Gender Mainstreaming
Water for African Cities
Programme (WAC)

A Partnership between UN-HABITAT & the Gender and Water Alliance (GWA)

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Cities in the Programme

- Abidjan, Cote d’Ivoire
- Accra, Ghana
- Addis Ababa, Ethiopia
- Bamako, Mali
- Dakar, Senegal
- Dar-es-Salaam, Tanzania
- Dire Dawa, Ethiopia
- Douala, Cameroon
- Harar, Ethiopia
- Jos, Nigeria
- Kampala, Uganda
- Kigali, Rwanda
- Lusaka, Zambia
- Maputo, Mozambique
- Nairobi, Kenya
- Ouagadougou, Burkina Faso
- Yaoundé, Cameroon
Thematic Focus of the WAC II

- Pro-Poor Water Governance and Follow-up Investments
- Sanitation for the Urban Poor
- Urban Catchment Management
- Water Demand Management
- Water Education in Schools and Communities
- Advocacy, Awareness-raising, and Information Exchange
Gender Mainstreaming Strategy

- Participatory, pro-poor rapid gender assessments.
- Identification of baseline data, data gaps, priorities for gender mainstreaming and capacity building.
- Creation of gender-equity action plans.
- Integration of gender action plans into WAC implementation plans.
Gender Mainstreaming Strategy

- Capacity-building on gender.
- Gender-sensitive indicators and monitoring.
- Implementation, assessment and reinforcement.
- Gender mainstreaming of water & sanitation institutions & policies.
Integration of pro-poor gender priorities in Accra, Ghana’s WAC implementation plan

- The rapid pro-poor gender assessment (RGA) process animated the WAC Programme on the ground. The process served to gender-sensitize team members and those consulted. These women and men form the Steering Cttee of the WAC.

- Brought together sectors that have not worked together in the past.
Key actions for integrating pro-poor gender priorities

- Involvement of poor women and men in decision making to improve and manage water and sanitation facilities.
  - Women and men from informal settlements involved in validation of priorities for gender mainstreaming the WAC.
  - Gender will be integrated into a pilot project from the feasibility stage to implementation and monitoring.
  - A Community Development Committee (CDC) with 50% women members will be involved in decision making at all levels - focus on construction of water and sanitation infrastructure, solid and liquid waste management and drainage.
Key actions for integrating pro-poor gender priorities

- Involvement of poor women and men in decision making to improve and manage water and sanitation facilities.
  - Meetings that will make decisions need to have 75% women members present before decisions can be taken.
  - A partnership has been established with the NGO WaterAid for capacity building of CDC and women and men in the community on gender and decision making.
  - The Ministry of Women and Children’s Affairs and community women and men recommended as part of the 13-member steering committee for the WAC.
  - A gender group is established for on-going engagement in the WAC.
Key actions for integrating pro-poor gender priorities

- Estimated US$1 million budget for the implementation of the WAC. $200,000 committed to the implementation of the gender priorities.
- Lead agency - Ministry of Women and Children’s Affairs. Areas of focus:
  - Capacity building on gender for utility staff and relevant institutions.
  - Facilitation of gender mainstreaming process and structure in the utilities.
Key actions for integrating pro-poor gender priorities

- Collaborate with the Ministry of Education to encourage girls and women to take up science and technology – increase women in decision making.

- Support to the Ghana Statistical Service to collect sex dis-aggregated data.

- In consultation with poor women increase sanitation facilities as a core part of WAC implementation.
Key actions for integrating pro-poor gender priorities

- Assessment of rates and tariffs for water in slums to conform to approved rates.
- Facilitate the involvement of women in water demand management and urban catchment management.
- Value-based water education materials to address sex-role stereotyping.
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