable households to construct durable latrines.

Hygiene

The SBC team continued to facilitate and support the 240 FY22 communities and their Leaders in 16 districts in the ZOI in prioritizing and planning for their WASH needs. The team also organized orientation and field practice for West Gonja, North Gonja, Wa Municipal, Wa West, Bongo and Binduri District Facilitation Teams on how to ignite behavior change with communities and their leaders. They also supported the validation and confirmation of FY23 Communities in the eight new districts. The team continued to facilitate the promotion and adoption of improved WASH behaviors in the FY 23 communities with the support of the District Facilitation Teams and WASH Officers.

The SBC team and MHM team lead reviewed Be Girl's MHM educational materials and developed a road map for its contextualization to suit En-WASH and Ghana context. A road map has been drawn for MHM Campaign in Basic schools and communities. The SBC team also met in Wa to review and select suitable GES and W4H communication materials to promote MHM in schools and communities. In view of that, the team has commenced the training of District Facilitation Teams, WASH Officers and relevant GES staff in the use of the materials to promote MHM in the schools and communities.

During the reporting period, the project continued to use social media as a channel to spread period-positive messages and menstrual hygiene education, demystifying the myths around menstruation and encouraging parents to support their children who are menstruating. These messages are catching up with the audience and the project has seen increase in followers on the MHM social handles and

reaction to the MHM posts, a signal of the effectiveness of social media as a tool for menstrual hygiene education.

WASH in Health Care Facilities (WinHCFs)

During this reporting period, the En-WASH project team in collaboration with the District Health Management Teams (DHMTs) of the Garu and Tempani districts, organized a 4-day WASH FIT training for the management of HCFs in the two districts. WASH FIT is a risk-based, quality improvement tool for health care facilities, covering key aspects of WASH services: water; sanitation; hand hygiene; environmental cleaning; health care waste management; and selected aspects of energy, building and facility management.

A total of **119** participants were in attendance. Participants of the meeting included Physician Assistants, Midwives, Community Health Nurses, Community Health Officers, Public Health Nurses, Disease Control officers, Health Promotion Officers, Information Officers, District Environmental Officers, WASH Focal Persons, and the District Directors of Health Service (DDHS). Participants were selected in collaboration with both the authorities from the District Assembly and the District Health Directorate (DHD), based on their critical roles as duty-bearers placed in a position to influence and advocate for improvement in WASH services at different levels of service delivery. In Garu District, 58 participants made up of 33 males and 25 females participated in the training. Participants were selected from 25 public HCFs and one private facility. In the Tempane district, 61 participants made up of 29 females and 32 males participated in the training. Participants were selected from 26 public HCFs and one private facility. WASH FIT experts from Ghana Health Service¹ in the region facilitated the training, supported by the WaterAid's En-WASH Activity lead.

Similar to the above, the project collaboration with the Bawku West and Binduri Health Directorates carried out Health Care Facility level monitoring of the WASH FIT rollout activities. The monitoring was led by the respective District Health Directors and supported by the Upper East Regional Technical Expert for WASH FIT/IPC. A total of 23 HCFs were visited. In the Bawku West district, the team observed most (87%) HCFs had conducted the HCF assessment using the WASH FIT tool. They also developed action plans to improve WASH services in the facility. Over 60% of the HCFs visited have made significant efforts at implementing their action plan. Activities carried out included:

- Ensuring hand washing facilities are fully functional, and that soap and water are always available.
- Hygiene promotional materials are displayed in the right place to remind clients to wash their hands.
- Cleaning of waste disposal sites including regular open-air combustion of waste.
- Regular clean-up exercises are instituted.
- Soap production to support hand hygiene. Some facilities (Timonde and Sapeliga Health Centres) produce soap for their facilities.
- Sapeliga Health Centre has water supply extended to the facility including the maternity block.

• ¹ Cabral Bantiu Vwawojei, PNO, WASH/Quality Improvement Focal Person, GHS, Kasena-Nankana Municipal,
• Justin Takpier, GHS, WASH/WASH FIT focal person, Regional Health Directorate
• Edward Agongo PNO, WASH/Quality Improvement Focal Person, GHS, Binduri District

In the Binduri district, the team visited 26 HCFs. Significant improvement in WASH services was witnessed in only 3 three HCFs (Bazua, Zawse, and Binduri HCFs). In these facilities, hand washing facilities were fully operational with hand hygiene promotional material displayed. Regular clean-up exercises have been instituted and the waste disposal site was reconstructed and cleaned. At Bazua Health Centre, one of the three HCFs, staff who participated in the WASH FIT training organized a step-down training for their colleagues. This ensured all staff understood the WASH FIT tools and indicators. The project will follow-up on HCFs who are yet to implement their action plans in the coming months.

During the reporting period, the project, in collaboration with the Bawku West District Health Directorate (DHD), organized a 3-day IPC training for health workers and supervisory staff in the Bawku West district. The goal of the training is to support the implementation of the National IPC guidelines, the En-WASH Activity seeks to strengthen the capacity of health workers (HWs) in infection prevention and control to minimize HCF-associated infections. A total of 102 HCF staff: 4 healthcare supervisory staff, and 2 Environmental Health officers, participated in the training. The trainees comprised 58 females and 50 males. The training was organized in two sessions. The first session of training was attended by forty-eight (48) participants. Fifty-four (54) participants attended the second session. The training was facilitated by the Upper East regional expert for WASH IPC and supported by the District Director of Health Service.

In line with the project implementation plan and to contribute to improved healthcare delivery, the En-WASH Activity team in collaboration with the Bawku West District Assembly started the construction of one limited solar mechanized water scheme at the Tilli Heath Center in Bawku West District. The outpatient attendance is 4,594 (2022). This water scheme is expected to improve access to safe water for health workers and patients in the HCF and improve hand hygiene and IPC thereby minimizing cross-infections in the delivery of healthcare services. This will lead to better health outcomes at the facility. Specifically, there will be water available at all points of care at the HCF, and the water supply system will be extended to the Tilli community (1,889 people). The project is 80% complete with the construction of two overhead tanks for the installation of a 10,000-liter water reservoir, one for the facility and the other for the community. Plumbing works to facilitate the laying of pipes to service points in the facility have also been completed.

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

WASH service providers need to adopt practices and procedures that would make the efficient and be able to render quality service their customers. The consortium partners rendering services in the project communities seek ways to deliver quality service to the people. With is position, in quarter 2 alone, Water4 service team conducted over 410 routine visits to their water treatment systems, updated their digital sales numbers and has begun tracking daily sales to identify customers that are due for a purchase and make follow up calls to them.

In FY23 Q2, the En-WASH team commenced planning for the training of a total of 32 participants from 26 MMDAs on Contracting Procedures for Concession & Delegated Management Models.

The project continues to find ways to help the WASH service providers to be innovative and increase sales. The finance lead, Deloitte, has been discussing incentive program with TFHO and Aquaya. Aquaya is designing the incentive research framework to be able to measure the impact of the incentive on sales of WASH Products.

During the quarter, the project also engaged the services of Ghana Enterprise Agency (GEA) to undertake a joint capacity building for sanitation entrepreneurs, (distributors) that had been recruited to stock, promote, and sell SATO brands, and Digni-Loo sanitation products in the under the project.

Monitoring, Evaluation, Research and Learning (MERL)

During the quarter, the MERL and project technical teams of World Vision and Global Communities held a virtual meeting to review the indicator definitions measuring result 1. Out of 10 indicators, the team were able to review and formulate guiding questions for 7 indicators. This is to enable easy tracking and reporting of the indicators. The team agreed to schedule a date (yet to be decided) to complete the review of the remaining 3 indicators under result 1.

Research stream 1: Economics of rural water supply

The Aquaya team:

- Met with Global Communities to discuss synergies between REAL Water and En-WASH. Global Communities supports the collaboration between these two projects to share cost, revenue, and management performance data from rural, piped water systems.
- Presented this research stream to CWSA in February after Global Communities received official approval from CWSA to collaborate on this project.
- Embarked on field visits with the Upper West CWSA regional offices and 4Ward Development (Water4) on the costs and revenues of rural piped systems. We now have a better understanding of their respective water systems and their financial and operational management arrangements.
- Trained four enumerators to collect additional data on willingness to pay for water supply in nine En-WASH districts.
- **Research stream 3: Market-based sanitation**
 - The project has decided to conduct observational research on the two incentives, designed to increase distributor sales and household uptake of improved toilet technologies, that TFHO and Deloitte will roll out. The team is now aligning the two implementation strategies to allow for comparison and explanation of differences observed in the research evaluation.
 - Global Communities and Aquaya have identified the 24 target districts where TFHO and Deloitte will target their implementation strategies for the distributor incentive. 12 districts have been allocated to Deloitte and 12 to TFHO based on sanitation data obtained from BaSIS and the consortium-wide baseline data collection.
 - Five field staff were pre-tested and trained in preparation for the revealed WTP study focused on Digni-Loo slabs. The field team has begun visit #1 of data collection in the Upper West district.
- **Learning and dissemination**
 - Aquaya is working with Global Communities to respond to the call for proposals for En-WASH to attend the UNC Water & Health Conference (the deadline is April 28, 2023). If the submissions are accepted, En-WASH consortium partners will present at the conference in North Carolina in October 2023.
- **Consortium-wide baseline data collection**
 - Field teams completed quantitative and qualitative data collection in the eight target districts.

- The team finished the quantitative data analysis and is working on the qualitative analysis, which is almost complete.

2.3 Implementation Activities

Sanitation Marketing

The project is working diligently to ensure WASH product are available in all the project districts and there is a mechanism through the supply chain to serve the last mile communities. This is important for the construction of durable WASH facilities and access to WASH product beyond the life of the project. Global Communities is having a constant dialogue with TFHO on how to increase the sales of the Digni-Loo, SatoPan and other WASH products they will be able to carry on their platform.

WASH Commemorative Days Observed

World Water Day

- APDO participated in the National Celebration of the World Water Day in West Mamprusi Municipal Assembly in the North East Region. APDO exhibited water purification tablets-Aquatabs, APDO models, use of PLA tools and other materials in community and institutional (schools and health care facilities) WASH activities.
- Water4 conducted a one-day fundraising campaign on World Water Day, March 22, to continue raising awareness of the water crisis and the work still needed to achieve SDG 6.1.
- Thessali Farr, Strategic Partnerships Manager, and Chris Shaw, Marketing and Communications Manager, attended the UN Water Conference in New York City, an event strategically planned around World Water Day. This was the first time the UN hosted a water conference in 57 years and the deadline of the Sustainable Development Goals was the chief topic.

High Profile Visits/Conferences

- Dr. Lynne Cogswell, Senior Advisor, Institutional and Behavior Change for The Manoff Group made a short term visit from March 26 to April 6 to provide technical assistance to the SBC work.
- The World Vision Senior WASH Program Manager – Bismark Norgbe was in Ghana and paid visits to WASH Program Operations. During his visit, he engaged the En-WASH team to monitor progress and provide technical support.
- The WVUS Senior Finance Officer – Sylvia Mallet, also visited World Vision Ghana office and engaged with the team on the project execution rate and funds disbursement modalities. She also builds the capacity of the team on grant budgeting and finance.
- Global Communities organized a review meeting for the consortium to share updates on the progress of project implementation.

2.4 Global Vax Project Implementation

The purpose of the Global Vax project is to provide implementation support to the Ghana Health Service (GHS) to accelerate the delivery of 8,092,270 fully vaccinated COVID-19 vaccines in the eight implementing regions, namely, Northeast, Northern, Oti, Savannah, Upper East, Upper West, Volta, and Greater Accra regions. The activity was jointly planned and implemented with GHS at national, regional, district and sub-district levels to fulfill emergency requirements of the COVID-19 infectious disease outbreak. The goal of the activity/project was consistent with the goal of the *U.S. COVID-19 Global Response and Recovery Framework*, intended to end the pandemic.

To increase the vaccination uptake, demand generation was very important. For that reason, social mobilization and behavior change communication was intensified.

Table 1: Social Mobilization Indicators, January to March, (Quarter 1) 2023

Region	Number of staff and volunteers trained on COVID-19 vaccine-related topics with USAID support	Number of healthcare workers and non-healthcare workers trained on risk communication and community engagement (RCCE)	Number of vaccination sites established as a result of USAID direct support	Number of MSM vaccinated with USAID direct support	Number of FSW vaccinated with USAID direct support	Number of PLHIV vaccinated with USAID direct support	Number of TB patients vaccinated with USAID direct support
North East	14,554	506	90	0	0	0	0
Northern	40,409	1,449	300	0	0	0	0
Oti	21,696	785	224	0	0	0	0
Savannah	16,627	602	150	0	0	0	0
Upper East	36,258	1,220	200	0	0	0	0
Upper West	25,846	895	180	0	0	0	0
Volta	89,721	3,042	400	0	0	0	0
Greater Accra	43,554	1,675	450	0	0	0	0
Total	288,665	10,174	1,994	0	0	0	0
Male	115,466	4,070					
Female	173,199	6,105					

The monthly report shows that, 288,665 staff and volunteers (115,466 males and 173,199 females) were trained on COVID-19 vaccine-related topics with USAID support. 10,174 healthcare workers and non-healthcare workers (4,070 males and 6,105 females) were trained on risk communication, and community engagement. 1,994 vaccination sites were established through USAID direct support.

Activity Implementation

- **Objective 1: To train 111 districts and Regional Data officers to provide onsite training to vaccination teams on data capturing and synchronization.**

All District and Regional Data officers were trained to provide onsite training to vaccination team on data capturing and synchronization.

The district DHIS data capturing teams were set up at the district level and provided with good internet access locations. There was weekly discussion of report updates, and agreed actionable points were relayed to sub-districts and vaccination teams.

At the regional level, Regional EPI officers and Health Information Officers (HIOs) reviewed district data captured into DHIS to ensure data accuracy devoid of discrepancies.

The COVAX team worked with the National, Regional, and District Expanded Program on Immunization (EPI) Officers to validate data daily and at the end of the NID exercises.

All the vaccination team were trained and tasked to enter data daily to reduce data backlog. The vaccination team were encouraged to capture data on DHIS online mode. The vaccination team met daily, weekly, and monthly to review performance to improve vaccination outcomes.

- **Objective 2: To reach all eligible population (58%) in the 111 districts of the eight implementing regions with hard to find in an identified geographical location**

All the regions and districts under them engaged in the vaccination campaigns. Below table shows the regional performance.

Region	Total Doses Administered	No. Fully Vaccinated	No. Receiving at least One Dose	No. Receiving First Booster Dose	No. of Pregnant Women Vaccinated	No. Fully Vaccinated (%)
Northeast	29,534	11,082	8,598	15,150	414	13
Northern	144,041	47,506	43,089	76,279	2,635	16
Oti	51,902	34,675	14,313	23,052	504	31
Savannah	24,596	7,162	7,033	16,607	209	8
Upper East	88,627	30,134	21,353	48,165	327	16
Upper West	35,393	8,994	10,513	16,247	400	7
Volta	80,927	38,278	40,044	28,847	269	16
Greater Accra	73,481	34,841	35,349	31,813	183	4
Total	528,501	212,672	180,292	256,160	4,941	11

Table 2: COVAX Update, January to March, (Quarter 1) 2023

The above table 2 indicate that 528,501 total doses were administered for the period under consideration. 212,672 people were fully vaccinated. 180,292 people received at least first dose. 256,160 people received the first booster dose. In all, 4,941 pregnant women were vaccinated.

According to the national performance league table as of first quarter 2023, all the eight (8) implementing regions increased in COVID-19 coverage. The total Doses Administered amount to 11,110,247. The total people fully vaccinated was 4,829,890 representing 60.1%. **(Yet to be Updated)**

- **Objective 3: To reach all eligible population (58%) in the 111 districts of the eight 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 in the 8 regions and 111 districts. The team also supported High-level national, regional, and district monitoring exercise during the period to ensure that vaccination exercise was effectively carried out.

There was continuous SBCC activities in all the eight (8) implementing regions.

The team addressed the concerns of special populations (youth, pregnant women, students, the aged, etc.) in respect to the vaccination campaigns.

As part of strategies deployed, was the use of community volunteers and champions before, during and after the vaccination campaigns.

Logistics and Transportation

- Timely Fuel provision for all teams at all levels
- Lunch allowance for all teams and supervisors
- Provision of tablets, and award-winning plaque to deserving districts and regions during performance review meetings
- Boats hired for vaccinators to islands.
- Vaccine Vans fueled to transport vaccines from regional capital to other districts to restock vaccine during vaccination campaigns if needed.

Monitoring and Supportive Supervision

- National, regional, and district supportive supervision was supported during GC-NID
- Continuous Joint Field visits carried out by GC & GHS staff in all Regions.
- Regional performance review meetings and capacity building were held to empower operational staff in the Ghana Health Services to increase COVID-19 demand generation.

Disaster Management

None at this time

3. Deviation Narrative

In Q2, the project recorded increases in basic sanitation access, safely managed sanitation access, basic water access, safely managed water access and funding mobilized to the to the water and sanitation sector. The details are as follows:

Number of people gaining access to basic sanitation service as a result of USG assistance

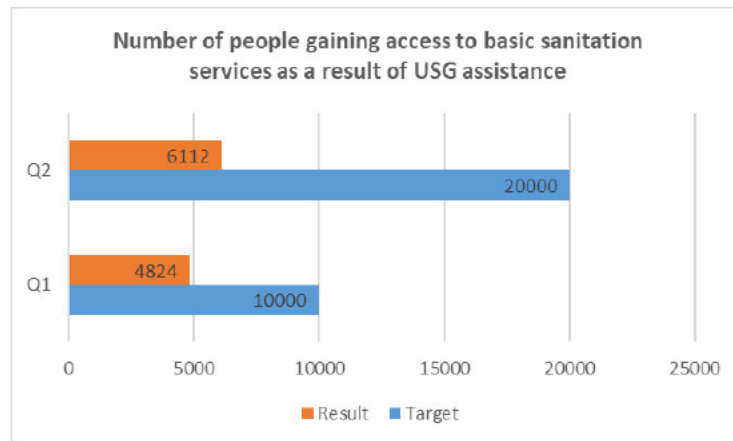
The number of people gaining access to basic sanitation within the quarter increased from 4824 in the last quarter to 6112a result which is 31% of the quarterly target of 20,000The FY23 achievement and the LOP achievement stands at 16% and 6% respectively. In the second quarter of the year, it was expected that \at least 50% of the annual target would be achieved to stay target. However, latrine uptake is still gaining momentum particularly in the new districts. Factors accounting for this may include:

Little exposure to the cost savings of sanitation marketing and ODF: sanitation marketing plays an important role in CLTS implementation. On a project like W4H, not only were households exposed to the different latrine technology options but received other benefits such as technical assistance in latrine selection and construction, reduced cost of construction materials and flexible payment terms. In the existing W4H districts in Oti and Savanna this is contributing to patronage of the latrines. In the new districts sanitation marketing is still being established by the project. Households are yet to know the cost savings that come with.

The majority of household in the ZOI districts are yet to be exposed to the benefit of ODF. Access to basic sanitation is the biggest challenge for these communities. According to the project baseline conducted by the Aquaya Institute access to basic sanitation was 2% as at February 2023. Although the first year of the project was dedicated to igniting behaviors in the communities, the existence of model ODF communities to learn from is also helpful and these are not available in the new districts.

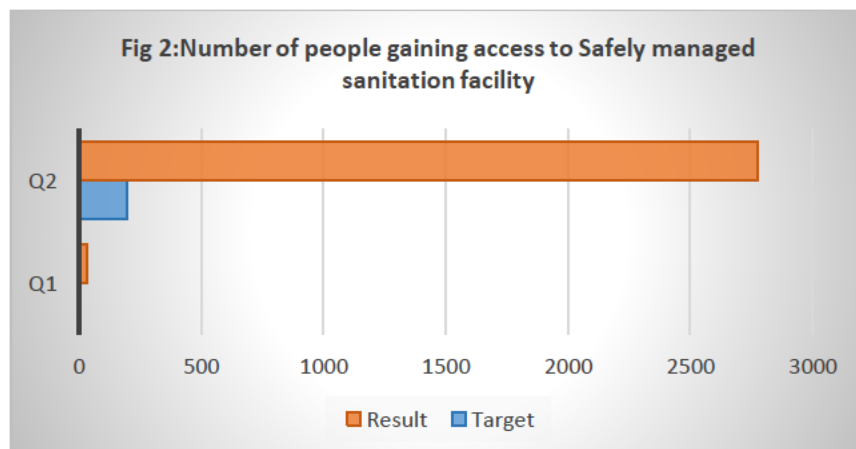
Rising cost of goods and services: The rising cost of goods and services over the past year has affected cost of living and this has affected latrine construction. Households would rather invest in their children education and their farms than a sanitation facility. Although the exchange rate has improved over the last quarter, there is no significant reduction in the price of goods.

With over 2000 latrines at superstructure and 3000 latrines at substructure, the project is set to stay on target by at the end of the year.



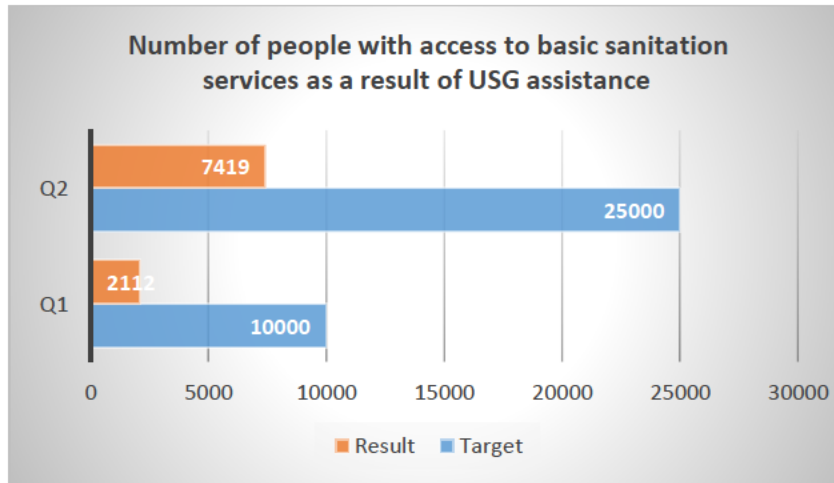
Number of people gaining access to safely managed sanitation facility

Safely managed sanitation facilities are improved sanitation facilities that allows treatment of the fecal matter onsite or offsite. During the quarter 2,776 people gained access to safely managed facilities out of a target of 200. In the previous quarter the project had no target for the indicator with the expectation that demand may be slow due to the high cost of the facilities and the need to have a reliable water source to operate them. In the first quarter four (4) bio-fills were installed for 32 people. Due to the expectation that demand will be low, the project set minimal targets for the first two quarters with plans to increase the target if demand increases. In the ensuing quarters the targets are expected to be much higher to correspond to the rising demand.



Number of people gaining access to basic drinking water services as a result of USG assistance.

In the second quarter En-WASH achieved its target for the quarter: 7419 out of. This number comprises two boreholes completed by Water4 as part of the 10 boreholes that was in started in Year 1 and 2 water facilities from Global Communities: Potripo Water system and the Samahum. Activities on these facilities were reported in FY22 however the population served was not counted that year. The project has several water systems and boreholes under construction which when completed will provide water access to additional 50,000 people by the 4th quarter.

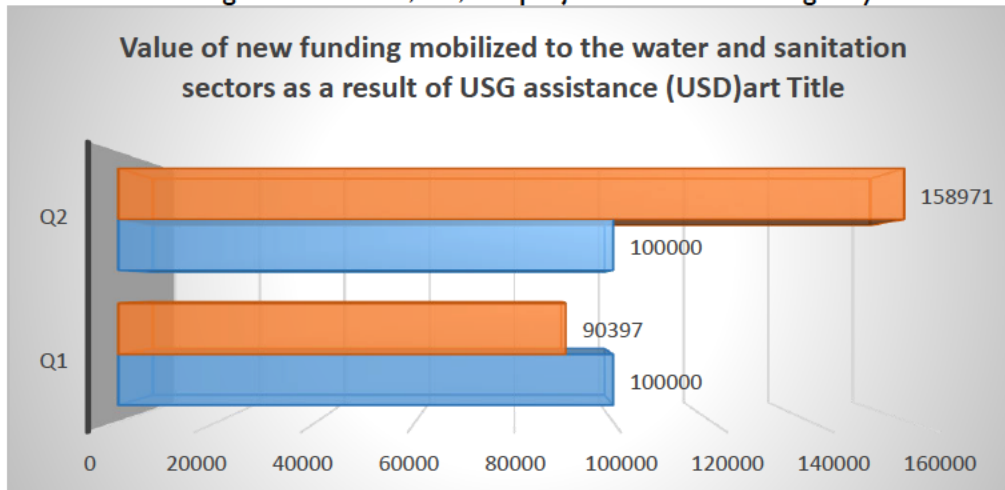


Number of people gaining access to safely managed drinking water services

This indicator counts the number of people with improved water access on their premises. In the first quarter the project did not anticipate any result hence did not set a target for the quarter In that quarter 320 people connected water to their homes In Q2, the project set a target of 533 and ended with 2,928 people gained access to water on their premises. With this trend, the project is set to exceed its target for the year.

Value of new funding mobilized to the water and sanitation sectors as a result of USG assistance (USD)

During the quarter, En-WASH generated USD 158,971 as cost share contribution towards the project. This constitutes donated use of materials, facilities, and equipment APDO, Water4, WaterAid, and World Vision. With a target of USD 100,000, the project exceeded its target by 58%.



4. CROSS-CUTTING ISSUES

4.1. Gender and Inclusion Mainstreaming

In the second quarter, activities undertaken under the Gender and Social Inclusion theme included the following:

- Mop-up of data collection activities towards the gender and inclusion analysis. Some follow up for institutional level data collection that was not achieved in December 2022 was undertaken to conclude data collection.
- Cleaning, coding, and data analysis was also undertaken in this quarter covering 6 domains: Gender and Social Norms, Beliefs and Perceptions; Gender Roles, Time Use, and Power Dynamics; Gender-Responsive and Inclusive WASH Governance; Gender-Balanced and Inclusive Private Sector Participation in WASH; Gender-Responsive and Inclusive Access to WASH Services and Commodities; Safety and Security in Access to WASH. This analysis covers three levels (community, district, and national levels). The analyzed data will feed into the writing of the gender and inclusion analysis report.
- A session was held with Team Leads to discuss **building synergies, challenges and opportunities for gender and inclusion mainstreaming in the ENWASH project**. Major highlights of the discussions included recognition of gender and inclusion as a cross-cutting theme there by requiring integrating elements of gender and inclusion in all activities of the project; sharing of information on activities; reaching out to team leads to get updates on their activities and identify opportunities for gender and inclusion mainstreaming; liaising with IPs through Team leads to integrate gender in their activities.
- Reviewed training materials for the training of sanitation entrepreneurs by TFHO for integrating gender and inclusion elements.
- Held a follow-up meeting with TFHO and the Sanitation Marketing Coordinator on integrating gender and inclusion in entrepreneurs' selection criteria. Recommendations were made for the review of the criteria to make it more gender and inclusion sensitive while also taking steps to increase the participation of underrepresented groups as participants and beneficiaries of sanitation products/market.
- Supported the training of district facilitation teams in Bawku West and Binduri districts on MHM materials. This was to equip the district teams with knowledge and skills on the materials for MHM in schools and communities in the two districts.
- Under this activity, TFHO has recruited and trained two female sanitation artisans as sanitation service providers and has recruited four females as Wn-WASH entrepreneurs (distributors)
- The GEYSI Team Lead Patience Alagskomah supported the SBC Team in reviewing and selecting SBCC materials for MHM promotion in schools and communities and supported in training District Facilitation Teams in the Upper East Region in the use of the materials.
- 4Ward Development employs 36 full- and part-time female staff in the Upper West Region.
- Key among the stakeholders invited for the town hall meetings across the 16 MMDAs include People with Disability (PWDs). The PWDs were provided the opportunity to articulate their views of PWDs, particularly on access and decision-making for WASH services.

4.2. Science, Technology, and Innovation

- Having district stakeholders' fashion out home-grown solutions to district WASH challenges and demonstrating their commitment by appending signatures.

4.3. Environmental Compliance

- NUMA systems also use solar power and are estimated to produce 2% of the carbon emitted by a generator running the system.

5. STAKEHOLDER COLLABORATION

4.1. Collaboration and Coordination with Other Key Stakeholders

- Partnerships with GBC, Ghacem, Duraplast, and Goldfields are ongoing, to sustain the improved WASH behaviors and interventions in project communities.

6. LESSONS LEARNED

5.1. Challenges and Relevant Solutions to Activity Implementation

Challenges	Relevant Solutions
<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Encountering a delay in receiving the FDA approval for Be Girl's MH reusable products.	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• In addition to the submission of the FDA full application, we submitted a request for a waiver to pilot the products with at least 100 girls. We are waiting for the answer.• Co-ordinate several bi-lateral conversations with government stakeholders such as the GHS.
<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Interference of political issues in some project communities in the Gushegu municipal slows down WASH practices especially the clean-up exercises, as these communities do not conduct their weekly clean up exercise regularly.	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Involvement of MCE in monitoring to help reduce the political interference in these communities.
<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Heavy storm destroyed several roofs of latrines in Gbani community the Gushegu District which affected the marks obtained.	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Continuous engagement to ensure communities use durable materials for latrine constructions
<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Field officers use their personal motorbikes for field activities which usually breakdown at their own expense.	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Engagement with MDCEs to ensure they invest in WASH activities.

Challenges	Relevant Solutions
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> The constant involvement of traditional and opinion leaders in WASH activities helps in minimizing the political issues/ believes.
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Community members for Botingli and Bagurugu Yapalsi have left the communities after harvesting because they are farm settlements. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> The selection of communities in consideration of the various seasons (dry and rainy seasons) for FY23 across the four Districts
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Unwillingness of some community members and the Assemblies of God Church to lease land sited for drilling at Langbinsi. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Engagement of the community leaders to support the acquisition of land. Re-siting at locations where the community chief has full ownership of the land.
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> HCF staff have a low level of appreciation for the crucial role that hygiene plays in the provision of quality healthcare services in the healthcare sector. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> As a means of addressing this gap, infection prevention and control (IPC) and hygiene behavior change trainings for staff of HCF will be conducted.
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> The En-WASH activity districts in the Upper East Region witnessed heightened tension during the reporting period because of a protracted chieftaincy dispute in the Bawku township situated in the ZOI. There are now many more communities affiliated with the two feuding tribes in Bawku that have been affected by the conflict. Although the situation is now calm, the En-WASH Activity area remains a security concern. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> WaterAid announced travel restrictions to the Upper East Region, while monitoring the security situation. The restrictions were reviewed in March 2023, enabling project team members to travel to the field to support project implementation. The area continues to be monitored for any security threat and necessary measures are being taken to ensure staff safety. An alternative route to the district has been considered.
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Frequent postponement of planned activities at the district and sub national level due to spontaneous mandatory activities from the central government for district staff can sometimes be challenging. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Regular engagement with Regional Coordinating Council (RCC) and the MMDAs to share plans and agree on appropriate time to avoid conflicting with activities from central government.

Challenges	Relevant Solutions
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Continue to work with other consortium members to align and integrate activities, especially at the MMDA level.

a. *Lessons learned or best practice*

- The continued engagement with MMDAs to fashion out applied and novel solutions to challenges in WASH service delivery is key to sustainability.
- The law empowers the RCC to implicitly exercise power over the assemblies in the formulation of plans for the provision of basic infrastructure. For this reason, stronger collaboration with the RCC is critical to achieving the objective of the En-WASH Activity.
- The media presents a strong voice to hold duty bearer accountable to delivering WASH services.
- Engagement of district stakeholders to agree on gaps and make commitments by assigning responsibilities and developing a progress tracking system is a best practice.
- Communities that presented commitment letters at the initial stages of the project were found to have passed the MICCS verifications in Gushegu municipal due to the dedication of the leadership of the communities.
- In Karaga, the DICCS verification served as a triggering process as it got about two (2) of the non-verified communities including: Gua and Zandua triggered. In Gua, the elder of the community assured the team that within one week everyone will completely construct their household latrine and other sanitation practices, roles and responsibilities were shared amongst communities for effective supervision of activities to ensure speed up of work.
- The DICCS verification brought about competition amongst communities in the Karaga District as communities were observed undertaking sanitation and hygiene activities at a higher pass to also get verified.
- APDO, Global Communities, Be Girl and THFO's sharing of planned program activities is currently resulting in effective collaborations and coordination of the EN-WASH activities in the Northern Region
- The engagement of community leadership prior to the commencement of borehole siting and drilling is critical. Undertaking this engagement will help make the land acquisition process successful.
- The LCCA training for core Assembly and decision-makers management staff is an entry point for influencing inclusive costed WASH investment plan.
- Integrating soap-making into IPC training could help to address the challenge of the unavailability of soap in HCFs.
- The creation of the WhatsApp platform for the WASH FIT activity rollout has generated a healthy competition for the improvement of WASH services among the staff of HCFs and the replication of best practices in HCFs. The platform has facilitated the sharing of information and continuous learning as WASH FIT activities are rolled out at the various HCFs.

- The inclusion of the management staff of the District Assemblies (Engineers and District Environmental Health Officers) provided a better opportunity to appreciate the essential role of WASH in health service delivery.
- It is crucial to maintain a continuous dialogue with local authorities regarding the importance of WASH in HCFs. Currently, the significance of WASH in healthcare service delivery is not emphasized enough in official discussions at the district levels.

a. Innovative Practices

- APDO's innovation to introduce Household water treatment and safe storage (HWTS) by using Aquatabs in all project communities.
- Clustering of communities based on proximity to aid cross-learning, reduce fatigue, and improve exchange visits for enhanced sanitation and hygienic behaviors in the communities.
- The adoption and practicing of communal labor to help households construct and use latrines in Salamba, Batanyili, Santugu, Saguli and Kulaa east and west in Sagnarigu Municipal
- The involvement of Assembly members and influential people in general community meetings is key in achieving project results.

b. Sustainable Practices

- Regular project review meetings with partners and consortium members helps in aligning activities and consolidating gains. This also provides the opportunity to leverage on each other's capacities to address WASH challenges is a sustainable practice.
- Regular follow up and monitoring by the Regional Coordinating Councils to ensure MMDAs are delivering on key WASH indicators is effective in increasing efforts and sustaining gains.
- Having the media set and sustain the agenda on WASH issues increases political pressure to address issues of WASH, particularly in Northern Ghana.
- The emergence of latrine artisans as natural leaders would lead to project sustainability.
- The involvement of Assembly men in community engagement is prudent in ensuring project sustainability.
- Linking 72 trained and active latrine artisans to other partners (TFHO) for further capacity building on other latrine modules and sanitation businesses.
- Sensitizing and encouraging community members to construct resilient latrines such as the APDO latrine models for sustainability.
- The active involvement of the Coordinating Directors in the field resulting in an increase interest and support by the Chiefs and other leadership of the communities in the entire project.
- HCFs making soap themselves can support Infection Prevention and Control (IPC) and be more cost-effective compared to purchasing soap on the market.

b. Opportunities to raise the visibility of the project.

- Periodic joint quarterly monitoring of activities with stakeholders at the district level
- Launch ODF league table of project communities towards enabling community leadership take front line in WASH activities.
- The telecast of the handing over of Rashida's latrine on Ghana Broadcasting Corporation (GCB).
- Continued to support Nanton District in the pilot of the Hand Hygiene for All initiative.
- Continued the collaborative work with Goldfields in two communities namely Wangarakrom and Samahu in the Western Region. Linda monitored WSMT activities and trained beneficiaries in the use and maintenance of the Digni-loo toilet.

- 4Ward Development West Africa had the opportunity to sponsor the Beyond the Pipe forum hosted by Safe Water Network in Accra, Ghana on March 15. This allowed them the opportunity to amplify their business model and speak to the audience about achieving long-term sustainability. Sylvester Adjapong, Regional Director of 4WardWA, was one of the opening speakers, highlighting the importance of recognizing that every stakeholder has a role to play in achieving sustainability and ensuring access to safe water for all. A picture of the opening panel is included in section eight.

7. ACTIVITIES PLANNED FOR NEXT QUARTER

Crosscutting Activities:

- Support with Logistics for MMDAs (Computer, Printer) Laptops
- Hold initial meetings with district leadership to understand how districts are organized Human Rights Based Advocacy interactions and awareness creation.
- Hold quarterly review meeting for the consortium.

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

- Continue to work with WASH Officers and District Facilitation Teams to ignite behavior change in project communities / Leaders and support them prioritize, plan for, and adopt improved WASH practices.
- Hold monthly coordination meetings with relevant government partners (DICCS/MICCS, RICCS)
- Support the BD for the establishment of WASH help desks at the MMDAs/community level.
- Hold meetings with MMDAs on the essence of international days of recognition.
- Support MMDAs to commemorate the Menstrual Hygiene Day.
- Build the capacity of key staff of MMDAs to prepare district WASH investment plans and marketing strategy.
- Support MMDAs to set up information systems in all MMDAs by providing them with basic ICT items.
- Conduct capacity building programs (on resource mobilization and data Management) for relevant staff of MMDAs
- Participate in the review of MMDAs DDPs and validation of WIPs Plans with MMDA stakeholders.
- Train key MMDAs team (District Works Department) to conduct site visits to water facilities.
- Support MMDAs to prepare and implement district level plans for operationalizing the NDWQF.
- Organize dissemination workshops with MMDAs on the National Drinking Water Quality Framework (NDWQMF).

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

- Organize VSLA training for the formed VSA groups.
- All groups to be named during VSLA groups training.
- VSLA boxes to be sent to groups that will be ready to start meetings.
- Support the Private Sector Lead in training select MMDAs in creating the enabling environment to attract Private Sector to provide WASH products and services.
- Carry out IBC meetings with the private sector and community organizations.
- Hold community meetings (Audience Specific) to discuss on the need to prioritize WASH.

- Once Aquaya’s analysis is complete, the Deloitte team will update the water and sanitation market potential factsheet based on findings from Aquaya’s willingness to study.
- Support Global Communities to develop training materials based on the enabling environment training outline.
- Using the creditworthiness brief and confirmation from field interviews, the Deloitte team will discuss with Global Communities potential financial mechanisms to reduce the cost of borrowing and evaluate if Deloitte should pursue a feasibility analysis.

Result 3: Citizens Adopt and Sustain Improved Wash Practices

- Visit East Mamprusi in the Northeast Region and Bawku West in Upper East Region to assess implementation status.
- Meet virtually with TFHO, WASH Officers, GC Team leads and the IPs SBC Representatives to discuss how they are maintaining focus on En-WASH behaviors.
- Organize monthly DICCS/MICCS meetings to discuss and share WASH information with MMDAs.
- Develop, Train Users & Air BCC messages.
- Organize durbars on Global days like the MHM day, WASH product & service beneficiaries to share their impact stories.
- Roll out the MHM Campaign in Basic schools. The Core SBC Team will continue to orient the District Facilitation Teams and WASH Officers in the use of select communication materials and support them to facilitate MHM implementation in schools and communities.
- Support SBC activities in HCFs.
- Support contextualization of BeGirl Educational materials in collaboration with stakeholders, e.g., GES, GHS.
- Continue sales activity for household connections in Kojoperi, Tabiesi, Bulenga, Kulpong, and Jonga.
- Oversee the completion of borehole drilling in the selected communities. Based on the outcome of the drilling exercise, we will commence community engagement in two communities. Also, we will commence the preparation of EPANET drawings and pump testing of the selected sites in two communities with the best drilling results.
- Commence the construction of water and provision of hardware for 5 major hospitals in Tamale West, Tamale Central, Tamale Teaching, Yendi and Baptiste hospital.
- Review bidding and Tendering process for 29no boreholes for both Consultancy firms for siting and drilling supervision and Contractors for drilling and construction in Upper East, Savannah, and Northern region.
- Conduct market research which will include focus group discussions and surveys with the target audience.
- SmartCycle® MHH intervention: Four workshops will be conducted with the participation of 100 girls in the Northern Region (Nanton, Saverigu, Gushegu, and Karaga). Through this activity, we will pre-test the adapted educational materials and generate evidence on the impact of the SmartCycle® methodology.
- Organize a radio Campaign on MHM.
- Opening the new water system in Bussie, and ongoing construction work on new 2023 systems.
- Updated clustering of systems for efficient operation and maintenance routes.

- Hold consultative meetings with the MMDAs to get a sense of existing water services available.
- Install solar mechanized boreholes at HCF.
- Develop and adopt SBC materials (Hygiene campaign materials and tools.)
- Engage in mass media/social media campaigns following HCWs trainings.
- Engage in mass media/social media to support WASHFIT campaigns, Project Digital Media Campaigns for WASH in HCFs.

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

- Train MMDAs and media on how they can support in the development and implementation of the En-WASH BCC strategies.
- Hold community meetings to develop BCC messages for the promotion of improved sanitation and hygiene.
- Support the Private Sector Lead Emefa in training select MMDAs in creating the enabling environment to attract Private Sector to provide WASH products and services.
- Organize a training session for 52 participants from 26 MMDAs on Contracting Procedures for Concession & Delegated Management Models in April 2023 in Tamale.
- Commence training of sanitation entrepreneurs with support from GEA
- Conduct latrine artisans training in 16 districts.
- Recruit distributors in the newly added districts
- Implement incentives to improve the uptake of sanitation and hygiene products (agents and distributors)
- Pilot sales agents' model
- Procure and supply sanitation products to trained entrepreneurs.
- Participate in durbars on WASH commemorative days (eg. MHM day - May 28th)
- Facilitate the formation of associations (artisans and entrepreneurs)
- Conduct routine visits to assess sales.
- Hold radio talks to create demand for sanitation.
- Sign an MOU with GPRTU in Tamale to transport sanitation products to En-WASH districts and for bus branding.
- Deloitte team anticipates finalizing the incentive design and amount and designing an incentive verification plan.
- The Deloitte team will collaborate with THFO on GEA training on good business practices for sanitation entrepreneurs.

Monitoring, Evaluation, Research and Learning (MERL)

- Work with health directorates to provide monitoring and support for health workers post WASH FIT trainings.
- Monitor WASH infrastructure works.
- **Research stream I: Economics of rural water supply**
 - share the inception report, which contains the approach for understanding costs and revenue at piped systems and willingness to pay for water supply and an in-house water connection with Global Communities.

- analyze WTP data for water supply and share a research brief on findings with consortium partners.
- **Research stream 3: Market-based sanitation**
 - draft a research study protocol on implementing the TFHO and Deloitte incentive strategies and share it with Global Communities for review.
 - analyze data from WTP for sanitation and share a research brief on findings with consortium partners.
- **Learning and dissemination**
 - work with Global Communities and consortium partners to submit a proposal to UNC.
 - organize the 2nd webinar series for EnWASH.
- **Consortium-wide baseline data collection**
 - present findings from the baseline at the in-country validation workshop and on the evaluation report.

COVAX

- Timely Provision of fuel, lunch, tablets, boats, and funds to implementing regions, districts, sub-districts, and vaccination teams.
- Timely Provision of fuel, lunch, tablets, boats, funds to implementing regions, districts, sub-districts, and vaccination teams.
- Continuous SBCC activities.
- Adequate monitoring and supportive supervision at national, regional, district and sub-district.
- Addressing the concerns of special populations (youth, pregnant women, students, the aged, etc.)
- Review meetings.
- Capacity building.

8. APPENDICES

I. Success Stories and Press Coverage

- [Rashida's Story: The En-WASH project provides a physically challenged lady with an improved household latrine and a handwashing facility.](#)

II. Financial Information

- To be submitted separately.

III. Grants and Contracts

Contract Management:

- Contracting processes for the Drilling and Construction of the high-yielding boreholes for the small-town water systems in northern Ghana: The drilling and construction for the small-town water systems has been completed on schedule. The Consultant supervising the works has certified works done and has signed off the project. The project will be handed over to the beneficiaries in the coming quarter.
- Contracting processes for the refurbishment of water and sanitation facilities in 5 High Volume Hospitals: The process for award for the commencement of the project was initiated during the quarter under review and this has been completed. The contractors have been selected following a thorough evaluation process and they will commence work in the coming quarter – April. Project is expected to span for four months, and project areas are in the Northern part of Ghana.
- Contracting processes for the Siting, Drilling and Construction of 29 Boreholes: Solicitation was done during the period under review to select competent Vendors and Consultants for the siting and construction of the 29 Boreholes. The process is still ongoing, and the project is scheduled to commence in the coming quarter.

Grants Management:

- Sub Awardees continued to receive periodic advances and reimbursements for their various project activities during the period under review. There is always a constant review of partners' financial reports and invoices to ensure that funds expended are well managed and utilized for the intended purposes. Sub Awardees' burn rate is comparatively higher than the previous quarter, and this is even expected to improve in the coming quarters as their activities are now picking up.

IV. Activity Oversight & Technical Assistance Support

TABLE I: MONITORING VISITS DURING REPORTING PERIOD

Date of Site Visit	Monitoring Team Members	Site(s) visited	Significant observations and/or findings from site visits (<i>Concise bullet points</i>)
March 31	The Core SBC Team, Dr. Cogswell, APDO Mgt/ staff (AYO Modoc,	1. Gushegu District Assembly 2. Sogu Community	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Sogu is a truly ignited community with ff behavior outcomes. • Proactive community leadership

Date of Site Visit	Monitoring Team Members	Site(s) visited	Significant observations and/or findings from site visits (<i>Concise bullet points</i>)
	Beata Awinpoka, Field staff for Gushegu District in Northern Region)		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Very clean environment with no plastic waste. • Most households have improved latrines with Tippy Taps • Most households have dedicated drinking water pots
March 9	Bismark Norgbe -WVUS Senior WASH Program Manager	Engagement with the team at WVG Savelugu Office	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • The need to work with stakeholders to develop key indicators to track performance (measurement and monitoring of metrics) of MMDAs.

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
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Be Girl's Global Impact Director and Acting Country Director – Ghana Be Girl's Co-Founder and CEO 	Technical and operational support.	Supported the in-country team within the project interventions related to the product registration and the on-ground implementation, work plans, and partners and stakeholders' meetings	March 8 – April 7
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • The Manoff Group/Dr. Lynne Cogswell (Senior Advisor, Institutional & Behavior Change) 	Short Term Technical Assistance	Supported the SBC Team / work	March 26 - April 7

TABLE 3: INTERNATIONAL TRAVEL

Name of traveler(s)	Purpose of international travel	Destination	Travel dates
Emefa Baidoo	Participated in Global Vax workshop on high priority groups organised by John Snow Incorporated (JSI) under the SUCCESS project.	Zambia	March 13 – 17

V. M&E Issues

Indicator and/or Target Adjustments

- Project Indicators are yet to be finalized.

VI. Management and Administrative Issues

Administrative Updates

- Submission of the FDA application with an entire packet of supporting documents (i.e., testing, evidence-based data, reports, and product samples) on Be Girl products.
- Be Girl concluded a consultancy intervention with Deloitte in matters regarding taxes and risks, which will inform Be Girl's operations in Ghana.

Staff Changes/Updates

Recruitments

- Michaela Palmer joined the team to assume Abbey Pizel's role. The Deloitte team sent an e-mail requesting the transition from Abbey to Michaela on February 15.
- TFHO has recruited Irene Lartey, a program specialist who will be leading the TFHO En-WASH team.

Departures

- Abbey Pizel transitioned off the Deloitte team.
- Fredrik Sunesson is no longer the Managing Director of 4Ward Development West Africa. Richard Moore is now the Managing Director and focal point of both 4Ward Development West Africa and East Africa.

Security concerns/developments

- In the months of January and February 2023, the security situation in Bakwu became an issue of concern. However, with the continuous collaboration between the En-WASH team and the security agencies, the team is assured of safe passage to Garu and Tempene Districts.

Procurement

- The WaterAid team is procuring one bio-digester toilet facility construction for Tilli Health Center and one double chamber incinerators in Zebilla hospital, Bawku West district. Bids have been opened for prospective bidders to tender.
- As part of the COVAX cost modification, Four pickup vehicles and six motorcycles were procured and received.

Budget Issues

- None at this time

Issues with Collaborators and Other Stakeholders

- None at this time.

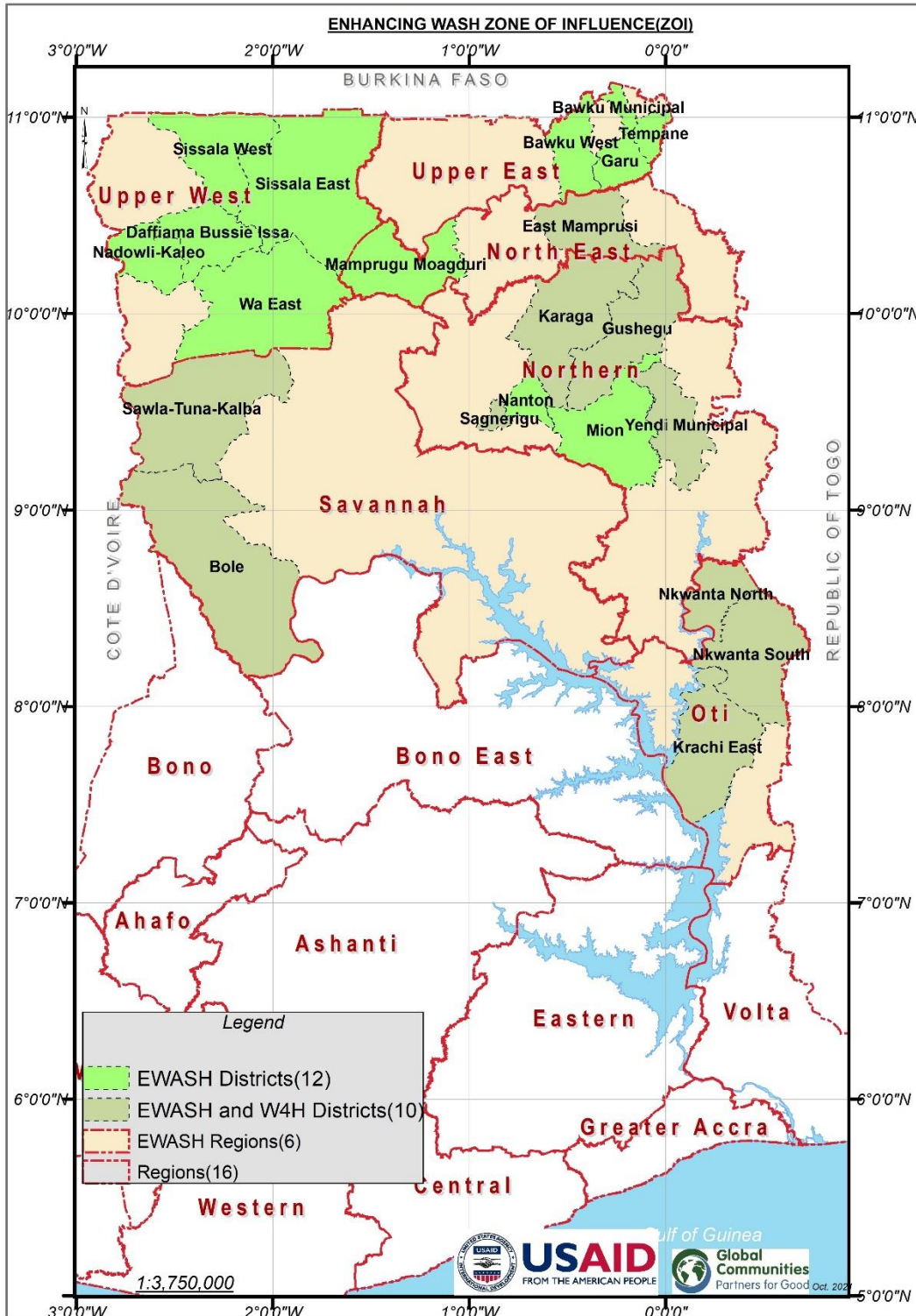
Other

Vehicular Incidents

- None at this time

A/COR comment/recommendation from the 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

Household Water monitoring



Sampling of household water for testing in Garu District by Ghana Water Company limited



Household water monitoring by the MSWR team at Da-Tampio, Nadowli Kaleo District, Upper West Region



Household water monitoring at Kandulo in the Nanton District, Northern Region

Latrine Artisan Training and Water System at Tilli health center



Latrine artisans training on Digni-Loo installation



Latrine artisans training on superstructure for HHLs



Solar-powered mechanized water system for the Tilli Health Center

WASHFIT Training at HCFs



WASH FIT training session for HCWs



WASH FIT practical session



Handwashing demonstration by a HCW

Facilitators Training for MHM



Demonstration of fixing a sanitary pad



MHM training session for facilitators



A cross section of trainers and participants

En-WASH Quarterly Review Meeting



Alberto Wilde (COP - En-WASH) making a submission



John Nedjoh (USAID) contributing to the session



A section of the consortium present

VSLA and IBC Engagement in Communities



VSLA Engagement in the Wa East District



Community members and the SBC team at Sogu



IBC in Jelinteyiri community in the Wa West District