



GAMA-SWP AF News



IN THIS EDITION

- GAMA SWP is doing an amazing job: A World Bank Global Director
- GKMA SWP holds 2023 Menstrual Hygiene Day in Kumasi
- Project teams undergo massive team-building exercise
- Household water connections begin in Kumasi



**A COMPLETE
TOILET AT
GH¢1,200**



FOREWORD

We are in the 3rd year of project implementation now and I would say by and large we are on course, expecting and hoping that by the end of 2024, all expected outputs will be in place, all things being equal.

I would first of all salute all Project Teams from the Metropolitan and Municipal Assemblies

(MMAs) and Sub-project Implementers (SPIs) for giving a good account of themselves as at this stage. Through their unwavering support, and the support from all other stakeholders including the World Bank, the Regional Coordinating Councils, our consultants, our media partners, and the Project Coordinating Unit, so far, we have, at least, been able to

touch on every expected deliverable from this project. We will also not forget the role that traditional and religious leaders are playing in this project and indirectly contributing to the rapid achievement of results.

In terms of provision of household toilets, we have so far provided more than ten thousand in Kumasi and more than 13,000 in Accra. Though our target for household toilets in Kumasi by the end of the project in 2024 is 30,000, we are very optimistic that we can meet it even as we have just a year and a half to go. This is because we keep learning from the project and adjusting our strategies accordingly and we believe the lessons we have learnt will guide us to end the project on a high note.

Construction of the 150 institutional toilet facilities is on course, having already handed over several of them in Accra. We even hope to exceed our 150-target by an additional 40 by the end of the project. The majority of the facilities for selected institutions have already been awarded on contract and the target will most likely be exceeded before the December 2024 deadline.

Reports from the Ghana Water Company Limited indicate that household water connections are ongoing and there is every indication that the 10,000 additional households for both Kumasi and Accra will be met.

"The proposed construction of Asafo sewerage system has been restructured into phases, with

phase one focusing on the rehabilitation works due to limited funding. The other phases which will involve major expansion of the sewerage works and treatment plant will be undertaken when additional financing is obtained for the project."

Institutional and sector capacity support has continued as support to the development of strategic and sector learning documents continue, Metropolitan and Municipal Assembly staff continue to receive technical and logistical support and guidance for project implementation. The project has also continued to support the commemoration of important global days like World Water Day and Menstrual Hygiene Day, among others.

This edition of the GAMA AF News will definitely inspire you with more stories and updates about the project. Enjoy reading.

Ing. George Asiedu

Coordinator, GAMA/GKMA SWP

MINISTER INSPECTS GKMA PROJECT SITES, CONFIDENT OF EFFECTIVE COMPLETION



The Minister interacting with a household toilet beneficiary at Besease in the Ejisu Municipal Assembly

The Minister for Sanitation and Water Resources, Hon. Cecilia Abena Dapaah, has toured GKMA project sites to acquaint herself with progress of work and interact with beneficiaries.

The June 2023 working visit took the Minister to Ejisu Besease, one of the eight flagship communities that have been earmarked for elimination of open defecation by the end of 2024, where she interacted with beneficiaries of household toilets from the

project. According to Ejisu Municipal Authorities, the project was about 72% close to meeting the 100% target and hope to end open defecation in the community by the end of 2023. With the gap of 200 toilets to fill, 145 had been completed as at the time of the Minister's visit..



The Minister inspecting a school toilet under construction at Kentinkrono in the Oforikrom Municipal Assembly

At the Kentinkrono MA Basic School in the Oforikrom Municipality, the Asokwa-Amakom MA JHS in the Asokwa Municipality, and the South Suntreso SDA Cluster of Schools within the Kumasi Metropolitan Area, the Minister inspected progress on on-going construction of school toilets and interacted with the contractors and the beneficiary authorities and pupils. While the Kentinkrono school was about 90% completed, the Asokwa-Amakom and South Suntreso schools were between 60% and 70% completed. The Minister urged the beneficiary schools, the Parents Associations, and the School Management Committees to co-operate and ensure that the facilities, when completed, are effectively operated, and maintained.

Her visit to the Asafo Simplified Sewerage Treatment Plant on day

“*The Minister urged the beneficiary schools, the Parents Associations, and the School Management Committees to co-operate and ensure that the facilities, when completed, are effectively operated and maintained.*”

two of the tour was to enable her to inspect the existing condition of the facility and the proposed rehabilitation and expansion of the facility to cover a number of critical areas and institutions in Kumasi. The new intended beneficiaries include the

central business district of Kumasi (Asafo market enclave) and other key institutions like the Kumasi Central Prison with a population of over 2,000 inmates, as well as about 500 new houses.

Briefing the media alongside the tours, the Minister expressed optimism that the project would effectively meet all its intended targets by the end of 2024, as she was happy with progress so far, and especially with the way households were happily protecting their new toilets acquired through the project. She said GAMA SWP was a government flagship project that provides standard, gender, and disability-friendly sanitation and water facilities to households and institutions, with the overall objective of eradicating open defecation. She expressed gratitude to the World Bank for the funding and technical support to the project.



Mr. Kumar Jha interacting with a household toilet beneficiary at Madina in the La Nkwantanang Madina Municipal Assembly

GAMA SWP IS DOING AN AMAZING JOB: A WORLD BANK GLOBAL DIRECTOR

The Global Director for the World Bank Group’s Water Global Practice, Mr. Saroj Kumar Jha, has expressed appreciation for the impact that the GAMA SWP is making in the lives of beneficiaries.

“Thank you @GAMAswp. You are doing an amazing job ensuring access to clean drinking water and sanitation in low-income households and schools of Greater Accra Region. Our respect and appreciation to everyone involved...” He posted on

his Twitter handle moments after the visit in June 2023.

Mr. Kumar Jha first visited a community called Social Welfare in the La-Nkwantanang Madina Municipal Assembly (LaNMMA). He interacted directly with the household beneficiaries who expressed delight and appreciation in the intervention of the Project to improve upon their sanitation and hygiene situation. During one of the interactions, Madam Mary, a household toilet

beneficiary, was full of praise for the GAMA-SWP and the World Bank for making her life easier as she does not have to join long queues to access the public toilet anymore.

Mr. Kumar Jha, who was accompanied by the Project Task Team Leaders at the World Bank, Harold Esseku, Yitbarek Tessema Mammo, Practice Manager, Water Global Practice, Africa West and Central, Anna Cestari, Snr. Irrigation and Drainage Specialist, Bogachan Benli, the GAMA SWP Coordinator, George Asiedu, and other project staff, further made a visit to an on-going Project at the Kwabenya M/A 5 JHS in the Ga East Municipal Assembly. Mr. Saroj interacted with school

authorities and pupils. The headmaster of the school expressed profound gratitude to the project and the World Bank for the facility, which, according to him, would put an end to the open defecation, lateness, and absenteeism situation in the school.



Mr. Kumar Jha, accompanied by his World bank colleagues, staff from the GAMA PCU, and the heads of the Opa Cluster of schools in front of the two toilet facilities

The team finally visited the Opa MA 1&2 Basic School in the Ga West Municipal Assembly to have a look at a completed institutional sanitation facility that is already in use. He interacted with the headteachers of the cluster of two schools. The headteachers shared their excitement and experience since the toilet facility became functional. They talked about how they ensured effective operation and maintenance of the facility to improve on the sanitation and hygiene situation. One of the headteachers told Mr. Saroj and the World Bank team how the facility has improved school attendance and punctuality. The Global Director commended them and encouraged them to continue their good work.



The World Bank team at Akokoamong in the Ejisu Municipal Assembly

In a related development, the World Bank has completed another successful project implementation mission on the GAMA Sanitation and Water Project. The main objectives of the April/May 2023 mission were to review implementation status of all components of the project and review project compliance to the Fiduciary and Safeguards policies of the Bank and provide guidance where required.

The mission was led by Senior Water Supply and Sanitation Specialists, Yitbarek Tessema and Harold Esseku (who are also the Task Team Leaders for the project) from the Bank and the GAMA Project Coordinator, George Asiedu, from the Ministry of Sanitation and Water Resources (MSWR).

The mission comprised project review meetings where respective component teams provided implementation updates for discussion and field visits to selected project communities in Greater Kumasi. According to the Bank, the project has made progress with most of the project activities under implementation: construction of household toilets is in progress albeit in slower than expected pace in Greater Kumasi; procurement of goods substantially completed; contract for the performance-based contract for water loss reduction signed with slight delay; preparation of the water supply master plan for Greater Kumasi under implementation;

civil works for water supply pipe network extension and new household connections underway; and encouraging progress in provision of training, awareness creation and capacity building activities to project implementing bodies, beneficiaries and stakeholders.

Given extensive project experience gained through the parent project in Greater Accra, the Mission advised that much more effort needs to be made to improve on uptake of household toilets in Greater Kumasi in order to meet the target of 30,000 toilets by the end of 2024. The mission also encouraged the Ministry of Sanitation and Water Resources (MSWR) to ensure that the consultations with the Ministry of Education

“*The main objectives of the April/May 2023 mission were to review implementation status of all components of the project and review project compliance to the Fiduciary and Safeguards policies of the Bank and provide guidance where required.”***”**

and other relevant stakeholders on sustainability of institutional WASH facilities are concluded in the coming months to ensure that the proposed sustainability models are implemented under the project and lessons incorporated for future modification as needed.

The Mission visited four project community sites in the Oforikrom, Ejisu,

and Suame Municipalities. At Apeadu in the Oforikrom Municipality, and Fumesua and Akokoamong in the Ejisu Municipality, the Mission inspected progress of school toilets under construction and offered expert advice on emerging neighbourhood and community grievances to pave way for smooth facility construction.



Ing. George Asiedu addressing the students during the event

GKMA-SWP COMMEMORATES MENSTRUAL HYGIENE DAY IN KUMASI

Ing. George Asiedu, the Coordinator of the Greater Kumasi Metropolitan Area Sanitation Water Project (GKMA-SWP), has called upon the Ghana Education Service and District Assemblies to refrain from awarding contracts for schools without provision for toilet facilities.

Ing. Asiedu emphasized that every school should have access to improved toilet facilities with running water for the students' use. Furthermore, he advocated for the inclusion of changing rooms in female toilet facilities, enabling girls to conveniently manage their menstruation while at school.

"The girl child and women in general, can manage their periods hygienically, safely, and privately with dignity when they have access to appropriate household and institutional sanitation facilities and the appropriate sanitary products." He said.

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This year's celebration was themed "We are Committed to Educating Everyone About Menstruation." As part of the event, the GKMA presented 200 cartons of sanitary pads to the Islamic Secondary School for distribution among the girls.

The project has contributed to the provision of about 48,250 improved household toilets and 437 disability and gender-friendly sanitation facilities in schools. These facilities are equipped with adequate water supply, solid waste management features, and dedicated changing rooms for girls to manage their periods.



A section of the students and the GAMA Project Team expressing commitment to ending period stigma

He added that the project has supported over 206,000 school girls, accounting for 51 per cent of the 404,000 school pupils who have benefited from the sanitation sub-component of the project.

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“Menstrual blood is just like normal blood in one's veins and only becomes unclean when proper menstrual hygiene is not observed.”



Mrs. Charlotte Akwaah Adjei (in sun glasses) presenting cartons of sanitary pads to the students on behalf of the Ministry of Sanitation and Water Resources.



Dr. Josephine Kyei, keynote speaker, addressing the gathering

Dr Josephine Kyei, a Senior Lecturer at the School of Nursing of the University of Ghana, emphasized the need for more education on menstrual hygiene. She stressed that parents and teachers should be equipped to provide the necessary support for girls during this time of the month.

Dr Kyei debunked myths surrounding menstruation, clarifying that menstrual blood is just like normal blood in one's veins and only becomes unclean when proper menstrual hygiene is not observed. She highlighted the risk of infections if sanitary products are not changed regularly or if inappropriate products are used. She advised girls to choose sanitary products that are affordable and

suitable for them, and to dispose of used pads appropriately, discouraging the flushing of pads in toilets to prevent clogging.

The Dwantoahemaa of Kokofu in the Ashanti Region, Nana Ahwenie-Bodom, encouraged girls not to feel ashamed during their menstrual period and to feel free to discuss it openly. She emphasized that menstruation is a natural phenomenon, indicating that girls are complete women and should not consider themselves unclean. According to her, menstruation should not be viewed as a taboo or hinder girls from engaging in any activities.

Credit: ghstandard.com



Team Asokwa emerged winners of the soccer fiesta

OPERATION 15,000 HOUSEHOLD TOILETS: PROJECT TEAMS UNDERGO MASSIVE TEAMBUILDING EXERCISE

Project teams and other officials of the Greater Kumasi Metropolitan Area (GKMA) Sanitation and Water Project have re-ignited their commitment to construct at least, 15,000 household toilets by the end of 2023. This commitment was demonstrated during an end-of-year teambuilding jamboree held at the Paa Joe Stadium at the Kwame Nkrumah University of Science and Technology in March 2023.

According to the Project Coordinator, Ing. George Asiedu, the purpose of the GKMA Household Toilet Jamboree was to perform some team-building exercises, mainly through fun games, which, it was believed, would contribute to accelerated achievement of the household toilet targets for 2023.

“This team-building exercise is aimed at prepping authorizers, Household Toilet Teams (HHT), Assembly

Members, and other officers in the Assemblies to kickstart an intensive demand creation drive to achieve a 15,000-household toilet construction target for 2023.” He stated during his welcome remarks at the event.

According to Ing. Asiedu, the main objectives of the unique event were to: relaunch the up-coming household toilet demand-creation drive in all the eight MMAs; to remind

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“This team-building exercise is aimed at prepping authorizers, Household Toilet Teams (HHT), Assembly Members, and other officers in the Assemblies to kick-start an intensive demand creation drive to achieve a 15,000-household toilet construction target for 2023 ”

the respective project teams of the targets for the year and the tasks ahead; to provide the respective MMAs an opportunity to present their demand-creation strategies and to re-affirm their commitment to achieve the collective targets; and to re-energize the project teams to step up household toilet promotion

activities towards achieving the target.

More than 600 participants including representatives from the Regional Coordinating Council, the Municipal Chief Executives and their Coordinating Directors, Environmental Health and other

Officers from the Assemblies, Household Toilet Teams within each Assembly, and Assembly Members of the eight participating MMAs in the project, the GAMA/GKMA Project Coordinator, and staff of the Project Coordinating Unit.

The event comprised addresses from the Project Coordinator and some Municipal Chief Executives and fun games including football, sack race, table tennis, musical chairs, in-door games, and tug of peace. Trophies and cash prizes were awarded to winning MMA teams as part of their incentives to live their commitment to achieving the 2023 collective target of 15,000 household toilets.



Team Kwadaso in a jubilant mood after a great performance



Mayor of Tema Metropolitan Assembly, Hon. Yohanes Amah Ashietey (middle) performing one of the handover ceremonies at the Tema Technical School.

MORE THAN 50% OF GAMA INSTITUTIONAL TOILETS HANDED OVER TO SCHOOLS: GOOD PROGRESS MADE IN GKMA

The GAMA SWP has completed and handed over more than 50% of WASH facilities to beneficiary schools and healthcare facilities in Accra as at the end of June 2023. Out of the 63 facilities under construction, five are intended for healthcare facilities while the rest are for schools. When completed, the facilities will benefit a total of 61,505 school populations and 1,494 healthcare facility beneficiaries. Construction

of all institutional facilities in Accra is expected to be completed by July 2023.

Meanwhile, construction has taken off in earnest in GKMA, where 129 institutional WASH facilities, 12 of which are for healthcare facilities and the rest for schools, are under construction. Each of the eight MMAs in GKMA will benefit from an average of 16 WASH facilities with

the KMA getting the largest share of 20 facilities, while Suame Municipal Assembly takes the least number of 15. Facilities for healthcare institutions have also been spread across five MMAs, namely: Asokore Mampong (3), Ejisu (4), Kwadaso and Oforikrom (2 each), and one for Old Tafo.



At school toilet almost completed at Kentinkrono in the Oforikrom Municipal Assembly

Construction started in March 2023 and is expected to be completed by November 2023. When completed, the facilities will benefit a school population of 126,032 and health-care facility population of 3,117.

GAMA SWP institutional toilet facilities come with flush toilets, water storage tanks, a water source (if the institution is not already connected to one), handwashing facilities, solid waste management facilities, and changing rooms for menstruating girls. All the facilities are disability friendly with special access paths and other support items created for the purpose, complying strictly with all the minimum standards of WASH in Schools set by the Ghana Education Service.

Distribution of Institutional Toilets in GKMA

| No. | MMA | Number of Target Institutions | | Total |
|--------------|-----------------|-------------------------------|-----------|------------|
| | | Schools | HCFs | |
| 1 | Ejisu | 13 | 3 | 16 |
| 2 | Suame | 14 | - | 14 |
| 3 | Asokwa | 12 | 4 | 16 |
| 4 | Kwadaso | 20 | - | 20 |
| 5 | Oforikrom | 14 | 2 | 16 |
| 6 | Old Tafo | 14 | 2 | 16 |
| 7 | KMA | 15 | 1 | 16 |
| 8 | Asokore Mampong | 15 | - | 15 |
| Total | | 117 | 12 | 129 |

EJISU STILL ENTRENCHED AT THE SUMMIT OF THE HOUSEHOLD TOILET LEAGUE TABLE



A completed stand-alone household toilet at Ejisu Besease.

The Ejisu Municipal Assembly has maintained its grip at the summit of the GKMA Household Toilet League Table for 19 consecutive months. As at the end of June 2023, Ejisu had constructed a total of 1,884 toilets, and the closest MA was Suame with 1,140.

Suame was followed closely by Asokwa and Kwadaso with 1,109 and 1,093 toilets respectively. Both Suame and Asokwa, however, were

able to overtake and push Kwadaso down to the 4th place on the table. Oforikrom, which used to occupy 2nd place at the early stages of the project seems to be struggling in recent months, currently occupying the 5th position and with a wide gap of 63 toilets to catch up with the 4th placed Kwadaso. Asokore Mampong remained at the bottom of the table with 951 toilets constructed.

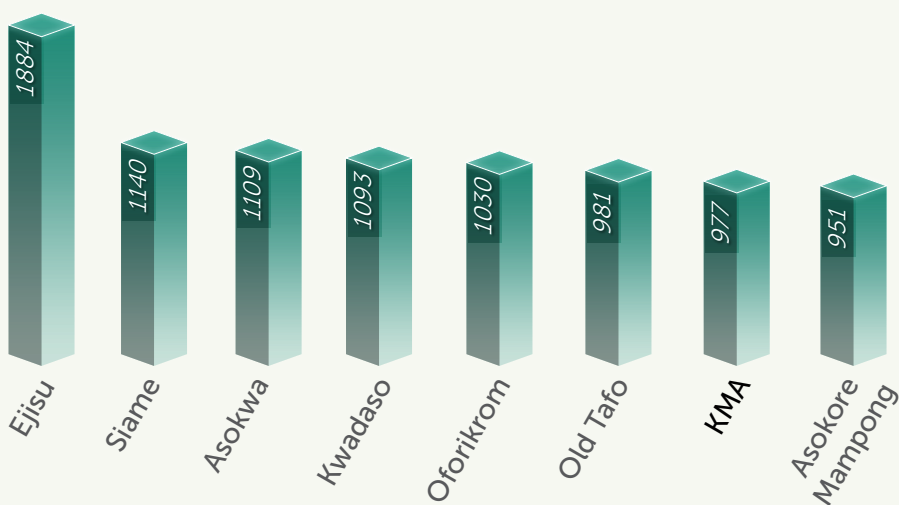
As at the end of June, 2023, the

project had facilitated the construction of 9,165 household toilets across the eight MMAs, and additional 866 from border communities, totaling 10,031 since November 2021. Meanwhile, in order to match up to the challenge of 30,000 toilets by the end of 2024, the project has set an ambitious target of 15,000 toilets by December 2023. A number of toilet promotion and construction measures have therefore been put in place to make this happen. These

measures include intensification of demand-creation activities and introduction of additional sub-project implementers (SPIs) to boost response to household demand for toilets.

GKMA HOUSEHOLD TOILET LEAGUE TABLE - 3rd JULY 2023

| POSITION | MMA | TOTAL NO. OF HHTS CONSTRUCTED |
|----------|-----------------|-------------------------------|
| 1 | Ejisu | 1884 |
| 2 | Suame | 1140 |
| 3 | Asokwa | 1109 |
| 4 | Kwadaso | 1093 |
| 5 | Oforikrom | 1030 |
| 6 | Old Tafo | 981 |
| 7 | KMA | 977 |
| 8 | Asokore Mampong | 951 |
| | Total | 9,165 |



HOUSEHOLD WATER CONNECTIONS KICK OFF IN KUMASI

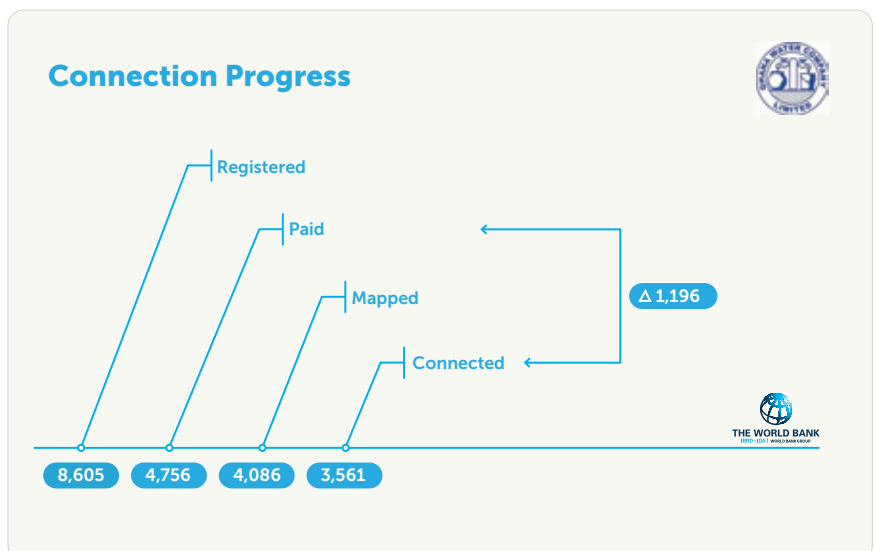


A World Bank Mission Team inspecting some of the new water connections at Bremang in the Suame Municipal Assembly.

The Ghana Water Company Limited, through its Low-Income Consumer Support Department (LICSD), has begun extending water pipelines to low-income households in Kumasi. As at May 2023, about 2,000 of the targeted 5,000 households in Kumasi had already been connected, benefiting about 30,000 people, according to a presentation made by Ing. Somuah Tenkorang, Regional Project Coordinator for Component 2 of the project, during the World Bank support mission at the time.

In Greater Accra too, an additional 1561 new household service connections had been made within the

same period from October 2022 to April 2023, making total connections of 3,561. Meanwhile, as at the end of May 2023, about 1,196 more households had already registered and were awaiting connection.



According to the project model, households pay 25% of the total connection cost, while the project covers the remaining 75%. Households therefore pay 500 cedis instead of the official 2,000 cedis. This facility, however, is open to only households that can be classified as low-income, according to the selection criteria by the project.

The LICSD has selected 17 low-income communities spread across

the eight Metropolitan and Municipal Assemblies (MMAs) constituting the Greater Kumasi Metropolitan Area (GKMA) for household connections. Target low-income communities are Moshie Zongo, Koforidua, Suame, Sokoban, Sepase, and Oti Kuwait, constituting Batch 1 of the project. The others are Bremang, Askokore Mampong, Krofrom, Kaase, and Santasi Zongo, constituting Batch 2. The rest are Pankrono Adabraka, Ayigya, Buobai, Tachiman,

Denchmuoso, and Kotei, constituting Batch 3.

Interested households must first register with the Municipal Assemblies and fully pay their subsidized connection fees after which the company would connect them and provide them with their household meters.

COMING SOON



BIODIGESTER SLUDGE TREATMENT PLANT TO BE CONSTRUCTED IN GAMA

The GAMA SWP has finalized plans to construct a Biodigester Sludge Treatment Plant in Accra by the end of 2024. Construction of the plant, the first of its kind in Ghana, is expected to start in the first quarter of 2024, according to the Sanitation Engineer of the Project, Kwadwo Gyasi.

The Biodigester Sludge Treatment Plant has become a necessity owing to the increasing demand for the bio-digester toilet technology in recent years. Disposal of biodigester sludge so far has been done on ad-hoc basis and there are no plants in the country for safe treatment. The danger is that while the number of such toilets increases and keeps spreading across the country, uncontrolled disposal may begin to cause environmental havoc.

With a site acquired at Ashaiman, the plant is expected to serve the entire Ashaiman Municipality and parts of two neighbouring municipalities namely: Kpone Katamanso and Tema Metropolitan. When successfully implemented, the plant would serve as a model for possible replication in other parts of the country.

According to Ing. Kwadwo Gyasi, detailed engineering drawings for the plant and environmental and social safeguards assessments on the project and the site will be concluded by close of 2023. This will be followed by the necessary procurement processes before construction commences in the first quarter of 2024.

Meanwhile, the GAMA SWP has already produced a Biodigester Sludge Emptying Manual to guide artisans on how to safely empty the

digesters and convey the sludge to safe disposal or treatment sites. Production of the manual was necessitated by the current practice whereby artisans attempt to open and de-sludge the digesters with limited or no knowledge of how safely to undertake that task. Some of them end up damaging the system, infecting themselves, and/or polluting the environment.

The intended primary users of the manual are sanitation technicians (artisans) engaged in biodigester toilet construction, emptying and transport. In addition to these artisans, it is designed for government workers, international and local

non-governmental organizations (NGOs), and agencies looking to venture into biodigester toilets in peri-urban and urban areas. It can also be used as reference material for teaching and training on biodigester toilet technology.

Major highlights of the manual include emptying, transportation, institutional and regulatory arrangements, and estimated quotation for emptying a standard biodigester toilet. The manual is available for downloading on the project website: www.gamaswp.org.

MORE HOUSEHOLD TOILET BENEFICIARIES EXPRESS SATISFACTION

In this edition of the GSN, we feature four beneficiaries from the GKMA household toilets from Aboabo No2, Oduom, and Anwomaso. They have never regretted taking that bold, wise, and economic decision to access the GKMA household toilet facility. Beaming with wild smiles and speaking with so much passion, Razak, Ilham, Mary, and Abenaa share their toilet stories as follows:



Abdul Razak – Aboabo No2, Asokore Mampong: I thought the Water Closet Toilet was meant for only the rich.

"First, I thought the Water Closet toilet was meant for only the rich. Now, due to the benevolence of the government and the GKMA project, even as a poor family, we are also enjoying Water Closet toilets at home. Only GHS2,400 for two separate toilets for family use. And do you know where I heard this good news? From the Mosque!"

Ilham Idrisu - Aboabo No2, Asokore Mampong: We no longer carry faeces in containers to dump in public toilets

"I used to pay one cedi each time I used the public toilet in this community. When you calculate how much you spend on accessing these unhygienic toilets in a month, you will notice that it could have been used for something else if you had a toilet like this at home. We no longer carry the excreta of our aged parents and our little children in containers to go and dump in a public toilet and also pay for it. I am happy I watched TV that day, where I heard the news about the GKMA toilet."





Mary Yeboah – Asokore Mampong: Now nobody holds my hands and guides me to access the toilet.

“Because of my partial blindness and my age, someone always had to assist me to access the old toilet inside the house. With this one right in front of my room now, I am able to access and use the toilet without anybody’s support. I am grateful to the lady from the Municipal Assembly who came to inform me about this opportunity from the government.”



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“With only 1,200, the government paid the rest and now look at the kind of toilet we are enjoying.”

Abena Amoakowaa – Oduom, Oforikrom – Where would I have found GHS 6,000 to construct a toilet?”

“God richly bless the government for this benevolent gesture to the poor. Where would I get 6,000 cedis to construct a toilet at home? With only 1,200, the government paid the rest and now look at the kind of toilet we are enjoying. Everybody who hears about this toilet is surprised at the cost.”

A moment with **MR. QUARANCHIE ADAMA-TETTEY** Behaviour Change and Communication Specialist



In this edition of the GAMA SWP AF News, Mr. Quaranchie Adama-Tettey, one of the longest serving project specialists, is in the spotlight. He leads one of the important sub-teams, Behaviour Change and Communication (BCC), within the Capacity Building Team (CBT) of the project both in Accra and Kumasi. He directs all project external communications, promotional activities, and behaviour change programmes under the project to support effective project implementation.

Mr. Quaranchie is an Environmental Behaviour Change Communicator by profession, with a Diploma in Journalism, a degree in fine arts, and a Master of Science in Environmental Science, Management and Policy. He also holds certificates in Project Management, Monitoring and Evaluation from Ghana Institute of



Management and Public Administration (GIMPA). Again, he holds a certificate in Reform Communication from the University of Southern California in the United States of America. You may now proceed to enjoy the full conversation between GSN and Quaranchie.

GSN: How did you join the project, when and in what capacity?

Quaranchie: *I joined the Project in 2016 as a Member of the Capacity Building Team of the Ministry of Sanitation and Water Resources. I am responsible for Behaviour Change and Communication.*

GSN: What specific role do you play within the Project?

Quaranchie: *As the Behaviour Change and Communication Specialist, I coordinate project communication, marketing, and demand creation of household toilets as well as behaviour change activities in my team. I also coordinate event planning and media relations. As part of the capacity building team, I am responsible for building the capacity of the Metropolitan and Municipal*

Assemblies (MMAs) in demand creation, communication, and behaviour change. I have been responsible for the One House and One Toilet Campaign of the Project under the Ministry. I have also developed and sustained the Toilet Jama Campaign for the past six years. I also design programs that will help change the behaviour of individuals to achieve the overall Project objectives. I supervise and coordinate the creation of audio-visual materials and social media activities.

GSN: How critical is your role in the success of the project?

Quaranchie: *My role is critical to the achievement of the Project's objective of increasing access to improved sanitation to households in low-income urban areas. Without demand creation and behaviour change activities, it will be very difficult to get beneficiaries to uptake the household toilets since these beneficiaries are expected to make their contribution in terms of payments to be able to get the household toilets. In this regard, there is an element of marketing and sales under the project which is driven by me and my team.*

I also train the Municipal Assembly staff to be able to create this demand for the household toilets within the various communities. In effect, my role is to train the Environmental Health Officers and the Community Development Officers in the Assemblies to be sales and marketing agents.

Another critical aspect of my role is the marketing and promotion of various aspects of the Project. The Project's overall objective is to increase access to improved sanitation and improved water supply as well as strengthen the management of environmental sanitation in the GAMA and GKMA, with emphasis on low-income urban communities. The main activity of the project is to provide household toilets in low-income urban communities (LIUC) and promote institutional sanitation. Considering the objectives, activities, and targets of the project, there is need for lots of demand creation activities to create awareness for beneficiaries to buy into the Project, capacity building of teams and behaviour change of individuals to help in a successful implementation of the project.

I also manage the Media Relations of the Project and deal with over fifty (50) journalists in Greater Accra and Greater Kumasi. I am responsible for strategically positioning the Project and for that matter the Ministry in public space.

GSN: How is your typical day at the office like?

Quaranchie: Typically, every day in the office is a busy day for me. The Project has a set target and time frame for completion, therefore there is need to always design programs towards demand creation, capacity building and behaviour change.

There is always something to be done at the office. At the office, I spend the day developing and reviewing creative concepts with our designers, developing marketing and demand creation concepts, reviewing social media pages, as well as approving pictures for dissemination. Also, I review the works of the Audio-Visual Communicator and the Behaviour Change and

Communication Officers of the Project.

GSN: How is your typical day in the field like?

Quaranchie: The activity of the day in the field depends largely on which activity is underway. During demand creation events, I must reach the venue as early as 4am. When we have major events, I spend the night at the event grounds to ensure that everything is ready for the event.

On the project, there are lots of field activities required. As the Behaviour Change and Communication Specialist, my field days are very demanding. I coordinate activities and lead the team in programs such as market sensitization and meetings with MMAs for capacity building. I also visit the Municipal Assemblies and meet with the demand creation teams to evaluate activities and strategize.

GSN: What are your most interesting moments as a member of the project team?

Quaranchie: My most interesting moments as a member of the project team is when the demand creation activities yield positive results or are translated into increased number of beneficiaries. Another most interesting moment is when the Assembly teams can function because of the guidance we have given them to work.

GSN: What will you fondly remember after the project has ended?

Quaranchie: I am very happy with the opportunity I have to work on GAMA/GKMA Project. I will remember especially my training sessions with the Assembly staff; inspiring them to get ready for demand creation. I will also remember my moments during demand creation activities in the marketplaces, churches, mosques. I will also cherish the moments when I see the stakeholders buying into and owning the project. Finally, I become so fulfilled when beneficiaries share the impact the Project is making in their lives.



Simplified Sewerage Treatment Plant at Bankuman in the Tema Metropolis

ALL ABOUT THE BANKUMAN AND ASHAIMAN SIMPLIFIED SEWERAGE FACILITIES

Background

The Government-led World Bank funded Greater Accra Metropolitan Area Sanitation and Water Project (GAMA SWP) started in 2015 and has currently been extended to the Greater Kumasi Metropolitan Area (GKMA) in the Ashanti Region, expected to end by December 2024. The primary objective of the project is to improve sanitation, water supply, and environmental sanitation services in two Metropolitan and 22 Municipal Assemblies in Greater Accra and one Metropolitan and seven Municipal Assemblies in

Greater Kumasi. By the end of the parent project in 2020, about 28,000 households and 406 institutional toilet facilities had been provided, while more than 11,000 households had been connected to water distribution pipelines. Four major drainage systems had been expanded to reduce flooding in Accra, while the capacities of thousands of government and civil society staff and a number of institutions had been built. One other rare area in sanitation that the project ventured into, was the construction of two Simplified Sewerage Systems in Ashaiman New

Town in the Ashaiman Municipal Assembly and Bankuman in the Tema Metropolitan Assembly.

Project objectives

The central objective of the project is to increase access to improved sanitation in the Greater Accra metropolitan Area with focus on two low-income urban communities and ensure disposal of treated effluent in a sustainable manner in order to minimize sanitation-related public health issues.

THE BANKUMAN SIMPLIFIED SEWERAGE TREATMENT FACILITY

Project communities

The project area includes Bankuman, Zinginshore, Abonkor and parts of Tema New Town within the Tema Metropolitan Area. The main target community is Bankuman with possible extension of services to the other communities. Bankuman is located about 7km east of Tema with an estimated population of about 21,069 and 3,144 households. The community covers an area of approximately 3.2km² with a generally gently undulating topography with the southern section completely developed. Streets, lanes, and other secondary accesses are also quite clearly identified and general infrastructure and other facilities are quite moderately developed. Management of liquid waste disposal facilities are, however, generally poor. The only off-site collection and disposal facility is the trunk sewer that runs through a section of the community which discharges into an existing Detention Basin and finally channeled into the sea.

A baseline survey carried out in the community revealed that 51% of the inhabitants of Bankuman use public toilets; 45% practice open defecation, and 4% use dedicated household toilets. A section of the Tema sewerage collector system, which serves the eastern basin covering parts of Tema Communities 1, 4, 7, the Industrial Area, as well as the Harbour and New Town area, passes

through Bankuman. The effluent is intercepted at the existing detention basin for treatment and is discharged into the sea through outfall pipes.

Scope of work

Project implementation activities associated with the installation of the Bankuman Simplified Sewerage facility include community mapping and engagement, WASH facilities assessment and hygiene promotion, construction of a 7.75

km sewer network involving household sewer connections, laying of sewer lines and collector sewer manholes, rehabilitation of trunk sewer lines and defective manholes, and rehabilitation of existing detention basin. There will also be construction of a Secondary Treatment Plant with a capacity of 1,600m³/day comprising Primary and Secondary Treatment Units (Trickling Filter), Tertiary Treatment Units (Drying Beds), and a Fence Wall around the treatment units, as well as construction of an Office Building.

Facility description

With an expected lifespan of 15 years, the Bankuman facility comes with the following main components:

- Simplified sewer lines in which the sewage flows.
- Sewer network manholes and house connection chambers normally used as inspection for maintenance purposes.

- Screen/Grit Channel which removes debris and floating materials from the wastewater influent.
- Detention Basin which facilitates settling of particles or solids.
- Trickling filter, an aerobic treatment system that uses micro-organisms attached to a medium to remove organic matter from wastewater.
- Secondary sedimentation tank for the removal of micro-organisms and other solids after biological treatment.
- Sludge drying bed which dries the wet sludge using the sun.
- Outfall, where the treated effluent is disposed of in the sea.

Proposed Facility Operation and Management Model

The intention is for Government to absorb the investment cost while the Tema Metropolitan Assembly, which already has experience in managing a sewerage system, takes care of the daily operation and management of the plant. Beneficiary households will be billed monthly, and proceeds will be used to settle operational expenditures and replacement of depreciating components of the plant.

THE ASHAIMAN SIMPLIFIED SEWERAGE SYSTEM



Simplified Sewerage System at Ashaiman New Town in the Ashaiman Municipality

Project Communities

The Ashaiman Simplified Sewerage System is located within Ashaiman New Town and serves that community and the Tema Development Corporation (TDC) Quarters, both low-income by nature. In Ashaiman New Town, the households rely mainly on public toilets for defecation. Other methods for defecation include tying faeces in polythene bags and dumping it in refuse containers in addition to defecating in gutters, nearby bushes, and open fields. At the TDC Quarters, an existing waste treatment facility constructed in the 1970s for treating sewerage from the community has become defunct and the existing

sewer network currently flows into a communal septic tank located within the site. The lack of effective disposal of human excreta in the communities poses a critical challenge to environmental sanitation improvement efforts of the Municipal Assembly. Ashaiman New Town has an estimated land size of 1.27km², whilst the TDC Quarters covers an estimated land size of 0.18km². Both communities have a total estimated population of 24,311 with an estimated 5,455 Households.

Scope of work

The project entails Community Mapping and Engagement, assessment of WASH facilities and hygiene

promotion, and construction of 23.9 km pipeline simplified sewerage networks, which include household sewer connections, laying of block or lateral sewer lines, laying of trunk or collector sewer lines, and construction of household chambers. Other project activities include rehabilitation of the existing TDC Quarters sewer network covering replacement of defective sewer lines, rehabilitation of defective manholes and household connection chambers, rehabilitation of communal septic tank, and rehabilitation of defunct pumping station.

In addition, there is construction of Wastewater Treatment Plant with a

capacity of 1,800m³/day comprising Preliminary, Primary, Secondary and Tertiary Treatment Units, Sludge Treatment Units, Biogas Facilities, Operation and Processing Units, an Office building plus a Fence wall around the treatment plant.

Facility description

The Ashaiman Simplified Sewerage facility, with 20 years expected lifespan, comes with the following components:

- Simplified sewer lines in which the sewage flows.
- Sewer network manholes and household connection chambers normally used for inspection and maintenance purposes.
- Screening Chamber which removes debris and floating materials from the wastewater influent.
- Sewage collection wells where sewerage is stored.
- Attenuation tank which provides a constant hydraulic or organic loading of downstream treatment processes.
- Primary sedimentation tank which supports separation and removal of suspended solids and scum from wastewater.
- Up-flow blanket filtration tank in which organic fraction of wastewater is converted to biogas under anaerobic condition in the reactor.
- Anoxic-Anaerobic-Anoxic (A2O)

tank in which aerobic-anoxic treatment occurs, which mimics activated sludge processes to reduce the nutrient content of wastewater effluent from the Up-flow Biological Filter (UBF).

- Secondary sedimentation tank in which micro-organisms and other solids are removed after biological treatment.
- Sludge treatment and storage tanks where liquids are separated from solids.
- Disinfection tank where effluent polishing intended to destroy pathogens is done.
- Finishing ponds, a final point where the effluent goes before it is discharged into a waterbody.

Proposed Facility Operation and Management Model

The intention is for the Government to absorb the investment cost while the Municipal Assembly, in partnership with a selected private operator, takes care of the daily operation and management of the plant. Beneficiary households will be billed monthly, and proceeds will be used to settle operational expenditures and replacement of depreciating components of the plant.



A site visit by the World Bank Task Team Leaders Yitbarek Tessema (2nd right) and Harold Esseku (Extreme right) to the Ashaiman Facility



A view of some components of the Ashaiman Facility



Connecting households at Bankuman



Trickling Filter at the Bankuman Facility



You can also get
a Bio-digester + WC +
hand Washing Basin at
GHS 700.00

Get a Complete Toilet
at GHS1,200.⁰⁰

- No more toilet queues - Very convenient



For more information, contact
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