

CSOs Urged To Partner Government for Collective Action towards Achieving WASH SDGs



One significant issue facing developing countries, of which Ghana is no exception, in the area of Water, Sanitation and Hygiene (WASH) is the waning funding to the sector. Ghana's case is even more complicated, considering the country's recent reclassification as a lower middle income country. Though this may present opportunities for the WASH sector, it can initially constrain the sector's ability to attract funding, especially when about 90 per cent of the sectors' funding comes from loans and grants.

Explaining the funding challenges that confront the WASH sector and the need to explore partnership

opportunities to carry out effective advocacy to ensure the achievement of the WASH Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs), the Country Director of IRC, Mrs. Vida Duti said there was a decline in donor funding to the sector; and because most of the programmes in the WASH sector were ongoing, sector actors may not feel the impact, stressing, "but we should be preparing and looking at how as a sector, we can adjust to make collective impact."

In a presentation to kick start the learning session on advocacy issues around capacities, innovative financing and exploring partnerships for collective action towards achieving WASH SDGs at the 27th

IN THIS EDITION



CSOs Urged To Partner Government for Collective Action towards Achieving WASH SDGs



Reposition to Surmount the Challenges in The WASH Sector – Director, Water, Advises Sector Actors



Martin Dery Chairs CONIWAS



Employ Innovations That Are Deployable On Large Scale to Address Sanitation Challenge



MMDAS Urged to Partner the Private Sector to Provide Efficient Sanitation Services to Poor Households



Adopt Innovation for Improved WASH Services--WASH Stakeholders Advised

EDITORIAL TEAM:

Abdulai Abdul-Rahman (RCN),
 Abu Wumbei (IRC Ghana),
 Ben Arthur (CONIWAS),
 Kofi Biscoff (TREND Group),
 Frederick Asiamah (GWJN).

Continue on page 5 >>

Reposition to Surmount the Challenges in The WASH Sector – Director, Water, Advises Sector Actors



Mr. Emmanuel Addae, Outgoing Director, Water, Ministry of Water Resources, Works and Housing (MWRWH)

The Director, Water, Ministry of Water Resources, Works and Housing (MWRWH) Mr. Emmanuel Addae, has called on all actors in the Water, Sanitation and Hygiene (WASH) Sector in Ghana to reposition themselves in order to surmount the funding challenges in the sector as well as partner with the Government to achieve the Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs) on water and sanitation by 2030.

Mr. Addae said the theme:

“Repositioning CSOs towards achieving the WASH SDGs: The Role of Sector Partners” was apt and appropriate for this year's Mole Conference, especially the challenging times the sector finds itself now.

According to Mr. Addae, realizing the need to reposition the WASH sector means that, there was an admission that the sector was not well positioned now and that there was the urgent need for actors in the WASH sector to strategize effectively to ensure that they put their feet in firm ground and to do that, required the sector to forge stronger relationships with the Government. “We have to find out whether our

relationship with Government is good enough, are we transparent? Are we accountable? Are we diligent in what we do? and do we provide data even for our own parent organization and for that matter the Government, I believe these are some of the questions we need to ask ourselves as we reposition the ourselves,” Mr. Addae emphasized.

Mr. Addae who was speaking at the 27TH Edition of the Mole Conference on 22ND November, 2016 at Big Ada in Greater Accra Region, explained that, Ghana is currently implementing the SDGs and the success of its implementation required the collective efforts of all sector actors including CONIWAS. “Our dear country achieved was able to achieve the SDG on water and I can say, we were among a few in sub-Saharan Africa that achieved this feat, we therefore that we can rely on CONIWAS to help the Government to achieve the SDGs on water come 2030,” Mr. Addae added.

On dwindling funding for the WASH sector, the Director, Water, charged sector actors to make cost benefit allowance for every funding they received from donors as well as

ensure that their projects are of great use to the people they serve.

He said resource allocation for the WASH sector has been dwindling for several reasons, one of which he cited is Ghana's current status as a lower middle income country and as a result of that donors are now turning their attention to other least developed countries and that Mr. Addae added posed a great challenge to the sector.

In view of that, Mr. Emmanuel Addae urged stakeholders at this year's Mole Conference to make cogent suggestions and strategies that would effectively mitigate the challenges in the short term and combat the challenges in the longer term.

On the Water Sector Strategic Plan, the Director, Water, of the MWRWH indicated the plan was being rolled out and it was a proper for stakeholders in the sector to actively partake in its implementation as well as enable them to consort as they plan for water activities in the coming years.

Mr. Emmanuel Addae, however, expressed disquiet about Ghana's poor performance in the SDGs on sanitation, despite the strong showing the country put up in the area of water and said water and sanitation was intertwined and therefore appealed to stakeholders to put their wheels to the shoulders to ensure that Ghana achieved its objectives in sanitation by the year 2030.

Mr. Emmanuel Addae, who officially declared the conference opened called on participants to deliberate and work towards issues that will ensure that, Ghana does not only achieve its water for all policy, but improve sanitation and hygiene by 2025.

Martin Dery Chairs CONIWAS



Mr. Martin Dery, Chairman of CONIWAS

The Coalition of Non-Governmental Organizations in Water and Sanitation (CONIWAS) has elected Martin Dery as its new Chairman. The other elected executives include, Atta Arhin, Vice Chairman, Karim Abdul, Northern Zone Representative, Nuhu Umar, Middle Zone Representative and William Domiappella, Southern Zone Representative.

Mr. Dery was elected at the 27th edition of the Mole Conference in Big Ada in the Greater Accra Region.

In his acceptance address, Mr. Martin Dery, the new Chairman of the CONIWAS, said the Coalition would in the coming years advocate for a new concept for water coverage in

Ghana. He said CONIWAS would move away from the concept of domestic water coverage to the concept of household water coverage. Household water concept, the Chairman explained, gives impetus to the fact that water service provision at the household level has multiple uses and some of these uses are not just for drinking, but are directly linked to the wellbeing of the household especially nutrition for children.

“We will be advocating that, we should try and shift the goal posts in our definition of water supply that will ensure that household have extra water beyond what they drink and bath and use to cook, to also use to support their livelihoods and income generation,” Mr. Dery underscored. According to the new CONIWAS Chairman,

household income was going to be very crucial in Ghana's drive to promoting safe sanitation at the household level.

“We all know that the free days are over, we have been talking about subsidies for some time now, CONIWAS is not a group just advocating for blanket subsidies, we are interested in targeting, incentivizing, and innovative financing that doesn't just doll out facilities to people, but that will support people to build their own facilities and to give them some time frame over which they could also contribute to a revolving sanitation fund,”

Mr. Dery explained.

To effectively carryout its advocacy activities, Mr. Dery said CONIWAS would avail itself to capacity building opportunities to learn about the numerous policies and frameworks that exists in the sector and to transfer the knowledge to the wider citizens it represented.

Mr. Dery expressed his heartfelt gratitude to all members of CONIWAS for the trust that they have reposed in him and the other executives and promised to work diligently to merit that trust. He also thank UNICEF, IRC Ghana, World Vision Ghana and WaterAid Ghana for their immense support for CONIWAS over the years.

Employ Innovations That Are Deployable On Large Scale to Address Sanitation Challenge- CONIWAS Chair

The ever increasing need for developing countries to ensure that better sanitation services are provided to their citizens has never been evident than now. Over 2.5 billion people, representing about 40 per cent of the world's population practice open defecation or lack adequate sanitation facilities. The effect of this phenomenon can be dire, especially on human health and the environment in general.

Poor sanitation alone accounts for about 700,000 child deaths from diarrhea each year. Chronic diarrhea can hinder child development by impeding the absorption of essential nutrients and reducing the effectiveness of life-saving vaccines.

Making sanitation facilities and public services that work for everybody and that keep waste out of the environment is a major problem in developing countries. The toilets, sewers, and wastewater treatment facilities in advanced societies require more land and water, and they are costly to build, operate and maintain. The existing systems are cheaper, but unappealing because they do not kill pathogens, they retain odour and attract insects.

It is in view of this that the Chair Person of the Coalition of NGOs in Water and Sanitation (CONIWAS) Mrs. Maria Don-Chebe is of the view that solving the sanitation challenge in the developing part of the world of which Ghana is no exception, will require new innovations that are deployable on a large scale, especially in highly populated areas.



Mrs. Maria Don-Chebe, Outgoing CONIWAS Chairperson

Welcoming participants to the 27th edition of the Mole Conference at Big Ada in the Greater Accra Region of Ghana, Mrs. Don-Chebe charged players in the WASH sector to come out with innovative and cost effective designs of WASH products and services to increase access to persons with disabilities and children, adding there was the need for innovative financing to enable poorer households to build and use sustainable and resilient latrines, especially in flood prone areas.

The Mrs. Don-Chebe said the fight to end sanitation and poverty was far from over since there was still a lot of hard to service communities yet to be reached with safe and affordable sanitation and there called for sector actors to begin to think outside the box in order to address the challenges confronting the sector.

The CONIWAS Chair, however, expressed delight that stakeholders in this year's Mole Conference would be dilating on issues that would directly address the challenges, share and learn the practical success stories that are working very well around sanitation financing, WASH in Schools and Health facilities and the quest to achieve Open Defecation Free status.

Mrs. Don-Chebe said there was the need also for participants to share superior ideas on how to effectively build the capacities of WASH sector actors to carry out their advocacy roles effectively as well as track the WASH sector performance.

She said CONIWAS will continue to partner with all stakeholders in the WASH sector, including the Government to ensure that there is a vibrant WASH sector in Ghana which will work towards achieving the much desired SDGs on water and sanitation for all.

"It is clear that no single actor can achieve this laudable goal alone, there is the urgent need to ensure that all relevant actors come on board the SDG 6 boat, we in the Civil Society Organization (CSO) sector are aware that we have an even greater role to play in our collective effort at improving water and sanitation services for all," Mrs. Don-Chebe stressed.

Making a presentation under the theme: "Spaces and Opportunities for CSO Advocacy Around SDGs," the Country Director of WaterAid Ghana, Mr. Abdul-Nashiru Mohammed advised WASH sector actors to get out of their WASH boxes and work with other sector institutions if they want to make remarkable achievements in the SDGs on WASH.

To ensure availability and sustainable management of water and sanitation for all, Mr. Mohammed said calls for stronger collaboration and partnerships.

Continue next page

CSOs Urged To Partner Government for Collective Action towards Achieving WASH SDGs

Continue from page 1

During the Mole Conference at Big Ada in Ghana, Mrs. Duti said doubling funding for the WASH sector through domestic resource mobilization was critical for an unimpeded SDGs implementation. However, she noted that the outlook and drivers for domestic resource mobilization, currently does not look favorable for the sector and therefore called for a more concerted efforts among stakeholders in the WASH sector to manage the transition in order to avoid budget slippages.

The changing funding and partnership landscape, according to the IRC Ghana Country Director, had a lot of implications for advocacy work among Civil Society

Organizations (CSOs) in the WASH sector in Ghana. She said the numerous complexities being experienced in the sector has a waning impact on WASH sector dynamism and “so the question is that how can we remain dynamic in a sector that is losing its dynamism,” she asked.

On how to use advocacy to drive the SDG agenda, Mrs. Duti, said CSOs should partner government to redirect the path to achieving the SDGs on WASH. “We cannot sit back and say this is government business, it's every body's business, but the government is supposed to lead and therefore, we need to look at how together we can work to support government in driving the

agenda towards the achieving the SDGs targets,” she stressed.

Mrs. Duti who spoke on the theme “Overview of Step-Change-for-WASH... Forging Partnerships for SDGs and Follow-Up Discussions,” advised stakeholders to reflect on critical issues in the sector, especially on best practices other partners were implementing and achieving results that others can learn from to drive the advocacy agenda. “Move out from lamentations and begin to reflect on how to build synergies around advocacy so that collectively, we can move the WASH sector forward,” she urged.

Employ Innovations That Are Deployable On Large Scale to Address Sanitation Challenge- CONIWAS Chair

Continue from page 4



Country Director of WaterAid Ghana,
Mr. Abdul-Nashiru Mohammed

According to the WaterAid Ghana Country Director, WASH underpinned progress on a whole range of SDGs including those on health, education and gender equality, adding it was therefore crucial for governments across the world, including the Government of Ghana to recognize the importance of WASH for the country's economic and social development. “Government should ensure that

the goal on WASH is imbedded in national development and other action plans” Mr. Mohammed stressed.

WASH, the WaterAid Country Director explained should be seen as an essential component of an integrated approach to tackling poverty, hunger, health and inequality. “the goals and targets supported by WASH access include a good number of them, for instance, ending poverty, WASH is related to that, ending hunger, WASH is related to that, ensuring healthy lives, WASH is related to that, ensuring inclusive and equitable quality education, WASH is related to that, achieving gender equality, WASH is related to that, and making cities and human

settlements inclusive, safe, resilient and sustainable, WASH is related to that.” Mr. Mohammed emphasized.

Editors Notes

Mole Conference is one of the biggest Multi-Stakeholder annual platforms in the Water, Sanitation and Hygiene (WASH) sector in Ghana. The Platform, named after the venue of the maiden edition, Mole in the Northern Region of Ghana, is organized by the Coalition of NGOs in Water and Sanitation (CONIWAS) and brings together sector practitioners from NGOs, Government, Private Operators, Networks, CBOs, CSOs, etc. to dialogue, learn and share knowledge/information on specific themes that affect the sector.

Strong Civil Society Needed To Improve Governance in the WASH Sector in Ghana

The issue of governance has become fundamental in every human endeavor. Governance permeates every societal fabric including corporate institutions, nation building and the provision of essential social services such as WASH services. It was therefore no wonder that the issue of governance featured prominently at the 27th edition of the Mole Conference at Big Ada in the Greater Accra Region of Ghana.

Governance, according to WASH sectors, remains a prominent feature that actors encounter in the sector and that they said is not limited to only the central Government, but also features prominently in the rural sub-sector in Ghana. Governance is also encountered at the local government level.

Contributing to discussions on Advocacy and Governance at the 27th Mole Conference, the Learning and Advocacy Manager of IRC Ghana, Ms. Veronica Ayi-Bonte said effective governance was required at the community level in the management of WASH system. “How well or not the communities manage these WASH systems will determine whether your facility will continue to work or how it will wane down and I think governance is important in order for our systems to be sustained.” Ms. Ayi-Bonte stressed.



She said recent works done in the WASH sector regarding WASH systems, has revealed that there are about 30,000 systems in the country, most of which are in the rural sub-sector and its being operated and managed by Community Based Organizations (CBOs), and WSMTs and effective governance is required to make these systems work.

According to Ms. Ayi-Bonte, Governance is required not just at the political level, but at the District Assembly and national level in order to ensure that the gains made so far can be consolidated.

“We realized that we do need strong Civil Society to improve governance, we are at different levels, we are everywhere, as we sit here, some of us work at the national level, some at the international level, some work at the regional level and district level and some at the community level, and we need to be able to pull in all our efforts as one group of people in order to see the change at the various

levels we are looking at,” Ms. Ayi-Bonte urged.

Within the partnerships, the IRC Ghana Learning and Advocacy Manager said stakeholders in the WASH sector need to understand how they work in the decentralized systems and to be effective, she said they need to integrate their efforts.

According to Ms. Ayi-Bonte, the greatest challenge in the WASH sector is the number of people who have not been reached with WASH services as a result of issues such as ground water problems, availability of water, difficult to reach areas, technology choices and explained further that all that are issues that made those areas difficult to live in and therefore called for concerted efforts to reach the unserved, and “that is what we do, and that is what CSOs should be doing, reaching the most people that people cannot see and we need to be able to build on that,” she emphasized.

On how to promote governance in the WASH sector in Ghana, Ms. Ayi-Bonte said it was important for WASH sectors to know who they are, define what their interests are and appreciate how the stakeholders can use each other in different circumstances to achieve the delivery of quality services.

Continue on the page

Strong Civil Society Needed To Improve Governance in the WASH Sector in Ghana

Continue from page 6

“We all do different aspect of it, some of us do campaigns, some of us do advocacy, some of us are advisors, lobbyists, some of us negotiate, some of us are activists, we are from different spectrums, but the thing is, we need to know who we are, its important. We need to define what our interests are, because it will affect how we present ourselves and we need to know how we use each other in different circumstances,” Ms. Ayi-Bonte emphasized.

She said, IRC Ghana for instance worked mainly around government and with government and if it changed focus from one of advocacy to that of activism, that chances that it will lose its influence will be quite high.

Ms. Ayi-Bonte explained that there are other partners who were doing activism and doing it effectively, and therefore, partnering them to do it better was crucial.

Championing an evidence based advocacy was critical, stressing “sometimes we have the information, we are passionate, there are also people who are studying it and have different results, but we don't necessarily link it to our advocacy activities.” She further call on all partners to sharpen their advocacy tools, work with the right partners to achieve the needed results.

MMDAS Urged to Partner the Private Sector to Provide Efficient Sanitation Services to Poor Households



Kwame-Asubonteng, Programme Manager of IRC Ghana

The changing financing landscape in the Water Sanitation and Hygiene (WASH) sector makes it very imperative for Metropolitan, Municipal and District Assemblies (MMDAs) to open up the sanitation market and forge partnership with the private sector to provide efficient and low cost sanitation services to the citizenry especially the poor households, the Programme Manager of IRC Ghana, Mr. Kwame Asiedu Asubonteng has said. He said this while contributing to a panel discussion on the topic “Advocacy for Innovative Financing,” at the 27TH edition of Mole Conference in Big Ada in the Greater Accra Region of Ghana.

To give impetus to the MMDAs to prioritize sanitation, Mr. Asubonteng said the Sanitation Challenge was initiated to enable the Assemblies turn ideas into impact. He said Ghana Sanitation Challenge initiative is focusing on liquid waste. “In Ghana, our objective is to get the Assemblies to prioritize, and we have seen from where we started last year that, the Assemblies are really prioritizing sanitation by making sure it reflects in their plans and actions with corresponding proposed budgets lines included for implementation” he stressed.

The IRC Programme Manager, indicated for instance that, the Ministry of Finance have also designated budget lines for these sanitation plans. “So it is definitely going to happen that

Assemblies will get funding for liquid waste management in their budgets for the first time, hitherto, all the sanitation budget allocations to the Assemblies were for solid waste management,” he emphasized.

According to Mr. Asubonteng, one significant feature of the Sanitation Challenge being implemented is its ability to redirect the focus of the Assemblies to how to mobilize funding for sanitation activities beyond traditional Government sources. He appealed to Assemblies to take the lead role by creating the enabling environment for the private sector to do what it does best through latrine construction artisans and microfinance institutions. Mr. Asubonteng, however admitted that one of the challenges was how to get the Assemblies to perform their lead role and that was exactly what the Sanitation Challenge initiative was working assiduously to address.

Mr. Asubonteng explained that Assemblies were responsible for the sanitation market and latrine provision; and that the sanitation challenge arrangement provides partnership opportunity with the private sector and other institutions that can provide the financing and other technical and ancillary support. “So this is a change from the regime of Assemblies advertising for bids and tender to invite the private sector on board; with the initiative the doors are now opened and it is the private sector who are rushing to the Assemblies for partnership engagement” he further explained. Mr. Asubonteng said the Sanitation Challenge initiative was to forge inclusive partnership by bringing everybody on board to contribute to addressing the challenges in the sanitation sector. “So when you go to the Assemblies, especially the 17 implementing MMDAs, you will realize

that there is private sector partners' involvement; interestingly, unlike the traditional consultant engagement, the MMDAs together with partners collectively developed the LWM strategies during the first stage of the Sanitation Challenge. These designs, plans and strategies were done without the Assemblies paying any money to the private sector. The private sector did it because they look at the business opportunity at the end of the day and that is what the Sanitation Challenge seeks to foster,” Mr. Asubonteng explained.



Liquid waste management strategy implementation, the IRC Ghana Programme Manager indicated involved the sanitation value chain—treatment plant construction, toilet provision and management.

The Sanitation Challenge is being implemented through a consortium of private partners together with NGOs and the MMDAs.

He expressed the hope that through the implementation of the Sanitation Challenge across the 17 MMDAs, lessons would be learnt regarding how to scale it up to other parts of the country.

Adopt Innovation for Improved WASH Services-- WASH Stakeholders Advised



Mr. Donnan Tay, the new Director, Water, MWRWH.

The 27TH Edition of the Mole Conference has ended at Big Ada in the Greater Accra Region with a call on stakeholders in the WASH sector in Ghana to redouble their efforts at introducing, adopting and utilizing technology and innovation in the provision of sustainable water and sanitation products and services in Ghana.

Speaking on behalf of the outgoing Director, Water, Ministry of Water Resources, Works and Housing (MWRWH), Mr. Emmanuel Addae, at the close of the 27th Mole Conference, Mr. Donnan Tay, the new Director, Water, MWRWH, urged the executives of the

Coalition of Non-Governmental Organizations in Water and Sanitation (CONIWAS) to let innovation be the driving force of their activities and programmes. That, he noted, was the only way to sustain the activities of CONIWAS to push for the achievement of the SDGs on WASH. Mr. Tay pledged the Ministry's support and commitment to the course of CONIWAS and the WASH sector in general.

He thanked CONIWAS for recognizing the role of the MWRWH and pledged his personal commitment to the activities of CONIWAS.

For her part, the outgoing Chair Person of the CONIWAS, Mrs. Maria Don-Chebe expressed gratitude to UNICEF, IRC Ghana, World Vision Ghana, WaterAid Ghana and other partners for their invaluable support for CONIWAS over the years and more especially this year's Mole Conference. Mrs. Don-Chebe assured participants of CONIWAS's resolve to work harder to vigorously implement all the key decisions reached at the Conference.

Mole XXIII Conference Communiqué

Supporting the Provision of Sustainable WASH Services in Institutions – Schools and Health Centres

1. Conference recognise that the SDGs are meant to continue the fight against extreme poverty as well as ensuring more equitable development; Civil Society Organisations (CSOs), Government and Development partners also acknowledge that the new agenda is universal and requires participation of all
2. Government would engage key actors to ensure a standard design (that is cost effective) for WASH facilities in institutions that are usable and inclusive;
3. CONIWAS would lobby government leadership –GES and GHS and development partners to increase financial resources to WASH in institutions;
4. CONIWAS would advocate lead Government Agencies and Development partners for a national operational plan for sustainability in WASH in institutions to be established
5. CONIWAS would work with others for an incentive/reward system for maintenance of WASH facilities in institutions. We consider a sanitation league table for WASH in institutions but first establishing credible data for this process

Advocating For Comprehensive SDG Financing

6. While Conference acknowledge that the challenge is about covering everyone, everywhere and that a major shortcoming of the MDGs was the failure to spell out clearly the resources required for implementation.
7. Government partnership with private sector and CSOs will be critical in mobilising funding from ALL sources (tax, oil revenue, etc.)
8. CONIWAS should advocate that Sanitation pays! A \$1 invested returns \$4-\$9 and Building tourism requires a sanitised nation!
9. CONIWAS should lobby for government to allocate a component (percentage) of existing tax or rate (e.g. VAT, Property Rate) or a proportion of infrastructure fund to feed into a National WASH Fund that will be created through advocacy.
10. CONIWAS should work with lead government institutions (NDPC etc.) to review and improve SSDP to align with SDG (localisation)

Visible and Concrete Private Sector Involvement

11. CONIWAS would promote private sector visibility in creating demand in low income communities.
12. CONIWAS would advocate for strong government role in creating an enabling environment for the private sector to thrive through incentives, tax waivers for sanitary products and regulation;
13. CONIWAS should engage private sector to be an active participant in subsequent Mole Conference and use that to ensure that they extends services to places where they should go;
14. Government should support the development and sharing of a business case especially getting Local authorities to enforce the bye-laws which will enhance demand.

Sanitation Provision – Urban and Rural

15. Conference is aware that Sanitation trends present an alarming picture as of only 15% of the population has access to an improved facility and want to support efforts at reversing this and that
16. CONIWAS should lead the gathering of WASH data at the district level (poverty mapping to guide targeting, mapping of project and facilities, and share for sector use) linked to existing initiatives – DiMES, SiS, BaSiS, etc.
17. CONIWAS should improve on collaboration and coordination among CSOs in project implementation (for consistency and quality)
18. CONIWAS should share new innovations and sanitation options among members and the wider sector that are affordable in order to reverse the current costs.
19. CONIWAS should set up a committee to implement a comprehensive capacity development and networking of natural leaders to optimise their potential for whole community development, especially behaviour change.
20. CONIWAS should create awareness on the need for voices to be heard as part of social accountability (through the Taarifa platform and others related to the SDGs)

Partnerships and Synergies for Comprehensive advocacy

21. Conference is conversant with the demand of SDG 17 on partnerships to deliver the ambitious global agenda and endeavour to explore this to the full extent possible for advocacy purposes
22. CONIWAS should explore partnership opportunities for developing advocacy capacities and tools for CSO evidence-based engagement to deliver the WASH-related SDGs
23. CONIWAS should assess and draw on the dialogue and decent partnership opportunities for strengthening CSO capacities to engage governments and empower citizens to localise the SDGs
24. CONIWAS should explore partnership opportunities with knowledge management organisations to generate targeted knowledge products and advocacy materials for effective and evidence-based engagements on the SDGs at multiple levels.

PICTURE GALLERY! PICTURE GALLERY!! PICTURE GALLERY!!!





REPUBLIC OF GHANA

Ministry of Sanitation and Water Resources

Wash Sector Events Calendar 2017

WasteSafe 2017 : 5th International Conference on Solid Waste Management in South Asian Countries	February, 25-27	Khulna, Bangladesh
6th Annual Effluent and Water Management Conference, 2017	February 28-March 01	Nairobi, Kenya
2017 Beyond The Pipe Forum (Safe Water Network)	March, 15	Accra, Ghana
World Water Day, 2017	March, 22	Ghana (TBD)
International Conference Progress in Biogas IV 2017	March, 08-11	Stuttgart, Germany
4th Arab Water Week, 2017	March 19-April 23	Dead Sea, Jordan
Integrated Water Resources Management and Environmental Management, 2017	March 22 – April 4	Galilee, Israel
Annual CLTS Stock Taking Forum, 2017	April-May	Ghana (TBD)
3rd International Conference & Exhibition on Sustainable Water Supply and Sanitation (SWSSC 2017)	April, 23-25	Cairo, Egypt
Menstrual Hygiene Day, 2017	May, 28	World Wide
19th International Conference on Water and Society (ICWS 2017)	May, 04-05	Rome, Italy
OZWATER'17 – Australia's International Water Conference & Exhibition, 2017	May, 16-18	Sydney, Australia
14th IWA Leading Edge Conference on Water and Wastewater Technologies, 2017	May 29 June 2	Florianópolis, Brazil
Water and Society, 2017	June, 5 – 7	Seville, Spain
WASRAG's World Water Summit 9, 2017	June, 09	Atlanta, USA
40th WEDC International Conference, 2017	July, 24-28	Loughborough Univ. UK
World Water Week, 2017	Aug 27- Sep 01	Stockholm, Sweden
Ghana Water Forum, 2017	September	Ghana (TBD)
Global Handwashing Day, 2017	October, 15	Ghana (TBD)
Mole Conference XXVIII	Sep.-Oct.	Ghana (TBD)
Amsterdam International Water Week, 2017	Oct 30-Nov 03	Amsterdam, Netherlands
World Toilet Day, 2017	November, 19	Ghana (TBD)

Compiled by the WASH Resource Centre Network (RCN) Ghana, www.washghana.net Email: rcn@washghana.net