

WASH in National Elections: Water, Sanitation, and Hygiene (WASH) in National Development

Sharing learning from the campaign

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Presentation outline

- **Brief overview of the campaign**
- **The campaign pillars/components**
- **Key interventions**
- **Key results arising**
- **Critical learning from the campaign**
- **Next steps**

Objectives for this learning forum

- » To share WAG and partners' experience/learning in designing and rolling out this campaign
- » To seek support from the sector to scale up and sustain the momentum now and post elections



WaterAid Ghana

- » **Our Vision** is a world where everyone has access to safe water and sanitation
- » **Our mission** is to transform lives by improving access to safe water, hygiene, sanitation in the world's poorest communities. We work with partners and influence decision makers to maximise our impact
 - › Work in 14 MMDAs across 6 regions

WAG New Country Strategy-2016-2021

- » *WAG reached over 1.8 million Ghanaians with water, sanitation and hygiene (2010-2015)*

- » Our political economy and sector analysis revealed that
 - › Emerging new actors

 - › the dominant sector blockages haven't significantly changed in the past five years:
 - * Inadequate political prioritization of WASH,
 - * Poor recognition of WASH as a catalyst for development by other sectors such as health and education,
 - * Poor sector leadership, coordination, fiscal decentralization
 - * Growing dependency by GoG on donor aid

WASH and Public Health



Health Care Facilities – 43 (39 no sanitation facility)

WASH & HEALTH

» Cholera outbreaks continue to undermine and erode efforts at achieving development goals.

❑ By Sept. 2014 Accra Metropolis had an alarming magnitude of 16,527 cholera cases including 128 deaths;

❑ The outbreak spread to 91 districts in 8 out of the 10 regions in the country.

❑ The case of cholera can be traced back to 1982 where 15,032 cases were recorded followed by 9,174 cases in 2011; 9,566 cases in 2012 and only 22 cases in 2013.

WASH and Climate in Ghana

- Climate Change = Water Change
 - e.g. Akosombo's low water level
 - Floods
 - Droughts

Climate resilient management of water resources

WASH central to Climate adaptation strategies

WASH and Education

Access to safe Water, Sanitation, and Hygiene:

- enabling environment for education
- Girls and menstrual hygiene management
- Students living with disabilities
- School Feeding programmes are strengthened by ensuring appropriate hygiene practices

WASH and Livelihoods

Three out of four of the jobs worldwide are water-dependent.

- water is a key factor in the development of job opportunities either directly related to its management (supply, infrastructure, wastewater treatment, etc.)
- or in economic sectors that are heavily water-dependent such as agriculture, fishing, power, industry and health.

See: United Nations World Water Development Report, Water and Jobs, which was launched on 22 March, 2016) .

WASH and Inequalities

Key Challenge: Growing Inequalities

WASH Inequalities

- Considerable inequality in access between urban and rural dwellers
- Inequalities in urban areas – negatively and disproportionately impacts those in informal settlements

Commitments to WASH Financing

- » The Water Sector Strategic Development Plan (WSSDP) sets out Ghana's commitment to achieving the vision of **“sustainable water and basic sanitation for all by 2025.”**
- » It complements the Ghana SWA Compact (2010-2014) in which GoG acknowledged WASH as “essential services” and made a commitment to invest:
 - US\$350m annually, starting 2011, for sanitation and water improvements;
 - Another US\$150m towards hygienic treatment and disposal of septage and faecal sludge; and
 - Providing up to 0.5% of GDP (or the equivalent of US\$50mn annually for capacity building in hygiene education, Community-Led Total Sanitation (CLTS);
 - In 2012, a total of USD400 million annually over a 5 year period from 2011 to 2015
 - In 2014 a total annual investment of US\$170 million in the water and sanitation sector- US\$120m for water & US\$50m for sanitation

Evidence of Variations in fund releases – CWSA

- » There are serious variations between budgeted and actual allocations reaching as high as 95%+ in some instances

Description	2006 (Ghc)	2007 (Ghc)	2008 (Ghc)	2009 (GHc)	2010 (GHc)
GoG Approved Budget	2,179,419	3,348,707	8,191,885	35,026,106	60,045,014
GoG Actual Releases	1,439,714	1,667,627	2810,848	1,450,277	5,455,853
% Variation	33.94	50.20	65.69	95.86	90.91

MDGs sanitation targets in retrospect

- » The 2015 JMP progress coverage estimate
 - › 15% national access to improved sanitation
 - › 9% rural access to improved sanitation
 - › 19% practicing open defecation
 - › 34% of the rural folks practicing open defecation
- » Proportion of Ghanaians with access to improved sanitation has only increased by 11% since 1990



Why this campaign?

- » Political parties campaign manifesto
- » Education, agric sectors etc and the WASH sector as campaign priority (Political parties and other active stakeholders)
- » WASH service as pivotal for achieving other sectors outcomes



Quick desk review of the manifestos

- » WASH was captured
 - › Under Infrastructure and basic amenities provision as a priority area.
- » Very little is heard on campaign platforms by political leadership/commentators articulating vision on WASH
- » WASH is always seen and remains at the margins of political parties campaign documents; with focus on
 - › Services with little emphasis on ensuring quality, sustainability and access
- » Little or no practical commitment to translate High Level Commitments such as the SWA, e-Thekwini into
 - › increased and consistent WASH investment
 - › Increased sanitation coverage by creating the enabling environment for Public Private Partnership (PPP) to thrive under strategies such as the rural sanitation model.

Objectives of the campaign

- » To influence the campaign agenda of five main major political parties manifestos/policies to clearly highlight WASH
 - › Get MPs to commit 1/5 of the MPDF_75,000
 - * GETFUND
 - * Common Fund -320,000_64,000
 - * National Health Insurance fund_11,000
- » To mobilise project communities to engage Political Parties and Parliamentary candidates on WASH as political campaign issue
- » To create a platform for communities to engage with Parliamentary candidates in 3 constituencies

Expectation

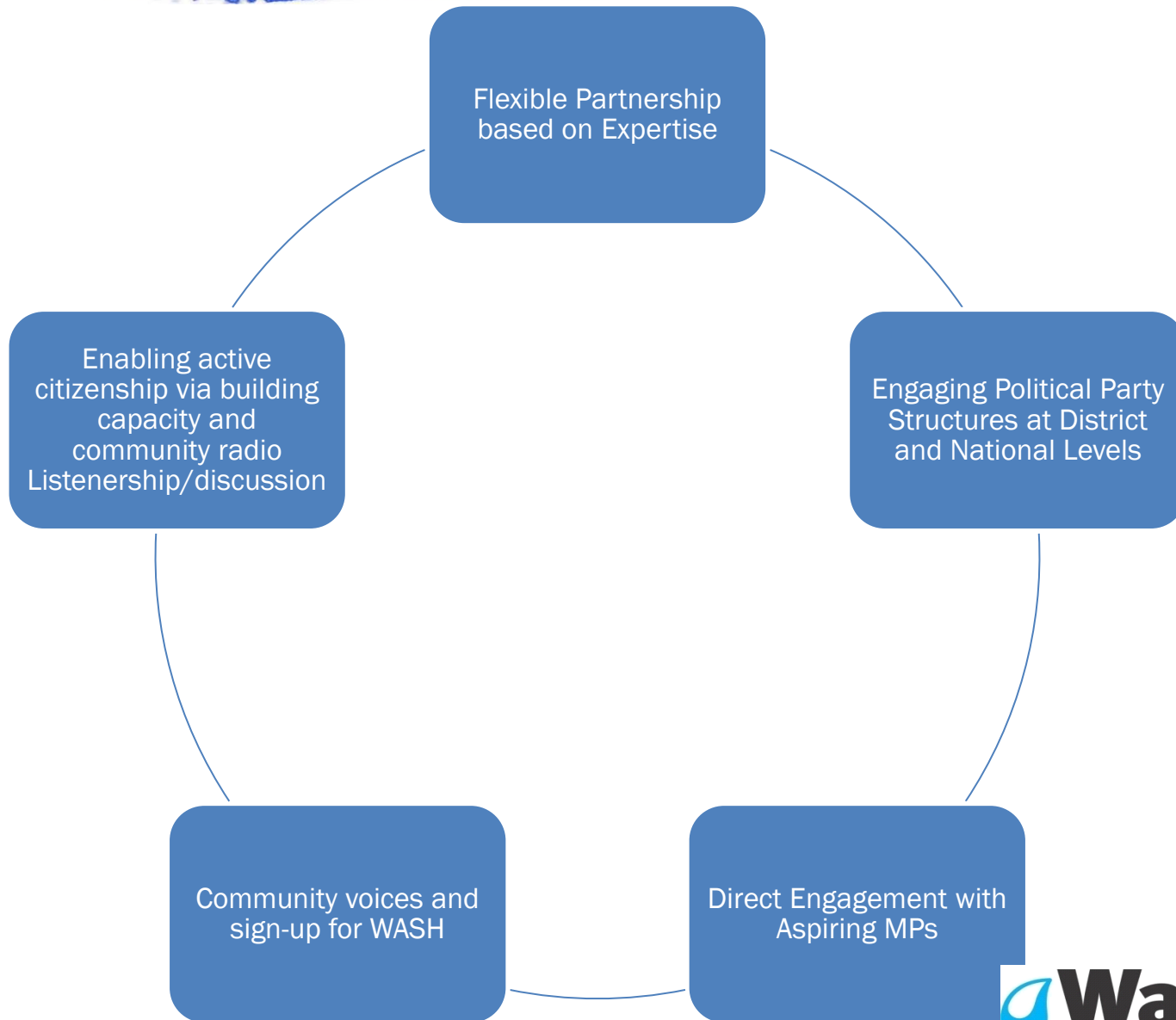
- » Obtain the political will and commitment to integrate WASH into their campaign messaging
 - › On platforms and commit 1/5 of MP development funds to support sanitation in public space
- » Raise awareness of communities to prioritise WASH for and join the campaign to influence change
 - › One million signatures/thump prints collected
 - › 1,260 community members participate actively in radio discussion
 - › 5,000 community members indirectly reached

Risks/assumptions

- » Tagging WAG as promoting a political party(s) interest/agenda
 - › Political parties
 - › Communities
- » Political part(ies) expectation(s)
- » Consultant(s) and WAG traditional partners biases



Five pillars of the campaign

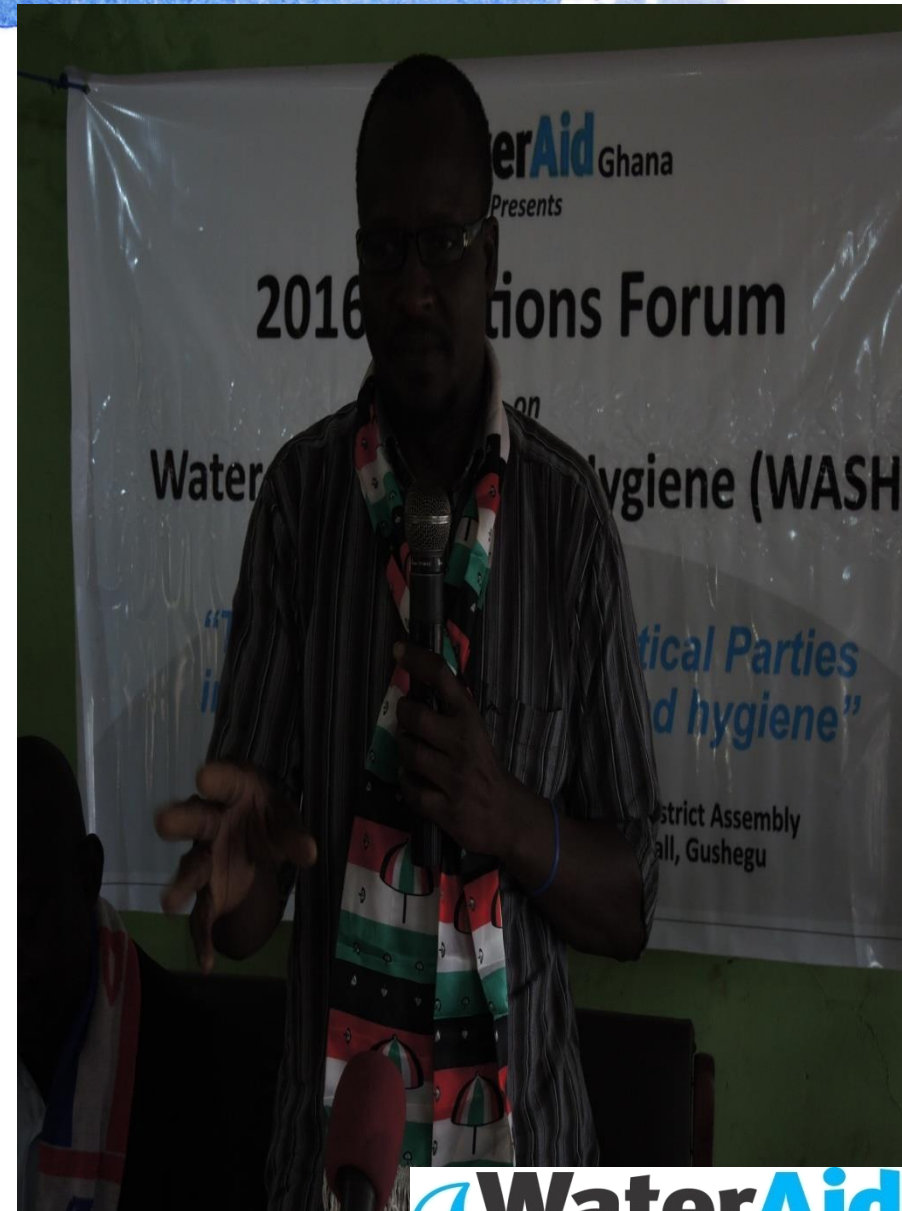


Campaign targets and focus

- » National, Regional, District and Community focus
 - › Gushegu District Assembly
 - * Gushegu constituency
 - › Akwapem North Municipal
 - * Akropong and Okere constituencies
- » Target political parties
 - › National Democratic Congress (NDC)
 - › New Patriotic Party (NPP),
 - › Convention Peoples Party (CPP)
 - › Progressive People's Party (PPP)
 - › People's National Convention (PNC)

Key interventions

- » Community awareness and self analysis
 - › Community and market center drama
 - › Employed the services of the Lonsi (Gongon beaters)
 - › Radio programming
 - * Community participation
 - * Community listenership
 - * Political parties' partic.



Reflections Workshop

» Created platform for political parties to reflect on past manifestoes and their responsiveness to WASH sector

- * CPP National Executives
- * NDC National Executives
- * PPP National Executives



Parliamentary Candidates Forum in Project Districts

» Created (ing) a platform for communities to engage with Parliamentary candidates in

- * Northern Region: Gushiegu
- * Eastern Region: Akropong and Okere constituencies



Cont.

- » Engaged IEA and GBC (initiated discussions with other media houses-Joy and Citi FM)
 - › Invited to the space
 - * raised sanitation as a political issue among political parties and other participants
 - * Only org. among 17
 - › GBC and WAG signed MOU to join its media campaign
 - * WASH has been given a slot on real issue discussion series
 - * Providing coverage to the campaign events



What we have done so far?

- » Two weeks, 17, 000 signatures/thumb prints with WASH as a priority for 2016 national elections
- » Deepened political party's and communities' awareness on WASH-sanitation as a political issue for this national level elections
 - › Obtained commitment from all 3 constituencies leadership
 - › Obtained the commitment of 5 candidate to allocated 20%(1/5) of their MP development funds for public space sanitation, specifically for health facilities >_2.18
- » Initiated a community radio programming model

[AUD-20160823-WA0001.amr](#)

Challenges

- » Getting very neutral community representations with no clear party politics associations to lead/mobilise etc
- » Political part(ies) high expectation(s)
- » Suspicion especially when there were media presence



Partners

Name	Focus area	Technical support
A&M Global Consults	Regional/district/ community focus	Animation, lobbying and awareness
KINAJ Consults	National	Situational analysis and technical backstopping
Public Interest Media Ghana	National/district level	National level engagement
NEWENERGY and ACDEP	Community level (radio advocacy)	Support communities to participate in radio dialogue
WAG	National	Technical backstopping
Other collaborators	Media, WAG community partners etc	

Critical learning area # 1

- » Rethinking partnership with communities leading the agenda
 - › Working with communities to create a neutral structured platform to lead the setting of their own agenda is key to obtain total commitment
 - * Communities **set, lead** and **own** their agenda break the culture of politicians always setting the agenda on their own platforms or change community agenda
 - * It helps to strengthen downward accountability
 - * Gives CSOs/DPs/communities the mandate to demand accountability post elections

Critical learning area # 2

- » Generating a credible body of evidence
 - › Providing up-to-date evidence and its implication for the wider development provided WAG the leverage
 - * Informed politicians and is helping in their messaging
 - * Helped (ing) communities to transit from being content with their scope of what political actors can do.



Critical learning area # 3

- » Widening the base and making a compelling case
 - › Generating evidence of data must not target any political party, ex. Cholera trend analysis(1982-2013, variation in fund release to CWSA(2006-13)
 - › Up our game in shifting power relations to create space for inclusive participation among target community
 - * Community understanding on how shifting gender relation works has not changed much
 - Work to establish an evidence using community structures or groups (WSMT and CAT)

Critical learning area # 4

- » Recognising and building on different expertise
 - › Building on the strength of different consultants with special expertise and relevant experience was key
 - * Reduced biases and actors perception of political inclinations of consultants
 - * Enriched analysis and strategies



Critical learning area # 5

- » Shaping the demands-Actors and partners
 - › Engaging partners and actors to set and redefine realistic demand target for accountability from political actors was enriching.
 - › Building and nurturing community interest/voices by creating inclusive environment
 - * Amplifying voices via live radio in local languages has been a motivating factor
 - * Building a stronger nucleus (community teams) to mobilise and organise communities to sustain the campaign

Key reflections for Next steps

» Before elections

› How do we re-strategize and support the campaign

* Partnership in any form is key to sustain the momentum and move the campaign closer to all the 216 MMDAs

- Increase the number of communities setting own agenda during and post elections

» Post elections

› How do we re-strategize to ensure as a sector (including communities), we demand for accountability of commitment

- Political will and commitment to deliver
- Communities to demand accountability
- CSO supporting to provide the enabling platforms
 - » CONIWAS coordinating our efforts

Political Prioritization

» What Can Political Parties Do?

- › Advocate for change -- all health care facilities and schools have clean water and safe toilet/latrine facilities that are inclusive
- › Advocate for change -- no new health care facility or school is built without adequate, sustainable water and sanitation services
- › 1/5 of MP Development fund is allocated and used to deliver WASH services in Health Care Facilities and any other public sector space at the MMDA level

Political Will; Political Commitment

» What Can Political Parties and CSOs DO?

- › High level Advocacy on the prioritization of WASH – focus on realizing increase financing for equity; quality and sustainability for the most marginalized and unserved
- › High Level Leadership on Monitoring & Evaluation of Implementation of all commitments
- › Advocate for Institutional strengthening

» Q&A

» Additions

Thank You

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