

THE TRIPLE NEXUS IN WASH

HUMANITARIAN DEVELOPMENT PEACE



Africa 2021-22

Regional Exchange Forum

Building WASH Resilience and Sustainability



Practitioner Stream: Policy recommendations

Introduction

The practitioner stream has been a participatory process with four meetings involving 35 representatives from different parts of Nigeria, Kenya, Rwanda, Uganda and South Sudan, working for local NGOs, INGOs, private sector partners and districts authorities.

Based on case studies and context presentations, the practitioners identified common challenges and good practice in relation to the HDP nexus. This was followed by a visioning exercise: how do we hope the Triple Nexus will be leveraged for WASH in an ideal future. This led to the discussion of the most relevant policy recommendations, which were prioritized and grouped to 5 main policy recommendations.

The 5 policy recommendations from the practitioner stream will be presented to the round table for their review, advice and recommendations.

1. Climate Change Adaptation and Disaster Risk Reduction

Spokesperson: Philip Obaate (Teso, Uganda, district)

Issue: Whilst the importance of CCA and DRR is widely acknowledged, practical guidance on risk mitigation, standards and associated budgets are missing and/or not sufficiently adapted to specific contexts. A lack of inter-sectoral & inter-agency coordination for DRR weakens the preparedness of communities especially in crisis-prone regions.

Policy Recommendation 1

Establish platforms for coordination and joint inter-sector programming on CCA & DRR and strengthen the integration of CCA, DRR and environment conservation in the management of WASH facilities (and assure actors understand the relation to peace).

2. Coordination / multi-stakeholder engagement

Spokesperson: Andrew Boku Dibo (Northern Kenya hub, INGO)

Issue: Competing priorities, lack of coordination and information sharing and insufficient awareness of different actors/methodologies result in gaps in WASH service delivery and technical implementation obstacles, especially in protracted crises or when transitioning from humanitarian to development and vice versa.

Policy Recommendation 2

Strengthen mechanisms and earmarked budgets for coordination between humanitarian, development and peace actors (both state and non-state) through an inter-sectoral WASH coordination platform to harmonize HDP WASH assessments, planning, financing, implementation and monitoring.

3. Building capacities for inclusive systems

Spokesperson: Abubakar Ngulde (Northeast Nigeria, local NGO)

Issue: Learning across regions, sectors and stakeholders is limited to date, as demonstrated by insufficient connectedness of WASH programs, projects and service delivery. WASH systems are often not resilient enough to foster sudden change in population and are excluding certain populations.

Policy Recommendation 3

Promote national WASH systems to provide sustainable WASH services at scale, even in protracted situations or in event of risks, and thereby integrated WASH solutions for displaced and host communities. Including coherent technical standards for WASH infrastructure across HDP, prioritizing local (or contextualized) solutions over international solutions.

4. Financing

Spokesperson: Abubakar Ngulde (Northeast Nigeria, local NGO)

Issue: Availability of funding and related donor requirements still push many actors to work in silos. Funds are not flexible enough to allow for swift adaptation when oscillating between HDP sectors, crisis phases and responding to risks.

Policy Recommendation 4

Make the funding more flexible between HDP actors for swift adaptation between responding to crisis and preventing from risks.

5. Reinforcement of existing policies

Spokesperson: Philip Obaate (Teso, Uganda, district)

Issue: Whilst different policies are already in place, implementation remains a challenge. In many contexts this is due the absence of associated budgets or policy implementation/ action plans. In other cases, pertinent stakeholders are not aware of the policies or of who is responsible for the implementation, responsible actors do not have sufficient influence to enforce policies, policies are insufficiently translated into national/regional frameworks or are simply too generic or inappropriate in the prevailing context. This leads to skepticisms among practitioners if policies are able to change and improve the situation. Although this is not specific to the Humanitarian-Development-Peace nexus, non-implementation of existing policies leads to increased probability of HDP-related challenges.

Policy Recommendation 5

Reinforce existing WASH, CC & environment related policies in humanitarian, development and peace sectors and assure incorporation of HDP-nexus related aspects, including outlining potential risks related to silo-based implementation of WASH humanitarian or WASH development policies.

Regional Exchange Forum organized by



Local Host Africa Region



Supported by

