

GLOBAL DEVELOPMENT ALLIANCE PARTNERSHIP STAKEHOLDERS MEETING IN BURKINA FASO**EXECUTIVE SUMMARY**

The USAID West Africa Water Supply, Sanitation and Hygiene (USAID WA-WASH) Program is a four-year program (2011-2015) that aims to increase, through the strengthening and expansion of earlier efforts of USAID in West Africa, sustainable access to safe water and sanitation and improve hygiene in in Burkina Faso, Ghana, and Niger. The Program has four specific objectives that include; (1) to support catalytic approaches to accelerate access to clean water and sanitation and improved hygiene practices; (2) to develop and implement improved and replicable models for the sustainability of WASH in rural and peri-urban areas in West Africa; (3) to build synergies between WASH interventions and major regional priorities for USAID West Africa, related to food security, climate change, and sustainable resource management; and (4) to build the capacity and the institutional environment at the regional level to promote WASH services to achieve the Millennium Development Goals (MDGs).

The program works in collaboration with national and international actors to achieve the set objectives. The Program is implemented by eight organizations under the leadership of FIU. The eight organizations are: (1) Building Partnerships for Development (BPD)-England; (2) CARE-USA; (3) Florida International University (FIU)-USA; (4) International Water and Sanitation Centre (IRC)-Netherlands; (5) International Water Association (IWA)-Netherlands; (6) Rainwater Harvesting Implementation Network (RAIN)-Netherlands; (7) United Nations Institute for Water Education (UNESCO-IHE)-Netherlands; and (8) Winrock International-USA. In addition, local partner organizations in West Africa, including NGOs, CBOs, government agencies, and private sector are also involved in the implementation of the program.

The key elements of Burkina Faso institutional framework related to the WASH sector include the key actors such as the Ministry of Agriculture, Water, and Fisheries that is divided into two institutions, the General Directorate of Water Resources (DGRE in French) and the General Directorate for Waste Water Sanitation and Human Waste (DGAEUE in French). The institutions implement rural water and, rural and peri-urban sanitation components of the National Water Supply and Sanitation Program (PN-AEPA in French) which was developed in 2006. This Program aligns implementation of decentralization reforms with donor financing and specifies the creation of organizations at the community level such as the water users associations.

Further, the 2007 National Sanitation Policy and Strategy (PSNA in French) established the general principles of intervention, gave strategic orientation, and defined the roles and responsibilities of the main sector stakeholders. The decentralization process transferred the water, sanitation, and hygiene promotion roles to the local governments (municipalities). Accordingly, the municipalities designed development plans for water supply and sanitation (PCD-AEPA n French). This planning tool reflects the national PN-AEPA at the local level. However, the local governments do not have adequate financial and human resources to implement the local development plans.

In order to understand the country context and how to promote partnerships in the WASH sector, the Program conducted in 2012 a stakeholder and WASH context analysis in Burkina Faso. The objective of the analysis was to identify new partnerships and strengthen existing partnerships in the WASH sector among the public, private, and civil society organizations in Burkina Faso. As part of the analysis, a half-day workshop was held in Ouagadougou on July 26, 2012, bringing together 15 participants representing the potential partners identified during the analysis. The organizations included LONAB, CNSS, CCI, SODIBO/BRAKINA (the national brewery), SEMAFO (Canadian mining company), the Rotary Club, CORIS Bank and two municipalities of Pabre and Tanghin Dassouri.

The workshop aimed to provide detailed information to the identified partners about the partnership opportunities offered by the USAID WA-WASH Program and to gather ideas from the potential partners on how partnership

within the WASH sector can be promoted. The workshop intended to advance the dialogues by involving more persons within an organization to increase institutional buy-in, to create a group dynamic among the potential partners, to demonstrate the existing and successful partnerships, and to highlight the partnership principles. In addition, the workshop informed the USAID WA-WASH Program implementing partners on the opportunities to develop effective partnerships in the WASH sector. The workshop was facilitated through presentations and questions-answer sessions, group discussions and plenary sessions.

During the workshop, the GDA concept was presented to the participants. The concept is an agreement between two or more parties to identify and solve together a specific development problem. Through this agreement, the partners pool their resources and share the risks involved in achieving common goals. The main goal of the partnerships is to support, through proactive measures, the development of the host country to develop and maintain an active partnership between USAID WA-WASH Program and the public or private sector to address the WASH sector challenges. The partnership gives greater impacts to the interventions of the individual partners, provides more visibility to the work of partners on the ground, creates more business opportunities for partners in the country, and promotes good governance for the benefit of the communities. The basic principles of working in partnerships include; (1) setting clear vision, mission and objectives of the partnership which define a common strategy to guide the partnership; (2) learning to anticipate the behavior and the partners' motivations, constraints, culture, work practices, and rules; (3) sharing roles according to the expertise of each partner; (4) collective decision making; (5) taking responsibility (commitment to the partnership, accountability, compliance and transparency); and (6) developing an exit strategy at the end of the partnership.

After the presentations, the participants were divided into three groups to discuss a real life WASH sector challenge of a primary school located in a village with broken down water supply systems and poor sanitation facilities. This scenario provided the basis upon which the participants could center their priority activities in relation to the partnership that could be developed to address the school issue. The participants identified all the stakeholders involved in solving the problem, identified the interests of each stakeholder and the incentives to work on such a problem, the levels and activities of their interventions, the required complementary actions and the organizations that could take-on the complementary actions. The exercise enabled the participants to identify their interests and motivations to work on the issues of water, sanitation, and hygiene, the areas and levels of intervention, and the possible partners on the basis of the defined principles of working together. The stakeholders meeting emphasized the role of partnerships among the stakeholders in solving the challenges of the WASH sector in Burkina Faso. As part of the USAID WA-WASH Program, the partnerships aims to create a dynamic relationship through which the public, private, NGOs and CBOs optimize their intervention through synergies that are beneficial to all stakeholders. The partnerships interventions at the local level, therefore, should aim to support municipalities through capacity building and the design and implementation of their development plans.

The full report is available (in French) upon request via our website. For more details about our program activities and other reports please visit <http://wawash.fiu.edu/>.

This publication was funded by the people of the United States through the Agency for International Development (USAID) within the framework of the West Africa Water Supply, Sanitation, and Hygiene (USAID WA-WASH) Program. The views and opinions of authors expressed herein do not necessarily state or reflect those of the United States Agency for International Development of the United States Government.