



AFRICAN DEVELOPMENT BANK GROUP

The Rural Water Supply and Sanitation Initiative



RWSSI Newsletter N°9 - August 2017 SUMMARY

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EDITORIAL

By Oswald Chanda

Director OIC, Water Development and Sanitation Department

The African Development Bank (AfDB)

Dear colleagues,

During the 2017 Annual Meetings of the AfDB in Ahmedabad, India, a RWSSI program in Tanzania won the "2017 Africa Development Impact Award" in the category to "Improve the life for the people of Africa". The Rural Water and Sanitation Program II was flagged for its unique contribution to development in Tanzania. Completed in 2015, this multi-purpose program enabled about seven million Tanzanians to have access to water and sanitation. That data is to be compared to the about 4.6 million people that were projected to benefit at program appraisal.

In this edition of the RWSSI Newsletter, we shine the spotlight on this program with the hope that actors in the sector will be able to draw potential lessons to improve delivery and scale-up of similar projects. This should happen within the context of new strategic priorities of the AfDB and the implementation of the Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs).

We also highlight the AfDB's contribution in delivering critical WASH services to people in Africa and in boosting national efforts to fight drought in Ethiopia.

Talking about Ethiopia, the Independent Development Evaluation (IDEV) Unit of the AfDB has published the impact evaluation report of the Rural Water Supply and Sanitation Program (RWSSP) of the AfDB in the Country. This evaluation also assesses the prospects of sustaining the benefits of the program into the future.

Today, many are today wondering how Goal 6 (Sustainable water and sanitation for all by 2030) can be financed. The UN-Water has published the Water Global Analysis and Assessment of Sanitation and Drinking-Water (GLASS 2017) report showing that there are still significant discrepancies between global aspirations and national realities regarding funding.

In this newsletter, we also pay a well-deserved tribute to Pier Cross, a water, sanitation and hygiene guru in Africa, who passed away on March 29, 2017. May his soul rest in peace!

Yours sincerely,

Oswald

RWSSI HIGHLIGHTS

Tanzania: AfDB/RWSSI Award-Winning Program

An AfDB/RWSSI-funded program designed to improve access to water and sanitation in Tanzania has been honoured for its development impact. Known as the "Rural Water Supply and Sanitation Program Phase II", this program was recognised with an award at the 2017 Annual Meetings of the African Development Bank, which was held in

Ahmedabad, India. This "2017 Africa Development Impact Award" confirmed that the project had demonstrated unique development impact and improved peoples' lives in Tanzania.

[More ...](#)

Ethiopia: AfDB boosts national efforts to fight drought

Recent drought and famine experienced in parts of East Africa have prompted the AfDB to step up its support to regional member countries to adapt to these new challenges. At the AfDB's 2017 Annual Meetings, the Ethiopia's Minister of Finance and Economic Cooperation, Abraham Tekese and the AfDB Vice President for Agriculture, Human and Social Development, Dr. Jennifer Blanke signed loan and grant agreements amounting to US \$5.6 million. The contribution will be used to boost livelihoods and resilience of communities affected by climate change. Together with other partners, the AfDB is already supporting a US\$ 91 million-worth "One WASH" program in Ethiopia which will allow the construction and rehabilitation of 7,805 water and sanitation systems and is expected to benefit 3 million people.

[More ...](#)

RWSSI: Tribute to Piers Cross, a Water and Sanitation Guru

As recent as December 02, 2016, Piers Cross was in Abidjan as part of the consulting team recruited to formulate the new RWSSI strategic plan (2017-2025). Piers' work was far from over, as he was still expected in Abidjan to finalize the process. But this would not happen. Piers passed away on March 29, 2017 at the height of his creativity and career. Piers will be remembered for his multiple contributions in the water, sanitation and hygiene sector in Africa. He was a key person for the creation of the AfricaSan and the Rural Water Supply Network (RWSN)

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PARTNERSHIPS

SWA-AfDB: State of development effectiveness in the WASH Sector in Africa

The [2017 Sanitation and Water for All \(SWA\) High-level Meetings](#) took place in Washington D.C., USA on the 19 and 20 April 2017. These included a Finance Ministers' Meeting (FMM), convened by the World Bank on behalf of the SWA partnership, and a Sector Ministers' Meeting (SMM) convened by UNICEF, involving those ministers responsible for water, sanitation and hygiene who have accompanied their finance counterparts. Rakesh Nangia, the AfDB Evaluator General, made a speech at the Sector Ministers' Meeting, on [the State of Development Effectiveness in the WASH sector in Africa](#). Mr Nangia outlined the AfDB's strategic plan to include water in a holistic development plan for the continent.

[More ...](#)

RESOURCES

AfDB – IDEV : Impact Evaluation of the Rural Water Supply and Sanitation Program in Ethiopia 2006–2014 - Summary Report

The Independent Development Evaluation (IDEV) of the AfDB has published the impact evaluation report of the Rural Water Supply and Sanitation Program (RWSSP) of the Bank in Ethiopia. The program was implemented in the years 2006 to 2014 at a total cost of US\$ 92.2 million. The evaluation assesses the average net effect of the program on the intended rural beneficiaries. It focuses on the use of improved water services, the incidence of diarrhea, the time spent on fetching water, and increased incomes by women. This evaluation also assesses the prospects of sustaining the benefits of the program into the future.

The report is available [here](#)

GLASS 2017 Report: Financing Water, Sanitation, & Hygiene in the SDGs Era?

A successful implementation of Goal 6 of the Sustainable Development Goals (access to water and sanitation for all by 2030) requires mobilizing considerable resources at all levels. On May 31, the UN published the Water Global Analysis and Assessment of Sanitation and Drinking-Water (GLAAS 2017) Report, which focused on financing WASH services. The report found that national WASH budgets are increasing as countries prepare to take on board the SDGs, yet there remains a discrepancy between global aspirations and national realities.

[More ...](#)

RWSSI : LEAVING NO ONE BEHIND

The Rural Water Supply and Sanitation Initiative (RWSSI) is a regional framework for resource mobilization, investment and development of rural water supply and sanitation in Africa. RWSSI was launched by the African Development Bank in 2003 as a focused regional response to the rural water supply and sanitation sub-sector to help African governments meet the targets of the African Water Vision and the Sustainable Development Goals.

CONTRIBUTE : If you like to contribute to the next edition of the RWSSI Newsletter,
please contact: [Jochen Rudolph](#), RWSSI Focal Point.

[More information on RWSSI.](#)

The Rural Water Supply and Sanitation Initiative is hosted by the AfDB.

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