



The 2nd Eastern Africa Sanitation Conference

KAMPALA UGANDA | 2 - 4 March 2010

CONFERENCE REPORT



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Acronyms & Abbreviations

AMCOW	Africa Ministers Council on Water
ANEW	African Civil Society Network on Water and Sanitation
CATS	Community Approaches for Total Sanitation
CBM	Community Based Management
CBO	Community Based Organisation
CLTS	Community Led Total Sanitation
DWD	Department of Water Development
EHT	Environmental Health Technician
GDP	Gross Domestic Product
GOSS	Government of South Sudan
GWA	Gender Water Alliance
IRC	International Reference Center (for water and sanitation)
MDGs	Millennium Development Goals
NGO	Non-governmental Organisation
NSWG	National Sanitation Working Group
PHAST	Participatory Hygiene and Sanitation Transformation
PPP	Public Private Partnership
PRA	Participatory Rural Appraisal
SWOT	Strengths, Weaknesses, Opportunities and Threats
TAC	Technical Advisory Committee
UNICEF	United Nations Children's Fund
UWASNET	Uganda Water & Sanitation Network
VCW	Village Community Worker
WASH	Water Sanitation & Hygiene
WATSAN	Water and Sanitation
WHO	World Health Organisation
WSB	Water Service Board
WSP- Africa	Water Sanitation Program - Africa
WSP	Water Services Providers

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Acknowledgments



The second Eastern Africa Sanitation was a great success due to the considerable support and enthusiasm witnessed before and during the conference by sanitation stakeholders in Eastern Africa. The lead organizers, ANEW (under the auspices of the African Council of Ministers on Water and Sanitation (AMCOW)), IRC, Uganda Water & Sanitation Working Group, WaterAid, UNICEF and WSP-Af would like to express their heart felt thanks to all the organisations and individuals who contributed towards making the second sanitation conference a success.

First, the lead organizers wish to thank all the 10 countries and in particular the Ministries responsible for sanitation and Civil Society in Uganda, Ethiopia, Tanzania, Kenya, Rwanda, Burundi, Somalia, Sudan (North & South), Djibouti, and Yemen. The dialogue and enthusiasm created a multi-sectoral forum that was well suited to sharing progress and lessons on the development or updating of National Sanitation Plans in an open and participatory manner.

Secondly, we wish to thank the eminent panel of peer reviewers whose insights into the National Sanitation Plans added great value in the fine tuning of the national sanitation plans. Finally, the organizers wish to most sincerely thank the Government of Uganda for hosting the conference.

Jamillah Mwanjisi

Executive Secretary, ANEW

Vincent Njuguna

Conference Facilitator

1.0 Introduction & Background



Every Saturday, everyone is involved in sanitation activities in community.

- Burundi Delegate

None of the countries in Eastern Africa is on track in regard to Sanitation MDGs. However, governments in the respective countries have demonstrated substantial political will as witnessed by signing of eThekweni and Sharm el Sheikh Declarations. It was against this backdrop that the Second Eastern Africa Conference was held. The conference brought together policy makers and practitioners from 10 countries in Eastern Africa.

In several aspects the conference has evolved given the scope of civil society participation, and the high level government representation in the second conference. In addition, this year's conference adopted a peer review mechanism, through which a two level peer review process was carried out, commencing with a review of National Sanitation Plans by a team of sector practitioners before the conference and later during the conference, a panel of experts listened to the country present their sanitation plans and provided valuable feed back.

Sanitation is still in several respects the “neglected child” given its low profile, inadequate planning and tends therefore to be poorly resourced. These challenges were the focus of discussions at the conference. In order to attain the overall goal of AfricaSan+5 which is to promote sanitation and hygiene improvement in Africa, and also to ensure that the commitments, which governments signed are followed through, it is necessary to keep the dialogue in-country open, and not once a year event. National Sanitation Working Groups are effective dialogue vehicles. The conference provided an ongoing platform for governments, civil society and development partners to share and learn.

¹Uganda, Ethiopia, Tanzania, Kenya, Rwanda, Burundi, Somalia, Sudan (North & South), Djibouti, and Yemen

1.1 Objectives of the Conference

The conference acting as a platform for the governments in the region, civil societies and the donors to review progress made on national action plans towards achieving the eThekwini action plan and Sharm el Sheikh had as its objective;

- Review how each of the east African Countries has progressed in the implementation of the eThekwini Declaration
- Identify best practices and promote information sharing and learning within the region.
- Peer review individual countries plans and progress assessment reports on Sanitation.
- Identify opportunities, challenges and develop recommendations for action by institutions and sector actors at national and regional level.
- Increase political awareness and momentum.



2.0 Opening

In recognition to the growing profile of sanitation, the conference was opened by the Minister for Water & Environment in Uganda, Hon Maria Mutagamba in conjunction with two other Ministers, Hon. Dr Stephen Malinga, Minister of Health, Uganda and Hon. Namirembe Bitamazire, Minister of Education and Sports, Uganda. They challenged participants to join forces and improve the dignity and living conditions of the people in Eastern Africa through improving sanitation. No country in this region is on track to achieve sanitation MDG.

This is a calamity of immense proportion and call for government and civil society to re double efforts in participatory planning, implementation and monitoring.

The broad political and strategic guidelines spelt out by the **6th AMCOW session**, **The eThekwini Declaration** and the **AU, Heads of State meeting in Sharm El Sheikh** provide for a historic opportunity to sanitation, and the key note address indicated that time is was now for the sanitation sector to run.



The Ethekwini Declaration; (an abridged version)

1. To bring the messages, outcomes and commitments made by the African Union heads of state and government summit
2. To support AMCOW track the implementation of eThekwini Declaration and prepare a detailed report on progress in mid 2010, and subsequently there after
3. To establish, review, update and adopt national sanitation and hygiene policies within 12 months of AfricaSan 2008; so as to get back on track to meet national sanitation goals and the MDGs by 2015
4. To increase the profile of sanitation and hygiene in poverty reduction strategy papers
5. To ensure that one, principal, accountable institution takes clear leadership of the national sanitation portfolio, establish one coordinating body with specific responsibility for sanitation and hygiene, involving all stakeholders, including but not limited to those responsible for finance, health, water, education, gender and local government.
6. To establish specific public sector budget allocations for sanitation and hygiene programmes; a minimum of 0.5% of GDP for sanitation and hygiene.
7. To use effective and sustainable approaches
8. To develop and implement sanitation information, monitoring systems and tools to track progress at local and national level.
9. To recognize the gender and youth aspects of sanitation and hygiene, and involve women in all decision making levels.
10. To build and strengthen capacity for sanitation and hygiene implementation, including research and development and support knowledge exchange and partnership development.
11. To give special attention to countries or areas which are emerging from conflict or national disasters.

3.0 The Learning Forum - Peter Ryan & Jo Smet - IRC

In line with the eThekweni commitments, the conference focused on learning. It was intended to provide countries and other partners in the sanitation sub sector with an opportunity to share and learn about emerging issues on sanitation.

IRC facilitated the event, with a total of 12 case studies presented (*see annex 2*) divided into three thematic areas;

- Enhancing the institutional framework for sanitation and hygiene.
- Innovative and effective sanitation approaches.
- Sanitation Finance - towards 0.5% of national budgets.

The outcomes were several. It was quite a challenge to get a case study on sanitation finance, and this demonstrated

a dearth of information in this critical area. Discussions in this area indicated that hardly any country has achieved the 0.5% of GDP for sanitation nationally. The majority of case studies were on approaches, and this was also evident in the discussions that majority of countries had made great strides in deliberation on sanitation approaches and several countries had adopted new sanitation approaches in particular Community Approaches for Total Sanitation (CATS) which include CLTS as witnessed in Ethiopia, Uganda and Kenya.

Institutional framework for sanitation drew a few case studies and the emerging lessons were that even in countries with a specific ministry for sanitation like Kenya, a lot of strengthening, resourcing, profiling sanitation needed to be done. There were questions on sanitation representation in AMCOW. In concluding the learning forum, participants urged for more expanded learning events.



Calls were made for AMCOW to provide more support in the future and also for the representatives and TACs to work closer with the national sanitation working groups.

4.0 Sanitation and Mapping Progress on “eThekwini

- Yunia Musaazi - WaterAid/ Lilian Otiego - WSP

The heads of state and governments of Africa at the AU Summit in Sharm El Sheikh, Egypt in 2008, affirmed the eThekwini Declaration and also committed to increase efforts towards sanitation in part by developing national sanitation actions plans by funding the plans with up to 0.5% of the national GDP.

The eThekwini commitments and the African Action Plan, a broad matrix of priority areas and proposed intervention are expected to be domesticated. Great interest was generated in the first conference in Nairobi, in November 2008, on the results from a three-country assessment. Subsequently, with collaboration between WSP/World Bank, WaterAid and UNICEF, indicators for

the 11 commitments were defined. An assessment was done in 44 countries and results validated.

The regional assessment is important and provides country learning and inputs for AMCOW. The assessment results as seen in the table below demonstrate a number of positive results and areas that require additional attention. In broad terms Countries in the region (with Somalia as the only exception due to ongoing crisis) demonstrated that steps have been made in almost all commitments. This is a major step for sanitation and the region in general. Countries may be struggling with various aspects BUT action had commenced.

Table 1: Progress Towards eThekwini

Progress Towards the eThekwini Commitments		Burundi	Djibouti	Eritrea	Ethiopia ^a	Kenya	Rwanda	Somalia	Sudan	Tanzania ^a	Uganda	TOTAL
Coverage (JMP, 2008) - Urban		44	76	14	27	19	34	51		31	29	
Coverage (JMP, 2008) - Rural		41	11	3	8	48	20	7		34	34	
eThekwini Commitments on Sanitation	Did the country sign eThekwini?	0	2	0	2	2	2	0	2	2	2	14
	Is there a national sanitation policy?	1	1	1	2	2	2	0	1	1	2	13
	Is there one national plan to meet the MDG target?	2	2	2	2	2	2	0	0	1	2	15
	What profile is given to sanitation within the PRSP?	1	1	1	2	2	2	0	1	2	2	14
	Is there a principal accountable institution to take leadership?	0	1	2	2	2	2	0	1	1	1	12
	Is there one coordinating body involving all stakeholders?	0	2	2	2	2	2	0	1	2	2	15
	Is there a specific public sector budget line for sanitation?	2	1	2	2	2	1	0	1	2	1	14
	Is 0.5% of GDP allocated to sanitation?	0	1	1	1	1	0	0	0	1	1	6
	Is there a sanitation monitoring and evaluation (M+E) system?	0	0	2	1	1	1	0	1	1	2	9
	Do Institutional sanitation programs include gender aspects?	1	1	2	2	2	1	0	2	2	2	15
Green = Good progress (2 points) Yellow = Some progress (1 point) Red = Insufficient progress (0 points) Grey = No data												



Almost all countries (with exception to Sudan which has developed The Khartoum Declaration and Somalia where agencies active on the ground have prioritized sanitation) have either one national definitive sanitation plan or had taken steps towards developing one plan. Another positive result was that in most countries sanitation had a home or a coordinating body. This demonstrates very strong commitment at the political and policy levels and a great step for sanitation visibility at that level.



Most countries had a budget line for sanitation; however this is below the agreed allocation of 0.5% percent of national GDP to Sanitation. Another area where countries will require more work is on sanitation monitoring and M&E systems. WSP, UNICEF, WaterAid and AMCOW TAC (Technical Advisory Committee) will need to expand and cover all African countries in the assessment, so as to further develop this strong advocacy and learning tool.

5.0 Country Sanitation, Planning, Discussion & Consensus Building

The second Eastern Africa conference in bringing on board lessons from the first conference, allocated countries space and time to have “in country” discussions.

In certain instances it was the first time that stakeholders had sat together as a country team to positively critique and make inputs into the national sanitation plan. “Gate keeping” had locked out important players. Therefore, the conference provided a great opportunity for open “in country” dialogue given that the participants were drawn from government, United Nations agencies, other players and civil society. To guide the process, a check list was provided as follow;

eThekwini Action Plan Headings

- Institutional Arrangements
- Policy and Strategy
- Co-ordination
- Financing
- Demand-Led & Supply-Fed Sanitation & Hygiene
- Capacity Building
- Decentralisation
- Monitoring and Evaluation
- Communication and Advocacy
- Fragile Environments
- Cross cutting issues (gender, youth & environment)

For Countries with Sanitation Action Plans which included Kenya, Uganda, Burundi, Rwanda, and Djibouti, they discussed the country interpretation of the eThekwini, what worked and how it worked (the process), what did not work and why (Challenges), and finally progress on Action plans since the last EA Sanitation Meeting.

For countries with no official sanitation action plan which included Ethiopia, Tanzania, Sudan, Somalia, and Eritrea, the discussions included what is the country interpretation of the eThekwini, what is the progress on sanitation (how is the country addressing sanitation) against the main Action plan headings in the AfricaSan Action plan.

The outcomes of the session were greater cohesion among sanitation stakeholders in the various countries. The conference converted into Sanitation Working Group “in country” discussions where the country sanitation plan or planning was interrogated and a representative, participatory country position generated. This position was thereafter presented to the plenary.

5.1 Country Sanitation Plan Presentations & Peer Review

The conference provided a platform for countries to share and learn. This was done in two clusters; one cluster composed

of countries with definitive one national sanitation plan and another cluster for countries in the throes of developing one plan.

5.2 Countries with Action Plans (Kenya, Uganda, Burundi, Rwanda, Djibouti)

This cluster was to share with the rest of the conference what its interpretation of the eThekwini, the national processes, challenges and the progress on Action plans since the last EA Sanitation Meeting. The following is a summary of the country presentations.

5.2.1 Kenya

The creation of Ministry of Public Health and Sanitation has been a great achievement and has demonstrated the profile accorded to sanitation. Sanitation coverage has increased since

2007/8 from 46% - to the current 53%. The national processes included the finalization of the national action plan, in a participatory manner, holding of quarterly Environmental Sanitation Working Group - ESWG Meetings, development of a school sanitation strategy and guidelines which provide a standard pro-type sanitation design to be adopted by all schools. This prototype could be modified and adopted by schools to implement sanitation. The environmental hygiene and sanitation policy is also in place and a strategy is being developed.

The challenges included ambitious time lines, resources not being readily available, and absence of a tool for monitoring partner activities. Monitoring is a big challenge in sanitation and hygiene. The Ministry of Public Health & Sanitation has a workforce of 7000 technicians and officers, spread nationally. However, their day to day work includes front line response to health care and emergencies.



5.2.2 Uganda

The achievements for sanitation planning and domestication of eThekwini are many. The national action plan was developed and launched, and the eThekwini declaration disseminated to all the local governments. The Annual Joint Sector Review has come up with undertakings for Sanitation. Key sector documents have been disseminated to 40 out of 80 local governments and also good coordination of National Sanitation Working Group and hand washing campaign have been scaled up in the country. The challenges include inadequate funding, unclear funding mechanism in the sector and limited participation in coordination meetings by the ministries with a stake in sanitation and hygiene improvements. The no subsidy policy for sanitation and hygiene for households blocks good initiatives. In addition, there are inadequate human and the ongoing challenge to implement the Memorandum of Understanding² (MoU) between ministries with a stake in sanitation. The future calls for continued action including harmonization of monitoring tools, localizing the MDGs in the remaining districts and implement the Uganda Sanitation Fund.

5.2.3 Burundi

Every Saturday, people are involved in sanitation activities in the houses and

villages. Sanitation is coordinated by Ministry of Water and Environment. And the national policy on sanitation was developed and adopted. Quarterly meetings are held for water and sanitation groups. National master plan has also been developed. Promotion of hygiene and sanitation is done in a decentralized fashion, and sanitation has been incorporated in the planning - community development action plans. There are a number of challenges of which inadequate funding is a major one. There are ongoing discussions as to what option to adopt demand or supply led sanitation. There is no system for monitoring and evaluation in place. Political instability, few partners in the sanitation sector, coordination of the sector remains a challenge.

5.2.4 Rwanda

More than 85% of the population has latrines. Sanitation is a governmental commitment particularly in urban areas and villages. Environmental health policy was elaborated and approved by cabinet in 2007. Adoption of a separate budget line for the sanitation and hygiene by MINECONFIN is also an important step.

2. The MoU provides details on the responsibilities of the ministries of Health, Ministry of Education and Sports, Ministry of Water and Environment in relation to providing sanitation services in Uganda. It however does not include other key ministries such as Ministry of Local Government responsible for local governments under the decentralized system of governance yet local governments are critical in implementation of sanitation plans at local government level.

The PPP are involved with the reuse, reduce and recycle programme. Rwanda has a decentralization policy and therefore uses the community work to improve at household level and public areas. Each water supply project has to be effectively coupled to a sizeable component of sanitation and hygiene. The approach currently promoted is 'Reduce, Reuse and Recycle'. There are challenges however since sanitation and hygiene still lodged in different public institutions (Ministry of Infrastructure; Ministry of health and Ministry of Environment and Lands). There are inadequate human resources and a small budget allocated to sanitation and hygiene. There is need for an MoU to streamline collaboration between ministries involved in sanitation for better coordination of the sector. Monitoring is a major challenge.

5.3 For Countries Developing/ Adopting Action Plans (Ethiopia, Tanzania, Sudan, Somalia, Eritrea)

The second cluster was countries in the process of developing, or adopting at national level one sanitation plan. For this cluster the conference asked for their thinking and sharing around the interpretation of eThekwini declaration, progress on domestication and planning, Institutional Arrangements, Policy and Strategy among other issues.

5.3.1 Ethiopia

Health and Sanitation are part of National health sector and a detailed action plan for Hygiene and sanitation is under development. When assessed from the eThekwini action plan the country is "green" on most aspects. The lead agency is well defined, but needs strengthening. There is also a need to revitalize and strengthen implementation of the existing MoU between Ministries of Water Resources, Education and Health.

Coordination in form of National Hygiene and Sanitation task force is in place but needs strengthening. There is need for similar structures to be established and supported at regional level. A Hygiene & sanitation policy strategy exists, with implementation plans. Need to prepare and endorse implementation guidelines and prepare H&S strategy for Urban Health Extension program. An investment plan exists, but the amount being invested is not adequate. Need to go to scale with successful approaches including CLTS. Though local authorities have a mandate & implementation plan they have limited resources. A WASH MIS system under development (field testing).

5.3.2 North Sudan

Since 1981 sanitation mandate is spread out across a number of authorities, which large proportion of household

members (22.3%) use traditional pit latrines without slab. Access to adequate sanitation facilities is 39.9%. There are several challenges faced including the finalization of a sanitation policy. The Khartoum declaration of 2009 signed on by six ministers has provided for valuable support towards sanitation planning and establishing one platform. A sectoral approach was used when developing the standard manual and CATS has been adopted in the WASH sector.

5.3.3 North Sudan

Sanitation coverage in 2004 to 2006 decreased (30% to 6.4%) and it's estimated that only 0.5 million people have access to improved sanitation (Source: SSSH 2006; Census 2008). Sub-sector strategies and Investment & Action Plan for implementation of the policy are

yet to be finalized. Unclear sub-sector leadership with various authorities having some mandate for the sanitation include MoH, MHPPE, MWRI. The Water Sector Steering Committee provides some coordination for sanitation. Sanitation is a distant number five in the priority areas of GOSS, and funding is inadequate and so is the human resource. Southern Sudan Water & Sanitation Information system (SSWICH) is being developed in collaboration with UNICEF and UNECA.

5.3.4 Tanzania

Tanzania has been working on the implementation of the eThekweni declaration and its action plan. Sanitation coverage in the country is 87%. However, only 47.2% of these are improved latrines which include a washable slab, (JMP 2008). The National Sanitation and



Hygiene policy is under development. However, MoU for the key actors has been signed by Health and Water Ministries but yet to be endorsed by Education and Local Government. The Ministry of Health & Social Welfare is the lead agency and a National Sanitation & Hygiene Committee has been established. Budget guidelines have been sent to Local Government Authorities to allocate at least US \$0.25 per person for sanitation. However, there is need to finalize National Sanitation Investment Plan. There is need to develop an M&E system, and it has been proposed to open up the Joint Sector Review to more stakeholders. Human resources also remain a challenge.

5.3.5 Somalia & Somaliland

Somalia continues to witness on going political crisis. Conflict, instability, drought, inaccessibility, food, lack of central government are serious challenges. But a number of agencies operate in more stable parts. UNICEF continues to provide valuable sanitation support. The picture is better in Somaliland which has a functioning government headed by an elected President and with reasonable peace and security. Sanitation actors include Ministry of Health, Labor, MoE and MWMR with support from development partners. Municipalities have their own budgets for sanitation even though resources are limited. Sanitation is high

priority for MOHL collaborative actions beyond WASH Groups by MOHL with government institutions. However, there is need to develop sanitation policy and regulation and enhance funding.

5.3.6 Eritrea

The Rural Sanitation policy and strategic directions fully adopts CLTS approach with strong commitment of the Ministry of Health. The National Sanitation W. Group has been formed and chaired by MoH. Membership include: (MoE, MoI, MoT WRD, DoE UN Agencies, NGOS, civil society and academia. Ministry of Health is leading organization in sanitation at national level. The Rural Sanitation Policy and strategic directions was developed and launched. There is standard design for school WASH facilities. CLTS has successfully been introduced in all the six regions of the country. However, previous experience within subsidy introduced in the villages is a challenge. Human resource base is growing but is still a major challenge. MoH has functional structures at all administrative levels and staff at the various levels has clear tasks and responsibilities. M&E is being developed with tools to capture new approaches in progress. Advocacy work at national and regional level was ongoing with inclusion of media. However, communication strategy is yet to be developed. There is need for baseline

6.0 Peer Review & Main Outcomes on Country Presentations

To support the learning aspects of the conference, a peer review mechanism was adopted through which a three level peer review process was carried out. The first level was before the conference where a team of sector professionals received a reviewed National Sanitation Plans submitted by the participating countries in the conference. This team generated a short report.

The second level was during the conference where all conference participants provided peer review to country presentations and sanitation plans.

The third level was by a team of experts who listened before and during the conference and thereafter provided valuable insights and support.

6.1 Peer Review by Conference Participants

To deepen discussions and sharing in the conference, conference participants shared and listened with two aims. First, to share what had worked well in their respective countries and how they had managed the issues around it and secondly, to share what areas the country still needs to focus on.

This provided ample opportunity for learning and intense discussions ensued. Since this was done using a modified world cafe format, it deepened discussions. Following is a summary of the key learning points on where the country was considered to have been successful, therefore an area for sharing, followed by where the country was considered inadequate and requiring to focus and work on more.

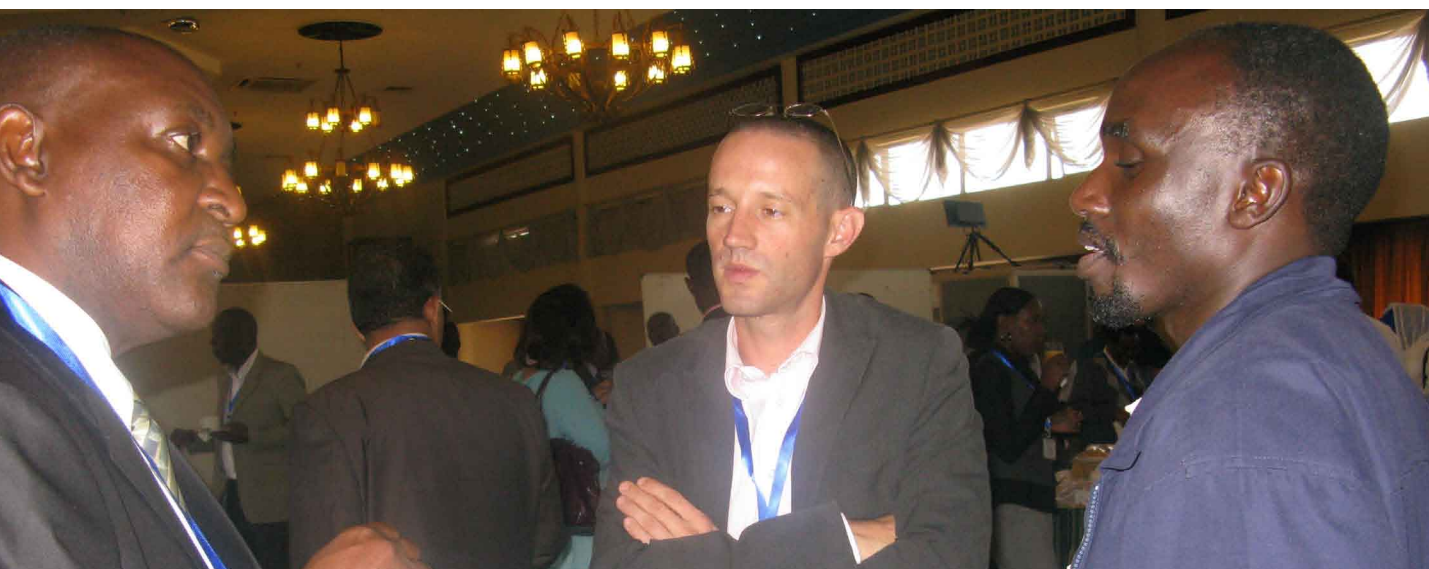


Table 2: Country Sanitation Plan Strengths & Areas to focus on

Country	Strengths & Focus Areas
KENYA	<p>Considered successful due to establishment of Ministry of Public Health and Sanitation, strong institutional arrangement, National Environmental Sanitation & Hygiene Policies and guidelines in place and a popular version.</p> <p>However, there is need to focus more on the M&E system and significantly enhance resource mobilization & allocation for sanitation.</p>
UGANDA	<p>Uganda was successful in having a strong national coordination on sanitation and hygiene / working group and good financing mechanisms and dedicated budget line.</p> <p>However, there is need to focus on funding / resource mobilization and capacity building for financial management/ human resources/materials.</p>
BURUNDI	<p>Success in sector coordination, strong civil society and development partners' participation and integration of sanitation and hygiene into the community development plans.</p> <p>In future there is need to focus on government leadership in sanitation and give sanitation a home by establishing a coordination body.</p>
RWANDA	<p>Very strong government commitment for sanitation exemplified by a sanitation community service day. Well elaborated environmental health policy.</p> <p>However, in the coming days there is need to focus on a clear sector leadership, coordination, and also enhance funding/ financing for sanitation budget line.</p>
ETHIOPIA	<p>Strong HEW programme to support implementation of sanitation at local level and a working M&E system.</p> <p>There is however need to focus on funding /Investment /resource mobilization in sanitation and hygiene / resource mobilization and further build the M&E / MIS</p>
NORTH SUDAN	<p>Khartoum Declaration was a strong area of interest and the well elaborated community Approaches.</p> <p>There is need in future to focus on sector coordination and policy arrangements.</p>

SOUTH SUDAN	<p>There was an office responsible for sanitation and also there were Technical guidelines for rural sanitation.</p> <p>In future there is need to focus policy and budget/mobilization of funds /financing.</p>
DJIBOUTI	<p>Innovative finance strategy that creates funds for sanitation by leveraging water bills and coordinating/institutional arrangement.</p> <p>There is need to focus on mobilizing more sanitation funding and M&E.</p>
SOMALIA	<p>The agencies on the ground managed reasonably well despite the instability and there was strong engagement with schools and WASH cluster.</p> <p>For the more stable regions and Puntland there is need to focus on policy and develop action plan/strategy.</p>

6.2 Peer Review by Eminent Panel

- Piers Cross, Lydia Zigomo, Therese Doley

The overall findings were that the profile of sanitation had been raised particularly in regard to the strong political choice demonstrated in most countries in the region. Sanitation also appeared to get a home and coordination mechanism in most countries. However, several challenges abound, and the most critical was with regards to sanitation funding/resources and human resources.

More specifically, the issues below were raised and discussed requiring further sharing.

Hygiene appears to have been inadequately addressed and there was need to bring

back to the table. Most countries barely mention issues of behavioral change.

Kenya has established a Ministry of Public Health and Sanitation. The challenge is at what level the sanitation should be in other countries and how has sanitation grown in Kenya as a result of being a fully fledged ministry. Is this the direction to take for other countries? Can this be documented?

Planning appears to have somewhat improved with particular reference to multi-stakeholder involvement, since this makes the plans more inclusive of issues across the board and create ownership of the plans by many more stakeholders.

Sanitation working groups are in place in most countries; however, there are issues

of clarity such as mandate, scope of work and sustainability.

National Sanitation Investment Plans are critical towards resource mobilization and allocation. This is an area that many countries are challenged, and requires urgent attention.

Decentralization has also brought home the need to work with local governments and districts administration. This calls for ensuring that the local authority is part of the national and local dialogue on sanitation. Many of the challenges countries face when attempting to implement sanitation plans emanate from inadequate involvement of the local actors.

On the policy formulation and strategy development, the current approaches were inadequate on emerging urban issues and the changing rural sectoral approaches. Many of the policies were however a bit stronger on rural but limited on urban. There is need for specific rural and urban approaches.

Baseline information for sanitation financing and planning was not adequate. Countries need to expend more energy and develop mechanisms, develop outputs that will better lobby the Ministry of Finance towards enhancing sanitation budget line.

A National Sanitation fund was an issue that generated a lot of discussion. There is a need to look at different mechanisms for the sector for specific initiatives (marginalized people, special needs).

Advocacy and communication plan need to be developed and incorporated in the sanitation processes.

6.3 Country Action Plans

To plan for the in building of peer review inputs, each country developed a short plan for the medium term, short term and long term steps that they would take, and the support they felt was required from regional organizations which include AMCOM. Below is the plan.

Table 3: Country Action Plan

Country	Short Term	Medium Term	Long Term	Regional Support
Tanzania	Finalization of signing of the MoU	Develop mechanisms for tracking investments	Harmonization of M&E systems	Request simplified M&E models from the region
Kenya	Finalization of National S+H strategic plan	M&E tool	Sector funding mechanism,	Regional body to coordinate S&H

Somalia +				Support training – PPP, school WASH, research and KAP surveys, data collection
North Sudan	Finalize sanitation policy	Expand / scale up CATS approach	Decentralization	Continuous sharing of lessons
Southern Sudan	Create specific working group on sanitation	Further develop sanitation and hygiene strategy	Lobby for a specific sanitation and hygiene budget line	Continuous sharing at conferences on a timely basis
Djibouti	National workshop to develop integrated S&H annual plan	Work on common proposals for fund mobilization with focus on S&H	Sustainable funding mechanism	Exchange visit with Ethiopia and Rwanda
Burundi	Short – briefing on conference, advocacy	Create a sanitation network	Promote M&E	Finance, monitoring and lessons sharing
Uganda	Expedite the staff recruitment in EH division, allocate funds to sanitation budget line (MoF)	Orientation on enforcement of existing bye-laws	Review MoU to spell out funding mechanism and stakeholders roles and responsibilities	Continue with the regional conferences...
Eritrea – NB suggested plan for approval by Min of Health	Baseline survey and KAP	Increase to 10% improved sanitation coverage	Sanitation and hygiene financing mechanism	Support to M+E technical guidance and tools, forums for sharing (conf, web-based, exchange visits)

Rwanda	Develop MoU between ministries to streamline coordination, Develop EH strategic plan, Initiate community based env health programme, Lobby (govt) for S&H funds, Initiate development of EH law	Build consensus on MoU, Validation and operationalisation of EH Strategy , scale up community based environmental health programme, secure budget, implement S+H SWAP, establish baseline for S+H, finalize EH law	Consolidate community based environmental health programme, disseminate draft strategies and policies, demo facilities.	
Ethiopia	Brief director MoH on conf, prepare country action plan, prepare detailed regional action plans	Finalize urban S&H strategy, revitalize MoU	Financing strategy, advocate for stronger institutional arrangement	Advocate for S&H with the highest bodies in the countries, play a strong role in capacity building of H+S professionals



7.0 CONCLUSIONS & RECOMMENDATIONS

The conference was a great success as judged by the outputs, and sharing. In conclusion the conference discussed and agreed that in the Eastern Africa region many governments had made the political choice to profile sanitation through making international commitments and that several countries have national sanitation policies, a lead sanitation institution designated, and some coordination mechanism. However, even though almost all countries indicated some form of public budget allocation to sanitation none could demonstrate being near the 0.5% of GDP to sanitation and M&E systems were either not in place or were not providing the quality and timely information needed.

Ethekwini Declaration

Majority of countries had signed the declaration, and even for the few who had not, they were aware or were applying aspects of the action plan frame. It was recommended that for those countries that had not yet signed the declaration or the AU Summit – Sharm el Sheik that a national mechanism is put in place to accord sanitation the political profile it deserves.

One National Sanitation Plan

Majority of the countries had progressed well in regard to developing or reviewing

sanitation specific policies. However, there is still the need in most countries to widely disseminate these guiding documents and where necessary develop simpler or popular versions

National sanitation policies & strategy

Majority of the countries had a policy document in place, however in several instances the documents were outdated or did not address emerging pertinent issues including Urban, rural, funding. It was recommended that sanitation policies and strategies are not one off projects but rather that countries have a regular review mechanism that is participatory.

M&E

Given the critical importance monitoring holds in informing national decision making process its aspect cannot be over emphasized. There is a substantial challenge for most countries in both the software and hardware aspects of M&E. It's now recommended that countries identify the key challenge issues and map support.

AMCOW

Most conference participants alluded towards the inadequate link at national

level with AMCOW in regard to sanitation. A good number were not familiar with the AMCOW TAC in country. It's recommended that as follow-up to this issue, at the earliest possible moment the issue is put on the table for AMCOW deliberation.

One National Sanitation Plan

Majority of the countries had progressed well in regard to developing or reviewing sanitation specific policies. However there is still the need in most countries to widely disseminate these guiding documents and where necessary develop simpler or popular versions.

0.5% of GDP for Sanitation for National Government

Given the severity of the sanitation situation and given that none of the

government is any where near the commitment made by the Heads of State at Sharm El Sheikh, it's important that CSOs engage and do advocacy to commence the flow of resources to sanitation. Majority of countries in the region do not have a national strategic & business plan for sanitation. It's recommended that countries urgently complete them so as to engage potential funding sources, and take advantage to the SWAP process in most countries.

Learning on Sanitation Financing

The learning forum demonstrated the need for increased information on this item. It was quite a challenge to get a case study on sanitation finance, and this demonstrated a dearth of information in this critical area. It's recommended that governments and sector organizations support learning in this regard.



ANNEX 1

Second East Africa Sanitation Conference Declaration

4th March 2010

We the participants of the above conference, being representatives – from government, civil society academia and media - of all eleven countries in the East Africa region, do hereby:

1. Reiterate and strengthen our commitment towards the achievements of the goals as set out in the e-Thekwini declaration.
2. Note with pride the sense of shared achievement that has been built in the preparation for and conduct of this conference.
3. Undertake to report back to our national sanitation working groups on the process, content and outcome of this conference and to integrate these bodies fully in ongoing processes.
4. Commit ourselves to a continuing and regular peer review processes from this point forward, including alongside the AfricaSan meeting in 2011.

Noting the centrality of learning in the process, we:

5. Commit ourselves to strengthen and deepen learning at the heart of our work – especially with respect to achieving scale and sustainability in our programmes.

Acknowledging that our countries are at different points in our implementation, we:

6. Reaffirm our desire to increase the quantity and quality of our impacts, and in particular, we share a desire to improve our monitoring systems to allow for improved decision making and to create more credible evidence as justification for our funding and other resource requests.

In view of our shared concern regarding the lack of commitment of AMCOW to sanitation and hygiene, we:

7. Jointly call for this to be addressed urgently by dedicating a portion of AMCOW TAC to this area specifically.

ANNEX 2

Learning forum case study listing

Finance and Institutions for Sanitation and Hygiene	Innovative & effective sanitation approaches - 1	Innovative & effective sanitation approaches – 2
Enhancing the institutional framework for S&H: <i>Mathias Joseph Mulagwanda, TAWASNET, Tanzania,</i>	Innovative and effective sanitation approaches in informal urban settlements: <i>Fred Nuwagaba, GTZ, Uganda,</i>	Community Media breaks glass ceiling in highlighting sanitation best practices in Kenya: <i>Naftali Mwaura, Kenya,</i>
Impediments to Effective Financing of Local Governments to Provide Sanitation Services: <i>Girma Aboma, WaterAid Ethiopia,</i>	Integrating Rainwater Harvesting and Sanitation Interventions in Narok District: <i>Katie Allen, Gharp, Kenya,</i>	Masiyompo Innovative and effective sanitation approaches: <i>Nebiru Deogratius, Masiyompo Elgon , Uganda</i>
Going for Growth: Financing sanitation at local level: <i>Milly Akwi, WaterAid Uganda,</i>	Sanitation in Emergencies - response to Hepatitis E outbreak in Northern Uganda: <i>Chander Badloe & Edward Bwengye, UNICEF Uganda</i>	Towards a local solution for menstrual hygiene and management in adolescent school girls in Southern Ethiopia: <i>Zinash Tsegaye, SNV, Ethiopia</i>
Innovative in Sanitation & Hygiene approaches and technologies through district learning and action research in Uganda: <i>Brecht Mommen, SNV, Uganda,</i>	WASH Impact in Schools: <i>Shibabaw Tadese, WaterAid Ethiopia</i>	Evaluation of urban human faecal waste for soil fertility management in Uganda: <i>Ogwang Francis, Makerere University, Uganda</i>

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