In the frame of the Kampala WASH Symposium, ARUWE hosted an open house session on 20 June at their premises. Jointly, the SuSanA working group meeting 7 took place and was attended by 12 people from NGOs, business, GIZ and embassies.

After introduction of each participant with their main activities, Catherine Nabuuso introduced into the difficult situation the rural women are facing in their daily life in the villages. She comes from a village and benefits from the sustainable technologies which have been implemented by ARUWE, WECF and funded by Erbacher Foundation. The biogas digesters and rainwater harvesting tanks are simple technologies and successful examples to implement the SDG 6 and 7 in the rural areas.

“It is better to take action ourselves through involving the local communities and not waiting for a water and energy service provider that might never appear,” says Agnes Mirembe, ARUWE programme coordinator. She presented the work ARUWE is doing.

Gertrude Kenyangi, SWAGEN, explained the background of the SDG negotiations and how she has been active in promoting the gender related SDGs as they are key for sustainable development.

Claudia Wendland, WECF water and sanitation specialist, as lead of SuSanA working group 7 introduced into some relevant SDG targets explaining where are the linkages to the WG7 topics: these are mainly SDG 6 with target 6.2 that explicitly mentions women and girls to be targeted by sanitation services. The topic WASH in Schools is targeted by SDG 4 with target 4.a where adequate sanitation facilities for schools are named. And target 6.b calls for involving local communities in water and sanitation programmes.
SDG 6.2: By 2030, achieve access to adequate and equitable sanitation and hygiene for all and end open defecation, paying special attention to the needs of women and girls and those in vulnerable situations.

SDG 4.a: Build and upgrade education facilities that are child, disability and gender sensitive and provide safe, non-violent, inclusive and effective learning environments for all.

SDG 6.b: Support and strengthen the participation of local communities in improving water and sanitation management.

It is the right time to come up with relevant, measurable and meaningful indicators to monitor these targets. SuSanA working group 7 will contribute to this discussion from their perspective.

The participants were asked to come up with their experiences and ideas how the gender sensitive indicators in households and schools/kindergartens could look like. They worked in small groups and presented their brainstorming results:

**Individual household WASH monitoring – looking at SDG 6.2 and b:**
- Community based WatSan committees should have 60% of women
- Individual Toilets close to the home not more 30 m
- Handwashing facilities close to the toilet
- Decision making in society should include women
- Indicator could be unpaid work for women carrying water, taking care of sanitation facilities
- Disaggregated data for access to water and sanitation for women and men through household survey

**WASH in Schools monitoring – looking at SDG 4.a:**
- Education on both boys and girls
- Awareness raising of boys so that they do not bully girls
- Lobbying and advocacy for gender mainstreaming for WASH in Schools
- Access to water not more than 500 m
- Segregated toilet facilities
- Monitoring enrollment of children, disaggregated boys and girls attending school
- Washing hands percentage of girls and boys through survey and observation

**Related to facilities in schools and kindergartens:**
- Inclusive WASH facilities in schools, in particular urinals, changing rooms, disposal bins, for disabled children
- Kindergarten facilities needs to be child friendly, e.g. smaller seats for the kids
- Involving MHM facilities in schools with pupils from 9 to 14-15 years, incl. emergency stock of sanitary provision, room for changing and to have a rest and/or to get pain killer, incineration for waste, especially the waste of menstrual hygiene
- Availability of handwashing facilities, water and soap, water supply needed in the sanitation facilities in schools
- Gender sensitive maintenance is important, if the pupils have to clean the toilets, girls should clean their and boys their own toilets

These discussion results will be fed into the online discussion in the SuSanA forum.

All presentations of the meeting can be found here: [link]

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