

IRC

AID PRIORITIES

IRC is an international think-and-do tank that works with national and local governments, NGOs, entrepreneurs and people around the world to find long-term solutions to the global water, sanitation and hygiene services (WASH) crisis. With half a century of WASH experience, IRC runs large-scale programmes in six focus countries (Ethiopia, Burkina Faso, Ghana, India, Honduras and Uganda) and projects in over 15 additional countries. Central to its theory of change is success in partner districts providing the necessary proof-of-concept to drive uptake and scale within focus countries: proving, by demonstration, that getting to universal access is possible. As such, the primary focus will continue to be on building the necessary partnerships, vision and plans in partner districts, with a particular focus on tackling the unavoidable issue of finance.

IRC's Head Office is in the Netherlands, with an additional four offices formally registered in the focus countries of Ghana, Burkina Faso, Uganda and Ethiopia. Furthermore, IRC has a physical presence in India (Delhi), Honduras and the United States (Washington DC). IRC's statutory governance structure consists of a non-executive Supervisory Board, an executive Board of Directors and a Works Council. IRC has always operated with a single Director (Chief Executive Officer) acting as the Board of Directors.

IRC provides a range of technical consultancy and long-term country based programmatic support via its country offices, funded by a variety of bilateral, multilateral and philanthropic donors, in the forms of grants or project based funding.

WASH PROGRAMME TARGETS/OUTCOMES

During the 2018–2020 time period, IRC has projected 45 million euros in WASH support. This projection, from IRC's 2017–2021 Operational Plan, represents IRC's targeted ambition level for the whole organization, including operational costs, which are considered critical to delivering support, and applicable to all IRC WASH programme areas.

IRC supports partner districts to set up monitoring systems that allow them to track progress towards the goal of universal access set out in master plans. IRC encourages local government partners to align their service level monitoring towards the WHO/UNICEF Joint Monitoring Programme (JMP) levels, and disaggregate data to take into account differences in population and other criteria.

WASH STRATEGY/ACTIVITIES

Hubs and partnerships: At national and district level, IRC will continue to build strong and effective partnerships around a shared vision of universal access to achieve SDG 6. Globally and within countries, the Agenda for Change is its most important partnership, and 2018 was a critical year in which to broaden and deepen it. Beside the Agenda for Change, IRC works with the Dutch SDG WASH Consortium, End Water Poverty, RWSN, Millennium Water Alliance (MWA) and Conrad N. Hilton Foundation partners in-country, and with Sanitation and Water for All (SWA) globally, as well as the Watershed Programme, where it led capacity strengthening sessions with more than 14 00 people from more than 800 civil society and community based organizations across six countries, regionally and internationally.

WASH systems training: In 2017, IRC made good progress developing a set of building blocks and a roadmap for WASH systems strengthening. In 2018, IRC worked further to develop this work, building an online training platform with a view to making it public in 2019.

WASH systems monitoring: Being able to monitor the strength of WASH systems, and link this to WASH service delivery is a critical element of a systems approach. Building expertise in this is core to IRC's business model and strategy. In 2017, IRC started to develop a new monitoring platform that can track its (and its partners) progress in strengthening WASH systems and changing the behaviours of WASH system actors.

Financing WASH: IRC's experience over the last decade has convinced it that finance is central to the challenge of providing sustained WASH services to all. Financing needs to go beyond new capital investment and look at financing all the building blocks necessary for sustainability. Public finance is critical in this, in particular as a means to draw in private finance as well as being critical to reach the poor. IRC continued to build its expertise in WASH finance in 2018, engaging with others to develop appropriate models to achieve SDG 6.

Advocacy: In 2018, the focus was on advocacy beyond traditional sector targets and IRC ran several campaigns in support of its WASH systems agenda.

ADDITIONAL INFORMATION

IRC Strategy Framework

<https://www.ircwash.org/strategy-framework-2017-30>

BUDGET

58 million euros (2017–2021)

TIME PERIOD

2017–2030

WASH AID PRIORITIES: DISTRIBUTION OF AID DISBURSEMENTS

By activity type in 2017

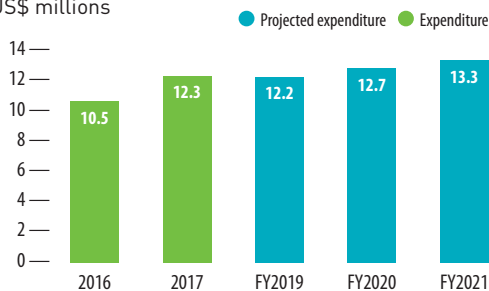
Breakdowns of aid by activity type is not available.

By region in 2017

No regional breakdown is available.

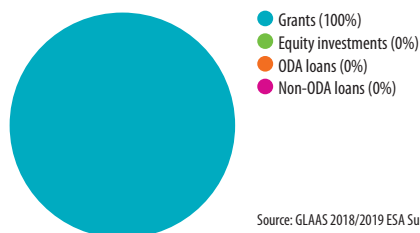
WASH PROGRAMME BUDGET AND EXPENDITURE

US\$ millions



Source: GLAAS 2018/2019 ESA Survey

WASH SECTOR AID FLOW TYPES



Source: GLAAS 2018/2019 ESA Survey

LESSONS/IMPACTS

The recommendations made in the Finance Position Paper by IRC and Water.org in 2017, which was launched at the SWA High Level Ministerial Meeting at the World Bank in March 2017, were included in the UN SDG 6 Status Report recommendations to the UN High Level Political Forum in July 2018. Specifically, the Status Report requests (1) supporting the enabling environment as a prerequisite for increasing finance to the sector, and (2) recognizing public financing as a means to reach the poorest.

In 2018, one important think piece was delivered, "The Global Review of National Accountability Mechanisms for SDG 6", which looked at national accountability mechanisms for the implementation of SDG 6. The review was conducted in

25 countries and led by Coalition Eau, End Water Poverty, Watershed Empowering Citizens Consortium, and the Water Supply and Sanitation Collaborative Council with support from SWA. The study's results indicate that while some positive examples of good accountability mechanisms exist at the national level, there is a substantial need for improvement. Much of the global reporting on SDG 6 progress is described as ineffective or limited and the processes that feed them uncoordinated or inappropriate. However, by securing strong and inclusive accountability mechanisms, trust in the system can be improved and the sector can ensure governments stay on track with their commitments.

At country level, and as a result of a drought and a major humanitarian crisis in early 2017, IRC was asked by UNICEF to help set up a regional monitoring system for the Somali

Water Bureau. This enabled UNICEF and other WASH partners to target their work to restore and maintain motorized water supply boreholes. This improved functionality by 5% over six months. The Somali Functionality Inventory (SFI) now provides a mechanism for regularly monitoring more than 400 motorized boreholes. Together with the USAID-funded Lowland WASH Activity, plans were also developed to collect information using sensors.

Also, in Burkina Faso in 2017, IRC conducted an in-depth assessment of its partner district, Banfora, and along with national level players, knows what it will take to achieve SDG 6. In 2018, IRC published a master plan containing a roadmap showing how the district will achieve SDG 6 by 2030 and has undertaken similar exercises in its focus districts in Uganda and Ghana.

TOP AID RECIPIENTS

FOCUS COUNTRIES

Burkina Faso
Ethiopia
Ghana
Honduras
India
Uganda

COUNTRIES OF SPECIFIC INTEREST

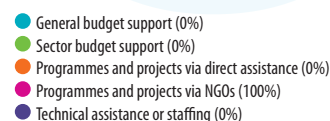
Bangladesh
Benin
Kenya
Mali
Niger

FUNDING ACTIVITIES

Data not available

FUNDING CHANNELS

A breakdown of funding channels for 2017 aid disbursements is provided below:



Source: GLAAS 2018/2019 ESA Survey

COLLABORATIVE BEHAVIOURS FOR MORE EFFECTIVE DEVELOPMENT COOPERATION

Enhance government leadership of sector planning processes

Proportion of water and sanitation aid allocated to water and sanitation policy and administration and education and training (%)

Data not available

The median for all donors is 9%.

Strengthen and use country systems

Percentage of WASH spending using country procurement systems (%)

Data not available

Use one information and mutual accountability platform

Active participation in mutual assessment exercises/reviews (% of countries)

Uganda
Ghana
Ethiopia
Burkina Faso

Build sustainable WASH sector financing strategies

Percentage of WASH funding published/information shared with Ministry of Finance (%)

100%

Annual reports and accounts are submitted to the relative ministries.

Source: GLAAS 2018/2019 ESA Survey

Source: GLAAS 2018/2019 ESA Survey

FUTURE OUTLOOK

IRC does not plan any major changes in the type of aid that will be provided, though it may target new focus countries, for example Benin, Mali, Niger or others.

Developed and coordinated by the Water, Sanitation, Hygiene and Health (WSH) Unit of the World Health Organization (WHO). Results contained in the ESA Highlights have been compiled by the ESA and GLAAS using data from the Organisation for Economic Development and Cooperation (OECD) Creditor Reporting System (CRS), estimates and text provided in the responses to the GLAAS 2018/2019 ESA survey.

WHO/CED/PHE/WSH/19.14

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8 http://www.who.int/water_sanitation_health/glaas/en/

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