

WASH and Climate Change

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Three Questions

1. Is Climate Change a major political Issue?
2. Climate Change is Water Change, so should Ghana prioritize Human Water centered adaptation as our key response to Climate Change?
3. After 7 January 2017 – Climate Change remains an existential issue – How do we scale up WASH Adaptation strategies?

Is Climate Change an important Political Issue?

- Who gets the good things? – roads, electricity, recreational areas, economic opportunities
- Who get the bad things – no water, no public sanitation services in Health Care Facilities and schools
- Where and how strong is Climate change in the manifestos of political parties? Are they focused on Adaptation? Mitigation?

Climate Change is Water Change, so should Ghana prioritize Human Water centered adaptation as our key response to Climate Change?

- More Floods; more droughts; more variability
- Increase in poor quality water –salinization, water pollution (from flooding)
- Ghana goal is – 2025; SDGs – 2030 – Pipe borne water
- Water for who/what? Agriculture/Energy or People/Human Centered?

After 7 January 2017 – Climate Change remains an existential issue – How do scale up WASH Adaptation strategies?

- Invest in building a strong water sector
- Ensure physical robustness of WASH infrastructure
- Good-quality data (water resource data)
- Coherent policies across sectors (health, water, urban planning, energy and environment)
- Monitoring of adaptation effectiveness

Key Points

- Sustainable access to safe WASH is key to building resilience to climate change
- Climate Change is Water Change
- Human water security, public health, climate change are all linked.



Thank you