

ENABLING ENVIRONMENT ASSESSMENT

To work at scale, service delivery requires a strong and supportive enabling environment. The World Bank worked with stakeholders to develop the Enabling Environment Assessment, which can be used to systematically assess, strengthen, and monitor progress in sanitation and hygiene programmes at the national and sub-national levels. The tool is composed of eight essential dimensions used to describe the enabling environment. Each dimension has six indicators or 'components', which are structured as a checklist. There is one point possible for each component, and once all components have been assessed they are aggregated per dimension to produce a score of low' (0-2), 'medium' (3 or 4), or 'high' (5 or 6). Low scores demonstrate a weakness in the enabling environment that needs to be addressed to reach sustainable service delivery at scale. Some of the indicators may be country-specific, and therefore a knowledgeable WASH expert should assist in developing the final checklist. An independent consultant carries out a 2-3 week baseline assessment and an additional 2-3 week endline assessment. This is combined with a consultation process whereby stakeholders are engaged a dynamic process of meetings and workshops.

GENERAL DESCRIPTION

Target: National and regional stakeholders (e.g. programme planners, donors, government).

Objective: Monitor, assess, and improve the enabling environment for sanitation and hygiene programmes.

Areas: Policy, strategy and direction; institutional arrangements; programme methodology; implementation capacity; availability of products and services; financing and incentives; cost-effective implementation; monitoring and evaluation.

Indicators: Each dimension has 6 indicators which form a checklist.

Methodology: Indicator scoring is binary (0 or 1) and scores aggregate to a dimension score of 0 to 6, for each of the 8 enabling environment dimensions.

Outputs: A score of high, medium and low and a stop light graphic is used.

Tool format and language: PDF report; English.

Resource: <http://documents.worldbank.org/curated/en/2008/04/16666526/synthesis-four-country-enabling-environment-assessments-scaling-up-handwashing-programs>

2010 ENABLING	India-HP	India-MP	Indonesia	Tanzania
Policy, strategy, and direction	High	Low	High	Low
Institutional arrangements	High	Medium	Medium	Medium
Program methodology	High	Low	High	Medium
Implementation capacity	High	Medium	High	Medium
Availability of products and services	High	Low	High	Medium
Financing and incentives	High	High	Medium	Low
Cost-effective implementation	Medium	Low	Medium	Low
Monitoring and evaluation	High	Medium	High	Low

IMPACT AND FINDINGS

This tool was developed to determine the programmatic and institutional conditions needed to scale up, sustain, and replicate the sanitation marketing programme approaches in two Indian states. The checklist components were adapted and applied in two additional countries: Tanzania and Indonesia. The results of the assessments carried out in these three countries were used to identify key bottleneck to reaching sustainable, at-scale service delivery and by comparing baseline to the endline results, the programme impact could be evaluated. Key lessons included highlighting areas to: improve local capacity (government and private sector), develop performance-monitoring-based benchmarking systems for local government, and encourage community-based monitoring and self-reporting. The tool was integrated into a broader learning strategy, which facilitated the identification of key lessons and links to action and also stimulated additional learning questions for continued work in the thematic area (sanitation).

Strengths	Limitations
Accurately captures national level factors	Developed for sanitation and hygiene programmes, would require modification to be applied to water programmes
Straightforward analysis process	Captures limited information at the local level
Easy to interpret results	Scoring methodology (0 versus 1) could be clarified
Successfully linked to a broader learning strategy, which maximize the utility of the tool's outputs	