

Self Supply News



Self-supply News is a bi-monthly newsletter issued by Self-supply Task Force (SSTF) of Ethiopia, which is a forum of government institutions and development partners. JICA WAS-RoPSS Project is currently taking lead to compile this newsletter.

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“Self-supply Acceleration Requires Real Commitment and Patience!”



Mr. Lemessa Mekonta, Consultant/
IRC

(Photo by WAS-RoPSS)

Self-supply, as one of the part of national water supply service modality, has been taken as a driving force of improved water supply at household level. And it is believed that without Self-supply, it is impossible to achieve the Universal Access Plan. Different stakeholders including development partners have been testing and carrying

out the different components of Self-supply acceleration since the introduction of Self-supply planning and implementation guideline. The national Self-supply Task Force members have shared their view to *Self supply News* on the overall activities and progress of Self-supply at national level.

Ato Lemessa Mekonta, a WASH Consultant and member of Self-supply Task Force from IRC, commented on the overall progress and status of Self-supply acceleration, he said “More than a decade has elapsed since Self-supply has been nationally promoted initially as a campaign then through a systematic approach by different sectors mainly water and agriculture. Year 2008 was a turning year for Self-supply acceleration in the country as it has brought different actors together under the UNICEF organized workshop in Wolisso where detail national level research was recommended to assess the potential, existing practices, challenges, etc. of Self-supply in the country. During 2008-2011, a wide range of researches mainly in Oromia and SNNPR was undertaken with the emphasis on existing practices



Mr. Bekele Damte, Business Advisor/
Aqua for All

(Photo by WAS-RoPSS)

including technology ladder, water use, reliability, satisfaction and water quality of Self-supply/family wells. All these endeavors have responded to different questions such as how is the potential of Self-supply towards the country's Universal Access Plan, how reliable are the services from Self-supply, users satisfaction, etc." Continued Ato Lemessa, "As an indicator of good progress, there are now more partners interested and/or engaged in piloting and testing Self-supply acceleration including Millennium Water Alliances (MWA) and JICA supported WAS-RoPSS Project. As compared to the previous approach, the current approach is systematic focusing on the piloting and testing the different components of Self-supply acceleration before going for scaling up the activities at national level.

Other key progress in Self-supply acceleration in the country is assignment of Self-supply focal persons by Regional Water Bureaus, initiative of national level coordination, advocacy and networking through National Self-supply Task Force, and the engagement of different government sectors in planning and implementation of Self-supply acceleration at woreda level in different Self-supply acceleration pilot woredas. In addition, regions have begun to include Self-supply acceleration in annual WASH planning and reporting despite the variation in the approach of the implementation."

On the other hand, even though there has been gradual progress on implementing and approaches on Self-supply among stakeholders, still there are some challenges and issues that need to be addressed for future plan and work. **Ato Bekele Damte, a Business Advisor and Self-supply Task Force member** from *Aqua for All* shared his concern; "The issue of subsidy on Self-supply by government and other development partners has been the pulling factors of the entire scheme. Moreover, lack of coordination among stakeholders and communication mechanism among the Task Force members added its own negative effect on Self-supply. Ato Bekele continues, "We are not denying the achievements so far regarding Self-supply, in fact there are some interesting things taking place. For instance, in the case of Aqua for All, currently we have been working on facilitating Challenge Fund and Try and Buy approach to different household level to promote water treatment methods (like Sawyer, Tulip Filter, Bishangari and Waterguard).

And finally Ato Lemessa closed our interview with the following message "Self-supply acceleration requires real commitment and patience to understand the concept and to pilot it. An insight of the rural water supply service of the country provides a clue to think about alternative options to community water supply to achieve the Universal Access Plan. Self-supply cannot be an option but mandatory if we are to achieve the Universal Access Plan under the current rural context of the country. There are many parts of the country, where Self-supply (particularly shallow groundwater based family wells) is feasible but still suffering from lack of water for different purposes. There has been an initiative to address the issues despite the different aspects of unanswered Self-supply acceleration that needs piloting and testing. In doing so, the coordination of actors and sectoral collaboration, particularly agriculture, water and health is very important starting from national to kebele level to implement Self-supply acceleration. "

Women Village Technicians in Kaffa Zone Started Doing Business on Rope Pump

JICA WAS-RoPSS



Installation training in Kaffa Zone

(Photo by WAS-RoPSS)

Five women Village Technicians, two from Hadiya zone (Lemo woreda), two from Kaffa zone (Gimbo woreda) and the other from Bench Maji zone (Shea Bench woreda) have been trained by WAS-RoPSS Project as additional support to the dissemination of 10,000 rope pumps planned by the Water and Irrigation Development



Installation training in Kaffa Zone

(Photo by WAS-RoPSS)

Bureau, SNNPR. These women Village Technicians from the aforementioned zones have been assessed for their competency by the Regional Center of Competency (COC) and found to be competent except one.

After the training, the two women Village Technicians in Gimbo woreda of Kaffa zone started rope pump installation being with three men colleagues in the same woreda. Accordingly, as of August, 2016, they have installed 21 rope pumps for individual households in Gimbo woreda. They have produced and supplied the required well reducer blocks and well covers for the 21 installed rope pumps in addition to the construction materials. Well cups were also provided by these Village Technicians by contacting the supplier in Addis Ababa using the business network established by the Project.



Introducing Aqua for All's Activities

Aqua for All

Aqua for All has been operating in Ethiopia and launched two unique initiatives; Challenge Fund and Try & Buy, aiming mainly at supporting private sector service providers.

At the beginning of this year, Aqua for All has launched **Challenge Fund** and the deadline for its application was August 5, 2016. The reasons for starting Challenge fund were to support brilliant ideas for boosting private sector players in Accelerating Self-supply, and to boost WASH



CARE Ethiopia (DERA woreda) (photo by Aqua for All)

businesses. To this end effect, Aqua for All has received a total of 20 application from the Implementing partners; 17 via CARE Ethiopia, 3 via Catholic Relief Service (CRS), and none via World vision

Evaluation of the challenge fund applications were undergone and the top 10 entrepreneurs were met for the due diligence check and detailed interview concerning their motivation, business case and project timeline, among others. Accordingly, 8 out of 10 (2 CRS and 6 CARE) have successfully passed the due diligence check and detailed interview we conducted at the end of September. Hence, Aqua for All will announce the winners very soon.

Another initiative is **Try & Buy** pilot, giving focus on the topic of safe water within the SSA program. This pilot is to engage private sector players (PS) and govt partners in demand creation, technology introduction (HWTS solutions) in association with wareness raising at household level on value of safe water. The selected PS are expected to demonstrate innovative marketing practices, and to trigger other PS to initiate a supply chain on HWTS products.

The proposed HWTS solutions selected include Tulip filter, SAWYER filter and the like.

Preparatory meetings with PS are held in the selected woredas, such as Dera, Ferta, and Omo Nada in Oromia Region.

In addition to the above initiatives, Aqua for All operates some PS support activities in Omo Nada woreda. The activities include; linking with valuable market intelligence from baseline survey,



Linking with valuable market intelligence from baseline survey-Omo Nada(WVE) (photo by Aqua for All)

following up with PS already trained by World Vision, and enabling the stakeholders for climbing the water ladder for households by linking them with suppliers of services

A preparation meeting was held with Woreda government, private sector players, and World vision team and the results of the baseline information were shared. The PS are also encouraged to have a link with MFI for their WASH activities.



Omo Nada RP manufactures (photo by Aqua for All)

Handbook for Rope Pump Dissemination

JICA WAS-RoPSS

WAS-RoPSS Project has compiled a handbook to share how the Project disseminated rope pumps in Self-supply manner in the project areas in SNNPR. It is written for woreda level officers, who are the one practicing rope pump promotion on the ground. Therefore, the handbook was designed to be handy and durable for filed work. Together with the handbook, there are tools which can help conducting the activities



Handbook and tools (Photo by WAS-RoPSS)

smoothly. The handbook was drafted by the project members including the WIDB-SNNPR officers and discussed among the project stakeholders - who were the actual implementers- in the workshops.



Handbook Workshop in Hawassa (Photo by WAS-RoPSS)



Handbook Workshop in Addis Ababa (Photo by WAS-RoPSS)



Meeting of MWA Program Learning Group involving Self-supply Acceleration held in Adama

Self-Supply Task Force

Millennium Water Alliances (MWA) Ethiopia program has organized a meeting of Program Learning Group (PLG) involving Self-supply Acceleration in Adama during October 04 - 06, 2016. The meeting has involved different MWA partners and other organizations. Self-supply Acceleration (SSA) was one of the sessions of the meeting during which the experience/practices and challenges of MWA and JICA supported WAS-RoPSS pilot projects were presented and discussed. The WAS-RoPSS project outputs and experiences were shared and suggested to be utilized by MWA both during the current on-going SSA project and during any upcoming phases of the program. The promotion, private sector engagement, linkage and work with government affiliated Micro Finance Institutions such as Omo Micro Finance Institution, and the evidence based tools and materials are the major good practices of the project to be taken-up.

The overall discussion of the session has indicated how the two pilot projects of Self-supply Acceleration by JICA and MWA could complement each other and can best bring an evidence-based result towards the support or improvement of the national level policy and strategy documents.

Two key concerns that need attention in Self-supply Acceleration as pointed out during the discussion were the need for continuous promotion and implementation disparity including subsidy. In addition, facilitation of the access to finance, particularly loan needs dialogue at higher level. Detail summary of the discussion can be accessed at <http://www.ircwash.org/resources/>.



MWA program learning group meeting (Photo by WAS-RoPSS)

Rope Pump Quality Control, Operation and Maintenance Strategies Approval Workshop

JICA WAS-RoPSS

A one-day workshop on quality control and operation and maintenance was held by WAS-RoPSS Project, on 8 August, 2016, at GetFam Hotel, with the participation of Ministry of Water, irrigation and Electricity (MoWIE), SNNPR Water Irrigation Development Bureau (WIDB), Development partners, and private sector partners. The main objective of this workshop was to refine, approve and also promote the developed strategies and tools to the stakeholders.

The drafts of strategic papers were presented, the participants were split into groups, and discussed on two strategic papers. They gave comments and useful suggestions. After deep discussion and refining, the draft of documents were approved and promoted to stakeholders.



Participants of the workshop (Photo by WAS-RoPSS)

Mr. Agash Asmamaw, National Consultant of MoWIE said, the Self-supply is one of the modalities of ONE WASH National Program therefore it was very important to spend time on discussing, refining and promoting these strategy papers. He thanked the participants for their valuable participation and contributions to the development of the documents.

Farewell Message from Editors

It has been more than three years since Self-supply News was first distributed to the readers. This bi-monthly newsletter was launched as “Rope Pump Newsletter” in May 2013, and was evolved as “Self-supply News” in November 2013. The mailing list kept growing and now the addressees count over 90, whilst we printed more than 300 hard copies of each issue of the News.

The Project Team of WAS-RoPSS has been working as the chief editors of the newsletter. We did interviews, article writing and collection, photographing and compiling all issues so far, while Self-supply partners contributed their articles and useful information to enrich the contents of the newsletter.

Upon the termination of the Project, WAS-RoPSS Team will be dissolved and leaving from the editor’s responsibility in November 2016. Though the Team will leave, I hope this precious communication tool will continue with the efforts of the members of other Self-supply Task Force members.

On behalf of WAS-RoPSS Team, I would like to thank you all the contributors, Self-supply partners and the readers of Self-supply News for your moral support and all kinds of responses to the newsletter. Finally, I wish all the success in Self-supply acceleration and expansion in Ethiopia and beyond.

All good wishes,

Akino Kitazume
Chief Advisor
WAS-RoPSS Project





Activities done in August, September & October 2016

- Jul - COC test for rope pump installers (JICA WAS-RoPSS)
- Aug - Workshop on RP quality control and O&M strategies (JICA WAS-RoPSS)
 - Evaluation and award of/for challenge fund applicants (MWA-EP)
 - Cascaded training to kebele level (Kebele cabinet, DAs, and HEWs, etc.) by the project woredas (MWA-EP)
 - Self-supply acceleration promotion at community level (organizing sensitization events, visits, etc.) (MWA-EP)
 - Supporting private sectors on business development and technical skills through training and coaching (MWA-EP)
 - MWA-EP self-supply Acceleration project Steering committee joint monitoring field visit (MWA-EP)
 - Promoting one of the self-supply technologies, HWTS, through “Try and buy” approach (MWA-EP)
 - Facilitation of the global backstop support team monthly call for Ethiopia SSA program (MWA-EP)
 - Promotional tools development (IRC)
 - Follow-up on demand creation at woreda and kebele level (IRC)
- Sep - Handbook for Rope Pump Dissemination Workshop in Hawassa by WAS-RoPSS
- Oct - Handbook for Rope Pump Dissemination Workshop in Addis Ababa by WAS-RoPSS
- Oct - JICA WAS-RoPSS Final Seminar in Addis Ababa
- Oct - JICA WAS-RoPSS Final Seminar in Hawassa
- Oct - Meeting of SSTF member
- Oct - PLG meeting conducted in Adama (MWA-EP)

Coming up in November & December 2016

- JICA WAS-RoPSS Project Termination (November)
- Agreements with private sector players/suppliers (Aqua for All)
- Woreda selection (proposed so far Omo Nada & Dera) and agreements with preferred woreda (Aqua for All)
- Kick-off workshop @ woreda level (Aqua for All)
- Product distribution and implementation from December 16 to January 17 (Aqua for All)
- Private sector to make follow up (approach HH' s) (Aqua for All)
- Develop ‘WASH-in-a-box’ concept for piloting next (Aqua for All)
- Water & Health conference, UNC; presentation on Group self-supply as an alternative model (MWA-EP)
- MWA-EP project woredas will continue demand creation at kebele and community level (MWA-EP)
- Follow-up on access to finance with MFIs (MWA-EP)
- Supporting private sectors in business development and other trainings (MWA-EP)

If you have any comments, questions, suggestions, please contact us at;

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(English)
- [MoWIE] <http://www.mowr.gov.et/>
- [IRC] <http://www.ircwash.org/>
- [A4A] <http://www.aquaforall.org/>
- [RWSN] <http://www.rural-water-supply.net/en/resources/details/662>
(Self supply fair presentations are available!)
- [IRC] <http://www.ircwash.org/>