

1ST IWA NON-SEWERED SANITATION CONFERENCE

15 – 18 October 2023

Strengthening private sector engagement and accountability in sanitation service provision – Workshop session program

Overview

There is growing recognition that achieving universal access to safely managed sanitation services by 2030, requires adoption of an inclusive sanitation approach that combines both sewerage and non-sewered/onsite sanitation services. The provision of these services involves different but dependent stages and different stakeholders. While capture and containment are deemed the responsibility of the owners; a number of actors are involved in collection, transport, treatment and disposal/reuse. These include water supply and sanitation utilities, private sector, community-based organisations as well as local authorities.

In many African countries, public utilities providing water supply services are also mandated to provide sewerage services but with little or no oversight for non-sewered sanitation services. In this regard, ESAWAS developed an inclusive sanitation regulation framework that recommends that WSS Utilities assume responsibility for both sewerage and non-sewered sanitation service delivery under a license issued by the Regulator while encompassing the private sector in the service chain.

Under this arrangement, the accountability for overall service delivery is the responsibility of the licensed Utility with any other service provider under its purview. This, however does not exempt the regulator from keeping oversight, creating an enabling environment and ensuring engagement and accountability of private operators.

The workshop co-convened by ESAWAS Regulators Association (Lead), AMCOW, AfWASA, WSUP, PASA and IWA aims at discussing modalities of strengthening private sector engagement while ensuring their accountability in sanitation service provision. This will include demonstration of practical tools to improve private sector operations and oversight by both the Utility and the Regulator.

Program

The proposed duration of the workshop is 2 hours split among different activities as follows:

| Time | Item | Responsible |
|------------|--|---|
| 10 minutes | Participants introduction (Representatives of Ministries, Regulators, Utilities, Private Operators, CPs.) Workshop objectives | Moderator |
| 15 minutes | Guiding presentation – CWIS framework | ESAWAS |
| 20 minutes | Panel discussions – Private sector engagement in sanitation service provision | Panelists (AMCOW, AfWASA, IWA, WSUP, EWURA, PASA) |
| 15 minutes | Q&A + participants inputs | All participants |
| 40 minutes | Demonstration of the tool to track accountability in sanitation service provision | ESAWAS/Tool developers |
| 15 minutes | Q&A + participants inputs | All participants |
| 5 minutes | Workshop wrap-up & way forward | Moderator |