



Issue 116 September 13, 2013 | Focus on Rural Water Supply

This issue contains 2013 studies and resources that focus on rural water supply. Included is information on a series of upcoming webinars by the Rural Water Supply Network and the Water and Sanitation Program. Other studies and reports discuss community management, health/hygiene, monitoring and evaluation, sustainability and technology.

EVENTS

- **Sept 24 – Dec 10, 2013 - Professionalizing Rural and Small Town Water Supply Management** - RWSN-WSP Webinar Series – ([Link-Webinars in English and French](#))

This series, sponsored by the Rural Water Supply Network and the Water and Sanitation Program, will use presentations and discussions of practical experience in Africa and elsewhere to explore six topics in professionalizing water supply management in rural areas and small towns.

COMMUNITY MANAGEMENT

- **Gender and Water Management Practices in Ghana.** *Journal of Environment and Earth Science*, 3(5) 2013. J Boateng. ([Link, pdf](#))
The study reveals a difference in the level of participation of men and women in decision-making and planning in the Rural Water Supply Project (RWSP). Fear, criticisms from other women, domestic and economic activities were major challenges to women's participation in RWSP. The study concludes that although women showed high participation in the management of RWSP, their participation in decision-making and planning was low. The study demonstrates that since gender plays a vital role in water management, it is crucial that men and women be educated on the importance of the active involvement of women in decision-making and planning.
- **Strengthening WASH Services and Community Resilience through Community-Based Water Resource Management**, 2013. WaterAid. ([Link](#))
This briefing note describes the early experiences of a community-based water resource management initiative carried out by WaterAid's Regional Learning Centre for Water Resources in Burkina Faso. The approach aims to draw water, sanitation and hygiene (WASH) and water resource management (WRM) practices closer together, positioning WASH as a mechanism for delivery of WRM. WASH approaches have traditionally focused on provision of water supply assets with limited consideration of threats to

water resources. There is a need to strengthen WASH approaches to better take account of ongoing threats. Stronger integration of WASH and WRM is required to achieve this.

HEALTH/HYGIENE

- **An Assessment of the Importance of Water Supply as a Factor in the Utilization and Patronage of Primary Health Care Centres in Rural Areas of Enugu State, Nigeria.** *European Journal of Earth and Environment*, 11 2013. H Hajjar. ([Link](#))

This study assessed the contribution of water supply as a factor out of other nine physical and socio-economic factors to the utilization and patronage of primary healthcare centers in the rural areas of Enugu State, Nigeria. The results indicate the importance of water supply to primary healthcare delivery in the rural areas of Enugu State. The policy implications of the study are discussed and recommendations are made on how adequate and sustainable water supply can be ensured in the sector.

- **Assessment of Hygiene Interventions: Cost-Effectiveness Study Applied to Burkina Faso, 2013.** A Dubé. ([Link, pdf](#))

This working paper presents the results obtained in applying a methodology for assessing hygiene cost effectiveness in two sites in Burkina Faso: Ladiana and Ouahabou. Effectiveness, as reflected in behavior change, was measured using three indicators: 1) fecal containment and latrine use; 2) hand washing with soap at critical times; and 3) domestic water management from source to consumption. The costs of such an intervention and the expenditure incurred by households were calculated, and compared with the behavior change observed.

- **Rural Water Supply Management and Sustainability: The Case of Adama Area, Ethiopia.** *Journal of Water Resource and Protection*, Feb 2013. A Tadesse. ([Link, pdf](#))

The study assessed issues such as community participation, water committee empowerment, management and governance of water supply schemes, women participation, functional status of water supply scheme, sanitation and hygiene issues, external support, and monitoring system of water supply schemes. The findings indicated that while community participation in planning and implementation was very good, the monitoring mechanism for operation and management as well as community participation in technology choice were poor.

MONITORING & EVALUATION

- **Country-Led and Country-Wide Monitoring of Rural and Small-Towns Water Supplies**, 2013. K Denert. ([Link, pdf](#))

This keynote paper reflects on experiences of country-led monitoring and evaluation (M&E) of rural and small town water supplies. It goes beyond the term "country-led" to "country-wide," thus considering the M&E needs of a country's full range of stakeholders. The paper presents a monitoring cycle with six stages from initiation and planning, to reflecting on the results and taking action. The M&E landscape is inherently messy, characteristically with multiple, overlapping systems in use. M&E is not only a technical, but also a political process and it can take 10 years or more for country-led and countrywide M&E systems to mature.

- **The Status of Rural Water Services in Ghana: A Synthesis of Findings from 3 Districts**, 2013. M Adank. ([Link](#))

This report presents a synthesis of the results of a baseline assessment of the status of service levels, service providers and support functions in three districts in Ghana. The main objective of the report is to identify strengths and gaps in the provision of sustainable water services at service provision and district levels, particularly in terms of compliance with the Community Water and Sanitation Agency norms and standards for service levels, and service provider and service authority functions.

PRIVATE SECTOR

- **Tapping the Market Opportunities for Domestic Investments in Water for the Poor**, 2013. World Bank. ([Link, pdf](#))

This report examines piped water schemes in rural areas of Bangladesh, Benin, and Cambodia, where the local private sector already plays a major role in the delivery of water. The majority of households in all three countries currently get their water from private and communal sources.

SUSTAINABILITY

- **Developing Sustainable and Replicable Water Supply Systems in Rural Communities in Brazil**, 2013. Osny Enéas da Silva. ([Link, pdf](#))

This article examines the challenges and opportunities for developing rural water supply programs that can meet multiple sustainability criteria, including social, technical/administrative and environmental criteria, and can be replicated beyond individual communities. It draws lessons from a water supply development project in Northeast Brazil, identifying how environmental and community assessments, community engagement in planning, as well as training, capacity building, and monitoring can help meet sustainability criteria.

- **Sustainability Index of WASH Activities: Dominican Republic Country Report**, 2013. R Schweitzer. International H2O Collaboration. ([Link, pdf](#))

The International H2O Collaboration is a worldwide Alliance between Rotary International/The Rotary Foundation and the United States Agency for International Development. The Dominican Republic is one of three pilot countries where this Alliance was operationalized with the goal of implementing sustainable water, sanitation, and hygiene projects.

- **Sustainability Index of WASH Activities: Ghana Country Report**, 2013. M Adank. International H2O Collaboration. ([Link, pdf](#))

As in the other two countries (the Dominican Republic and the Philippines) this evaluation for is the first at scale pilot testing of the International H2O Collaboration's Sustainability Index Tool. This document presents the findings both from the field work as well as lessons learnt about the design and application of the methodology.

- **Sustainability Index of WASH Activities: Philippines Country Report**, 2013. J Ockelford. International H2O Collaboration. ([Link, pdf](#))

The Philippines report as well as the Dominican Republic and Ghana Country Reports are based on the International H2O Collaboration's Sustainability Index Tool (SIT). SIT focuses on four critical areas that are known to be importance to the long-term sustainability of WASH interventions: institutional, management, financial, and technical factors.

TECHNOLOGY

- **Household Water Supply Technologies in Bolivia: Increasing Access to Low-Cost Water Supplies in Rural Areas**, 2013. M MacCarthy. ([Link](#))

This publication provides background on select household water supply technologies. It assesses and presents experiences with these technologies as used in Bolivia. The document provides: 1) an overview of household water supply technologies and of an approach to improving water supply, and 2) an independent assessment of these technologies as used in Bolivia.

- **Remote Monitoring of Privately-Managed Rural Water Supplies Using Grundfos LIFELINK**, 2013. A Armstrong. ([Link](#), [pdf](#))

Technologies that allow rural water system performance to be tracked and managed remotely are becoming increasingly relevant as delivery models that share operational and administrative responsibilities among public and private stakeholders begin to be explored. Water Missions International is utilizing one such technology to monitor rural water supply systems implemented under its "TradeWater" private service delivery program. The LIFELINK system developed by Grundfos is an automated water distribution point that is integrated with a secure payment facility and real-time GSM monitoring system. This study summarizes LIFELINK monitoring data available to date for TradeWater operations in Uganda and Malawi.

- **Using ICT for Monitoring Rural Water Services: From Data to Action**, 2013. N Dickinson. ([Link](#)) | ([Executive Summary](#)) |

This paper provides a conceptual framework for using information and communication technologies (ICT) to improve service delivery in the rural water sector. This framework defines information systems and the information system users for monitoring rural water supply. It reviews cases from IRC the International Water and Sanitation Centre to illustrate principles and considerations that should help in scaling up the effective use of ICT for monitoring in the sector.

WASHplus Weeklies will highlight topics such as Urban WASH, Indoor Air Pollution, Innovation, Household Water Treatment and Storage, Hand Washing, Integration, and more. If you would like to feature your organization's materials in upcoming issues, please send them to Dan Campbell, WASHplus Knowledge Resources Specialist, at dacampbell@fhi360.org.



About WASHplus - WASHplus, a five-year project funded through USAID's Bureau for Global Health, supports healthy households and communities by creating and delivering interventions that lead to improvements in access, practice and health outcomes related to water, sanitation, hygiene (WASH) and indoor air pollution (IAP). WASHplus uses at-scale, targeted as well as integrated approaches to reduce diarrheal diseases and acute respiratory infections, the two top killers of children under five years of age globally. For information, visit www.washplus.org or email: contact@washplus.org.