



Women for Water working conference EECCA region

MAIN POINTS:

- Although water stress certainly exists, the overwhelming problem is water quality
- Emphasis is on urban areas; rural areas seriously lagging behind
- Rural WATSAN requires different approach; requires small-scale, tailor-made interventions
- To have effect, small-scale interventions need to be implemented at large scale



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MAIN POINTS CONTD:

- Local ownership is crucial factor for success;
- Problem cannot be solved by 1 sector in society alone; local ownership creates strong partnership;
- Crucial actors are: committed (local) authorities, strong community leaders, skilled facilitating agency;
- Identify and assign the different roles to the parties involved.



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MAIN POINTS CONTD:

Criteria for sustainability:

- Process before project

Process of awareness building, organising local participation, identifying community leadership, problem identification and starting local initiatives... has to precede the actual project stage.



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MAIN POINTS CONTD:

Criteria for sustainability:

- Women as a major group: strength and numbers

The combined strength of women groups creates commitment within the community. They generate commitment of local authorities needed for successful implementation



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MAIN POINTS CONTD:

Criteria for sustainability:

- Go beyond the pilot stage

Not continuing with new projects after the pilot projects is an enormous waste of capital, not only financial but social capital and knowledge and expertise as well. Without serious up scaling the MDGs will not be achievable.