



**USAID West Africa Water Supply, Sanitation, and Hygiene Program  
(USAID WA-WASH)**

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**USAID WA-WASH ACHIEVEMENTS  
PHASE II: January 2016 – December 2017**

**BRIEFING NOTE**

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## Acronyms and Abbreviations

AfriCap	African Water Association Capacity Building Program
AfWA	African Water Association
AMCOW	African Ministers' Council on Water
CESAO-AI	Centre d'Etudes et d'Expérimentations Economiques et Sociales de l'Afrique de l'Ouest – Association Internationale (West African center for economic and social studies International Association in English)
CFA	Communauté Financière Africaine (Currency of the African financial community in English)
CICF	Centre International pour le Conseil et la Formation
CLTS	Community Led Total Sanitation
CODEV	Institut International pour la Cooperation et le Développement (International institute for cooperation and development in English)
CS	Coordinating Secretariat
FIU	Florida International University
IGA	Income Generating Activity
IT	Information Technology
MoU	Memorandum of Understanding
NGO	Non-Governmental Organization
NUPAS	Non-US Pre Award Survey
OCI	Oceane Consulting International
PPP	Public Private Partnership
PROMACO	Programme de Marketing Social et de Communication pour la Santé (Social marketing and communication for health program in English)
PSI	Population Services International
SSD	Sanitation Service Delivery
STC	Scientific and Technical Council
USAID	United States Agency for International Development
USAID/WA	United States Agency for International Development/West Africa
WASH	Water, Sanitation, and Hygiene
WA-WASH	West Africa Water Supply, Sanitation, and Hygiene Program
WRCC	Water Resources Coordination Center
WSA	Water and Sanitation for Africa
Y	Year

## 1. Introduction

After meeting or exceeding most of its targets in water, sanitation, hygiene, climate change, food security, and gender mainstreaming during its Phase I (from August 2011 to December 2015), the USAID WA-WASH Program has started its Phase II (January 2016 to December 2017) with three specific goals:

1. Leverage partners and stakeholders' knowledge and investment in WASH sectors by promoting knowledge management and information sharing with a number of stakeholders in the region
2. Build the capacity of regional African WASH organizations
3. Identify through long-term monitoring the best practices and lessons learned for dissemination, the translation of results into policies, the harmonization of WASH policies and practices, and the rapid transfer of tested models across West Africa.

## 2. Objective 1: Leverage USAID WASH Partners and Related Stakeholders

As part of Objective 1, USAID WA-WASH coordinates and supports ongoing USAID West Africa (USAID/WA) efforts in the region. These efforts have been extended to AfWA, USEPA, PSI/SSD, and USAID Implementing Partners (IP), the private sector, national governments and regional partners, as well as bilateral USAID Missions to encourage partnerships and continued collaboration for WASH activities taking place in West Africa.

### Activity 1.1: Establish and Manage WASH Coordination Secretariat

To ensure that USAID/WA activities are coordinated and to leverage WASH activities in the region more effectively, USAID WA-WASH has assembled a WASH Coordinating Secretariat (CS). Through this Secretariat, USAID WA-WASH intends to serve as a coordinating body, facilitating effective communication and coordination of WASH activities and appropriate integration and harmonization with regional WASH institutions. These efforts will support stronger regional engagement on WASH activities and more rapid transfer of successful WASH delivery interventions while encouraging a continuous collaboration by developing partnerships over time. The WASH Coordinating Secretariat is composed of AfWA, PSI/SSD, USEPA, USAID/WA, and USAID WA-WASH.

Five WASH CS quarterly meetings have been held since the beginning of Program Phase II:

- 1<sup>st</sup> WASH CS meeting, April 12-13, 2016 in Abidjan, Cote d'Ivoire
- 2<sup>nd</sup> WASH CS meeting, June 28-30, 2016 in Cotonou, Benin
- 3<sup>rd</sup> WASH CS meeting, December 12-14, 2016 in Abidjan, Cote d'Ivoire
- 4<sup>th</sup> WASH CS meeting, March 2-3, 2017 in Accra, Ghana
- 5<sup>th</sup> WASH CS meeting, May 30 - June 1, 2017 in Ouagadougou, Burkina Faso
- 6<sup>th</sup> WASH CS meeting, September 20-21, 2017 in Abidjan, Cote d'Ivoire

## **Activity 1.2: Leverage Funding for the West African WASH Sector**

In order to ensure the sustainability of the services provided by USAID WA-WASH and to expand investments in the WASH sector, the Program has encouraged the development of Public Private Partnership (PPP) to attract other public and private stakeholders in the WASH sector. Some activities were conducted by the CS, including:

- Two PPP studies in Benin and Cote d'Ivoire
- The facilitation of a Memorandum of Understanding (MoU) between Medentech and PROMACO in Burkina Faso
- The facilitation of a MoU between FIU and Aube Nouvelle University in Burkina Faso.

## **Activity 1.3: Foster Knowledge Sharing Among the WASH Secretariat Members**

### **Sub activity 1.3.1: AfWA Platform**

As part of the USAID WA-WASH's efforts to promote knowledge sharing in the WASH sector, a knowledge management portal has been developed for AfWA. The implementation of this platform will allow AfWA to become a knowledge management and information sharing repository. In this context, Dr. Boukerrou and Mr. Sylvain Usher, AfWA's Executive Director, officially launched, during the Scientific and Technical Committee (STC) meeting in Rabat Morocco on February 13 - 17, 2017, the new AfWA knowledge management and information sharing platform, designed by USAID WA-WASH with support from the FIU's IT Specialist in Miami, Florida and the contribution of both USAID WA-WASH and AfWA staff. This platform will facilitate knowledge management and information sharing between AfWA's members and also with the general public.

### **Sub activity 1.3.2: Participation in WASH Sector Meetings**

In addition to promoting knowledge sharing and giving visibility to the various USAID/WA Programs/projects, USAID WA-WASH attended several meetings in the WASH sector, namely:

- Water and Health Conference at the University of North Carolina on November 16 – 20 2017 in Carolina, USA
- 77<sup>th</sup> AfWA's scientific and technical council from July 17-21, 2017 in Accra, Ghana.
- AfWA semi-annual activity review workshop in Abidjan, Cote d'Ivoire on June 15 – 16, 2017
- Coordination and Collaboration Forum on Resilience in Institutional Governance and Natural Resources Management in Ouagadougou, Burkina Faso on June 14 – 15, 2017
- Coordination and Collaboration Forum on Resilience in Health, Nutrition, and WASH in Ouagadougou, Burkina Faso, on March 9 - 10, 2017.
- Colorado WASH Symposium in Denver, USA, on March 7 - 8, 2017
- 76<sup>th</sup> AfWA's Scientific and Technical Council meeting in Rabat, Morocco on February 13 - 17, 2017
- AfWA annual activities review workshop in Abidjan, Cote d'Ivoire on December 14 - 16, 2016
- 7<sup>th</sup> Rural Water Supply Network Forum in Abidjan on November 29 - December 2, 2016
- 76<sup>th</sup> AfWA Scientific and Technical Council meeting in Lilongwe, Malawi on November 21 - 25, 2016
- Water and Health Conference in North Carolina, USA, on October 10-14, 2016
- 18<sup>th</sup> AfWA International Congress & Exhibition in Nairobi, Kenya on February 22 - 25, 2016.

The Program continues to participate in the meetings of the WASH technical and financial partners in Burkina Faso, Africa and abroad. All these events are knowledge learning and sharing opportunities for the West African WASH sector.

### **Sub activity 1.3.3: USAID WA-WASH Website and SharePoint**

Each WASH CS meeting is an opportunity for members to stress the importance of knowledge management and sharing in order to improve WASH practices and indicators in West Africa. As part of these meetings, USAID WA-WASH is involved in a process of continuous updating of its SharePoint and encourages its use to make information available to all the CS members. As an intranet, SharePoint is used to post current and upcoming activities, reports, documents, etc.

In addition to the SharePoint, USAID WA-WASH posts several documents on its website to make WASH information available, not only to the CS members but also to the general public. To facilitate access to the existing resources, the Program is also in the process of summarizing its various reports.

### **3. Objective 2: Build Capacity of West African Regional WASH Organizations**

Objective 2 of the USAID WA-WASH Program focuses on institutional and human capacity building efforts to enable regional WASH organizations to achieve their strategic objectives. Capacity building catalyzes regional partners to improve the coverage of quality WASH services and increase the number of West Africans who have access to them in the USAID/WA target countries.

#### **Activity 2.1: Inventory and Assessment of Regional Organization Scope, Activities, Capacity, and Impact.**

##### **Sub-Activity 2.1.1: Identify WASH Organizations within the West Africa Region and Conduct an Impact Assessment.**

USAID WA-WASH Program identified three regional WASH organizations in order to strengthen their institutional and human capacities, promote synergies among them and encourage the sharing of best practices and management of WASH knowledge. The approach was based on an organizational assessment to identify their strengths and weaknesses, and create a learning environment through meetings with WASH organizations, communication platform development, and experience sharing.

##### **Sub-Activity 2.1.2: Conduct NUPAS**

The Program has identified three regional WASH organizations, namely: West African Center for Economic and Social Studies (CESAO), Water and Sanitation for Africa (WSA), and Water Resource Coordinating Center (WRCC) in order to conduct an assessment referred to as NUPAS (Non-US Pre-Award Survey).

The NUPAS for the organizations were respectively conducted on:

- April 19-22, 2016 for the Water Resource Coordination Center (WRCC)
- April 25-28, 2016 for Water and Sanitation for Africa (WSA)
- May 3-6, 2016 for the West African Center for Economic and Social Studies- International Association (CESAO AI).

##### **Sub-Activity 2.1.3 Implement NUPAS' Recommendations and other Capacity Building Activities for the African Water Association (AfWA)**

In order to implement the 18 recommendations made following the AfWA's NUPAS, a consulting firm, Centre International pour le Conseil et la Formation (CICF), was hired to train AfWA's staff on:

- Finance
- Monitoring and evaluation
- Communication
- Procurement
- Project management
- USAID Procurement facilitated by USAID/ WA
- MS Project

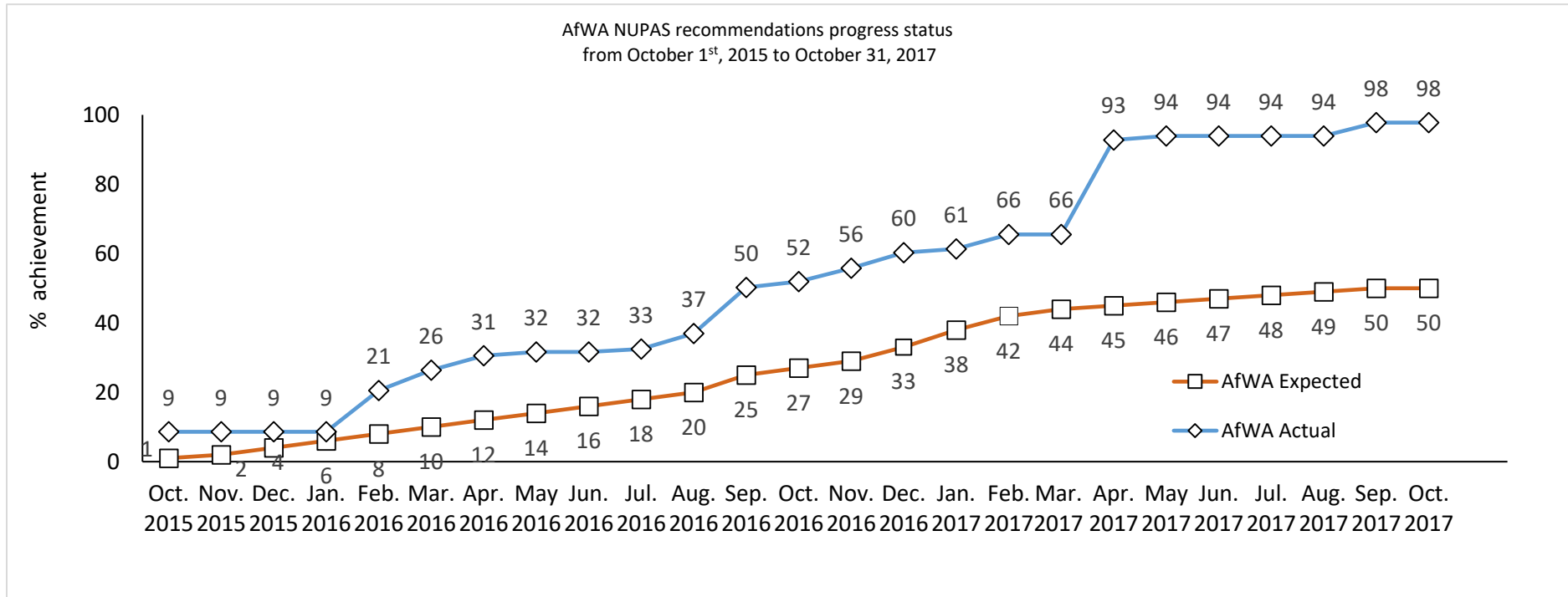
The Program provided training and assistance to AfWA's Public Relations and Communication team on Information Technology platform management. It also assisted the African Young Water and Sanitation Professionals Program Coordinator to manage a research and internship Program.

USAID WA-WASH has put in place a process to monitor the implementation of the recommendations made to AfWA after the NUPAS. This follow-up of the progress of the recommendations is made regularly with these three organizations.

Below is the graph that illustrated the progress of AfWA's recommendations implementation.



### AfWA NUPAS recommendations progress status from October 1st, 2015 to October 31, 2017



Number of recommendations: 18

Achievement from October 1, 2015 to October 31, 2017: 98%

### **Sub-Activity 2.1.4: Implement NUPAS' Recommendations and other Capacity Building Activities for CESAO**

In order to implement the 40 recommendations made after the CESAO's NUPAS by USAID WA-WASH, the Institut International pour la Cooperation et le Development (CODEV International) a consulting firm has been hired through a competitive bidding process to assess the training needs of CESAO-AI and develop a program to fill the gaps identified. The training program focused on:

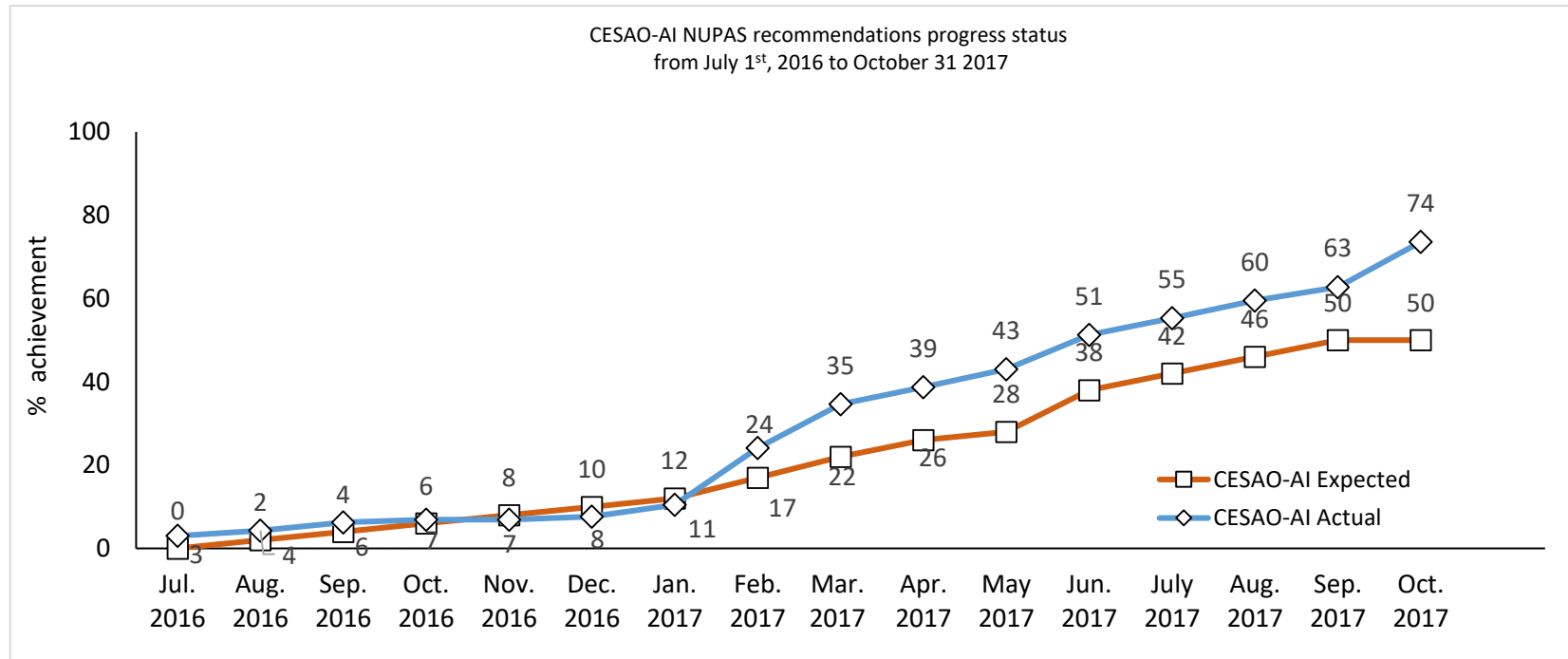
- Legal structure
- Human resource
- Finance and administration
- Procurement
- Project management
- Monitoring and evaluation
- USAID Procurement facilitated by USAID/WA
- MS Project

In addition to the training sessions, USAID WA-WASH also provides the organization with technical assistance.

USAID WA-WASH has put in place a process to monitor the implementation of the recommendations made to CESAO-AI after the NUPAS. This follow-up of the progress of the recommendations is made regularly with these three organizations.

Below is the graph that illustrated the progress of CESAO-AI's recommendations implementation.

### CESAO-AI NUPAS recommendations progress status from July 1<sup>st</sup>, 2016 to October 31, 2017



Number of recommendations: 40

Achievement from July 1, 2016 to October 31, 2017: 74%

### **Sub-Activity 2.1.5: Implement NUPAS' Recommendations and other Capacity Building Activities for WRCC**

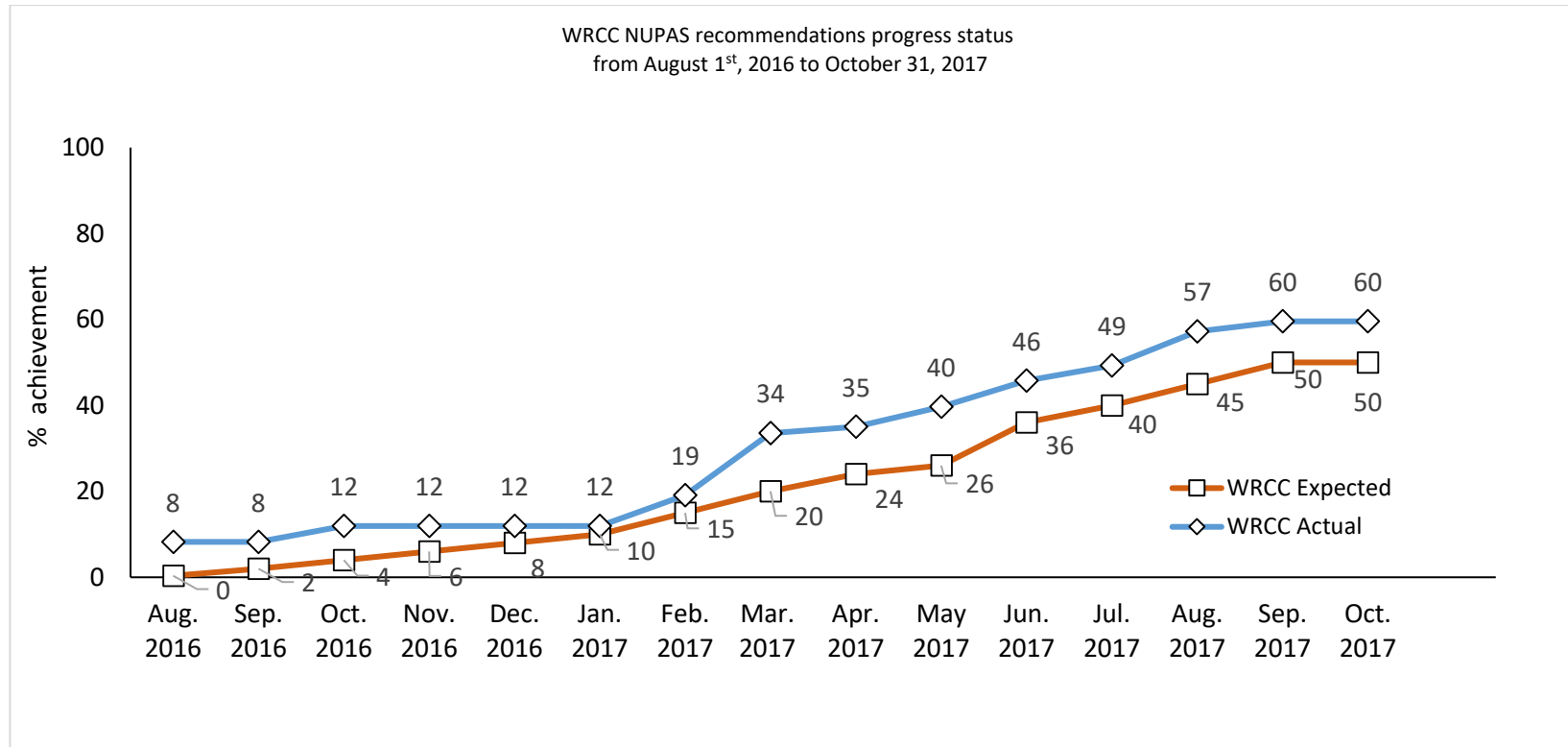
In order to implement the 34 recommendations made after WRCC's NUPAS assessment by USAID WA-WASH, the Institut International pour la Cooperation et le Development (CODEV International) a consulting firm has been hired through a competitive bidding process to assess the training needs of WRCC and develop a program to fill the gaps identified. The training program focused on:

- Legal structure
- Human resource
- Finance and administration
- Procurement
- Project management
- Monitoring and evaluation
- USAID Procurement facilitated by USAID/WA

USAID WA-WASH has put in place a process to monitor the implementation of the recommendations made to WRCC after the NUPAS. This follow-up of the progress of the recommendations is made regularly with these three organizations.

Below is the graph that illustrated the progress of WRCC's recommendations implementation.

### WRCC NUPAS recommendations progress status from August 1<sup>st</sup>, 2016 to October 31, 2017



Number of recommendations: 34

Achievement from August 1, 2016 to October 31, 2017: 60%

### **Activity 2.2: Consolidated Assessment of WASH Enabling Environment**

Oceane Consult International (OCI), a consulting firm specialized in the WASH sector, was recruited to conduct a WASH context study in Burkina Faso (on June 1-20, 2016), Côte d'Ivoire (on June 5-20, 2016), and Ghana (on June 1-20, 2016). Following the studies, the consultant held a workshop in each country with the relevant stakeholders to have their inputs before writing the final reports.

### **Activity 2.3: Stakeholder Consultation with Key Regional Organizations**

USAID WA-WASH has prepared three white papers on the WASH sector in the region based on the WASH context analysis reports (Burkina Faso, Ghana, and Cote d'Ivoire) developed by OCI. We intend to use these white papers as an advocacy tool. AfWA will use them during their next scientific and technical council in Ghana.

### **Activity 2.4: Strengthen Knowledge Management Capacity of AfWA**

USAID WA-WASH provided a knowledge management platform to AfWA. With the support of FIU's IT, the knowledge management platform developed for AfWA has been finalized and launched during the AfWA STC's meeting on February 13-17 in Rabat, Morocco.

### **Activity 2.5: Strengthen the Capacity of Regional WASH Organizations**

#### **Sub-Activity 2.5.1: Identify a Regional Pool of Capacity Building Organizations**

USAID WA-WASH is keeping an updated database of regional organizations. As of June 30, 2017 this database contained 68 organizations from 14 countries. The updated database has also been transferred to AfWA.

#### **Sub-Activity 2.5.2: Support AfWA's AfriCap Program**

USAID WA-WASH staff members worked with AfWA to develop a comprehensive work plan and a monitoring and evaluation plan as part of the AfriCap Program. Additionally, CODEV International has been hired to develop the following documents in collaboration with AfWA.

- Program management manual
- 2018-2022 Strategic business plan
- Income generating activity Program.

## **4. Objective 3: Monitor Completed Activities for Sustainability and Share Learning**

One of the three objectives of the Program during Phase II is to monitor the activities implemented by the Program during the 2011-2015 period (Phase I) in Burkina Faso, Ghana, and Niger to sustain its assets while identifying and sharing lessons in the WASH sector. The monitoring of a number of locations across countries and activities will enable the Program to share lessons learned with WASH stakeholders with a view to helping them address the problems they are facing and encourage them to scale-up successful activities.

### **Activity 3.1: Monitor the Sustainability of USAID WA-WASH Phase I Activities**

#### **Sub Activity 3.1.1: Identify Potential Sites for Monitoring**

To ensure the sustainability of its Phase I activities, USAID WA-WASH initially identified 72 communities. Based on the scope of the interventions, 32 communities were selected in Burkina Faso, 20 in Ghana, and 20 in Niger. Later on 21 communities (one in Burkina Faso, four in Ghana, and 16 in Niger) were added for water treatment. Therefore the total number of communities selected added up to 93.

#### **Sub Activity 3.1.2: Conduct Monitoring Visits**

For the monitoring visits, the tool used by USAID WA-WASH includes a set of questions (110 questions) to address and document the sustainability of the Program's activities in a context where water supply, sanitation, and hygiene promotion are integrated with food security, climate change, and gender mainstreaming. In each country, the monitoring team met with municipal officials, pump manufacturers, and the beneficiaries to discuss issues related to the beneficiaries' capacity to maintain infrastructures in a sustainable manner. The monitoring and evaluation visits in the three countries led to the following findings and observations:

#### **Burkina Faso**

The monitoring and evaluation team conducted four monitoring missions. Below are the results of the third field visit including the water treatment.

- Out of the 189 water points visited , 88% were functional as of September 30, 2017
- 15 caretakers were trained on water treatment with chlorine and preventive maintenance for them to oversee regular treatment of the water points
- A total of 138 water points were treated with chlorine. The per capita cost of this water disinfection method with chlorine at the source for a three month period is CFA 10.89 in Burkina Faso, for an estimated number of 58,500 beneficiaries
- 510 liters of chlorine, representing an average of three liters of chlorine per water point, to be used for the next three months were distributed
- Analysis of 138 water samples after treatment which showed that 96% improved water points installed by the Program provide water of an acceptable quality at the source
- Out of 354 sanitation facilities visited, 96% were functional as of September 30, 2017

- A total of 57 farmers trained by the Program were interviewed and 55 reported that they continue to apply the improved agricultural techniques learned. The techniques that are mostly used by the producers are: zai, row cropping, and stone lines.

## **Ghana**

The monitoring and evaluation team conducted four monitoring missions in Ghana. The findings are as follows:

- Out of the 28 water points visited, 89% were functional as of September 30, 2017.
- A total of 22 water points were treated with chlorine
- 27 caretakers were trained on water treatment with chlorine and preventive maintenance for them to oversee regular treatment of the water points
- 80 liters of chlorine were distributed or an average of three liters of chlorine per water point, to be used for the next three months. The per capita cost of this water disinfection method at the source with chlorine and for a three month period is CFA 15.66 in Ghana for an estimated number of 6,384 beneficiaries
- Analysis of 21 water samples after treatment, showing that 81% of the improved water points installed by the Program provide an acceptable quality of water at the source
- Meeting with 24 Aquatabs sellers in 12 villages who continue Aquatabs promotion through door-to-door, and also during market days and community meetings. Each Aquatabs seller sells around two packets per month;
- Out of the 175 sanitation facilities visited, 97% were functional as of September 30, 2017
- A total of 87 farmers interviewed are still applying the improved agricultural techniques learned during Phase I. The techniques that are mostly used by producers are: improved seeds, row cropping, compost preparation, and fertilizers
- Actions were taken by the communities to reduce the impact of climate change through tree planting (like mangoes, moringa, and other species), prohibition of excessive tree cutting and bushfires;
- Two gender champions of each village in Ghana were met. These champions also trained their fellow community members on what they learnt, contributed to household tasks, gave allowances to women for livestock raising activities and allowed women to access land for their farming activities.

## **Niger**

The monitoring and evaluation team conducted four monitoring missions in Niger. As a result:

- The USAID WA-WASH Program provided support to Animas-Sutura during Phase I to conduct Aquatabs promotion activities. Animas Sutura works with the community radios on the promotion of Aquatabs through sketches, songs, advertisement, interviews, and debate programs. A total of 2,165, 185 tablets were sold or 43,303,700 liters of water treated in 2016
- A total of 15 Aquatabs sellers were met in the selected communities.
- Out of the 47 water points visited, 51% were functional as of September 30, 2017
- During the monitoring field visits in Niger, a total of 21 water points were treated with chlorine;
- 26 caretakers were trained on water treatment with chlorine and preventive maintenance for them to oversee regular treatment of the water points



- A total of 338,662 tablets were provided to 6,405 households, in 26 villages of the region of Zinder. These tablets will help treat and produce 6,773,240 liters of potable water. This means that the emergency strategy has supplied an average of 1,057 liters of drinking water per household over a 90-day period or 3.4 liters/person per day, for an average cost of CFA 0.52 per day
- Distribution of a total of 156 liters of chlorine, which represents an average of three liters of chlorine per water point, to be used for the next three months. The per capita cost of this treatment per person and for a three month period is CFA 13.61 in Niger for an estimated number of 22,214 beneficiaries
- Analysis of 20 water samples after treatment which showed that 100% improved water points installed by the Program offer an acceptable quality of water at the source
- Out of the 138 sanitation facilities visited 94% latrines were still functional as of September 30, 2017.

### **Activity 3.2: Advocate with Local, Regional, and National Governments /Authorities**

The role of local, regional, and national governments/authorities is important for ensuring the follow-up and the sustainability of USAID WA-WASH activities:

- In Burkina Faso, the monitoring team visited and met with officials in 14 municipalities. The team explained the importance for the authorities to endorse WASH sector activities including those completed by partners
- In Niger the monitoring team visited and met with officials in 16 municipalities. In order to advocate for better support for the WASH beneficiary communities as regard the challenges noted during the field visit, the team met with the head of the regional council and discussed the activities implemented by the Program. They also tried to find out how the council members could help with the water quality issues in the various municipalities. During this meeting, they pledged to advocate with the Zinder regional council members a strong commitment of mayors for WASH activities in the region
- In Ghana, the monitoring team visited and met with officials in two municipalities. The municipalities are organizing themselves to get better involved in all project activities in their jurisdiction in order to prevent unfortunate situations.

### **Activity 3.3: Strengthen the Engagement of Community Members and Relevant Management Committees**

To strengthen the engagement of the community members, the USAID WA-WASH Program trained pumps repairers from each visited village on water treatment with chlorine and preventive maintenance. They will have to encourage the beneficiaries of the water points to regularly treat the water points in order to get quality water and sustain the infrastructures.

The monitoring team conducted awareness raising actions towards the community members and WASH management committees with a view to improving the quality of water through good hygiene around the water points and at the point of use. They also stressed the benefits of Aquatabs use by households. Additionally, the team encouraged local WASH management committees to undertake quick maintenance actions when the pumps breakdown. In some villages where management committees were inactive, the team advocated for the election of new committee members and subsequently installed these committees.

## **5. Conclusion**

For the Phase II implementation, USAID WA-WASH Program is making all necessary efforts to achieve its main objectives: (1) leverage partners and stakeholders' knowledge for more investments in the WASH sector, (2) enhance regional WASH institutional capacity; and (3) identify through the monitoring of Phase I activities some best practices and lessons for dissemination. Many achievements have been made as regards its specific and strategic Objectives 1, 2, and 3.