

Sanitation activities in Zambia

The challenge

In 2010 only 54% of Zambia's urban population had access to adequate sanitation (for comparison: National Water Supply and Sanitation Council (NWASCO) Sector Report 2010/11: 54%; Joint Monitoring Program (JMP) 2010: 57%), while about 77% have access to water supply. The under-five child mortality rate in Zambia is 111 per 1000 live births (www.childmortality.org). On average less than 3% of the national budget (including foreign aid) is provided to the water and sanitation sector. In fact, significant amounts allocated to the national rural basket (a funding mechanism) are not disbursed due to limited administrative capacities in the sanitation sector.

Scaling-up of sanitation projects in low income urban areas remains a challenge in Zambia. The GIZ Water Sector Reform Programme which has been a partner to the Zambian government since 2003 is concentrating on those challenges.

Our approach

In the current programme phase (2010-2012) GIZ supports the National Urban Water Supply and Sanitation Programme (NUWSSP) and the National Rural Water Supply and Sanitation Programme (NRWSSP) in the Department of Housing and Infrastructure Development within the Ministry of Local Government and Housing (MLGH). GIZ also assists the Commercial Water Utilities (CUs) which are responsible for the provision of water and sanitation services to almost all of Zambia's urban population.

Complementary to the water sector reform process which started with the release of the national water policy in 1994, GIZ supports the Devolution Trust Fund (DTF). The DTF is a multi-donor basket fund which provides financial and implementation assistance to CUs to improve Water Supply and Sanitation (WSS) service delivery in urban low-income areas. All DTF projects are implemented by Zambian formal Water Supply and Sanitation

(WSS) service providers which are licensed and regulated by the water sector regulator NWASCO (National Water Supply and Sanitation Council). NWASCO is also being supported by GIZ since its establishment.

Since 2011, Australian Aid supports the GIZ capacity development activities financially and contributes to the DTF as a basket funding partner.

Project name	Water Sector Reform Programme
Project region	Sub-Saharan Africa
Partner	Ministry of Local Government and Housing (MLGH) and Ministry of Mines, Energy and Water Development (MMEWD)
Duration	Jan. 2010 to Dec. 2012 (current phase)
Budget for sanitation	2,849,000 Euro (regular BMZ program) plus 833,000 Euro financial contribution to DTF from AusAID (2011-2012).
Scale	Number of inhabitants directly covered with access: 15,600; number of people reached indirectly: 6 Mio people (5 million urban Zambians and 1 million rural inhabitants in Eastern Province)

Programme activities

- GIZ provides support to MLGH in national sanitation policy formulation and development of a joint financing mechanism for the NUWSSP.
- Support to sanitation concept development and project implementation in low income areas: GIZ supports the DTF and the Zambian NGO network leader "Water and Sanitation Association of Zambia" (WASAZA), which together with the Bremen Overseas Research & Development Agency (BORDA) has developed an approach for sewer-based sanitation in low income areas. Demonstration projects were implemented which apply Decentralised Wastewater Treatment Systems (DEWATS) in order to incorporate experiences and



Left: Zambian Musician „DaliSoul“ performing health and hygiene promotion song during inauguration of water and sanitation facilities at an orphanage in Lusaka (© GIZ / S. Blume, 2011)

Right: Kariba sanitation project in Ndola (© GIZ / S. Blume, 2010)

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Partner country: Zambia

lessons learnt into further projects and the national policy dialog.

- As a possible solution for unplanned peri-urban areas, on-site dry sanitation solutions and faecal sludge management concepts are currently being developed.
- South-South know-how transfer from South Africa and facilitation of private sector engagement is an ongoing activity (for example business development trainings and establishment of pre-fabricated toilet construction factories).
- Support and capacity development to the formal WSS service providers to improve efficiency: The provision of only financial support (i.e. grants) is not sufficient. Via the utility efficiency task force, utilities are assisted in improving their operation and maintenance, and tailor-made advisory services based on the needs of each specific utility are provided. This also enables the WSS service providers to better implement and operate the sanitation projects.
- Support to the National Rural Water Supply and Sanitation Programme: GIZ supports the Eastern Province administration in activities related to water and sanitation with a provincial support team. This involves support in planning and training activities and in the implementation of a management information system.

Outcomes

- A baseline study on the status of water supply and sanitation service provision in 500 low income areas in 70 towns is available and updated in the National Information System of NWASCO on an annual basis.
- NWASCO now regularly publishes information about sanitation access in its annual water sector report.

- A sewer-based decentralised sanitation approach (DEWATS) for low income areas has been demonstrated in four pilot projects (Ndola, Mufulira, Livingstone, Solwezi) aiming at 15,600 users and will be completed in 2012. This includes a standardised baseline, comprehensive community participation approach and a monitoring system of implementation progress.
- Experiences and lessons learnt have been incorporated in the second call of DTF for sanitation projects targeting seven CUs and approx. 20,000 persons.
- A standardised “Youth Development through Football” (YDF) approach for health and hygiene education has been developed and applied in peri-urban areas. Through combining the excitement of football with health and hygiene education, approx. 1,000 children have been reached with hygiene messages.
- The capacity of the four commercial utilities that participated in the first DTF call for proposals is increased regarding planning, implementation and operation of complex sanitation projects.
- A resource centre is established within NWASCO to facilitate the exchange of experiences and knowledge between the CUs. National sector investment planning within the National Urban Water and Sanitation Programme is improved.

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