

Developing A National Action Plan for the Implementation of the Right to Water and Sanitation (RTWS)

Center on Housing Rights and Evictions (COHRE)

WaterAid in Ghana

Resource Center Network (RCN)

CONIWAS

Water and Sanitation Journalists Network (WJN)

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Introduction

- The RTWS belongs to a set of Rights within the UN System as the “Economic, Social and Cultural Rights”
- The right is described as a Progressive Right
- - Requires governments to fulfill progressively based on maximum resources available
- Differs from Civil and Political Rights which calls for immediate fulfillment

Issues

- Two challenges:
- Citizens may “over” demand diversion of resources towards WASH in response to the RTWS
- Government may relax under the window of “Progressiveness”

The Action Plan

- A systematic process of planning the implementation of the RTWS is required to balance these two counter forces.
- Action planning should address the ff:

Action Planning Process for the RTWS

- Do the right policies and strategies exist for the implementation of the RTWS?
- Do different stakeholders understand their roles and responsibilities?
 - State
 - DPs
 - CSOs
 - Citizens
 - Who??

Action Planning

- Are citizens fully aware of the RTWS and what it means to them?
- What are the possible constraints to implementing the RTWS?
- Who oversees the implementation of the RTWS?
- What timelines?