

Leaving no one behind



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Paper title: RWSN Equality, Non-discrimination and Inclusion Group: A synthesis of experiences and lessons discussed, 2015

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Introduction & Objectives

- The RWSN's Equality, Non-discrimination and Inclusion theme held e-discussions and webinars on Reducing Inequalities in WASH covering:
 1. Practical approaches to improve participation of everyone
 2. Inclusive infrastructure designs
 3. Information, guidance and support that exist on these



1. Practical approaches to improve participation of everyone



Identification and assisting marginalised individuals

- NGOs and local governments say communities are best placed to identify and assist marginalised individuals
- Examples from Uganda supported this
- But could this entrench existing power inequalities further?
- Could marginalised individuals remain ‘invisible’?

Affordability and social tariffs

- Almost 70% of poor people could not afford the water connection fee (Vietnam)
- Legislation and policies on tariff setting rarely include social tariff. Little guidance on calculating tariffs and who is eligible.
- Tariff setting should:
 1. have the participation of the local government
 2. be transparent; done through existing governance & regulatory structures and sanctioned
 3. be made on ability or willingness to pay, as well as the life-cycle costs of the service



Striving for gender equality

- The gendered social value of water sources needs to be understood (Mozambique)
- Quotas of women on the rural water point management committee and their appointment into key positions did not increase their ownership and control over resources (Chad)



Tools for gender transformative programmes

- Integrating practical gender dialogue activities into community mobilisation processes led to women's greater decision-making power or control over resources (Timor Leste)
- The 24 hour clock



Raising awareness

- Inclusive WASH designs and assistive technologies shared at half time of a football match in the national stadium (Niger)
- Baseline survey conducted by people with disabilities on disability prevalence and WASH access (Mali)



2. Inclusive infrastructure design



Inclusive infrastructure design



- Costs were cut by making ramps shorter and steeper, but they weren't accessible (West Africa)
- Technical design standards are needed

3. Information, guidance and support



And.... inclusive WASH data collection tools



5. Conclusion

- Inequalities is a social issue, so it was difficult constrain discussions to rural water supply
- So much is being done. We need to continually learn from each other
- SDG 6 - ensure availability and sustainable management of water and sanitation **for all**





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