

sustainable sanitation alliance

Impressions of the WASH & Nutrition forum

Bonn, Germany
11 - 12 November 2015



Bonn WASH & Nutrition Forum 2015

The following report provides a short overview and take away messages of the WASH & Nutrition Forum.



Presentations and video recordings of the WASH & Nutrition forum are available on the SuSanA webpage

Link: <http://www.susana.org/en/events/past-event-pages/details/75>



Discussion and feedback of the WASH & Nutrition Forum on the SuSanA discussion forum

Link: <http://forum.susana.org/forum/categories/228-bonn-wash-nutrition-forum-2015/15948-qpost-bonnq-wash-nutrition-forum-in-bonn-in-november-2015-feedback-and-highlights>

Overview of the forum

The Bonn WASH & Nutrition forum took place in the headquarters of Germany's international broadcaster Deutsche Welle, Bonn on November 11th and 12th. It was well attended and livestreamed to allow online participation from all around the world.

Dr. Ushi Eid (UNSGAB) opened the conference speaking wholeheartedly and making clear that "today's forum is a timely and necessary initiative". Real change, according to her, needs to include unorthodox activities to reach out and make people aware. Thilo Panzerbieter (GTO) explained the "formula" behind the conference: Our dissatisfaction, vision and first steps always have to be greater than our resistance - then we can make the sector cooperation a reality! Catharina de Albuquerque (SWA) proved that you don't have to be present in person in a room to energize and

motivate everyone to bring the vision of the SDGs to reality. Florence Lasbennes (SUN Movement) took her stand for all women: “A healthy, well-nourished women with access to appropriate sanitation gives birth to a healthy, well-nourished child – and this makes the world a better place, it is as simple as that!”



From left to right: Thilo Panzerbieter (GTO), Renuka Bery (FHI360), Abigale Mupambi (CBOs) and Benn Hobbs (Generation Nutrition)

After the mirror sessions, Stephan Simon (Welthungerhilfe) stepped up at the panel discussion and admitted that he was a little bit disappointed by the mirror sessions as they still represented “sectoral silos” with every sector separately reporting what they are doing. He demands that “thinking out of the box” still needs to be promoted strongly to make progress. Honorable Nahas Angula (Namibia Alliance for Improved Nutrition) reminded everyone that all concepts dealing with health, dignity and welfare need foremost one thing: A human face! and Joséphine Quédraogo Baro (Director General, Ministry of Agriculture, Water Resources, Sanitation and Food Security, Burkina Faso) made the participants aware that people can eat a lot and still be malnourished as those affected often do not understand the linkage between poor hygiene conditions and diarrhea which is why a cooperation is essential for success in both sectors.

But not only the official program was very productive - Thilo Panzerbieter (GTO) asked everyone at the beginning to make at least one networking contact during each break and the participants were eager to fulfill his wish with heated discussions, inspiring conversations and reflecting chats at every opportunity.

Contact us

Please address any feedback to Annkathrin Tempel or the SuSanA secretariat at info@susana.org or susana@giz.de. For further information on the Sustainable Sanitation Alliance please visit our website www.susana.org

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