

History of CRDA-Water and Sanitation Forum

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Background

- WWG was established under the auspices of CRDA in the early 1990s
- There were 14 active members working on water and sanitation
- The group was active at that time
 - Developed WATSAN directory
 - Facilitated experience sharing
 - Consultative meetings on policy issues (participation in PRSP process)

Background

- CRDA working groups restructured in to forums in 2002 (water and sanitation included under RDF)
- The good initiatives of the group completely disappear (W & S over shadowed)
- Invisibility, less representation and weak advocacy role of NGOs in the sector

WWG reactivation

- WWG reactivation started in 2005 by the group NGOs working in the sector
- The need for WWG reactivation, history and how to move forward was discussed
- Interim SC was established composed of EKHC, Water Action, NCA, Water Aid, Intermon Oxfam and ECWP
- The group started again to meet and operate under RDF as separate group since August 2005

Rationale WWG

- enhancing the contribution & engagement of CSOs for WASH sector with the ongoing changes in the sector (UAP, CBPF, MSF, etc)
- Limited knowledge of policies, strategies, legislations/regulations, plans/programs
- Improving the CSOs network among themselves, with GO, donors and other similar forums
- enhancing CSOs role beyond service delivery in advocacy and lobbying, policy dialogues, sector performance monitoring, etc
- Contribute for capacity enhancement of CSOs

Major achievements of WWG

- Three sub-groups formed
- Participation in EUWI dialogue process and MSFs
- Co-organized WWD events and dialogue on the sector
- Conducted over 20 meetings for sharing relevant information, experiences and strengthening the group
- Popularization of the group in different forums (Acton research, ECWP annual workshop, MSF, etc)

Major achievements of WWG

- Initiated and facilitated the CSO WASH contribution study
- Organized discussion forums for members by inviting MoWRs and donors on UAP and CBPF resp.
- Facilitated Solar Technology project preparation for WORLD WATER & POWER CO.
- Cleared the way to work together on common agendas with DAG water group

From WWG to WSF-start up action

- Discussion on the need to further strengthen the group (legally as well as functionally) - interim SC
- Two options were proposed (separate network and WSF under CRDA) - WSF under CRDA
- Application for the establishment of WSF was made for CRDA and consultation made with CRDA management and ED

From WWG to WSF

- MOU and Action plan is prepared for the group, consultation made with members and submitted to CRDA Secretariat and Board
- Finally after one year effort and consultation the WWG got forum status with full support from CRDA
- 50 % salary contribution commitment guaranteed from members and the remaining 50 % and office facilities will be availed by CRDA

Challenges

- Long process of forum status approval
- Limited WASH NGOs participation compared to the actual number
- Lack of coordinator for improved communication as Interim SC were expected to do everything



Thank YOU!