

Self Supply News



Self-supply News is a bi-monthly newsletter issued by Self-supply Task Force (SSTF) of Ethiopia, which is a forum of government institutions and development partners. JICA WAS-RoPSS Project is currently taking lead to compile this newsletter.

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Notice/Information

- Activities done & Coming up (April to July 2016)

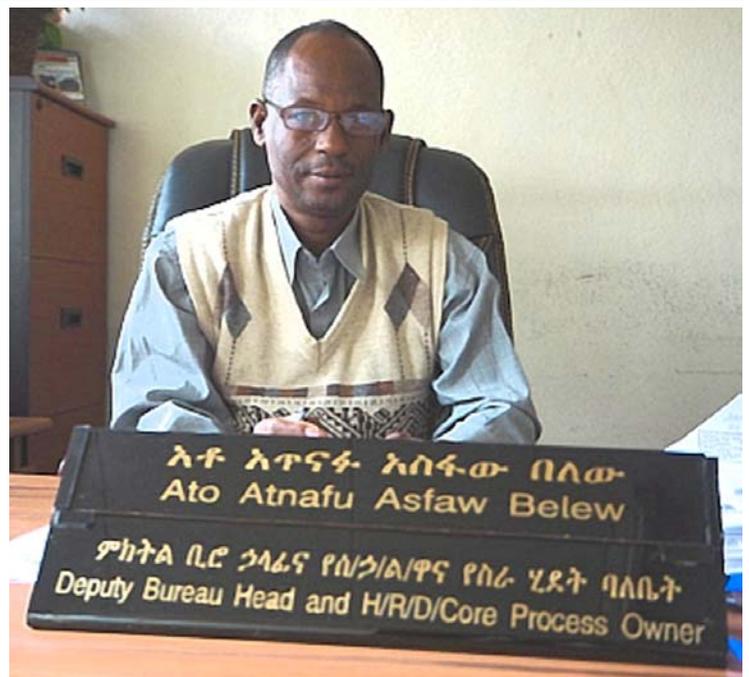
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“Local people do not stop if they know the benefit” - Interview of Mr. Atnafu Asfaw, Deputy Head of TVET Bureau -

Useful technologies should reach to the people’s lives” Mr. Atnafu Asfaw, Deputy Head of Technical and Vocational Education and Training Bureau and Human Resource Development Core Process Owner of SNNPR said, as he was asked his views on technical transfer. “Like other low cost technology such as drip irrigation, once a technology is found useful among the people, they take it and use it immediately. The Self-supply technologies like rope pump should be the same”, he added.

According to him, technology should not belong to the person who invented or brought to the place, but should belong to the people who use it.



Mr Atnafu at his office (Photo by JICA WAS-RoPSS)

TVET Bureau of SNNPR experienced the technical transfer of rope pump, in collaboration with WAS-RoPSS Project and 6 TVET Colleges in the region. Mr. Atnafu appreciated the way the technology was transferred to TVETCs, as “it is directly related to local needs, and capacity of local people”, and “the technology was transferred in a <learning-by-doing> manner”, which contributes the sustainability of technical transfer itself.

He is satisfied with the adoption of COC testing system in measuring the skills of rope pump manufacturers and installers, which was recently started by the joint efforts of the COC Office of SNNPR and TVET Bureau. “Now we can find those who have competencies in rope pump manufacturing and installation”, as all the required units of competencies were identified and the testing tools have already been developed by COC. (Continue to the next page)

He also mentioned the importance of collaboration with other sector offices, such as water and agriculture in dissemination of useful technologies, which should go with strategic plans and evaluations of the past progress. Finally, he expressed his appreciation to the development partners, like JICA, working with high transparency in communication, and the attitudes to reach grassroots level people. He assures the sustainability of the results of the Self-supply efforts, "if your project stops one day, the local people do not stop it if they know the benefit from it".

(Interview by JICA WAS-RoPSS)

Water Credit and Self-Supply



Ato Tefera Siemero, pictured here, is the first person to take out a Water Credit loan in Ethiopia. He is a client of ADCSI, and he will use the loan funds to construct a new toilet at his household (Photo by Water.org)

Water.org

Water.org is supporting the Government of Ethiopia's plan to increase access to water and sanitation and reach middle income country status. Water.org is working with three MFIs (Amhara Credit and Savings Institution, Addis Credit & Savings Institution, and Vision Fund) to disburse at least 8,000 water loans to clients at the base of the pyramid by 2017. The program is putting into action the Government of Ethiopia's strategy to accelerate Self-supply for water by working with microfinance institutions (MFIs) to develop water supply and sanitation (WSS) loan products. Water.org will support, these MFIs in researching the demand for WSS loans, designing the new loan products, training staff and piloting and refining the loan products. Water.org will work with partners to scale their WSS portfolios to reach greater numbers of people with access to clean water and adequate sanitation.

According to the Joint Monitoring Program (JMP) of the World Health Organization and UNICEF, 1 in 10 people lack access to safe water, and one-third of the global population lives without access to a toilet. More people have a mobile phone than a toilet, and the World Economic Forum announced in January 2015 that the water and sanitation crisis is the number one global risk based on impact to society. In Ethiopia, some report that 88% of Ethiopians carry water to their homes.

While people in Ethiopia are being motivated to construct their own wells, water harvesting systems, or toilets at the household or small group level, they are in need of support. The Government has recognized the importance of this support and is committed to ensuring that at least five MFIs join the Self-supply effort and provide credit and services to individuals and small businesses. With a decade of experience in implementing and refining Water Credit in Africa, South Asia, Southeast Asia, and Latin America, Water.org's partnerships with local MFIs in Ethiopia are making a significant contribution to the Government's goal.

Worldwide, more than 2.6 million people have received access to safe water and adequate sanitation through the disbursement of over 600,000 Water Credit loans supported by Water.org. Additionally, Water.org's MFI partners around the world have leveraged USD \$128 million in commercial and social investment capital. People around the world are willing to pay for what they want, and MFIs are continuing to offer them this opportunity.

Planning for Self Supply Acceleration

IRC and Millennium Water Alliance

Planning for Self-supply acceleration at woreda level in Ethiopia: what are the issues to address?

IRC together with the Millennium Water Alliance (MWA) and its partners is supporting the development of Self-Supply Acceleration (SSA) plans in seven districts.

The development of this plan is a joint sectoral collaborative process involving Water, Agriculture/Irrigation, Health, Small and Micro Enterprises, Micro-finance institutions, Women and Children Affairs and District Administrations at woreda level. The plan itself includes selecting potential areas and locally appropriate technology options for self-supply promotion and identifying activities for demand creation, private sector development, loan facilitation, and inter-sector coordination and learning.



Dugda woreda planning, Oromiya (Photo by IRC/MWA)

A favorable policy environment

Government policies in Ethiopia have provided an opportune moment to promote Self-supply. The Water Sector has recognized Self-supply as a potential service delivery model that will reach about 30% of the rural population that are currently without access to water supply (Sanitation and Water High Level Meeting, 2012). Strategies and guidelines are developed and focal persons assigned at national and regional (sub-national) levels (MoWE, 2012). Within the agriculture sector, Self-supply has become an extension of the annual soil and water conservation campaigns. Under the motto “one well for one rural household” or “one alternative water source for one household” people are encouraged to develop their own wells for household irrigation (discussion with woreda sector offices, 2016). It has turned into one of the strategies to develop resilience at household level to the recurring drought affecting many parts of the country.

An inter-sectoral coordination issue

The culture of developing household wells is increasing from time to time. A baseline done by IRC with Millennium Water Alliance’s (MWA) support, at the end of 2015, shows an increase in well construction in the last 2-3 years, in many of the program districts. However, most wells are traditional, unprotected wells developed by households with no technical support. Some are close to latrines. The hygiene and sanitation situation is mostly appalling. The water office is interested only in fully protected wells developed for drinking purposes, while the agriculture sector is not concerned beyond the irrigation use of the wells. Yet, a significant number of the wells are used for multiple purposes: irrigation, drinking water, livestock and sanitation and hygiene uses. The SSA plan encourages an incremental upgrading of traditional wells by households, as their income allows, and provides a ladder of technology option. Inter-sectoral coordination between Agriculture and Water is also one key issue to be addressed in the Self-supply acceleration planning. (continue to the next page)

Non-scalable subsidies and limited private sector development

Planning for Self-supply acceleration involves raising households' awareness and then demand to invest in Self-supply facilities. The discussion on how to raise demand brought to the surface the unintended outcomes of subsidizing household well construction, introduced by NGOs as well as some government implemented and donor funded sector programs, which has reduced effective demand or people's willingness to pay. Ensuring the provision of basic services, including water supply, should primarily be the responsibility of government. However, in some of the programme woredas, the non-targeted subsidies that haven't taken account of households income status or interest, have led to waste, non-use or inappropriate use of the materials given.



Este Woreda Planning, South Gonder, Amhara
(Photo by IRC/MWA)



Farta Woreda planning

(Photo by IRC/MWA)

The absence of a strong private sector engaged in provision of products and services for Self-supply was another issue to contend with during the planning. In the program districts, as elsewhere in the country, the government has taken upon itself the role of freely distributing water lifting pumps and household water treatment products (filters and chemicals) to rural households, though on ad-hoc basis for lack of sustainable funding. This in turn has hampered the development of a local private sector in the rural towns for supply of pumps or household water treatment technologies, and households are not willing to pay for those products.

Implementing the plan of Self-supply acceleration at woreda level will mean learning to do things in a different way.

The government needs to become comfortable with playing the role of an enabler, allowing the market for Self-supply to develop, removing obstacles that prevent the local private sector to operate, facilitating access to loans for households to raise demand, while holding back on non-scalable subsidies that don't provide sustainable solutions.

The SSA plans, which are developed to be an integral part of the woreda WaSH programme, came up with district specific solutions to some of those issues. Their success depends on effective collaboration of all MWA partners, including the sector offices at the district level. Commitment in follow-up of the action plans is essential, in order not to lose the momentum gained during the plan preparation. The results of the implementation will be monitored, and changes and impacts assessed by IRC and partners. At the end of the year we will share the outcomes.

(Ms Bethel Terefe, IRC)

Objective Assessment of Rope Pump Technology through COC System

JICA WAS-RoPSS

Assessment of the attainment of the trained rope pump manufacturers and installers has been a pressing issue for the WAS-RoPSS Project, since the very beginning of the Project. Through the Project has organized many technical trainings to the Village Technicians, rope pump manufacturers and rope pump trainers, there was no objective and systematic way of assessment, so far.

The very first COC (Certificate of Competency) tests for rope pump manufacturers and installers were conducted on April 9 and 23, respectively, by COC Office of SNNPR.



Product evaluated by official examiner checked with required competencies criteria in COC

(Photo WAS-RoPSS)

Two sets of tests were designed and prepared by the COC Office, according to the required competencies for manufacturing and installation of rope pumps separately. The training materials by the Project together with TVET instructors were also referred to make the test toolkits.

10 manufacturers and 27 installers passed the tests and certified their respective competencies. Unlike the commonly produced “ Certificate of Participation ” which is indiscriminately given to those who participate the trainings, regardless of his/her attainment and level of skills, COC would give the certification of his/her level of technique, which is objectively measured by the professional assessors. It is therefore meaningful that COC is adopted in rope pump technology transfer, in terms of maintaining the standard quality of the technology.

WAS-RoPSS Team would like to promote these competent human resources as capable technicians and encourage the government offices and development partners to utilize them for providing standard services of rope pump manufacturing, installation and maintenance.



Technical exam on manufacturing (left, on April 9 at Selam Hawassa Business College) and installation (right, April 23 at TVETC Hawassa)
(Photo by JICA WAS-RoPSS)

Refresher Trainings for Village Technicians

Two courses of the Refresher Trainings for Village Technicians were organised by WAS-RoPSS Project in Meskan and Dale Woredas in March and April 2016 respectively. The Village Technicians are the selected skilled persons who give technical services to the rope pump users at the village level, and they participated in one of these one-week trainings to review and update their skills in rope pump installation and maintenance.

During the training in Dale Woreda, a two-day TOT Review was simultaneously conducted for the TVETC instructors who are ex - Training of Trainers (TOT) participants. The participants reviewed their past

activities at their own duty stations and discussed future plans in rope pump technology dissemination. Both the participants of the Refresher Trainings and the TOT Review also had a chance to exchange their experiences and views. This was an opportunity for them to maintain their friendship and work relationship.



Inspection after installation

(Photo by JICA WAS-RoPSS)

Activities done in April & May 2016

- April 4 Self-supply Task Force Meeting
- April 4-9 Rope pump internal quality control training for manufacturers (JICA WAS-RoPSS)
- April 9 COC test for rope pump manufacturers (JICA WAS-RoPSS)
- April 18-23 Refresher Training for Village Technicians (JICA WAS-RoPSS)
- April 21,22 TOT review (JICA WAS-RoPSS)
- April 23 COC test for Village Technicians (JICA WAS-RoPSS)
 - MWA-EP Project Management Group meeting: review of Self-supply acceleration implementation by partners (Millennium Water Alliance)
 - Demand creation for individual household Self-supply through implementing partners in the MWA-EP Self-supply Acceleration Project woredas (Millennium Water Alliance)
 - Community meetings for RP promotion and installation of RPs by Village Technicians in business base (Supported by JICA WAS-RoPSS)

Coming up in June & July 2016

- Self-supply Task Force Meeting
- June 12-30 Terminal Evaluation Mission (JICA WAS-RoPSS)
- June RP Installation training in Hadiya zone , Southern Region, supporting 10,000RP dissemination (WIDB/ SNNPR, JICA WAS-RoPSS)

If you have any comments, questions, suggestions, please contact us at:
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<http://www.jica.go.jp/oda/project/1100485/index.html> (jp)

<http://www.jica.go.jp/project/english/ethiopia/004/index.html> (en)

Websites

MoWIE <http://www.mowr.gov.et/>

CoWASH <http://www.cmpethiopia.org/>

IRC <http://www.ircwash.org/>

Aqua for All <http://www.aquaforall.org/>

Water.Org <http://water.org/>

Rural Water Supply Network

<http://www.rural-water-supply.net/en/resources/details/662>