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AN OUTCOMES EVALUATION FOR THE EUROPEAN COMMISSION (EC) NYANGA SANITATION FOR SUCCESS: A CASE OF (URBAN AND PERI URBAN) COMPREHENSIVE SANITATION BY CAFOD AND CARITAS ZIMBABWE MUTARE

BY

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A DISSERTATION SUBMITTED TO THE DEPARTMENT OF DEVELOPMENT STUDIES AT LUPANE STATE UNIVERSITY IN PARTIAL FULFILLMENT OF BACHELOR OF SOCIAL SCIENCE HONOURS DEGREE IN DEVELOPMENT STUDIES

MAY 2016
ABSTRACT

This outcome evaluation focused on the Sanitation for Success, Water Sanitation and Hygiene (WASH) project implemented in the Nyanga town by Caritas Zimbabwe, Mutare, coordinated by CAFOD and sponsored by European Commission (EC). The project’s goal was to bring significant and sustainable improvements in health, living condition conditions and economic opportunities, particularly for the poorest people in Nyanga, Zimbabwe.

The project had two broad objectives which included contributing to progress towards Millennium Development Goal 7 of halving the proportion of people without sustainable access to basic sanitation and to sustainably improve living conditions, health, human dignity, economic productivity and the environment in poor urban and peri urban areas of Nyanga, Zimbabwe. The changes expected were; an increase in sanitation coverage by 50%, improved hygiene practices and behaviors and a sustainable sanitation service provision structure managed and maintained by local authorities and community level structures with private sector involvement.

A desk review of the pertinent literature that is in line with the outcome evaluation was carried out. A research on the other evaluation that were done in related projects was also reviewed and lastly the methodology that these evaluations used was also reviewed. The similar evaluations reviewed include Community Water supply and Sanitation by Water Aid in Nepal, WASH program in Ethiopia sponsored by USAID and health, WASH project in DRC and water facility project by European Union.

The evaluation design was outlined where systematic and cluster sampling was used to select 150 households and 5 focus group discussions respectively. The methods that were used for data collection are documents review, In Depth Key Informant Interviews, Focused Group Discussions and a Household Questionnaire Survey. Qualitative data was analyzed using thematic analysis while Statistical Package for Social Sciences (SPSS) version 17 was used for analyzing quantitative data.

The evaluation findings indicated that generally the project was successful in terms of improvement in attitudes, knowledge and practices of the participants with regards to sanitation issues. The community showed adoption of good sanitation practices based on increase of 68.3%
from 48.8% on usage of latrine or temporary toilet and 55% of the households had presence of hand washing agents. There was increase in the usage of sanitation facilities by older people and by children under five, improved diaper usage and disposal, increase in hand washing moments and lastly improved service provision by local authorities.

Following recommendations were obtained from the evaluation;

1. For future projects the objectives and vision issues for the health clubs should be uniform and SMART as this determines the course of these health clubs and aids them in preparation for future changes and this will also assist in evaluating and controlling performance.

2. There’s need for future project to promote utilization of local resources (human and material) as far as possible to promote local economic development. In addition, the project needs to identify strategies that generate income whilst promoting sustainable water and sanitation practices.

3. There is need to focus on provision of water to new locations like Mangondoza as this is critical for improved sanitation services.

4. In future sanitation projects there is need to reduce the amount of refuse generated at the household level through waste separation and recycling. Households should be supported in such strategies.

5. There is need to raise public awareness on legislation governing water and sanitation services. Besides raising public awareness, in future Caritas projects’ need to have strategies that instil a sense of belonging and responsibility among the targeted communities.

6. There is need for training in Community Based Monitoring and Evaluation for groups so that monthly group meetings are effectively used for critical groups so that monthly group meetings are effectively used for critical review and reflection.

7. Future WASH projects need to involve more men and youth in community groups particular health clubs. Such involvement would enhance social cohesion and promote social justice between men, women, boys and girls.