State of Development Effectiveness in the WASH sector in Africa

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The African Development Bank

**WASH investments**

- The AfDB financed its first water and sanitation operation in 1968.
- 2016 marked the highest AfDB financing levels for both rural and urban water supply and sanitation.
- Fourteen projects worth a record USD 1.2 billion were approved, representing 11% of the Bank’s total lending for the year.
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The Kenyan WASH investment

- The Sustainable Water Supply and Wastewater Management Program in Kenya is the biggest water investment project, by volume, in the Bank’s 50+ year history.

- On completion, the Project will provide more than 2.1 million people with reliable and sustainable water supply services; provide more than 1.3 million people with functioning sewerage systems; and, create more than 15,000 new jobs during and after construction, with a focus on women and the youth.
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A holistic approach

- The new Water Development and Sanitation Department (AHWS) within the AfDB is organized to constitute a more holistic approach to WASH investments.

- AHWS is coordinating activities by:
  - developing and promoting the adoption of relevant water policies and strategies;
  - providing deep multi-sector expertise
  - developing new financing instruments;
  - fostering strategic partnerships, including with the private sector, to leverage resources into the sector.
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Special initiatives

The Rural Water Supply and Sanitation Initiative

The African Water Facility (AWF),

The initiatives provide vital resources for leveraging financing into the sector, promoting and scaling up innovative projects, enhancing water governance; and supporting knowledge management activities, including sector M&E.

And the Multidonor Water Partnership Program (MWPP).
• As approaches to sustainable access to safe drinking water and basic sanitation have changed over time, evaluations of WASH projects serve to improve services for beneficiary populations and to sustain results.

• The Independent Development Evaluation (IDEV) of the Bank’s projects across sectors and regions of Africa aims:
  • to contribute to enhanced learning,
  • to provide a basis for accountability
  • to promote an evaluation culture within the Bank and regional member countries.
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IDEV lessons learned for WASH programs

- Covers eighteen AfDB-funded WASH projects and evaluation results of other DP involved in WSS in Africa.
- Highlights emerging good practices and innovations and reflects on the key lessons of successful and failed cases.
- Recommends to consider creative and holistic solutions to water and sanitation challenges, based on capacity development and sustainable models of integrated development.
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IDEV Impact Evaluation

Key findings

• Impact Evaluations of Programs in Ethiopia and Tanzania

• Effective capacity building is a key factor for success.

• Institutional capacity building at all governmental levels and clear performance contracts between local and central government departments is instrumental.

• The technical capacity of project partners requires attention.
The AfDB will:

• increase financing to the sector by leveraging more resources through co-financing, climate funds, public-private partnerships and other innovative financing mechanisms.

• support the identification and scaling up of approaches that lead to more sustainable and affordable infrastructure, water-efficient service provision, and multi-purpose infrastructure investments.
“Our sons and daughters are fleeing Africa. This is not acceptable. The heat and floods are too much, the conflicts over limited water resources are bursting communities – and if care is not taken, there may be future water wars in Africa”.

– President Akinwumi A. Adesina of the African Development Bank, speaking in Paris at COP21.