

Sector Website (www.ghana.watsan.net): The RCN has developed and regularly updates the WATSAN website. The website contains sector articles, reports and information including sector calendar of activities. The website has links to relevant global websites.

Information Sheets, Fact Sheets, and Thematic Papers: RCN offers information materials like Fact Sheets on frequently asked questions and publications on topical issues.

Training and Capacity building: The RCN encourages training and building of capacity for knowledge management like, information management, documentation and general KM issues.

Establishment of Media Platform 'WASH Agenda': RCN is working closely with various media to establish and promote interactive programmes on WASH issues.

Questions and Answer Service: The RCN offers enquiry services, that is, the secretariat directly provides answers in response to specific problems and queries.

Library Facility: The RCN will develop a walk-in library where key publications will be available to sector agencies and District Assemblies (DAs).

Sector Debates: The RCN works closely with sector agencies and umbrella groups like CONIWAS to organise sector dialogue on topical issues.

Documentation of Case Studies: The RCN works closely with sector agencies and projects to document, analyse and to draw out the lessons from programmes and provide recommendations on the minimum conditions of success, thus, helping to direct funding towards the most effective interventions.

CONTACTS

For further information please contact,

The RCN Secretariat
H/No C218/14, Wama Close, Dzorwulu
P. O. Box CT 6135, Cantonments, Accra
Tel: (233-21) 769530/ 769552
Fax: (233-21) 769583
Cell: 024 8121598/ 020 2110335
Email: rcnghana@gmail.com
awumbei@yahoo.com

Website: www.ghana.watsan.net



PARTNER INSTITUTIONS



KWAME NKRUMAH UNIVERSITY OF SCIENCE AND TECHNOLOGY KUMASI



W&SMP Ghana



design & print: combert impressions (+233 21 240557)

**STRENGTHENING KNOWLEDGE
MANAGEMENT WITHIN THE WATER
AND SANITATION SECTOR IN GHANA**



THE RCN

The Resource Centre Network (RCN) is an institutional partnership that seeks to promote improved Knowledge Management (KM) within the Water, Sanitation and Hygiene (WASH) sector in Ghana.

BACKGROUND

Under the Resource Centre Development (RCD) project a sector KM scan conducted revealed that, i) generally capacity for KM in the Sector was weak, ii) there was little effort to institutionalise KM, iii) there was lack of awareness about importance of information and KM, iv) there was little research and lack of documentation meaning little information to share, v) commonest ways of KM sharing were through verbal channels (training, workshops, seminars, sector fora, etc.) vi) there was inadequate infrastructure (ICT, libraries, archives, etc.) and trained personnel for KM, vii) there was general lack of financial support for KM activities. These challenges are still relevant today to a very large extent. The situation led to the establishment of RCN as an initiative that aims at transforming the sector into a knowledge-driven arena capable of addressing the problem of access to information and knowledge in the sector.

The process of establishing RCN originally started in October, 2002 with the involvement of TREND, WaterAid and IRC International Water and Sanitation Centre. Following a KM advocacy workshop in May 2004, four key sector organisations namely, Water Aid Ghana; Water Research Institute; KNUST-Department of Civil Engineering and TREND Group joined hands to form the nucleus of the Resource Centre Network (RCN). A key outcome of the workshop was the establishment of a Task Force (TF). Overall the Task force made positive gains in terms of KM advocacy aimed at raising awareness. However, the activities of the TF slowed down

considerably in 2006 due to lack of funding. In 2008, as a result of the inception of new projects in the sector with KM focus and the support of the West Africa Regional Programme of IRC, the RCN Ghana has been revived.

VISION

A dynamic knowledge-driven sector providing improved pro-poor WASH services in Ghana.

MISSION

To promote improved KM within the WASH sector in Ghana through the facilitation of a dynamic network of partners.

OBJECTIVES

To become the leading sector knowledge driver, facilitating Resource Centres (RCs) and advocating for knowledge sharing. To achieve this by working closely with the sector Ministries and all key sector institutions including:

- All relevant research institutions that will constitute a network in generating and sharing knowledge/information.
- Key sector agencies, NGOs, private sectors and donors that will constitute the key beneficiaries of the RCN activities.
- International organisations and networks that will serve as source of global information and support capacity building of the RCN institutions.

STRUCTURE

The organisational structure involves three key components: (I) The RCN Secretariat (II) the Resource Centre Network and (III) the Steering Committee

- *The RCN Secretariat* is staffed by a Coordinator who ensures the day-to-day administration and coordination of KM activities.
- *The Resource Centre Network (RCN)* is a network of organisations and projects that generate and disseminate knowledge. They act as the operational body for sector KM activities. Currently, the organisations and projects that constitute the RCN Core Group are, UNICEF/WHO Water and Sanitation Monitoring Platform (WSMP Ghana), the Tripartite Partnership (TPP) Project led by TREND, the WASHCost and SWITCH Projects which are led by KNUST, WaterAid Ghana, CONIWAS, CWSA, IWMI and IRC. Membership of the RCN is open to all sector organisations which have interest in KM.
- *The Steering Committee (SC)* brings together the RCN core group members, the sector ministries, key agencies, NGOs, networks and development partners. The SC advises on strategic issues and ensures that (i) knowledge generation activities really meet sector KM needs; (ii) that knowledge generated is readily disseminated and applied; (iii) there are adequate funds available for sector KM activities.

PRODUCTS & SERVICES

The RCN secretariat provides the following products and services:

Sector Newsletter: The RCN coordinates the production of a national sector newsletter.

