

Ghana

Second Community Water & Sanitation (P050616)

Date Effective: August 31, 1999

Date Closed: December 30, 2004

Project Description: In the mid-1990s about 35 percent of Ghana's rural population had access to quality water supply and much fewer to sanitation facilities. In 1994, Ghana launched a National Community Water and Sanitation Program (NCWSP), underpinned by a newly formulated sector strategy agreed to by stakeholders, which is based on a demand-driven, community-driven approach. The World Bank had supported the full-scale implementation of the strategy with a \$25m credit under the first Community Water and Sanitation Project from 1994 to 2000. The Second Community Water and Sanitation Project (CWSP-2) was a follow-on project and the first part of a three-phased program. Its objective was increased access and effective and sustained use of improved community water supply and sanitation services in villages and small towns in four regions, namely Ashanti, Brong Ahafo, Upper East and Upper West Regions. It implemented a large-scale decentralized model for the planning, implementation and management of water supply and sanitation and provided grants to communities and schools through their District Assemblies to construct water supply and sanitation facilities.

Impact: *Through the construction and rehabilitation of water points, piped systems and sanitation facilities, the project provided 795,000 people (or 6 percent of the total rural population in Ghana) access to safe water supply and sanitation services.*

Some Highlights:

- 2,014 communities are newly using and managing water and sanitation facilities. All the communities participated in the planning, proposal formulation, implementation and management of their facilities.
- 3,000 Water and Sanitation Committees (WATSANs) and 41 Water Boards were formed and trained in various aspects of community management of water and sanitation facilities. Latrine artisans, area mechanics and pump caretakers were also trained in construction and operation and maintenance of their water and sanitation facilities.
- 42 Districts (of 138) are actively implementing water and sanitation programs. Each of these 42 districts has a District Water and Sanitation Plan (DWSP) and a District Water and Sanitation Team (DWST), a prerequisite for participation in the project.
- About 120 District Assembly (DA) staff were trained in areas ranging from computer literacy, financial management, supervision of latrines and hand-dug well construction.

- Community Water and Sanitation Agency' (CWSA) fully assumed its role as facilitator rather than implementer, managing the program at the national level.
- A private sector support strategy for local Small and Medium Enterprises (SMEs) was developed by CWSA.
- The project integrated water and sanitation provision with hygiene promotion. CWSA joined the global community in Hand Washing Initiative in 2001.

Total Financing: The project cost was \$32.2 million, including IDA credit (\$28 million), and Government financing (\$4.2 million).

IDA Contribution: The World Bank has developed a strong relationship with sector agencies at all levels during the past ten years of work in Ghana by supporting the sector policy dialogue and providing investments for the sub-sector. Under the CWSP-2, the specific added value of the Bank was to assist the government in developing a long-term, district-based Community Water and Sanitation program that could serve as a common framework for other donor-assisted interventions. In addition, the Bank acted as a catalyst for mobilizing additional resources for scaling up rural water delivery through local governments. Finally, CWSP-2 is part of a larger portfolio of Bank interventions in rural areas in Ghana, including support for education, health, decentralization and agriculture.

Linkages: The project contributed to the human development objectives of the Ghana PRSP through its important linkages with the health and education sector outcomes. It is an established fact that good quality water, hygiene and sanitation services contribute directly to improvement in health outcomes such as the reduction of waterborne and excreta-related diseases. These improvements also improve productivity of rural dwellers, especially women who now spend less time looking for water. Availability of latrines in schools also encourages enrolment of girls, thus contributing to desired outcomes of the education sector. The project has also contributed to the implementation of the decentralization policy of the government through adopting a decentralized approach to rural water supply and sanitation delivery. Overall, the project recognized the important multi-sectoral linkages and contributions to the objectives of other Bank-assisted operations in the country.

Next Steps: Planning capacity at the District level still requires strengthening. During project implementation, the District Assemblies tended to select more communities for subprojects than they could support in a given period of time. The Assemblies, therefore, need to match available resources to community demand while maintaining the overall momentum for enhancing delivery in the sector. The second phase of the project has been redesigned so that delivery of community point sources will be carried out under the Bank-financed multi-sectoral Community Based Rural Development Project (CBRDP) while delivery of piped schemes in small towns will be maintained under the Small Towns Water Supply and Sanitation Project (STWSSP).

There is also need to develop clear and enforceable "rules of the game" for decentralized implementation of the project; strengthen the financial management systems and

oversight mechanisms necessary to ensure quick turnaround of funds by the Districts. Private sector capacity needs to be tailored to develop capacity of Small and Medium Enterprises (SMEs) in the water sector to respond adequately to business opportunities emanating from local demand and could be supported by projects or be part of the overall government capacity building programs.

For effective promotion of sanitation, the Bank has to aim at providing cheaper latrines (using for example local materials) and design sanitation interventions with an emphasis on sustained community-level marketing.