



Climate Action Integration in WASH

Danish People's Aid Experiences from East Africa

SDG 6: The Global Challenge

- ▶ 1 in 3 people or 2.2 billion people around the world lack safe drinking water
- ▶ More than half of the global population or 4.2 billion people lack safe sanitation
- ▶ 673 million people still practice open defecation
- ▶ In light of the Covid-19 pandemic, it is also worth noting the fact that almost half of the schools in the world do not have handwashing facilities with soap and water and that every day
- ▶ More than over 700 children under the age of 5 die from diarrhea linked to unsafe water, sanitation and poor hygiene

(WHO/UNICEF Joint Monitoring Program (2019))

The Situation in Uganda

- ▶ High population growth has stressed existing water services
- ▶ Estimated 8 (out of 40) million Ugandans lack access to safe water
- ▶ 27 million without access to improved sanitation facilities
- ▶ The segment of poor urban people living pay as much as 22 percent of their income to access water from water vendors. The high percentage drains the household economy, limiting opportunities to build savings and break the cycle of poverty.
- ▶ Progress in sanitation coverage has been quite stagnant around 79% for rural and 85% for urban areas, while 12.6% of the urban population (1.2 million people) still practice open defecation.
- ▶ WASH in school remains equally challenged with the pupil stance ratio of school toilets remaining at 70:1 against the national norm of 40:1

(WASH and Environment Non-State Actors Issue Paper (UWASNET, 2020))

From SDG Goal to Program Outcomes

- ▶ SDG 6: Clean water and sanitation for all by 2030 - with sub-targets and indicators
- ▶ The Program: Civil Society Action for Improved WASH Services in Uganda, Tanzania, Kenya and Somalia” (6 partners - 4 countries)

The identified relevant sub-targets reformulated to Program level outcomes:

- ▶ Increased access to safe and affordable drinking water at national and or local level (SDG target 6.1)
- ▶ Improved sanitation facilities and hygiene practice nationally and local level and an end open defecation (SDG target 6.2)
- ▶ Increased Government financing of WASH at national and local level and social accountability (SDG 6.a)
- ▶ Improved WASH governance structures through enhanced participation of local communities/CSOs (SDG target 6.b)

Partner outcomes aligned to the above through “Intermediate outcomes”

The Impact of Climate Change on WASH

The impact is increasingly visible, predominantly negative and may be felt through

- ▶ More frequent and prolonged droughts
- ▶ More floods and damage to vital water and sanitation infrastructure and services in homes, communities, schools and health-care facilities
- ▶ Food scarcity
- ▶ Water scarcity and climate change may also be drivers of conflict and migration, as communities and entire populations compete for shrinking water resources.

Weak advocacy: Lack of participatory approaches that facilitate a discussion on how climate change impacts the WASH sector - but things are moving!

Essential to include WASH priorities and strategies in climate change National Action Plans (NAPs) (- and vice versa?)

Integrating Climate Change Action - the Process

- ▶ Opportunity: Additional funding from the Climate Fund (via CISU)
- ▶ The "Climate Change Integration Guidance Note" (CISU - October 2019)
 - Provides "Entry Points" for climate knowledge and analysis (links etc.)
 - "Integration" used as "mainstreaming" - not "stand alone" climate activities
 - Provides practical suggestions for possible activities: "down to earth" operational
- ▶ Call the Consultant and give him/her a deadline in good time before the application 😊
 - Helped to get an overview of the Climate Change agenda and basic concepts/terminology
 - Helped to identify existing policies, relevant climate networks and existing capacity among partners

SDG 13 and Relevant Sub-targets

SDG 13: "Take urgent action to combat climate change and its impacts"

Relevant sub-targets (not reformulated):

- ▶ 13.1: Strengthen resilience and adaptive capacity to climate-related hazards and natural disasters in all countries
- ▶ 13.2: Integrate climate change measures into national policies, strategies and planning
- ▶ 13.3: Improve education, awareness-raising and human and institutional capacity on climate change mitigation, adaptation, impact reduction and early warning.

Be realistic: Start with a number of intended outputs - before integrating a new outcome into your activity

Additional Program "Climate Outputs" (5)

- ▶ "Lessons learned study": Experiences of mainstreaming of climate change adaptation-resilience in Kampala municipality
- ▶ Action plan for mainstreaming climate adaptation-resilience in Makindye Kibuye 1 and Nakawa slums and influencing the implementation of 'Kampala Climate Change Action Strategy' (KCCA)
- ▶ Concrete activities carried out in Makindye Kibuye 1 and Nakawa slums in close cooperation with local CSOs. Experiences systematized and disseminated via UWASNET and used for influencing KCCA and relevant ministries (e.g. the Ministry of Health, the Ministry of Environment and Water, and the Ministry of Agriculture with its climate change department)

Additional Program Outputs - Cont'd

- ▶ The regional cooperation between Program partners is expanded to include regional climate-WASH topics. Focus on experience sharing, training of staff and joint initiatives on pro-active advocacy. Knowledge disseminated to WASH network member organizations in 3 Uganda, Kenya and Tanzania
- ▶ The regional climate-water network is collaborating with other networks in the three countries as well as regional/international networks (e.g. CAN-U, Sustainability Watch Kenya etc.)

Program Climate Integration - Selected Activities

Funds received in April 2020 - approx. DKK 1 mil. (The Covid challenge). 4 of 6 partners receive funding with focus on Uganda and regional cooperation

- ▶ Active dialogue with KCCA on key strategies to support urban poor to adapt to climate change
- ▶ Building a demonstration self-sustaining solar powered spring well in partnership with KCCA aimed at improving access to safe water to a school and the community around it by providing onsite treated water for both a school and the community (“nexus” between CC and WASH)
- ▶ Working with communities in Program area on issues of waste management as a way of reducing pollution and flooding in the city - creating awareness on climate change effects and trigger community based actions
- ▶ Climate change community initiatives in collaboration with the Buganda Kingdom and Nabagereka Foundation in the implementation of climate change and environmental degradation awareness activities. So far policy dialogue, a community clean up day, policy and facilitation of climate change actors exhibition on adaptation technologies

Activities - cont'd

- ▶ CIDI and UWASNET on 22 March 2020 co-convened a side-session as part of the Uganda Water Week organized by the Ministry of Water and Environment. Focus on experience sharing on adaptation (and mitigation) actions in Uganda, Kenya, Tanzania and Zambia (attended by Program partners)
- ▶ Partners joined national networks, e.g. Climate Action Network Uganda (CAN-U). For instance CIDI is hosting a session on Climate Change on 22 April (Ash Day). Collaboration in existing climate networks goes both ways: Support the network and benefit from new opportunities
- ▶ UWASNET and CIDI involved in development of CC Policy Paper with Civil Society Budget Advocacy Group (CS-BAG)
- ▶ Uganda hosted the African Climate Week in June 2020









Major achievements

- ▶ Study by UWASNET and KEWASNET on the *Climate Change and WASH Intersectionality and Actions* have been taken on for peer learning for other actors. The studies have been referenced by Sanitation and Water for All
- ▶ With the awareness and capacity building, the Youth have started undertaking initiatives such a briquette making and urban farming
- ▶ Uganda has committed to develop a Water Sector National Action Plan to guide actions of adaptation and mitigation within the WASH sector.
- ▶ Contributed to the Citizen's Manifesto on Climate Change during the Africa Climate Week and COP 26
- ▶ Improved access to over 1500 learners to drinking water at all times.

Lessons learned

- ▶ Need to generate evidence for context specific WASH climate vulnerabilities because the nexus is not easily understood and appreciated
- ▶ Local level financing is needed for actions at community for adaptation is key
- ▶ Youth are very focused on doing small actions within the communities to build community resilience
- ▶ Learners and the schools are very eager to take on Climate Change initiatives and there is need to develop Climate Change readers
- ▶ Need to work with government to enable scaling up of key actions
- ▶ Inadequate Financing for Sanitation is made worse at the household level due to the cost of infrastructure
- ▶ Climate change financing at the National level is slowly increasing
- ▶ Climate change is fully integrated in programming - among partners as well as in our joint Program 2021-2021 (cross-cutting along with gender)