

District Resource Person (DRP) perspective on CLTS implementation at district level

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INTRODUCTION

• Hope For Future Generations (HFFG) is registered NGO which focuses on Public Health, WASH, Education and women economic empowerment

 UNICEF engaged HFFG to support the implementation of GOG/UNICEF WASH Programme in the Northern Region

• Districts: East Gonja, West Mamprusi, Mion, Yendi and Kumbungu

 DRPs provide technical support in the implementation of all CLTS activities and the management of the Natural Leaders Scheme towards the achievement of District-wide ODF

DRPs EXPERIENCE

- Exposure for multi-stakeholder facilitation and processes, power struggles and divergence interest amidst achieving of results
- In Kumbungu district, the first DICCS meeting was conducted due to the presence of the DRP, the district had NEVER held one
- The first experience for the Kumbungu DRP was to get the DCD to sign a cheque for unliquidated funds to be returned to UNICEF after several failed attempts by DEHO. The day DRP was introduced was same day the DCD signed the cheque for funds to be returned
- Commitment of DA leadership and community structures key in the achievement of results

SUCCESSES

- DRPs helped in the preparation of MTDP on sanitation for the period 2018-2021 to ensure DAs take charge of sanitation issues
- Timely preparation of budgets and liquidation to UNICEF, Eg: in Mion DRP helped to liquidate 29,566 GH cedis to UNICEF, Kumbungu was blocked by UNICEF, DRP facilitated the refunds to UNICEF and a budget was prepared and approved by UNICEF.
- Functional DICCS, MICCS and FF meetings which prior to DRP involvement didn't take place and high commitment of senior management to CLTS activities
- ODF has improved, Eg in Mion, ODF moved from 9 in 2016 to 2017 for the first half of 2017, In yendi, 14 sections achieved ODF, East Gonja achieved ODF, which didn't happen prior to UNICEF engagement
- Improved documentation, monitoring and response to UNICEF request for information in the districts

CHALLENGES

- DAs over dependent on donor support and forgetting its mandatory role which reflects DAs inability to provide logistics and financial support to continued CLTS activities when UNICEF funds are exhausted (more talk with little or no action)
- Organising DICCS/MICCS/FF meetings not always successful when funds from UNICEF are exhausted

- Very rigid ways of working hence lack of flexibility and innovation
- Poor attitude of some staff to work shown in their lack of responsibility and task accomplishments
- Weak supervision of junior staff by senior staff resulting in the culture of business as usual and no disciplinary action taking against non-performing staff

WAY FORWARD

- DAs should be-oriented to see sanitation as a business that can create job opportunities for the people and be supported to develop the value chain rather than business as usual
- Donors should begin to look at result-based financing to ensure DAs support is tied to results achieved over time
- District sanitation league tables should be continued as it brings about competition and higher commitment by senior management. Regional and community sanitation league tables should be introduced and strengthened if not exist
- Disciplinary actions should be taking against non-performing FFs and senior staff

