Water Operators’ Partnerships in Support of the Protocol on Water and Health

Dr. Faraj El-Awar
Programme Manager
GWOPA, UN-HABITAT
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Presentation Overview

What are WOPs/GWOPA?

WOPs in support of the Protocol

Proposed Cooperation Actions
What are WOPs?

Not-for-profit partnerships carried out between 2 or more water and sanitation operators in the goal of developing their capacity.
GWOPA: Supporting WOPs globally

- GWOPA is an UNSGAB initiative: a global mechanism to scale-up peer support between water operators to address capacity gaps to **MDGs**
- Hosted by **UN-HABITAT** since 2007 upon request of former UNSG request
- Working as an **alliance of partners** to make WOPs happen more often and with greater impact

“**helping water operators help one another**”
Operators and the Protocol on Water and Health

• Operators have direct bearing on water and health linkages by the way that they extract, deliver, treat, and dispose of water and wastewater

• Operators influence targets related to:
  – drinking water quality
  – reduction of water-related diseases
  – performance of water and sanitation systems
  – protection of water resources
  – management of wastewater, and
  – Prevention, control, and clean-up of pollution
WOPs can Contribute to Equitable Access

• WOPs improve access via:
  - **Comprehensive WOPs** – which improve service quality through performance improvements
  - **Direct pro-poor interventions** that target the most needy groups directly

• Supporting operators in **monitoring** equity and implementing equity improvements in service provision

• Helping develop **knowledge base** on operators’ role in realizing the **Right to Water**
WOPs can help Small Scale Water and Sanitation Service Providers

WOPs targeting small scale watsan providers
• through international or intra-national WOPs
• building on the SCWSP Network knowledge

Water Safety Planning
• Training
• Small scale WSP-themed WOPs
WOP-SEE: Supporting WOPs Regionally

- Regional WOP platform, help operators within the region to exchange and learn from one another, and to serve as a launching pad for partnership with operators further afield.

- Instigated at a UNSGAB meeting in 2009, SEE water ministers expressed support to join the global WOPs movement and establish the platform.

- Current focus is within SEE, but aims also to:
  - draw on support of Western and Northern Europe
  - progressively move support into Central Asia.
WOP-SEE Services

- Identifying appropriate partners (brokering) and design partnerships
- Technical support for WOPs proposal preparation
- Providing tools and guidance for WOPs implementation, monitoring and evaluation
- Advocating for, and communicating about WOPs
GWOPA can contribute with:

GWOPA can offer its global exchange fora, and its electronic communications platform for operators and Parties to the Protocol

- Advocacy / seeking political support
- Databases: (WOPs, operators, Resources)
- Pipeline for networking

Concrete Activity: GWOPA could contribute to the preparation of Guidance on Small-Scale water utilities
Member States Requiring Support are encouraged to:

- Recognize the essential role of watsan operators in fulfillment of commitments under the protocol
- Adopt a cooperative approach to watsan operator capacity building
- Encourage water operators to engage with GWOPA and WOP-SEE
- Seek the support of WOP-SEE in identifying and pursuing WOPs opportunities
Member States with Support to offer are encouraged to:

• Identify willing WOPs mentors and encourage them to engage with WOP-SEE and the Global WOPs Alliance (GWOPA)

• Channel their support through the WOP-SEE regional mechanism

• Commit ODA funds to support Water Operators Partnerships between their operators and their counterparts from other countries under the protocol

• Introduce legislation to enable *Decentralized Solidarity Mechanisms* that give local authorities and operators the right to generate local funds for cooperation activities
Thanks!

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