



## UP-SCALING ACCESS TO SANITATION

# Sanitation activities in Burundi

**Development objective.** German development cooperation in Burundi aims at improving supply of urban & rural population with safe drinking water and adequate sanitation, taking into account principles of sustainable management of water resources.

### The challenge

Burundi's sanitation situation faces many challenges. While most households have a latrine, few meet basic standards such as a separation between excreta and the user. Sanitation facilities in schools are largely insufficient. Organised evacuation of waste water and sludge exists only in parts of the capital Bujumbura and one secondary town. Instead they reach rivers and lakes untreated being the main source of pollution of water bodies. The most important challenges are:

- Scattered responsibilities in the sanitation sector between different ministries resulting in a general lack of proper leadership, weak coordination among different actors, and a poor environment for investment.
- Poverty of rural households, thus limited financial capacity to construct adequate domestic sanitation facilities.
- Absence of professional service providers. Currently, only the main two cities of the country, Bujumbura and Gitega, have low performing municipal sanitation services.

### On the way to scaling up access

#### Sanitation: Technical Assistance by GIZ

In Burundi, basic pre-conditions for scaling-up are still far from being met. The main focus of GIZ interventions has therefore been on creating the enabling environment at the institutional and political levels and on investigating the potential of behaviour change interventions at the household level.

1

INSTITUTIONAL SECTOR FRAMEWORK

**Pro-Poor Orientation of sector.** The development of the National Sanitation Policy with its implementing strategy were supported and finally adopted in 2013 dealing with a broad range of topics ranging from basic sanitation, air pollution to solid waste management. It includes pro-poor approaches, such as subsidizing domestic sanitation for poor households.

**Legal framework and sector coordination.** The National Sanitation Policy clarifies roles and responsibilities of different actors and serves as a reference. However, government institutions have not yet started completely fulfilling their assigned roles. There is no comprehensive legal framework which would facilitate the implementation of the Policy. GIZ supports its partners in the



Figure 1. Household surveys during baseline study on behavioural determinants. Photo by Sonogo and Mosler, EAWAG (2012)

implementation and monitoring of the policy in line with their responsibilities.

**Municipal Sanitation.** GIZ contributes to the development of a concept for service provision in towns based on the experience with the municipal sanitation service of Gitega. Sanitation was specifically addressed and integrated into municipal development planning.

2

IMPLEMENTING ACTORS

**Organisational development.** GIZ provides assistance to the municipal sanitation service of Gitega (second largest city in Burundi), created in cooperation with KfW in 2010, to improve its

Project name	GIZ Water and Sanitation Programme, Burundi				
Project region	Sub-Saharan Africa				
Partners	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Ministry of Water, Environment, Land Use Planning and Urban Development (MEEA-TU): General Directorate of Water Resources and Sanitation (DGREA).</li> <li>• Ministry of Energy and Mines (MEM): General Directorate for Water and Sanitation Infrastructure (DGIHA).</li> <li>• Ministry of Public Health: Department for the Promotion of Health, Hygiene and Sanitation.</li> </ul>				
Duration/Budget	July 2013 – Dec. 2014 (3 <sup>rd</sup> phase) Approx. 400.000 EUR for sanitation				
Programme focus (** strong, * weak)	*** Macro	** Meso	* Micro	*** Rural	* Urban
Population (million)	9,85 [2012]		Urban population		11,2% [2014]
Access sanitation: Rural/urban areas	14% / 33% [Source]		Child under 5 mortality [2009]		166 /1000 births

performance and cover operation costs [utility services]. Its mandate is to manage communal sanitation infrastructure and provide services. The main constraints for service delivery are (1) the status of the sanitation service that remains part of the municipality with no autonomy and (2) the limited revenue potential as demand for faecal sludge evacuation is limited due to its direct use in agriculture.

GIZ also supports capacity development of the concerned central government partner institutions.

3

### ACCESS INFORMATION SYSTEM

**Transparency and clearly defined indicators.** GIZ provides technical assistance to the inter-ministerial monitoring committee and supported the development of national indicators for water, hygiene and sanitation. These national indicators are published annually in the joint sector review report.

**Data reliability and quality.** A biannual household survey at the national level has been introduced to calculate the access rate to sanitation including data on shared latrines and children use.

4

### MODE OF FINANCING

**National Financing Mechanism.** GIZ supports the creation and development of a basket fund to finance municipal water and sanitation projects in rural areas. This includes the development of its organisational structure, procedures, and tools such as standard tender documents, and supporting each step of implementation. The objective is to increase financing of water and sanitation infrastructure in rural areas, ensure accountability and transparency of expenditures, and enhance local ownership as a prerequisite to sustainability of investments.



Figure 2. Left. Construction of simple composting latrines called AKASUGA in Burundian language.; Right. Testing of dome slabs during awareness campaigns. Photos by F. Reman/GIZ-ProSecEau (2013)

The financing mechanism is currently tested on water and sanitation projects in 9 pilot municipalities in the province of Kirundo (4) and Cankuzo (5) selected based on sector criteria such as access rate to water and sanitation and cost recovery of water supply services.

5

### ACCESS TO SANITATION

Different interventions to promote the improved construction of domestic latrines are tested in three rural districts, being Bugabira, Nyabitsinda and Rumonge. The aim is to identify interventions that are suitable for scaling-up. Tested interventions include awareness building, training of local masons, and subsidizing the construction of latrines [manuals].

Several interventions were designed following an exhaustive baseline study covering 750 households, looking at the status, use and cleaning of latrines as well as the underlying psychological factors influencing this. The study was carried out in cooperation with the research institute EAWAG, which also monitors the results of the tested interventions and the psychological factors which cause behaviour change [TOR, Results, Strategies, IWA article].

In order to encourage households in rural areas to build latrines that are in line with national criteria for adequate sanitation, the program designed affordable types of domestic latrines and tested interventions to promote their construction with approximately 6,000 households (Figure 2) in cooperation with the Ministry of Public Health.

## Financial assistance by KfW in sanitation

KfW's support to the water and sanitation program follows a comprehensive mix of water, sanitation and hygiene interventions in seven secondary towns of the country. The infrastructure measures include the construction of toilets/latrines in all important public places like schools, prisons, hospitals and markets as well as the establishment of a complete chain for transport and treatment of fecal sludge. These infrastructure measures are coupled with substantial hygiene awareness programs that also put a focus on the promotion of private sanitation improvements. Moreover, KfW supports the municipal structures in taking over the operation of the communal sanitation infrastructure.

- **Materials are available on DMS (accessible for GIZ staff)**  
<https://dms.giz.de/dms/livelink.exe?func=ll&objId=86981667&objAction=browse>
- **More pictures are available on**  
[www.flickr.com/photos/gtzecosan/collections](http://www.flickr.com/photos/gtzecosan/collections)
- **Download this factsheet and more on** [susana.org](http://susana.org)

Published by: Deutsche Gesellschaft für Internationale Zusammenarbeit (GIZ) GmbH

Registered offices:  
 Bonn and Eschborn, Germany  
 Dag-Hammarskjöld Weg 1-5  
 65760 Eschborn, Germany

Sector Program Sustainable Sanitation  
 T: +49 61 96 79-4220  
 E: [sanitation@giz.de](mailto:sanitation@giz.de) I: [www.susana.org](http://www.susana.org)

Layout GIZ  
 As of July 2014

Responsible editors N. Chemaly, N. Martin (both GIZ Burundi), C. Rieck (GIZ Sector Program Sust. Sanitation)  
 On behalf of German Federal Ministry of Economic Cooperation and Development (BMZ)

Division Water, Energy, Transport  
 Download this paper [www.susana.org/library?search=GIZ+Burundi+2014](http://www.susana.org/library?search=GIZ+Burundi+2014)  
 More Information [www.giz.de/sanitation](http://www.giz.de/sanitation)