CARE Water+ 2016

CARE's global water+ work in ten snapshots

2017

CARE Water Team: Stephanie Ogden, sogden@care.org

Zone level water-point mapping Ethiopia

Key Points:

- Led by South Gondar zone government; facilitated by CARE
- Joint effort to map all of the zone's water points
- More than 9,000 water points & 2 million people
- Data for decision making: has influenced planning and siting of new water infrastructure in underserved areas
  - (see map of 2012 & 2016 water point distribution and functionality)

Reflections:

- Data is political: issues of data ownership and narratives told & not told
- Beyond data collection, how does data help government respond, and overcome limitations?

Private sector options for urban school sanitation provision in Kenya

Key Points:

- Over 10 years of joint learning with Kenyan government on WASH in schools

- Current action research on efficacy, cost effectiveness, and long term sustainability of private sector sanitation services in urban schools
  - Student use, in particular girls
  - Operations and maintenance

Reflections:

- Ensuring adequate and sustainable sanitation in schools (and institutions) has been challenging. What other technologies and private sector approaches might work in the long term?

Testing integrated models for WASH and nutrition outcomes in Mali

Key points:

- Tested joint WASH and nutrition behavior change messaging
- Identified and addressed key gaps related to WASH behavior change
- Influenced government sanitation policy
  - site specific latrine construction to address pit collapse
  - post ODF follow-up guidelines
- Achieved significant WASH and nutrition behavior change at community level; integrating WASH and nutrition behavior change through community agents

Reflections:

- We've changed WASH and nutrition behaviors, but what impact does this joint approach have on nutritional status?
- This behavior change has required intense follow-up; can those changes be sustained in the absence of continued follow up? If not, how can that intensive presence be scaled?

Testing integrated models for WASH and Neglected Tropical Disease (NTD) prevention in Ethiopia

Key points:

- Testing models for joint WASH & NTD prevention in collaboration with Zone government, to be taken to scale through existing institutions

- Demonstrating cost-effectiveness of adding NTD prevention emphasis to WASH programs

- NTDs have helped CARE to reflect on our sanitation and hygiene approaches, and build momentum for hygiene and sanitation at community and government levels

Reflections:

- There is unique opportunity to learn from this program: how do we document this learning process in a way that informs a larger set of stakeholders, at local and global levels?

Addressing rural water point sustainability at scale in Somalia

Key points:

- Used participatory tools to identify & address root causes of waterpoint failure
  - institutional issues rather than technical causes

- Influenced government guidelines: CARE and national government partners developed a manual for management of rural water schemes

- Innovation to address O&M: use of solar panels with paid - phone-charging stations, to pay pump mechanics for regular operation and maintenance

Reflections:

- Looking more critically at community managed water points: addressing failure and realistic role of government

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Restoring productive land through water smart agriculture in Ghana, Mali, Malawi

Key points:

- Connected to CARE's larger livelihoods & smallholder agriculture work

- Strengthening links between local water and agriculture sectors

- Cost-effective practices for increasing smallholder farmer crop production in water scarcity and climate variability

- Using a water lens to reclaim and restore arable land through water smart practices, & increase women's access to productive land

Reflections:

- How do we ensure that reclaimed lands are indeed given to women?

- Larger tensions in working across different sectors and narratives, both internally and among larger stakeholders

Water services for the last 20% in Peru: rural dispersed communities and Amazon forest region

Key points:

- 30 years of partnership with national government, and increasing national investment in rural WASH service provision

- Partnership at national scale: 14 of 25 departments

- Government recognizes its mandate but needs models for hardest to reach communities. CARE Peru is testing those models.

Reflections:

- How can governments prioritize and cost-effectively reach the most remote, and most vulnerable?

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Strengthening the role of the private sector in WASH service provision in Madagascar

Key points:

- In response to high failure rate of water systems in remote communes

- Simultaneous capacity strengthening of private sector, government, and policy to incentivize private sector engagement
  - Strengthen capacity of local governments to evaluate and oversee contracts for operation, maintenance, and service provision
  - Identifying and building capacity of private sector enterprises, small and large, to manage and maintain water systems on a profit model
  - Encouraging policies that reduce barriers to private sector engagement in rural WASH services

Reflections:

- Where is private sector provision and management of WASH services most effective, and how do we systematically support private sector and government capacity?

Government financial commitment to WASH coverage, San Marcos, Guatemala

Key points:

- CARE seconded staff to work out of government offices to influence and understand priorities and plans
- Over five years the local government went from funding 25% to 100% of water and sanitation offices (initiated and co-funded by CARE)
- CARE WASH projects are now seen and referred to as government projects

Reflections:

- These accomplishments took years of relationship-building with local authorities – how can this commitment for WASH be made in less time elsewhere?

Raising awareness for women's rights at all levels

Key points:

- CARE's work in communities includes links to women's empowerment and prioritizing gender equality
- Gender and equality is global, therefore it is powerful to talk about international feminism – connecting feminism in developing and developed countries, and creating a movement
- #March4Women and Walk in Her Shoes Marches on International Women's Day
  - Larger movement: more than 1,000 in attendance in 2016, celebrity endorsement, 600 media hits, trended on Twitter
  - In 2016, money generated was co-financed by DFID for WASH programming in Afar region, Ethiopia

Reflections:

- Tensions within CARE between fundraising and movement building that links across different organizations. Branding vs. the larger agenda. How do we go from here?
- Conflict between simplistic narrative of aid, and a message of connectedness and solidarity.

How are we contributing to Sustainable Systems?

- Much of our work globally is in contributing to sustainable systems
  - That strengthen existing institutions and duty bearers
  - That increase accountability and communication between service providers and citizens
  - That support the role of private sector, government, communities and civil society
  - That prioritize women's empowerment and the role of women

- There is significant momentum in the larger Water/WASH sector towards systems approaches
  - i.e. SWA collaborative behaviors, the Agenda for Change

- But our work has raised key questions and identified key gaps in our (perhaps collective) thinking. What recommendations do we have as a sector for addressing those gaps?

Discussion among partners: identifying specific gaps and ways forward

- What do you see as the most important gaps in our sector approach to sustainable systems?
- What recommendations are there as to how we, as a sector, address those gaps?

Some proposed gaps:

- Reaching beyond 80%: rural dispersed communities and services for the last unserved – what models do we have?
- Private sector engagement: roles for private sector and government oversight
- Linking WASH services more fully with watershed management & environmental sustainability
- Gender