



SUCCESS FACTOR: CONTEXT ANALYSIS AND COMMUNITY ENGAGEMENT

Understand the context of your project and its target group and evaluate the implications for your project

OVERVIEW

A thorough understanding of the context of your project and the adequate, upfront consultation and involvement of the target group is key to achieving sustainable project outcomes. Socio-economic factors, capacities and the institutional framework at the local level will largely determine what types of projects are feasible and will generate added value for the local community.

HOW TO

What are the WASH and WRM priorities of your target group?

Establish if the scope of the project actually addresses real needs and if priorities are set to maximise benefits for the target group. Do not rely on your assumptions of what is needed but engage with your target group and analyse how they deal with water and/or sanitation.

Use IQC Tool Needs assessment.

Which stakeholders need to be engaged?

Study who is interested in your intervention and who will be impacted by it. Make sure you take relationships and local dynamics into account and that you do not exclude anybody at an early stage. Use this process to develop a better understanding of the key challenges and expectations of different stakeholders.

Use IQC Tool Stakeholder mapping.

RELATED TOOLS

Needs assessment

Stakeholder mapping

Site visit and exploring project options

Capacity assessment for project follow-up

Assigning responsibilities

Exit strategy and creating project ownership



What is the best-suited project option?

Analyse existing WASH and WRM practices, infrastructure, cultural and physical environment at the project site to assess the feasibility of different project options and adapt the project to the local context. Use direct observations and interviews with community members!

Use IQC Tool site visit and exploring project options

What capacity gaps exist regarding O&M and follow-up after project completion?

as a basis to design sustainable projects that can be maintained effectively. Identify which capacities are required during project implementation and follow-up as well as the actual capacities of the project stakeholder. Compare the required and existing capacities to draw conclusions for the project design and implementation.

Use IQC tool Capacity assessment for project follow-up

Is it clear who takes over which responsibilities throughout the project?

Clarify and transparently coordinate which stakeholder takes responsibility for which project tasks. In this process you need to avoid that official mandates are undermined or conflicts arise. As part of this step you should also establish consensus about responsibilities for required follow-up or O&M after project completion.

Use IQC tool Assigning roles and responsibilities

Is there a clear exit strategy and sufficient ownership to apply it?

Encourage the target group to participate in the project to increase their sense of responsibility. Use a participatory process to establish an exit strategy and formalize / approve the role of the target group.

Use IQC tool Exit strategy & creating project ownership