

- **Theme:** “Water Sanitation and Hygiene (WASH) and Election 2016 in Ghana”
- By **WaterAid Ghana/ Partners**
- **Objectives:** i) share the ‘WASH and election 2016 campaign’, which aims at making WASH a key political/campaign issue in the 2016 national elections; ii) solicit support for its implementation; and iii) collectively discuss the way forward in ensuring the success of the campaign for improved WASH prioritization in Ghana.

BRIEF OUTCOME

Preamble

Election processes present a major opportunity for getting WASH prioritised;

We feel that it is not enough as there is the need to ensure fulfilment of these commitments post-elections;

For this to happen, citizens need to drive the development process, not politicians ..

Summary of Main learning points

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- **Learning Area #1:** Rethinking partnership with communities leading the agenda
 - **Learning Area #2:** Generating and Using Credible Body of Evidence for the wider development
 - **Learning Area #3:** Widening the base and making a compelling case for inclusive participation among target community
 - **Learning Area #4:** Recognising and building on different expertise for collective impact
 - **Learning Area #5:** Enriched analysis and strategies shaping the demands-Actors and partners

Key Recommendations/ Conclusions

What should be Critical for Politicians:

- Politicians have a critical role to play in moving the WASH agenda forward but let's develop strategies to deepen their knowledge in the soft issues – quality, management, sustainability, etc.
- Push for sustainable WASH in your messaging in order to go beyond ***taps and toilets*** to having an enabling environment for partnerships involving public and private sectors, focusing on sustainability, etc.

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- Fast-track the collection of community-level signatures and thumb-prints (1m) to be used as a tool for gentle pressure on politicians during and post election ... (To commit and fulfil);
 - Targeting flagbearers with bold statements or key calls

What is missing or not working well:

- Enforcing sanitation bye-law to end open defecation and prevent the construction of houses without provision/s for toilets;
- WASH in Schools (WinS) remains a major access deficit or gap across the country and should therefore be made central to the ***WASH in Elections 2016 Initiative***

- The Media is a critical partner in supporting or leading WASH advocacy ... but there are major capacity deficits that need bridging i.e. knowledge on subject matter they aim to discuss on media platforms;
- Seek to understand the commitment on WASH within current (2016) Manifestos;
- Citizens should continue to engage in the election processes and beyond so this is not seen as one-off activity. Access to WASH is their right.. (as reflected in the National Water Policy) + role of CONIWAS??

- Private sector partnership for solutions ... (beware of market distortions based on subsidies, etc)
- Protection of Water bodies... Critical role of wetlands

Arrival/Registration (8.30am – 9.30am)	Participants
Prayer/ Welcome/Introduction/ Acceptance by chair (9.30am-10.00am)	Facilitator/ Chair (Fred Addae, Water Director, MWRWH)
Presentation (10.00am -10.30am):- •Overview of <i>Water Sanitation and Hygiene (WASH) and 2016 Elections in Ghana</i>	– WaterAid Ghana
Q&A (10.30am – 11.00am)	All/Facilitator
Cocoa Break (11.00am – 11.15am)	All
Voices from Constituencies (11.15am-12.00pm): •Akropong Constituency; •Okere Constituency, etc.	- Constituency Representatives
Plenary Discussions / Way forward - (12.00pm-1.15pm)	Facilitator/All
Closing Comments/ Wrap-up/ Closing prayer /Photo session/Media interviews (1:15pm – 1:30pm) Lunch/Departure (1:30pm)	Chair/Facilitator All

National Level Learning Alliance Platform



(NLLAP)

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- a multi-stakeholder platform that offers learning and sharing opportunity;
 - a practical approach to promoting vibrant sector discourse/ learning/innovation, etc.;
 - organized by the WASH Resource Centre Network (RCN) in collaboration with the WD-MWRWH/ EHSD-MLGRD/Partners/supported by sharing partners
 - usually takes place on the last Thursday of every month; and open to all interested parties

Reflection papers, presentations, publications are available on the sector website:

(<http://www.washghana.net/page/767>)