**Enhancing climate resilience in rural Sierra Leone: How to adapt the WASH sector to climate change impacts**

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| **Danish organisation** | Engineers Without Borders Denmark |
| **Title of the intervention** | Community Climate Risk Engagement |
| **Partner name(s)** | SEND |
| **Amount applied for** | 499.965 |
| **Country(ies)** | Sierra Leone |
| **Period (# of months)** | 9 months |

Objective and relevance (The world around us)

**1.1 What is the main purpose of the intervention, including challenges that need to be addressed?**

This intervention targets one of the most basic but neglected rights which is heavily affected by climate change - the right to safe and clean water and sanitation. This is a fundamental human right that is denied a vast segment of the population in Sierra Leone. The interplay of poverty and climate change impacts is further exacerbated through low institutional capacity, lack of funds, and lack of cross-sector partnerships to manage the water sector towards robustness and future access to safe water for the whole population.

The development objective of this intervention is to improve livelihoods in the Kenema district through bottom-up participatory engagement in climate-sensitive Water, Sanitation, and Hygiene (WASH) governance. This is achieved by conducting participatory climate risk assessments with focus on WASH in selected communities in the Kenema district thus it is possible to document the actual impact of climate change – immediate objective 1. Based on the assessment and pilot implementation of mutually supporting adaptation measures the intervention will raise awareness and demonstrate how the communities through low-cost measures are able to create the needed coping capacity towards the impacts of climate change on WASH – immediate objective 2.

The initiative is motivated by and further builds on Engineers without Borders (EWB-DK) and local partners’ experiences from two previous initiatives in Sierra Leone, both financially supported by CISU and private foundations.

From 2018 to 2021, EWB-DK and its partners implemented WASH *democratic governance in the Kenema district*. The focus of this project, which included 26 poor rural communities, was to secure access to safe water for the communities and to consolidate the District WASH Coordination Committee (WASHCord) as the functional main platform for cross sector alignment and civic participation from community level in the district.

From 2019 to 2021, the *Climate resilience in suburban Sierra Leone* *project* was implemented in two communities in a sub-urban slum area of Freetown that was devastated by a landslide in 2017. The objective was to enhance the resilience of the communities through risk mitigation and climate change adaptation by mobilising and capacity building of Community Resilience Committees (CRCs) and intervention groups. Based on this, community driven mitigation and adaptation interventions were implemented (such as tree planting and drainage canals).

The lessons learned and experiences from the two projects, which this initiative builds on, are:

* Communities can organise around water supply including climate resilience tasks and from this building local resilient communities.
* Civil society can institutionalise user fee payments to fund maintenance, repair, and contribute with a small investment in WASH infrastructure.
* New additions to the byelaws have successfully been implemented. This keeps the focus on long term sustainability of the mitigation measures that are implemented.
* Increased Governance and citizen participation can be fostered through cross-sector coordination space e.g. the WASHCord.

However, the experiences also revealed the following challenges:

* Community and district level actors lack skills and knowledge to address the increasing WASH vulnerability caused by climate change, with excessive and changed rainfall being the main natural hazard, and are therefore still highly vulnerable to climate change
* Lack of standardized approach to WASH governance (at both community and district level) hinders effective and transparent management of the sector targeting and ensuring climate robustness.
* No systemized approach to local knowledge sharing on the impact of climate change exists – documentation of incidents or effects.

In late 2020, Sierra Leone initiated the development of the National Climate Adaptation Plan (NAP) under the auspice of the Ministry of Environmental Protection. This is an important policy and planning platform on climate adaptation, however, it has not yet turned into action. Building on EWB-DK and its partners’ experiences, the initiative seeks to provide knowledge and a shared platform for bottom-up actions and establish citizen-driven examples of best practices.

**1.2 Describe the context of the intervention**

Sierra Leone has been ranked as the third most vulnerable nation after Bangladesh and Guinea Bissau to adverse climate change effects due to a high level of multi-dimensional fragility. Water and sanitation are among the highest priorities for the Government of Sierra Leone's National Development Plan 2019 – 2023. In general, there has been some progress in increasing access to water in rural areas from approximately 25% in 2000 to 47% in 2017. However, this improvement rate needs to double in order to reach the United Nations’ Sustainable Development Goals in 2030. According to a national survey (2017), wells are increasingly drying out during parts of the year due to changed weather patterns, which pose another challenge of reaching the SDG targets. The health risks induced by flooding, changed rain patterns and insufficient WASH infrastructure only adds to the burden of an already fragile health system, and cholera outbreaks and other water borne diseases are recurring annually.

The rate of extreme poverty in the Kenema district is amongst the highest in the country (24.2%), which is accelerated by the effects of COVID-19. Poverty affects Kenema’s ability to cope with climate change, which further reduces access to safe water and sanitation. UNICEF estimates that around 22% of the population in the Kenema district has access to safe water (concentrated mainly in the urban centre of Kenema[[1]](#footnote-1)).

Resilient WASH programming will help to ensure that WASH infrastructure and services are sustainable and robust to climate related risks. In order to address problems of access to water and sanitation in a relevant and climate sensitive manner, it is crucial to identify climate-related vulnerabilities of the WASH infrastructure and establish whether the traditional approach and construction inadvertently increases vulnerability. Furthermore, it is important to determine to what extent the community has coped with the risks, and how the communities from a bottom-up and citizen-driven approach can adjust and take the risks into consideration.

Climate risk assessments, prioritization, and future planning in the WASH sector is urgently required as the health of the population is negatively impacted by the effects of the predominant climate hazards in Sierra Leone and the Kenema district.

**1.3 Describe how this intervention will strengthen civil society organising to advance social justice**

According to the CIVICUS rating[[2]](#footnote-2), civil society in Sierra Leone is under continued and reinforced pressure by the Government as there are no legitimized norms governing state-society relationships. By implementing a bottom-up approach EWB-DK aims to advance unity and socio-economic development through civil society best practice examples, thereby promoting democratic governance.

With Kenema district having some of the highest poverty rates in the country, extending and securing access to sustainable and climate robust water and sanitation services plays a crucial role in poverty reduction. Households benefit through a range of health, educational, nutritional, and broader livelihood impacts; local, regional, and national economies benefit from greater economic activity, spending and investment; over the longer term, households and economies benefit through greater resilience to climate change. In monetary terms, the numbers are compelling: combined water supply and sanitation interventions have a combined return of at least US$4.3 for every dollar invested [[3]](#footnote-3)if services can be sustained in the face of multiple risks, including that posed by climate change.

**1.4 What climatic and environmental conditions do the partnership and/or the intervention need to respond to? And how have the partners responded to it?**

The initiative responds directly to the challenges facing the country’s water and sanitation sector, which are aggravated by rapid population growth, environmental degradation and climate change impacts, and the virtual absence of land use planning capacity. Water and sanitation-related natural disasters such as landslides and flooding are common in densely settled rural areas. The existing water supply and sanitation infrastructure is dilapidated and mostly out of use. Technical and logistical capacity constraints are the primary source of low resilience and effectiveness of addressing the challenges.
Present initiative will use the partners local experience in community driven WASH engagement, enhancing community based climate resilience from a bottom-up and citizen-driven approach. At the community level, it specifically includes participatory risk assessments of the infrastructure such as housing, roads, drainage, water facilities and latrines, and identification of specific low cost interventions.

The partnership/collaborators (our starting point)

**2.1** **Experiences, capacities, and resources of participant partners as well as other actors**

**Engineers without Borders Denmark (EWB-DK)**. Access to water and sanitation (UN sustainable development goal #6) within democratic governance is one of EWB-DK's strategic core areas. Since 2009, EWB-DK has gained substantial experience in implementing local community WASH, not least from the poorest and most vulnerable communities in Kenema district where EWB-DK with local partners have worked for almost ten years. EWB-DK bases the activities on delivering strategic services and encompasses community development to focus on achieving sustainable changes in targeted groups' behaviour to permanently improve their livelihood. So far, EWB-DK and Social Enterprise Development (SEND) have supported 26 communities in the Kenema district. As several of the already vulnerable communities are exposed to more severe and recurrent flooding, EWB-DK is aiming to enhance their capacity to engage more in climate risk assessments, mitigation measures, and climate robust WASH design and infrastructure.

**Social Enterprise Development (SEND***)* is a non-profit national NGO in Sierra Leone with more than 70 staff members. SEND has a strong profile in community mobilisation and improving livelihoods through a rights-based approach to WASH, as well as capacity enhancement of governance structures at community and district level. Together with several international partners such as Welt Hunger Hilfe and UK Aid it has implemented many community-based projects in several districts, including Kenema, where its main office is located. It engages in a strong cooperation with the authorities at both district and community level. In partnership with EWB-DK, SEND has been supporting the WASHCord and the health and wash sub-committees in the 26 communities by strengthening WASH governance, including maintenance and support to the WASH infrastructure. E.g. SEND has been reporting on the steadily increasing frequent and severe flooding affecting the infrastructure in Kenema district and has participated in climate change fact-finding missions within the district.

Also, SEND facilitate the establishment of Health Development Committees (HDC) through the building of organisational capacity and support at community level. SEND also “nurses' the engagement from community level towards District structures through civil mobilization and assists the individual community (ward persons and HDC) in its negotiation and presentation of petitions to district entities. Through its strong network at the district and community level, SEND will also be able to facilitate advocacy for the importance of risk analysis, climate-robust WASH solutions through certified service providers.

**World Hope International (WHI)** has proven to be a significant national player with a national board in Sierra Leone, strong local networks, and a track record working directly with civil society structures to establish community-based solutions, as well as implementing the required technical solution. WHI applies a holistic approach to tackling poverty through engagement and partnership with grassroots actors, private sector, government agencies, and other NGOs to develop efficient and sustainable solutions. Its strength is the combination of strategic service delivery, community engagement, and bottom-up participatory processes as applied in current joint EWB-DK interventions on climate adaptation in slum areas of Freetown. WHI SL are taking part in local coordination of water and emergency response initiatives including training and supervision of community WASH committees in Freetown. In recent years, and in cooperation with EWB-DK, WHI-SL has also been working with local communities in identifying, planning and implementing bottom-up climate resilient solutions - both with regard to WASH and on a broader scale, and its highly skilled team has provided access to safe water in many rural communities’ country wide.

**2.2 Describe any previous acquaintance or cooperation between the partners and how these experiences have fed constructively into the development of the proposed intervention.**

EWB-DK and SEND have been partners on the WASH project in the 26 communities in Kenema, and with support from DERF COVID-19 funding, also provided relief to the most vulnerable households in these communities through a participatory vulnerability assessment, awareness raising and distribution of food, facemasks and soap. SEND has proved to be a strong and reliable partner in engaging and supporting both the communities and the relevant stakeholders at the district level and ensuring the appropriate coordination and exchange of information between the involved partners. WHI and SEND have not previously worked together, however the vast experience of SEND in community mobilisation and governance for WASH, combined with WHI-SL's technical expertise in WASH and experience with climate mitigation measures, complement each other completely. In joining forces with EWB-DK, this intervention will deliver the first participatory climate risk assessments with focus on WASH in rural communities in Sierra Leone and pilot new bottom-up approaches and solutions to climate-robust WASH management at community level.

**2.3 Describe the contributions, roles, and responsibilities of the partners and other actors**

***EWB-DK*** will be responsible for project management, finance and administration, facilitation of the partnership's cooperation, project monitoring and conduction of the final project review. EWB-DK will contribute with the design and conduction of the participatory climate risk assessment, knowledge on climate adaptation and participatory WASH infrastructure.

***SEND*** will engage and coordinate this intervention with the communities and the WASHCord to focus on organisational and governance capacity enhancement, including community engagement and mobilization SEND will also ensure continuous support to and coordination of the participatory climate risk assessment. This includes engaging students from Eastern Polytechnic University in conducting the risk assessment, planning and implementation of the community driven mitigation and adaptation interventions, and related to that, managing the funds for small scale community interventions.  SEND will also ensure the dissemination of the findings and lessons learned from this intervention to the WASHCord.
***WHI*** will at the kick-off workshop share the approach and experiences from the climate resilience projects in Freetown, provide comments and recommendations to the risk assessment as well as technical expertise for the selection, design and implementation of community driven mitigation and adaptation interventions.

**2.4 Describe how the intervention will contribute to developing the relationship and collaboration between the partners**

EWB-DK’s partners already have established collaboration in other projects. EWB-DK's partner in Kenema, Opportunity Training Centre (OTC) - a vocational boarding school for young people with disabilities – produced in one of their workshops face masks that SEND distributed as part of the COVID-19 relief. In another of OTC's workshops, they also produced shovels for WHI, distributed to the communities in Freetown for tree planting and cleaning of canals. These first steps clearly showed the synergies and potential for strengthening ongoing activities by involving other partners.

This intervention as well as the partners will benefit from the complementarity of SEND and WHI's expertise and experiences with regard to WASH and climate resilience.

EWB-DK will through this intervention increase and strengthen its knowledge on climate resilience and participatory community-based risk reduction and mitigation, and thereby reaffirm its position as a relevant partner for development efforts in Sierra Leone. Volunteers from EWB-DK will share their technical knowledge and experience on climate resilience, risk reduction and adaptation, expanding the possibilities for knowledge exchange across partners particularly in the field of humanitarian technical capacity building within the climate change nexus. Engaging students from Eastern Polytechnic University in Kenema in the conduction of the risk assessment together with volunteers from EWD-DK will give the students a unique hands-on experience and insights to the impacts of climate change, particularly on WASH, and on how to work on achieving the SDGs.

Target groups, objectives, and expected results (our intervention)

**3.1.** **Describe the composition of the target groups:**

The district of Kenema with a population of 610,000, is characterised as one of the poorest in the country. Rural poverty is estimated to be in average of 86.3%, compared to urban poverty of 37%. Multidimensional poverty among the majority of the population signifies they are deprived of access to affordable quality basic services. These services are critical to lifting and keeping them out of poverty. Hence they have no means to address the negative effects of climate change increasing their already fragile situation.

**The primary target group** is the population of 10 rural communities in Kenema (5,000 persons) with some existing WASH infrastructure and organisational capacities (HDC’s and WASH Committees). More than 90% of the population in rural Kenema are small-scale subsidence farmers mainly growing rice, maize, cassava, cacao and coffee. Only 24.4% of the women have access to land in the district and as little as 14.2% of the women own land (CFSVA 2015), this in spite the fact that women provide 75% of the labour along the food value chain, from production, processing to marketing. Food insecurity is particular high in the rural areas, which is mainly explained by lack of educational opportunities (59% of adults above 15 years in Kenema are illiterate, low agricultural productivity and the absence of diversification of rural income sources, low income (1.4 million Le), no electricity as well as poor infrastructure and market access. The community entry point of engagement is 10 HDCs/WASH committees (democratically elected by community members) (10 x 7 members =70 persons) and 10 chiefs (gender 10%/90%) – chiefs are mainly male.

At district level, it will be the WASHCord comprising approximately 19 active members representing a number of district departments (including water resources, environment, heath) and CSO’s working in the WASH sector. Other primary target groups include 5 Wards (the civil society representatives towards district level), 7 students and teachers at Eastern Polytechnic University in Kenema directly engaged in the conduction of the risk assessment, and SEND in their capacity as the local NGO in charge of coordinating this new intervention.

**The secondary target group** is the total population in Kenema, comprising 610,000 persons that in the longer term will be aware of the impact of climate change and how they at community level will benefit from climate robust WASH planning and prioritisation.

**3.2** **Describe how the target groups will participate in, and benefit from, the intervention.**

As the main target group the members of the community HDCs (10 x 7 persons) in combination with the Wards (5) will be directly engaged in the key activities of this intervention. They will receive training and organisational support in order to raise awareness of the impacts of climate change and gain the skill set to identify and address community needs related to WASH climate adaptation. With outset in the risk assessment, the specific needs will be assessed and small-scale low-cost intervention measures will be identified, designed and implemented with support from the community and managed by the HDC’s WASH committee. This might require revision of bylaws to ensure sustainability of the interventions. The project will provide seed funds (in total 30.000 DKK) to distribute strategically among the communities according to their needs. Also the traditional leaders have and will be engaged to ensure their support and in order to build on existing local strctures. This way the legitimacy of the traditional leaders is further enhanced, as they can deliver required services to the communities through inclusive engagement, which by example also demonstrate to the benefits of participatory and inclusive engagement of the communities. Through participation in the intervention, the community management skills in small-scale climate adaptation will be enhanced, and thereby induce ownership and empowerment in the communities.

The selected community ward persons inform the WASHCord of the community level (civil society) engagement.

The WASHCord will approve the specific assessment approach and chosen communities to ensure that the relevant stakeholders at both district and ministerial level are informed about the intervention. SEND and the EWB-DK team will throughout the intervention keep the WASHCord informed about the assessment. A number of workshops with WASHCord and other key stakeholders will be held at different stages of the intervention. In particular, a final workshop, which shall also include representatives from the HDC’s WASH committees, will be crucial in order to present the findings and lessons learned and discuss how to integrate climate risk assessment and low cost intervention in the district WASH planning.

**Governing principles of intervention**

Besides zero-tolerance of corruption and sexual abuse, EWB-DK and partners are committed to the Core Humanitarian Standards' (CHS) guiding principles. Joint efforts took place in 2019-2021 to align core values (CISU funded project). To align and consolidate this effort, SEND management and project staff participated in a seminar on CHS consisting of a number of online learning exchange sessions and a workshop with a regional expert specifically targeting SEND. Subsequently SEND has elaborated and strengthened its complaints mechanism and specifically made the communities they work in aware of the option.

**Gender considerations**

When addressing climate adaptation and, in particular, the WASH sector, it is important to analyse the gender perspective. Women and girls have the primary responsibility for collecting water in the rural areas for domestic use. Furthermore, it places important demands on women and girls’ time that could have been spent in school or in other valuable income generating activities benefiting their family and the women themselves.

**3.3** **Describe the objectives and expected results**

**The development objective** is to improve livelihood in the Kenema district through cross-sector engagement in climate-sensitive WASH governance.

***The immediate objectives are:***

1) By January 2022, 10 communities and Kenema WASHCord have raised awareness of the local effects of climate change and its impact on water and sanitation infrastructure.

2) By July 2022, 10 vulnerable communities actively engaged in implementation of low-cost climate robust WASH infrastructure.

**The expected immediate results**

The HDCs and wash committees have through their engagement in the participatory climate risk assessments increased their awareness of the impacts of climate change and how to enhance the communities adaptive capacity and resilience. The ambition is that each of the 10 communities, based on the risk assessments, identify possible interventions e.g. improvement of latrines, wells, stoves, drainage canal and other infrastructure. To ensure a variety of low cost adaptation initiatives, a prioritisation and final selection of interventions will be coordinated at the WASHCord with representatives from the 10 communities.

The WASHCord will be the main point of entrance to ensure mainstream climate adaptation into district planning particularly in the WASH sector. The climate risk assessment will provide the WASHCord with the first systematic and targeted analyses of the specific risks on WASH in the communities, as well as documentation of specific low-cost community managed adaptation measures. Through the raised knowledge and awareness, it is expected that the WASHCord initiates a discussion within the Committee on how to integrate community based climate risks assessments and adaptation measures in the Kenama district’sWASH planning and prioritisation process.

**The expected long-term results**

The expected long-term result is district risk mapping gradually developed by the WASHCord. and as more communities engage in the conduction of risk assessments, which combined with data from the national household survey and multidimensional poverty index, will serve to identify the most vulnerable communities and hence how to prioritize future investments and actions. Moreover, the WASHCord. will help formulate standards and policies on climate-robust infrastructure and subsequently communicate the standards and policies to all relevant stakeholders, including communities, WASH committees, NGOs, and Wards. The ambition is that the WASHCord.,  will spearhead the development of district climate adaptation plans on WASH and define district standards to be met on climate robust WASH infrastructure, which would provide a bottom-up example and input to how to turn NAP into action.

**3.4 What is the strategy of the intervention?**

In order to be able to achieve the objectives within a rather short time, the intervention is considered a pilot project on conduction of climate risk assessments and adaptation measures in a limited number of communities (10) perceived to be among the most prone to flooding and other climate related risks. The selected communities must have some WASH infrastructure and supporting organisational structures (HDC’s and WASH Committees) in place, in order for the project to be able to actively engage the communities from the beginning of the project and be able to focus on capacity building related to climate change. Other specific selection criteria will be agreed with the WASHCord.

The climate risk assessment of the individual communities are conducted by a team from EWB-DK together with local partner SEND and students from Easter Polytechnic University.

The students and teachers from Eastern Polytechnic University in Kenema will gain hands-on experience in conducting climate risk assessments, which will enhance their understanding of the impact of climate change, low cost interventions measures and exposure to how to work on the SDGs. SEND will use their already extensive experience in mobilising and building the capacity of communities to manage WASH infrastructure specific knowledge regarding the impact of climate change, conduction of risk assessments and low cost measures the communities will be able to apply, to mitigate the risks and thereby enhance resilience. With the enhanced knowledge and experience of the Polytechnic University and SEND, the intervention will ensure that there is local capacity to conduct climate risks assessment in other communities beyond this intervention.

Through the documentation and examples, it is the expectation that the WASHCord will disseminate the experiences broadly with other communities in the district and integrate the lessons learned in the district WASH planning and prioritisation. The invention will as well build local climate risk assessment capacity that will be able to support other communities. In this way, it is the hope that this intervention will be a source of inspiration for district as well as national level WASH adaptation planning processes of the future in Sierra Leone.

The Log Frame (LFA) below outlines the intervention in the following table. It contains the immediate objectives, each with their expected outputs and linked activity. Each objective sums up the anticipated goal and indicators to ensure a successful project.

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| **Objective 1: By December 2021 communities and Kenema WASHCord. have raised awareness of the local effects of climate change and its impact on water and sanitation infrastructure**  |
| **Indicator** | **Means of verification** |
| 1.1 Participatory risk assessments of climate hazards in 10 high-risk communities in Kenema district conducted and disseminated through the WASHCord. (January 2022) | Report on climate risk assessment developed, conducted and communicated publicly at district level. |
| **Result/outputs** | **Activity** |
| 1.1 Participatory community based climate risk assessment approach is introduced, explained and agreed by the WashCord. (October 2021) | 1.1.1 | Development of approach based on desk-study of best practice and analysis of historic incidents coupled with EWB-DK and partners’ local knowledge and experiences of Sierra Leone and specifically of Kenema. |
| 1.1.2 | WASHCord to approve of EWB-DK and SEND’s selected 10 communities with WASH infrastructures prone to flooding and other climate related risks in dialogue with the communities. |
| 1.1.3 | Kick-off workshop for WASHCord. and communities: Outlining the role of the community and WASHCord., agree on the roadmap for the intervention; presentation of lessons learned from Climate Resilience Project in Freetown.  |
|  1.2 WASH climate-induced risk assessment approach, tested and documented (Oct. to Nov. 2021). | 1.2.1 | A team of data collectors (students from University and Polytechnic College) has by the EWB-DK together with local partners and SEND been identified and trained in data collection methods  |
|   | 1.2.2 | Introduction to climate risk assessment at community level. |
|   | 1.2.3 | Pilot testing of assessment approach and tools through data collection in 2 communities and adjustment of tools. |
|   | 1.2.4  | Climate risk assessment conducted in the remaining 8 communities. |
| 1.3 Risk assessment on climate hazards and WASH-related impact for 10 communities (Nov. to Jan. 2021). | 1.3.1 | Data analysis and validation of risk assessment on climate risks affecting WASH access and livelihood. |
| 1.3.2 | Drafting of the report by EWB-DK. Validation of the report, by the WASHCord and Ministry of Water Resource (MoWR). |
| 1.3.3  | Presentation of community based risk assessment at WASHCord workshop. |

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| **Objective 2. By July 2022 Vulnerable communities (10) actively engaged in implementation of low-cost climate robust WASH infrastructure**  |
| **Indicator** | **Means of verification** |
| 2.1 WASH governance structures in 10 communities have integrated climate resilience (May 2022) | MoM from meetings, by-laws etc. |
| 2.2 Ten communities with functioning climate robust WASH related infrastructure Pilot project June 2022 | Physical inspection of WASH infrastructure and official certification  |
| **Result/outputs** | **Activity** |
| 2.1 Low cost community based interventions selected. (January 2022) | 2.1.1 | Community meetings to explain the findings from the risk assessment, the need assessment and the prioritisation of interventions. |
| 2.1.2 | Participatory prioritization of need based on the risk assessment (e.g. improved latrines, wells, stoves, channels, tree planting, etc.). |
| 2.1.3 | Selection of interventions agreed between communities and the WASHCord. |
| 2.2 Climate sensitive WASH related interventions implemented in 10 communities (May 2022). | 2.2.1 | Design and support to implementation and maintenance from community level to install skills to engage in community climate adaptation works - activity level depends on the nature of the work. |
|
| 2.2.2 | Support to HDC/WASH committees to integrate Climate resilience in management, maintenance and planning. |
| 2.3 Lessons learned are documented and exchanged at community and district level (June 2022).  | 2.3.1 | Final review of the intervention (will include field visits to all engaged communities). |
| 2.3.2 | Drafting intervention report documenting the climate risk assessment tool, the identified risks and the interventions implemented in the 10 communities.  |
| 2.3.3 | Dialogue with WASHCord on integration of climate risk assessments and WASH related in district planning and prioritisation.  |
| 2.3.4 | Presentation of findings and lessons learned at final workshop with the WASHCord, Communities and other key stakeholders. |

The intervention is structured in 5 stages, all with the aim of ensuring participation and through the intervention gradually build knowledge and capacity with regard to climate change and its impact:

1. Project kick-off through which the WASHCord and the communities ensure that the intervention, its expected outcomes, and process is clear.
2. Developing the climate risk assessment tool, receiving local consent from the WashCord and pilot testing in two communities prior to the rollout in the other 8 communities.
3. Conduction of community-based risk assessments through an inclusive process that in addition to the HDC/WASH committees will engage SEND as coordinator and Eastern Polytechnic University students and teachers to participate in data collection.
4. Planning and implementation of low cost community based interventions, through which the communities enhance their capacity, including the organisational structures to integrate climate adaptation measures in the WASH structures and planning process, as well as provide examples of what the communities are able to do to enhance resilience.
5. Documenting, disseminating the lesson learned with the aim to integrate risk assessments and WASH related interventions into the district planning and prioritisation process.

What are the plans for systematising experiences along the way and at the end of the intervention?

As the purpose of this intervention is to pilot and introduce community based climate risk assessment and low cost WASH related interventions, documentation and systematisation of experiences are critical to ensure success. Each stage of the project will be documented by SEND. The EWB-DK volunteers will in coordination with SEND specifically document the conduction of the climate risk assessment. Monthly progress and financial reports will be delivered. A final review on site, including all 10 communities will be conducted with participation from EWD-DK. This will feed into a report which systemises experiences and lessons learned with regard to the climate risk assessment tool, the identified risks and the interventions implemented in the 10 communities.

**Intervention-related information work in Denmark**

EWB-DK’s information work aims to raise awareness and gain support for Danish development cooperation. EWB-DK uses a variety of platforms: social media, printed materials/flyers, videos and visual documentation amongst others. It is expected that this intervention’s information work will lead to a higher awareness of climate resilience among EWB-DK’s main target groups, and increase awareness and interest among the organisation’s volunteers.

Supplementary financing

EWB-DK has secured 27,500 DKK for one volunteer/intern to participate in the conduction of the climate risk assessments in the communities.

1. https://www.unicef.org/wash/files/Sierra\_Leone\_final\_report\_favorable\_zones\_(FINAL).pdf [↑](#footnote-ref-1)
2. https://monitor.civicus.org/updates/?country=129 [↑](#footnote-ref-2)
3. https://www.who.int/water\_sanitation\_health/publications/2012/globalcosts.pdf [↑](#footnote-ref-3)