

Sanitation Activities in Uganda

The Challenge

Since 2000, annual Water and Environment Sector Performance Reports have generally shown an improvement of water supply and sanitation coverage in Uganda's urban areas. According to the Water and Environment Sector Performance Report (2014), at present an estimated 84% of the urban population have access to sanitation facilities and 72.8% to safe drinking water; however, the majority still depends on unsustainable onsite sanitation solutions, most of questionable hygiene, and only 6% are connected to a sewerage system. Overall, urban Uganda is still characterised by inadequate sanitation services and sustainable access to improved sanitation is still far from reaching the government's target of 100%.

High population growth rates and increasing urbanisation add to the fact that especially in poor urban areas and informal settlements, access to sanitation is inadequate and collection, transport as well as treatment of faecal sludge remain a great challenge.

Our Approach

The *Reform of the Urban Water and Sanitation Sector* (RUWASS) programme is implemented by GIZ on behalf of the German Government. It targets the urban population without access to sufficient and sustainable sanitation services, in particular the disadvantaged population in slums and informal settlements in Kampala and urban post-conflict regions in Northern Uganda.

The programme seeks to strengthen the institutional, regulatory and managerial capacities as well as the efficiency of the partner institutions. It supports the implementation of the Ugandan government's reform of the urban water and sanitation sector, thereby

Project name	Reform of the Water and Sanitation Sector Programme
Project region	Sub-Saharan Africa
Partners	Ministry of Water and Environment (MWE), Water and Sanitation Development Facility North (WSDF-N), National Water and Sewerage Corporation (NWSC), Kampala Capital City Authority (KCCA), several Town Councils
Duration	June 2014 to May 2017 (current phase)
Budget for sanitation	4,000,000 Euro BMZ (co-funded by USAID and DEZA)

promoting a higher degree of sustainability and a more equitable access to water supply and sanitation. This entails providing partner organisations with sector policy and strategy advisory services, organisational development and institutional and operational capacity building. Key partner organisations for sanitation are: Ministry for Water and Environment (MWE), Water and Sanitation Development Facility North (WSDF-N), National Water and Sewerage Corporation (NWSC), Kampala Capital City Authority (KCCA), Private Operators and Town Councils of Kamdini, Oyam, Aduku and Apac.

Programme Activities

GIZ's support to the sanitation sector involves the use of town sanitation plans as a basis for sanitation planning and investments to scale up improved sanitation models in small towns. The town sanitation plans provide a strategic framework to deliver medium to long-term goals of sanitation.

The approach builds on RUWASS' long standing experience in the WASH sector in Uganda to adopt an integrated and participatory town planning process. The key deliverable of the planning process is a long-term sanitation action plan that has to be endorsed by the local council/government before implementation. Sanitation action plans contain the town's priority issues, objectives and targets for improving sanitation, the planned activities, and a financial and management plan for pilot activities. Town sanitation plans seek to coordinate and integrate sanitation-related measures on the local level including town planning, sanitation marketing, behaviour change communication, involvement of the local private sector, fully-fledged stakeholder participation, and law enforcement.



Mayor and Town Clerk Aduku Town Council Signing MoU for
Town Sanitation Planning Project, Aduku.



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*Group work at the 3rd
Kampala Water and Sanitation Forum.*

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The interventions will potentially set Uganda-wide standards for a planning approach to sanitation in mushrooming small towns and will allow for faster replication.

In Kampala's sanitation sector, RUWASS with its main partner KCCA has a strong focus on stakeholder harmonisation. In 2012, they established the Kampala Water and Sanitation Forum that serves as a platform for all WASH actors to develop an integrated approach through cooperation and coordination.

Furthermore, GIZ supports KCCA under a co-funding agreement with the Swiss Development Cooperation (SDC, DEZA). Main purpose is to strengthen the institutional and regulative framework of Kampala's sanitation sector as well as to create an enabling environment for the private sanitation sector. The programme assists KCCA in the formalisation process of the private faecal sludge collection and transportation (FS C&T) operators. This includes the development of infrastructural standards of sanitation facilities, Service Level Agreements as well as a division of the city into FS collection zones. The programme also supports sanitation-related resource recovery and reuse (RRR) businesses in building up an environment that is favourable and reliable; apart from promoting Sanitation Safety Planning (SSP), the programme provides financial and sanitation safety trainings for the businesses as well as assistance in the development of their business plans.

Outcomes

- Kampala's WASH actors share a common approach and coordinate their activities.
- Private sector participation in delivery of sanitation products and services has been increased and is promoted further.
- KCCA is preparing to map FS C&T operators and divide the city into FS collection zones to safely manage sanitation services including transport, treatment and/or disposal of excreta.
- The new concept of SSP is promoted to become a standard planning and monitoring tool.
- City-wide infrastructural standards that guide the instalment as well as refurbishment of sanitation infrastructure in Kampala are under development.
- Local governments of small towns are being capacitated to practice integrated and participatory town-level sanitation planning.
- Expected are significant improvements along the sanitation ladder for households, public schools and health facilities and an increased access to sustainable sanitation.

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