

# Amhara Integrated Rural WASH (AIRWASH)



Country  
Ethiopia

**Key words**

Safe drinking water; hygiene practices; small-scale farming; integrated water resource management (IWRM)

**Beneficiaries**

Total: 16,000  
Water: 16,000  
Sanitation: 16,000

**Beneficiaries reached (June 2016)**

Water: 11,068 (5,190 Women)  
Sanitation: 13,075 (6,346 W)  
Hygiene: 15,091 (6,620 W)  
Capacity Bld.: 990 (401 W)

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**Approach, methods and strategy**

The key strategies followed so far include:

1. **Service delivery**, thereby targeting poorer, disadvantaged women & men.
2. **Empowerment**, i.e. capacity building of local WASH actors, with focus on gender equality and social equity in WASH.
3. **Down ward accountability**, i.e. public audit and interface between duty bearers and right holders.
4. **Approach to sustainability**, i.e. local ownership and community resource mobilization and contribution.



**Good practices (or key success factors)**

- Collaboration with the local government has enabled the project to reach the most disadvantaged, vulnerable (and remote) communities and enhanced timely completion of 56 water supply schemes and 2,316 latrines and hygiene promotion for 15,091 people (6628 female).
- Couples training and experience sharing have improved hygiene and sanitation practices and understanding of gender.
- Involving the government sector in capacity building works has helped to reach the targets set.

**Lessons learnt**

- Demand driven interventions highly improve ownership and performances.
- Full involvement and close collaboration with the community enhance ownership and reduce project costs.
- Alignment of the project with government working plans enhances ownership, efficiency and effectiveness .

**Advocacy and Policy**

Both at consortium and regional levels, there have been participations to share best practices and lessons learned particularly in the roles of social audit and couples training for infrastructure sustainability and ownership building. Fact sheets produced and shared for different partners mainly on this thematic area.