

A. Jiménez^{1,2}, A. Pérez-Foguet² & M.Carrillo¹

1. Ingeniería Sin Fronteras (ISF)

www.isf.es

alejandro.jimenez@isf.es ; miquel13@wanadoo.es

2. Research Group in Development Co-operation and Human Development (GRECDH)

Universitat Politècnica de Catalunya.

ETSECCPB, C/Jordi Girona s/n, Campus Nord, Barcelona, Spain.

www.upc.edu/grecdh

agusti.perez@upc.edu.



Abstract: International aid programmes have been normally designed and implemented from an up-bottom approach, while local institutions and final users have been traditionally targeted by NGO's projects. This fact gives such projects some qualities that justify the interest of describing them. First, they can provide grass root data for the sector, in terms of practical difficulties to implement national policies, real time and costs required for

implementation, definition of appropriate level of services and adaptation of strategies to different local contexts. Moreover they can serve as pilot projects to develop new approaches in the sector. At the same time, they can be quantitatively important, since they amount up to 20% of total sector expenditure in some African countries. This work focuses in providing a basic common framework for reporting these rural water and sanitation projects. The proposal is

based on the accumulated experience of the NGO's sector, using as well some categories as those proposed by OCDE to classify ODA water programmes. The tool does not aim to serve for evaluating purposes, but to provide simple basic data that can help having an overview about scopes, methodologies, level of services and costs of the different NGO's programmes.

REPORTING TOOL: The tool proposed considers two parts for the reporting of a program.

- First, a brief description of the action: objectives and methodology as well as some relevant background information from the country and region of implementation (table 1).

- Second, the specific information about the intervention. It is splitted into 14 possible components (table 1), including for each of them the information listed in table 2. Some options for describing kind of technology or activity have been suggested under each subcomponent.

GENERAL INFORMATION	ECONOMICAL INFORMATION
Human Development Index	% GNI needed for W&S MDG
Gross National Income	% GNI dedicated to Water and Sanitation
% Rural population	SECTOR
% access to water	Sector strategy: main features
% access to sanitation	Annual reports on the sector
LEGISLATION	Analysis of institutions in place
Main features of Water Policy	Private sector & other agents participation
Main features of Sanitation Policy	SPECIFIC RELEVANT INFORMATION ABOUT THE AREA OF INTERVENTION
Roles and responsibilities of main actors	Geographic al, institutional, social,etc...

Table 1. List of relevant background information

COMPONENTS	
WATER	ENVIRONMENT & WATER RESOURCES
PUBLIC SANITATION	INSTITUTIONAL DEVELOPMENT
PRIVATE SANITATION	CAPACITY BUILDING
ENVIRONMENTAL SANITATION	GENDER
HYGIENE PROMOTION	HIV/AIDS
SERVICES MANAGEMENT	PRO-POOR/EQUITY
PLANNING	PARTICIPATION

Table 2. List of 14 subcomponents proposed for reporting small scale rural W&S programs.

INFORMATION REQUIRED FOR EACH COMPONENT
KIND OF TECHNOLOGY/ACTIVITY
LEVEL OF SERVICE
OUTPUTS
BENEFITED POPULATION
COSTS

Table 3. Information required for each subcomponent

CASE STUDY Figures 1 and 2 and table 4 show the application of this tool to two water and sanitation programmes, executed by the NGO Ingeniería Sin Fronteras between 2002-2006: Karatu , Tanzania (1,123,835 €) and La Libertad , El Salvador (1,676,325 €)Figure 1 illustrates main differences:

- In Tanzania the priority is service provision and capacity building for management at user's level.

- In El Salvador, planning at local level is the biggest priority (figure 1).

Both programmes provide considerably different level of investment per beneficiary (figure 2), determined by the level of service (table 4).

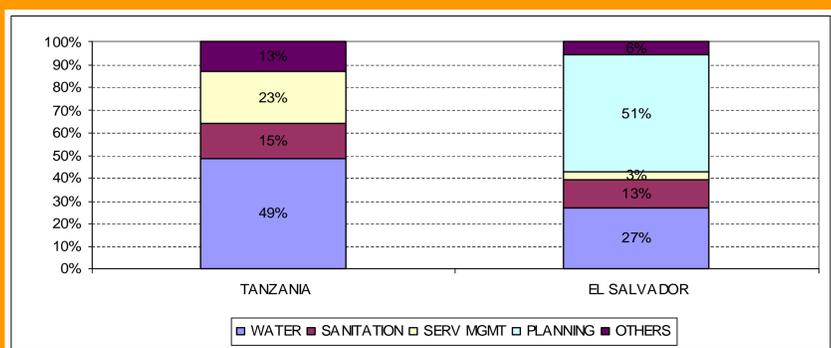


Figure 1. Share of costs by subcomponent in the two programs analyzed

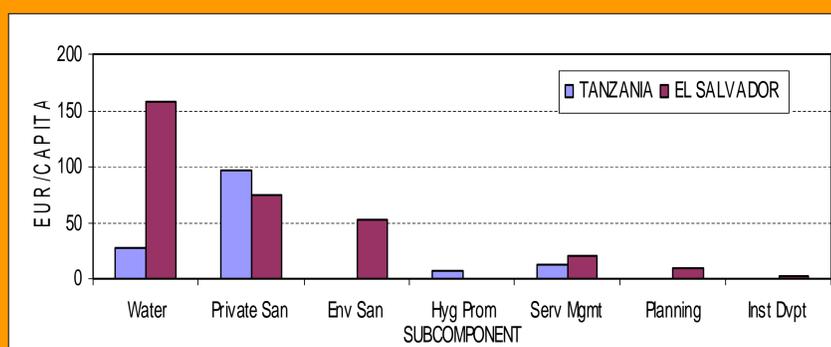


Figure 2. Costs per capita (euros) by subcomponent in the two programs analyzed

COMPONENT	LEVEL OF SERVICE	
	TANZANIA	EL SALVADOR
WATER	250 people/ water point (500 per borehole) & 500m to water point	5 people (1 family) per water point & yard connection
PUBLIC SANITATION	50 users per latrine	
PRIVATE SANITATION	6 people (1 family)/latrine & 20 m maximum distance to latrine	5 people (1 family) per latrine & 20 m maximum distance to latrine
ENVIRONMENTAL SANITATION		5 people (1 family) per bio-filter for used water
HYGIENE PROMOTION	60 beneficiaries/hygiene promoter	
SERVICES MANAGEMENT	Management entity trained, organized and legalized	Management entity trained, organized and legalized
PLANNING		W&S community's participatory plans elaborated and budgeted
ENVIRONMENT & WATER RESOURCES		Inclusion of WWRR relevant data in local W&S plans
INSTITUTIONAL DEVELOPMENT		Specify
CAPACITY BUILDING		
GENDER	Formal gender equity in management entities	Specify
HIV/AIDS		
PRO-POOR/EQUITY		
PARTICIPATION	Decision on kind and level of service, tariffs and management model	Decision on priorities in W&S plans; when service provided, decision on kind and level of service, tariffs and management model

Table 4. Level of service for each of the programs studied.

CONCLUSIONS: Water and sanitation sector is plenty of NGO's actions that have been quite unknown up to date. Information about components, costs and level of service are insufficiently described. Nowadays, a new culture of informing and reporting is taking place in developing actions. This

opportunity has to be seized to develop a standard way of informing actions (such as what ODCE database hosts for Official Development Assistance programmes) that can facilitate analysis, and therefore, improvements both in policy orientations and in implementation strategies.

Main references

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