



VOICE FOR CHANGE (V4C)

PARTNERSHIP PROJECT

V4C PROJECT:

AN EBA APPROACH TO DEALING WITH
SANITATION IMPLEMENTATION & FINANCING
ISSUES AT THE DISTRICT-LEVEL



JULY, 2017

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IMPLEMENTATION

BRIEF BACKGROUND ON THE V4C PROJECT

- The Voice for Change (V4C) programme is a five-year (2016 - 2020) evidence-based advocacy programme being implemented by SNV in partnership with the International Food and Policy Research Institute (IFPRI) and funded by the Dutch Ministry of Foreign Affairs (DGIS).
- The aim of the project is to strengthen the capacities of local CSOs to generate relevant & reliable data/evidence to carry out evidence-based advocacy for sustainable improvements in key focus areas namely:
 - ✓ *Renewable Energy.*
 - ✓ *Water, Sanitation & Hygiene (WASH).*
 - ✓ *Food Security and Nutrition.*

BRIEF BACKGROUND ON THE V4C PROJECT (Cont'd)

- The Ghana WASH component of the project is dubbed '*Ghana Sanitation and Hygiene for All (SH4ALL)*'.
- It is directed at intensifying the voice of CSOs and citizenry to demand more equitable, affordable and sustainable sanitation & hygiene services and improved policy implementation at the district level.
- The project targets an array of actors including MMDAs, Traditional Authorities, Waste Management Companies, Microfinance institutions, CBOs, Communities, Assembly Members and Unit Committees, media and others: all relevant actors whose involvement are key to the realization of the project objectives.
- Intervention Forum (IF) is one of four (4) local implementing partner Civil Society Organisations (CSOs) under the WASH component and has been tasked to implement the project in the Awutu Senya District (ASDA) & Awutu Senya East Municipal Assembly (ASEMA).

V4C WASH FOCUS

The project would focus on advocacy targeted at ameliorating the following issues:

- Weak regulation of the private sector service providers by MMDAs.
- Low priority accorded to sanitation and hygiene improvements at all levels.
- Ineffective coordination on sanitation and hygiene.
- Inadequate sanitation financing.
- Low level of implementation of District Environmental Sanitation Strategy and Action Plan (DESSAP).
- Low private sector involvement & investment in sanitation & hygiene services provision.
- Inadequate data on sanitation & hygiene.
- Low inclusion of respective vulnerable and marginalized groups (such as women, youth groups, persons with disabilities (PWDs), the poor, the aged, etc.) in sanitation and hygiene service provision
- Highlighting gender and climate-specific issues which are often overlooked in sanitation and hygiene planning and decision-making processes.

EXPECTED GHANA SH4ALL OUTCOMES

- Improved capacities of CSOs in leadership, knowledge of WASH thematic area, advocacy and utilization of WASH data & evidence among others.
- Improved coordination on key sanitation and hygiene issues among local actors (MMDAs & other stakeholders) at the district level.
- Use of improved capacities by CSOs in designing and implementing advocacy activities towards sanitation and hygiene improvements at the district level.
- Strengthened capacity of communities and CBOs to demand improved, equitable and sustainable sanitation services.
- Effective role play by MMDAs in basic sanitation and hygiene services through the enforcement of sanitation regulations and by-laws.
- Improved responsiveness of duty bearers (MMDAs) to the demands of right holders (communities).
- Enhanced budget allocation, financing & investments for S & H by MMDAs & private sector entities ultimately culminating in improved access to improved sanitation and hygiene services/products.

HIGHLIGHTS OF IMPLEMENTED V4C ACTIVITIES SO FAR

V4C

**DEVELOPMENT OF
CONTEXT ANALYSIS,
THEORY OF CHANGE AND
ADVOCACY PLAN**

CONSULTATIVE MEETINGS WITH ASSEMBLY OFFICIALS



V4C

**LITERATURE REVIEW ON
AVAILABLE DATA,
RELEVANT REPORTS,
STUDIES & MANUALS**

ENGAGEMENT MEETINGS WITH TRADITIONAL AND COMMUNITY LEADERS ON THE V4C PROJECT.



FOCUS GROUP DISCUSSION TO INFORM BASELINES, ENGAGE CITIZENS AND CREATE AWARENESS ON V4C PROJECT.



Participants raising concerns on sanitation and hygiene within their communities

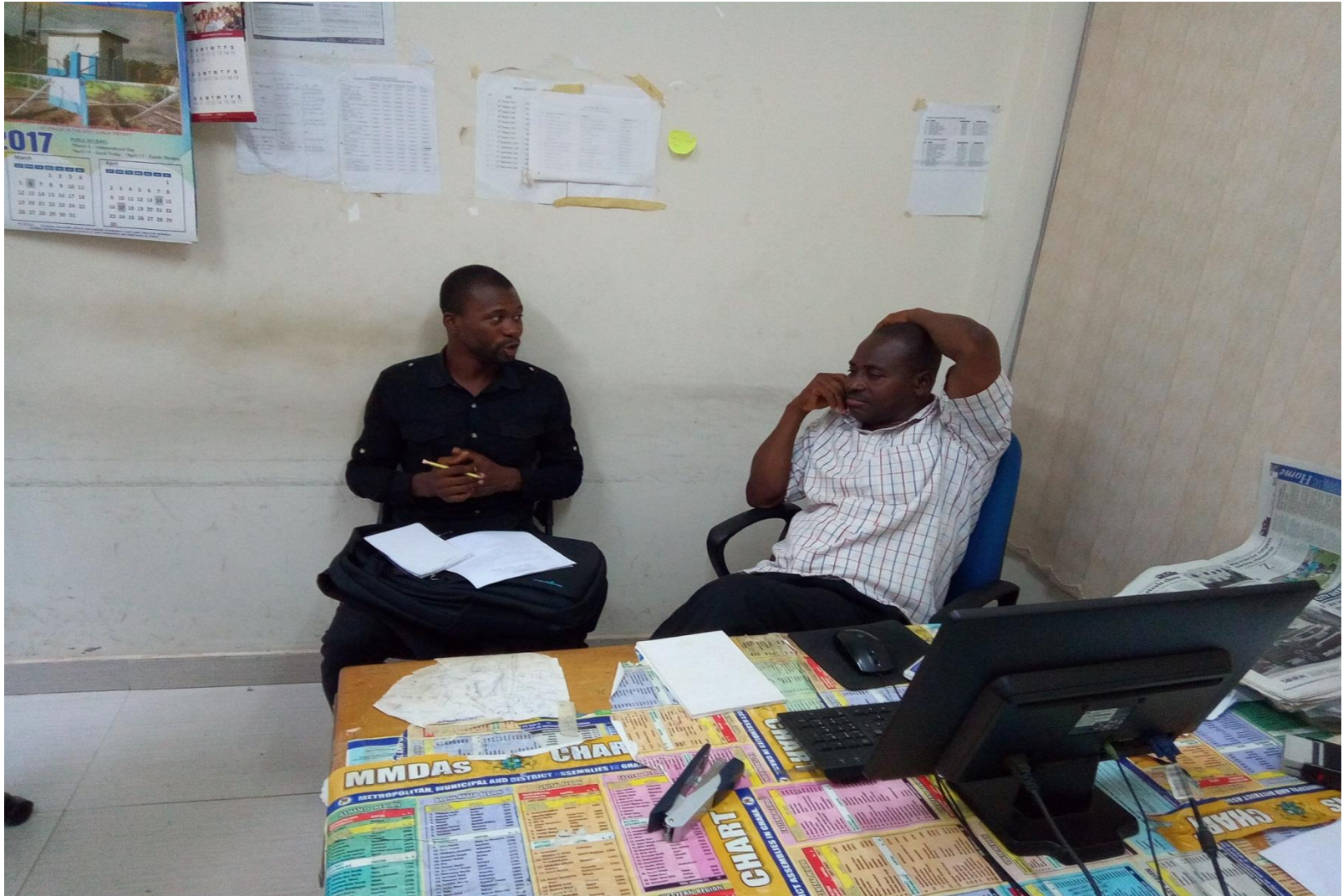


Citizens assessing sanitation and hygiene services rendered by the Assembly using community scorecards

V4C

FOLLOW-UPS ON THE ORGANISATION OF TOWN HALL MEETINGS

BASELINE (INSTITUTIONAL SURVEYS)



IF interacting with the ASDA Budget Officer

BASELINE (HOUSEHOLD SURVEYS)



Training on V4C Data Collection Tools



Enumerator interviewing a citizen at Kpormetey - ASEMA



Interviewing a citizen at Ayiresu - ASDA



Interviewing a citizen at Bantama - ASDA

V4C PROJECT LAUNCH EVENTS



ASEMA launch



ASDA launch



FORMATION AND TRAINING OF DISTRICT SANITATION AND HYGIENE ADVOCACY TEAMS



CAPACITY WORKSHOPS FOR DISTRICT & SUBDISTRICT ACTORS



ASDA Stakeholders' Forum



ASEMA Stakeholders' Forum



MOBILISATION OF CITIZENS TO PARTICIPATE IN UNIT-LEVEL ANIMATION/ZONAL-LEVEL PLANNING MEETINGS



OBSERVED CHANGES

- Increased responsiveness by ASEMA towards advocacy calls.
- Gazetting of Sanitation Bye-laws.
- High level of interest by shown by key actors in ASDA.
- Increased receptiveness of the ASDA to V4C implementation processes.
- Demonstration of desire and willingness by citizens of the Awutu Senya district to work towards and demand improved sanitation and hygiene services from the Assembly.
- Demonstrated willingness by traditional heads in ASDA to play supportive roles.

CHALLENGES

- Limited availability of online data to facilitate literature review on sanitation and hygiene within both districts.
- Transfer of key Assembly officials (e.g. ASEMA Planning Officer) as well as other prospective transfers necessitating the need to arrange for one-on-one meetings in order to brief newly-posted officers on the project as well as activities so far.

LESSONS LEARNT

- Constant follow-ups ensured that the IF team did not miss out on the opportunity to mobilise citizens to take advantage of the zonal-level needs assessment meetings organised by the Assembly.
- Planning with and involving the Assembly at every stage of the activity implementation process ensured their positive turnout and participation in activities.
- Managing unmet expectations (e.g. dealing with agitations for T & T increments).
- Managing local tensions which crop up (e.g. Assembly members vs. Assembly staff, citizens vs. Assembly).
- Clear definition of roles for the advocacy teams also allowed the teams appreciate the scope of their work from the onset and have facilitated the assignments they have started going about (i.e. evidence collection on community sanitation issues).

CLTS IMPLEMENTATION IN ASDA

- With respect to the IF's implementation districts under the V4C project, CLTS implementation is only ongoing in the Awutu Senya District Assembly (ASDA).
- Specifically, the ongoing CLTS implementation (which began in March 2017) is being carried out in eleven communities within the district by the Assembly with support from IDA and CWSA.
- All eleven (11) communities have been triggered.

CURRENT AND FORESEEABLE CONTRIBUTIONS TO CLTS IMPLEMENTATION

- Dialoguing with key actors such as the Assembly on identified sanitation implementation & financing challenges (which also affect CLTS implementation immensely) such as:
 - ✓ Absence of local NGO/CSO involvement in CLTS processes.
 - ✓ Non-existence of sanitation bye-laws.
 - ✓ Non-functional District Inter-Agency Coordinating Committee on Sanitation (DICCS).
 - ✓ Weak M & E and reporting processes.
 - ✓ Low priority to S & H.
 - ✓ Weak coordination among others
- Capacity strengthening of key Assembly staff on the Rural Sanitation Model and Strategy (RSMS) for CLTS implementation. This has been carried out as part of V4C district-level capacity strengthening of key actors on the Environmental Sanitation Policy and strategies such as the DESSAP.

CURRENT AND FORESEEABLE CONTRIBUTIONS TO CLTS IMPLEMENTATION (Cont'd)

- Involving citizens of CLTS communities in V4C activities and forums to ensure that key advocacy issues are not missed out on.
- Advocacy will be stemmed towards the effective implementation of the DESSAP which feeds into the NESSAP which lists CLTS as a core sanitation and hygiene approach for rural areas. Thus, V4C will positively affect CLTS implementation.
- Advocacy towards effective functionality of DICC and CLTS M & E and report mechanisms.

THANK YOU

