



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



Monitoring and Evaluation for Sustainable and Effective School Water, Sanitation and Hygiene

Introduction

The School Water, Sanitation and Hygiene + Community Impact (SWASH+) program conducted a process evaluation of the Kenya Education Sector Support Programme (KESSP) for improving school WASH. Given the many seemingly complex roles involved in KESSP, we set out to interview those who had previously been involved in a KESSP project to understand and to document how school, community, and district-level actors perceive and assume their roles and responsibilities vis-à-vis the program's guidelines.

Based on the results, SWASH+ made the following recommendations for monitoring, evaluation and support for improved school WASH services:

Recommendations

Clarify roles and responsibilities

Given common confusion over who is to do which task, provide a detailed activity timeline with clear indication of who is responsible at both the school/community and district/county level. Include it in trainings, training handbooks, and post it publicly at schools.

Increase and clarify source of monitoring budget

In trainings and written materials, ensure all district/county and school/community members are keenly aware of who is to pay for monitoring visit costs. Local government monitoring budgets should also be increased to ensure sufficient monitoring support to schools.

Monitoring should be framed as a supportive activity

Due to concerns from some school/community members that monitoring is a fault-finding mission, district/county officials should be trained to conduct monitoring in a positive way with open communication that supports schools in improving their services.

Offer regular trainings

Given the high turnover rate for district/county officials and school administration and teachers, there should be regular opportunities to receive training. In addition, systems should be in place to ensure a proper handover of roles from those departing and those entering positions.

Include all ministries

Improve the level of inclusion of key district/county officials outside of the Ministry of Education such as the Ministries of Public Health and Sanitation, and Planning. These people should have budgets available, equally receive training and handbooks and should be involved in meetings.

Improve school's capacity to manage finances

Explore ways to improve school-level skills in financial management through better training and/or simpler accounting tools, or consider providing a shared accountant to support schools.

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.

