

# Specific WASH Assessments at Selected Schools

## Disclaimer

This document is an attachment to the service offer ***Construction/Rehabilitation of WASH Infrastructure in Schools***, developed by the global programme *Sanitation for Millions*. The service offer is based on implementation experiences gathered by the programme in Jordan, Pakistan, and Uganda. Its development is part of the commission through the Federal Ministry for Economic Cooperation and Development (BMZ) in 2023. Purpose of this specific service offer is to give an overview of relevant background information, important minimum standards, and necessary working steps related to construction and rehabilitation of water, sanitation, and hygiene (WASH) infrastructure in schools.

## Specific WASH Assessments at Selected Schools

### General note

Conducting WASH needs assessments in schools is a critical process aimed at evaluating the availability and adequacy of water, sanitation, and hygiene facilities in the respective schools. These assessments serve as a foundational step in addressing the health and learning outcomes of students. To conduct an effective WASH needs assessment in schools, several key steps and considerations should be taken into account.

- First and foremost, it is essential to define the objectives and scope of the assessment to determine specific WASH services to be assessed, for example to identify needs for water supply, need for rehabilitation of existing sanitation facilities, needs for hygiene promotion, or needs for capacity building.
- Engaging stakeholders is paramount in the planning and execution of the assessment. Key stakeholders, including school administrators, teachers, students, parents, and local authorities, should be involved to ensure that their insights, concerns, and needs are considered throughout the process.
- The core of the assessment lies in data collection. It involves gathering relevant information on various aspects of WASH, such as the source and quality of drinking water, the availability and condition of toilets and handwashing facilities, waste disposal systems, hygiene education programs, and hygiene practices among students and staff.
- Comprehensive assessment is important, with a focus on gender and disability considerations to ensure that WASH facilities are accessible to all, including girls, boys, and students with disabilities. Furthermore, assessing the impact of inadequate WASH facilities on the health and safety of students and staff is essential.
- A thorough infrastructure assessment should be conducted, examining the physical condition and functionality of WASH infrastructure. This may reveal the need for repairs or improvements to ensure that facilities are in proper working order.
- Data analysis follows the data collection process, involving a comprehensive review of the gathered data to identify gaps, trends, and priority areas for intervention. Both quantitative and qualitative methods should be employed to gain a holistic understanding of the WASH situation in schools.
- The assessment report must be a detailed report that presents the findings and offers clear recommendations for improvement. These recommendations should be prioritized based on urgency and potential impact.
- Assessing the school staff capacity and need capacity building is also crucial, to determine the training needs for school staff, students, and local communities in maintaining and managing WASH facilities and promoting good hygiene practices.)

To implement a proper assessment of the specific schools, Sanitation for Millions usually combines following assessments.

## WASH Assessments through EnDev surveys

- Pre-construction assessments through ENDEV surveys (different WASH assessment forms for the different type of institutions)
- Covering all relevant aspects of the actual situation on the ground & identify needs to inform the design works.
- WASH assessment forms are aligned to the “JMP-service ladder indicators.”
- Sections with interview questions for the representative of the institution
- Sections with observation questions
- An account on EnDev surveys for the enumerator is required.
- Onboarding for enumerators is required by M&E team.
- Design of the questionnaires by M&E-HQ team (aligned with country M&E teams)
- Maintenance of EnDev surveys in cooperation with international IT-partner
- Alternative option: filling in questionnaires in hard-copy form (should be avoided!)

## Technical Needs Assessment

- Review national or sector guidelines for WASH infrastructure for particular intervention.
- Check the status of water, sanitation, and hygiene infrastructure at the institution.
- Carryout key informant interview to identify demographic and demand aspects.
- Focus group discussion to identify user centered priorities.
- Apply local expertise to identify gaps and areas of possible improvement of service level.
- Identify optimization considerations regarding sustainability.

## Feasibility analysis

- Enlist possible options for design consideration.
- Apply Sanitation for Millions’ sustainability criteria.
- Consider CAPEX and OPEX
- Select the best recommended option for further design and development