

Nigeria

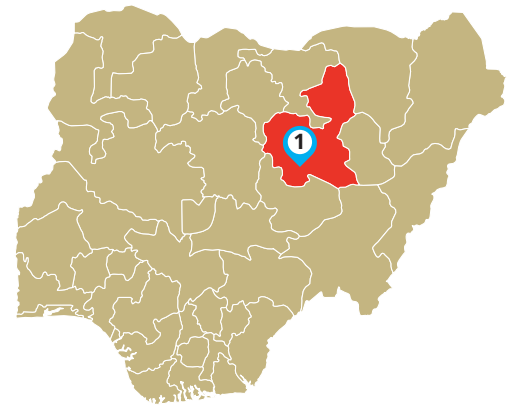
HSBC Water Programme Highlights Report

2017-19

In 2012, HSBC launched its Water Programme to tackle the global water crisis, bringing together the expertise of Earthwatch, WaterAid and WWF.

During its eight years, WaterAid strengthened systems for clean water, decent toilets and good hygiene, changing normal for communities in six countries: Bangladesh, Ghana, India, Nepal, Nigeria and Pakistan.

▼ The community of Dalanga in Bauchi State celebrate clean water arriving in their village.



1. Bauchi



Nigeria

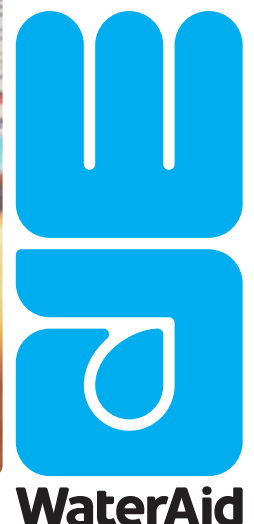
In phase one (2012-2016), WaterAid Nigeria successfully helped the Government adopt a strategy to provide water, sanitation and hygiene services in rural areas, and explored ways to improve community livelihoods through them.

Phase two (2017-2019) demonstrated how the Government's strategy could be implemented. Kirfi Local Government Area (LGA) in Bauchi State was chosen to demonstrate models and best practices, strengthening the water sector and increasing people's access to equitable and sustainable services.

This report summarises the achievements from the second phase of the HSBC Water Programme.



WaterAid/Sozo films



The challenge

The Nigerian Government has committed to providing clean water, decent toilets and good hygiene for everyone, everywhere by 2030. But the country still faces enormous challenges in meeting this target. More than a third of the population still does not have access to clean water, and in November 2018 the Government declared a state of emergency in response to high national rates of open defecation.

A baseline survey of Kirfi LGA, conducted by WaterAid Nigeria in 2017, revealed that, only 12% of people had access to clean water and 17% had access to decent toilets. These extremely low rates contributed to a high number of cases of diarrhoea and neglected tropical diseases, such as trachoma and schistosomiasis, mostly affecting people living in the poorest communities. The problem was made worse by fragmented responsibilities for water, sanitation and hygiene (WASH) services across different parts of government, and low levels of engagement between the state and citizens.

To find a holistic and sustainable solution to these challenges, our Strengthening WASH Delivery Systems (SWADS) project took a systematic approach. This covered the entire Kirfi LGA, coordinating with different government institutions and gradually strengthening state-to-LGA level planning, budgeting and monitoring of utilities. The project also demonstrated sustainable and equitable models for delivering clean water, decent toilets and good hygiene to communities across Kirfi.

▶ **Hon. Tijjani Aliyu, Majority Leader, Bauchi State House Assembly signs the Vote for WASH pledge card promising his commitment to clean water, toilets and hygiene.**

Results



LGA-wide plan for water and sanitation services devised for Kirfi.



More than 4,000 people reached with clean water in households and communities.



Nearly 11,000 people reached with decent toilets.



Bauchi State supported to review its state WASH policy, align its water sector law, and develop a WASH action plan and road map to end open defecation.



1. UNICEF (2020). *Nigeria: Water, Sanitation and Hygiene*. www.unicef.org/nigeria/water-sanitation-and-hygiene

2. WHO/UNICEF (2019) *Progress on household drinking water, sanitation and hygiene 2000-2017. Special focus on inequalities*. New York: United Nations Children's Fund (UNICEF) and World Health Organization.

Improving services

We carried out assessments across Kirfi to ensure our WASH would be shaped by the needs of local people. These conversations helped us learn about existing arrangements, functions and obstacles within local services.

We then supported influential figures within the community, such as village heads and LGA officials, to prioritise eliminating open defecation and promote toilets in households. We also worked in healthcare centres to improve water and sanitation facilities, bringing these essential services to frontline workers, vulnerable patients and caregivers.

At the government level, we engaged both districts and states to advocate for wider policy changes.

In Kirfi, we helped local government conduct an asset inventory to understand the coverage and status of water infrastructure across the region. This was also necessary to determine the costs of reaching everyone with sustainable clean water through a Life-Cycle Costing Analysis (LCCA) process. Once calculated, these figures were fed into the Kirfi Investment Plan, which sets clear and realistic budgets to achieve this goal by 2030.

We also supported the Bauchi State government to review their WASH policy and develop an Open Defecation Free (ODF) Roadmap and WASH Action Plan. In partnership with the Federal Ministry of Water Resources and UNICEF, we trained them in the use of mobile tools to collect and submit WASH data to the national database. We also helped align the state's water and sanitation laws using a multi-sector approach, for the sustainable delivery of services going forwards.



WaterAid/Rachel Ogunlana

▲ **“In my ten years of experience, I have never had constant flow of water in a healthcare facility! It makes me happy and motivated to continue working.”** Kamoshi Empress, Community Health Worker at the Maternity Ward of Kafin Iya Primary Healthcare Centre, Kirfi, is unable to hide her excitement as she washes her hands with clean water in her office.



The power of people



During the 2019 national election campaign, we helped the public understand their political rights to clean water, decent toilets and good hygiene services.

Our #Vote4WASH campaign motivated people to raise water and sanitation rights as a key issue for them. If politicians wanted their trust and votes, they would first need to promise to prioritise these services by signing a pledge card.

We developed these pledge cards in collaboration with traditional leaders, women's groups and people living with disabilities to ensure accountability to communities affected most by the crisis. We also collaborated with media and Civil Society Organisations to create supporting campaigns, ensuring regular coverage of clean water, toilets and hygiene issues and keeping them part of public debate.

As a result, 35 politicians running for offices in Bauchi State signed the pledge cards. Following the elections, we continue to hold them to account through our #KeepYourPromises campaign, which is monitoring elected officials on their pledges.

Continued pressure on elected politicians from the public and civil society organisations has resulted in 122 new and improved water facilities across five constituencies.



▲ Engaging the public during the Vote4WASH campaign rally in Bauchi State.

Keeping up momentum

We helped establish a complaint and feedback desk in the WASH unit of Kirfi LGA offices. Community members and healthcare workers can now easily make requests for service and follow up on the commitments made in the Kirfi Investment Plan.

◀ **"I had never heard about or developed a District Investment Plan in my 20 years of work until we started implementing the Strengthening Water, Sanitation and Hygiene Delivery Systems (SWADS) project. It is really an eye opener and with this plan, we will be able to make clean water, sanitation and hygiene services available and sustainable in Kirfi and Bauchi State at large."** Musa Bara, WASH Unit Coordinator of Kirfi LGA.



WaterAid/Rachel Ogunlana

Making toilets a must-have



We created a community-led supply and demand model, guided by our previous experience on the ground and the latest research and thinking around rural sanitation.

We worked with authorities and communities to create demand for improved toilets, and at the same time equipped businesses, masons and suppliers to invest in and sell them – making the crucial connection between demand and supply needed to achieve sustainable change.

As part of our drive to strengthen the supply chain, we trained entrepreneurs in how to construct the durable and water-efficient Water Easy Toilet. This has now become popular across Kirfi and has been adopted by the Bauchi State Environmental Protection Agency as one of the standard models for commercial toilet businesses in the state capital, Bauchi city.



▲ Auwal Bala, a sanitation business owner, displays the products and handwashing stations for sale at his store in Kirfi.

▼ Fatima Waziri, a resident of Kirfi, is excited about her new Water Easy Toilet.



Money where it matters

To help households struggling with upgrading their toilets, we supported the formation of Village Savings and Loan Associations, which offer soft loans for members to purchase toilets and handwashing products.

The Associations are active and flourishing, and now supporting sanitation entrepreneurs as well as individual households.



Changing behaviour, changing lives

The crisis around clean water, decent toilets and good hygiene is not just about lack of access to facilities and services. It's also about people's priorities and practices.

We understand that hygiene behaviour is a deep-rooted issue, and motivating people to practice better hygiene is a complex and lengthy process. So we undertook research and engaged with representatives from media, the Government, UNICEF and other key partners to understand the barriers and triggers to behaviour change.

The result was a new hygiene behaviour change package and the launch of the Clean Family Campaign across Kirfi. Aligning with the national 'Clean Nigeria: Use the Toilet' sanitation campaign aiming for an open defecation-free Nigeria by 2025, the Clean Family Campaign promotes the adoption of specific hygiene behaviours – handwashing with soap at critical times, use of clean water and clean toilets, good food hygiene and proper waste management.

We trained 40 facilitators in Bauchi State, supported by local volunteer hygiene promoters, to conduct visits and follow-ups to families and reinforce positive hygiene changes. The Clean Family Campaign is now being championed and led by the Bauchi State Rural Water Supply and Sanitation Agency and has already increased toilet uptake and use of pop-up handwashing stations.

Fighting disease on the ward

To combat the spread of preventable diseases, we supported the Bauchi State Primary Healthcare Development Agency to conduct Infection Prevention and Control (IPC) training for workers across 13 healthcare centres in Kirfi and one general hospital in Bauchi State.

▼ Zainabu Abubakar washes her hands at the handwashing stand designed by her husband, who attended the Clean Family Campaign launch in Kirfi.



▼ Health workers take notes during the Infection Prevention and Control Training.



Future vision

Phase two of the HSBC Water Programme has led to transformational change in Nigeria, with government ministries, departments and agencies embracing newly strengthened planning, financing and management processes.

The Government's Rural Water Supply and Sanitation Agency has taken an admirable lead, investing its own resources to expand the model across Kirfi.

Context-specific technical interventions, close collaboration with different stakeholders, and targeted, timely support has put Kirfi on the path towards clean water, decent toilets and good hygiene for everyone, everywhere. And it has driven progress across Bauchi State while doing so, too.

Over the two phases and eight years of the global HSBC Water Programme, we have reached:

- 1.72 million people with clean water
- 2.7 million people with decent toilets
- 3.5 million people with good hygiene

With the support of HSBC, WaterAid has changed normal for millions of people for good, helping communities, care givers and governments build a prosperous future.

We are an international not-for-profit, determined to make clean water, decent toilets and good hygiene normal for everyone, everywhere within a generation. Only by tackling these three essentials in ways that last can people change their lives for good.

wateraid.org

▼ Ladi, 10, collects clean water from the WaterAid borehole in Dalanga community, Bauchi State.



WaterAid/Sozo films



“I was present at the launch of the Vote4WASH campaign and it was an eye-opener for me. It made me align my campaign goals to reflect the most pressing needs of my people, and a major one was lack of access to clean water.”

Hon. Yusuf Mohammed Bako Alkaleri,
a member of the Bauchi State House of
Assembly representing Pali constituency,
Alkaleri LGA

