

Stakeholders discuss sector financing in Tamale

The 23rd edition of the annual Mole Conference series took place in Tamale in the Northern Regional capital of Ghana, Tamale from August 21st – 25th, 2012 on the theme, “Financing the WASH sector: Past, Current and Vision for the Future”. Participants underscored the commitment of all stakeholders to

replacement accounts of Small Town Water and Sanitation Management Teams and other sources.”

To influence prompt government action, a copy of the communiqué was presented to the government through the Northern Regional Coordinator, Alhaji Issahaku Alhassan, who was the guest of honour at the closing



Mole 23 exhibition opens

ensure sustainable WASH services for all, recognised the gaps in the financing of the WASH sector, and acknowledged the weak financing mechanism for operation and maintenance and especially for capital replacement of water and sanitation infrastructure for sustainable services delivery at the local level. They called for renewed political commitment to allocate and timely disburse more resources to the WASH sector. Admitting that at the current rate of financing and implementation, Ghana was surely not going to achieve the MDGs on Sanitation.

In a 12-point communiqué issued at the end of the conference, participants also recommended “the establishment of a national WASH fund that will pool resources from the

ceremony.

There were indications that the Institute of Economic Affairs would also be presented with the conference decision points in a bid to incorporate WASH related questions into the Institute's upcoming presidential candidates' debate.

The conference also agreed to implement an earlier decision as a new strategy for engineering action on the recommendations by constituting a mole communiqué monitoring committee to follow up on the key decision points and to report back at subsequent mole conferences.

According to Mr. Benjamin Arthur, Executive Secretary of CONIWAS, the committee would put together an action plan with clear indicators and meet those who are supposed to take

IN THIS EDITION



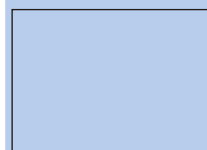
Stakeholders discuss sector financing in Tamale



CONIWAS retains Chair and Vice



MOLE XXIII presents Communiqué to government



CSOs add voice to the call for Water Fund



CLTS slow move due to inadequate coordination - EHSD



Capacity building on Life Cycle Cost Approach at MOLE XXIII

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Abu Wumbei (RCN Ghana),
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EDITORIAL: Mole XXIII participants ask MoFEP to release WASH funds

The 23rd edition of the Mole Conference series (Mole XXIII) officially closed on the afternoon of Friday, August 24, 2012 with the adoption of a 12-point communiqué. Among other things, participants appealed to the Ministry of Finance and Economic Planning (MoFEP) to ensure the timely release of budget allocation (at least reflective of the Ghana SWA Compact Commitment) to WASH Sector Ministries and allied agencies to enable them implement planned activities on schedule to meet the MDG targets, especially on sanitation.

It was clear from the evidence presented that the Ministries in the WASH sector still play second fiddle to other Ministries such as Health and Education regarding budgetary allocations. That is, the government of Ghana puts more money in the Ministries of Health and Education than the Ministries of Local Government and Rural Development and Water Resources, Works and Housing.

It was the view of stakeholders that given the important nature of the WASH sector as the pivot around which all other sectors revolve, it was appropriate to adequately resource the sector to carry out its mandate of providing safe water and adequate sanitation to the citizens of the country since their health basically depends on safe water and adequate sanitation.

Participants therefore saw the need to urge the Ministry of Finance and Economic Planning (MoFEP) to ensure that budget allocations to Water, Sanitation and Hygiene (WASH) sector ministries and allied agencies were released in a timely

manner.

The fact is that the real reason for delays in releases is yet to be fully explored. The question is what is responsible for the usual delay in the release of allocated funds? Is it the question of lack of absorptive capacity on the part of the agency or what?

In the recent past the MoFEP had indicated at various sector platforms that the slow release of funds was not necessary due to lack of funds but that some of the ministries and agencies lack absorptive capacity. They pointed out that these agencies either do not access the allocated amounts or do not provide the needed supporting documents to facilitate the timely release of funds.

The agencies on the other hand have accused the MoFEP of either cumbersome procedure, or that there appear to be the culture of turning officers back to go and bring something new anytime attempts are made to access allocated funds. The issue of lack of available funds for releases had been long debunked by MoFEP as a thing of the past.

Representatives from the government agencies on a panel discussion at the recently held Mole Conference clearly stated that their agencies do not lack absorptive capacities. Mr. Emmanuel Gaze, Director of Technical Services, Community Water and Sanitation Agency insisted that the agencies have the capacity to spend if funds allocated to them are released on time. He was responding to questions on the allocation of Government of Ghana resources and absorptive capacity of state agencies. The panelists also included Mr. Michael Agyeman of the Ghana Water Community and Mr. Kweku

Quansah of the Environmental Health and Sanitation Directorate of the Ministry of Local Government and Rural Development (WD-MLGRD). They were all unanimous in their response to the question of absorptive capacity. They argued that the challenge has been GoG limited budgetary allocations with slow release of the funds.

However, the Solidarity Message from the Ministry of Local Government and Rural Development /Environmental Health and Sanitation Directorate (EHSD-MLGRD) during the opening ceremony seem to suggest a lack of absorptive capacity. "The task for us is to ensure that 40% of Ghanaians have access to improved latrines in the next 4 years or so. We need close to USD1.5 Billion to achieve this. This works out to about USD 375 Million a year. However, the challenge is whether we have the capacity to spend this USD 375 a year if it is even provided" - EHSD-MLGRD.

On the way forward, the conference decision point 2 could be the best way out if it is implemented. The decision point states as follows: "Conference calls for the establishment of an inter-ministerial committee on water and sanitation, comprising the Ministries of Water Resources Works and Housing, Local Government and Rural Development and Finance and Economic Planning to facilitate transparent and coordinated resource allocation". RCN Ghana will like to urge CONIWAS to constitute the communiqué monitoring committee as was agreed at Mole 22, to ensure that, at least some of these useful decision points are implemented to the later. – RCN Ghana

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actions on the specific decision points to ensure that the recommendations are not shelved.

Alhaji Alhassan commended CONIWAS, saying: "whatever you are doing is very important for our national development." He acknowledged that the outcomes of the Mole Conference series have over the years shaped policy for the sector. He described this year's discussion around financing as apt because financing has been a major challenge for the WASH sector, hindering efforts at speeding up expansion of service provision.

Mr. Emmanuel Tse Gaze, the Director of Technical Services at the Community Water and Sanitation

Agency (CWSA) who chaired the closing ceremony, said Mole's contribution to WASH sector reform cannot be over-emphasised. He commended the organizing committee and urged CONIWAS to keep up the good work.

In all wide range of issues among others were discussed including the four conference sub-themes, Public financing of WASH services delivery: exploring options; Capital maintenance financing practices and innovative options for the future; Policies, standards and regulations for WASH services; and Public-Private Partnership in WASH delivery. About 25 papers were presented and discussed, five intensive panel

discussions including the learning for change session that featured about eight initiatives.

The conference, as usual was organized by the Coalition of NGOs in Water and Sanitation (CONIWAS) in collaboration with the Government of Ghana and Development Partners in the Water, Sanitation and Hygiene (WASH) Sector. In all about 120 participants from over 63 organizations and institutions comprising of NGOs, development partners, government sector, community-based organizations / WATSANs, district assemblies, private practitioners and the academia participated in the conference.

WASH experts discuss sector financing

From Emeilia Ennin Abbey, Daily Guide

Stakeholders in the Water Sanitation and Hygiene (WASH) sector have converged in Tamale, the Northern Regional capital, to deliberate on how financing of the sector can be adequately improved to enhance service delivery and ultimately livelihoods.

The four-day conference dubbed, 'Mole XXIII' is the 23rd edition of WASH conferences being organised by the Coalition of Non Governmental Organisations in Water and Sanitation (CONIWAS) since the annual multi-stakeholder platform was instituted in 1989. Representatives from government, private operators, Civil Society Organisations, NGOs sharing information and dialoguing on the financing constraints of the sector attended this year's conference,

themed, "Financing the WASH sector: Past, Current and Vision for the future."

At the opening ceremony of Mole XXIII yesterday, Dr. Asamoah Baah, Financial Advisor at the Ministry of Finance and Economic Planning in a presentation made on his behalf by Attah Arhin said Ghana would require \$2,590.27 million financial commitment to achieve a universal access to water by 2025.

Additionally, he said Ghana would need \$150 million towards the provision of hygiene treatment and sewage management and it is based on the 2010 Ghana sanitation and water estimates for all compact. He mentioned three main financing options for the WASH sector as tariffs from users of WASH services, taxes and

transfers including loans and grants from development partners.

"There is not going to be any significant changes in the trend of financing for the future," he said.

He proposed the re-engineering of the existing financial mechanism to ensure maximization.

Vo-Na Mohammed Bawa, Member of the Council of State, who chaired the function, said in spite of government's promise to increase access to safe and affordable water and improved environmental sanitation, the sector is still saddled with lot of problems due to population explosion.

He said that to ensure sustainable, predictable and adequate financing economic

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CLTS slow move due to inadequate coordination - EHSD

Ms Ida Coleman, RCN

A Programme Officer at the Environmental Health Sanitation Division of the Ministry of Local Government and Rural Development (EHSD-MLGRD), Mr. Kwaku Quansah, has attributed the seemingly slow move of the Community Lead Total Sanitation (CLTS) Approach in Ghana to inadequate coordination in the sanitation sub-sector.



Kwaku Quansah of ESHD/MLGRD delivering a presentation on CLTS.

According to Mr Quansah, the reason for sanitation lagging behind water in the Millennium Development Goal targets is because the water sub sector seems to have attained a high level of coordination. He stated for instance that because of compliance to laid down procedures regarding the strategy of operation, an organization or group of people cannot construct a borehole at any location of their choice. They seek and obtain the necessary approval unlike in the sanitation sub sector, which is not well coordinated.

He cited the Zubzugu-Tatale example of a group of people constructing a toilet facility without the knowledge and approval of the

District Assembly of that area.

He entreated District Assemblies to work harder to prevent the uncoordinated manner of implementing strategies as it hinders their mandate and impedes the progress of their work. This way, he said, any organization or group that visits any community in their district will do proper consultation before implementation. He advised all stakeholders to support the implementation of the sanitation strategy in order to improve environmental sanitation practices and to move sanitation up the ladder, and also improve the harmonization and coordination that the sub-sector seeks to achieve.

Mr. Quansah made these submissions during a session on ***“financing options for latrine: credit for sanitation ,community level financing for sanitation/CLTS Models hybrid in sanitation financing”*** at the Mole XXIII Conference currently ongoing in Tamale.

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population explosion.

He said that to ensure sustainable, predictable and adequate financing economic water tariff charges should be instituted.

Victoria Daaku, Chairperson of CONIWAS, asked government to ensure that WASH activities are prominently featured in vital projects such as SADA.

Nii Nortey Dua, a Deputy Minister of Water Resources Works and Housing, stated that tight budgetary requirement had made it difficult for the government to fully address the WASH sector financial needs.

He therefore urged other stakeholders including development partners to intensify their partnership with the government to make the sector viable.

Currently, Ghana is facing serious constraints in meeting the challenges of providing adequate water for all in both the rural and urban centres and the lack of funds in the sector is hampering developmental efforts.

Data at the Ministry of Water Resources Works and Housing indicate that approximately 62 per cent of Ghanaians (over 24 million population) have access to improved water suppliers while only 13 per cent have access to improved sanitation.

However, the average inflows over the years amount to about 35 per cent of the desired inflows needed for Ghana to achieve its MDG targets of 76 per cent water coverage by 2015 while an additional 93,000 latrines would have to be constructed every year.

IRC Ghana organises LCCA training at MOLE XXIII Conference

Victor Narteh Otum, DCO-IRC Ghana

IRC Ghana has organised a Life-Cycle Cost Approach (LCCA) training for participants at the MOLE XXIII. The training was in collaboration with the Kwame Nkrumah University of Science and Technology, WASHCost Project Ghana and the Coalition of NGOs in Water and Sanitation (CONIWAS).

The training was aimed at building the capacity of participants, drawn from both private and public institutions, to be able to budget for the life time of facilities to ensure sustainability of service delivery.

Country Director for the WASHCost Project in Ghana, Dr Kwabena Nyarko, who facilitated the training, said the provision of sustainable water, sanitation and hygiene services goes beyond the initial cost of providing the facility. He remarked “the challenge is with activities at the post construction stage; when the people begin to enjoy the service, how do you sustain that service?”.

Dr. Nyarko emphasised the need to properly budget for activities throughout the life-time of a system and introduced participants to the various cost components involved.

Components of the Life Cycle-Cost Approach (LCCA)

He said the various cost components of the LCCA include **Capital Expenditure (CapEx)** the capital invested in constructing water facilities such as boreholes, pumps, reservoirs and pipes.

Operational and minor maintenance expenditure (OpEx) - expenditure on minor repairs, labour, fuel, chemicals, materials, or regular purchases of bulk water.

Capital maintenance expenditure (CapManEx) - expenditure on asset renewal, replacement and rehabilitation costs. It normally costs more than operational and minor maintenance.

Expenditure on Direct Support (ExpDS)- expenditure on support to local-level service providers, users or user groups. These are the costs for ensuring that local government staff have the capacities and resources to carry out planning and monitoring, to help communities when systems break down, to audit community management structures, to monitor private sector performance, to carry out regular hygiene awareness raising and so on. **Expenditure on Indirect**

Support (ExpIDS) – expenditure on government macro-level planning and policy making, developing and maintaining frameworks and institutional arrangements, capacity building for professionals and technicians through university courses, technical schools etc. **Cost of capital (CoC)** – the cost for borrowing or otherwise acquiring the resources to provide the assets needed for a service. This is made up of interest payments on debt and dividend payment to equity providers.

Conclusions

Dr Nyarko said the methodology is the outcome of action research by the WASHCost Project with its partners. It aims at coming out with what actually constitutes the costs of WASH service provision. He said “so far the methodology has been tested in all WASHCost countries namely Ghana, Mozambique, Burkina Faso and Andhra Pradesh (India)”. He explained the Life-Cycle Cost Approach enables a comparison of different service delivery models internalising country norms, life spans, number of users and poverty analysis.

He urged participants to apply the knowledge acquired at the training to their work so they can properly budget for the construction of facilities with post-construction services in mind to ensure sustainability of service.

Participants were grateful to IRC Ghana and the partners for the training. A section of the participants whose views were sought said the training was very educative and insightful. They wish it could be organised for more people in the sector.



Capacity building on Life Cycle Cost Approach at MOLE XXIII IN PICTURES

A training session on the Life Cycle Cost Approach (LCCA) to sustainable water, sanitation and hygiene (WASH) services took place as part of the side events of MOLE XXIII Conference. The training session attracted over 30 participants from government agencies,

NGOs, community leaders among others. The main of the training was to help participants apply the LCCA in planning and implementation of their organization's WASH activities.

The training, which was led by the Country Director of WASHCost Ghana project,

Dr. Kwabena Nyarko, covered the methodologies, concepts and application of the LCCA. The training session was facilitated by IRC Ghana in collaboration with the Kwame Nkrumah University of Science and Technology (KNUST) and CONIWAS.



CSOs add voice to the call for Water Fund

From Emelia Ennin Abbey, Daily Guide

CSOs in the Water, Sanitation and Hygiene sector have added their voice to the call by various stakeholders in the sector, for the establishment of water fund at the recently ended Mole conference. As one of the 12-decision points of the conference, the call for water fund goes to support earlier calls by cross section of stakeholders including Professor Kwabena Ahwoi in his theme address at the 3rd Ghana Water Forum.

Patrick Apoya, Executive Director of Skyfox Ltd and a consultant in the water sector, reiterated the call, in his presentation on sustainable financing at the Mole XXIII Conference, for the creation of a national water fund to support the maintenance of water services facilities in the country. He said funding is a critical component of the

national water policy but the erratic financing nature of the sector makes it essential to set up a fund.

“We have to be innovative and not put the burden on government” he said while suggesting that sources of funding for the fund should be from monthly contributions from the income of the Community Water and Sanitation Agency (CWSA), and the Ghana Water Company Limited (GWCL). Mr Apoya raised the issues in an interview after he had spoken on sustainable financing at the ongoing Mole XXIII Conference in Tamale.

He suggested that the non state funding initiative should start with a 10 per cent and 20 per cent from the revenue each month from the GWCL and the community water and sanitation

management teams (WSMTs) respectfully. Additionally, he proposed that government should consider allocating some money from the Annual Budget Fund Amount which is a proportion of the nation's oil revenue committed to sectors to the proposed water fund.

He was optimistic that the national water fund would address the issue of lack of secured funding for the sector which has resulted in the failure of many water service systems especially in the rural communities.

This is necessary, as though rural water coverage has been increasing steadily over the years, there have been concerns over the high levels of non-functional water point systems fitted with hand pumps.

MOLE Conference calls for establishment of WASH fund for Capital Maintenance

Participants at the MOLE XXIII Conference have called for the establishment of a national water, sanitation and hygiene (WASH) fund to finance capital maintenance of facilities to ensure sustainability. This is because communities are not able to finance capital maintenance activities on their own leading to non-functionality of facilities.

The call was contained in a

communiqué issued at the end of the 23rd edition of the MOLE Conference held in Tamale in the Northern Region of Ghana.

Decision point three of the communiqué read: “3. The Conference participants noted the challenges communities are facing in financing capital maintenance of WASH facilities and call for the establishment of a national WASH fund that will pool resources from the

replacement accounts of Small Town Water and Sanitation Management Teams and other sources”.

The WASH fund is expected to pool resources from the replacement accounts of Small Town Water and Sanitation Management Teams and other sources together to be used to repair and rehabilitate systems/facilities when they breakdown. It will primarily

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MOLE XXIII social media presence

The Mole Conference was widely covered on social media via facebook, twitter and has been mentioned on google + and the GreenGhanaian blog. On facebook, the conference information was shared by Akua Akyaa Nkrumah, Ato Ulzen-Appiah and Kofi Yeboah, all Ghanaian bloggers. On twitter, updates were posted via Simon Peter (@sekumaj), Green Ghanaian (@GreenGhanaian), Lamisi Dabire (@lamisi_d) and Barcamp Tamale (@barcampTamale). On Google + it was shared via Ato Ulzen-Appiah, Barcamp Tamale and Akua Akyaa Nkrumah. All of these postings are to circulate the conference and issues that were being covered in order to spread the information to wider audiences and increase interest and awareness on WASH issues.

www.sekumapter.wordpress.com ;

www.moleconference.org ;

<http://www.slideshare.net/coniwas/>

Northern Region re-

commits to open defecation free (ODF) by end of year

The Regional Minister, Mr. Moses Mabengba, has reaffirmed his region's commitment to ensuring most of its communities are Open Defecation Free by the end of the year. This was contained in a statement read on his behalf by his Deputy Minister, Hon. San Nasamu Sabigi.

Though he recognizes the regional administration has made significant strides in providing water and sanitation services, there is still room for



improvement, he admitted. Adding that the Ministry was collaborating with various sector institutions in the region to make WASH services more accessible.

CONIWAS retains chair and vice

The CONIWAS general assembly meeting took place as usual on the evening of the first day (day of arrival) of the Mole Conference. This year's meeting however had to be adjourned to the next day to enable the election of the Executive Council members for various reasons including the lack of quorum for elections of new officers.

The general assembly on the



second day retained the chair, Mrs Victoria Daaku of and her vice, Mr Farouk Braimah of People's Dialogue; and elected new zonal officers for the next two years. Mr. Charles Nachinab of NewEnergy takes over from Eliasu Adams of CLIP as new Northern Zonal Coordinator, and Mr. Ben Lartey of GLONEHDO takes over from Mr. Owusu Sekyere as the Southern Zonal Coordinator. The election of the Middle Sector Representative was however deferred to a later date due to the absence of their representatives.



MOLE Conference calls for establishment of WASH fund for Capital Maintenance

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support post construction activities to ensure sustainability of service delivery.

Government, through the Ministry of Finance and Economic Planning have also been urged to ensure the timely release of budget allocation to the water, sanitation and hygiene (WASH) sector Ministries. Funds should also be released timely to other sector allied agencies to enable them to implement planned WASH activities to help meet the Millennium Development Goals (MDG), especially on sanitation.

The Conference also called for the establishment of an inter-ministerial committee on water

and sanitation comprising the Ministries of Water Resources Works and Housing, Local Government and Rural Development and Finance and Economic Planning to facilitate transparent and coordinated resource allocation to ensure effective utilisation of resources allocated to the sector.

About the Mole Conference

This 23rd edition took place in Tamale in the Northern Region under the theme: "Financing the WASH Sector: Past, Current Trends and Vision for the Future". The MOLE Conference is

organised by the Coalition of NGOs in Water and Sanitation (CONIWAS) in partnership with its sector players to influence policies, remove barriers and promote access to sustainable water, sanitation and improved hygiene for all, especially the poor and vulnerable.

WASH experts discuss sector financing

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stakeholders including development partners to intensify their partnership with the government to make the sector viable.

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Data at the Ministry of Water Resources Works and Housing

indicate that approximately 62 per cent of Ghanaians (over 24 million population) have access to improved water suppliers while only 13 per cent have access to improved sanitation.

However, the average inflows over the years amount to about 35 per cent of the desired inflows needed for Ghana to achieve its MDG targets of 76 per cent water coverage by 2015 while an additional 93,000 latrines would have to be constructed every year.

MOLE Conference calls for establishment of WASH fund for Capital Maintenance



Executive Secretary of CONIWAS, Ben Arthur speaking at the conference

Participants at the MOLE XXIII Conference have called for the establishment of a national water, sanitation and hygiene (WASH) fund to finance capital maintenance of facilities to ensure sustainability. This is because communities are not able to finance capital maintenance activities on their own leading to non-functionality of facilities.

The call was contained in a communiqué issued at the end of the 23rd edition of the MOLE Conference held in Tamale in the Northern Region of Ghana.

Decision point three of the communiqué read: “3. The Conference participants noted

the challenges communities are facing in financing capital maintenance of WASH facilities and call for the establishment of a national WASH fund that will pool resources from the replacement accounts of Small Town Water and Sanitation Management Teams and other sources”.

The WASH fund is expected to pool resources from the replacement accounts of Small Town Water and Sanitation Management Teams and other sources together to be used to repair and rehabilitate systems/facilities when they breakdown. It will primarily support post construction

activities to ensure sustainability of service delivery.

Government, through the Ministry of Finance and Economic Planning have also been urged to ensure the timely release of budget allocation to the water, sanitation and hygiene (WASH) sector Ministries. Funds should also be released timely to other sector allied agencies to enable them to implement planned WASH activities to help meet the Millennium Development Goals (MDG), especially on sanitation.

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Mole XXIII Conference Communiqué

Theme: “Financing WASH Sector: Past, Current and Vision for the Future”

Decision Points:

Public Financing of WASH Serviced Delivery: Exploring Options

1. The Ministry of Finance and Economic Planning should ensure the timely release of budget allocation, at least reflective of the Ghana SWA Compact Commitment, to WASH Sector Ministries and allied agencies to enable them implement planned activities on schedule to meet the MDG targets, especially on sanitation
2. Conference calls for the establishment of an inter-ministerial committee on water and sanitation comprising the Ministries of Water Resources Works and Housing, Local Government and Rural Development and Finance and Economic Planning to facilitate transparent and coordinated resource allocation.

Capital Maintenance Financing Practices and Innovative Option for the Future

3. Conference noted the challenges communities are facing in financing capital maintenance of WASH facilities and call for the establishment of a national WASH fund that will pool resources from the replacement accounts of Small Town Water and Sanitation Management Teams and other sources.
4. To ensure the effective operations of the Community Water Sanitation Agency (CWSA), Conference calls for the elevation of CWSA from Agency to Authority, with greater financial oversight responsibility over rural and small towns water operations.
5. Fiscal decentralization should be promoted with transfer of funds to District Assemblies and related competence. This will ensure that district and community level structures have the requisite financial 'muscle' to support project monitoring and evaluation. This implies strengthening the existing structures towards enhancing decentralised governance of WASH. Governments need to renew the process thus far and take the necessary measures to address the challenges related to fiscal decentralisation. e.g. inadequate financing.

Private-Public Partnership in WASH Delivery

6. Local governments should explore Private sector financing as an additional option or source of financing local development plans for WASH. This should focus on supporting pro-poor, inclusive and equitable service provision.
7. Local governments and other sector actors should effectively plan for sanitation in the short and long term with the necessary financing to support communities move up the sanitation ladder. This includes social marketing and other options that optimise good health.
8. Citizens' engagement is critical and mutually beneficial to leadership and citizens as it culminates in win-win situation for both. National and Local governments should mainstream the process at the local level with backing from all actors as a minimum accountability mechanism to comply with.
9. Conference notes, with satisfaction, government's establishment of the Savannah Accelerated Development Authority (SADA) to provide comprehensive development blue print for the northern belt of the country. We call for deliberate inclusion of pragmatic programmes and projects in WASH under SADA.

Policies, Standards and Regulations for WASH Services

10. Development partners in collaboration with national and local governments should support capacity building by adopting a comprehensive approach which includes tools and equipments to facilitate better performance.
11. Citizens' engagement should be designed to respond to rights/entitlements, relevant laws and policies towards deepening ownership and participation that will culminate in improved governance and sustainable WASH services.
12. Conference acknowledges the promulgation of a Legislative Instrument (LI, 2007), Community Water and Sanitation Agency Regulations 2011,) to regulate the rural WASH sub-sector and call for thorough dissemination of the LI among sector players.



REPUBLIC OF GHANA

Ministry of Water Resources, Works and Housing WASH Sector Events Calendar – August–Dec., 2012

WASHTech Scoring Workshop for 2 nd Round of TAF Testing	Sept 5-7, 2012	Erata Hotel
IRC Ghana Programme reflection and planning meeting	September 11 -12, 2012	TBD
Cost-Effective Borehole Drilling International (Organised by: Rural Water Supply Network. Contact: Sean Furey, sean.furey@skat.ch)	September 10-26, 2012	E-Discussion
SID NL Annual Conference ‘The State in a Globalizing World: Providing Water in Africa’ (Organised by: Society for International Development (SID) - Netherlands Chapter in collaboration with African Studies Centre (ASC) and Vitens Evides International (VEI), supported by NCDO and the Worldconnectors)	September 14, 2012	The Hague, The Netherlands
IWA World Water Congress & Exhibition 2012	September 16-21, 2012	Busan, South Korea
WEFTEC 2012: Water Environment Federation Annual Technical Exhibition and Conference (Organised by Water Environment Federation)	September 29 –Oct. 3, 2012	New Orleans, LA, USA
Global Hand Washing Day (organised by CWSA)	October 15, 2012	Accra
Ghana Water Forum	October 18, 2012	Accra, Ghana
Water and Health Conference: Science, Policy and Innovation (Organised by Institute for the Environment and the Water Institute at University of North Carolina)	October 29 – Nov. 2 2012	Chapel Hill, NC, USA
Faecal Sludge Management- 2 (Organised by Water Research Commission)	October 29-31, 2012	Durban, South Africa
13th WaterNet/WARFSA/GWP-SA Symposium (Organised by WaterNet and Global Water Partnership- Southern Africa (GWP-SA), University of Johannesburg and International Commission on Water Resource Systems)	Oct. 31 –Nov. 3, 2012	Johannesburg, South Africa
II ECOSANLAC: Resource Oriented Sanitation in Latin America (Organised by: Universidade Federal do Espírito Santo in collaboration with the Stockholm Environment Institute (SEI) and others)	November 4-7, 2012	Vitória, Brazil
International Conference on Fresh Water Governance for Sustainable Development (organised by Water Research Commission and Department of Water Affairs – South Africa together with Australian National University)	November 5-7, 2012	Drakensberg, South Africa
American Society for Hygiene & Tropical Medicine - Annual Meeting	November 11-15, 2012	Atlanta, USA
Training on service delivery approach in the rural water sector (organised by IRC)	November 12-16, 2012	The Hague, The Netherlands
Water Safety Conference: improving service delivery and protecting public health (Organised by: World Health Organization (WHO), International Water Association (IWA) and National Water & Sewerage Corporation)	November 13-15, 2012	Kampala, Uganda,
Tapping the Turn, A Conference on Water’s Social Dimensions (Organised by: Institute for Sustainable Futures, University of Technology Sydney)	November 15-16, 2012	Canberra, Australia
World Toilet Day	November 19, 2012	TBD
Vith World Aqua Congress 2012 - Water: Vision 2050 (Organised by Aqua Foundation)	November 28-30, 2012	New Delhi, India
Conference on Decentralised Wastewater Management in Asia – Meeting Urban Sanitation Challenges at Scale (Organised by: International Water Association (IWA), Bremen Overseas Research and Development Association (BORDA) and Consortium For DEWATS Dissemination Society)	November 20-23, 2012	Nagpur, India,
IRC Symposium 2013: monitoring sustainable WASH service delivery,	April 9-11, 2013	Addis Ababa, Ethiopia

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