

Summary of Achievements: Monitoring and Evaluation, Results 1c and 4d under the WSSSRP II, 2013 - 2017

Introduction

The WSSSRP II interventions at the Federal Ministry of Water Resources and the six states of Osun, Anambra, Cross River, Kano, Jigawa and Yobe, which started in 2013, will end by mid May 2017.

Towards this, there is need to present the summary of achievements. These achievements would also constitute the bulk of evidences post implementation period. The M&E achievements will be recorded at two levels – FMWR and States.

Objective and result areas

The overall objective of the programme was to contribute to poverty reduction, sustainable development and to the achievement of the water-related Millennium Development Goals 1, 4 and 7c (MDGs¹) through improved governance in the water and sanitation sector. Specifically, the programme is to increase access to safe, adequate, and sustainable water, sanitation and hygiene services delivery in the six EU focal States.

However, at the Federal level, the programme seeks to “to improve water policy and the institutional framework at federal level”. The Monitoring and Evaluation component at the Federal level will deliver “A national M&E system, integrated with the EU focal States' M&E system, is established in the FMWR”.

At the state level, this component of the programme also contributed immensely into achieving the result 4d “State level M&E system, integrated with the federal level system is established in the focal States”.

In order to achieve the result at the Federal level, the following were important:

- Review the current situation of water sector monitoring and evaluation at the Federal level
- In consultation with the Programme Director and UNICEF, identify the appropriate department in the FMWR to host and manage the M&E system
- Identify needs to have an effective monitoring and evaluation framework
- Prepare action plan for activities and investment in harmony with existing initiative in the FMWR
- Organize workshops to review progress on water and sanitation sector status

At the states level, the following are to be achieved under result 4d:

- Develop and pilot community / LGA / State based M&E system which will be integrated with the National M&E system
- Support the states to carry out inventory of WSS facilities (using GPS) with the

¹ MDG 1: Eradicate extreme poverty and hunger, 4: reduce child mortality and 7c: Reduce by half the proportion of people without access to safe drinking water and basic sanitation

aim of creating and maintaining water and sanitation sector database

- Assist the states to determine the host of the database
- Facilitate the updating of baseline surveys
- Train WSS staff at the state, LGA and community level in data collection, analysis and reporting in relation to M&E

Key Achievements and Outcomes

Assessment of the current status of M&E at the FMWR / States and outcomes²

At the commencement of the programme in 2013, the TAT M&E conducted an assessment of the current situation of M&E at the FMWR. The following were the key findings:

- There is a lot of duplication of M&E systems in the departments, projects and units in the FMWR
- Within the departments, e.g. PRS, there are different/independent M&E related activities being carried out.
- The two previous issues have led to poor coordination and leadership of M&E within FMWR.
- Many of the departments in FMWR implement different donor led M&E systems which may not be beneficial to the FMWR in the long run e.g. the Water Quality Control and Sanitation Directorate have Water, Sanitation and Hygiene (WASH) M&E; the Water Supply Directorate implements the World bank supported Benchmarking system; and the PRS hopes to implement the upcoming World Bank Database project. All these splinters are being implemented without any known coordination mechanisms, which might cause disruptions and confusions in the long term.

Consequent upon the assessment, the TAT organised a water supply and sanitation sector M&E stakeholders meeting with representatives from of all the directorates in the FMWR, UNICEF, the National Planning Commission, World Bank Project in the Ministry, the African Development Bank and WSSSRP II TAT to present the report.

The meeting resolved that the Planning Research and Statistics (PRS) Department of the FMWR should be the coordinating directorate for all M&E related functions in the FMWR and the sector in general. This will ensure that water sector M&E is results driven and improves its effectiveness. The resolutions of the stakeholders meeting were drafted in the form of a memorandum to the Permanent Secretary and the Minister for their approval. This enabled the PRS to take full charge and have access to funding for implementation of the action plans to be developed based on the outcomes of the meeting.

Establishment of Inter Agency Working Group on M&E

The effort to establish Inter Agency Working Group (IAWG) at the FMWR was welcomed by the management of the Federal Ministry of Water Resources. This was

² The reports of the state assessments are as presented by the respective states.

consequent upon the assessment of the situation of M&E, which recommended the establishment of this IATG. The terms of reference, which highlighted the structure, the management of the Ministry approved composition of the formation of the IATG. The objectives of establishing the Inter Agency Working Group on M&E are as follows:

- To ensure a coordinated approach to the conception, implementation and reviewing of all sector M&E processes leading to the required change in the water resources sector M&E
- To support M&E reform process of the water resources sector by providing the required technical support to the FMWR and the 6 EU focal states in the first instance with the plan of spreading the support to the other states
- To popularize and promote wider acceptance of the national water resources M&E System and strengthening of the processes, indicators and tools
- Alignment of the national water resources M&E indicators with other national planning and monitoring parameters
- To expand processes for data harvesting and improve on inter-agency collaboration in water resources sector monitoring and reporting

The membership of this group spread across the FMWR, related ministries, agencies of the Federal Government and the CSOs. Their expected functions are:

- Develop an implementable Medium Term Action plan for water resources sector M&E clear timelines. It is advised this plan is realisable between three and five years.
- Develop a National M&E Framework for the whole water resources sector in line with the existing platform in the technical departments
- Ensure an effective coordination of national M&E activities by deliberating, sharing and publishing key results. Concretely, ensure the organization an annual M&E forum / workshop to discuss an evidence based sectoral achievement and a nationally acceptable data and results
- Work out processes and procedure for designing and domiciliation of water resources Sector database, promote full governance, ownership and build linkage with other national databases
- Develop strategies towards mitigating current challenges in the implementation of the national M&E framework and come up with plans for domestication and scaling up of this process across the States

To complement these roles, an Interdepartmental Task Group was also set up at the FMWR to coordinate M&E across the technical departments in the Ministry. This group is led and coordinated by the Deputy Director, M&E, PRS department. They meet monthly to discuss and take actions on FMWR M&E issues, plans and activities. The formation of the Task Team was one of the recommendations of the initial assessment conducted upon the mobilisation of the TAT in the FMWR. The team functions as the group that will ensure a good coordination of M&E across the departments. The team also coordinated the review of the National M&E Framework in collaboration with the Inter Agency Task Group on M&E. In summary, their roles include the following:

- a. Develop an annual FMWR M&E work plan and budget in line with the WSSSRP II objectives with a view to have the EU support
- b. Provide adequate technical support on issues regarding M&E of the sector and ensure that the states based M&E activities have direct links so as to have a national sector outlook
- c. Lead on the preparation of the sector National M&E Framework and its institutionalisation in the FMWR and states
- d. Based on the framework, develop an implementation guideline and a wider medium action plan for the sector
- e. Meet regularly to review progress and take course corrective actions when and where necessary
- f. Constantly report back to the management through the Director, PRS.

Review and adoption of Sector M&E Indicators and Processes

The Federal Ministry of Water Resources organized a National Monitoring and Evaluation Workshop, facilitated by the WSSSRP II and UNICEF. The workshop was held in Calabar. The aim of the workshop was to discuss the current issues hindering the implementation of an effective M&E system in the water and sanitation sub sector and suggest ways to immediately address them. Participants in the workshop include staff of FMWR, PIAs and PRAs from all the 14 EU supported states, UNICEF and TATs of the three EU programmes in the water sector in Nigeria.

At the end of the workshop, it was agreed that the existing M&E Framework should be reviewed; sector indicators properly defined and MIS should be harmonized to evolve a well-coordinated sector for improved results and benefits to the Nigerian masses.

Flowing from the Calabar workshop, the WSSSRP II facilitated sessions to define indicators for all the components most especially water and sanitation indicators for the small towns and urban sub sector. The rural indicators have been agreed with stakeholders during WSSSRP 1 with UNICEF.

In the period under review, small towns and urban level indicators have been developed and validated. These have been uploaded into WASHIMS³ for use in all

³ Water, Sanitation and Hygiene Information Management System

the sector components (rural, small towns and urban) across the fourteen EU supported states in the first instance.

To do this, a three-day meeting was organized to develop the indicators for the operationalization of small towns and urban components. The meeting was held in Osogbo, Osun State and participants were also drawn from FMWR, WSSSRP III and NDSP states including the TATs. At the end of the exercise, a list of indicators for use in small towns and urban levels were agreed. It was further agreed that these indicators should be presented to the wider stakeholders for its validation.

The Small Towns and Urban Level Indicator Validation Workshop was hosted by the NDSP-WS. The indicators as developed in the Osogbo meeting was validated by the sector stakeholders. The indicators have been uploaded into WASHIMS.

Closely related to this, the TAT facilitated supplementary baseline survey across the six states. This survey was done to complement the survey conducted by UNICEF in early 2013 before the TAT was mobilised. It was generally found that the UNICEF led survey (rural focused) does not cover Small Town and Urban areas sufficiently for WSSSRP II requirements. The data gaps include the following:

- Information on urban pipeline networks is mostly inadequate. Pipeline mapping is only complete for Yakurr LGA. Although, there is a large amount of information from rural perspective, there is a need to understand and plan the water supply network for small towns and urban areas is required to provide the basis for future evaluation.
- Urban level indicators such as the volume of water pumped and revenue generated were not collected.
- There was no clear delineation of small towns and rural communities. The exercise was carried out on the basis of council wards and the results are mixed making it very difficult, in most LGAs, to identify the actual number of small towns.
- A readiness assessment was not carried out on the PIAs and agencies to determine the status (baseline value) of key institutional arrangements e.g. the status of state M&E framework, water policy and law and institutional capacity developments among others.
- The survey did not collect information on small town population figures but only on the number of households in each community. There is need to decide whether:
- The information on the administrative set up and governance at community level is not explicit. This is very important as there is need to understand the power structure at the community level for an effective reform to take place

Based on the above, it was then proposed to conduct a supplementary baseline survey that will complement the existing data from the UNICEF especially with respect to the Urban and Small Towns main indicators. This will be providing sufficient data to enable the measurement of outcomes at the end of the programme and also help during programme implementation. A GIS Asset Inventory

Database is also being considered to record the current sector assets and pipe networks in both the urban areas and small towns to assist in planning for the future investments.

At the end of the exercise the survey report was disseminated in a two-day workshop held in Abuja. The TAT also used the opportunity to commence the review of the programme logframe. The WSSSRP II TAT organized a National Workshop to disseminate the findings of the supplementary baseline survey carried out across the six states. The findings were presented to a cross section of stakeholders from Federal Ministry of Budget and National Planning, EU, FMWR, World Bank projects, the six states PIA and PRAs among others.

Development of Tools and Instruments for Sector M&E and usage

The M&E Tools and Instruments Development Workshop held in Jos, hosted by the WSSSRP III team was attended by various FMWR, State Ministries of Water Resources, RUWASSA, STOWA and RUWASSA from the 14 EU supported states, the World Bank, JICA, WaterAid. In all, over 85 participants attended the workshop. The workshop has the following objectives:

- a. Develop tools and instruments for data collection on the sets of M&E Indicators developed for small towns and urban level WASH;
- b. Discuss and agree on guidelines for the application of tools and integration into WASHIMS;
- c. Discuss and agree on appropriate protocols for data collections processes;
- d. Discuss and agree on modalities for the review of National Monitoring and Evaluation Framework; and
- e. Make appropriate recommendations towards ensuring an effective M&E system for the sector through the joint monitoring exercise/ field visit and knowledge sharing among key sector partners.

At the end of this workshop, the following agreements were reached among others:

- a. The need for the harmonisation of the existing sector MIS most especially the initiative driven by the World Bank National Urban Reform Programme and WASHIMS. These two MIS should further be discussed for harmonisation within the framework of the emerging National Databank in the FMWR
- b. Training of Trainers be organised at zonal levels on WASHIMS. This should take place before the eventual roll out most especially as it concerns the small towns and urban programmes of the WSSSRP and NDSP. These recommendations have been implemented. We now have all rural, small towns and urban water indicators in WASHIMS and operational at least five of the six WSSSRP II states. We hope soon than later WASHIMS would be able to be harmonised with the National Databank as agreed.
- c. Status reports on M&E should be presented by all the 14 states and the FMWR at the Annual National M&E Workshop holding later in the year

The World Bank sponsored National Databank is housed in the PRS. Consequently, a room accommodation is secured for this purpose. Preliminary work on the databank

have commenced with the DPRS taking part in collaboration with the World Bank supported National Urban Water Reform Programme. When the initial frame of the databank is ready, a discussion for harmonisation with WASHIMS would be organised.

Institutionalization of Monitoring and Evaluation System at the FMWR and States

The process of institutionalization of monitoring and evaluation system in the FMWR and the states started as soon as the assessment of M&E situation at the different levels of governance was concluded. In addition, the facilitation of agreeing to the M&E indicators, the development of tools and instruments and the subsequent National M&E Workshops led to these processes of sector M&E institutionalization. For instance, at the end of the first workshop, it was generally agreed, “the existing National M&E Framework needs to be reviewed and / or reworked to reflect the current realities. The framework is also expected to cover the entire water resources sector rather than the current scope of WASH”

The focus of the development of a new National Water Resources M&E Framework as against the existing National WASH M&E Framework is based on the need to build a unified and one system for the sector.

Although, the focus of the framework development at the states’ level was WASH M&E. The TAT at the Federal level for M&E started the process of facilitating the formulation of states M&E framework in three states of Osun, Kano and Cross River. This was to ensure a bottom-up approach to the building of a national system. At the end of the four-year programme live, states of Osun, Cross River, Kano, Jigawa have finalised their WASH M&E frameworks, which has strong links with the Federal level M&E Framework.

The monitoring and evaluation framework at the Federal level has been delivered while framework in five of the six WSSSRP II states have also been finalised and delivered. The delivery also included the setting up of the systems as contained in the framework documents. The process of institutionalising the M&E at the FMWR and states also extended to the sister EU funded programmes – NDSP and WSSSRP III. Fourteen states have been part of these processes of the institutionalisation of M&E in the sector.

The strong link between the states M&E systems and the Federal level M&E Framework can be demonstrated by the following:

- A unified single M&E system exists at all the levels
- There is a common WASH sector Management Information System (WASHIMS) in use for all rural, small towns and urban water data in the sector.
- There are common and unified sets of indicators for Water supply, sanitation, hygiene, IWRM. These indicators especially for WASH have been integrated into WASHIMS and are currently in use.
- Closely related to this is the harmonised tools and instruments for data management – data collection tools, GIS and others.

- The management structure for the management of M&E in the states of WSSSRP II, NDSP and WSSSRP III are now the same e.g. there is now an M&E Division created in the FMWR and so many states including the water related agencies.

Training and Workshops

During the life of WSSSRP II, series of states and Federal levels M&E training and workshops were facilitated. Some of these include:

1. Capacity building sessions for states in data management
2. Setting up of M&E system in Ministries and agencies including the agreements on M&E roles and responsibilities for sector staff
3. Training on the use and application of WASHIMS for small towns
4. Two National M&E Workshops
5. Workshop on sector M&E Indicators formulation
6. Intensive training on the application of GIS in the delivery of M&E services in states and the FMWR

It is hoped that this newly acquired skills will promote an effective management of water resources and particularly the management of M&E in the sector for improved efficiency and effectiveness and contribute to functional M&E system in these states and the FMWR.

Sustainable Achievements post Implementation

FMWR (Result 1c)

The sustainable achievements at the FMWR include the following:

- In order to ensure effective coordination of M&E functions at the FMWR and its agencies, the programme facilitated the constitution of an Inter Departmental Task Team on M&E. This group meets on monthly basis to discuss M&E issues at the FMWR with a view to ensure coordination and reduce the duplication of efforts, which was hitherto very common before the programme in 2013. The monthly of the Task Team will continue to hold. The initial refreshments provided by the WSSSRP II have since stopped for over one year now and the meeting has continued to hold.
- The completion of linkage of most states and the FMWR to the WASHIMS platform (rural, small towns and urban) implies that there is now a single unit where complete WASH data could be accessed. The continuous use of this platform (data entry) by the LGA for other stakeholders to view is a very potent way to achieve single M&E in the WASH sub sector. The use of WASHIMS will continue because the LGA staff responsible for data entry have been trained and monitored over time in the course of WSSSRP II implementation. The fact that WASHIMS can now be linked to the NAWIS, the water sector national database is also a high point for WASHIMS sustainability. UNICEF will also still be around in many of these LGAs for an effective and continuous promotion of this vital M&E tool.
- The M&E coordination responsibility now fully resides in the M&E Division, PRS department of the FMWR. This is unlikely to change. Each technical department have their M&E focal person represented in the FMWR Task Team on M&E. The monthly meeting of this Team holds regularly.

- The National M&E Framework as presented is the summary of all the work done on M&E in the programme. When the Hon. Minister (who approved its compilation) approves it and when it is fully implemented, M&E will enjoy improved funding and better coordination in the sector.
- The various skills gained by the staff members on M&E and GIS will continue to bring about better planning processes and the delivery of M&E mandates of the FMWR and its agencies e.g. GIS for M&E, Indicator development, setting up M&E system, development of tools and instruments for M&E among others.

States (Result 4d)

- Flowing from above, the State M&E Framework that has strong link with the FMWR framework will allow for national coordination. The states of CRS, Osun, Kano, Jigawa and Yobe have completed the development / review of their framework that is line with the national Framework.
- As a result of the programme, many states now have M&E units or division under the PRS. With this, M&E activities have improved and hope to continue post WSSSRP II.
- The GIS skills gained in the programme have enabled the operational staff of water utilities and M&E staff on the management of schemes and various institutions in the sector.
- The use and application of WASHIMS have now been fully extended to small towns and urban components of the sector in the various states. All the small towns data have been uploaded. This makes it imperative for the LGA staff to also manage small towns data as rural are managed for effective evidenced based reporting on status of facilities.