

COMMUNITY-LED ACCELERATED WASH IN ETHIOPIA (COWASH)



**Effective and sustainable
WaSH services**

**BIANNUAL PROGRESS REPORT
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TABLE OF CONTENTS

1	EXECUTIVE SUMMARY	1
2	INTRODUCTION.....	2
3	POLICY AND PROJECT CONTEXT	3
4	COMPONENT 1: ESTABLISHMENT OF NATIONAL CMP.....	4
4.1	FEDERAL CMP IMPLEMENTATION SUPPORT UNIT OPERATIONAL	4
4.1.1	<i>Approval of the COWASH project</i>	4
4.1.2	<i>COWASH personnel administration</i>	5
4.1.3	<i>Other administrative issues</i>	6
4.1.4	<i>Logistics and office arrangements</i>	6
4.1.5	<i>Establishment of COWASH management structures</i>	7
4.1.6	<i>Short term consultancies</i>	7
4.1.7	<i>High awareness among external financiers and WaSH stakeholders on CMP, its methods, approaches, feasibility and benefits</i>	8
4.1.8	<i>Capacity for CMP implementation developed at the federal level based on assessed needs</i>	11
4.1.9	<i>Future development of COWASH</i>	11
5	COMPONENT 2: CMP DEVELOPMENT IN TIGRAY, OROMIA AND SOUTHERN REGIONS	12
5.1	TIGRAY REGION.....	12
5.2	OROMIA REGION.....	14
5.3	SNNPR	15
6	COMPONENT 3: CMP DEVELOPMENT IN AMHARA.....	17
6.1.1	<i>Other activities conducted in Amhara</i>	20
7	COORDINATION	20
7.1	COORDINATION WITH NATIONAL WASH INVENTORY TASK FORCE	20
7.2	COORDINATION WITH WORLD BANK, DFID AND AFRICAN DEVELOPMENT BANK WSP AND WSSP	20
7.3	COORDINATION WITH DAG WATER AND WATER SECTOR WORKING GROUP	21
7.4	COORDINATION WITH MULTI-STAKEHOLDER FORUM.....	21
7.5	COORDINATION WITH UNESCO.....	21
7.6	COORDINATION WITH UNICEF	22
7.7	COORDINATION WITH FINNWASH-BG.....	22
7.8	COORDINATION WITH SNV	22
7.9	COORDINATION WITH RIPPLE	23
7.10	COORDINATION WITH THE WASH MOVEMENT.....	23
7.11	COORDINATION WITH SOLAR AND WIND POWER PROJECT	24
7.12	COORDINATION WITH SELF-SUPPLY ACCELERATION PROJECT	24
7.13	COORDINATION WITH IRC	25
8	DEVIATIONS FROM THE WORK PLAN	26
9	TA COSTS (COMPONENT 1)	27
10	CMP FUNDING.....	29

Abbreviations and Acronyms

ACSI	Amhara Credit and Saving Institution
AfDB	African Development Bank
AIDS	Acquired Immunodeficiency Syndrome
BoE	Bureau of Education
BoFED	Bureau of Finance and Economic Development
BoH	Bureau of Health
CDF	Community Development Fund
CFT	Community Facilitation Teams
CHP	Community Health Promoter
COWASH	Community Led Accelerated WASH in Ethiopia
CRS	Catholic Relief Services
DFID	Department for International Development (UK)
EFY	Ethiopian Fiscal Year
ETB	Ethiopian Birr
EUR	Euro
EUWI	European Union Water Initiative
FDRE	Federal Democratic Republic of Ethiopia
FinnWASH-BG	Rural Water Supply, Sanitation and Hygiene Programme in Benishangul-Gumuz Region
GoE	Government of Ethiopia
GoF	Government of Finland
GTP	Growth and Transformation Plan
HEW	Health Extension Worker
HIV	Human Immunodeficiency Virus
JATR	Joint Annual Technical Review
JFA	Joint Financing Agreement
JTO	Junior Technical Officer
JTR	Joint Technical Reviews
lpcd	litres per capita per day
LSP	Local Service Provider
LWI	Living Water International
METB	Million Birr
MEUR	Million Euros
MFA	Ministry for Foreign Affairs (of Finland)
MFI	Microfinance institution
MDG	Millennium Development Goal
MMS	Mass Mobilization Strategy
MoE	Ministry of Education
MoFED	Ministry of Finance and Economic Development
MoH	Ministry of Health
MoU	Memorandum of Understanding
MoWE	Ministry of Water & Energy
MSF	Multi-stakeholder Forum
MTR	Mid-term Review
MUSD	Million United States dollars
MWA	Millennium Water Alliance
M&E	Monitoring and Evaluation
NGO	Non-governmental Organization
NWCO	National WASH Coordination Office
ORDA	Organization for Rehabilitation and Development in Amhara
O&M	Operation and Maintenance
PASDEP	Plan for Accelerated and Sustained Development to End Poverty
PHAST	Participatory Hygiene and Sanitation Transformation
PIM	Programme Implementation Manual
PMU	Programme Management Unit

PTA	Parents' and Teachers' Association
REST	Relief Society of Tigray
RIPPLE	Research Inspired Policy and Practice Learning in Ethiopia and the Nile Region
SNNPR	Southern Nations, Nationalities and People's Region
RSU	Regional Support Unit
RWSEP	Rural Water Supply and Environment Programme
RSvB	Regional Window Supervisory Board
SvB	Supervisory Board
SC	Steering Committee
TA	Technical Assistance
TOR	Terms of Reference
UAP	Universal Access Plan
UK	United Kingdom
UNICEF	United Nations Children's Fund
WAB	Women, Children and Youth Bureau
WAD	Women's Affairs Department
WaSH	Water supply, Sanitation and Hygiene
WASHCO	Water Supply, Sanitation and Hygiene Committee
WB	The World Bank
WEW	Water Extension Worker
WMU	WaSH Management Unit
WRDB	Water Resources Development Bureau
WSDP	Water Sector Development Programme
WSG	Woreda Support Groups
WSP	Water and Sanitation Programme
WSS	Water Sector Strategy
WSSD	Water Supply and Sanitation Directorate

1 EXECUTIVE SUMMARY

This progress report presents the main achievements of Community-Led Accelerated WaSH (COWASH) in Ethiopia made during the first six months of 2004 Ethiopian Fiscal Year (EFY), (2011/2012) and partly covers also January 2012. The Project Agreement between the Ministry of Finance and Economic Development (MoFED) and the Ministry for Foreign Affairs of Finland (MFA) was signed on May 25, 2011. Consultants' Chief Technical Advisor and Human Resource Development Advisor arrived to Ethiopia at the end of the 2003 EFY. The first quarter of COWASH was focusing to the mobilization and physical establishment of the project. Project Office in MoWE was established although the office facility was provided quite late. International consultants were mobilized quickly but the employment of national long term consultants delayed to the second quarter due to the delay to organize project's first Supervisory Board Meeting. Project vehicles were also procured during the first quarter although their arrival to Ethiopia delayed to second quarter.

The WaSH sector policy context evolved during the six months. The revision of Universal Access Plan (UAP 2) for rural water, UAP for urban water, UAP for urban sanitation and Hygiene and Sanitation Strategic Action Plan for rural sanitation to aim to the goals of the Growth Transformation Plan were prepared, but not officially approved and launched. The same way the WaSH Implementation Framework (WIF) was finalized but not officially approved and launched.

COWASH international staff assessed the situation and launched several inception phase activities. All four major regions (Amhara National Regional State (ARNS), Tigray National Regional State (TNRS) , Oromia National Regional State (ONRS) and Southern Nations and Nationalities Peoples' Regional State (SNNPR) expressed their willingness and commitments to start COWASH implementation in these regions. Several consultations were held and finally Amhara, Tigray and SNNPR signed the financing agreement and Oromia was in a process to enter into funding agreement with the Government of Ethiopia. The promised total contributions from the four regions account close to 182 million Birr which is slightly more than the agreed Government of Finland contribution to these Regions (172 million Birr). Amhara, Tigray and SNNPR selected staff for the Regional Support Units (RSUs). The work planning, baseline data collection and start of implementation all took place during the first two quarters. The CMP guideline was revised, trainings of the regions, zone and woreda personnel are on-going and will continue the whole third quarter of 2004 EFY.

Preparations for international Community Managed Project (CMP) financing modality marketing were made and COWASH participated in the 6th Rural Water Supply Network Forum in Uganda in November 2011 and agreed to join the 6th World Water Forum in Marseille in March 2012. A 10 minutes short film on the CMP approach was produced and edited and the film was approved and presented in the 6th RWSN Forum in Kampala. Moreover, the CMP approach will receive a lot of international attention in the World Water Forum. The project's website was updated regularly during the quarter and a CMP new website for the international audience was established. The project has now an official domain www.cowashethiopia.com and CMP another one www.cmpethiopia.org. Furthermore CMP table calendars were printed out and various brochures and the CMP logo were developed.

COWASH actively participated in different sector events and used the forums to inform COWASH principles and goals to stakeholders. Capacity assessment was initiated by UNESCO

and COWASH joined the assessment later on. A research proposal on CMP implementation and results was prepared in August and the partial funding of the research programme was approved by Finland's "Maa- ja Vesitekniikan Tuki ry" association. Moreover, COWASH was an active participant in the Self-Supply Acceleration Programme task force and thus contributed to the rural WaSH sector development.

In Amhara Region the RWSEP project was extended to the end of first quarter of 2004 FY when RWSEP was closed and COWASH Component 3 was launched.

Total costs of component 1 during the 6 months were EUR 415,926 representing 17 % utilization from the total approved Component 1 budget (EUR 2,486,940.00).

2 INTRODUCTION

The poor sustainability of rural water services is well recognized. Project-based, one-off and stand-alone implementation of water systems should be replaced with sustainable, large-scale approaches that actualize the philosophy of decentralized service delivery. One such an approach is the Community Managed Project (CMP) approach which has been piloted and successfully implemented in two regions of Ethiopia: within the Rural Water Supply and Environmental Programme in Amhara Region (RWSEP) and the Rural Water Supply, Sanitation and Hygiene Programme in Benishangul-Gumuz Region (FinnWaSH-BG). Based on the promising results, the Government of Ethiopia has now decided to mainstream the CMP approach into its National WaSH strategy.

In RWSEP, the CMP approach has led up to a five-fold increase in the construction rate of new water schemes in the Amhara region. (From an average of 200 water points per year (1994-2003) increasing steadily to over 1000 water points per year in 2008/9.) Monitoring and evaluation data from the project show that at the same time the implementation costs per water point have been cut in half. Moreover, functionality rates for CMP schemes (94%) for Amhara are above average (estimated at 75%).

In the WaSH Implementation Framework (WIF) the CMP is being mainstreamed into the National WaSH Program (WaSH GTP/UAP) for its wider application. The major features of the CMP approach are:

- *Fund Transfer:* The unique and innovative feature of the CMP approach is that funds for the physical construction of water schemes are transferred directly to the community through a micro Financial Intermediary.
- *Community Project Management:* The communities, through water and sanitation committees (WASHCOs), are responsible for the full development process through planning, financial management, implementation and maintenance. The communities contribute a minimum of 15% in cash or in kind. The unique and innovative feature in CMP is that the WASHCO manages not only community-generated funds but also the government subsidy provided for capital expenditures.
- *Procurement:* A further aspect of community management is that the WASHCO is directly responsible for procuring the goods and services required for water scheme construction and installation.

The CMP mechanism is intended mainly for low level technologies such as hand dug wells and spring protections and therefore the hydrogeological conditions need to be taken into account. However, water schemes with more demanding technology have also been implemented with the same approach in FinnWaSH-BG. Communities are provided with training and when needed, support is given during scheme implementation.

For the time being, the implementation of the CMP approach in Ethiopia is financially supported by the Government of Ethiopia, UNICEF, the Government of Finland, and the Governments of the Netherlands and Canada. The CMP approach is no longer donor or region-specific. It is an integral, expanding and evolving component of the One National WaSH Program.

Ministry of Water and Energy (MoWE) and Ministry for Foreign Affairs of Finland (MFA) selected Ramboll Finland Oy, (Finnish consulting company) and IRC International Water and Sanitation Center to provide technical assistance support to MoWE and targeted regions to apply CMP approach.

The COWASH Project Agreement was signed on May 25, 2011 and consultant mobilized its international staff to Ethiopia in June-July 2011. Actually the project started in July when MoFED approved the MoWE response on MoFED's comments on the Project Document.

This is the first biannual progress report of COWASH prepared by the Technical Assistance Team and describing shortly the progress made during July 2011 – December 2011. The separate reports prepared of various topics and restored in www.cmpethiopia.org are referred.

3 POLICY AND PROJECT CONTEXT

The major policy and strategy documents providing basement for COWASH implementation were not yet officially approved by the respective sector Ministries although their rapid approval was agreed in the 4th Multi-Stakeholder Forum (MSF) on April 2011. Those basic policy documents are:

- *Memorandum of Understanding (MoU) on Integrated Implementation of Water supply, Sanitation and Hygiene Program in Ethiopia.* This document was expected to be signed during the second quarter of 2004 Ethiopia Fiscal Year (EFY) by the MoWE, Ministry of Health (MoH), Ministry of Education (MoE) and Ministry of Finance and Economic Development (MoFED). However, the MoU has not yet been officially signed by all stakeholders and the signatories are expected during the third quarter.
- *WaSH Implementation Framework (WIF)* was prepared to achieve the targets of the Growth & Transformation Plan (GTP), and will act as the guiding document for all WaSH implementation. WIF finalization was done by a Task Force constituted by the MoWE. COWASH was also invited to take part in the process. Summary and full Final Draft WIF was completed on August 16, 2011. WIF was later on introduced shortly to stakeholders in the Water Sector Working Group meeting on September 27, 2011. WIF has not yet been officially approved and launched. It was signed by the MoWE, MoH and MoE during the second quarter but the signatory of the MoFED is still pending.
- *Universal Access Plan for Rural Water (UAP 1)* was revised in 2011 and is now called *UAP 2*. The National Hygiene and Sanitation Strategic Action Plan (SAP) for rural sanitation was also prepared. Furthermore UAP for Urban Water and UAP for Urban Sanitation are

expected to be completed in January 2012. All these documents have not been officially approved and launched.

- *WASHCO Legalization process* is in progress in nearly all regions. In Benishangul-Gumuz region and in Oromia region the proclamation and its regulation have been approved by the regional parliaments and one WASCHO has already achieved a legal status in Benishangul-Gumuz region. In Amhara region the new proclamation has been prepared but its practical implementation is not yet launched. In SNNPR the proclamation and regulation have been submitted for regional parliament approval. COWASH is following the process in close collaboration with Water Aid, who is practically assisting regions. The legal status of WASHCOs is important as it guarantees the later source dispute and loans, insurances, etc.
- The *Self Supply for Ethiopia* basic definition is ‘improvement to water supplies developed largely or wholly through user investment by households or small groups of households’. Self-supply involves households taking the lead in their own development and investing in the construction, upgrading and maintenance of their own water sources, lifting devices and storage facilities (National Policy Guidelines for Self-Supply in Ethiopia, Jan 27, 2012). Support for accelerated self-supply will follow the following modalities: (i) where CMP is being implemented in which a segment of the community does not get sufficient/no supply; (ii) where there is high ground water potential adequate for both domestic and multiple use services are feasible but no community water services have been provided and (iii) in places where self-supply wells are already widely in use. Where possible, Self-Supply programming will be linked to the Community Managed Projects (CMP) process or CMP-like modalities where communities are responsible for planning, funding, constructing and managing their water facility and government’s role changes from being implementer to coordinator, controller and facilitator. COWASH will support and follow the agreed principles in self-supply development defined in National Policy Guidelines for Self-Supply in Ethiopia.

4 COMPONENT 1: ESTABLISHMENT OF NATIONAL CMP

Component 1 of COWASH is to strengthen the federal capacity for implementation of the Community Managed Project (CMP) financing mechanism.

The expected results of the Component 1 are:

- Tools and planning/implementation/monitoring mechanisms developed for wide application of CMP
- Federal level support mechanism developed for supporting the application of CMP in the Regions where the mechanism is applicable

4.1 FEDERAL CMP IMPLEMENTATION SUPPORT UNIT OPERATIONAL

4.1.1 Approval of the COWASH project

The COWASH Project was officially approved on May 25, 2011 when the Project Agreement between the Embassy of Finland and MoFED was signed. However, on May 31, 2011 MoFED wrote letter to MoWE requesting a response to the questions on COWASH Project Document prepared by MoFED. The condition set by MoFED in its letter was that the project will not be guaranteed for funding without appropriately addressing MoFED comments PRIOR to its

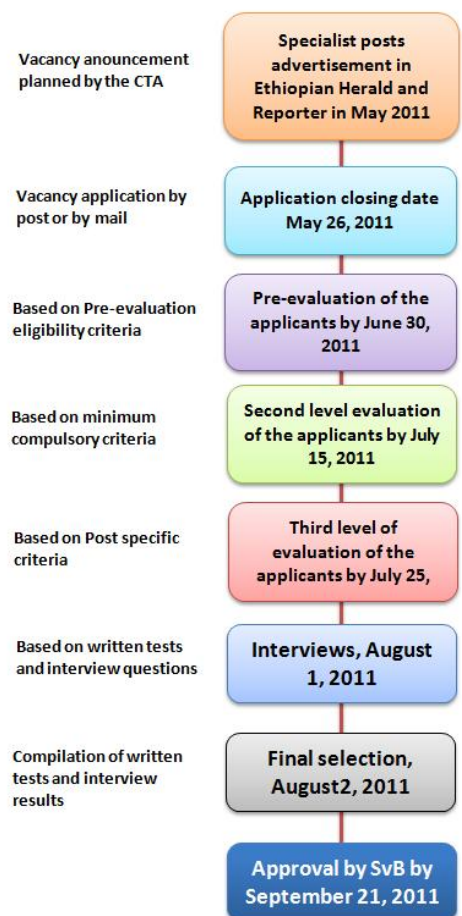
implementation. The number of specific comments was 18 and in addition it included one general comment and conclusion remark. The conclusion remark was: *“The project has to be revisited in the light of the aforementioned comments before it is forwarded for funding request.”*

Actually the MoFED letter was located in the MoWE very late (close to the end of June) and finally MoWE’s reply to MoFED was done end of June 2011. In MoWE’s reply all comments were addressed and solutions were given. Finally on July 8, MoFED response to MoWE was written where MoFED permitted MoWE to commence the COWASH. Therefore actually this date can be considered the start-up of COWASH because MoWE could not facilitate the COWASH start-up without this letter.

4.1.2 COWASH personnel administration

The CTA (Arto Suominen) arrived to Ethiopia on June 8, 2011 (as planned in Consultant tender), the HRD specialist (Harri Mattila) arrived to Ethiopia on June 30, 2011 (three weeks later than planned) and the JPO (Linda Annala) arrived to Ethiopia on July 11, 2011 (one week later than planned).

The three national staffs were approved on September 21, 2011 by the SvB. CDF Specialist (Yohannes Melaku) and Process Facilitation Specialist (Melaku Worku) started in COWASH on October 1, 2011 and the M&E Specialist (Abebaw Getachew) started on November 2, 2011. The recruitment process’s major milestones are illustrated below:



The vacancies for the Office Management Assistant (OMA) and drivers were advertised on the MoWE notice board in October. The applications were analyzed and written tests were organized for the four selected OMA applicants. The four OMA and 7 driver applicants were interviewed and test driving was organized for drivers.

W/ro Birtukan Asmamaw was selected as OMA and Gezahegn Hailu and Alemayehu Tilahun were selected as drivers. Drivers started in COWASH on December 21, 2011. Birtukan started on January 23 2012. The third selected driver did not accept the terms of the employment and therefore one driver post was not filled. This filling of third driver position will be decided once the actual use of the OMA and existing drivers has been tested in practice.

New proclamation (715/2011) on the establishment of Private Organization Employees' Pension Scheme came into action on July 8, 2011. Accordingly Ramboll Finland Oy (COWASH) shall follow this proclamation when employing Ethiopians to the COWASH project. The Pension Scheme replaces the previous Provident Fund. Ramboll Finland Oy was registered in the Private Sector Pension Fund Agency and during October 2011

COWASH Federal Technical Assistance Team personnel Administration Manual was finalized in July 2011 and revised in December 2011 as per the discussions with the COWASH staff.

4.1.3 Other administrative issues

TIN number was successfully opened for Ramboll Finland Oy in the Revenue Office in August 2011. The TIN number is required in order to pay deducted withholding taxes from procured goods and services as well as the income taxes of the local employees.

The opening of Ramboll Finland's own bank account was delayed due to the long legalization process of the power of attorney and delays in MoFED for approving the bank account opening. Funds for operations were transferred to COWASH through Rural Water Supply and Environmental Programme (RWSEP) bank account. COWASH was managed with cash payments until the opening of bank account in November 2011. MoFED finally agreed to write supporting letter to Commercial Bank of Ethiopia (CBE) and as a result Ramboll Finland's bank account was finally opened in CBE. (Account number is: 317c01000280, Bole Medhanealem Branch, SWIFT: CBETETAA)

4.1.4 Logistics and office arrangements

The establishment of COWASH office in the MoWE was delayed due to the non-availability of free office rooms in the Ministry. On August 8, 2011 the three international team members were provided one small office room in MoWE. The room was also shared with an ODI specialist. Due to the non-availability of proper office facility in MoWE the team was partly working from home. However, a bigger room in MoWE was provided for the Technical Assistance Team (room 115 in Block A) on October 17, 2011. This is to be considered the date when TA Team officially moved to MoWE. Additional room has been promised by MoWE several times but not yet organized. Improvement and re-organizing of the only room was made but still the office space is insufficient for the whole TA Team.

MoWE has provided the TA Team with some office furniture and the rest was procured with the TA budget. A used MoWE copy machine was serviced and taken into COWASH use. MoWE also provided landline for COWASH Office. (COWASH telephone number is +251-116-626 322)

Other logistical arrangements such as housing, furniture, office equipment, communication, transport and ID cards for the TA staff were organized.

Three 4WD Ford Everest cars were procured for the COWASH project. 3.10.11 MoWE wrote a letter to the customs accepting that ETB 3,329,151.98 will be deducted from its account for the payment of taxes and duties of the 3 COWASH cars. The tax payment was done and cars arrived to Addis Ababa on October 17, 2011 and were later on cleared and brought to MoWE compound on 28.10.2011. The cars were registered, pre-inspected, insured and serviced. CTA signed the cars from the MoWE store and cars were taken into use on December 21, 2011.

4.1.5 Establishment of COWASH management structures

The Supervisory Board (SvB) is the highest level strategic decision-making body of the COWASH. The main task of the SvB is to oversee the smooth implementation of the COWASH and support the CMP development, implementation and scaling up.

The first COWASH SvB meeting was held on September 31, 2011 and the major decision made in the SvB were to approve its own ToR and national specialists for TA team.

Other management structures still under design are:

- COWASH Management Committee (COWASH-MC). COWASH-MC is an established organ for coordination and overall management of the COWASH. The COWASH-MC is authorized by the COWASH Supervisory Board (SvB) to take decisions regarding the implementation of the COWASH in Ethiopia.
- Day-to-day management of COWASH Technical Team is done by the Consultant Ramboll Finland through assigned Chief Technical Advisor (CTA) in Ethiopia

4.1.6 Short term consultancies

- ToR for *Financial short term consultancy* was approved and Ato Eyob Defere was employed as short term consultant on October 17, 2011 to conduct the consultancy. The final products of the consultancy work, "*A memorandum of Understanding between CMP financiers*", "*An analysis of the budget, financial and economic viability of the COWASH*" i.e. a cost-benefit analysis of COWASH and "*Generic Financial Guidelines for CMP*" were 80 % completed during the second quarter of 2004 EFY.
- ToR for *Cross Cutting short term consultancy* was approved and W/ro Hirut Ybabe was employed as short term consultant on October 21, 2011. The report "*Mainstreaming of cross cutting issues in the COWASH implementation process*" could not be completed during the second quarter.
- International short term consultancy to assist *COWASH project document re-writing and inception report preparation* by Mr. Elis Karsten was approved and started on December 12, 2011. First draft of revised objectives, results and outputs was completed in December 2011 and the revised project document draft is expected to be finalized in January 2012.
- *A short term consultancy for baseline data collection from Tigray region* was approved and Ayenew Admasu, Meresa Kiros and Abdulkarim Memhur started the consultancy on October 21, 2011. As a result of the consultancy, baseline reports from 7 woredas and a regional report were finalized in January 2012.

- Short term consultancy by John Butterworth from IRC on *CMP Communications and Dissemination* was approved. The 10 days' consultancy was finished in the end of October 2011. As a result of the consultancy, the CMP Communications Strategy was finalized and a CMP research programme was further developed.

4.1.7 High awareness among external financiers and WaSH stakeholders on CMP, its methods, approaches, feasibility and benefits

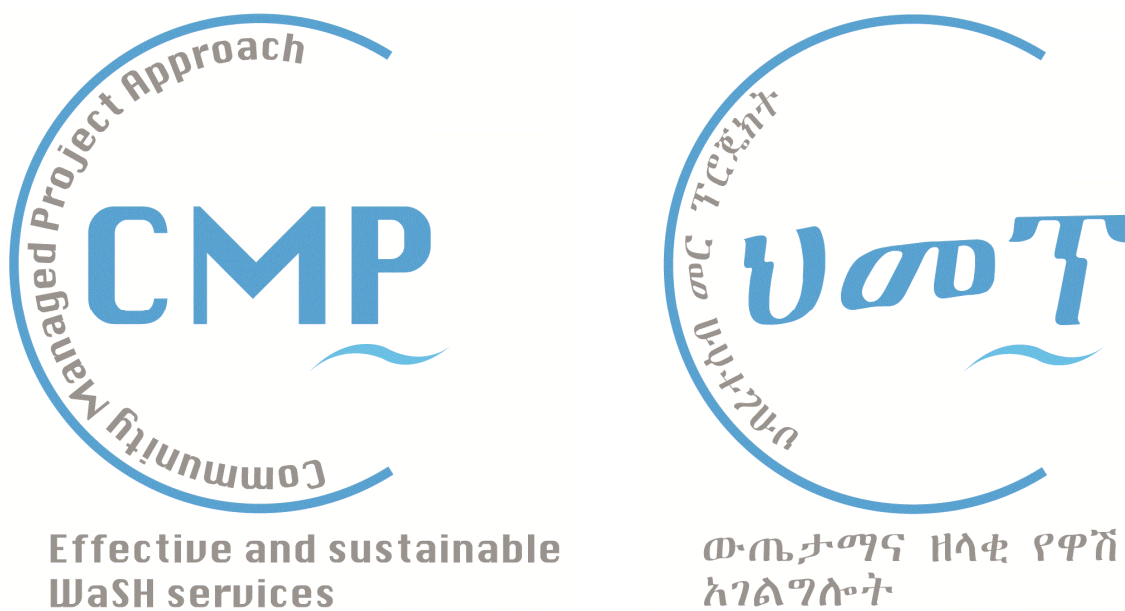
During the six months, COWASH produced certain important information dissemination and promotion materials. A 10 minutes short film on the CMP approach with French subtitles was produced and edited with the assistance from a local video producing company, Bemenabu Promotions. The film is targeted for international audience with the objective to attract more international financiers to support the CMP implementation in Ethiopia. The promotion film was approved by the 6th Rural Water Supply Network (RWSN) Forum organizers and it was presented in Kampala in December, 2011. The SvB approved to send a delegation to the RWSN conference to promote the CMP approach and also to network with potential financiers for the CMP. A delegation of 11 participants travelled to Uganda, Kampala to participate in the 6th International RWSN Forum on November 29-December 2, 2011. Participants included nine persons from MoWE including State Minister H.E. Kebede Gerba, MoFED and COWASH and two from the regions funded by the organizer. The delegation also had several meetings and appointments with other stakeholders (IRC, WB, AfDB, etc.) on self-supply, sanitation, household water treatment and financing CMP in Ethiopia and participated in various co-seminars with specialized focus. Some persons of the delegation also participated in the field visits organized.



COWASH, MoWE, MoFED and regional staff at the RWSN conference in Kampala

The project's website was updated regularly during the first six months. The project has an official domain www.cowashethiopia.com. The website is used to disseminate basic information on the COWASH project and will also be utilized to provide additional access to certain policies of MoWE (such as the WIF and UAP documents) in the future. Moreover, another domain was registered (www.cmpethiopia.org) and the content was developed during December 2011-January 2012. A contract for website development and hosting services for 3 years was agreed upon with IRC. The official launch of the international web page shall happen in February 2012 and all the TA staff members will receive email addresses of the form firstname.lastname@cmpethiopia.org. The www.cmpethiopia.org will act as the main web site for the CMP approach in the future.

The TA Team produced 650 CMP table calendars together with a local printing agency and a designer. The calendars are targeted for the federal, regional, zonal and woreda levels. Every level has a different design that includes all the CMP-related activities to be accomplished during each month and the respective responsible bodies for these activities. Two banners were also designed and produced: one presenting the results of the RWSEP programme and one presenting the benefits of CMP. The COWASH brochure was finalized during the first quarter and was printed out. The CMP logo and slogan were finalized in January, 2012. The logo now has an English and Amharic version. A 4-page brochure on the WSP's CDF evaluation report and a short briefing note on "Starting CMP in your country" is under development.



CMP logos and slogans in English and Amharic

Negotiations on having one page dedicated for COWASH progress in Ethiopia in the quarterly WaSH bulletin published by the WaSH Movement were undertaken. Moreover, a WaSH Communications Brainstorming workshop was organized on October 31, 2011 in order to engage WaSH stakeholders in a sector-wider communications development. The aim is to collaborate closely with the National WaSH Coordination Office in order to harmonize WaSH communications.

Preparations for the 6th World Water Forum 2012 in Marseille, France progressed. The CMP approach will be highly visible in the forum. The CMP approach has been added on the Solution

List on the World Water Forum home pages for commenting and it has been approved to three different solution categories: "Innovative Financing for Local Stakeholders", "Global Rural Access to Safe Water" and "Innovative Financing Mechanisms". Adding to this, the CMP approach is now competing to become a solution in the "Village of Solutions". The organizers of the Finnish pavilion in World Water Forum have approved CMP as one of the side events (a one hour introduction and debate) in the pavilion.

Team building and orientation workshop with Water Supply and Sanitation Directorate of MoWE and COWASH staff was organized on November 26, 2011 and the COWASH Federal level Kick-Off meeting was held on December 22, 2011. Participation in the meeting was excellent, having representatives from governmental bodies such as MoWE and MoFED, donors such as the World Bank and African Development Bank, NGOs such as WaterAid, Plan Ethiopia, SNV and RiPPLE. The meeting was conducted in a relaxed atmosphere and in positive spirit. Speeches, presentations and discussions were open, active, lively and encouraging. Questions, comments, remarks, contributions and replies given were precise, clear and valuable. The meeting was closed by H.E. Kebede Gerba, State Minister in good, positive and promising atmosphere focusing on the future. The meeting was also well covered by the Ethiopian Media such as ETV and Capital. The kick-off meeting day was also last working day for Mr. Antti Inkinen from the Embassy of Finland. Mr. Inkinen's contribution to Ethiopian WaSH sector during his nearly 4 year term was remarkable. COWASH wishes him success in his new challenging work in Bangkok, Thailand.



COWASH National kick-off meeting on December 22, 2011

The CMP research proposal on the CMP research programme was sent to "Maa- ja Vesitekniiikan Tuki ry" for approval in December 2011 and was partly approved in January 2012. The approved grant of 30,000 EUR covers the travelling and per diem expenses of one doctoral level student, three Master level students and one Bachelor level student. The

students were already selected and the preliminary meetings regarding research topics, data provision and schedules started in January 2011. Negotiations with RiPPLE about the research programme coordination are on-going.

4.1.8 Capacity for CMP implementation developed at the federal level based on assessed needs

The capacity building principles at all levels including the federal level were drafted within the first quarter. The principles were considered on the basis of WIF, which was completed on August 16th.

To create a more detailed plan for capacity building for CMP implementation at the federal level requires not only the completed and approved WIF and the operative stakeholders described in it, but also the existing capacity must be assessed. In this context, COWASH is cooperating with UNESCO, who has launched comprehensive water sector capacity building assessment consultancy.

However, there were a couple of actions taken to improve the federal level capacity in CMP approach and WaSH development in general already during the first six months. The short film on CDF/CMP implementation was prepared and presented on several occasions and a delegation of nine persons was agreed to be registered to participate in the 6th Rural Water Supply and Sanitation Network (RWSN) Forum in Kampala, November 28th – December 2nd.

One way to improve the capacity for CMP implementation at the federal level is to provide the decision makers and federal level authorities with scientific research results of CMP functionality and effects. For this purpose, the CMP research programme was initiated.

Team building and orientation workshop with Water Supply and Sanitation Directorate of MoWE and COWASH staff was organized on November 26, 2011 and the COWASH Federal level Kick-Off meeting was held on December 22, 2011. Both occasions remarkably added CMP awareness among the federal level stakeholders.

4.1.9 Future development of COWASH

After her country visit to Ethiopia, Finland's International Development Minister Heidi Hautala approved the additional COWASH fund request of 11 Million EUR. The additional fund will be available for 2005 EFY planning provided that the revised Project Document of COWASH is approved.

Brainstorming on new COWASH scenarios and logical framework was held with COWASH staff and short term consultants and the contents of "full WaSH approach" were drafted. This helps the design of "One Rural WaSH Program" and new COWASH Project Document.



Finland's International Development Minister Heidi Hautala visited COWASH office in October 2011

5 COMPONENT 2: CMP DEVELOPMENT IN TIGRAY, OROMIA AND SOUTHERN REGIONS

The goal of this Component is to strengthen the regional capacity and systems for the implementation of the CMP financing mechanism in 'new' regions where applicable and feasible.

The expected results of the Component 2 are:

- Sufficient institutional and human capacity in targeted regions, zones and woredas to plan, manage, monitor and implement CMP with support from the federal level
- High awareness in targeted regions, zones, woredas and external financiers on CMP, its methods, approaches, feasibility and benefits

5.1 TIGRAY REGION

On April 14, 2011 Tigray Bureau of Water Resource wrote a letter to RWSEP expressing their interest and commitment to implement CDF approach in Tigray. In that letter 250,000 Birr was already allocated from Bureau of Water Resource for the project. Initiated by this letter a meeting was organized in Tigray on September 5, 2011 having representative from the Embassy of Finland, Bureau of Water, Bureau of Planning and Finance, UNICEF and COWASH. In this meeting the action points to establish COWASH in Tigray were agreed upon. As a result Tigray BoPF sent a letter to the Embassy of Finland on the allocation of 6,5 Million ETB for

COWASH implementation in 10 woredas. Based on this letter CTA held a meeting in Tigray with Bureau of Water to discuss implementation scenarios based on the available budgets and selected woredas. This meeting came to the conclusion that only 7 woredas can be included in the COWASH support during the next 3 years due to the limited available budget allocations. Furthermore it was concluded that the selected scenario implementation requires additional budget commitment from the Tigray Region. The scenario developed with Bureau of Water is presented here below. The scenario assumes that Tigray Region contribution in the coming 3 years should be ETB 18,678,750 and Government of Finland contribution ETB 14,181,805. With this budget allocation a total of 420 water points could be constructed in seven woredas (Ofla, Enda Mohoni, Saharti Samre, Degua Temben, Medebay Zana, Naeder Adet and Tahtay Maichew).

Tigray Summary plan for 2004-2005 EFY

		2004 EFY	2005 EFY	2006 EFY	TOTAL	Grand Totals
No of Zones	No	0	0	0	0	
No of woredas	No	2	2	3	7	
No of kebeles	No	6	16	72	94	
No of artisans	No	30	30	45	105	
No of Water points	No	40	110	270	420	
No of beneficiaries	No	12,000	33,000	81,000	126,000	
No of institutional toilets	No	0	0	0	-	

GOE contribution	Birr	1,874,500	4,913,000	11,891,250	18,678,750	
GOF contribution	Birr	2,705,030	4,043,980	7,432,795	14,181,805	
GRAND TOTAL in BIRR						32,860,555

GOE contribution	EUR	78,104	204,708	495,469	778,281	
GOF Contribution	EUR	112,710	168,499	309,700	590,909	
Grand Total in EUR						1,369,190

Costs per capita	Birr	Including regional costs				261
Costs per capita	EUR	Including regional costs				11
Costs per capita	USD	Including regional costs				15

The baseline data collection in Tigray Region was carried out by three consultants and the final woreda and regional level reports were delivered in January 2012.

The Embassy of Finland drafted a funding agreement for COWASH Tigray support, but the agreement could not be finalized due to the non-conformity of the Tigray Region contribution and absence of the BoPF Head for a long period. However, the financing agreement was finally signed between Embassy and BoFED in November 19, 2011.

Simultaneously UNICEF has started the implementation of the project *"Integrating WaSH, Multiple Use Services and Community Based Nutrition for Improved Food Security and Reproductive and Sexual Health"* with support from the Government of the Netherlands and Canada. This project includes a WaSH component and CMP implementation in two selected woredas of Tigray (Amba Alaje and Hauzen). A two days' planning workshop was organized jointly with UNICEF. As a result 2004 EFY annual work plans for Tigray region and three selected woredas were developed. Moreover, a 3-months' Road Map with detailed deadlines and responsibilities was signed by the participants.

Regional Support Unit (RSU) ToR including the job descriptions of the proposed Regional Support Unit (RSU) staff was finalized and distributed to Tigray. The RSU recruitment started and the COWASH TA team prepared the questionnaires for the RSU technical and financial staff candidates. RSU staff was selected in early January 2012 based on the written tests only. Financial specialist had to be re-advertised as none scored over 50 % out of 100. COWASH component 2 fund request of Birr 3,300,460 was submitted by the Tigray Region to the Government of Finland in early December 2011 and funds from Finland are expected to arrive early February 2012. The selected RSU members visited Amhara and Benishangul-Gumuz regions in early January 2012 to familiarize for practical CMP implementation

The first CMP trainings were held in Wukro during 24.1.-31.1.2012 for 4 woredas. The training included two trainings: one on CMP management and one on promotion, application preparation, appraisal, and monitoring & evaluation of CMP approach.

Tigray's regional kick-off meeting is planned to take place in mid-February, 2012 and the Board Meeting on February 28. At the time of writing, the need for close supervision of the COWASH establishment is still under discussion. A national short term consultancy has been proposed to reinforce CMP implementation follow-up.

5.2 OROMIA REGION

On May 5, 2011 Oromia Water, Mines and Energy Bureau wrote a letter to MoWE and expressed their interest and commitment to implement CDF approach in Oromia region with readiness to allocate its own funding for project implementation. As a result several consultations were held with Oromia Water, Minerals and Energy Bureau and the Bureau selected the five woredas from two zones for COWASH intervention for the year EFY 2004 (Gumay, Kersa, Nonobensa from Jimma Zone and Jida and Abichu from North Shewa zone).

On August 18, 2011 a one-day workshop was held with representatives from Oromia Water, Minerals and Energy Bureau, Bureau of Health, from the 2 zones and 4 woredas. In this workshop an action plan on the establishment of COWASH support to the selected zones and woredas was agreed upon.

Unfortunately the Oromia region could not officially confirm their financial contribution to COWASH. Therefore CTA made a scenario plan based on Finnish support of selected zones and woredas in September 2011. As a result of the scenario a total of ETB 41,940,100 is required from the Regional Government and Finnish contribution would be ETB 10,201,882. With this budget a total of 635 water points could be constructed. The Oromia Scenario is presented hereunder.

Summary plan for 2004-2005 EFY

		2004 EFY	2005 EFY	2006 EFY	TOTAL
No of Zones	No	2	0	0	2
No of woredas	No	5	0	0	5
No of kebeles	No	15	9	0	24
No of artisans	No	75	30	0	105
No of Water points	No	125	215	295	635
No of beneficiaries	No	37,500	64,500	88,500	190,500
No of institutional toilets	No	10	10	10	30
GOE contribution	Birr	7,872,500	13,570,900	20,496,700	41,940,100
GOF contribution	Birr	5,752,032	2,383,975	2,065,875	10,201,882
GOE contribution	EUR	328,021	565,454	854,029	1,747,504
GOF Contribution	EUR	239,668	99,332	86,078	425,078

Oromia Water Bureau, BoFED and Regional President approved verbally the 44 METB Oromia Regional Government's contribution for COWASH for three years (October 20, 2011). Unfortunately there were no practical actions from Oromia to confirm this in writing and to proceed for agreement signing. A lot of follow-up was done by the Embassy and COWASH, but the progress was slow. On December 2, 2011 Oromia region cabinet approved nine METB from the regional budget for COWASH implementation in 2004 EFY. This was later on confirmed by the President of Oromia and start up meeting was organized in the Oromia Water Bureau office. As a result representatives from 5 woredas, 2 zones and region (including Oromia Credit and Savings Shareholding Company and BoFED) went to Amhara region to visit old RWSEP project and familiarized with the CMP implementation. End of January 2012 the negotiations between Oromia BoFED and Embassy of Finland for the COWASH Component 2 Financing Agreement are still ongoing.

UNICEF is also starting CMP implementation in Oromia with 4 woredas in 2004 EFY (Boset, Kore, Goby-Sayo and Jarso).

The two days' CMP planning workshop was organized in Debrezeit on 2.-3.1.2012. Unfortunately UNICEF could not join the planning session due to their other parallel commitments. As a result, woreda, zone and region level work plans, budgets and the road map action plan were finalized. The trainings are planned to take place end February 2012 and the RSU need to be established before that. The Oromia Board is foreseen on March 3, 2012.

5.3 SNNPR

On July 4, 2011 Southern Nations, Nationalities and People's Region (SNNPR) Water Resource Bureau wrote a letter to MoWE and expressed their interest and commitment to implement the CMP approach in SNNPR region with readiness to allocate its own funding for project implementation. As a result first consultation meeting was held on September 29, 2011. The meeting delayed due to the absence of the Water Bureau head from SNNPR and it took also time to get all relevant stakeholders to sit together. The Meeting was a success and the COWASH scenario planning meeting was held in SNNPR on October 12, 2011.

This meeting came to the conclusion that only 4 woredas can be included in the COWASH support due to the limited available budget allocations. Furthermore it was concluded that the

selected scenario implementation requires essential budget commitment from SNNPR. The scenario developed with Bureau of Water and Bureau of Finance and Economic Development is presented here below. The scenario assumes that SNNPR region contribution in the coming 3 years should be ETB 16,551,750 and Government of Finland contribution ETB 10,262,121. With this budget allocation a total of 381 water schemes could be constructed in 4 woredas (Chencha and Arbamich Zhuria + 2 other woredas to be decided for 2005 EFY planning). The summary of the plan is presented below. The process for SNNPR budget allocation is in the process during the time of reporting.

SNNPR Summary plan for 2004-2005 EFY

		2004 EFY	2005 EFY	2006 EFY	TOTAL	Grand Totals
No of Zones	No	1	0	0	1	1
No of woredas	No	2	1	1	4	4
No of kebeles	No	10	10	40	60	60
No of artisans	No	30	15	15	60	60
No of Water points	No	46	113	222	381	381
No of beneficiaries	No	13,800	33,900	66,600	114,300	114,300
No of institutional toilets	No	0	0	0	-	-

GOE contribution	Birr	2,071,900	4,940,450	9,539,400	16,551,750	
GOF contribution	Birr	2,559,996	3,060,780	4,641,345	10,262,121	
GRAND TOTAL in BIRR						26,813,871

GOE contribution	EUR	86,329	205,852	397,475	689,656	
GOF Contribution	EUR	106,667	127,533	193,389	427,588	
Grand Total in EUR						1,117,245

Costs per capita	Birr	Including regional costs				235
Costs per capita	EUR	Including regional costs				10
Costs per capita	USD	Including regional costs				14

UNICEF is planning to include 2 woredas in SNNPR for CMP implementation (Selti and Gurage). Furthermore the selected woredas', zones', region's relevant representatives (RiPPLE, UNICEF, OMO Microfinance institution) visited Amhara on October 18-20, 2011 in order to understand more thoroughly the principles and lessons of CDF implementation in Amhara. The 2004 EFY planning workshop for 2 COWASH woredas took place in Sodo Wolayita on 8.-9.11.2011. Due to certain administrative reasons the UNICEF woredas were not able to join the planning workshop. As a result 2004 EFY annual work plans for SNNPR region, zone and 2 woredas were developed and detailed 3-months road map with deadlines and responsibilities was signed.

SNNPR BoFED and Embassy of signed COWASH Component 2 financing agreement in 23 November 2011 and a fund request of ETB 4,541,310 was submitted by SNNPR to Government of Finland in early December 2011. Funds from Finland are expected to arrive SNNPR early February 2012.

Regional Support Unit (RSU) ToR including the job descriptions of the proposed RSU staff was finalized and distributed to SNNPR in December 2011. Consequently the recruitment process of the RSU team was on-going the whole December and was completed late January 2012.

In SNNPR the baseline data collection is carried out by the woredas themselves without external support. Baseline data was completed in December and the data was sent to Federal TA team for further analysis. The TA team's CDF Specialist and M&E Specialist visited the SNNPR and provided assistance to the stakeholders and also discussed their progress. The proposal on the external short term support to SNNPR is still under discussion.

6 COMPONENT 3: CMP DEVELOPMENT IN AMHARA

The main purpose of the Component 3 is the scaling-up of community-led WaSH and implementation of CMP financing mechanism in Amhara region.

The expected results of Component 3 are:

- All zones and most woredas in Amhara region have basic capacity to plan, implement and monitor CMP with support available from the region
- The 14 former RWSEP woredas have full capacity to plan, implement and monitor CMP to achieve universal access in areas feasible for the approach
- New water points and institutional latrines constructed in former RWSEP woredas with the CMP approach with Finnish support. Implementation of the CMP approach by the Amhara Regional Government and other donors supported by technical assistance provided by the Project.
- CMP approach tested for advanced technology options
- Harmonized joint financing arrangement operational for CMP

In Amhara region the planning and selection of woredas for CMP implementation has been ongoing with the help from RWSEP. All selected woredas have completed their EFY 2004 plans. The summary of the Amhara 2004 EFY plans and estimate for 2005 and 2006 EFY based on the original COWASH budget allocation is presented hereunder.

COWASH Component 3 budget	Government of Finland in Birr			Government of Ethiopia in Birr		
	2004	2005	2006	2004	2005	2006
	Planned	Estimate	Estimate	Planned	Estimate	Estimate
RSU personnel	1 666 146	2 655 569	2 937 108			
Regional TA	1 443 251	2 088 085	2 331 961			
Support staff	172 237	249 192	278 295			
National short-term TA		245 000	245 000			
Other staff	50 658	73 292	81 852			
RSU expenses	1 578 045	2 367 067	2 315 068			
Mobility, equipment, supplies	1 490 045	2 235 067	2 235 068			
Training, workshops						
Miscellaneous	88 000	132 000	80 000			
Investments	55 808 389	59 363 708	9 900 000	25 438 780	44 123 000	48 340 000
Investment	29 239 000	33 000 000	0	20 537 000	39 123 000	43 340 000
Capacity building	16 139 819	14 053 708	5 000 000	0	0	0
Operational costs	10 429 570	12 310 000	4 900 000	4 901 780	5 000 000	5 000 000
COMPONENT 3 TOTAL	59 052 580	64 386 344	15 152 176	25 438 780	44 123 000	48 340 000

The total GoF Component 3 contribution is estimated to be ETB 138,591,100 (with exchange rate of 1 EUR = 23 Birr) and the Government of Amhara region EFY 2004 investment contribution is estimated to be ETB 20,537,000. The GoE contribution for the coming EFY 2005 and 2006 are still to be confirmed by the Regional Government. With this planning 1,196 water points and 30 institutional latrines are going to be constructed in the coming three years in GoF supported 16 woredas. In EFY 2004 a total of 430 water points are planned to be constructed in the 11 Regional Government supported woredas. Due to the regional regulations the Regional Government contribution is only to support the water supply but not the institutional sanitation. The progress is presented in the table below.

CMP-Financer	Planned water points	WPs Application	Desk appraisal	Field Appraisal	Approved by WWT
GOF	540	776	751	173	115
ANRS-WRDB	430	468	428	139	0
UNICEF	337	228	169	118	62
Total	1307	1512	1348	430	177

COWASH developed three scenarios for Amhara, which were presented to the Water and Finance Bureau heads in January 2012. These scenarios will be used in Revised COWASH Project Document planning. These three scenarios are presented hereunder.

1. In scenario 1 the project is implemented as planned at the moment (16 RWSEP woredas and 11 water bureau woredas). In this scenario no water points constructed anymore in 16 GoF woredas during 2006 EFY due to the lack of GoF funds. As a result only 74 % of the Amhara region investment fund allocation can be utilized. Number of beneficiaries is about 770,000 and per capita cost 12.6 EUR/capita. Institutional sanitation only in GF woredas in 2004-2005 EFY. Physical capacity building of GoE 11 woredas (mobility and dewatering) not included.
2. In scenario 2 all investments in all 27 woredas are funded by the Amhara region starting from 2005 EFY. GoF funding is used in 2005-2006 EFY only for capacity building. As a result Regional Government funds will be used 100 % and all remaining 11 woredas capacity is built properly (mobility and dewatering). Construction is going on in all woredas every year. No institutional sanitation funded as Regional Government investment fund can be used only for water. Beneficiaries about 750,000 and per capita cost 14.5 EUR/capita.
3. In scenario 3 only 8 woredas anymore under GoF investment funding and 19 woredas under GoE investment funding starting from 2005 EFY. As a result Regional Government investment funds will be used 100 %. Institutional sanitation not constructed due to Regional Government regulations. No mobility and dewatering capacity of the remaining 11 woredas built. Beneficiaries will be nearly 910,000 and per capita cost is 12 EUR/capita.

RWSEP closing was planned for October 25, 2011 and plan was that Finland's International Development Minister Heidi Hautala will close the RWSEP. Unfortunately the visit to Amhara was cancelled due to airplane technical failure and instead the Minister and the delegation visited COWASH office in MoWE.

The lengthy process of selecting personnel for Amhara Regional Support Unit was finalized end of September 2011. The following candidates were selected:

1. CMP Specialist (optional Regional Team Leader): Ato Abrham Kebede
2. Financial Planning and Management Specialist: Ato Muluneh Genetu
3. Capacity Development Specialist: Ato Mulatu Ferede
4. Accounting Specialist: Ato Anemut Admasu
5. Zonal Adviser: Ato Muluneh Abeje
6. Zonal Adviser: Ato Minilik Wube
7. Zonal Adviser: Ato Addisu Fente

Contracts with all selected specialists were signed in October 2011.

The agreement between GoE and Amhara region for COWASH Component 3 implementation was signed in November 18, 2011. Consequently the Amhara Regional Support Unit was mobilized. Internal rules and regulations of the RSU were developed, cars were maintained and tripartite agreement between BoFED, WRDB and ACSI has been signed. BoFED could not make service agreement directly with ACSI due to regional financial regulations.



RWSEP annual meeting in Bahir Dar in September 2011

6.1.1 Other activities conducted in Amhara

- In Amhara region the zone and woreda level capacity building started. WWTs were trained for CMP management and appraisals of CMP applications and RSU team members were oriented simultaneously
- RSU Amhara was hosting the visit of Oromia CMP delegation of about 30 people, SNNPR delegation of another 30 people and Tigray delegation of 6 people.
- Updating, duplication and distribution of CMP formats done
- Tax Identification Number received and withholding receipt book printed
- RSU bank account opened
- Procurement of office equipment for RSU completed
- Extra RWSEP assets handing over to BoFED not yet realized in December but principles for handing over were agreed in January 2012.
- Visiting nearly all RWSEP and UNICEF woredas
- RWSEP savings transferred to COWASH 4,176,408 Birr
- From this transferred region, zone and woredas 4,166,021 Birr
- WRDB investment budget transferred to ACSI 11,000,000 for 11 woredas

7 COORDINATION

The number of actors in WaSH sector is numerous and many “happenings” are taking place in fast tendency. COWASH tries to keep close relations with important stakeholders in the sector. This is the short list of coordination efforts made during the first six months of the project.

7.1 COORDINATION WITH NATIONAL WASH INVENTORY TASK FORCE

The implementation of the National WaSH Inventory (NWI) has been ongoing. At the moment the inventory situation is that data has been collected in all woredas and the inventory reports are with the region’s Water Bureaus. The data entry into the computers is ongoing in all regions. It is expected that the data entry will be completed in the end of February 2012 and then the data analysis can start with the help of the MIS system. COWASH has participated in the Inventory Task Force meetings providing inputs in the process development. COWASH has a good opportunity to strengthen the National Inventory Task Force with its M&E Specialist.

7.2 COORDINATION WITH WORLD BANK, DFID AND AFRICAN DEVELOPMENT BANK WSP AND WSSP

The World Bank, DFID and African Development Bank are the main stakeholders in Ethiopia’s WaSH development. The World Bank Water and Sanitation Program-Africa and WSSP supported by the World Bank, DFID and RWSSP supported by AfDB are the main WaSH programs in the country and the WSSP and RWSSP are operative in 333 woredas. WSP-Africa and WSSP have also developed several guidelines and training manuals, which are contributing to the CMP development in Ethiopia. WB-WSP has organized several workshops on sanitation research. There are two relevant researches on this topic on-going: the first one is called “Rural Sanitation Supply/Value Chain Analysis in Amhara Regional State” and the other one is to create an evidence based communication and marketing strategy in sanitation and health and it is performed in selected woredas in all the four regions where also COWASH is currently operating. COWASH sees these researches important tools for CMP development and is therefore closely following up the outcomes. Further development is taking place in sanitation

sector and COWASH is closely coordinating efforts with the WB-WSP in order to harmonize sanitation and hygiene education and promotion implementation as part of WaSH.

During the first six months, COWASH also participated in various meetings with WB, AfDB and DFID. These included the WSP sanitation research workshop arranged by WB in October and the meeting on new CMP/WaSH scenarios and COWASH role in Ethiopian WaSH sector in general and in One Rural WaSH Program development in particular with WB.

Furthermore several individual level discussions have been held with WB, AfDB, DFID, WSP and UNICEF on the WaSH development in Ethiopia in general and COWASH role in this in particular.

7.3 COORDINATION WITH DAG WATER AND WATER SECTOR WORKING GROUP

DAG Water Technical Working Group (TWG) is the main forum for donor coordination in WaSH. DAG Water TWG meetings have become important forums for COWASH to gain information on the ongoing developments in the sector and to disseminate important COWASH related information for major stakeholders. Embassy of Finland is playing pro-active role in the DAG Water TWG as a co-chair. COWASH has become also a member of DAG Water TWG. Another high level donor coordination forum is Water Sector Working Group (WSWG). The WSWG has been focusing mainly on WaSH development in Ethiopia but recent development made is suggesting that WSWG has to focus also more for the water resource issues. As a result revised ToR for WSWG was prepared and the ToR was discussed in the WSWG meeting on December 22, 2011 chaired by the State Minister of MoWE.

Other DAG water meetings were held on October 27 2011, December 1 2011 and January 25 2012.

7.4 COORDINATION WITH MULTI-STAKEHOLDER FORUM

Multi-Stakeholder Forum (MSF) is the highest governing body of WaSH sector. MSF meetings are normally organized once a year. Due to the delay in 2010 the MSF meeting was exceptionally held in April 2011. COWASH was represented in this Forum as well where main sector development undertakings were discussed. The 5th MSF was planned to be held on November 2011, but this plan was not realized. COWASH as part of the MoWE capacity building can in the future contribute a lot in the planning and implementing MFS meetings and in developing MSF meeting materials and reports.

7.5 COORDINATION WITH UNESCO

COWASH found out that UNESCO is conducting WaSH sector capacity building baseline survey at National level and in all regions. Connection with the implementing consultants has been established and COWASH is following this survey development in order to avoid any overlapping with the survey and to be in front line to get information from the consultants. However, UNESCO consultants haven't provided any information on their progress during the last months. COWASH also participated in the rapid groundwater development workshop organized by UNESCO.

7.6 COORDINATION WITH UNICEF

UNICEF is an important partner for COWASH collaboration as UNICEF is actively implementing CMP approach in 7 woredas in Amhara region and is planning to start CMP implementation in 2 woredas on Tigray and SNNPR regions and in 4 woredas of Oromia region.

Consultative meeting was held with UNICEF WaSH Bahir Dar, RWSEP and government partners based on the feedback received from Embassy of Finland, on UNICEF status in implementing Community Managed Project/Community Development Fund in Amhara region. In the meetings held in Amhara many important issues were addressed / decided and harmonization in CMP implementation achieved.

COWASH participated in the UNICEF/Netherland/CIDA funded WaSH, MUS and CBN project planning workshop *"Integrating WaSH, Multiple Use Services and Community Based Nutrition for Improved Food Security and Reproductive and Sexual Health"* on November 1-3, 2011 and in the WaSH Networking meeting on January 16-18, 2012 and further collaboration has been initiated regarding capacity building coordination.

7.7 COORDINATION WITH FINNWASH-BG

Finland Government supported FinnWaSH Programme in the Benishangul-Gumuz region is using CMP approach effectively. It has been reported that FinnWaSH project has successfully developed an approach of using CMP funding for technically more complicated project implementation such as shallow borehole drilling and gravity scheme construction. FinnWaSH has also successfully established strong woreda level Artisan Associations, which could serve as service providers in larger scale CMP projects and the WASHCO legalization process has been completed. The FinnWaSH project was recently evaluated by external consultants. COWASH contributed to the review team's views and comments in organized discussion forums.

Another important link with FinnWaSH is the training manual development at all levels. Related to this, the COWASH Process Facilitation Specialist visited FinnWaSH program in Gilgel Beles in October and collected the latest manuals and guidelines. Experience sharing with FinnWaSH in new CMP regions is seen an important asset for the scaling-up of CMP. Also the experiences FinnWaSH is gaining in CMP approach in implementing more complicated WaSH projects than hand dug wells and protected springs will be followed and utilized by COWASH. Moreover, COWASH received the gender mainstreaming strategy of FinnWaSH and considers the gender mainstreaming related issues as a valuable experience sharing between the projects. Also collaboration in producing a CMP animation, GIS/GPS experience sharing and support to the CMP research programme are under discussion.

7.8 COORDINATION WITH SNV

SNV is supporting many developments in WaSH sector in Ethiopia. COWASH has been assisting SNV in the new project proposal development of: "Local Capacity Development Facility (LCDF) Project". The aim of the new project is to strengthen demand through supporting woredas, kebeles and community groups in developing their capacities to articulate and procure the consultancy services they need and strengthening supply through supporting WaSH Consultants in their endeavours to establish themselves as resilient entrepreneurs delivering high quality services to their clients. It is planned that COWASH interventions will benefit from this cooperation and alignment. COWASH already contributed for the drafting of the project

implementation manual for LCDF project. There is great synergy with COWASH an LCDF project and it has been proposed that the established RSUs could also accommodate the LCDF project implementers in order to keep close coordination of capacity building in WaSH sector.

Furthermore SNV has been supporting Guided Learning on Water and Sanitation (GLOWS) development. GLOWS approach developed by Jan Teun Visscher (IRC / private consultancy company MetaMeta) has been successfully tested in Southern region. GLOWS uses local Technical and Vocational Education and Training Centres (TVETCs) to train woreda level staff in WaSH. GLOWS is not using traditional message delivery systems, but is rather mobilizing the WaSH practitioners for self-learning in their actual work place. This strengthens the practical skills of the TVETCs graduates who normally have only theoretical knowledge. COWASH sees this method as an opportunity in CMP capacity building and a promising tool in accelerating capacity building in the WaSH sector and is closely developing the approach with Jan Teun Visscher to be adopted in future COWASH interventions in other regions than SNNPR. GLOWS approach is considered to be tested also on the federal level. This could take its place when UAP2, SAP, WIF and the new project document of COWASH are all officially approved. A concept note of developing the usage of GLOWS training approach in the regions was prepared for further discussions with IRC/J.Visscher and meetings are planned for February 2012.

Recently COWASH was informed that the responsibility for CMP capacity activities of the UNICEF/Netherland/CIDA funded project "Integrating WaSH, Multiple Use Services and Community Based Nutrition for Improved Food Security and Reproductive and Sexual Health" has been given to SNV. Consequently, COWASH and SNV will have a very close collaboration in the future.

7.9 COORDINATION WITH RIPPLE

RiPPLE has also been seen as an important partner in COWASH implementation as RiPPLE as an organization is able to produce evidence/research based information which will help COWASH in promotion of CMP nationally and internationally. Furthermore RiPPLE is planning to establish WaSH Resource Centres in all main regions. COWASH has seen an opportunity to link this development into RSU establishment and as such use the opportunity of RSUs to become WaSH resource centres at least in some of the regions.

During the first six months, coordination meetings with RiPPLE were held. The issues that were discussed included joint coordinating efforts of Forum for Learning on Water Supply and Sanitation (FLOWS) and Learning and Practise Alliances. COWASH has moreover considered employing RiPPLE as an organization to coordinate the CMP research programme from April 2012 to March 2013 and discussions have been undertaken.

7.10 COORDINATION WITH THE WASH MOVEMENT

WaterAid Ethiopia is hosting the WaSH Movement program which is an advocacy program for hygiene and sanitation. COWASH has actively participated in WaSH Movement monthly meetings and is planning to have one page in the WaSH Movement quarterly magazine to inform public and stakeholders on COWASH progress in Ethiopia. WaSH Movement organized one and half day Media Managers Workshop in Awassa (Southern region) where COWASH also participated in order to establish networks and learn on the WaSH promotion. The WaSH Movement is active in WaSH sector communications and therefore an important partner for COWASH. Moreover, WaSH Movement will be establishing Regional Chapters in certain regions

and the coordination of capacity building activities with regard to this organizational structure is necessary.

7.11 COORDINATION WITH SOLAR AND WIND POWER PROJECT

This project is financed by the African Development Bank and its inception Phase was finished in December 2011. The purpose of the project is to promote and pilot the use of solar and wind energy for water pumping in rural areas of Ethiopia, and so to initiate development of a long term investment in these technologies. One of the project's objectives is to change 70 existing diesel driven water schemes into solar and wind energy driven schemes. The major strategy in the implementation is to increase the capacity of the community to operate and maintain solar or wind powered water supply systems, and at National, Regional and District levels to implement future schemes. The project includes also involvement of private sector in providing equipment and services. In order to give long lasting sustainability outcomes this project needs to use CMP tools in financing and implementation. The project is also located in the MoWE. There is a good opportunity for COWASH to collaborate closely with this project in order to develop CMP funding mechanisms for more complicated technology projects.

A meeting with project's consultants was held in the Embassy of Finland in September but since then no information has been disseminated to COWASH with regard to the project's progress. The inception report workshop of the project was organized in November 2011.

7.12 COORDINATION WITH SELF-SUPPLY ACCELERATION PROJECT

The basic definition of Self Supply for Ethiopia is "Improvement to water supplies developed largely or wholly through user investment by households or small groups of households". Development of a Self-Supply Acceleration Programme (SSAP) is on-going at the moment. The aim of the SSAP is the same as COWASH: "to accelerate rural WaSH to meet UAP2 rural water and GTP targets." Self-Supply project needs similar promotion, application, appraisal, approval and capacity development, operates in same geographical areas and uses same private sector as COWASH. In self-supply the role of Micro Finance Institution to provide loans is important thus linking COWASH activities to self-supply. COWASH took part in the self-supply workshop and is a member of the Self Supply Task Force and therefore proactively and closely follows up and assists the Self-Supply Project Development. Self-Supply project development is financed by UNICEF and IRC. Possibility to include self-supply with regional RSU is worth of considering.

COWASH team members participated in a two-day workshop on Self Supply in November 2011 and consultative meetings and debriefing meetings were held with the SSAP and COWASH participated in the SSAP debriefing meeting. COWASH became member of the SSAP development task force and contributed and commented actively the draft guideline of SSAP implementation modality. The first Draft of National Policy Guidelines for Self-Supply in Ethiopia was submitted to the Sate Minister on January 27, 2012.



Self-supply meeting taking place in Kampala RWSN forum in November 2011

7.13 COORDINATION WITH IRC

IRC as Ramboll's partner in COWASH is playing many roles in the Ethiopian WaSH development. Mainly the IRC involvement is channelled through RiPPLE activities and IRC has been actively contributing to RiPPLE research activities and GLOWS development. IRC is also a partner in the recently launched Self-Supply Acceleration Programme. IRC contribution to COWASH and CMP development in Ethiopia can be seen through the following areas:

- a) Establishment of Regional Resource Centres in close cooperation with RiPPLE
- b) GLOWS development
- c) Training materials review and development
- d) CMP promotional/marketing material development
- e) COWASH and CMP "brand" and web page development and even hosting
- f) CMP media and communications strategy development
- g) Assistance in organizing seminars and workshops in the country. Special assistance in participation in international forums to promote CMP
- h) Assistance in the preparation of publications and acting as resource centre in sharing the publications internationally
- i) Assistance in COWASH and CMP research activities

In addition, IRC is currently implementing a project aiming at Multiple Use Water Services (MUS) to support household level economy and to create more sustainability. The project is situated in SNNPR and COWASH is following the progress of the project in order to learn from its experiences.

8 DEVIATIONS FROM THE WORK PLAN

There were many obstacles in the beginning of the project, which delayed a proper start-up of the COWASH project. Major obstacles are listed in the following:

- The project was supposed to start in June 2011 but early June the conditional letter from MoFED paralyzed the decision making in MoWE until mid July. Same time State Minister went for nearly 3 months training causing delays in coordination and decision making in the MoWE. For this reason it was impossible to organize kick-off meeting or Supervisory Board meeting and all necessary strategic and operative decisions were postponed to late September. In principle COWASH started on July 8, 2011 when MoFED approved MoWE response to MoWE's conditional letter and practically in September 21, when first SvB meeting was held and local specialists were selected.
- In July all government offices were busy due to the closing of fiscal year 2003 and therefore meetings were postponed to August. But during the same time was also European holiday season and important decision makers were on leave. Therefore the Supervisory Board meeting was postponed to late September. This delayed the national staff recruitment more than 2 months, which had negative impact on the start-up of necessary analysis of inception phase and regional capacity assessment and development.
- The complicated and partly even unclear bureaucracy has been causing some delay in the start-up of the project. For example the bank account opening was delayed seriously as the procedures and processes for the approval of the bank account were not clear for the staff in the MoFED Treasury.
- Memorandum of Understanding on WaSH coordination in Ethiopia, WaSH Implementation Framework and Universal Access Plans for Rural Water and Sanitation and Hygiene have not yet been signed by all partners. As a result Federal WaSH Steering Committee and Federal WaSH Technical Team are not yet operational. Also NWCO is not yet properly established. This means that the foundation to establish Community Managed Project (CMP) support does not exist yet.
- The establishment of Component 2 projects in 2004 EFY was originally planned only for Tigray. Anyhow, due to the demand from the regions the preparations to establish CMP in Oromia and SNNPR also started without adding Federal Technical Team capacity. The fund requests from Tigray and SNNPR were sent in mid December 2011 and funds for Tigray and SNNPR are expected to arrive from Finland early February 2012. This means that all the main capacity building activities of new regions will be carried out in February 2012. Oromia capacity building may delay to March 2012 due to slow progress in the approval of the Oromia contribution and finalization of the Financing Agreement. These will delay the start-up of the physical construction activities. Due to the busy months in the beginning of the fiscal year the finalization of the Inception report is also delayed. The first draft revised Project Document is expected to be ready at the end of January 2012.
- COWASH support is not yet part and parcel of the MoWE functions. MoWE has not yet assigned anybody from the MoWE to be in daily management of COWASH. All COWASH management is done with the WSSD Director. Director's time is very limited for COWASH. WSSD continues to conduct its internal meetings without COWASH representation.

9 TA COSTS (COMPONENT 1)

The total fees during the six months were EUR 208,990 which is slightly over than planned because international short term consultancy was not planned for the same period originally. Reimbursable costs were EUR 174,658 which is also slightly more than planned. The costs were slightly more than planned in Federal technical assistance team salaries and housing. The national level capacity building and national short term consultancy costs were EUR 32,278, which is less than planned. The underutilization is caused from the delays in national short term consultancies where all consultancy payments were postponed to January 2012. Total costs of component 1 during the first six months were EUR 415,926 representing 99 % utilization from the planned six months budget, 4 % utilization from the 2004 EFY budget and 17 % utilization from the total approved Component 1 budget (EUR 2,486,940.00).

More detailed breakdown of the costs is presented in the table below.

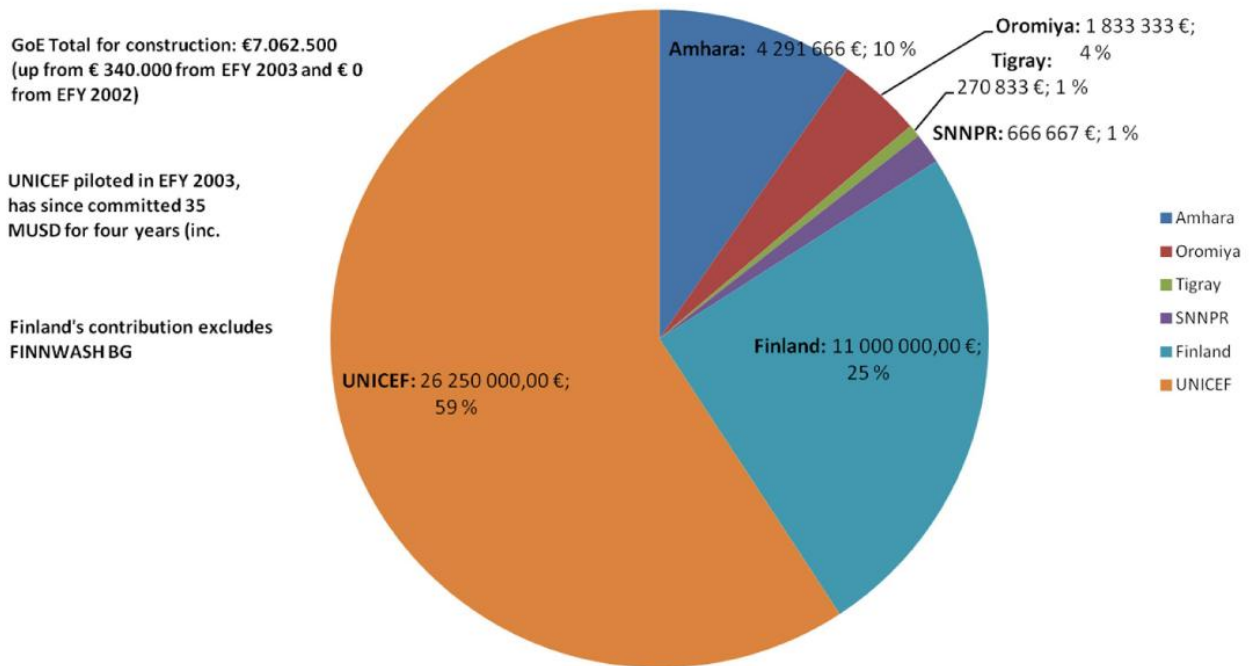
Cost breakdown of Component 1

Budget code description		2004	2004 six months plan	2004	2004 EFY											
All figures in Euro		BUDGET		Actual	Jul	Jul Actual	Aug	Aug Actual	Sep	Sep Actual	Oct	Oct Actual	Nov	Nov Actual	Dec	Dec Actual
A	Fees	419 464	194 580	208 990	32 550	32 550	34 062	34 062	31 038	31 038	32 550	32 550	32 550	34 062	31 830	44 729
1	International TA personnel	365 144	189 780	192 762	31 750	31 750	33 262	33 262	30 238	30 238	31 750	31 750	31 750	33 262	31 030	32 500
2	Home office Coordination and support fee	9 600	4 800	4 800	800	800	800	800	800	800	800	800	800	800	800	800
3	International short term expert fees	44 720	-	11 429											-	11 429
B	Reimbursables	349 310	172 800	174 658	23 919	23 906	18 522	74 744	58 139	8 121	10 250	10 284	27 500	16 042	34 470	41 560
1	Salaries and salary related costs of National TA and JPO	110 280	35 460	39 678	3 750	3 750	3 750	3 750	3 750	3 750	3 750	3 750	10 230	6 599	10 230	18 078
2	Local assisting support personnel costs	11 352	4 052	2 959	944	957	464	463	185	184	409	407	350	218	1 700	731
3	Travelling costs	74 565	27 845	26 741	5 437	5 429	2 414	2 412	3 228	3 224	1 446	1 439	7 700	6 482	7 620	7 755
4	Office establishment	17 128	8 728	8 190	1 948	1 946	809	608	296	293	1 775	1 771	2 700	2 305	1 200	1 267
5	Vehicle purchase	55 000	55 000	56 396				56 332	50 000		-		5 000	64		
6	Housing costs	47 241	22 741	25 449	3 862	3 857	10 655	10 654	337	336	187	187	100	13	7 600	10 403
7	Office running costs	19 343	9 373	6 449	1 892	1 883	360	455	415	407	2 566	2 613	1 320	324	2 820	766
8	School fees	10 534	7 534	6 996	4 524	4 524			(72)	(73)	82	82			3 000	2 463
9	Miscellaneous	3 867	2 067	1 800	1 562	1 561	70	70			35	35	100	37	300	97
C	National level capacity building and support	166 461	50 409	32 278	-	-	572	571	2 881	2 881	11 456	11 454	21 000	4 335	14 500	13 037
1	International level capacity building	54 456	21 456	22 746	-	-	-	-	-	-	11 456	11 454	10 000	(313)	-	11 605
2	National level capacity building	20 848	6 572	6 196	-	-	572	571	-	-	-	-	4 000	4 193	2 000	1 431
3	Local short term consultancies	91 157	22 381	3 336	-	-	-	-	2 881	2 881	-	-	7 000	456	12 500	-
GRAND TOTAL		935 235	417 789	415 926	56 469	56 456	53 156	109 377	92 058	42 040	54 256	54 288	81 050	54 439	80 800	99 325

10 CMP FUNDING

The total CMP commitment by different financiers in Ethiopia is at the time of reporting EUR 44,312,500¹. This does not include FinnWaSH project from Benishangul-Gumuz region. From the total commitments the Government of Finland share is 25 % (11 Million EUR). The highest CMP contribution comes from UNICEF (59 %) with support from the Netherland Government and CIDA. The pie below illustrates the present CMP financing sharing by source.

Community-Managed Projects (CMP) Financing Distribution by source, 2011-15 (EUR)



¹ Mr. Antti Inkinen from the Embassy of Finland