

Maastricht University
Mundo in collaboration with the Faculty of Health,
Medicine and Life sciences

Project summary sheet



Country of project implementation	Ghana
(Main) beneficiary institution/counterpart	University of Cape Coast
Project title	Strengthen the capacity of the University of Cape Coast to sustain provision of professional development support for Environmental Health and Sanitation professionals in the Metropolitan, Municipal and District Assemblies
Project period (start/end date)	1 March 2014-28 February 2018
Contract value (approx.)	920,000 euro.
Source of funding	NICHE
Other institutions involved in implementation	IRC International Water and Sanitation Centre
Proportion of activities implemented by UM/Mundo (approx. in %)	100%
Number of UM staff involved (approx..)	10

Descriptive summary of the project (main goal(s), main activities, main results)

Ghana is on track towards achieving the MDG target for water, however progress towards the achievement of the target for sanitation is very and this adversely affects all other targets. Therefore the Ministry of Local Government and Rural Development (MLGRD) has initiated concerted multi-stakeholder action and multi-pronged approaches to enable Ghana to reach its sanitation targets.

According to the National Environmental Sanitation Strategy and Action Plan (NESSAP) adequate knowledge and expertise of sector staff is critical. However, there is a shortage of qualified teachers and training facilities. This project is one of three NICHE projects intended to contribute to enhancement of training and knowledge development capacity in WASH.

The project's overall objective is to strengthen capacity within Water and Sanitation at UCC and some selected Metropolitan, Municipal and District Assemblies (MMDAs), to contribute to the improvement of hygiene and sanitation in Ghana. The project will focus specifically on the MMDAs:

- Tamale Metropolitan Assembly,
- Sunyani Municipal Assembly,
- Kumasi Metropolitan Assembly,
- Abura-Aseibu-Kwamankese District Assembly and
- Sekondi-Takoradi Metropolitan Assembly.

By the end of the project period two specific objectives will be achieved.

Specific objective 1: UCC will have acquired capacity to offer sustainable expertise, services and training to the MLGRD and other clients.

Indicators:

- The number and size of consultancy assignments/ advisory services delivered by the WSU/WATSAN Department
- Clients satisfaction with regard to the consultancy assignments/ advisory services delivered by the WSU/WATSAN Department
- The number of trainings delivered by the WSU/WATSAN Department to staff of the MLGRD and other clients
- The level of alignment of the curriculum with the demands of the MLGRD and other clients

Specific objective 2:

WATSAN Department at UCC will have acquired the capacity to support the MLGRD's Monitoring and Evaluation

Indicators:

- All WATSAN Department staff have improved knowledge and skills in Results-Based and participatory M & E.
- About 80 EHOs/EHAs from 5 targeted MMDAs(2 from each MMDA) have received ToT for deployment of M & E framework;
- Reports on monitoring and evaluations conducted by UCC's WATSAN Department as pilots of MLGRD's M & E framework;
- M & E and knowledge management materials produced to support MMDAs.

Project Context

Poor sanitation takes a heavy toll on peoples' wellbeing and the economy in Ghana

In Ghana sanitation coverage has not kept up with the rapid urbanization since the early eighties of the last century. A relative large proportion of the population (59% in 2011) relies on shared unimproved or public facilities. The occurrence of open defecation is high (estimated at 18% in 2011). Waste water treatment is largely absent. Approximately 4% of people in urban areas have access to sewer systems. The majority of excreta is pumped from cess-pits and subsequently dumped on waste ground or in water bodies.

The impact of poor sanitation takes a heavy toll on peoples' wellbeing and the economy. Six of the ten diseases are responsible for 75-85% of out-patient-departments (OPD) are all traceable to poor environmental sanitation. These include diarrhea, dysentery, skin diseases, intestinal parasites, typhoid, and cholera. Health costs resulting from poor water, sanitation and hygiene cost the country the equivalent of 2.1% of annual GDP, and the indirect effects of malnutrition—to which poor water and sanitation contribute with 50% (according to WHO), cost even more than the direct effects, taking the total health cost to 5.2% of annual GDP. 8,000 deaths of children under five are caused by diarrheal disease annually. At the local government level, environmental sanitation services consume about 35% of the budgets of Municipal, Metropolitan, and District Assemblies (MMDAs), putting severe stress on their finances.

Limited capacity to address poor sanitation

Though Ghana is on track towards achieving the MDG target for water, progress towards the achievement of the target for sanitation remains behind and this adversely affects all other targets. The current sanitation coverage is 15% which is very low compared to the target of 54% by 2017. Unless Ghana acquires the capacity to tackle these challenges achieving the set targets will remain elusive. Developing this capacity goes far beyond improving the performance of a single organization. Achieving the sanitation targets requires the effective engagement and mobilization of multiple actors with the leverage to trigger long term systemic change at the institutional level. To increase the coverage of sanitation and solid waste services in the MAs a considerable amount of investments is required. For these to be successful investments are also required inn behavioural change both of the general population and of the executing agencies and law enforcement. Therefore the Ministry of Local Government and Rural Development (MLGRD) has initiated concerted multi-stakeholder action and multi-pronged approaches to enable Ghana to reach its sanitation targets. The "Environmental Sanitation Policy" (ESP 2010) provides a guide to local government authorities to appraise and assess progress in policy implementation. Some of the actions and measures outlined include the provision of specialised training in the areas of contract management and supervision, planning, public relations, monitoring and evaluation, attitudinal and behavioural change, education and communication.

According to the National Environmental Sanitation Strategy and Action Plan (NESSAP) capacity enhancement to improve the knowledge and expertise of sector staff is critical. Unfortunately inclusion of water and sanitation in academic offerings of Ghanaian universities came very late. This has resulted in a shortage of qualified personnel to teach at higher levels and a lack of training facilities. With regard to knowledge development and training the Water and Sanitation Unit (WSU) of the Faculty of Science, University of Cape Coast is one of the actors with the potential to make a significant contribution to improved sanitation. That is the reason why strengthening capacity of the Water and Sanitation Unit (WSU) of the Faculty of Science, University of Cape Coast is one of three NICHE projects intended to contribute to institutional strengthening and capacity enhancement in water, sanitation and hygiene (WASH). The projects are aligned with the interventions of the Netherlands Embassy under the Ghana-Netherlands Water, Sanitation and Hygiene Programme 2012-2017. In section 3.2 WSU's capacity strengths and constraints are analysed in more detail.

Problem analysis

The Water and Sanitation Unit (WSU) of the Faculty of Science, University of Cape Coast provides in-service training and professional development support to environmental health and sanitation professionals through a Memorandum of Understanding between the Unit and the Ministry of Local Government and Rural Development. The career development programme has grown rapidly and currently enrolls 132 students. The Unit has the potential of becoming a source of sustained capacity building for MMDAs in the water and environmental

sanitation sector, especially in the promotion of behavioural change, communication and gender mainstreaming in sanitation. However the WSU's capacity needs strengthening especially in the following areas:

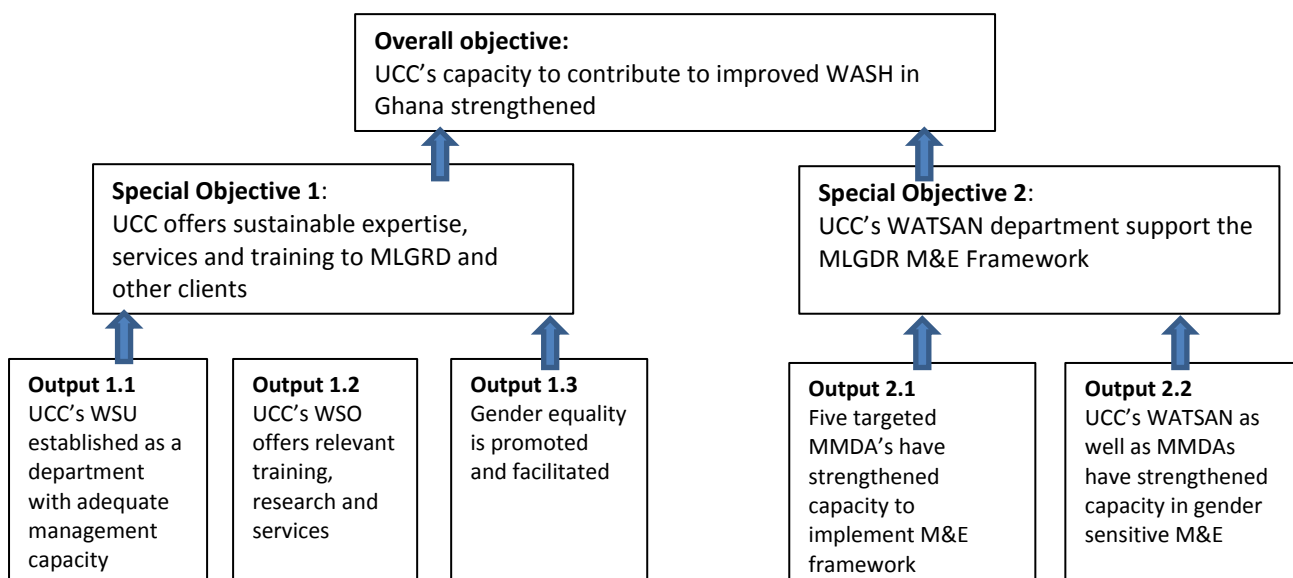
- a. The need for lecturers at the Unit to meet the University's requirement of terminal degrees (Ph.D.)
Currently, UCC's WSU has four full-time lecturers with master's degrees (including one woman) who do not meet the University-wide requirement of terminal degrees (doctorate degrees) for all lecturers. There are also three (3) research/teaching assistants who need upgrading. In addition to higher qualifications for those already there, there is the need to recruit more staff, and chances are that additional staff recruited during the project period will also only have master's degrees.
- b. Acquisition of well-equipped laboratories to enrich the practical and research aspect of our training;
Currently, the Unit uses laboratories of the Chemistry Department. The laboratories are often overcrowded as students from other departments also use them. Water and sanitation students do not get adequate access to perform laboratory tests specific to sanitation problems.
- c. The need to strengthen the curriculum by: (1) mainstreaming gender; (2) incorporating behaviour change and communication; (3) intensifying research, monitoring and evaluation elements;
The current curriculum is deficient in mainstreaming gender in environmental sanitation. It is also deficient in relation to the capacity building expectations in the Environmental Sanitation Policy and the National Environmental Sanitation Strategy and Action Plan (NESSAP) to fill gaps in behaviour change, research, and monitoring and evaluation.
- d. The need to transform the Unit into a Department (from being a Unit within a Department);
To become a Department, the Unit will need to meet certain requirements—such as the quantity and quality of its academic staff, student enrolment, and availability of physical facilities. Currently, the Unit gets its share of admission quota from the quota given to its parent Department, the Department of Chemistry. It is expected that through this project, UCC's WSU will attain the status of a department and be capable of sustaining capacity building for the MMDAs.
- e. The need to strengthen the Unit's/Department's capacity to offer sustained outreach and extension services to the Metropolitan, Municipal, and District Assemblies and the MLGRD.
In addition to offering academic programmes to staff of the MMDAs, the Unit also offers extension services to the MLGRD and MMDAs. The Unit wants to build expertise in research, monitoring and evaluation in order to be able to support the MLGRD and the MMDAs even better and as an anchor for the quality of its course offer.

Project Objectives

The overall objective of the project is to strengthen capacity within Water and Sanitation at UCC and some selected MMDAs, to contribute to the improvement of hygiene and sanitation in Ghana.

Many factors influence hygiene and sanitation in the targeted geographic area and a large number of measures are being taken simultaneously to improve WASH. Therefore it will be impossible in the future to determine the extent to which improvement in WASH can be attributed to this project.

As a proxy indicator for impact we can take the capacity strengthened as a result of this project. The type of capacity strengthened in the framework of this project is further specified in the special objectives. Hence the proxy indicator for "strengthened capacity" will consist of the indicators for these two specific objectives which are described below. The graph below shows causal linkages between the results of this project, the special objectives and the overall objective.



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By the end of the project period two specific objectives will be achieved.

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Indicators:

- The number and size of consultancy assignments/ advisory services delivered by the WSU/WATSAN Department
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Specific objective 2:

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Indicators:

- All WATSAN Department staff have improved knowledge and skills in Results-Based and participatory M & E.
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The project will have five outputs with matching indicators as shown in the table below. The means of verification have been included in the logical framework in Annex 1. Please note that an important addition to what is mentioned in the project outline will be a client satisfaction survey which will be instrumental as a means of verification with regard to several of the indicators listed below.

Results	Indicators
<p>Output 1.1: UCC's WSU established as a Department with full managerial competence to sustain its educational and research offer based on needs of clients from the public and private sectors.</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Departmental plans, policies, procedures and systems in place, in particular for M & E and quality assurance; • Culture of organisational learning embedded and inter-faculty collaboration established; • Physical facilities improved and technical personnel in place. • Increased collaboration with other public and private organisations established through MoUs, to facilitate wider implementation of the programme. (An estimate of the number of additional MoUs to be signed will be determined as part of the inception phase) • UCC's WATSAN programme increasingly serves private sector clients.
<p>Output 1.2 Relevant training, research and service offer</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Four full-time lecturers to have obtained their PhD degree and the capacity of three teaching assistants of the WATSAN Department strengthened through either a masters' degree or other trainings • Research capacity of WATSAN Department staff strengthened in support of EKN project in geographic catchment area, in particular within Urban WASH for low income areas; • WATSAN curricula reviewed to include/strengthen behavioural change, attention to gender, monitoring and evaluation, sanitation marketing, and alignment with the labour market and with national capacity building objectives and strategies for the sector; • Existing liberal course in WASH (available to all students) is reviewed to incorporate gender dimension and behavioural

	<p>change.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • UCC's WATSAN staff adopt innovative student-centred teaching approach.
<p>Output 1.3 Gender equality is promoted and facilitated among management, staff and students and among stakeholders</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Gender analysis, policy action plan for gender balance among students and academic staff available and implemented in new department; • Increased number of women among students, lecturers and managerial staff in WATSAN Department
<p>Output 2.1 With support from the WATSAN Department of UCC, five targeted MMDAs have strengthened structures for implementing the M&E framework</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Trained EHAs/EHOs are able to lead M & E data collection and analysis in the targeted MMDAs; • Plan to roll out this pilot to remaining MMDAs ready to be operationalized.
<p>Output 2.2 Strengthened capacity of UCC's WATSAN Department and MMDAs in gender-sensitive monitoring and evaluation</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • 80 EHOs/EHAs (men and women) trained in gender-sensitive monitoring and evaluation in the MMDAs; • Gender-sensitive monitoring and evaluation guidelines/manual/indicators produced; • Gender disaggregated data collected and analysed in monitoring and evaluation.

