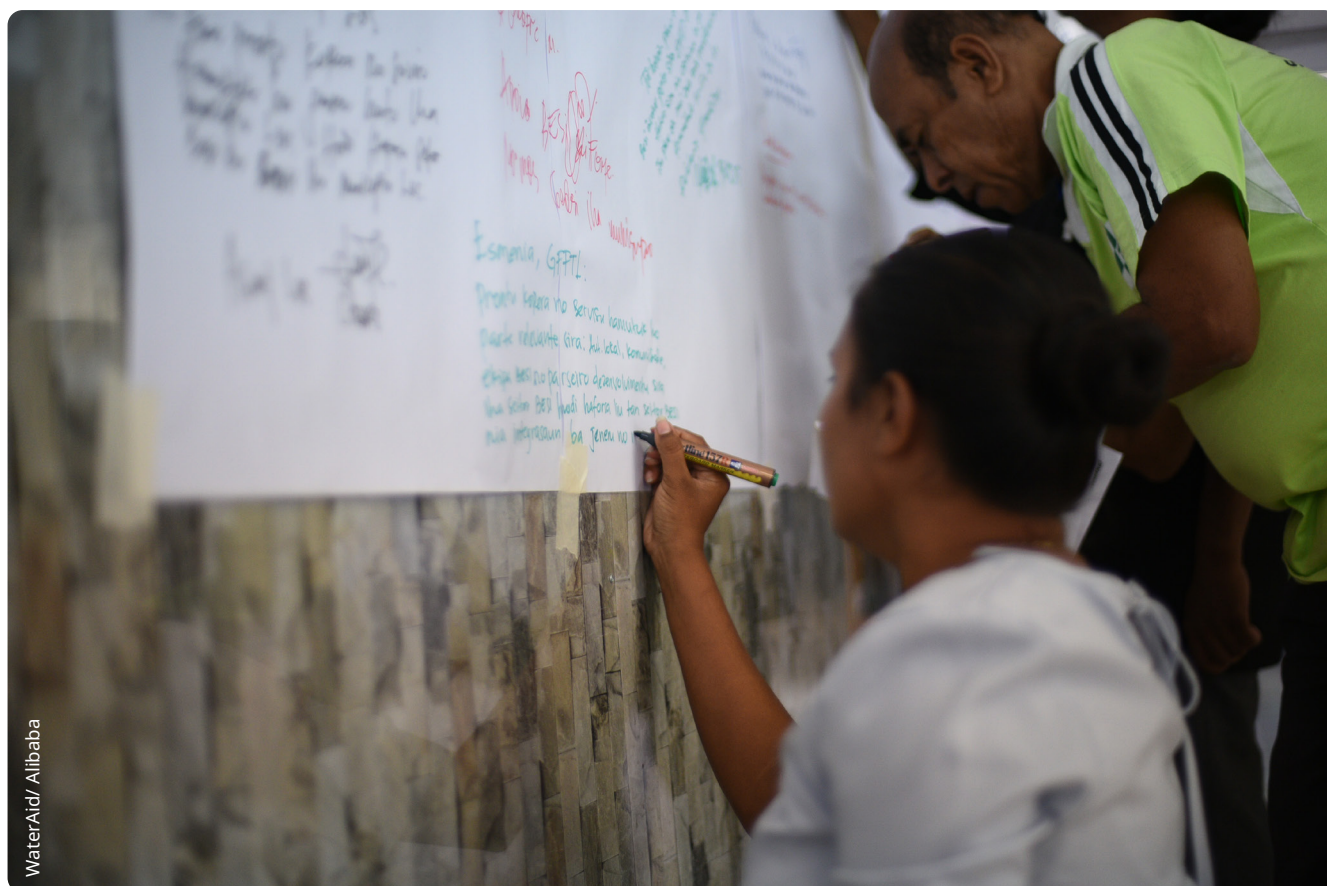


# Strengthening the Water, Sanitation and Hygiene (WASH) Sector, Considering Equity and Inclusion in WASH



The Sector Strengthening Evaluation is a meeting to discuss with all sector stakeholders working on the Water, Sanitation, Hygiene (WASH) and gender equality, disability, and social inclusion (GEDSI) in WASH. This evaluation is carried out to review the work that has been done, share experiences to see the progress of the WASH sector and also see how gender equity, disability and social inclusion are integrated into WASH.



## Introduction



In 2020, the sector evaluation was conducted at the municipality level, in the municipalities of Liquiçá and Manufahi, in order to address WASH and gender equity, disability, and social inclusion in WASH in both municipalities. This evaluation was conducted with a one-day workshop to discuss or review the situation of WASH sector 'building blocks' such as coordination, strategic planning, financing, institutional arrangements, service delivery, accountability, monitoring and environment. In each block we considered different components including one or two components regarding GEDSI in WASH for each building block. In the assessment of sector building blocks, participants rated each component in the block based on pre-prepared descriptions of phases such as weak, transitioning, strong and ideal.

The result of the evaluation of the building blocks showed that in Liquiçá the financing block requires more attention and in Manufahi, strategic plan is still weak. The evaluation in Liquiçá showed that the WASH financing block is currently in the transitioning phase. However, when looking carefully at each component of the financing block, the components such as 'sector investment aligned with planning' and 'municipality financing' (spending in accordance to the priorities) are still weak. Although we see other components of financing, such as the analysis of life cycle costs, the allocation of municipal budget and financing for GEDSI in WASH, are already in the transition phase. These two components determined financing block become municipal priority, because there are

almost no other component of other block that were rated as weak phase. In the Manufahi evaluation, almost all components of the policy and strategic planning block were rated as weak. Only one component, the WASH policy was rated as ideal. This resulted in the policy and strategic planning block being identified as a priority for Manufahi municipality.

## Recommendation

Recommendations from Liquiçá municipality:

- WASH operation and maintenance should follow the existing guidelines (for example, every 6 months)
- Complete the joint monitoring team to include all relevant stakeholders
- Complete and standardise monitoring formats
- Create a monitoring secretariat
- The allocation or transfer of the general state budget to each ministry should be done throughout the fiscal year to facilitate its execution at the time of the implementation
- Investment should follow the integrated WASH plan
- Review the WASH policy to integrate GEDSI issues
- Provide capacity building to improve water user group knowledge
- Strengthen coordination lines between sectors through reforming the WASH coordination secretariat
- Socialise WASH guidelines and policies for relevant sector stakeholders
- Develop long-term (multiyear) WASH plans and financing strategy for the municipality.
- Increase the knowledge of women and people with disability regarding GEDSI in WASH and leadership

Recommendations from Manufahi municipality:

- Create uniform guidelines for monitoring, which may include SDG/JMP indicators and municipality needs
- Complete and standardise monitoring formats with municipality information systems
- Investment should follow the integrated WASH plan in the municipality
- Reactivate the National Information System, particularly SIBS
- Create an integrated municipality team for monitoring, evaluation and learning
- Socialise WASH policies or laws to relevant sector stakeholders
- Create an integrated municipality plan and integrate existing data into the municipal plan, including WASH plans and annual municipal plan
- Increase human resources or technical staff at the Administrative Post level
- Increase the knowledge of women and people with disability regarding GEDSI in WASH and leadership
- Consider public function laws to provide training and capacity building for staff.

**Table 4. Summary of WASH sector assessment results for Liquiçá and Manufahi Municipalities**

Sector building block	Component	Weak	Transitioning	Strong	Ideal
Coordination and integration	Existence of a WASH coordination secretariat		L	M	
	Coordination			L M	
	Integration with other sectors	L			M
	Coordination with GEDSI actors		L M		
	Integration of GEDSI principles in coordination activities		L M		
Policy and strategic planning	WASH policies		L		M
	Municipal strategic plans	M	L		
	Annual WASH planning	M	L		
	GEDSI in WASH policies and strategic planning	M		L	
Financing	Calculation of life-cycle costs		L	M	
	Sector investment aligned with WASH plans	L		M	
	Finance allocation		L M		
	Municipal financing	L M			
	GEDSI in WASH financing		L M		
Institutional arrangements	Roles and responsibilities (WASH in communities, schools and healthcare facilities)		M	L	
	Documentation of roles, responsibilities and capacity development plans			L M	
	GEDSI in institutional arrangements		L	M	
Accountability	Feedback mechanisms		M	L	
	Access to information on the rights to WASH		M L		
	GEDSI in WASH accountability		M		L
Monitoring	SIBS national monitoring system			L	
	Harmonisation of monitoring indicators			M L	
	GEDSI in WASH monitoring		L M		
Service delivery and behaviour change	Service implementation			M L	
	Post-implementation support		L	M	
	Implementation of national standards			M L	
	GEDSI in service delivery and behaviour change			M L	
Environment and water resources	Water resource risk identification		M L		
	Monitoring system for water security and water quality		M L		
	Water resource management		M L		
	GEDSI in environment and water resource management		M	L	

Key: **M** Manufahi **L** Liquiçá