



WATER AND WASTE MANAGEMENT: Sanitation and Health in Côte d'Ivoire

CAPACITY STATEMENT





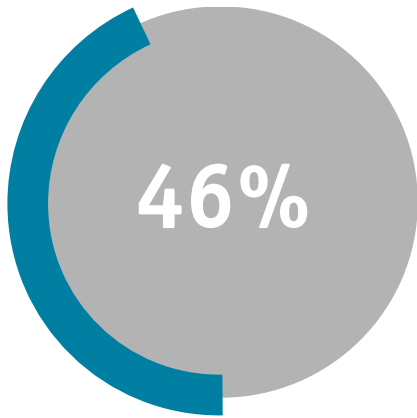
OVERVIEW

INTRODUCTION

Water and Sanitation

In Côte d'Ivoire, over 8 million people lack proper sanitation facilities and over 4 million people do not have access to potable water. These trying conditions are especially prevalent in rural areas, where 46% of the rural population lacks access to safe drinking water, and 87% lacks adequate sanitation. However, growing urbanization is also a contributing factor as the infrastructure is not available to support an increased population and the high density heightens the likelihood for the spread of disease. Diarrheal diseases remain the number two cause of premature death within the country,

with children under 5 especially vulnerable. Children are dying every day from completely preventable diseases due to poor sanitation and many more are falling ill, which limits their growth both physically and mentally. Access to drinking water, sanitation, hygiene, and waste management are all essential components to living healthy, productive lives. The internecine strife within the country, from both the civil war and the post-electoral crisis of 2011, exacerbated the issues regarding water and sanitation, as it damaged much of the water and sanitation infrastructure, especially in the north. Even in communities with safe drinking water, often times there is not enough or it is far



Of the rural population lacks access to safe drinking water

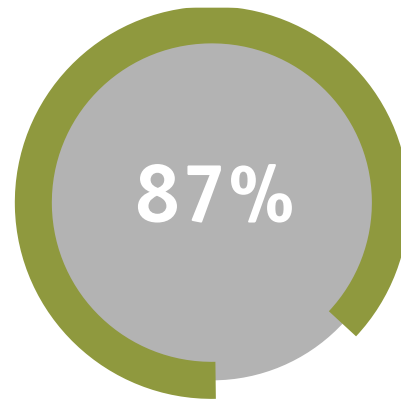
from lodging, requiring a lengthy commute. This predominantly impacts girls who take on most the responsibility for fetching water, and their education is negatively impacted. According to a USAID article, “As a result of having to collect water to drink and shower before going to school, all the children in the neighborhood were constantly sick and tired and their academic performance suffered.” Gaining access to proper water and sanitation is an essential component of achieving sustainable development throughout the country.

OUR APPROACHES

CARE Côte d’Ivoire is dedicated to reaching the most vulnerable populations and creating sustainable water and sanitation solutions to contribute to healthier and more resilient communities. While there are immediate health needs to be met, CARE’s projects aim to tackle deep rooted underlying issues, such as gender inequality. Furthermore, projects are linked with agricultural and economic components to address key barriers to effective behavior change.

Promotion of Access to Toilets and Job Creation Through Reuse of Fecal Sludge (PATER) Project

CARE is the project lead on the PATER project, funded by the African Water Facility (AWF) and administered by the African Development Bank. This project works in Bouaké and Katiola to improve living conditions of urban populations in the northern regions of Côte d’Ivoire through the promotion of economic activities along the chain of management of waste products. Namely, through implementing an effective, efficient, and sustainable business-led fecal



Of the rural population lacks adequate sanitation

sludge management system that results in the production of affordable fertilizer from the fecal sludge. This not only immediately addresses the issue of waste management, it also contributes to the creation of economic activities and jobs that can sustainably improve the sanitation of disadvantaged populations. The project’s components address needs at the micro, meso, and macro levels to ensure that its not just individuals, but entire communities who will thrive from this project.

PATER Objectives:



Increase access to safe, sustainable, and affordable sanitation services for the population



Implement an effective, efficient, and sustainable business-led fecal sludge management system



Production of affordable fertilizer with urine and fecal sludge

To achieve the key objectives for each of the five key components, CARE developed a number of action plans and strategies. These are focused around job creation, green growth, and gender issues, to approach the issue of sanitation for a diverse facets.

Job Creation: The project will support the creation of 12 micro-enterprises employing at least 60 people.

Green Growth: The project aims to create a lasting link between sanitation and agriculture through the sale of fecal sludge by products as fertilizers for cultivation purposes. Reuse of urine and fecal sludge should help reduce irrigation needs due to improvement in soil quality.

Gender Issues: The project recognizes that gender inequality is one of the key underlying issue regarding water and sanitation issues.

Thus, the project seeks to support women and youth in accessing long term employment and skills.

Sustainability Strategies

CARE is dedicated to producing long-lasting and sustainable change. Strategies were developed to address key challenges to sustainability from the onset, using previous information and knowledge to inform the project approach, while still leaving room for adaptation.

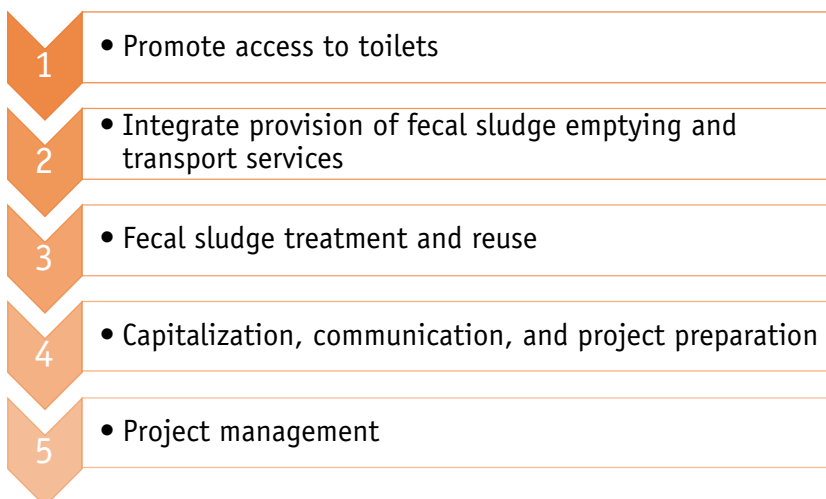
Lack of demand for adequate sanitation:

Communication strategies develop take-off in demand for sanitation products, including building capacity of small businesses with support from CBOs to develop marketing strategies. Additionally, CARE has studied to determine the most appropriate modalities to promote the uptake of sanitation services.

Lack of demand for sanitation by-products, such as fertilizer:

Marketing strategies were put in place to promote the reuse of fecal sludge and show the effectiveness of the fertilizers.

FIVE KEY PROJECT COMPONENTS



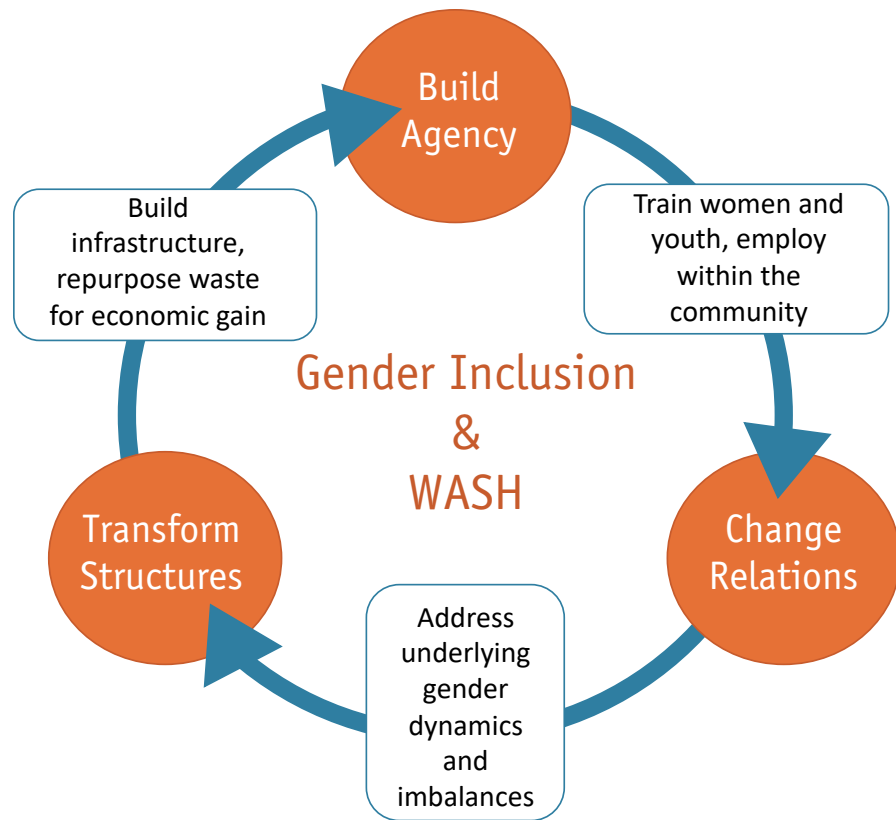
Lack of skills and knowledge of micro-services providers: CARE will train women and youth in sanitation businesses, including emptying, to ensure there is proper capacity to hire within the community.

Lack of access to finance for households and SMEs: CARE facilitated access to credit for households and access to finances for SMEs involved in building latrines and small emptying businesses through setting up a revolving fund.

Absence of regulation for emptying businesses: Emptying businesses, including mechanical emptiers, will enter into performance-based agreements with the municipalities to ensure quality of services.

Lack of capacity and technical knowledge among municipalities: Municipality staff will be trained on all aspects of access to latrines and fecal sludge management.

Through addressing these barriers from the onset, CARE worked to approach the issues from multiple directions, mitigating key challenges, to ensure the project could reach as many people as possible.



Project to Support the Revitalization of the Ivorian Health Sector (PARSSI)

The PARSSI project aimed to contribute to the improvement of the supply and quality of maternal and child health care, focusing on building the capacity of community-based health care in the south-east. With financial support from the European Union, this project strengthened management capacities and heightening the inclusion of communities in governance and co-management mechanisms. This included outreach and promotional activities to increase the use of health services.

In the face of consistent health problems in San Pedro, APROSAM and CARE France, with funding from the European Commission, implemented the project “Strengthening first-level urban health facilities based in the San

Pedro region” as part of PARSSI. During 2017, the project hosted six trainings for the community on health care and first aid for injuries, purchased a second ambulance, installed two generators, rehabilitated three health centers, and constructed an integrated health center, which includes both a clinic and a maternity ward. This new health center has the capacity to address the needs of the surrounding population of about 18,000 inhabitants.