



# GAMA-SWP AF News



## IN THIS EDITION

- Minister inaugurates Project Steering Committee for GKMA
- GKMA household toilet construction component launched on World Water Day
- 150 more institutional toilets for Kumasi and Accra
- GAMA SWP Additional Financing: World Bank happy with progress so far...



**A COMPLETE  
TOILET AT**  
**GH¢1,200**

# FOREWORD

On behalf of the Project Coordinating Unit (PCU) and all implementing partner agencies, I wish to welcome you to this first edition of the GAMA SWP AF News. Without hesitation, I wish to seize this opportunity to appreciate the support of the World Bank to the Government of Ghana by providing additional financing to extend the Greater Accra Sanitation and Water Project (GAMA SWP) to Kumasi and for making this publication possible.

With lots of lessons generated from the GAMA SWP, which ended in December 2020, we will not overlook the need to document and share with our cherished stakeholders the beautiful and inspirational stories that emanate from project implementation. This bi-annual newsletter will therefore serve as one of the diverse mediums through which we will be sharing our stories and lessons with our publics.

Looking back at our performance in the GAMA SWP, we can say it ended with very encouraging results. The project was able to provide nearly 35,000 modern and clean household toilets across 24 MMAs. We do believe that this must have contributed remarkably to the reduction in open defecation rates in the Greater Accra Metropolitan Area from 7.8% in 2010 to 6% in 2021. This is because the more than 270,000 people who benefited from these toilets must have stopped all forms of unconventional defecation practices including open defecation.

In terms of institutional sanitation, the project provided 406 modern toilet facilities to 260 public basic schools within the GAMA, relieving about 250,000 pupils of their daily defecation-related stress. One thousand and forty households in low-income communities were also supported to gain access to piped water supply from the

Ghana Water Company Limited, providing more than 420,000 people with access to potable water.

Other significant and remarkable legacies of the GAMA SWP include construction and/or redevelopment of four key emergency drainage interventions to reduce flooding in parts of GAMA. Areas benefiting from this component include Mallam Junction, Kaneshie First Light, Gbawe, and Agbogba. We cannot conclude the list without mentioning the two simplified sewerage systems and sludge treatment plants at Ashaiman New Town and Bankuman communities, which are likely to be officially commissioned before June this year. We hope to document and share more details on these facilities with you through a different medium soon.

Furthermore, GAMA SWP supported numerous CSOs and SMEs operating in the sector, as well as a section of the media, to improve their capacities and undertake various sector engagement and advocacy activities.

The overwhelming achievements of the GAMA SWP made it quite easy for the government to request for additional financing from the World Bank, the main financier, to extend the project to the Ashanti Region, where eight MMAs within the Greater Kumasi Metropolitan Area (GKMA) will benefit from sanitation, water, and sewerage facilities between 2021 and 2024. They are Kumasi Metropolitan Assembly, Asokore Mampong, Asokwa, Ejisu, Kwadaso, Oforikrom, Old Tafo and Suame Municipal Assemblies.

In GKMA, the project targets provision of 30,000 household toilets in low-income communities, 120 institutional toilets to selected schools and healthcare facilities, and extension of piped water connections to low-income households. Again, the project will redevelop and expand

the Asafo simplified Sewerage System. In addition, the project will support the development of an Environmental Sanitation and Drainage Master Plan for Kumasi!

The project has also not yet completely shut its doors on GAMA! We are providing 12,000 more household toilets and 30 more institutional toilets and a bio-digester sludge treatment plant as part of the additional financing arrangements.

With your active support through sharing of ideas and providing feedback, as well as learning from and replicating or adapting some of our innovative implementation approaches, our greatest collective achievement will be to further attract more investment interest in extending the project beyond Kumasi as well and reach more regions across the country.

We are forever grateful to the World Bank, the Minister for Sanitation and Water Resources (MSWR), Hon Cecilia Abena Dapaah, the Chief Director and all Directors and staff of the MSWR, all members of the Project Steering Committee, management, and staff of all beneficiary MMAs, all Sub-Project Implementers (SPIs), our media partners, project consultants and all collaborators. I also cannot leave our hardworking and selfless staff at the Project Coordinating Unit. We all share in the glory of the successful implementation of GAMA SWP, and we hope to share even a sweeter glory in GKMA by the end of the project.

**Ing. George Asiedu**

Coordinator: GAMA SWP AF



# MINISTER INAUGURATES PROJECT STEERING COMMITTEE FOR GKMA



*Minister for Sanitation and Water Resources, Hon Cecilia Abena Dapaah*

The Minister for Sanitation and Water Resources, Hon. Cecilia Abena Dapaah, has inaugurated a Project Steering Committee for the Greater Kumasi Metropolitan Area Sanitation and Water project (GKMA SWP). The Committee members were drawn from the sector Ministry, Ministry of Finance, Ministry of Education, the Manhyia Palace, the Project Coordinating Unit and the Ghana Water Company. The other members are from the Ashanti Regional Coordinating Council, and the eight beneficiary Assemblies. Civil society is also represented by the Coalition of NGOs in Water and Sanitation (CONIWAS).

Addressing the new members during the brief ceremony held on 18th November 2021 in Kumasi, the

Minister for Sanitation and Water Resources, who is also the Chairman of the Committee, informed the members that the Government had managed to secure an additional financing from the World Bank out of which 30,000 and 12,000 household toilets would be provided in GKMA and GAMA, respectively.

Providing further insights into the project, the Minister said expected outputs from the project included 120 institutional toilets in GKMA and 30 more for GAMA. She said the Asafo Simplified Sewerage System in Kumasi would also be rehabilitated as part of the project, as well as improvement in supply of water to households within the eight Metropolitan/Municipal Assemblies. Other expected outputs, she said,

include construction of drainage systems and development of an Environmental Sanitation and Drainage Master Plan for Kumasi.

The Minister said all experts and engineers needed for project implementation were already on board and that the Steering Committee would be expected to provide policy direction and advice for a successful project implementation. Other duties of the Steering Committee, she said, included project review and evaluation, and coordination of the project among relevant agencies.

The Minister further urged members to be dedicated and bring their respective knowledge and expertise on board for a successful project implementation.



*Hon. Cecilia Abena Dapaah being supported by Otumfuo's Assinhene and Special Delegate to the event from the Ashanti Regional House of Chiefs', Nana Yaw Akuoko, to officially launch the household toilet construction component of the project.*

## GKMA HOUSEHOLD TOILET CONSTRUCTION COMPONENT LAUNCHED ON WORLD TOILET DAY

The GAMA/GKMA Sanitation and Water Project has launched the household toilet construction component in Kumasi. The project seized opportunity of the national durbar to commemorate the 2021 World Toilet Day in Kumasi, for the launch.

The Minister for Sanitation and Water Resources, Hon. Cecilia Abena Dapaah, announced in an address during the event, that through the Project, 30,000 household toilets would be provided within the Greater Kumasi Metropolitan Area

(GKMA) over the next three years at the cost of 74 million US Dollars. She said while government bears 70% of the cost of the toilet facility, beneficiary households would only bear the remaining 30%. She said in addition to the household toilets, 120 schools and healthcare facilities within the GKMA would also receive modern institutional toilet facilities. The eight beneficiary MMAs are Kumasi Metropolitan Assembly, Old Tafo, Asokore Mampong, Asokwa, Ejisu, Oforikrom, Kwadaso, and Suame Municipal Assemblies, all of

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*“Through the Project, 30,000 household toilets would be provided within the Greater Kumasi Metropolitan Area (GKMA) over the next three years”*



*Dignitaries at the World Water Day seated*



*The GAMA SWP AF Coordinator, Ing. George Asiedu, presenting a brand-new project vehicle to one of the GKMA Municipal Assemblies*

which constitute the Greater Kumasi Metropolitan Area (GKMA). Each year, World Toilet Day, which falls on 19th November, highlights the importance of sanitation and hygiene in driving improvements in public health, gender equality, education, economic development, and environmental protection. The 2021 global theme was ‘Valuing Toilets.’ However, Ghana decided to modify the theme to suit the local agenda to promote household toilets within the Greater Kumasi Metropolitan Area (GKMA), a major component of the GAMA SWP Additional Financing phase. The theme selected locally was therefore **‘Stop open defecation; own a household toilet now; let’s**

**play our part in a COVID-19 era.’**

The grand durbar held to commemorate the day was preceded by floats organized by each of the eight Metropolitan/Municipal Assemblies (MMAs) within the GKMA earlier in the day. It was a massive scene across the Garden City as long branded trucks with household toilet promotional messages, amidst music, specially composed household toilet promotion songs, and direct verbal announcements filled the entire city atmosphere. As the trucks moved slowly along some of the major streets, MMA household toilet promotion teams distributed promotional flyers and

engaged by-standers directly with the opportunity to own a toilet at home at between 700 and 1,200 Ghana Cedis. Another major highlight of the event was presentation of project pick-up vehicles and motor bikes to each of the participating MMAs. The presentation ceremony was led by the Minister with support from the GAMA/GKMA Project Coordinator.

Another notable household toilet promotional activity held as part of the commemoration earlier in the week was a massive media engagement session on Angel FM and Angel TV in collaboration with Praxis Africa. The over three-hour live production witnessed representatives of religious bodies, market women, persons with disability, traditional leaders, and MMAs dialogue on the need to own a toilet at home. While the representatives from MMAs seized the opportunity to educate the audience on the legal, health, and economic consequences of not owning a toilet at home, they at the same time seized the opportunity to educate them on the opportunity to own one at just 30% of the actual cost through the GAMA /GKMA project.

Also present at the ceremony was a representative of the Asantehene, Nana Yaw Akuoko, the Ashanti Regional Minister, Hon. Simon Osei Mensah, a representative from the World Bank, Harold Esseku, MMDCEs from the eight MMAs, NGOs, and the mass media.

# GAMA SWP ADDITIONAL FINANCING: WORLD BANK HAPPY WITH PROGRESS SO FAR

The World Bank has expressed appreciation for the collaboration and support received from Government counterparts, especially the Ministry of Sanitation and Water Resources, the Ministry of Finance, the Project Coordination Unit, and the Ghana Water Company Limited after declaring that progress of implementation of the Additional Financing phase is satisfactory.

This complimentary comment was contained in the Aide Memoire issued by the Bank after a successful four-day joint Ministry of Sanitation and Water Resources (MSWR)/ World Bank/ Ghana Water Company Limited (GWCL) implementation support mission (ISM) on the project in November 2021. The mission held from 16th to 19th November 2021, was led by a Senior Water Supply and Sanitation Specialist of the World Bank, Yitbarek Tessema, a Senior Water Supply and Sanitation Specialist, Harold Esseku, and the

Project Coordinator from the MSWR, George Asiedu.

The main objectives of the mission were to review implementation status of all the four components of the project and its compliance with the Fiduciary and Safeguards policies of the Bank and provide guidance where required.

The mission, held both virtually and physically, provided an opportunity for frank and productive discussions on every component of the project comprising: Provision of environmental sanitation services to priority low-income areas of the GAMA and GKMA; expansion of the water distribution network in the GAMA and GKMA and improvement in operational efficiency; planning, improvement, and expansion of environmental sanitation services; as well as project management and institutional strengthening.

Major project-related activities discussed under the various components during the mission included updates on provision of improved household toilet facilities, provision of institutional sanitation facilities, construction of a bio-digester sludge treatment plant in GAMA, expansion, and rehabilitation of the Asafo Simplified Sewerage System in Kumasi, and the development of environmental sanitation and drainage masterplan for GKMA. Other activities discussed included updates on social accountability and audit, monitoring and evaluation, capacity building and project management.

After thorough discussions on each component of the project, in addition to project compliance with its fiduciary and safeguard policies, the Bank indicated that progress was satisfactory given the amount of work done so far.



## GKMA IN STEADY MARCH TOWARD MEETING HOUSEHOLD TOILET TARGETS

Nearly 100 days after the launch of the household toilet construction component in Kumasi, there has been no turning back in the eight beneficiary Assemblies as they had collectively constructed 1,049, already providing more than 5,000 people access to clean and safe toilets at home!

As at the end of March 2022, the Ejisu Municipal Assembly was fast tearing away from all the other MMAs with 388 toilets fully completed against their 250 target for a hundred days.

Ejisu is followed by Oforikrom with 135, then Kwadaso with 131 completed while the rest of the Assemblies range between 46 (Asokwa) and 113 (Suame).

Buoyed by active and routine household toilet promotion activities across all the MMAs and the visible enthusiasm displayed by the MMA project teams, several hundreds of toilets are also at various levels of construction and hopefully by the hundredth day, a completely different figure can be expected.

At a Project Coordination Unit (PCU) organized 50-day progress review workshop held in Kumasi in January 2022, respective MMAs shared project implementation experiences with each other, identifying various success factors and challenges affecting project implementation.

Some of the success factors identified included capacity of some of the Sub-project Implementers (SPIs) in some of the most progressive MMAs (just as some SPIs were also the major challenge affecting other



MMA progress).

The overall underlying factor, however, remained that the energy levels and zeal with which the various MMA teams are working are high. Most MMAs have used various approaches to engage with households. These include community durbars, engagement with local political heads and traditional authorities, visits to

churches, mosques, and markets, use of the mass media, as well as house-to-house visits and distribution of promotional materials to directly convince landlords/occupants to register for toilets.

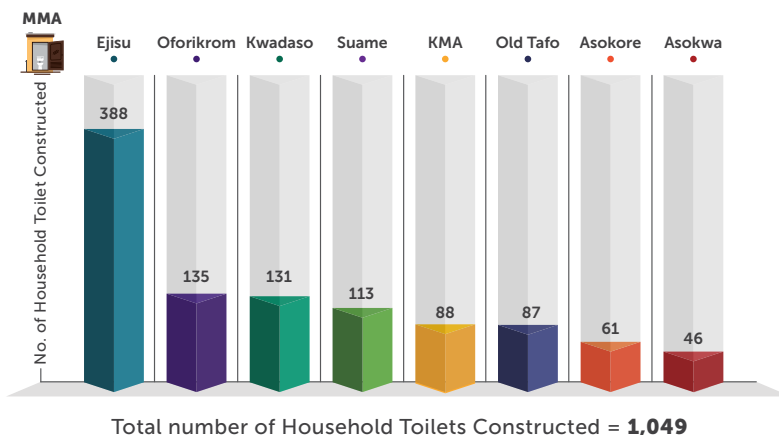
With a credit facility from the World Bank, the Government, through the Ministry of Sanitation and Water Resources, wishes to provide at least 30,000 household toilets at

70% subsidized rates within the eight MMAs – Asokwa, Asokore Mampong, Ejisu, Kwadaso, KMA, Oforikrom, Old Tafo, and Suame by the end of 2024. With just GHS1,200, one can install a complete standard toilet with superstructure, bio-digester, water closet seat and handwashing basin. Where a household already has the superstructure, the cost drops to GHS700.

## GKMA HOUSEHOLD TOILET LEAGUE TABLE

4th MARCH, 2022

	MMA	No. OF HHTs CONSTRUCTED
1st	• Ejisu	388
2nd	• Oforikrom	135
3rd	• Kwadaso	131
4th	• Suame	113
5th	• KMA	88
6th	• Old Tafo	87
7th	• Asokore	61
8th	• Asokwa	46
	<b>TOTAL</b>	<b>1,049</b>



COMING SOON



## 150 MORE INSTITUTIONAL TOILETS FOR KUMASI AND ACCRA

By the middle of 2022, the GAMA/GKMA SWP will begin to construct 150 ultra-modern, gender and disability-friendly toilet facilities for selected schools and healthcare facilities in Accra and Kumasi. While construction of 30 institutional toilet facilities will commence in Accra around the middle of the year, that of 120 facilities will commence in the Greater Kumasi Metropolitan Area (GKMA) during the last quarter of 2022.

According to the Sanitary Engineer of the project, Ing. Gabriel Engmann, engineering assessment, detailed design and environmental and social management plans have been completed for 55 facilities in 21 schools and seven healthcare facilities in GAMA. The total number for GAMA will, however, be pruned down to 30.

In the GKMA, Ing. Engmann said, 270 applications had been received for evaluation out of which 120 would

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*“While construction of 30 institutional toilet facilities will commence in Accra around the middle of the year, that of 120 facilities will commence in the Greater Kumasi Metropolitan Area (GKMA) during the last quarter of 2022.”*

be selected across all the eight MMAs. He said four consulting firms had been shortlisted for the design and supervision work, while a few individual consultants were being engaged to prepare various safeguards documents.

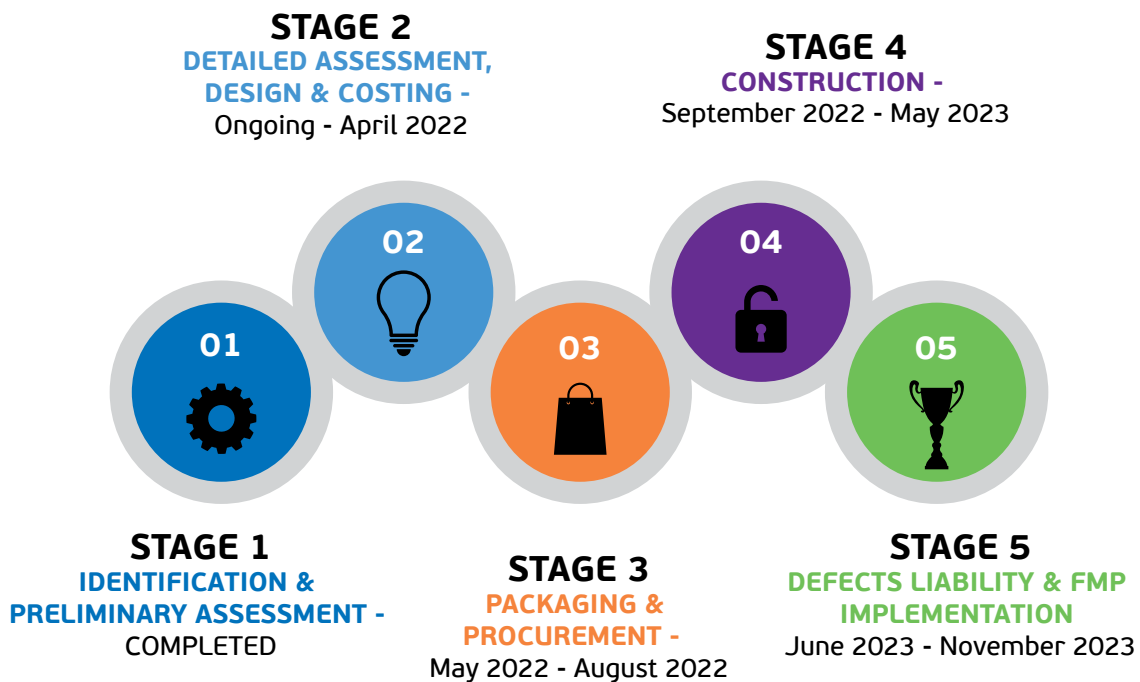
In a related development, the GAMA/ GKMA SWP, under the component one, is working out a strategy to find a lasting solution to sustainability of institutional toilet facilities. Under phase one, the project provided 406

modern toilet facilities to 260 basic schools. While this achievement remains heartwarming to the Sector Ministry, a major emerging challenge is that many of the schools are finding it difficult to operate and maintain their facilities even though Facility Management Plans were developed with each beneficiary school.

As a response to this issue, the project is working out a scheme to engage both the Ministry of Sanitation and Water Resources and the Ministry

of Education, as well as the MMAs and parents' associations with the purpose to define clear roles and responsibilities and commitment for sustaining the school toilet facilities. According to Ing. Engmann, a draft concept paper was ready for engagements between the identified key stakeholders to find a lasting solution to the problem. "This critical hurdle will have to be cleared before we start construction of new institutional facilities in this phase," he said.

## Project Implementation Stages - Institutional Sanitation (GKMA)



## WHY NEW GKMA HOUSEHOLD TOILET BENEFICIARIES AT EJISU BESEASE ARE DANCING



*An excited couple dancing in front of their new GKMA toilet*

With a credit facility from the World Bank, the Government of Ghana is bearing 70% of the total cost of household toilets in eight Metropolitan/Municipal Assemblies (MMAs) in the Ashanti Region. A rapid assessment in some of the MMAs revealed that only about three in every ten low-income households have a toilet. There is therefore a massive campaign for households in the Greater Kumasi Metropolitan Area (GKMA) to seize this opportunity

and own a toilet at home. Four very senior citizens from Ejisu Besease within the Ejisu Municipality are jumping and dancing with joy and cannot stop talking about their new toilets at home. All the four of them were among the very first batch of landlords in the community to subscribe to the GKMA household toilet project in November 2021.

In an interview with the GAMA-SWP News, a Community Development

Officer at the Ejisu Municipal Assembly, Isaac Otchere, said as part of the household toilet promotion activities, the project team conducted a rapid assessment of the status of access to household toilets in the various communities after which they introduced the GKMA household toilet concept to the Chiefs, Assembly Members and Opinion Leaders for them to spread the 'news' to their community members.

According to Mr. Otchere, the approach worked perfectly as the message reached several households amazingly fast, making people start demanding the facilities by

registering even while the project was still not yet ready.

GAMA-SWP News recently interacted with four senior citizens from

Ejisu Besease on how they feel about the new modern toilet facilities that they have.



**A**retired Cocoa Farmer at Boamadumasi, Opanin Kwame Nyamekye had constructed his house at Ejisu Besease over 40 years ago. With a lot of space around his house, and with the public toilet quite far from his house, he constructed a simple pit latrine in his compound for his household to use. His wife recalls a moment when the Municipal Assembly summoned the household for using an outdated latrine in the community and cautioned them to desist from using it. "From that time, we were compelled to resort to the public toilet, which was no better option," The wife said.

"As I started to grow old, and my knees got weaker, it had become difficult to squat while using this pit latrine. This new one is even like a chair; you sit and even sometimes forget that you are on the toilet," he said with his face glowing with massive excitement.

Opanin Nyamekye said he got information about the GKMA toilet through his wife, who had also been informed by the Assembly Member of the area. "I went straight away to the Assemblyman with my cash ready to register and pay outright, but unfortunately he told me that I

should wait a little while they prepare to launch the project soon. He, however, took my contact details. A couple of weeks later, he called me to come and pay. I responded immediately." He said.

"Now we have stopped using the old latrine and we are so glad to have access to this beautiful toilet right inside the house. To those who still doubt the genuineness of this project, I am a living testimony to how serious the government is. Everything they told us is true. This is the evidence." he said, pointing to the new toilet.

## MAAME ADWOA DANKWAA says the bush hustles are now over

**M**aame Adwoa Dankwaa and her household used to defecate in the bush as the only preferred option for decades until she was presented with an opportunity to access the GKMA household toilet facility.

The over 70-year-old pig farmer, who has now handed the management of her farm to younger hands, says she heard about the household toilet promotion at Ejisu Besease through the Assembly Member for the area. "I think I was the first to pay for the toilet when they opened a sub-office here to start registration." She said. "It was so shameful to defecate in the bush while others watched you." She said. She said on a couple of occasions where a member of the household had a stomach upset at night, they had to use a chamber pot before finding a way to dispose of it the next morning.

"With this beautiful toilet right here behind me, all these hustles are over. What amazes me is that it is so neat that you would not even mind eating right in front of it. It is also so affordable, and I advise everybody in this community to seize this opportunity."



“It was so shameful to defecate in the bush while others watched you.”

## MR. MICHAEL KWASI BROBBEY

### says the toilet has come to save his family

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Who does not like a good thing? Mr. Michael Kwasi Brobbey from Ejisu Besease asked this question in reference to his new and modern toilet facility that he got through the GKMA household toilet project.

Mr. Brobbey says he received the message about the household toilets through the Assemblyman, who visited the Chief and Elders at the Palace. He said the Traditional Rulers, liking the idea so much, also advised the Assemblyman to announce the news at the Community's Information Centre.

Mr. Brobbey says he went to the Assemblyman's house to register immediately but was told to wait a little while before making payment. He says just a few days after the officials from the Assembly invited him to come and pay, they followed up with an inspection of his premises and compound and advised him to adjust his bathroom to accommodate the toilet instead of building a new superstructure.

"This toilet has in fact come to save us. This town has no public toilet – we are now thinking about constructing one." Our wives and children used to go to the bush but now this toilet solves the whole problem. My family is so grateful to the government." He said.



“*“This toilet has in fact come to save us. This town has no public toilet – we are now thinking about constructing one.”*”

## OPANIN OSEI KWAME is no longer bothered about where and when to defecate



Opanin Osei Kwame, also from Ejisu Besease is not only marveled by the type of toilet facility he now has but also, how little it cost him. He is equally marveled by the speed with which the Ejisu Municipal Assembly responded with the construction. "I went to register and pay and within three days I saw a team already bringing the construction materials. In a few more days a plumber was also here to fix the pipes and the seat." He told GAMA SWP News.

Opanin Osei Kwame says he and his family live in an old house whose plan did not include a toilet facility.

As a result, inhabitants in the house are most of the time compelled to defecate in the bush. Therefore, he did not hesitate to register after hearing the announcement about the GKMA toilet opportunity. He quickly registered and paid for one toilet facility.

"Now there are so many children living in this house. Even some of the adults living here are also no longer strong enough to go to the bush every day. Now with this toilet, no one bothers about where and when to defecate anymore." He says.

"This toilet opportunity is real. I wish everybody in this community

would quickly access this facility. The quality is also so good, and I am so happy." He says.

Since 2014, the Government of Ghana has been partnering with the World Bank to support low-income urban communities to gain access to decent and modern household toilets to reduce open defecation and improve environmental sanitation and hygiene. The project has provided more than 40,000 households in Accra with clean toilets, while it aims at providing at least 30,000 more by the end of 2024 in the Greater Kumasi Metropolitan Area.





## Ing. KWADWO ANTWI GYASI

In this edition, the GAMA SWP News (GSN) has put our Sanitation Engineer, Kwadwo Antwi Gyasi, in the spotlight. His role is quite critical at the current stage of the project, especially in the Greater Kumasi Metropolitan Area, where the household toilet construction component was launched only recently. Directly under his leadership, household toilet promotion is currently the most vibrant activity at this phase of the project for which reason every effort needs to be made to ensure a successful project implementation in the Ashanti Region.

Calm, clever, gentle-looking and always focused on duty, Kwadwo handles a very critical portfolio on the project, GSN got closer to him recently for a chat to know him better.

*Calm, clever, gentle-looking and always focused on duty, Kwadwo handles a very critical portfolio on the project, GSN got closer to him recently for a chat to know him better.*



**GSN:** When did you join the project and in what capacity?

**Kwadwo:** I joined the Project Coordinating Unit (then Local Government Project Coordinating Unit) in January 2014 as Project Technical Assistant on the then Global Partnership for Results-based Approaches (GPRBA) Urban Sanitation Facility component of the overall GAMA Sanitation and Water Project. I was promoted to the role of Sanitation Engineer in June 2015 to spearhead the implementation of both the GPRBA Urban Sanitation Facility, and the household sanitation component of the main IDA funded GAMA Sanitation and Water Project.

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

**Kwadwo:** As the Sanitation Engineer, I lead the implementation of the household sanitation sub-component of the GAMA/GKMA SWP. The household sanitation component has the objective of providing improved household toilet facilities for low-income urban areas in Greater Accra and Greater Kumasi Metropolitan Areas. I work with a team of 17 field engineers who are stationed in the MMAs in Accra and Kumasi. Specifically, I define the implementation approach of the household sanitation delivery, provide technical solutions such as providing specifications for toilet facilities that will be provided. I resolve technical challenges with construction of toilet facilities in beneficiary homes, analyse data on progress of payment for the toilets by beneficiaries and rate of construction of toilet facilities to identify and resolve bottlenecks from payment to construction I also collaborate with the Behaviour Change Communication Expert to develop and execute marketing and demand creation campaigns and provide technical training and backstopping to the MMAs in Greater Accra and Greater Kumasi.

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

**Kwadwo:** My typical day at the office involves meeting with other colleagues/experts to review implementation of the household sanitation component. Aside the meetings, I also review and analyse real time data on the payments being made by beneficiaries on the ground through our payment platform. This enables us to know whether demand is falling or rising and measure the ability of our demand creation interventions to get people to pay for toilets. I also review the data provided by the field engineers on toilet facilities completed in each MMA. This data is analysed to determine which MMAs are building more toilets and meeting their targets. The data also helps us to measure the performance of the Sub Project Implementers (contractors) in terms of the pace of construction of the toilet facilities. This data is aggregated to provide the overall number of toilet facilities constructed under the Project. Another important activity I perform in the office is to prepare payment advice for completed works. This usually involves reviewing the completion

certificates from the field engineers, updating a database of beneficiaries whose subsidies have been paid and recommending payment for completed works.

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

**Kwadwo:** *My typical day in the field involves going out with the field engineers to inspect completed and on-going works in low-income urban communities. When I visit a completed toilet facility, I check that it is built according to approved specifications. I also interact with the beneficiaries to find out if they have any issues during the construction of the facility and or after using the facility. I make sure that the beneficiaries have proper knowledge on the operation and maintenance requirements of the toilet facility. I take feedback on what can be done to improve our procedures. Together with the field engineers, I visit areas with challenging soil conditions and terrain to propose technical solutions that will enable low-income households living in such places to have improved toilet facility.*

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

**Kwadwo:** *My most interesting moments as member of the project team is during team building activities.*

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

**Kwadwo:** *One thing I will always remember is the joy and satisfaction on the faces of beneficiaries after their toilet facilities have been handed over to them.*

Born in Asante Mampong in the 1980s, Ing. Kwadwo Antwi Gyasi holds a BSc in Civil Engineering and an MSc in Water Supply and Environmental Sanitation, both obtained from the Kwame Nkrumah University of Science and Technology. Despite his ever-busy career schedule, especially in ensuring that the sub-component on household toilets is successfully implemented, Kwadwo gives due attention and time to his wife and child. He also finds some time to play video games and watch football matches especially those that involve Barcelona, in addition to reading on any subject that he comes across. With a credit facility from the World Bank to the Government of Ghana, the GAMA/GKMA SWP has so far provided more than 40,000 modern toilets to households in low-income communities in 32 Metropolitan/Municipal Assemblies in the Greater Accra and Ashanti Regions. This achievement has positively impacted the lives of more than 300,000 dwellers in low-income urban communities in the two regions, especially in resolving their stress in where to defecate safely and in dignity each day.

# Expected Results 2020 - 2024

## HOUSEHOLD TOILETS

(Improved Sanitation)



**12,000** **30,000**

Household Toilets  
Constructed in Greater Accra  
Metropolitan Area.

## WATER SUPPLY



**10,000**

New  
Connections

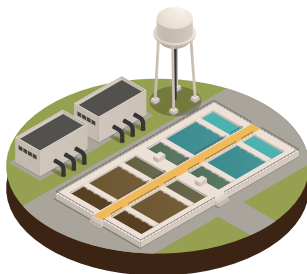
## SCHOOL TOILETS



**30 + 120**

Gender and disability friendly  
school toilets Completed and  
Handed over.

## SEWAGE TREATMENT



Rehabilitation and Expansion  
of a simplified sewage  
treatment network in GKMA



## BENEFICIARY ASSEMBLIES

- Kumasi Metropolitan Assembly
- Asokwa Municipal Assembly
- Suame Municipal Assembly
- Old Tafo Municipal Assembly
- Asokore Mampong Municipal Assembly
- Oforikrom Municipal Assembly
- Ejisu Municipal Assembly
- Kwadaso Municipal Assembly



## MINISTRY OF SANITATION AND WATER RESOURCES



# BIO-DIGESTER TOILET CONSTRUCTION AND INSTALLATION MANUAL

The Ministry of Sanitation and Water Resources through the GAMA Sanitation and Water Project has developed a **\*Bio-digester Toilet Construction and Installation Manual\*** to guide and assist sanitation service providers, NGOs, artisans and the public in the proper construction, operation and maintenance of the bio-digester toilet system. The Ministry therefore directs all service providers and stakeholders to adhere to the recommended construction procedures and standards stipulated in the Manual to ensure proper functioning and sustainability of the bio-digester toilet in the country. The Ministry will be organising a training session on the above manual in due course. For further information, kindly contact the Ministry's Project Coordinating Unit on **0302-514739** or **0501619363**

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to download  
a free copy



# ACCESSING A GKMA HOUSEHOLD TOILET: TYPE AND ATTRIBUTES OF THE TOILET

## Attributes of the GKMA Household Toilet

### 1. What type of toilets do you supply?

The GKMA SWP supplies (mainly) bio-digester toilets. The toilet comes in two different packages. The full package comprises the digester, seat, sink for handwashing, and superstructure. The other package comprises everything minus the superstructure.

### 2. How long can I use this type of toilet?

The digester is durable and can last decades. In terms of usage, the system can get full after some time and will only have to be de-sludged and used again.

### 3. How much water do I need to flush the toilet?

The Micro flush system (which is different from the usual WC, and which is equally viable) can take as little as 0.5 litres to flush. The full flush system (as in WC) can take 4 litres or more.

### 4. Won't the toilet smell if I locate it close to my room?

No. The bio-digester toilet does not smell unless there is damage to it, or it is full.

### 5. Is it true that there are worms and cockroaches in the digester? If that is true, won't they get access to my house through the toilet?

The GKMA SWP deliberately puts worms into the digester to facilitate the treatment of the faeces. Worms, however, would not normally move out of the system and enter your room. GKMA does not put cockroaches into the digester. Cockroaches can only enter the system when there are cracks on it. There is so far no report that worms and cockroaches from our digesters have infested the owner's room.



## Usage and Maintenance

### 1. How many people can use the toilet facility?

The standard toilet facility can be used by up to 10 people. It can, however, be modified to take more people. (This will increase the cost)

### 2. Can I flush the toilet paper with the faeces into the digester?

Flushing toilet roll into the system will not cause any damage. However, it is recommended that you put all cleansing materials into a covered bin.

### 3. Can I open the digester and clean it from time to time?

There is no need for this practice at all. The only area that needs regular cleaning is the space inside the toilet, the seat and the handwashing basin.

### 4. Is there any routine maintenance that I must do?

Not at all, except there is a malfunction, spillage or a crack has been noticed on the system. When this happens, please contact the Environmental Health Unit of your Assembly for help.

### 5. How is the toilet de-sludged?

This is quite technical so please inform your Metro or Municipal Assembly for support.

### 6. How will I know that the digester is full?

There will be at least one of the following signs: When you flush it does not go; the digester will be leaking; or digester may smell.



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

*Get a Complete Toilet*  
**at GHS1,200.<sup>00</sup>**

***- No more toilet queues - Very convenient***



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