

## **A REPORT ON THE KINTAMPO SOUTH DISTRICT LEARNING ALLIANCE PLATFORM**

Activity: District Learning Alliance Meeting (7<sup>th</sup> in series)

Venue: District Assembly Hall/Court Room, Jema

Date: September 27, 2016

### Meeting agenda

- Sharing of the framework for assessing and monitoring rural and small town water supply services in Ghana
- Any other business
- Closing

The meeting commenced at 11:00am with an opening prayer from Mr. Manfred Appiah. Mr. Daniel Nnebini indicated that, at the last DLAP meeting, the District Assembly was tasked to prioritise the provision of support to WSMTs. Mr. Nnebini noted that, a team was therefore constituted to commence the assessment of WSMTs in both handpump and piped scheme communities. According to him, the team would identify and recommend WSMTs which would require re-constitution and training. Mr. Nnebini informed the gathering that, the essence of the current DLAP was to enable all members of the platform to understand the key indicators which would guide the team in assessing the WSMTs (and their water facilities). He further stated that, the day's discussions would be guided by CWSA's water sector documents, especially the framework for assessing and monitoring rural and small town water and services in Ghana (hereinafter called the framework).

Mr. Benjamin Agbemor mentioned that, the framework has different indicators which could be used to assess physical installations (handpumps and piped schemes), service levels of services of water facilities, performance of WSMTs and the District Assemblies (Service Authorities). Referring to the document, Mr. Agbemor explained how the stroke test could be used to establish different levels of functionality for handpumps. He also explained how the design rate and actual flow rates could be used to indicate standpipe functionality. The use of piped scheme design criteria as it relates to physical losses and the share of population with access to house connection was also explained as critical factors which should be used in assessing such systems.

It was further clarified that the framework contains 11 different indicators which ought to be used in assessing the performance of Water and Sanitation Management Teams for small communities. It was explained that the first group of indicators were on Management and Governance. Under this, the composition of WSMTs, records keeping and accountability, as well as freedom from interference in the work of WSMTs were discussed. The second group of indicators relate to the operations of water facilities. Under this, spare parts availability, access to the services of Area Mechanics, performance of routine and breakdown repairs as well as water quality sampling and analyses were discussed. On the financial

management indicators, the following issues were discussed: revenue-expenditure balance, financial management, tariff setting, and the availability of a Facility Management Plan.

Comparisons were made between WSMTs for Small Towns and Small Communities. Variations in the composition of these two types of WSMTs, tenure of office for members, qualifications of the management (and operational) staff, and requirements of tariff settings were all explained. It was indicated that, the assessment team could rely on the FLOW baseline data for water service monitoring for the names and contact numbers of existing WSMTs in the Kintampo South District.

The meeting observed that, it was possible to identify some WSMTs who would have exhausted their tenure of office but would still receive the backing of their communities to continue managing the water facilities. It was agreed that such cases should be treated as exceptions, and mechanisms should be put in place to ensure that those WSMTs do not abuse their mandate.

In the final part of the presentation, Mr. Agbemor touched on the Service Authority and support function indicators, as contained in the framework. He mentioned the five indicators on which Service Authority functions of the District are to be assessed (presence of service authority function and support structure; district level budget allocation and utilization; coordination of NGOs; WASH planning; monitoring and data flow, as well as bye-laws for WSMTs. The three support functions (operations and maintenance monitoring; support for major breakdown repairs; and technical support from CWSA Regional office) were also identified and explained to the participants.

It was agreed at the meeting that the assessment team should develop a clear scope of work to guide them in the work they were about to embark upon. It was also agreed that the platform would be used to provide updates on the work of the assessment team.

The meeting ended at 1:24pm with a prayer from Mr. Manfred Appiah.

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## **Attendance**

1. Baba Iddi, District Coordinating Director, KSDA
2. Amoah George, SHEP Coordinator, GES, Jema
3. Samuel Gyamena, Assistant Director, KSDA
4. Kumi Yeboah, Systems Manager, Jema piped scheme
5. Eric Azar, Human Resource Manager, KSDA
6. Daniel Laryea Adjei, Internal Auditor, KSDA
7. Zoyaar Turkson, District Environmental Health Officer, KSDA
8. Samuel Abisgo, Assistant Planning Officer, KSDA
9. Donkor Busi, Community Development Officer, KSDA
10. Manfred Appiah, District Budget Analyst, KSDA
11. Thomas Korsah, Head, Works Department, KSDA

12. Yaw Ansu Adomah, District Finance Officer, KSDA
13. Wireko Kwabena, Technican Engineer, KSDA
14. Edson Amu, Technican Engineer, KSDA
15. Kwakye Patrick, Engineer, Water Section, KSDA
16. Farida Rauph, District Water and Sanitation Team member, KSDA
17. Evelyn Ataa Kyeremaa, Assistant Director IIB, KSDA
18. Babalangna Francisca, District Water and Sanitation Team member, KSDA
19. Paul Kofi Twene, ADP Manager, World Vision Ghana, Jema
20. Theresa Swanzy-Baffoe, World Vision Ghana, Jema
21. Daniel Nnebini, Assistant Development Planning Officer, KSDA
22. Mohammed A.C, Assistant Director IIB, KSDA
23. George Amartei, Senior Extension Services Specialist, CWSA BAR
24. Benjamin Agbemor, Regional Learning Facilitator, CWSA BAR