Swiss Water & Sanitation Consortium – Eight Swiss NGOs working together to better respond to the global water and sanitation crisis

Organisations
Caritas, Fastenopfer, HEKS-EPER, HELVETAS Swiss Intercooperation, Solidar Suisse, Swissaid, Swiss Red Cross, Terre des Hommes

Regions and countries
Francophone Africa (Benin, Madagascar, Mali, Niger, Togo), Eastern and Southern Africa (Ethiopia, Mozambique, South Sudan) and Asia (Bangladesh, Nepal)

Budget
CHF 19,7 million with SDC's contribution amounting CHF 14,3 million

Duration
July 2014 – September 2017

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Main objectives

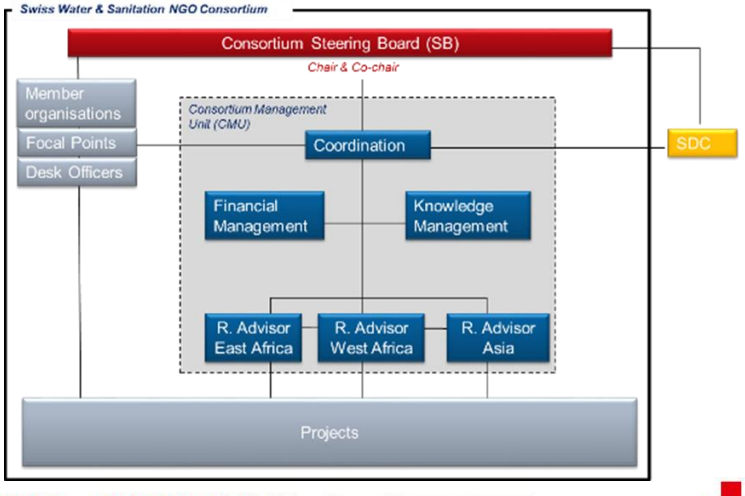
The Consortium organizations target their know-how and resources to the population in the countries lagging far behind the MDG target for water and sanitation in order to increase **access to safe drinking water, adequate sanitation, improved hygiene and water for family farming**. The Consortium mechanism fosters **knowledge sharing** so that expertise among the organizations is increased and the **advocacy and policy dialogue** strengthened.

Background, approach and strategy

The Consortium is a new mechanism of collaboration with a jointly developed and implemented programme, mainly financed by SDC. The eight Swiss NGOs have been working together since 2011. The Consortium implements 20 projects in 10 countries around 3 regions.

How are we organized?

- Consortium umbrella for eight independent Swiss NGO's
- Directed by the Steering Board
- Coordinated by the Consortium Management Unit (CMU) with 3 Regional Advisors
- Projects implemented by the project teams and organizations; backstopped by the regional advisors



Knowledge sharing

- Regular meetings/workshops on different levels -> key momentum are the **yearly regional workshops** to connect people, share lessons learnt & good practices, address common challenges, learn from each other during field visits
- **Documented good practices and lessons learnt**
- Consortium **intranet** for easy exchange
- Public **website** for sharing beyond Consortium and online reporting

Advocacy & policy development
The Consortium emphasizes on policy development as a way to scale up promising approaches. The Consortium's policy work particularly aims at linking local level implementation with national and regional/global policy development.

Expected output

The Consortium projects will provide access to water, sanitation and hygiene to approximately 300,000 people in communities, 40,000 school pupils, 300,000 health centre patients and 10,000 small-scale farmers.

The Consortium activities have a particular weight on quality, accompanying for instance local government partners to strengthen their monitoring of coverage and functionality and promoting good practices. This shall enhance the sustainability and health impact of the Consortium interventions.

Documented good practices and lessons learnt increase the evidence base for advocacy and policy dialogue.

HELVETAS Swiss Intercooperation
CARITAS Schweiz Suisse Svizzera Svizra
Terre des hommes Aide à l'enfance. tdh.ch
Swiss Red Cross
HEKS Hilfswerk der Evangelischen Kirchen Schweiz
SOLIDAR SUISSE Schweizerisches Arbeiterhilfswerk SAH
SWISSAID Inspiring courage.
FASTENOPFER ACTION DE CARÊME SACRIFICIO QUARESIMALE

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