Fact sheet

Rural and Small Towns Water Services September 2015

Upper West Region

Area: 18,476 km²
Number of districts: 11
Total population: 702,110
Rural population: 587,457
Urban population: 114,653

*This fact sheet gives an overview of rural and small towns water services in the **Upper West Region**. It is the result of the 2014 service monitoring round executed by the Community Water and Sanitation Agency (CWSA) in collaboration with Metropolitan, Municipal and District Assemblies (MMDAs). Water services have been assessed against the indicators set out in CWSA's 'Framework For Assessing And Monitoring Rural And Small Towns Water Supply Services In Ghana', available at **www.cwsa.gov.gh***

Water Supply Facilities and their Functionality

Figure 1 gives an overview of the number and functionality of water supply facilities in rural areas and small towns in the Upper West Region. Figure 2 shows that more than half of handpumps and piped schemes are functional. The most commonly used handpumps in the region is the Afridev (73%), followed by the Nira (14%) and the Ghana Modified India Mark II hand pumps (12%). The largest community-managed Piped Schemes in the region are Jirapa and Tumu Pipe Schemes, with design populations of 10,000 and 8,000 respectively.

Figure 1: Regional map

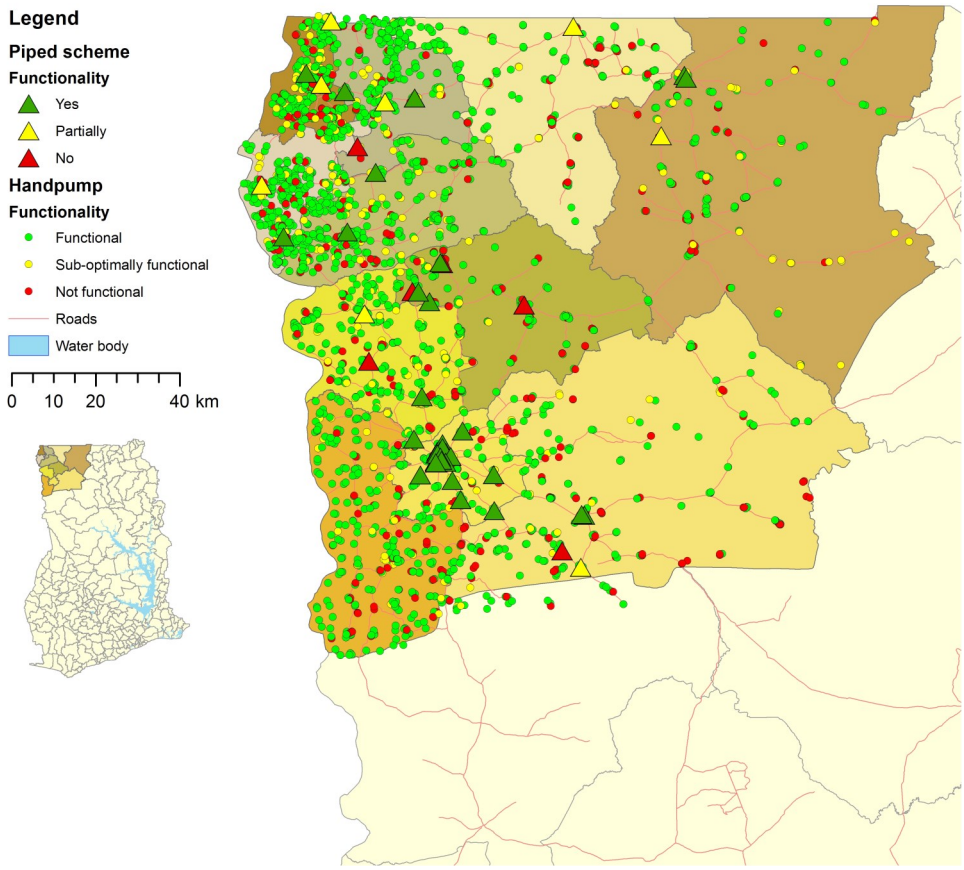
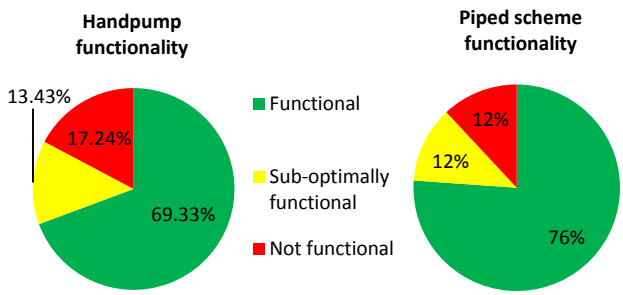


Table 1: Overview of water schemes

Rural and small town water coverage:			**62%**
Number of handpumps:			**3,700**
Type of piped scheme	**Number**	**Number of standpipes**	**Number of hh connections**
Limited mechanised piped schemes	28	77	21
Small community piped scheme	2	11	0
Small town piped scheme	22	308	2,716
Total piped schemes	**52**	**396**	**2737**

Figure 2: Handpumps (left) and piped schemes (right) functionality



Note: A hand pump is considered fully functional if water flows within 5 strokes, sub-optimally functional if it takes more than 5 strokes for water to flow and not functional if water does not flow.
A piped scheme is considered fully functional if all its sources are fully functional, sub-optimally functional if one or more of its sources are not functional, and not functional if none of its sources are functional

Handpump Water Services

The level of service provided by handpumps has been assessed against the national standards for water **quantity,** and water**quality**, **distance** from users, the maximum number of people per handpump (as an indication for **crowding**), and the **reliability** of the water services. Handpumps which meet the standards for all five service level indicators are considered to provide **basic services**. Figure 3 gives an overview of the proportion of handpumps providing basic, sub-standard and no water services (not functional or not used). Figure 4 shows the proportion of (fully and sub-optimally) functional hand pumps meeting the standard on these service level indicators.

Figure 3: Handpump service level

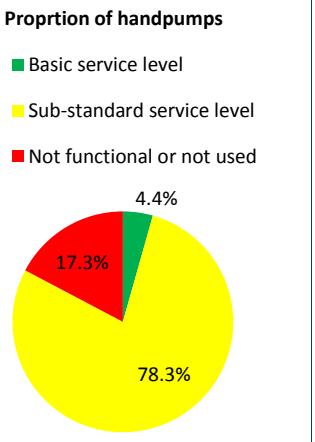


Figure 4: Handpump service level indicators

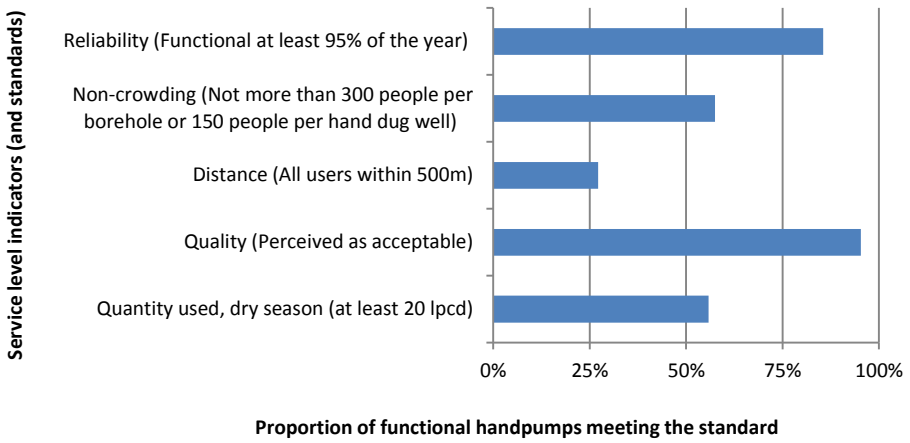
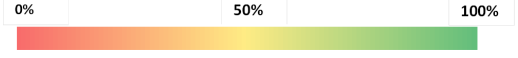


Figure 4 shows that 86% of handpumps were reported as reliable with about 42% of the handpumps crowded. Additionally, distances to most water facilities in the region are more than 500m, with more than half of handpumps providing less than the required amount of water per day. Most handpumps users in the region perceived the water to be of acceptable quality.

Table 2 shows high handpump reliability indicating that throughout the region, two thirds (86%) of the facilities work all year round. Water usage in the dry season was found to be low as a result of reduced hand pump performance in the period. Even though more than two thirds of handpumps are functional, most of the them did not provide basic services. The Daffiama district had the highest number of facilities providing basic water services (16%) whilst handpumps in Wa West, Lawra, and Wa districts provided very poor basic services (1%). In the Sissala East district, more than half of handpumps met the benchmark on all service level indicators of reliability, non-crowding, distance, quality and quantity.

Table 2: District overview of handpump water services

District	Number of handpumps	Functionality	Providing basic services	Proportion of functional handpumps meeting the standard				
				Reliability	Non-crowding	Distance	Quality	Quantity used, dry season
Daffiama-Bussie-Issa	152	78%	16%	85%	66%	55%	87%	66%
Jirapa	363	88%	2%	87%	59%	18%	96%	64%
Lambussie-Karni	212	90%	5%	89%	49%	32%	97%	58%
Lawra	250	87%	1%	94%	51%	13%	96%	35%
Nadowli-Kaleo	336	82%	5%	87%	48%	22%	96%	66%
Nandom	276	86%	4%	89%	58%	33%	96%	57%
Sissala East	191	79%	7%	74%	72%	54%	91%	53%
Sissala West	247	83%	6%	84%	57%	39%	98%	50%
Wa	136	82%	1%	93%	63%	20%	95%	56%
Wa East	276	70%	7%	81%	68%	35%	94%	55%
Wa West	391	83%	1%	80%	56%	12%	95%	52%
Grand Total	2830	83%	4%	86%	58%	27%	95%	56%



Piped Scheme Water Services

The level of service provided by piped schemes has been assessed against the national standards set for the rural water sub sector in Ghana on water quality and quantity (both for standpipes as well as household connections), the accessibility of the piped scheme in terms of maximum number of people per standpipe spout (as an indication for standpipe crowding), and its reliability. Also the proportion of household connection users is checked against the design norm for each type of piped scheme. Piped schemes which meet the standard on these service level indicators and the design norm are considered to provide basic services. Figure 5 presents the proportion of piped schemes providing different levels of water services. Figure 6 gives an overview of the proportion of functional piped schemes meeting the standard on the service level indicators. Table 3 gives an overview of piped scheme water services per district.

Figure 5: Piped scheme service level

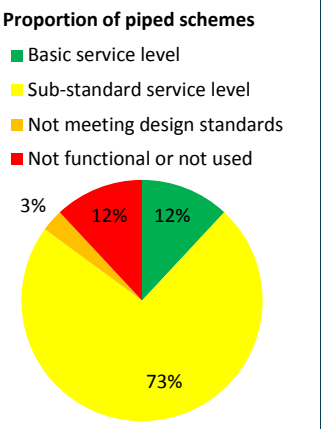
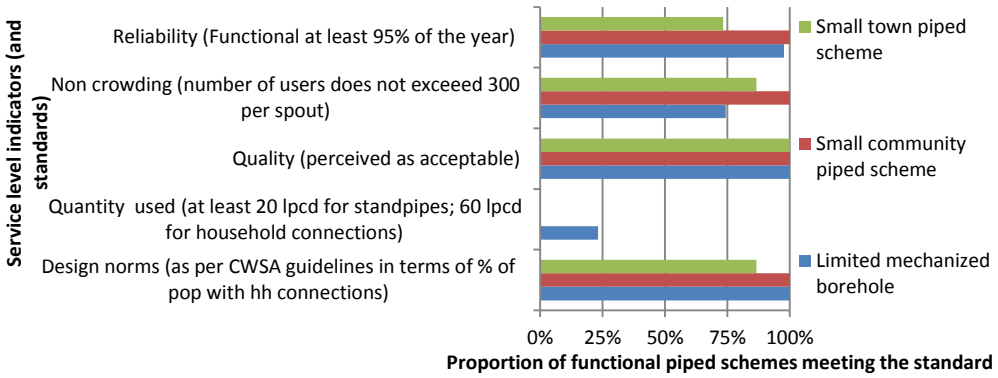


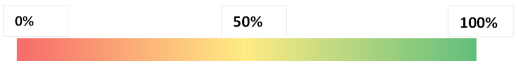
Figure 6: Piped scheme service level indicators



Even though most (88%) of the piped schemes are functional only 12% provide basic services implying that they met all the service level indicators described in Table 3. Overall, about 92% of the functioning piped schemes are reliable, provide water of acceptable quality, and are designed in accordance with national standards and guidelines. However, most of the piped schemes were providing less than 20lpcd to users as stipulated in the national guidelines. Piped Schemes in the Sissala East, Wa and the Daffiama-Bussie-Issa districts provided better water services in the region. On the otherhand, piped schemes in 7 districts did not provide any water services at all.

Table 3: District overview of piped scheme water services

District	Number of piped schemes	Functionality	Providing basic services	Proportion of functional piped schemes meeting the standard				
				Reliability	Non crowding	Quality	Quantity used	Design as per guidelines
Daffiama-Bussie-Issa	6	50%	17%	33%	100%	100%	33%	100%
Jirapa	1	100%	0%	100%	100%	100%	0%	100%
Lambussie-Karni	7	86%	0%	83%	83%	100%	0%	83%
Lawra	2	100%	0%	50%	50%	100%	0%	100%
Nadowli-Kaleo	3	67%	0%	100%	100%	100%	0%	100%
Nandom	2	100%	0%	100%	50%	100%	0%	100%
Sissala East	3	100%	33%	100%	100%	100%	33%	100%
Sissala West	1	100%	0%	100%	100%	100%	0%	100%
Wa	38	95%	16%	97%	72%	100%	22%	97%
Wa East	4	75%	0%	100%	100%	100%	0%	100%
Grand Total	**67**	**88%**	**12%**	**92%**	**78%**	**100%**	**17%**	**97%**



Handpump Management

As shown in Figure 7, the majority of handpumps in the region are managed by Water and Sanitation Management Teams for Small Communities (WSMTs-SC). The performance of WSMTs-SC has been assessed against indicators and benchmarks related to governance, operations and financial management. Benchmarks have been set based on national guidelines. Figure 8 presents the overall proportion of WSMTs - SC which meet the benchmark on these indicators in the region. The proportion of WSMTs - SC meeting the benchmarks in each district is presented in Table 4.

Figure 7: Hand pump management

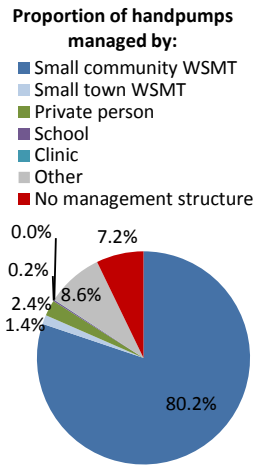


Figure 8: Performance of WSMT-SC

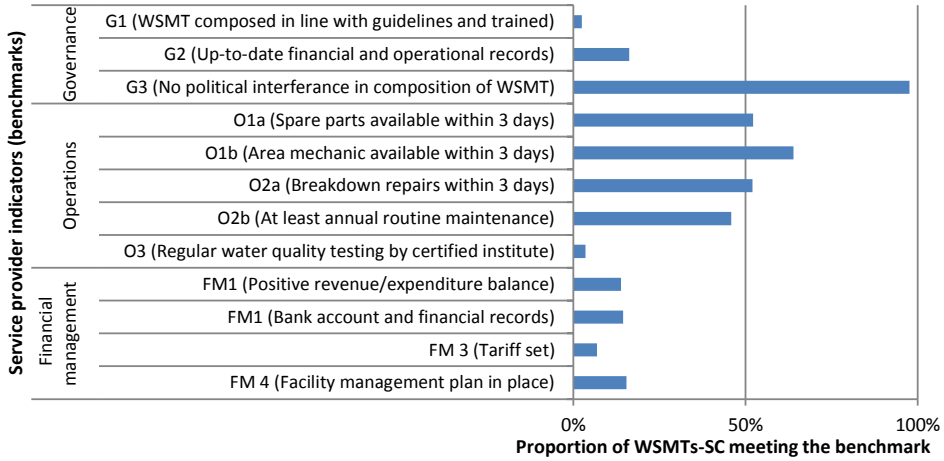
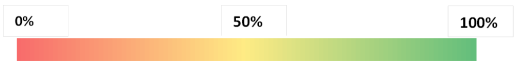


Figure 8 shows that WSMTs-SC are faced with a lot of challenges in critical management areas such as their composition, financial management and record keeping. Most WSMTs-SC did not carry out water quality testing and failed to set tariffs for the facilities. However, more than half of the WSMTs-SC are doing well in terms of acquiring spare parts and area mechanic services and face little political interference in their operations.

More than 50% of the WSMTs-SC met the benchmark for no political interference, spare parts availability, area mechanics availability and breakdown repairs. Additionally, good performances were recorded in all districts in the areas of non-political interference and area mechanics availability within 3 days. However, majority of WSMTs-SC did not undertake water quality testing, keep financial records nor were they well composed in line with the national guidelines.

Table 4: District overview of WSMT-SC performance

District	Number of WSMTs-SC	Governance			Operations					Financial management			
		G1	G2	G3	O1a	O1b	O2a	O2b	O3	FM1	FM2	FM3	FM4
Daffiama-Bussie-Issa	58	0%	2%	100%	24%	41%	21%	34%	0%	0%	2%	0%	0%
Jirapa	103	1%	23%	99%	69%	83%	78%	36%	3%	22%	15%	9%	55%
Lambussie-Karni	75	3%	15%	100%	67%	81%	68%	55%	7%	13%	15%	9%	16%
Lawra	116	1%	8%	87%	82%	86%	59%	82%	9%	16%	13%	3%	12%
Nadowli-Kaleo	147	1%	20%	100%	52%	56%	48%	27%	1%	3%	20%	1%	1%
Nandom	92	20%	25%	98%	42%	60%	42%	58%	5%	43%	24%	28%	18%
Sissala East	65	2%	18%	98%	25%	52%	66%	85%	2%	9%	14%	0%	22%
Sissala West	76	0%	38%	100%	55%	55%	58%	51%	3%	38%	28%	3%	17%
Wa	76	1%	20%	100%	43%	55%	42%	55%	1%	11%	17%	17%	18%
Wa East	120	3%	24%	94%	74%	88%	63%	31%	7%	12%	23%	11%	24%
Wa West	198	0%	1%	99%	32%	46%	35%	29%	1%	2%	0%	1%	2%
Grand Total	**1126**	**3%**	**16%**	**98%**	**52%**	**64%**	**52%**	**46%**	**4%**	**14%**	**14%**	**7%**	**15%**



Piped Scheme Management

As shown in Figure 9, the majority of piped schemes in the Upper West region are managed by Water and Sanitation Management Teams for Small Towns (WSMTs-ST). The performance of WSMTs-ST has been assessed against indicators and benchmarks related to **governance**, **operations** and **financial management**. Benchmarks have been set based on national guidelines. Figure 10 presents the overall proportion of WSMTs-ST which meet the benchmark on these indicators in the region. The proportion of WSMTs-ST meeting the benchmarks in each district is presented in Table 5.

Figure 9: Piped scheme management

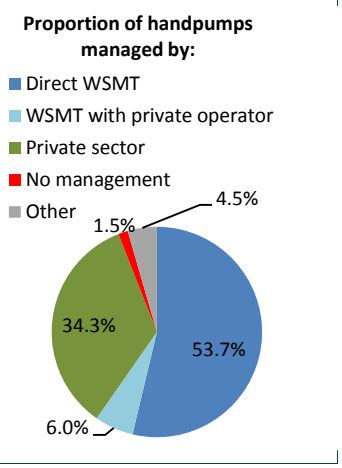


Figure 10: Performance of WSMT-ST

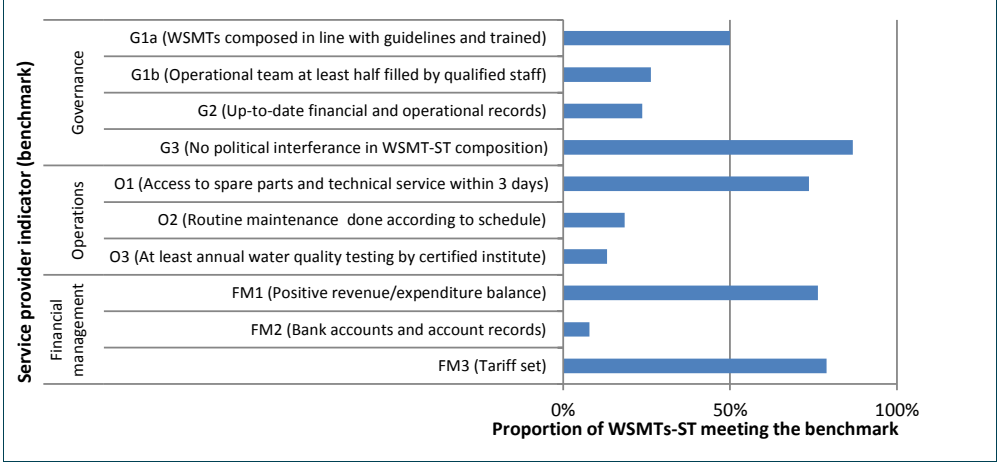
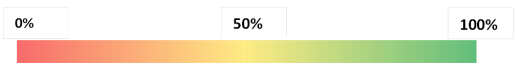


Figure 10 shows that in terms of governance, only half of WSMTs-ST composed their teams in line with national guidelines with one third of them having qualified operational staff and good record keeping. On the other hand, most WSMTs-ST reported good access to spare parts and area mechanic services. Most of the WSMTs-ST set tariffs and have a positive revenue/expenditure balance even though a few have bank accounts and financial records.

Table 5 shows that except for Nadowli-Kaleo and Daffiama-Bussie-Issa districts where 33% of the WSMTs have bank account and financial records, the rest of the districts did not have bank accounts. The Jirapa district scored high in qualified staff, no political interference, and having up-to-date financial records and setting of tariffs. Overall, about half of WSMTs-ST in the Lawra districts met the benchmark for 8 out of 10 indicators making it the best performing district in WSMTs-ST performance.

Table 5: District overview of WSMT-ST performance

District	Number of WSMT-STs	Governance				Operations			Financial management		
		G1a	G1b	G2	G3	O1	O2	O3	FM1	FM2	FM3
Lambussie-Karni	6	50%	17%	17%	83%	67%	17%	0%	83%	0%	50%
Wa East	2	100%	0%	50%	100%	100%	50%	0%	50%	0%	100%
Nandom	1	0%	100%	0%	0%	100%	0%	100%	0%	0%	100%
Jirapa	1	0%	100%	100%	0%	100%	0%	0%	0%	0%	100%
Wa	17	71%	12%	6%	94%	76%	6%	6%	88%	6%	100%
Nadowli-Kaleo	3	33%	67%	67%	100%	67%	33%	33%	100%	33%	67%
Sissala East	2	0%	0%	0%	100%	100%	50%	50%	0%	0%	50%
Daffiama-Bussie-Issa	3	0%	0%	33%	100%	67%	0%	0%	100%	33%	33%
Lawra	2	0%	100%	100%	50%	50%	50%	50%	100%	0%	100%
Sissala West	1	100%	100%	0%	100%	0%	100%	0%	0%	0%	0%
Grand Total	**38**	**50%**	**26%**	**24%**	**87%**	**74%**	**18%**	**13%**	**76%**	**8%**	**79%**



Performance of Service Authorities

Metropolitan, Municipal and District Assemblies are water service authorities, overseeing and providing support to water service providers in the region. Their performance has been assessed against indicators and benchmarks related to the presence and performance of service authorities. Table 6 shows for each district whether or not the benchmark on the service authority indicators has been met. It also presents the total number of service authority benchmarks met in each district. Most of WSMTs-SC have not received any monitoring support from MMDAs. Less than one third of MMDAs in the region have not published and gazetted their by-laws for WSMTs operations. On the whole, most MMDAs have met the benchmark for 4 out of 7 of the service authority indicators with Wa East and Wa West scoring lower of 3.

Table 6: District overview of service authority performance

District	Service authority indicator benchmarks (1 = benchmark met; 0 = benchmark not met)							Proportion of benchmarks met
	Full WASH unit with good coordination and collaboration	DWSP developed with active participation of relevant departments	WASH Budget allocation and at least 50% disbursement	Bye-laws for WSMTs published and gazetted	At least 50% of NGOs inform the MMDA about activities and align to DWSP	Regular monitoring support to at least half of the WSMTs-SC	Regular monitoring support to at least half of the WSMTs-ST	
Daffiama-Bussie-Issa	1	1	1	0	1	0	1	71%
Jirapa	1	1	1	1	0	0	1	71%
Lambussie-Karni	1	1	1	0	1	0	0	57%
Lawra	1	1	1	0	1	0	0	57%
Nadowli-Kaleo	1	1	1	0	1	0	0	57%
Nandom	1	0	1	0	1	0	1	57%
Sissala East	1	1	1	0	1	0	0	57%
Sissala West	0	1	1	0	1	0	1	57%
Wa	1	1	0	1	1	0	1	71%
Wa East	0	1	1	0	0	0	1	43%
Wa West	0	1	1	0	1	0		50%
Grand Total	**8**	**10**	**10**	**2**	**9**	**0**	**6**	

Summary of main findings

- More than half of water supply facilities in the region are functional (Handpumps 69% ; Pipe schemes 76%). The 17% (488) handpumps not working could be serving an estimated 146,400 people in the region.
- Most water facilities in the region provide low basic water services (Handpumps 4%; Piped Schemes 12%)
- Majority of WSMTs for Handpumps and Piped Schemes in the region did not perform well especially in the areas of financial management , record keeping and governance.
- Most MMDAs did not have published and gazetted byelaws for WSMTs nor did they provide regular monitoring support to at least half of WSMTs.

Acknowledgement

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