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Asia Water Forum 2022

8–11 August 2022 • Online

Focus Area: *Universal water supply and sanitation services*



Transforming WASH services for a more equitable, inclusive and resilient future

9 August 2022 | 11am – 12:30 am [GMT + 08]



**Water For
Women**

**Australian
Aid** 

ADB



About us



Improving the health, equality and wellbeing of Asian and Pacific communities.



Partnering with

10

Civil Society Organisations



Benefitting
an estimated

3

million people

20
Projects

15
Countries



\$118.9 million over 5 years

**Our
progress**





Purpose of Towards Transformation in WASH self-assessment



- *Practical self-monitoring and reflection tool for organisations – change begins with oneself and one's own organisation*
- *Opportunity to measure progress towards transformative practice and outcomes in the project and within the organisation*





How the tool was developed

- Development of the **Self-Assessment Tool (SAT)** for use within the Water for Women to support partners to **strengthen GEDSI reflective practice** for their WASH projects and organisations
- **Adapted to online delivery** due to travel restrictions related to COVID-19
- **Roll-out of SAT** with Water for Women partners from **South Asia**
- **GEDSI Audit with Sanitation Learning Hub (SLH)** in April-May 2021
- **Co-launched** with SLH at **World Water Week 2021**



Gender Equality and Social Inclusion Self-Assessment Tool





The Process at a glance...



Preparation

- Decide who will lead & participate
- Brief participants

Evidence gathering

- Participants score using the tool
- Workshops
- Desk review & interviews (optional)

Validation, reflection & planning

- Validate findings
- Plan actions to strengthen GESI





The GEDSI Continuum



This approach has been informed by the Interagency Gender Working Group (2013): *A Practical Guide to Managing and Conducting Gender Assessments in the Health Sector*, and by CARE International (2016) Gender Marker (later revised in 2019)





Domains of change

1. SYSTEMS STRENGTHENING

2. LEAVE NO ONE BEHIND

3. TRANSFORMATIVE CHANGE

4. KNOWLEDGE AND LEARNING

5. ORGANISATIONAL CULTURE AND PRACTICE



Criteria

7 criteria across the 5 domains (Implementing)

6 criteria across domains 4 and 5 (Research)

Standards

0 = GEDSI unaware/ harmful

1 = GEDSI aware

2 = GEDSI accommodating/responsive

3 = GEDSI transformative



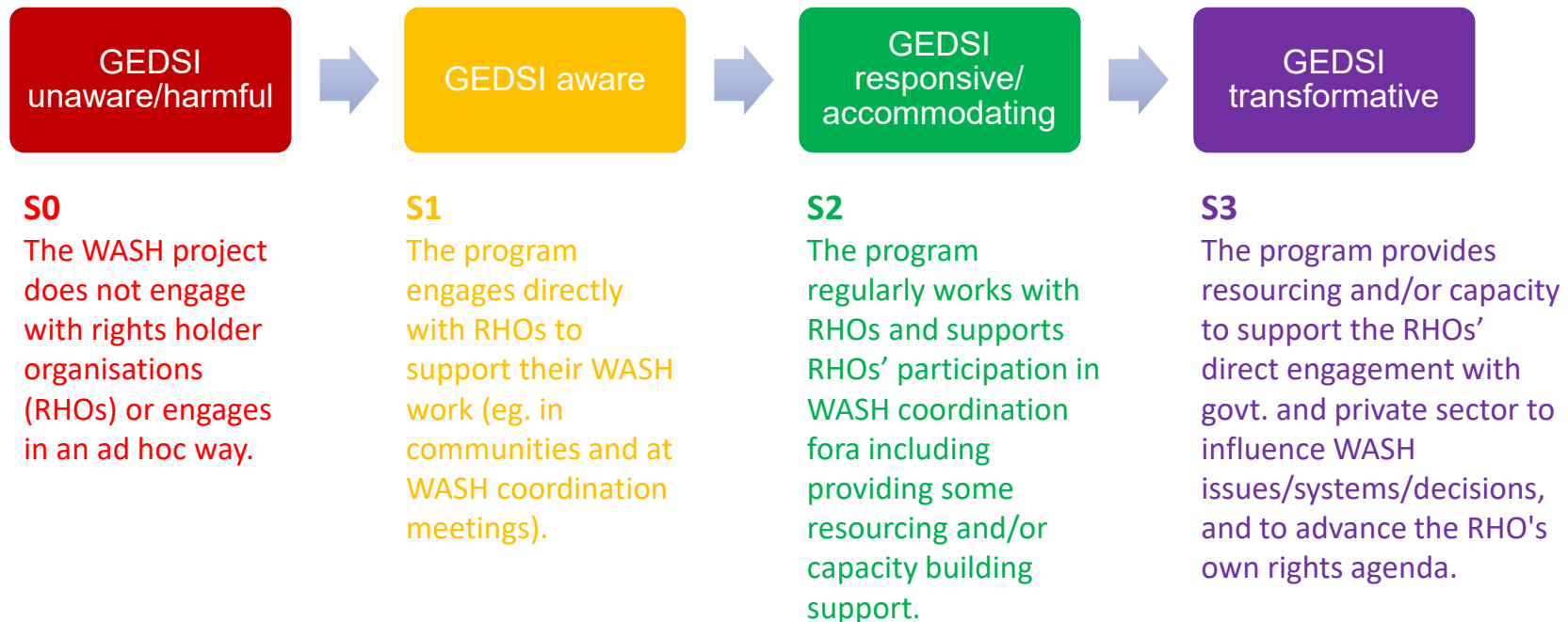


DOMAIN 1. SYSTEM STRENGTHENING

Strengthened national and subnational WASH sector systems with greater emphasis on gender and social inclusion (GESI)

EXAMPLE

Criteria 1.1 The program seeks to meaningfully engage with rights holder organisations for improved WASH and GESI outcomes.





"I like that we came up with action items, ranked them in a poll, and are now taking them forward to the next whole of team meeting. It makes it feel like we collectively take action."

"This tool helped me to realise the importance for going beyond from being sensitive within the organisation but also ensure other stakeholders are equally sensitised to create a conducive environment."

"It helped solidify some of the things that are important to do organisationally, and to raise good questions for us to think about in relation to how we balance our leadership on gender equality, with engagement on multiple other forms of inclusion."



Staff from Sanitation Learning Hub (SLH), institute of development studies
<https://www.ids.ac.uk/programme-and-centre/sanitation-learning-hub/>





What our partners said | CFAR India

Helped **make the organisational management and project teams more sensitive/inclusive** and strengthen/review organisational policies.

Enabled **integration of GESI** across implementation activities - system strengthening, safe and inclusive WASH, community –government connect and knowledge and learning and make it pivotal to the project.

Strengthened partnerships with RHOs, OPDs, Sexual and Gender minority groups

Provided a framework to measure/reflect on the progress of strategies/approaches and scope a **plan to move from one stage to another (ie course correction)**.



Ravie Kiran,
Gender Equality and Social Inclusion Advisor,
Centre for Advocacy and Research (CFAR), India



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What our partners said | **World Vision Bangladesh**

Our organisation can **better understand and challenge power and privilege**. This tool enabled the engagement of all levels of staff in the organization, including senior leadership to front line workers, to see how GEDSI transformative our organisation is. Through engaging in the process, staff the organization felt accountable to be a part of transformation.

Based on the identified areas of improvement, an organisation can develop or modify their GEDSI strategy and action plan, **act holistically and set the milestone to become GEDSI transformative**.

The SAT – what do you think it can mean for you, your program and your organisation?



Proshanto Sharma Roy,
Project Manger, World Vision Bangladesh



Water For
Women

