

3. Theory of Change

3.1 Overview

The **vision** of UNICEF's WASH Programme in Burundi is *the realization of the human rights to water and sanitation for all*. This vision matches the vision of UNICEF's global Strategy for Water, Sanitation and Hygiene 2016-2030 and is aligned with SDG 6: Ensure availability and sustainable management of water and sanitation for all. The expected Outcome toward which the Programme will contribute is *By 2023, increased proportions of the population use adequate, equitable and sustainable basic drinking water, sanitation and hygiene services in households, schools and healthcare facilities in target rural, peri-urban and humanitarian settings*. This will be an important step towards achieving safely managed water and sanitation services, as envisioned under the SDG 6, by 2030.

UNICEF's WASH Programme will focus on rural, peri-urban and humanitarian settings, where UNICEF has a comparative advantage and where the lack of equity considerations in national funding decisions has created the greatest vulnerability. Most WASH issues in urban areas require large investments that exceed UNICEF's capacity. UNICEF will, however, support some urban communities with the management of their water points and with light rehabilitation, as transitory measures. UNICEF's support to sectoral coordination will benefit rural and urban areas alike.

The achievement of the Outcome is premised on three **conditions**, each related to an Output of the WASH Programme: improved access to basic sanitation and hygiene services, improved access to basic drinking water services and a strengthened enabling environment for WASH. The Programme will support the realization of these conditions at household, community, and institutional levels, in rural and urban areas and in development and humanitarian contexts.

At **national level**, UNICEF will continue strengthening the enabling environment for WASH through technical support and policy advocacy for the development and implementation of national guidelines and strategies and the strengthening of standards. Advocacy efforts will address the need to continue and expand communication initiatives and community engagement for the elimination of open defecation and the promotion of good hygiene practices. The Programme will seek to leverage funding from national sources, donors and the private sector for scaling up sustainable WASH services. It will also advocate for GoB and its partners to allocate funding toward the poorest and the most vulnerable, who are often women and girls. This will include advocacy for subsidies to cover the capital, operation and maintenance costs for WASH infrastructure in poor communities.

At **sub-national level**, the WASH Programme will support interventions to reduce child morbidity and mortality, improve children's learning environments, and promote and sustain positive behaviour change in schools and communities, working in synergy with UNICEF's education, health and nutrition and communication for development (C4D) sections. Interventions will concentrate on locations with high rates of stunting and diarrhoea.

As a sector lead for **WASH in emergencies** among United Nations agencies and co-chair with GoB in the overall WASH in emergencies sector, UNICEF will work closely with partners to strengthen preparation for and response to humanitarian situations. The WASH Programme will help communities to build resilience to shocks, particularly those resulting from climate change and emergencies. The Programme will also continue giving guidance on gender, particularly to the most vulnerable boys and girls in humanitarian crises, where gender-based violence is typically prevalent.

The theory of change for UNICEF's WASH Programme for Burundi in 2019-2023 can be summarized as follows: If the enabling environment for WASH policies, strategies and regulations is strengthened, if adequate financial and human resources are leveraged in the sector, and if synergies in programming among UNICEF programmes are realized, then there will be better guidance and more resources for

the WASH sector, enabling the implementation of effective interventions at household, community, and institutional levels, which will in turn lead to improved access to basic drinking water, sanitation and hygiene services in households, communities, schools and health/nutrition centres. In terms of the Outputs described below, this means that Output 3 on the enabling environment will be an essential factor in the realization of Outputs 1 and 2 on access to sanitation, hygiene and drinking water services.

3.2 Outcome and Output Statements

Outcome: By 2023, increased proportions of the population use adequate, equitable and sustainable basic drinking water, sanitation and hygiene services in households, schools and healthcare facilities in target rural, peri-urban and humanitarian settings.

Output 1: Increased proportions of the population have access to adequate, equitable and sustainable basic sanitation and hygiene services in households, schools and healthcare facilities in target rural, peri-urban and humanitarian settings.

Output 2: Increased proportions of the population have access to adequate, equitable and sustainable basic drinking water services in households, schools and healthcare facilities in target rural, peri-urban and humanitarian settings.

Output 3: The enabling environment for WASH financing is improved, monitoring and evaluation systems are strengthened and sector coordination is enhanced.

3.3 Implementation Strategies

To achieve **Output 1** on sanitation and hygiene services, the WASH Programme will pursue the following implementation strategies:

- **Creation of demand for basic sanitation services.** The WASH Programme will promote and support the CATS approach, which aims to achieve open defecation free (ODF) communities by creating new social norms around latrines. Coupled with the creation of new demand for improved sanitation, low-cost approaches will allow for families to move up the sanitation ladder to durable basic sanitation solutions. Women and girls will be empowered to take a leading role, while men and boys will also be engaged. At the outset, the Programme will analyze the situation in each community—including risks, community demand and preferences—to determine possible fields of intervention for the post-ODF phase, e.g., health, nutrition, food hygiene, construction techniques, income-generating activities.
- **Promotion of behaviour change in key hygiene practices.** In close collaboration with UNICEF's C4D section, the WASH Programme will promote hygiene behaviour change in the four key areas of hand washing, menstrual hygiene management, safe handling of water, and safe disposal of excreta. This area of work will draw on UNICEF's comparative advantage in introducing innovative approaches. Responding to communities' concerns about the affordability of soap, the Programme will support local, low-cost production of soap using models already tested in some provinces.
- **Improving access to basic sanitation and hygiene services in schools and health/nutrition centres.** The WASH Programme will develop, finance and monitor models for overcoming bottlenecks to scaling up sanitation and hygiene services in schools and health/nutrition centres. To support girls' enrolment and retention in school, sex-separate toilet models and standards, including menstrual hygiene management facilities for girls, will be established. Health/nutrition centres will be equipped with sanitation and hand-washing facilities. Attention will be given to improving safety and dignity at childbirth, with special consideration to adolescents.

To achieve **Output 2** on drinking water services, the WASH Programme will pursue the following implementation strategies:

- **Water supply development.** The WASH Programme will support interventions to increase access to safe, affordable and sustainable water services for the rural poor with an emphasis on raising community demand, community awareness of water availability and risk assessment and community participation in program design and implementation. In some small cities and some neighbourhoods of Bujumbura with the least access to REGIDESO water connections, UNICEF will provide communities with support for the management of their water points and for light rehabilitation; these will be transitory measures until REGIDESO has the capacity to extend sustainable water connections to these communities. UNICEF will also promote tariff structures that benefit those least able to pay for water connections. In all cases, special attention will be paid to vulnerable and disadvantaged groups, including women and girls, groups marginalized on the basis of ethnicity, communities affected by climate change and emergencies, people with disabilities, and the poorest households, with special attention to those experiencing multiple disadvantages.
- **Water safety planning.** The Programme will emphasize the safety of the entire water supply system from source to point of consumption, with attention to environmental, health, engineering and social aspects. Particular attention will be given to raising awareness and skills for safe water storage among those who handle water at the household level (usually women and girls). To ensure a complete cycle of preventive measures, the Programme will identify hazards, hazardous events and risks, necessary monitoring activities, and a verification schedule verification schedule to ensure a complete cycle of preventive measures.
- **Mitigation of risks and resilience to shocks.** The Programme will support the incorporation of measures for mitigating risks and building resilience to the effects of climate change, environmental degradation and disasters within communities and WASH sector systems and programme designs. Attention will be given to the protection of water resources, adaptation to increasing water scarcity and deteriorating water quality, and disaster-resilient water and sanitation technologies and systems. The WASH Programme will work with UNICEF's C4D section to ensure the dissemination of accurate information on the impact of climate change. Women will play a particularly important role as agents of change given the key roles they play in water collection and overall family health, hygiene and nutrition.
- **Emergency preparedness and response.** Burundi is prone to emergencies based on conflict, epidemics and natural disasters. Continuing to serve as the WASH sector lead among United Nations agencies and co-lead with GoB on the overall WASH-in-emergencies sector, UNICEF will support GoB mechanisms for humanitarian coordination, preparedness and response. This will include the pre-positioning of WASH supplies in targeted provinces and capacity development of national and sub-national partners in preparedness, response and early recovery.

To achieve **Output 3** on the enabling environment, the WASH Programme will pursue the following implementation strategies:

- **Promotion of accountability.** To enhance the sustainability of water supply services, the WASH Programme will promote accountability throughout the chain of responsibility, including the national government, service providers, and water users at the community level. As shown in Figure 1, the Programme will support a process whereby the national Rural Water and Sanitation Agency (AHAMR) delegates authority to the Communes (de-concentrated government administrative units), which in turn delegate authority for water management to the volunteer Communal Water Management Boards (RCE). RCEs are elected by Water Point Committees, which

are themselves elected by local water users. The AHAMR will at the same time provide capacity building support directly to the RCEs. The Programme will also strengthen the delegated management framework for water supply services in peri-urban areas and small towns and support interventions for improving water quality at the household level.

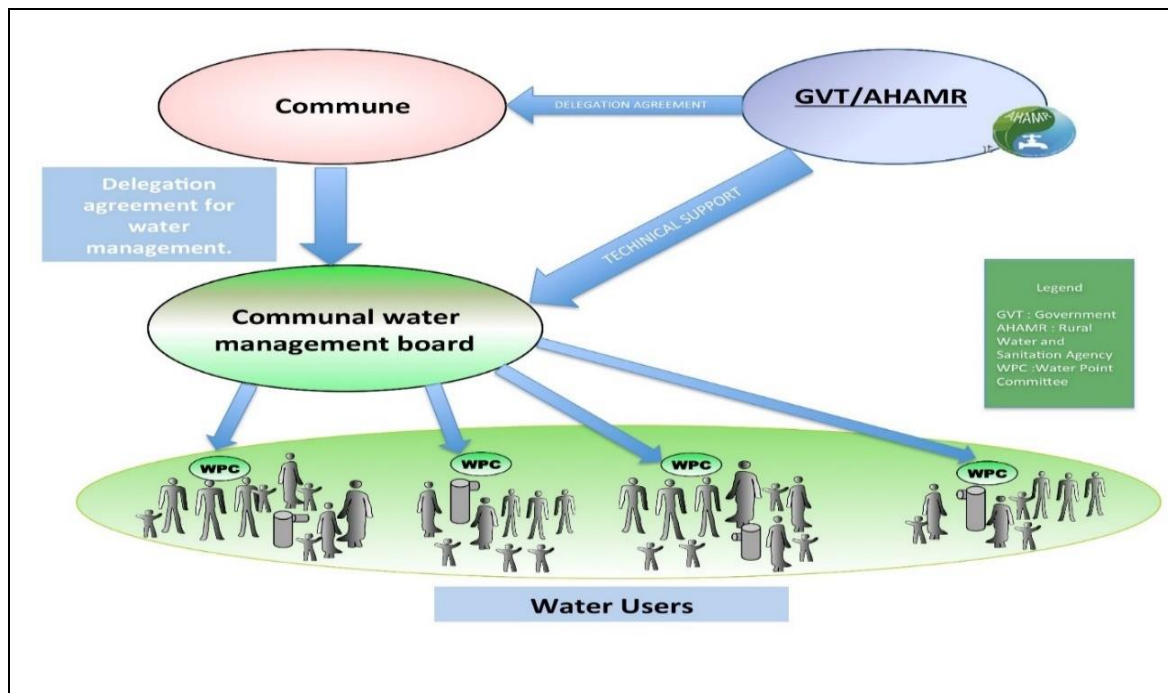


Figure 1. Enhancing accountability in water supply

- **Strengthening monitoring and evaluation systems.** The Programme will support the establishment and strengthening of monitoring and evaluation systems at national, sub-national and community levels, including the introduction of innovative tools to generate real-time, disaggregated data.
- **Advocacy for leveraging financial resources.** Scaling up WASH services will require substantial financial resources. UNICEF will lead advocacy for leveraging these resources to achieve programme results and related SDG targets and will continue supporting the Sanitation and Water for All (SWA) partnership as a means to drive accountability for results.
 - **Enhancing sector coordination and partnerships.** The WASH Programme will maintain and strengthen coordination and partnerships among all key actors in the sector—including Government bodies, NGOs, United Nations agencies, donors, other development and humanitarian partners and private enterprises—to ensure effective, cooperative, harmonized, timely and cost-effective WASH sector planning, implementation and monitoring. In the process, the Programme will encourage gender sensitivity and programming for the advancement of women. The engagement of private enterprises in the coordination mechanism will ameliorate the bottleneck of weak private sector development in the sector.
- **Policy advocacy.** The Programme will continue to engage in policy dialogue and advocacy for the development of guidelines, standards and planning and budgeting mechanisms. It will also continue supporting the GoB in addressing the bottleneck of weak coordination among government bodies in the WASH sector.

Outcome: By 2023, increased proportions of the population use adequate, equitable and sustainable basic drinking water, sanitation and hygiene services in households, schools and healthcare facilities in target rural, peri-urban and humanitarian settings

Output 1: Increased proportions of the population have access to adequate, equitable and sustainable basic sanitation and hygiene services in households, schools and healthcare facilities in target rural, peri-urban and humanitarian settings

Output 2: Increased proportions of the population have access to adequate, equitable and sustainable basic drinking water services in households, schools and healthcare facilities in target rural, peri-urban and humanitarian settings

Output 3: The enabling environment for WASH financing is improved, monitoring and evaluation systems are strengthened and sector coordination is enhanced

Assumptions

- Effective coordination
- Communities are open to making positive behavioural change
- Sufficient budgetary allocation and donor involvement
- Political stability
- Potential for humanitarian crises is adequately projected and factored into the design of interventions

Strategic Interventions

Capacity Building

Capacity building of implementing partners, teachers, healthcare providers, community leaders, women, children and youth on hygiene promotion, sanitation marketing, CATS

Service Delivery

Equipment of disadvantaged communities, schools, and health/nutrition centers with sanitation and handwashing facilities

O&M Strengthening

Strengthening O&M and supply chain for spare parts

Quality

Monitoring, reviews, evaluations, learning, guidelines and standards

Innovation for efficient, effective and low-cost water supply systems

Service Delivery

Equipment of disadvantaged communities, schools and health/nutrition centers with water infrastructure

Policy Advocacy

Policy dialogue and advocacy for the development of guidelines and standards, planning & budgeting, improved coordination among government bodies

Evidence Generation

KAP surveys, participatory monitoring

Promote **accountability** at all levels

Intersectoral integration with Health & Nutrition, Education, C4D programmes

Enhancing coordination and partnerships / emergency preparedness and response

C4D/Protection

Promoting community mobilization, participation and commitment to good hygiene practices in water treatment, transport and conservation and to equal access to WASH infrastructure

M&E for evidence-based programming

Enhance coordination and partnerships

Gender equality mainstreaming

Risk mitigation & resilience building for climate change, etc.

Monitoring and evaluation

[REDACTED]

[REDACTED]

Note for the Record

Subject: **Environmental Impact Assessment (EIA)**

As part of the development of the [REDACTED] and in accordance with recommended practice, the UNICEF Country Office [REDACTED] has undertaken an initial screening of all proposed activities within each draft programme component to assess their potential impact on the environment.

The Country Office applied the recommended assessment methodology as described in the PPP Manual, Chapter 6, Section 3 (the Manual's 2011 version), namely Checklist 1 "Initial Screening". The completed checklist attached to this note reflects that the Country Office considers that the programme components contemplated in the draft Country Programme Document, submitted to the UNICEF [REDACTED], should have no impact on the environment.

Sincerely,

[REDACTED]

Attachment 1 – Checklist 1 "*Initial Screening*"

[REDACTED]

Checklist 1- Initial Screening

Does the proposed programme or project contain activities that fall under one or more of the following categories? If the answer is **NO**, and EIA is not required, and the process is complete

- Extraction of water (e.g., groundwater, surface water, and rain water) NO
- Disposal of solid or liquid wastes (e.g., human faeces, animal wastes, used supplies from a health centre or health campaign) NO
- Use of chemical (e.g., pesticides, insecticides, paint and water disinfectant) NO
- Use of energy (e.g., coal, gas, oil, wood and hydro, solar or wind power) NO
- Exploitation of natural resources (e.g., trees, plants, minerals, rocks, soil) NO
- Construction work above household level (e.g., hospital or school) NO
- Changing land use (deforestation, forestation, and developing industrial housing or recreational centres) NO
- Agricultural production (e.g., growing crops, fish farming) NO
- Industrial production (e.g., small scale town/village workshops) NO

