

REPORT ON THE 4TH RWENZORI REGION LEARNING FORUM



Theme: Up scaling WASH innovations towards 2015 MDG targets; opportunities for increasing access and functionality of WASH facilities in Rwenzori Region.

April 2014



Supporting water sanitation and hygiene services for life

LIST OF ACRONYMNS

CSO	Civil Society Organization
CBO	Community Based Organization
DWD	Directorate of Water Development
DWO	District Water Officers
DWSCC	District Water and Sanitation Coordination Committees
GFS	Gravity Flow Scheme
JESE	Joint Effort to Save the Environment
HEWASA	Health through Water and Sanitation
LC	Local Council
MWE:	Ministry of Water and Environment
NETWAS U O&M	Network for Water and Sanitation - Uganda Operations and Maintenance
S/C	Subcounty
TSU6	Technical Support Unit 6
UWASNET	Uganda Water and Sanitation Network
UOs:	Umbrella Organizations
UWUPP:	Uganda Water Umbrella Organizations Partnership Project
WRM:	Water Resources Management
WASH:	Water, Sanitation and Hygiene
WSSB	Water Supply and Sanitation Boards
WUC	Water User Committee
WSC	Water and Sanitation Committee

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Executive Summary

The two day Rwenzori Learning Forum on Up scaling WASH innovations towards 2015 MDG targets; opportunities for increasing access and functionality of WASH facilities was organized by Rwenzori WASH Alliance partners (i.e. HEWASA, JESE, SNV and PROTOS) as well as IRC/ Triple-S and Kabarole District Water office. The meeting took place at Kalya Courts in Fort Portal, Kabarole and was facilitated by IRC Triple S.

A total of 45 participants attended,[including 11 female and 34 male;] comprising of District Local Government Officials from the Water, Health, Education and Community Development departments as well as the Deputy CAO, Deputy LC V and Resident District Councilor Kabarole District. NGOs including HEWASA, JESE, SNV, PROTOS, KALI also participated as well as academic Institutions such as Mountains of the Moon University and Makerere University School of Public Health.

The deliberations focused on among others: the Life cycle approach of managing water points using ATWhatCost tool, how water boards are useful in management of schemes, the effectiveness of Reusable Pads in Menstrual Hygiene Management, how Omuhigo strategy has improved water source management, and scaling up manual drilling in Rwenzori region. Furthermore the districts, NGOs and public institution were tasked to come up with work plans to scale up efforts from the different partners to other districts so as to increase access to WASH facilities.

Methodology used in facilitating sessions included brainstorming, plenary presentations and participatory discussions on matters arising plus suggestions on appropriate solutions to overcome the challenges.

In conclusion, the following recommendations were made for better implementation on the next processes.

- Scale up manual drilling through enhancing the capacity of the private companies in manual drilling technologies and increasing districts take up of the technology as one of the water supply options
- More research needs to be done in the advantages and disadvantages of using Reusable Pads (RUMPS).
- Government to take lead in implementing the AtWhatCost tool for costing lifecycle costs for water points.
- Strengthen water management systems at sub county level for water board and authority.
- Enter into a formal engagement of NETWAS (U) and identify activities to be done.

1.0 BACKGROUND

According to the Joint Sector review Report 2013, although access to improved water supplies has risen significantly from about 20% in 1990 to 65% in 2012, it is becoming apparent that Uganda may not achieve the national target on safe water access of 77% and functionality of 90% by 2015. For the past three years figures for safe water coverage and functionality of rural water facilities have stagnated at 65% and at 81-83% respectively. In the Rwenzori region there has been slight improvement in the access and functionality levels of WASH facilities and positive changes in the management of WASH facilities. This can be attributed to the sharing and adoption of innovative ideas by the stakeholders in the region since the first Rwenzori regional learning Forum of 2010 (Kulanyi, Nekesa & Watsisi, 2013; Magara, 2013).

1.2 The Sector Innovations for improving Access and functionality

In order to solve the numerous challenges confronting the rural WASH sector, various sector players have come up with innovative ideas to increase access to safe water and sanitation and functionality of these facilities. These are in form of low cost and appropriate technologies, effective community mobilization and engagement, improved utility management systems, among others. However, a number of these innovations remain isolated cases and have not been shared for replication and scaling up.

These innovations can be measured against their contribution to meeting sector targets. MDG 7 in target 7c stated that “By 2015, halve the proportion of people without sustainable access to safe drinking water and basic sanitation”

Globally there have been reflections on the MDGs and new commitment/targets for WASH have been set by different global partners like UNICEF and WHO, among others. The reflection on meeting the WASH MDGs point to the fact that universal access to safe water was met but access is uneven between rural and urban, and within geographical settings. This is also true for the case of Uganda and the Rwenzori region in particular Ministry of Finance, Planning and Economic Development, 2013; SPR 2013. Globally, in Uganda and in the Rwenzori region as well, the sanitation and Hygiene will not be met when the MDGs come to term in 2015.

Basing on these???? the post MDG thinking (Unicef, 2013) is focusing on ambitious but visionary targets for universal access to clean and safe water and sanitation facilities and hygienic practices and behaviors. The Rwenzori Region stakeholders need to position themselves on the new global thinking by adopting and scaling up innovations which will provide universal access to safe water and sanitation.

To identify, analyze and be able to adopt and scale up these innovations, a learning platform is needed to bring together all WASH stakeholders in the region. These innovations that have been shared so far have enabled the region to take great strides towards increasing access to safe water and sanitation (Kulanyi, et al 2013).

1.3 Rwenzori Regional Learning Forum – an approach to improve access to WASH services by communities:

Government of Uganda recognizes that existence and sharing of knowledge prevents reinventing the wheel. Mechanisms and opportunities for sharing knowledge exist in the districts (e.g. the District Water and Sanitation Coordination Committees) but these are not effectively used for learning.

The Rwenzori Regional Learning Forum is a mechanism bringing together WASH stakeholders in the Rwenzori region to share experiences, learning from each other and develop mechanisms of replicating and scaling up innovations in the WASH sector.

1.4 Main Purpose of the proposed Learning Forum:

To provide a regional platform for sharing and analyzing good WASH experiences and practices among the sector actors in the Rwenzori region in Uganda and stimulate scaling up.

1.5 Specific objectives

- To provide stakeholders with an opportunity to present and share their different experiences on WASH service provision;
- To provide a platform for stakeholders to analyze and learn from the best practices on increasing access and functionality levels of Rural WASH services;
- To discuss the mechanisms for scale up innovative WASH solutions to improve WASH service delivery in Rwenzori region.

1.6 Methodology

The training workshop was facilitated by two experienced Resource Persons from Rwenzori WASH Alliance. The approach of the facilitation was more participatory, which allowed maximum brainstorming among participants. Some of the participatory tools employed included role plays, lectures, plenary presentations and group discussions.

Self-introductions by participants:

This was done to enable participants know each other and to facilitate free interaction with one another during the workshop proceedings.

1.7 Programme for the two day learning forum:

The workshop was opened by Peter Magara from IRC/Triple S who cautioned participants about their main purpose of attending the forum. He called on participants to fully engage in the discussions and come up with clear actions that will shape the direction of the sector.

1.8 Review of progress on previous Learning forum.

The review process of the learning forum was facilitated by Sam (CDO-TSU6) who through a question and answer approach engaged the different district delegates on the progress of their action plans. He noted that in the previous learning forum, a number of undertakings were agreed and all of them were embarked upon by the respective districts. Starting with the first undertaking it was mentioned that as proposed Mubende and Mityana were included in the forum and were invited for the fourth learning forum. The second undertaking was to ensure positive reporting by the media on rain water harvesting which was not done. The other undertaking was for Kyegegwa district to promote Boreholes as business. This was started and some boreholes have been privatized like **Rwentuha** borehole which when it breaks down the HPM does the repairs. In Ntoroko the low cost manual drilling was piloted by HEWASA. Linking boreholes to SACCOs is ongoing and there is quite some good progress. A plan was drawn to scale up manual drilling through the private sector approach where private companies will be trained and drill at a cost. Some wells already **procure**d drilling services for drilling during this financial year in 2014.

Kyenjonjo district had promised to scale up and promote sanitation clubs which has been partly done especially in areas of Kibuuku and Njeru. Kamwenge district reported that in terms of scaling up sanitation as business initiative, Zibumbe SACCO members are already acquiring loans for sanitation facilities. Water for People has partnered with local SACCOs to provide latrines to the communities. Kasese district mentioned that the district has supported the HPMA to do repairs on ten boreholes and the district has decided to hand them over to these mechanics to manage them as businesses.

2.0 Key note addresses

2.1 Deputy CAO-Kabarole

The Deputy Chief Administrative Officer Kabarole in her remarks welcomed all participants to Kabarole. She mentioned that the district has a host of challenges regarding functionality of boreholes and hence hoped to learn from others what has worked to scale up. She further noted that water is very important for survival and not only is it relevant for domestic use but also useful for production.

2.2 Remarks from UWASNET

The Communication Officer UWASNET, Judith Auma, delivered the address on behalf of the Executive Director who couldn't make it because of other engagements. Speaking to participants the communication person apologized on behalf the Executive Director and

mentioned that she was pleased to be a part of 4th Rwenzori Regional Learning. She congratulated the Rwenzori WASH Alliance for sustaining the platform and mentioned that it gave a clear indication that water and sanitation lies at the heart of everyone's concerns. She further noted that as much as Uganda has realized progress in the provision of water, sanitation and hygiene services. The Joint Monitoring Programme Report 2013 indicates that 25% of Uganda's population is still living without access to improved Drinking water sources and 65% still lack access to improved sanitation. The Joint Monitoring Programme Report 2012 indicates that 10% of the population of Uganda practices open defecation and this is estimated to cost the country US\$41 million per year, yet to eliminate this practice requires less than 650,000 toilets to be built and used, yet sanitation has not been given the attention it deserves.

She further noted that although the water and Environment sector Strategic Sector Investment Plan identifies significant funding gaps to meet the investments requirements to attain the sector targets (rising from about USD 12million in FY 2009/10 to USD 80million in the FY 2013/12, the share of the WASH sector budget as a proportion of the national budget has remained below 3.5% over a period of 6 years, with 50% of this coming from donors, which is not very sustainable. This has been worsened by the application of budget ceilings and the inadequate prioritization of WASH every year, there is a bigger funding gap between funding needs to reach the Sector Investment Targets and actual funding by the Government of Uganda.

Hence as a sector, stakeholders need to source for non-traditional sources of funding, explore integration in service delivery while at the same time advocate for increased recognition and prioritization of WASH, given its health and development benefits.

In conclusion, she congratulated UWASNET members in the region for taking practical steps in promoting integrated water resources management as well as contributing to the conversion of waste into money in the country by promoting ecological sanitation. She also thanked the Ministry of Water and Environment for the great strides taken in providing WASH services and for the technical guidance given to the members. She then pledged UWASNET's support for partnerships and dialogues to provide answers to problems facing providing access to water and sanitation for all in Uganda.

2.3 Deputy LC V Kabarole,

In his remarks the Deputy LC V thanked the organizers for organizing a forum that is concerned with water and sanitation. He noted that he is fully aware of everyone's knowledge of water but although the knowledge exists, very few are aware of how to protect and maintain the water sources. He stressed the importance of water, mentioning that any human being declared waterless is dead and can not do anything. He also mentioned the importance of women in dealing with water issues especially since they fetch it and also use it for a number of their activities. He explained that the magnitude of how important water is can be seen in water stressed areas like Kyegegwa which are sparsely populated.

2.4 Resident District Commissioner- Kabarole

In his brief remarks, the RDC of Kabarole noted that the problem is not that water is scarce, it's a problem of the head. This had to do with first dealing with the behavior of people and their attitude. He noted that the next world war will be for water because its demand is increasing as population increases. He stressed the need to accelerate thinking to devise solutions to increase access to water. He urged stakeholders to walk the talk.

2.5 Key note address by the Commissioner, Ministry of Water and Environment

The representative of the Commissioner Rural Water Department in the Ministry of Water and Environment welcomed participants to the fourth Rwenzori Regional Learning Forum and mentioned that he was presenting a key note address on behalf of the entire Ministry. He explained that the mandate of the Ministry of Water and Environment is to ensure sustainable management and conservation of water and environment resources for the good of people of Uganda and the environment in general.



The Commissioner Alhaji Ahmed Ssentumbwe giving the keynote address

He mentioned that the demand for safe and improved sanitation services rises each day due to increasing population. And this year's theme **“Up scaling WASH innovations towards 2015 MDG targets; opportunities for increasing access and functionality of WASH facilities in Rwenzori Region”** was chosen when the sector was trying to increase access to communities and ensure continued functionality of rural water supply systems.

He noted that Government is struggling to provide the required finances and so far the WASH sector is receiving about **3%** of the national budget. Local governments receive about **55bn** through the District Water and Sanitation Development Conditional Grant. This is shared between 111 districts. On top of this, support is received from **NGOs** and **CSOs**.

Speaking of coverage and functionality he revealed that the targets of **77%** and **90%** were respectively set at the turn of the Millennium to be achieved by **2015** and as a country, progress has stagnated to meet our goals in the WASH sector. As of **June 2013**, access to safe water and clean water in urban areas was **70%** while access to safe and clean water in rural areas is at **64%**.

The countrywide household latrine coverage has improved to **71%** while access to hand washing with soap and water after latrine usage is at **29%** in rural areas. For the past three years figures for functionality of rural water facilities have stagnated at **81-84%** respectively.

The question now is how do stakeholders accelerate and meet these targets? This is a question which ought to be answered by all forum participants. He further said that the Ministry has come up with innovative ways of addressing the issue of improved access and functionality.

2.5.1 Reactions to opening remarks

Responding to the opening remarks from the respective presenters, the participants had a number issues which include:

- National Water and Sewerage Cooperation noted that they face a challenge of contamination of catchment areas by encroachers and were wondering how the sector can help them protect such areas. The representative of the MWE advised NWSC to first carry out an environmental impact assessment of some of these water sources.
- Can't districts be allowed to implement their projects since they have staff capable of doing that work? If incapacitated why are trainings not provided to such people?
- Who is in charge of ensuring the replacement of pipes broken during road construction or repair?.
- Government nowadays can allow districts to implement work but the process of doing it requires going through the PPDA before any work is to go on. Hence it's better to utilize the contractors since the process is shorter than that of districts doing their own work.
- According to PPDA all contractors are supposed to ensure that all structures already existing are protected and thus any damages made during construction shall be incurred by the contractor.

3.0 Field Based Experiences on PPP in WASH

3.1 AtWhatCost project Presentation

This session was presented by Diana Keesiga of Water for People who presented an operating frame work for determining sufficient tariffs for sustainable management of water sources. The framework uses an Excel-based tool by which the life cycle costs of a water system are calculated. It aids to set the percentages saved up towards capital maintenance expenditure.

The presentation made generated a number of issues which were discussed and some of them included the following:

- “We appreciate the financial planning tool but clarity is needed on whether the tool was developed basing the local situation or was imported into the country”.
- The tool was developed for all geographical settings and in the rural areas where they were first piloted the wells were using a pay and fetch system thus useful for computing the tariffs.
- The Tool was taken to communities with broken down pumps thus a need was there for the tool.
- Was there any boundary information generated before formulating the tool?.
- The tool is open however assumptions are factored in after going to the source, for example inflation, number of households etc.

3.2 Active Water Board Improves Water Access in Kicwamba Sub County

This case which was presented by Businge Charles the LC III Kicwamba Subcounty, illustrates the role of water boards in increasing access to water in Kichwamba Sub County.

Baseline findings of the needs assessment on the functionality of water sources carried out by HEWASA in Kicwamba Sub County in 2012, indicated: poor functionality of water sources, poor response towards user fees collection, illegal connections by the scheme attendant, poor financial management by the water user committees and the water board. In response HEWASA held meetings with the district water office team, sub county leadership and community members.

In response to one of the recommendations from the meetings, HEWASA facilitated the election and training of a new sub county Water Board (WB), mentored the new WB in its roles and responsibilities, minute taking and book keeping. The new water board developed a constitution and registered with the district as a Community Based organization (CBO). It also opened a bank account with the United Bank of Africa (UBA) in addition to the already existing account with Kihondo SACCO. After its formation, the new Water Board took charge of all water sources within the sub county irrespective of the technological option they belong.

The WB trained the water user committees within the sub county. The new water Board started reporting to the community on how user and connection fees were being used. It set criteria for private connections which were approved by the Sub county council.

From this initiative there was improvement in the management of all water sources within the sub county irrespective of the technological options, revitalization of non-functional water user committees, training of water user committees in the sub county, increased reporting and giving accountability to the community on user and connection fees collections and expenditure, development of a criteria that are followed in effecting private connections which was presented and approved by the Sub county council and creating a partnership with HEWASA in extending the GFS with a smaller budget.

3.2.1 Reactions to the presentation

1. There is an issue of poor distribution of water source especially for the Gravity Flow Scheme (GFS), how was the criteria for awarding these sources selected and why weren't some areas given water points?.
2. Kichwamba has pozolana rocks which affect laying of pipes in most of these areas especially during the dry season.
3. The sub county is working out a system to extend coverage to the whole sub county and so far two thirds of the Subcounty (S/C) have been covered.
4. How much of the S/C was covered with GFS and how many tap stands were installed?
5. The water board set up a constitution for providing water to private connections.
6. There is a challenge of politicising of issues like assuming that water boards are paid a lot of money to do their work yet they work on voluntary basis.
7. Mobilizing communities to help in the laying of the pipes was a challenge; however politicians helped in a number of cases.

3.3 Women Group Scales Up Reusable Menstrual Pads (Rumps) In Kicwamba Subcounty

This case was presented by Steven Birungi the Monitoring and Evaluation Officer from Health through Water and Sanitation.

SNV in 2011 organised a Training of Trainers (TOT) on RUMPS for all its partners of which HEWASA was one of the organizations that benefited. Through this HEWASA was able to adopt this innovation and thus scale up RUMPS in 26 target schools of Kasese and Kyenjojo districts under the School WASH Community Empowerment Program (CEP).



Birungi Steven making the Presentation on the RUMPS with a VHT from Kicwamba Subcounty

Realizing the significant strides in Menstrual Hygiene Management among adolescents in schools, HEWASA

decided to upscale the innovation in Kabarole district under the Rwenzori Region Integrated Safe Water, Sanitation and Hygiene Development Project. The project was implemented under the RWA Program in Kicwamba Sub County. In 2012, HEWASA introduced this innovation of reusable menstrual pads among a women group in Kicwamba Sub County. A Training of Trainers (ToT) on RUMPS was organized for Kicwamba Quick Servers, a women group in the sub county that consists of 20 members. The TOT involved both the theoretical aspects on menstrual Hygiene Management as well as the practices on how to make

RUMPS. Women were trained on how to make RUMPS using the materials provided; these included, old bed sheets, towels, and a pair of scissors, thread and needle.

On realizing that the innovation was viable, the women decided to upscale the innovation throughout the sub county, starting with the women who came for antenatal care services. Much as this category was not menstruating due to pregnancy, they needed the pads immediately after delivery to take care of heavy bleeding. Besides some of them were mothers and had adolescent girls at home who needed the pads. Kicwamba Quick Servers have further reached out to adolescent girls of 5 primary schools and female inmates in Katojo prison located within the sub county, 650 adolescent girls were trained in the 5 primary schools of Bwanika, Buhara, Nyamisingiri, Busoiga and Kinyabuhara.

The lessons learnt include:

- Reusable pads are a sustainable alternative since they are made by the women/girls
- The use of available materials (cloth, towels) makes reusable pads cost effective
- Women's groups can be effective in scaling up menstrual hygiene management once trained
- Provision of materials to disadvantaged groups (inmates) empowers them to make their own menstrual management materials



3.4 Reusable Pads for Girls Life Comfort in Kasese District

In 2011, up to 330 girls from 191 schools dropped out of school because they could not cope with the challenges that come with the reality of menstruation. It was discovered that most parents do not know whether their daughters have started the menstrual cycle. By end of November 2013, KALI had introduced to this community the re-usable menstrual pads (RUMPS) intervention, under the Wash in Schools Programme. Training of senior women teachers on how to manage girls of menstrual age was conducted. This has so far benefitted 38 teachers for ownership of the RUMPS initiative.

Girls of 10 years and above are also trained in making and using reusable menstrual pads. This is done through involving the Girl Education Movement and School Health clubs since they champion the peer to peer sanitation and hygiene talks in the schools. As a result, 854 girls out of 1224 girls in need of pads are benefiting.

Boys, teachers and parents especially women/mothers have also been involved in getting these skills. This is done to increase their support and understanding of the biological aspect of menstruation instead of jeering at girls whenever they soil their uniforms. Girls are now able to take better care of themselves during their menstrual periods. This has

improved the enrolment of girls in the schools especially in upper classes of P4-P7. They no longer escape from school and therefore performance has improved in their academics since they attend all the lessons. Girls once shied away from asking for pads from teachers but now they make their own pads.

Though very many successes are acknowledged, there were also a number of challenges which include: lack of menstrual pads which result into boys stigmatizing affected girls as a result of which many girls escape from school, inadequate facilities to support the children such as wash and change rooms, and or no counselling and guidance sessions for the children.

Comments on the presentation on reusable pads

- A question was asked on why a cloth is used instead of fiber?.
- Has anyone done a study to compare the local product with those on market?
- It was mentioned that girls use cotton cloth because it is cheap and available.
- Suggestion was made that materials be used once because the cloth can get contaminated and dirty.
- More research needs to be done on the RUMPs. It's advisable to have very many pads so as to keep changing.
- To maintain a RUMP, it requires soap or Jik which is rarely available due to the costs incurred thus little guarantee of safety.
- Synthetic pads are made of chemicals and thus causing **candidiasis**. Their disposal is also very difficult RUMPS and quite fairly acceptable for use.



3.5 Omuhigho (Communal Work) Resuscitates Katoke GFS

The case was presented by Jolly Mugisa, the Chairperson of the Hand Pump Mechanic Association.

Katoke Gravity Flow Scheme (GFS) is situated in Bugoye Sub County, Kasese District. It was constructed with funding from European Community Micro-Projects Programme in 2001/2002 with a total number of 27 tap stands. The scheme



Mugisa Jolly presenting about Omuhigho

supplies safe water to Katooke Parish that comprises 4 villages. Through the Omuhigho strategy, the GFS has been able to reach a number people. Omuhigho literary means a collective hunting. Omuhigho is a traditional strategy that mobilizes members of the community to provide manual labour needed to solve urgent problems that affect livelihood in society. That is why the Omuhigho tradition was strategically used to resuscitate Katooke GFS.

A leakage was detected by the scheme attendant. The scheme attendant reported the leakage to the board and the District Water Officer. The district water department team together with the board verified the leakage. The District Mobilizer advised the board to involve the community in solving the problem.

The board together with the local leadership mobilized the community for omuhigho. The community with the supervision of the DWO team and the scheme attendant rehabilitated the intake works. During the exercise the water users realized the need to overhaul the water supply and sanitation board that had slackened in performance. A date was set for the selection of a new board and tap stand committees.

During the water users meeting for election of the new Board, the community agreed to carry out omuhigho every first Thursday of the month at the water facilities. Through this strategy the water board has ensured constant flow of water in all taps, lockable houses constructed on tap stands and that the scheme attendant is paid his allowance regularly.



Omuhigho.ppt

3.6 Low cost Manual Well Drilling Technology for improved safe water supply to rural areas

Annet Kobusinge, an engineer working with HEWASA, explained how the Rwenzori WASH Alliance has improved access to water through promoting low manual drilling.

Manual drilling is a practical and affordable solution for wells less than 40m deep, in alluvial soils (loose material such as clay and sand) and soft weathered rock formations (weathered sandstone and limestone). The pilot was done in Rwebisengo Sub County, Ntoroko District and



Participants at the exhibition during the learning forum are guided on how the manual drill works.

Katooke Sub County, Kyenjojo District. Both located in Western Uganda, Rwebisengo and Katooke were selected on hydro-geological criteria. Rwebisengo is characterized by alluvial soil deposits in the rift valley with nearly uniform water table depth.

In 2011, RWA with PRACTICA Foundation conducted a fact finding and program development mission. They evaluated a geo-hydrological feasibility. In 2012, a socio economic analysis of the area was done through PRICON. A technology team was assembled.

The technical team comprised of technicians and artisans drawn from the Hand Pump Mechanics Associations of Kyenjojo and Kabarole districts, Technical staff of RWA member organizations, Elon Water Construction Company, Practical Action Kenya and St. Joseph Technical Institute. Raw materials for drilling tools and well construction were purchased from the scrap market and hardware shops.

Drilling kits were fabricated at St Joseph's Technical Institute, Virika in Fort Portal. Training of the technical team was facilitated by two trainers from PRACTICA Madagascar in fabrication of drilling kits, process of drilling, and installation of pumps. The performance of the drilled wells (3) was monitored in 2013. No well dried up during the driest season of the year.

A random assessment of the static levels of the existing wells was done. A study was conducted to assess the ability and willingness to pay 400 dollars to purchase a well. This was intended to establish the potential for local financing.

Under this initiative, 4 wells have been drilled and are being used; 480 water users benefit from the wells, Self-supply mechanisms are emerging, for example 1 pastoralist in Rwebisengo drilled a well in his farm for domestic use.

The participants had a lot of interest in the low cost drilling approach and had the following comments:

- The challenge is there are no prequalified companies to carry out manual drilling.
- The availability of tools for manual drilling in the local market
 - Does HEWASA intend to conduct trainings for upscale of manual drilling
 -

3.6 Presentation on applying the model village approach for household sanitation and hygiene promotion in Kasese district
Samuel Tumusime, the Senior Community Development Officer of TSU6 made the presentation on behalf of the District Health Inspector of Kasese. He mentioned that Kasese District was known for its high incidence of diarrhea diseases that annually claimed lives and caused poor livelihoods.

Therefore the District in a bid to eliminated water-related diseases, opted for using Home Improvement Campaigns. The campaign uses a Holistic Model Village Approach 90%. Under the model village approach, the district has taken up 2 villages per Sub County, The target is to achieve 100% sanitation coverage in those villages for other villages to emulate.

So far five Sub Counties have had their selected villages improved by over 90%: Maliba, Karusandara, Isango, Kyondo, Munkunyu & Hima.



Samuel Tumusime makes the presentation on the model villages in Kasese district.

Home improvement is based on model village approach. The Model Village Approach's strength is built on creating exemplary communities in the society where others can learn by social diffusion.

Home improvement ensures that all households provide basic sanitation infrastructure that initiates social- behavioral transformation.

The model villages in Kasese have experienced a social-behavioral transformation in respect to hygiene and sanitation. Consistent hand washing with soap is at an average of 75% across all model villages.

Safe pit latrine coverage is at **90%** across all model villages. Functionality of community water sources is at **95%** across all the model villages. Significantly the intervention has contributed to the elimination of cholera in Kasese district.



4.0 Agreed resolutions and issues to consider as a way forward for the cases presented

- In the world café approach, participants were subdivided into groups to give their feedback on any clarification about the cases, gaps and what needs to done to adapt the cases. The groups were categorized according to the cases presented

- **From the Manual drilling group**, participants needed clarification on size of the drilling bits, whether cross or round. The group was also interested in knowing how the development process done for the boreholes is done using manual drilling.
- On the gaps identified in the low cost manual drilling, it was noted that there are no prequalified contractors that have skills to drill wells manually.
- The group also mentioned that the strategy for adoption of manual drilling would require enhancing the capacity of the private companies in manual drilling technologies and having districts adopt the technology as one of the water supply options.
- **Under the RUMPS group**, discussions revolved around increasing sensitization on the types of materials used for making RUMPS, emphasizing hygiene of the materials on washing and drying under the sun, changing attitudes of people towards RUMPS and conducting more research on them.
- The group also had questions on whether during the training pupils are advised on how to manage blood flow.
- On the way forward for adoption, the group suggested packaging information about the RUMPs, proper counseling sessions for the girl child to prepare them for menstruation, providing a linkage between the Health centers and schools for managing pains and the age for training to be set at 10 and above for continuity
- **The third group discussed the ATWhatcost tool** for determining tariffs; here the group needed more clarity on how to use the tool in the field and who implements it.
- The AtWhatCost group also suggested a need for the government to take lead in using the tool to set borehole tariffs, increase social marketing at village level and harmonize AtWhatCost tool with other existing tools.
- The group further suggested options for scale up like applying it on other new wells, reviewing the current model and also selecting an implementing team.

Gaps identified about sanitation improvement using the model village approach were:

- Population pressure
- Reproductive health has not been addressed
- Sanitation marketing is not strong enough to supply sanitation inputs
- Equity in selection of model village

5.0 Proceeding of day II of the workshop:

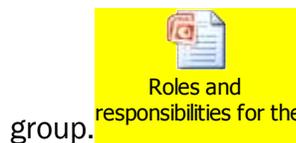
Participants had reflections on the presentations made the previous day and had the opportunity to have hands on illustration of innovations being utilized in the Rwenzori Region including the Bob rain water harvesting tank, the manual drill, the reusable pads and the water filter.

Having gone through the first day of the meeting, the second day opened with a presentation of the evaluation feedback from participants. The issues were summarized and reference can be made to the document attached to the report.



Participants Recap the lessons learned from Day one

The next session was the presentation of the agreed resolutions from each



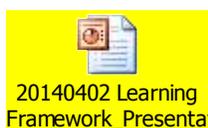
This was later followed by a presentation from Peter Magara on Learning and Coordination framework. His presentation dwelt on the future for learning and coordination of sector information. He shared on the existing learning and coordination procedures in the sector and also the need to move from scattered learning especially at national level and establish a one stop center for learning and sharing.

5.1 Presentation of the proposed organizational structure for the learning and coordination hub

The structure in summary shows the different actors and their roles which are outlined in the various levels of the sector. The structure suggests a WASH knowledge hub which is responsible for collecting, synthesizing, storing & disseminating information on innovations in the sector, managing a WASH Knowledge web-based data base, developing a learning agenda to prioritize themes based on ongoing sector reform processes, working with WSS sub sector working group to develop proposals for undertakings and set the agenda for CSO undertakings according to prioritized learning themes.

It was explained that the hub model can only work when:

- There is an established Knowledge Management Hub
- Reactivated steering group of WASH Knowledge institutions to support the Hub
- UWASNET regional coordinators to develop CSO coalitions to work with TSUs on regional learning, IDMs, & Joint Resource mobilization
- Agree on expected outcomes from DWSCCs
- Annual TSUs reviews to synthesize issues from IDMs
- Develop incentives to trigger documentation of WASH innovations
- Support regional level structures in facilitating learning forums



During the discussions on issues arising from this presentation, participants raised the following concerns:

- How different is the knowledge hub from NETWAS as a resource center??.
- Whereas the district water and sanitation coordination committee has a budget allocation from the Ministry, the Sub Counties do not yet they also need support to facilitate their meetings
- How will the knowledge hub be paid?
- How will the knowledge hub link to the regional learning forum

6.0 Stakeholder Action on adoption and scaling up of innovations

6.1 Kyenjojo DLG action plan

Institution	Undertaking	Responsible person	Time frame
KDLG	Manual drilling	DWO/HEWASA	April/Dec
Water office	Water boards	strengthening the existing water boards & initiating formation of water boards for schemes	April-Dec
KDLG	Tarrif setting using the excel sheet (piloting)	District Water Officer/ WFP	April-Dec
	Village Model (scaling up)	CSOs/CBS	April-Dec

6.2 Kabarole

1. Community/home improvement through model villages
2. To have model villages with all round best WASH practices

- Can easily lead to scaling up from village to model parish-upwards
- to promote equity and a way of reaching everyone in that locality

Institution	Undertaking	Responsible
District Water office & Water Office	Advocate to council & executive for replication village model	DWO/DHO/CDO
DWSSC	Meeting to share strategies of creating model homes/ villages	WASH stakeholders
Sub county Authority	CDOs and health assistants to follow up maintenance model area specification compliance	CDO/Assistance
Parish	Enforcement to compliance in regard to model village specification and bring defaulters on board	Parish chief/LCII
LCI	Day to day follow up, collaborate with CSOs, LG, Households	LCI

6.3 Ntoroko District Local Government

- I. Innovation to adopt
 - The AtWhatCost model of managing water sources and public latrine
 - Manual well drilling
- II. Reasons for adoption and selection
 - ❖ High rate of water facilities breaking down
 - ❖ Water user committees have not fulfilled their foundation
 - ❖ Sanitation Management Committees for public latrines have not collected user fees
 - ❖ Solve the problem of drying up of shallow wells
 - ❖ The technology can withstand the salinity due to pvc

Institution	Undertaking	Responsible	Time frame
Ntoroko District Local Government	AtWhatCost model water & sanitation facilities management	DWO	30 th April 2014 July-Dec 2014 (to achieve 50%)
	❖ Identify all the water facilities	DHI	
	❖ Identification of the sanitation facilities in RGCs	DWO/LC	
DWSSC	Up scaling manual drilling		
	➤ Training of HPM, drillers & fabricators	HE WAS/DWO	May-June May 2014
	➤ Identification of sites	DWO	July 2014
	➤ In cooperation of manual well drilling activities in the district work plan		July 2015

6.4 Kibale District Action Plan

Innovations for adoption

Adopt AtWhatCost innovation to increase the functionality of water sources from 86% to 90%.

Adopt the model village approach to increase sanitation coverage from 64% to 72%.

Adopt the Manual drilling technology to increase safe water coverage from 69% to 70%.

Institution	Undertaking	Responsible
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Kibale District local Government	Implementing AtWhatCost Between May - December 2014	District Water Officer
Kibale District local Government	Implement the Model Village Approach Between May - December 2014	District Water Officer
EANESCO Foundation Development	Implementing manual drilling Between June - December 2014	ENESCO Water Officer

6.5 Kamwenge District Action Plan

- Kamwenge District Local Government has funds to promote the innovation around rehabilitation as well as support from development partners.
- The innovation reduces dependency of the communities on government for water source rehabilitation.

Institution	Undertaking	Responsible
Kamwenge District Local Government	Adopt AtWhatCost with a component of WSSB at Subcounty Level, Phase 1: 10 Wells between April - June 2014. Phase 2: 30 - 40 Wells between July - December 2014.	District Water Officer (Byamukama Michael)

6.6 Bundibugyo District Action Plan

- Adoption of the Water Board Innovation

- Formation of subcounty water and sanitation coordination committee
- Formation of the subcounty water boards
- Training support in Coordination, Financial Management, Accountability, Reporting from SNV, TSU 6 and Umbrella.

Institution	Undertaking	Responsible
Bundibugyo District Local Government	Upscale the water board innovation of extending the Ngite – Picfare Gravity Flow Scheme in Harugale Subcounty Mirambi Subcounty Busaru Subcounty KisubbaSubcounty	District Water Officer

6.4 Public Institutions

Institutions: Mountains of the Moon & Makerere University

Undertakings

- RUMPS
- Model Village
- AtWhat Cost Model

General Objective

To evaluate the impact of WASH in Rwenzori region

Specific objectives

- To find out the level of acceptability of the selected innovations in the communities
- To examine the effect/impact of innovations in the community (Health,Economic & community cohesion)
- To examine the community plans on how they will sustain the innovation

Time frame: Before implementation of innovations

After implementation of innovations

Responsible persons: Rawlance Ndejjo & Scovia Mbabazi

Why these innovations?

- Complete the WASH component
- Great capacity for research
- High level of community engagement
- Great impact if well implemented
- High potential for scale up

7.0 Way forward for Rwenzori Learning Forum

This session was chaired by Martin Watsisi who engaged participants to come up with resolutions for the way forward of the learning forum. These include;

- ✓ Local Governments need to take advise from NGOs to work together on scaling up the forum
- ✓ There is need to ask how the forum will be funded, organized and rotated to other districts.
- ✓ CSOs should keep the forum relevant by documenting and sharing innovations at the forum
- ✓ CSOs and districts should include support to the learning platform in their annual project plans and budgets
- ✓ Where do we anchor the regional learning in the Rwenzori? How do we position the Rwenzori to benefit other learnings?
- ✓ The strategy of organizing the forum has been changing from NGOs to having TSU6 organize it
- ✓ Districts should budget for attending the forum and CSOs should come up with plans to support them.
- ✓ Districts need to be informed earlier on when the forum will take place and who will be required to attend from the district.

8.0 Concluding Remarks

8.1 Team Leader-TSU6

In his remarks the team leader TSU6, Peter Opwanya expressed his appreciation to everyone who participated and organized the forum. He thanked partners for guiding and supporting the learning of new ideas which he said was relevant for a growing sector. He pledged full support to the forum by ensuring that all districts in the region are well represented and concluded by thanking the political wing for supporting the initiative.

8.2 Deputy LC V-Kabarole

The Deputy LC V Chairman of Kabarole closed the learning forum and congratulated participants for attending the workshop. He reminded participants of their role to improve service delivery and thus should not leave the same way they came to the workshop. He thanked facilitators of the workshop for the job well done and noted that the catch word for the workshop was “innovation”. He emphasized that innovation can only move with research hence research needs to be done to scale up these approaches. He noted human beings regarded water as gift from God; therefore it is their role to conserve, manage and sustain it.

9.0 Learning Forum Evaluation

33 participants in groups of 3 used cards (Red, Green, Yellow and White) as indicated below.

Areas Evaluated	White-Excellent	Yellow-Fair	Green-Good	Red-Poor	Total
Content	15	0	18	0	33
Facilitators	15	3	12	0	30
Meals	0	12	6	15	33
Venue	15	0	18	0	33
Participation	21	0	10	0	31
Time	0	9	0	21	30