

## CARE Water News – May 2013 Bulletin

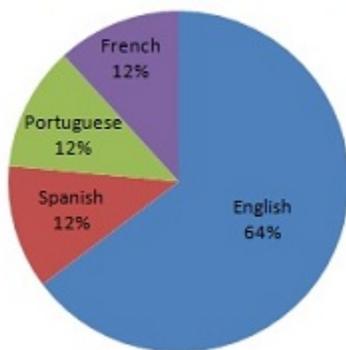
Dear Colleagues,

We are excited to share the latest edition of the CARE Water bulletin with you, which includes an analysis of our survey, a case study and other resources, and an interview with Issifu Adama, WA-WASH Project Manager with CARE Ghana. We hope this monthly email will help keep you up-to-date on happenings in the sector and we would love to receive your contributions for inclusion in subsequent bulletins. Please send any interesting documents, videos, photos, articles, opinion pieces, or other news highlighting your work in water to [mCheneyCoker@care.org](mailto:mCheneyCoker@care.org)

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### Around the CARE World

#### Survey Responses by Language

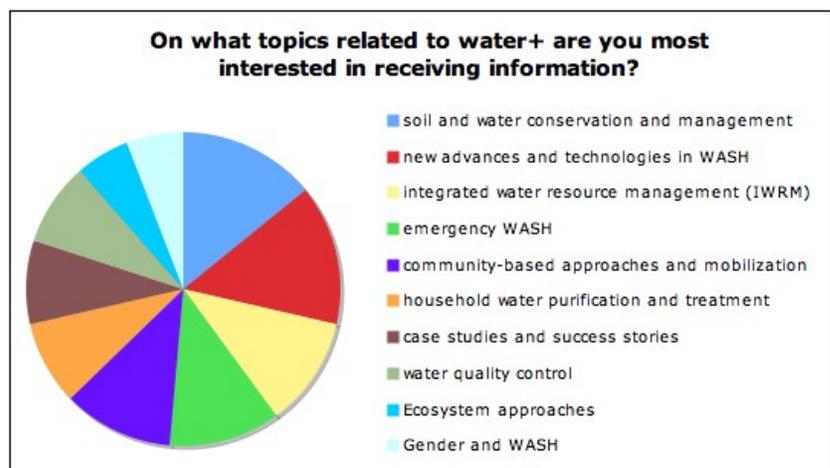


#### Water News Bulletin Survey Results

Thank you to all who participated in our Water News Bulletin survey! Survey responses will help us tailor the bulletin to better suit the interests of our readers in the sector. Responses will also help us provide content in a format that is accessible and beneficial for you.

Responses were gathered in four languages over a period of two weeks.

Respondents indicated that they gather work-related information most often by reading documents (70.4%) and watching short videos (41.2%). When asked which water+ topics you would like to read about in the bulletins, responses included:



Respondents also gave a variety of recommendations for improving future Water News Bulletins. One respondent suggested that the bulletins “share experiences that have demonstrated sustainability and scalability...” Another respondent recommended that the bulletins include “more contributions from the field to learn about experiences in other countries (i.e. discussion forum).”

We appreciate your participation and commitment to fostering a learning space for the WASH sector. Thanks for reading!

**Get to know Issifu Adama, WA-WASH Project Manager with CARE Ghana**



***How did you become interested in water issues?***

When I was young, we used to travel long distances to fetch water from the stream for domestic and other uses. We used to be late to school and also suffered from frequent diarrhea and skin diseases. During my 1<sup>st</sup> degree studies we were taught a number of things including rural water supply. I developed a strong interest in this and read widely on WASH issues. This informed my decision to pursue further studies in the field of WASH. I now hold an MSc. in Water Supply and Environmental Sanitation and have been practicing in the sector since 2004.

***What is the most interesting part of your job? Why?***

The most interesting part of my job is when I see excitement on the faces of rural women and children after improvement in their water situation.

***Have you worked with CARE in the past? In what capacity?***

I have been working with CARE Ghana since August, 2007. I joined as a Project Facilitator under the USAID Transboundary WASH project. I became manager of the same project a year later when the manager resigned. I also managed CARE's component of the GWI project in Ghana.

***What do you feel are the largest challenges confronting the WASH sector in West Africa in the next 5 years?***

The largest challenges facing the WASH sector in West Africa in my view are access and sustainability. Many more people in the region do not have reliable access to improved water sources and improved sanitation. It has been predicted that many countries are not likely to meet the MDG target for water and sanitation. This stems from the inadequate investment in the sector by governments, less attention on sustainability issues, and inadequate institutional and human resources capacity.

***What is your favorite regional dish/meal?***

Fufu with light soup.

***What is your favorite jet lag remedy?***

Read a story book.

***If you could have a significant impact on one WASH-related behavior, which would you choose? Why?***

- ✓ Open defecation—It is a major problem facing rural communities with its related effects on the health of the people.
- Handwashing
- Safe water storage
- Water treatment
- Water conservation

***Which is your favorite toilet or sanitation technology?***

- PeePoo
- ArborLoo
- ✓ Biogas toilet
- Urine diverting toilet



“After using my previous open-pit latrine I had to take a shower to remove the smell. During periods of rain, feces could be seen floating in the runoff water,” recalls Mrs. Raharisolohanitriniala Holdefa, a widow and mother of 5 living the coastal city of Tamatave in Madagascar.

Mrs. Holdefa is one consumer who has benefited from “Rural Access to New Opportunities for Health and Prosperity” (RANO HP), a USAID-funded program implemented by CARE and partners to bring water services to rural Madagascar, engage its people in WASH strategies, and encourage sustainable maintenance. She was able to use a microloan from the program to invest in an alternating double-pit pour flush latrine with sealed pits and a hygienic ceramic slab.

[Read more](#) about the success of RANO HP.

### **A World Water Day Celebration in Madagascar**



1,400 people were mobilized on March 27, 2013 in Madagascar to acknowledge the challenge of improving access to safe water for vulnerable populations. The theme of the day was “cooperation to conserve water.” Families, students, community-based organizations, journalists, NGOs in the water sector, and donors joined together to march from Bemasoandro to Ambohidrapeto in the province of Antananarivo, Madagascar.

The festivities, including speeches, exhibitions, and contests, were supported with funding from Coca-Cola and the Department for International Development (DFID), in partnership with WSUP and CARE.

### **Other Updates**

#### **“Celebrating Women”—A Water Supply & Sanitation Collaborative Council Publication**

WSSCC has published “Celebrating Women: How better menstrual hygiene management is the path to better health, dignity and business,” the final report from the International Women’s Day event in Geneva in March 2013.

The full report is now available online and details the topics covered during the conference; the delegates present; and the possible solutions, partnerships and progress that were discussed for moving forward.

[Read the full report](#)

#### **New Cholera Toolkit by UNICEF**

As part of its effort to reduce cholera in the world, UNICEF has responded to the growing threat by launching a toolkit that will help UNICEF staff and partners prevent, prepare for, and respond to the disease. “What the toolkit does is harvest the best and most up-to-date knowledge in the field and brings it together in one location,” said UNICEF Chief of Water, Sanitation and Hygiene Sanjay Wijesekera.

[Access the toolkit](#)

#### **AFRIpads—A sustainable solution to menstrual management in Africa**

AFRIpads, a social business started in 2009, manufactures low-cost, reusable (washable) cloth sanitary pads in Uganda in order to curtail the high rates of menstrual-related absenteeism among primary and secondary schoolgirls in rural Africa.

The pads are made by local Ugandan women, giving them the opportunity to generate an income and send their kids to school.

[More information](#)

*Note: This description is provided for informational purposes only and does not reflect CARE's endorsement of this product/technology.*

### **Making Connections: Women, Sanitation and Health**

A conference on “Making Connections: Women, Sanitation and Health,” held on April 29, 2013, brought together representatives from the WASH, gender and health sectors to present and debate critical issues linking gender, sanitation and health. Topics discussed included violence against women and girls, maternal health and menstrual hygiene.

[Watch the video](#) of the event or

[Read the full report](#)

### **For More Information**

[CARE Water Wiki](#) | [www.care.org/water](http://www.care.org/water) | [Pinterest](#) | [YouTube](#)