

TERMS OF REFERENCE for the URBAN WASH Technical Committee

Preamble

This document represents the main guidance for the Urban WASH Technical Committee (TC) and aims at defining purpose, objectives, activities and membership of the sub-group, as well as responsibilities of its members.

It is understood that this document is subject to amendments and updates as deemed appropriate by the members of the TC in order to constantly meet sector demand.

1. Background

The Government of Ethiopia (GoE), together with Development Partners (DPs)¹, has been actively working to provide the people of Ethiopia with sustainable access to water supply and sanitation in rural and urban areas. In a concerted effort government, donors, the private sector, academia and non-governmental organizations are working towards achieving national and global targets taking the Growth and Transformation Plan² (GTP) and the Universal Access Plan (UAP) for Ethiopia and the Millennium Development Goals (MDGs) on the global scale as reference points.

Global trends predict increasing urbanization throughout the African continent and worldwide. Ethiopia is not yet as urbanized as a lot of neighboring countries but the rural-urban connectivity has increased dramatically over the last decades. New cities have been created and those cities that are economically viable have experienced large growth. Over the last three decades, the urban population in Ethiopia has doubled with an yearly urbanization rate of around 4.1% (World Bank, EUR 2014), equivalent to about 10,000 people per day. This development needs serious attention from the Government and all actors in the water sector in order to provide a growing number of urban populations with water supply and sanitation facilities. The challenge of urbanization is strictly linked to the necessity of improving coverage of the WASH services and, at the same time, to increase the quality and efficiency of the way they are delivered.

¹ DPs include: Multi-lateral donors/agencies, bilateral donors/agencies, Banks, Development banks and Micro-finance institutions, NGOs and CSOs (local and international), Academic and research institutions, Private Sector

² The GTP II is currently under preparation. This ToR, if required, will be revised to better align with objectives and targets of GTP II.

In order to increase the access to water and sanitation and the service delivery, actors in the water sector have to take global and especially national trends into account and direct their attention towards taking proactive measures. Therefore, the GoE has taken provisions towards achieving the goals laid out in the GTP I and established the WASH Implementation Framework (WIF). One of the WIF's main objectives is to improve harmonization and coordination efforts of all actors in the sector. The creation of the One WASH National Programme (OWNP) and with it a more efficient institutional set-up are the outcome of the WIF.

With this development, the GoE together with its developing partners is contributing to the global debate, initiated by the Paris Declaration on Aid Effectiveness, moving increasingly towards harmonized programmes and sector-wide approaches (SWAPs), in order to reduce transaction costs, and essentially delivering aid more effectively and efficiently. The move away from project-based approaches should also be intensified particularly in the urban sub-sector and in line with the provisions of the OWP and its Programme Operational Manual - POM.

The GoE has recognized the importance of urban development as stated in the UAP and GTPII and it is believed that "the huge resources requirement could be generated through public participation and better coordination with the private sector and development partners."

In this light the Government and sector development partners have established in June 2014 the Water Sector Working Group (WSWG), chaired by the Minister of the Ministry of Water Irrigation and Energy. Under the umbrella of the WASH Sub-Group, chaired by the State Minister of Water Irrigation and Energy and (currently) UNICEF a specific Technical Committee (TC) has been established to address the needs of a more harmonized and aligned approach for the Urban WASH sector. The Urban WASH TC is currently established under the overall coordination of the Urban Water Supply and Sanitation Desk - Water Supply and Sanitation Directorate of the MOWIE and with co-chairmanship of World Bank and UNICEF, representing development partners. These Terms of Reference (TORs) shall serve as the basis and common understanding of all active members for the establishment of the **Technical Committee on Urban WASH**.

2. Purposes, Objectives and result areas of the Urban WASH Technical Committee (UWASH-TC)

The ***purpose*** of the UWASH-TC is to provide a forum/platform for Government and Development Partners to jointly promote, support and coordinate sustainable and integrated development of urban WASH for socio-economic development of Ethiopia in line with the GTP I and GTP II targets and vision.

The ***objective*** of the UWASH-TC is a fully and effectively coordinated development of Urban WASH in Ethiopia benefitting the entire urban population of the Country. The sub-objectives of the TC are: a) Financing for UWASH ensured and timely provided; b) Required strategies to implement UWASH developed and endorsed; c) Key implementation challenges addressed and solved; d) UWASH long term and annual plans developed and agreed

The ***result areas*** of the UWASH-TC are:

- Financing: i) facilitate discussion on how the Government and DPs can jointly deliver finance and adopt financing modalities and ii) coordinate availability of adequate allocation of resources to best meet the planning, capacity building, implementation and management needs of the urban WASH sub sector
- Strategy and Planning: provide a forum to discuss and develop strategies, coordinate planning and implementation of urban WASH, and consult on the basis of key sector-wide strategy and planning issues (e.g. Water Sector Development Program review and update; ongoing projects and programs, GTP planning processes; revision of Universal Access Plans, etc.)
- Monitoring and reporting: mutually review UWASH implementation status on the basis of National Programs, National Action Plans and GTP (II) objectives and targets, report these findings to the WASH-TC for actions and plan mitigation measures to address challenges
- Coordination, Harmonization and Alignment: contribute to the UWASH sector implementation by ensuring that projects and programs implemented under the umbrella of OOWNP will align their implementation into agreed coordination mechanisms and use

harmonized monitoring, reporting, budgeting and planning formats and procedures in their endeavors

- Information sharing: provide a forum for both Government and DPs to share information on their ongoing and planned initiatives in UWASH
- Capacity building: ensure purpose oriented institutional, human resource and physical capacity building to improve resources management and services delivery systems in UWASH

3. Main Activities/Outputs of the Urban-TC

The specific tasks of the TWG will evolve over time on the basis of the specific priorities identified.

A sample of immediate issues to be addressed may include:

- Review of current sector financing requirements and financing modalities for UWASH aligned with GTP II objectives, and develop strategies to address these needs
- Identify key challenges of UWASH in Ethiopia and formulate mitigation plans to address these
- Formulate a practical action plan for the UWASH-TC including Utility management, Utility capacity building, set-up of tariff and billing systems, leak detection systems, full cost recovery strategy, urban sanitation strategies including solid waste and drainage management under the paradigm of the Integrated Urban WaSH services, etc.
- Develop and regularly update a map of all GOE and DPS activities in urban WASH, specifying resources allocated, financing modality and areas of intervention.
- Organize Joint Technical Reviews and contribute in the organization of yearly Multi Stakeholder Forum, in coordination with the WASH Sub Group and the WSGS and NWCO.
- Others to be defined on the basis of the consultations with the UWASH-TC members

4. Membership

In line with the need for holistic planning, all relevant GoE and Development Partners (including representatives of CSOs) as well as

private sector representatives should be brought together to the SG, hosted by a rotating chair of members. The chairmanship is rotating on annual basis. For this TC it is particularly important that specialists on UWASH will be representing their respective organizations in order for an informed dialogue to take place.

The specific participants will be added as an annex to this TOR following the endorsement of membership by the UWASH-TC Chair

5. Responsibilities of the Chair & Co-chairs

The Chair is representative of the government ministries, while the co-chair is a delegate of the Development Partners. Some of the Chair's responsibilities are:

- Set the agenda and venue for TC meetings in consultation with Co-chair from the DP side and circulate one week in advance of the meetings.
- Chair TC meetings with the Co-chair.
- Ensure proper coordination with other line ministries' representatives for their proper representation during meetings
- Assign person to record the minutes of meetings (this will be responsibility of the agency/organization hosting the meeting)
- Liaise with the Co-chair to ensure finalization and circulation of the minutes within one week after the meeting.
- Consult and report issues of the UWASH-TC meetings with the WSWG Secretariat and the WaSH Sub-Group Chair/co-Chair.
- Represent the TC at the WSWG meetings, WaSH Sub Group meetings and in other fora as agreed by members
- Maintain, update and share an annual National and International Urban WaSH calendar of events
- Maintain and update relevant information on TC members
- Maintain a full record of TC correspondence.
- Facilitate other activities as required.

6. Work Planning Process

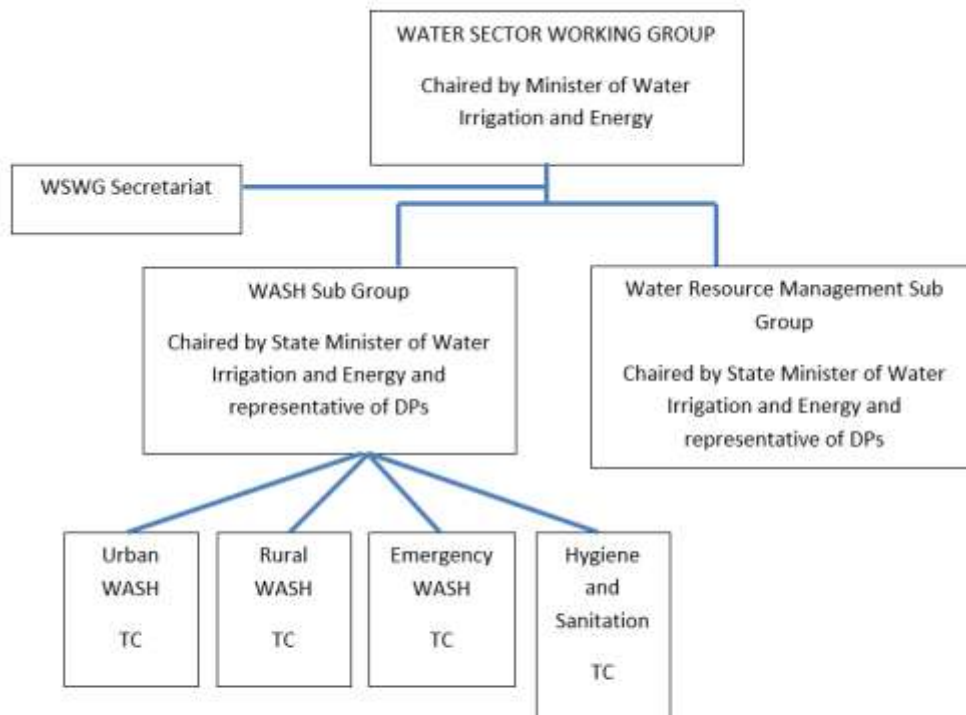
Annual work plan that conforms to the Government fiscal calendar and budget cycle will be prepared and submitted to the WaSH Sub Group Chair/co-Chair and WSWG Secretariat.

7. Working Principles and Modalities / Meetings & Communication

The Urban WASH TC should convene on a regular basis depending on the need and pressing issues arising. However, it is decided that the UWASH-TC should at least convene monthly meetings, always taking place at least one week before the WASH-Sub Group meetings, as per their schedule.

Events organized by the UWASH-TC, other than regular monthly meetings, will be organized in consultation with the WSWG Secretariat. Communications outside the Urban WASH-TC, shall be done in consultation with the WSWG Secretariat.

The Urban WASH TC is part of the WSWG. Accountability and reporting lines are defined as per the diagram below:



Each Technical Committee (TC) can accommodate the establishment of dedicated Task Forces for specific assignments

