

Closing in on Equity & Inclusion Gap for WASH: Lessons for Elderly, PWDs, Children & PLHIV in Uganda.

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Closing in on Equity and Inclusion Gap for Water and Sanitation: Lessons from Wakiso Health Improvement Project for Elderly and People with Disabilities in Namayumba and Kakiri Sub-county, Wakiso District. Dennis Nabembezi, Benedict Male



1: Introduction

- About 1.5 million Ugandans are: above 60 years and 6 million are PWDs.
- The Ugandan Constitution promotes and protects all human rights including [WASH] for PWDs and elderly.
- Elderly, PWDs, Children and PLHIV face extreme lack of access to WASH services.
 - About 5 million PWDs including 1.4 million children lack access to WASH services.
 - Limited attention to technological approaches.
 - Excluded in planning and reporting at all levels.



2.Objectifs / Objectives

- Improve access to WASH services for excluded and marginalized populations [PWDs, elderly , PLHIV and children].
- Improving the health outcomes of the community [reduction in diarrheal incidences among children below five years other water related diseases] through ceasing of open defecation.
- Implemented by Voluntary Action for Development (VAD) a local NGO with support from AidLink (An Irish Development Agency).



3: Contexte / Context

- Wakiso Health Improvement Project -a three year (2013-2016).
- Targeted two Sub-counties of Namayumba and Kakiri in Wakiso District (Central Uganda).
- Most populous district: about 2 million people: over 84,000 are elderly, 120,000 PWDs including children. 7% HIV incidence.
- With disparities[between sub-county and Popn]: about 62% and 71% of the population have access to safe water and sanitation respectively.



4. Méthodes/ Methods

- Adopted a community based support system:
 - Community mobilisation using PHAST approaches- Borehole at 100% SH coverage.
 - Trained local masons and CMTs to undertake latrine construction and hygiene facilities
 - Provided hardware materials for latrine and water jar construction for marginalized groups
 - Beneficiaries and community provided, labour for excavation, poles, food and constructed drying racks and tippy taps

5. Résultats / Results

- 250 equitable two-stance latrines [bath shelter, support guards, access lamp and a raised seat]
- 250 -2,000 litre RWHJs fitted with a FFD
- 250 HWFs and 250 drying racks constructed.
- 50 masons and 250 CMTs trained and equipped with hand tools to promote SH.
- ***29,563 people accessed WASH at only \$ 7 per beneficiary. [project cost \$ 206,941].***

6. Analyse / Analysis/ discussion

- Borehole reward- catalyst for hygiene and sanitation promotion in communities of limited access to WASH services.
- The locally trained community masons continue to construct, undertake operation and maintenance of sanitation facilities using a business model
- Small incentives like bicycles, T-shirts, Gumboots and recognition complement voluntarism in WASH promotion.



9. Leçons apprises / Lessons Learned

- Raised awareness of the equity and inclusion challenges faced by PWDs, PLHIV and elderly in accessing WASH services at national level.
- Adoption of inclusive planning to WASH service delivery: E.g. WaterAid equity and inclusion compendium being adopted by many CSOs in Uganda

9. Conclusion

- If Africa is to achieve SDGs for WASH, there is need to adopt inclusive planning, approaches and technologies tailored to excluded and marginalised sections of the population such as PWDs, elderly, child headed families, children, women, PLHIV to mention.



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