

WSSP

programme

Recommendations

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WASH and politics



- Policy-making will not be successful unless critical gaps in surveillance are addressed & monitoring indicators are improved
- Policies to ensure accessible WASH for good health & learning in schools should be improved
- Gap between policy ambitions & reality in schools



The approach of WSP

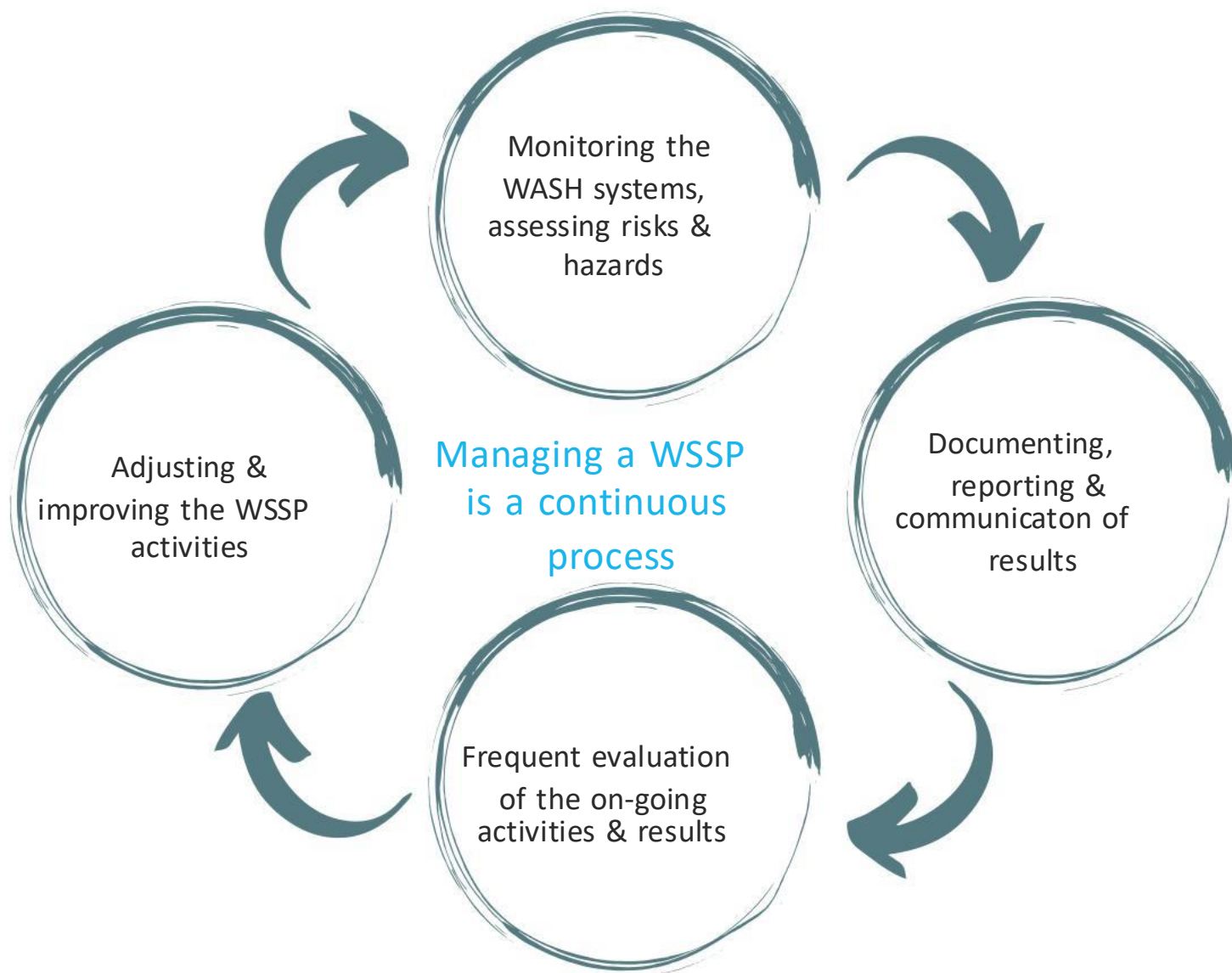


WSP: Identification and elimination of all possible risks

- Focus on the safety of all different stages of the system:
Managing risks from catchment to consumer
- Extensive monitoring, documentation, reporting & information
- WSP can be developed for small- & large-scale drinking water systems
- The principles of WSP can be transferred to other systems such as rainwater, wastewater, surface waters or sanitation systems



10. Monitoring & adjusting the WSSP activities



What we did-10 years



Compendium based on WHO guidelines on WSSP:

- **A: How to accomplish a WSSP?** → approach to develop a WSSP + basic and practical guidance in 10 steps.
- **B: Background information for developing WSSP** → technical and regulatory information
- **C: How to involve schools** → teaching materials

Water supply & sanitation can be improved through own action



What we did



Compendium Part D Plastic Tool

How to stop the flood of plastic

- With the hands-on tool for
 - environmental and health protection for schools, youth work and more.
- In order to sensitise young people to
- the topic of plastic, the environment
 - and health and to develop solutions to
 - the plastic crisis.



DOWNLOAD (DE)

DOWNLOAD (ENG)

What we did



Recommendations for Action

Menstrual Poverty and Products

Combating menstrual poverty and promoting menstrual health in the Balkans is particularly important, as unequal access to modern gynaecology, contraceptives and clean water exacerbates the challenges faced by menstruating women. In contrast to Central European countries, Balkan countries such as Bosnia and Herzegovina, North Macedonia, Albania, Kosovo and Serbia struggle with limited access to quality health facilities and modern reproductive health services. Rural areas in the Balkans often have difficult access to clean water and health facilities are burdened by conservative views on sexual and reproductive health. These factors contribute to inequalities in gynaecology and highlight the urgent need for comprehensive education, awareness-raising campaigns and policy change to effectively address reproductive poverty in the Balkans.

Recommendations for Action

Menstrual Poverty and Products

Provide facilities and access for menstrual care and menstrual products

- Equip facilities with clean and private restrooms, running H2O
- Access to water, sanitation and waste services
- Ensure the availability of menstrual products in rural and remote areas
- through partnerships with local NGOs
- Provide menstrual care facilities in public places, schools and install facilities for urgent menstrual care on the go and for homeless menstrual individuals

Best practice in N Macedonia where JHR supported 2 schools by providing free access to menstrual products

Conclusion

- Addressing menstrual health/hygiene management (MHM) requires a comprehensive, multi-faceted approach that ensures accessibilities, affordability and acceptance of menstrual products and care

Best Practice on Global Scale

- According to a Reuters article, Kenya became the first country in the world in 2004 to abolish VAT on menstrual products. Approximately seventeen other countries have followed its example, some abolishing it as well, others only reducing it [8].

- Twenty-five percent of World Bank education projects included components that addressed menstrual hygiene management, the provision of sanitary and hygienic toilets, or separate toilets for girls and boys in their schools [9].

Scotland provides menstruating individuals with free menstruation products in public toilets. Legislation legally compels local governments and education institutions to provide free menstrual products, according to a Time analysis [10].

By focusing on these key areas through collaborative efforts involving institutions, employers, policymakers, and communities, we can make significant strides in combating period poverty and promoting menstrual equity. Together, we can build a society where menstruation is no longer a barrier to anyone's potential and well-being.

Gender Justice in the WASH Sector



Gender disparities in the WASH sector can significantly impact the accessibility and quality of services provided, especially for women and girls who often bear the brunt of inadequate WASH facilities. [1] Ensuring gender equity involves addressing systemic barriers, empowering women in leadership roles, and integrating gender perspectives into all WASH policies and practices. By doing so, we not only enhance the sector's operational efficiency but also contribute to broader developmental goals such as health, education, and economic growth.

To achieve gender justice in the WASH sector, comprehensive strategies must be implemented, including targeted actions, continuous monitoring, and a commitment to ongoing learning and adaptation. This document outlines key recommendations for fostering gender equality and creating a more inclusive and effective WASH sector for all.

Education and Training: Educators and trainers are essential in raising awareness about proper hygiene practices, sanitation, and the importance of clean water. They develop and deliver educational programs and materials to communities, schools, and other institutions to promote sustainable WASH practices.

Gender Justice in the WASH Sector



Organisational policies and culture

Leadership representation

These policies and practices will ensure that the needs, safety and equal opportunity of all employees will be met.

- Flexible Work Arrangements: Offering flexible work hours, remote work options, and part-time opportunities to accommodate diverse needs, especially for those with caregiving responsibilities.
- Parental Leave: Implementing equitable parental leave policies that support all parents, regardless of gender, to balance work and family responsibilities.
- Anti-Discrimination Policies: Enforce strict anti-discrimination policies and create a safe environment where employees can report discrimination or harassment without fear of retaliation.
- Mentorship and Sponsorship Programs: Developing mentorship and sponsorship programs to support the career advancement of underrepresented genders and provide them with opportunities to develop leadership skills.
- Training and Development: Providing regular training on unconscious bias, diversity, and inclusion to educate employees and leaders about the importance of gender equality and how to contribute to a supportive workplace culture.

Gender Justice in the WASH Sector



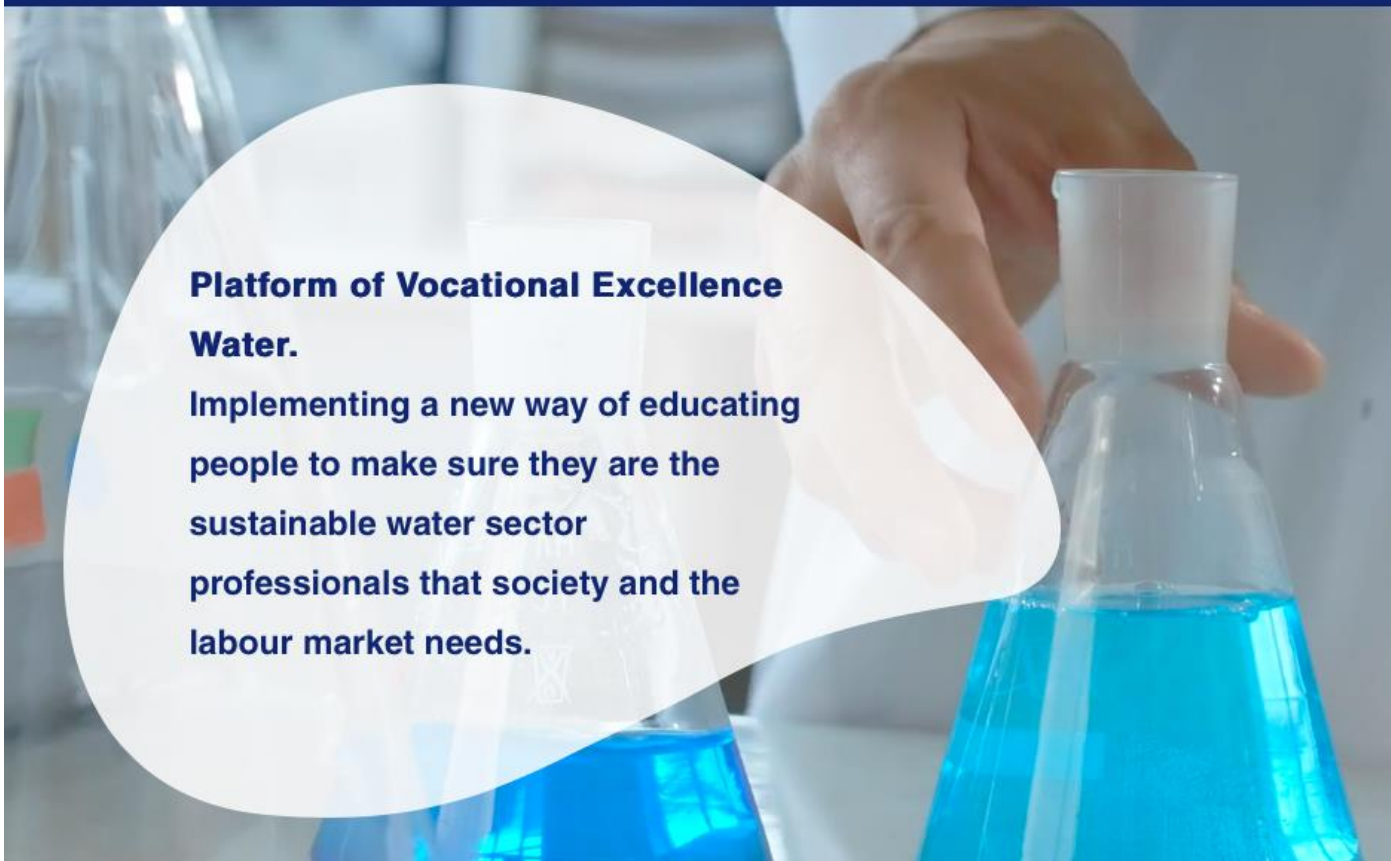
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Pilot PoVE Water

BARCOVE

Platform of Vocational Excellence Water.

Implementing a new way of educating people to make sure they are the sustainable water sector professionals that society and the labour market needs.



Gender Justice in the WASH Sector



May 15

Stockholm Junior Water Prize national winner's work...

3 0



Apr 10

Navigating Malta's Water Challenges: A Look into Agricultur...

9 0



Mar 27

Waterdays attracted participants from six countries to Brno

28 0



Feb 28

Exploring Water Sustainability with Industry Experts:...

16 0



Nov 13, 2024

Diverse Perspectives in Water Sustainability: Meet...

45 0



Nov 5, 2024

The PoVE South African mission is approaching fast

71 0



Gender Justice in the WASH Sector



Nov 4, 2024

**MENDELU Experts
Inspire Future Leaders
at Innovator 2024**

16 0



Oct 30, 2024

**Successful Visit of
Estonian Water
Managers to the...**

11 0



Oct 17, 2024

**European Water
Technology Week
2024: A Hub for...**

13 0



Sep 30, 2024

**Workshop with the
Czech Academy of
Agricultural Sciences**

10 0



Sep 11, 2024

**EURORURAL:
European Countryside
and De-globalisation**

6 0



Sep 2, 2024

**Water is life – joint
initiatives with primary
and secondary...**

8 0



Safe Access to water and sanitary facilities WASH



- The aim of the recommendations for action outlined is to improve the accessibility, inclusivity and safety of public WASH facilities worldwide. By promoting infrastructure improvements, awareness-raising programmes, community engagement initiatives,
- improvements in maintenance and cleanliness, enhanced security measures and better lighting and visibility, we aim to create an environment that meets the diverse needs of all people and ensures
- that no one is left behind in accessing essential WASH services.

Safe Access to water and sanitary facilities WASH



- Infrastructure Enhancements – it is important to construct an infrastructure in a manner that reduces the risk of natural diseases.
- In the Balkans this includes fires, floods and earthquakes.
- Gender specific infrastructural accessibility features- women must be
- guaranteed privacy and security in WASH Facilities
- Accessible features for people with disabilities
- Awareness programmes – educational, media campaigns, training of
- facility managers
- Community engagement – involves communities in decision making processes.

Safe Access to water and sanitary facilities WASH



Maintenance and cleanliness improvements

Regular maintenance is crucial for ensuring the cleanliness and functionality of public WASH facilities, especially in the long term. Emphasising the importance of consistent upkeep not only enhances hygiene standards but also promotes a positive user experience, contributing to overall satisfaction and well-being.

1. Emphasise the importance of regular maintenance for cleanliness.
2. Invest in durable materials and long-lasting infrastructure to ensure less maintenance effort
3. Conduct regular inspections and cleaning to ensure facilities are clean, safe, and well-maintained by:
4. Establishing routine schedules (a checklist with maintenance tasks)
5. Hiring professional cleaning services
6. Ensuring the availability of hygiene supplies such as soap, toilet paper, hand sanitiser, and menstrual hygiene products, especially in schools and municipal and public buildings.
7. Ensure that facilities are stocked with essential hygiene supplies such as soap, toilet paper, and menstrual hygiene products.



Safe Access to water and sanitary facilities WASH



Best practices for community engagement initiatives in the Balkan region:

Bosnia and Herzegovina's Rural Water Supply and Sanitation Project: This project involves local communities in the planning, implementation, and maintenance of rural water supply and sanitation systems. Community members participate in identifying needs, designing solutions, and overseeing implementation [1].

North Macedonian participatory design workshops: In North Macedonia, participatory design workshops were conducted in several municipalities (Veles, Kumanovo, Kisela Voda, Resen and Tetovo) to involve community members in the planning and design of new WASH facilities. These workshops included activities such as mapping, model building, and prioritisation exercises [1].

Feedback Mechanisms in Albania: In Albania, feedback mechanisms such as suggestion boxes, community meetings, and digital platforms have been implemented to gather input from users about the functionality and safety of WASH facilities. These mechanisms allow for continuous community input and timely adjustments [1].

DISCUSSION: NEXT STEPS

