Research into Use Summary

1. Research project: Study to review current human resource capacity and costs of

scaling-up for sanitation and hygiene in Tanzania

2. Lead researcher: Sue Cavill, WaterAid

SHARE partners: WaterAid
Research budget: £46,500

5. Location: Tanzania

Research description:

This research will focus on assessing two key areas determining the success of the National Campaign for Sanitation and Hygiene in Tanzania, namely human resources and financing. An assessment of the existing, and required, human resource capacity to deliver a national sanitation and hygiene programme with the necessary institutions and structures will be undertaken. The costs of scaling-up sanitation and hygiene promotion, including the ways in which public finance can be used to stimulate private and household investment, will also be studied. A combination of quantitative and qualitative research techniques will be used to obtain answers to these questions. This will include the use of questionnaires, focus group discussion and semi-structured interviews with key stakeholders.

What is the relevance of the research to national and/or global sector challenges?

This research is needed because of the severity of sanitation and hygiene problems in Tanzania, and because of the lack of capacity and coordination between government ministries responsible for them. Tanzania is off-track to meet the MDG target for sanitation, and the vast majority of its common and traditional pit latrines are unimproved and unhygienic according to WHO/UNICEF Joint Monitoring Programme standards. Facilities in schools are woefully inadequate, with six per cent of schools without any latrines and only one per cent of schools providing soap, according to a WaterAid, UNICEF and SNV survey. In Tanzania sanitation and hygiene have long been regarded as institutional orphans as four ministries bear some responsibility for them. There are major capacity shortfalls with insufficient staff at local and national levels. Moreover, policy so far has identified sanitation as a household responsibility, even though there is clearly a role for public finance for promotional activities, monitoring and evaluation, as well as sludge management.

Who are the intended users of this research?

The aim is for the outputs of this research to influence policy-makers and practitioners responsible for the implementation of the National Campaign for Sanitation and Hygiene, and the scale-up of sanitation services over the medium to long term. Findings will feed into a national human resource development plan and financing strategy for the sanitation and hygiene sector to be used by ministries and policy-makers. Understanding the financial and human resource requirements for the sector is felt to be essential for the success of the campaign and for the sustainable scale-up of sanitation and hygiene in Tanzania over the longer term. A summary of the research findings will be made publicly available on the SHARE website and will be disseminated within the SHARE consortium and to a broad range of users.

