

Sanitation activities in Burkina Faso

The challenge

Burkina Faso is the most densely populated country in the Sahel with about 14 million inhabitants. More than three quarters live in rural areas. In 2008 only 6% of people living in rural areas in Burkina Faso had access to improved sanitation and 33% of people in urban areas (JMP Report 2010, www.wssinfo.org). The under-five child mortality rate was 175 deaths out of 1,000 live births in 2011 (www.childmortality.org). The widespread lack of awareness of the importance of hygiene and of using toilets remains a big challenge.

The Ministry for Agriculture and Hydraulics (MAH) is responsible for water supply and sanitation in Burkina Faso. In rural and semi-urban areas, the General Directorate for Water Resources (DGRE) and the General Directorate for Sanitation (DGAEUE) are responsible for implementing the National Program for Drinking Water Supply and Sanitation until 2015. The National Office for Water and Sanitation (ONEA) is in charge of sanitation in urban areas.

In the course of the decentralisation process in 2009, competences were transferred to the municipalities, which still lack capacities and resources to effectively execute these new tasks.

The challenge of providing access to sanitation has been recognised by the government. A national campaign financed by the government to promote household sanitation was launched with 1.5 million Euros per year starting in 2011 until 2015.

Our approach

The Drinking Water Supply and Sanitation Program in Small and Medium Towns (PEA - in French) is a joint programme of GIZ and the German Development Bank (KfW). The technical cooperation component comprises a multi-level approach of technical assistance and financial contribution to a Technical Assistance Pool. It supports the capacity development of ONEA, DGRE and DGAEUE as well as seven municipalities in the Southwest. GIZ also supports the collection and analysis of reliable data for the National Water Supply and Sanitation Programme.

Project name	Drinking Water and Sanitation Program in Small and Middle Towns, Burkina Faso
Project region	Sub-Saharan Africa
Partner	Ministry for Agriculture and Hydraulics
Duration	Jan. 2009 to Dec. 2012 (phase 2) Jan. 2013 to Dec. 2015 (phase 3)
Budget for sanitation	1,974,000 Euro
Scale	300,000 people reached indirectly (population of the 7 target municipalities)

Programme activities

- GIZ strengthens local authorities to assign and monitor construction companies' activities in water supply and sanitation infrastructure. It also assists ONEA's training centre for water professionals (CEMEAU) in its reorganisation and the establishment of sanitation curricula. ONEA also receives advice for the development of Strategic Sanitation Plans.
- ONEA is establishing a sector information system for urban areas of the water and sanitation sector with support of GIZ.
- An international expert supported from 2010 to 2011 the monitoring and evaluation unit of DGRE to enhance data collection and processing for rural areas. The programme also supported the establishment of a baseline study on rural and urban access to sanitation. DGAEUE is being supported to implement a sanitation strategy on communication, information and education as well as a latrine promotion program through the national campaign for sanitation.
- The ecosan approach has been promoted through the Ecological Sanitation of Ouagadougou Project (2006-2009), implemented by the NGO WSA (formerly called CREPA) with technical support by GIZ. This pilot project, mainly financed by the EU Water Facility, consisted of giving grants to households in four suburbs of the capital Ouagadougou for the construction of urine-diverting dry toilets (UDDTs)



Left: Planning workshop in Houndé (© GIZ / H. Figea, 2009)

Right: WASH United activity in Kossoudougou School (© GIZ / S. Tapsoba, 2010)

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and for sensitising and training stakeholders. The project was a success and therefore the ecosan approach has been duplicated in rural areas of Burkina Faso by WSA.

Outcomes

- With PEA support, municipality planning documents for water supply and sanitation have been successfully established in eighteen municipalities. Their implementation has started and funds of the national program are now allocated accordingly.
- Sanitation Strategic Plans in seven of these municipalities were elaborated for urban areas. The implementation of these plans has started and is financed by KfW. A national survey investigated the baseline situation for sanitation access in Burkina Faso and is now publicly available online.
- The programme supported the training of about 100 municipal councillors and staff on water and sanitation infrastructure management. 20 private operators have been trained to construct and maintain newly built latrines. Another 50 participants from the seven municipalities mentioned above were trained to carry out sanitation and hygiene awareness raising campaigns.
- GIZ assisted Gaoua, Houndé and Diébougou municipalities in establishing a financial cooperation with their twin cities in France to accelerate the realisation of their water and sanitation plans.
- In collaboration with two international NGOs (Eau Vive and Plan Burkina), two large sanitation projects (Sanifaso and PASEPA) are being implemented in six municipalities until 2014. These municipalities will benefit from the construction of more than 5000 household latrines and the promotion of hygiene and sanitation in rural areas. Their capacities will be strengthened with human resources for technical services.

Partner country: Burkina Faso

- As for sanitation strategy implementation, collaboration between GIZ and Japan's Development Agency (JICA) is going on through the joint implementation of the WASH United campaign. The abbreviation WASH stands for water, sanitation and hygiene. WASH United uses the power of sport and the role model status of some of the world's biggest sport stars to generate political will and promote safe drinking water, sanitation and hygiene.
- Since 2010, about 47,000 persons have been reached by WASH United activities implemented by PEA, DGAEUE and NGOs in schools and during events. Support was given to NGOs to set up experience exchange groups for civil society stakeholders in the sanitation sector.

In the near future (2013-2015), GIZ plans to support DGAEUE and ONEA in the following ways:

DGAEUE: (i) to consolidate and harmonise the national approach for sanitation in rural areas, (ii) to orientate the monitoring and evaluation system for sanitation towards hygiene and health.

ONEA: (i) to strengthen the institutional organisation of ONEA's sanitation department, (ii) to implement the sanitation strategy and activities in formal and informal settlements, (iii) to develop information systems for management of sanitation strategic plans.

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