



Sustaining and Scaling School Water, Sanitation, and Hygiene Plus Community Impact



Monitoring and Evaluating School Water, Sanitation and Hygiene Promotion Programs: Creating the Right Indicators

Indicators

- Provide specific information on the state or condition of what is investigated.
- Ask questions about a project or program.
- Should be SMART: Specific, Measurable, Available, Relevant, and Time-bound.

Specific

Specific indicators provide information that is detailed and precise, leaving no confusion about the information obtained.

Specific: Is there water in the handwashing container for pupils to wash their hands today?
Specific: Is there water in the available for latrine cleaning today?

Non-Specific: Is there water for handwashing and cleaning?

**The non-specific indicator asks two questions at once. How would it be answered if there was handwashing water and no water to clean latrines?*

Measurable

Measurable indicators provide information that is quantifiable or qualifiable.

Measurable: How many litres of water are available for drinking today?

Non-Measurable: Is there enough water for drinking?

**The non-measurable indicator does not allow for a quantifiable response. How would someone decide what was 'enough'?*

Available

Available indicators use information available for verification (record books, observation of conditions/ behaviors, etc.)

Available: Observe 10 pupils visiting the latrine at break. How many wash their hands after?

Non-Available: Ask a pupil, do you wash your hands after visiting the latrine?

**The non-available indicator does not allow for a verifiable response. How would someone know if the response was true? Sometimes people tell you what they think you want to hear. Indicators that rely on personal observation are more reliable.*

Relevant

Relevant indicators are those that are pertinent to program objectives and decision makers.

Relevant: Does the school have handwashing stations within 10 metres of the latrines today?

Non-Relevant: Does the school have water for flowers?

**The non-relevant indicator collects information un-related to WASH. How would information about flowers be used in a report to WASH decision makers?*

Time-bound

Time-bound indicators are those that include time measures to show progress since a previous check or the frequency or specificity of an activity or observation.

Time-bound (progress-specific): Has the school made any latrine repairs *since last visit*?

Time-bound (frequency-specific): *How often* does the Health Club meet *each term*?

Time-bound (date-specific): Is there soap by the hand washing containers *today*?

Non-time-bound: Have latrines been repaired? Does the health club meet? Is there soap?

**The non-Time-bound indicators do not provide a time frame to indicate progress or frequency. How may a head teacher answer a question about repairs if fixes were made 3 years ago? Or if there was soap last week, but not today?*

SWASH+ is a five-year applied research project to identify, develop, and test innovative approaches to school-based water, sanitation and hygiene in Nyanza Province, Kenya. The partners that form the SWASH+ consortium are CARE, Emory University, the Great Lakes University of Kisumu, the Government of Kenya, and formerly the Kenya Water for Health Organisation (KWAHO), and Water.org. SWASH+ is funded by the Bill & Melinda Gates Foundation and the Global Water Challenge. For more information, visit www.swashplus.org.

