



REPUBLIC OF GHANA

MINISTRY OF LOCAL GOVERNMENT RURAL DEVELOPMENT
ENVIRONMENTAL HEALTH AND SANITATION DIRECTORATE

2ND NATIONAL ENVIRONMENTAL SANITATION CONFERENCE (NESCON 2011)



(6 -9 December 2011, Golden Tulip Hotel, Kumasi, Ashanti Region)

**"Enhancing Public-Private-Partnership for Effective Environmental
Sanitation Services - The Role of Stakeholders"**

Conference Proceedings

Volume 1: Conference Summary

January 2012



Embassy of the
Kingdom of
Netherlands



Royal
Danish
Embassy



1. ACRONYMS AND ABBREVIATIONS

AMA	-	Accra Metropolitan Assembly
CIDA	-	Canadian International Development Agency
CLTS	-	Community Led Total Sanitation
CWSA	-	Community Water and Sanitation Agency
DDF	-	District Development Fund
DFID	-	Department for International Development, UK
DHO	-	District Health Office
EHS	-	Environmental Health and Sanitation
EHSD	-	Environmental Health and Sanitation Directorate
EKN		Embassy of the Kingdom of Netherlands
EPA	-	Environmental Protection Agency
ESPA	-	Environmental Services Providers Association
FOAT	-	Functional Organisation Assessment Tool
GHS	-	Ghana Health Service
GoG	-	Government of Ghana
GPRS II	-	Growth and Poverty Reduction Strategy II
KMA	-	Kumasi Metropolitan Assembly
KNUST	-	Kwame Nkrumah University of Science and Technology
LGA	-	Local Government Act
LGSA	-	Local Government Services Act
LI	-	Legislative Instrument
M&E	-	Monitoring and Evaluation
MDAs	-	Ministries, Departments and Agencies
MDG	-	Millennium Development Goal
MFI	-	Micro-Finance Institutions
MINT	-	Materials-IN-Transition
MLGRD		Ministry of Local Government and Rural Development
MMDA	-	Metropolitan, Municipal and District Assembly
MMDCE	-	Metropolitan, Municipal and District Chief Executive
MP	-	Member of Parliament
MWRWH	-	Ministry of Water Resources, Works and Housing
NESSAP	-	National Environmental Sanitation Strategy and Action Plan
NGO	-	Non Governmental Organisation
NHIA	-	National Health Insurance Authority
NHIS	-	National Health Insurance Scheme
O&M	-	Operation and Maintenance
OPD	-	Out Patient Department
RDE	-	Royal Danish Embassy
SESIP	-	Strategic Environmental Sanitation Implementation Plan
SSDP	-	Sector Strategic Development Plan
SWA	-	Sanitation and Water for ALL
SWAp	-	Sector Wide Approach
TaMA	-	Tamale Metropolitan Assembly
TMA	-	Tema Metropolitan Assembly
UESP	-	Urban Environmental Sanitation Project
UNICEF	-	United Nations International Children Educational Fund
WMD	-	Waste Management Department
WRC	-	Water Resources Commission

2. FOREWORD

With barely three (3) years remaining to reach the MDG target-year of 2015, sanitation progress in many developing countries including Ghana is so low the MDG target will be missed. The worrying scenario is that the MDG target is “only the floor and not the ceiling” because even if the MDG target of 61.5% from the current coverage of 13.5% for urban, and 55% from the current 7% for rural, are achieved by 2015, there will still be more than about 5 million Ghanaians without access to basic sanitation. The management of treatment and final disposal of solid waste, septage and faecal sludge is abysmally poor. The continued discharge of nightsoil directly into the sea at “Lavender Hill” is an indictment on our policy makers, city administrators and professionals alike.

The National Environmental Sanitation Conference (NESCON) designed as an annual affair, offers frontline sector actors – especially those involved in practical research and implementation of policies, plans, programmes and projects on the ground– a platform for sharing experiences and lessons that can be replicated to accelerate adoption of best practices country-wide. The theme of this second (2nd) conference (NESCON 2011); *"Enhancing Public-Private-Partnership for Effective Environmental Sanitation Services – The Role of Stakeholders"* is a reflection of the critical need for effective collaboration of all stakeholders if incremental progress is to be made and sustained.

The proceedings of this second (2nd) edition of the National Environmental Sanitation Conference are presented in two volumes: Volume 1, Conference Summary contains the Conference Statement issued by participants after deliberations; outcomes of the main sessions during the two-and-half days including feedback from panel discussions, speeches of the opening ceremony, conference programme and list of participants.

NESCON 2011 provided a platform for public dialogue among politicians, academics, traditional authorities, media, sector practitioners, private operators, NGOs, Insurers, et cetera to participate in, get a better understanding of sector challenges and strategies and above all contribute to setting common agenda that will contribute to Ghana making the required incremental but accelerated progress towards achieving improved access to sustainable environmental sanitation services.

3. ACKNOWLEDGEMENTS

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The conference was supported by:

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4. CONCLUDING STATEMENT

Preamble

The Environmental Health and Sanitation Directorate of the Ministry of Local Government and Rural Development, in partnership with Development Partners, Metropolitan, Municipal and District Assemblies (MMDAs), Private Operators and sector collaborators, organized the 2nd National Environmental Sanitation Conference (NESCON 2011) from the 6th – 9th December 2011, in Kumasi, Ashanti Region.

The 2011 NESCON theme; enhancing public-private-partnerships for effective environmental sanitation services - the role of stakeholders builds on the theme of 2010 maiden conference: “building partnerships for scaling up improved environmental sanitation services” and reflects the current vision of Government as expressed in the current national medium-term development policy framework, Ghana Shared Growth and Development Agenda (GSGDA, 2010 -13) and its strategic directions for environmental sanitation services.

The participation and interest at NESCON 2011 adds essence to the event as a platform for sharing lessons and experiences. About 250 participants attended the 3-day conference, among them political leaders including ministers and Metropolitan, Municipal and District Chief Executives (MMDCEs), traditional leaders, legal experts, academics, private operators, entrepreneurs, bankers and micro-finance experts, NGOs, development partners, and behavioural change communicators.

The Country Action Plan (CAP) “Go Sanitation Go” based Millennium Development Goals (MDGs) Accelerated Framework (MAF) was launched at the conference by the Minister, Minister of Local Government and Rural Development (MLGRD) and the Resident Coordinator of the UNDP, Ghana Office.

Presentations at NESCON 2011 covered current issues of the sector including a report on the state of environmental sanitation in Ghana, highlights of Government of Ghana’s (GoG’s) commitment to allocating adequate resources for the implementation of the Strategic Environmental Sanitation Investment Plan (SESIP) currently under consideration at Cabinet level, Highlights on Ghana’s Five Year Drive for Sanitation, overview of GoG’s policy on Public Private Partnerships (PPPs), optimising decentralised governance mechanisms for effective services delivery, private sector involvement in the implementation of the “Polluter-Pays-Principle”, rehabilitation, closure of after-care management of solid waste disposal sites by MMDAs, experiences of Community Led-Total Sanitation (CLTS) and communication for behavioural change, the importance of measuring and reporting on sector performance and Results-Based Monitoring and Evaluation (R-B M&E), the experiences and lessons of ARB Apex Bank and the Community-Based Rural Development Project (CBRDP) in managing Micro-Finance Institutions (MFIs) in the delivery of community-based services through Micro-credit.

Another innovation at NESCON 2011 is the involvement of children. A Quiz competition was held among selected schools and aired live on selected radio stations across the country. The winners were recognised and presented with awards at the closing ceremony of NESCON 2011.

A special focus was given to the poor state of treatment and disposal of wastewater, septage and faecal sludges. A discussion on decentralized treatment of excreta disposal and recovery systems especially the application of anaerobic digestion treatment systems (ADTS) received favorable endorsement from participants.

In his key note and opening address, the sector Minister, Hon. Samuel Ofose-Ampofo, re-iterated the need for the urgent legislation of the polluter pays principle to enhance sustainable financing of services through the contribution of all categories of waste generators.

After three days of deliberations and discussions, participants proposed that in order to achieve the needed scaling-up of environmental sanitation facilities and services, the following should be pursued;

Statements and Recommendations

- That the MLGRD should work with other ministries to put in place mechanisms improving enforcement management of bye-laws of Metropolitan, Municipal and District Assemblies (MMDAs) including compilation and gazetting of such bye-laws.
- The Government of Ghana (GoG) work to implement the Strategic Environmental Sanitation Investment Plan (SESIP) including the allocation of adequate resources.
- That the Government of Ghana (GoG) and Development Partners (donors) urgently act to implement the compact of the MAF Ghana Country Action Plan (CAP) for basic sanitation “Go Sanitation Go” including rolling out of Community-Led Total Sanitation (CLTS) county-wide to accelerate progress towards meeting the MDG target for sanitation.
- Metropolitan, Municipal and District Assemblies (MMDAs) urgently include decentralized treatment and recovery of by-products (e.g. biogas) for all waste streams in their District Environmental Sanitation Strategy and Action Plans (DESSAPs), especially the application of anaerobic digestion treatment systems (ADTS) to benefit from the value of wastes and the creation of jobs.
- That some elements of the Public-Private-Partnership (PPP) policy that could constrain innovative financing and investments in a poorly resourced sector such as environmental sanitation be reviewed.
- That the MLGRD work with MMDAs to urgently address the issue of information flow from implementation levels (at MMDAs and lower tiers) to the central level to enhance tracking of progress of sector performance; participants re-iterated the need for a comprehensive framework for results-based monitoring and evaluation (R-B M&E).
- That attitudinal and behavioural change remains a challenge as expressed in the Ghana Shared Growth and Development Agenda (GSGDA, 2010 – 2013) and more resources should be channeled towards behavioral change communication and interventions.
- NESCON 2011 endorsed the organization of an Investment Forum on Environmental Sanitation to solicit the commitments of all sector stakeholders as towards of implementing the Strategic Environmental Sanitation Investment Plan (SESIP).

5. CONFERENCE SUMMARY

SESSION 1 – INTRODUCTORY REMARKS, WELCOME AND ADDRESSES

Day 1 AM December 07, 2011

5.1.1 Conference Opening, and Objectives

The conference started with an opening prayer by Elsie Appau of the Embassy of the Kingdom of Netherlands. The chairman of the opening session Nana Darko Wontwe II, Paramount Chief of the Maaban Traditional Area and known in private life as Dr. Attah Konadu, who represented the Asantehene, Otumfuo Osei Tutu II was introduced by Paulina Abayage of the Department of Women and Children, Central Region. Reading the opening remarks on behalf of Otumfuo Osei Tutu II, the message touched on the following key issues:

- The effect of rapid population growth and industrialization on global warming,
- The need to explore various waste-to-energy technologies to reduce environmental pollution from waste streams
- Improved maintenance to enhance sustainability of facilities and machinery

The full message from Otumfuo Osei Tutu II is presented as Annex 2.1.

5.1.2 Conference Welcome and Key Note Addresses

The welcome address was delivered by the Ashanti Regional Minister, Hon. Kwaku Agyeman Mensah (Dr.). The key points in the address included the following:

- The need to vigorously pursue and implement improvements as the MDG target date of 2015 draws nearer,
- The need to share lessons and exchange experiences to enable rapid country-wide uptake and implementation of environmental sanitation services,
- The address recognized the level of commitment of government and its development partners towards addressing environmental sanitation stating that government has earmarked US \$ 3 billion towards the implementation of the Ghana Shared Growth and Development Agenda of which environmental sanitation is an important component as an ample demonstration of government's efforts,
- Taking bold steps towards the enforcement of regulations which makes it obligatory for house owners to provide toilets in their houses

The full statement by the Ashanti Regional Minister, Dr. Kwaku Agyeman Mensah is attached as Annex 2.2.

The Acting Director of the EHSD, MLGRD, followed with a presentation on the Overview of Environmental Sanitation in Ghana. His presentation touched on the current situation, existing opportunities, challenges and the way forward for the sector. The following are some of the key statements he made regarding the current status of environmental sanitation:

- Whether the MDG target of 54% for access to basic sanitation by 2015 is achievable with the current access at 14%,
- Poor state of liquid waste management in the whole of the country with almost 97% of all public-owned and public-managed sewage and septage/faecal sludge treatment plants non-functional and only four of the 35 institutional treatment plants operational,
- On solid waste, he stated less than 60% of solid waste generated in the country is collected and that treatment and safe disposal remain a big challenge for MMDAs. At present, there are only 2 engineered Landfill facilities (Kumasi and Tamale) which are poorly operated and managed. He however stated that two additional facilities in Tema and Sekondi/Takoradi are under construction under an IDA credit (UESP II) and a 900 ton/day capacity Recycling/compost plant is being constructed under a Public-Private Partnership arrangement between GoG and Zoomlion (GH) Ltd.

With regards to challenges, he stated the following:

- Weak Institutional Capacity at Decentralised Levels
- Inadequate Funding for Sanitation Programmes
- Poor database/management which hinders effective planning of sanitation programmes/services
- Weak and outmoded laws which are difficult to enforcement

- Lack of innovative and appropriate sanitation solutions/technological options
- Inherent poor behaviour and attitude of the people
- Weak coordination and collaboration among key sector players in sanitation
- Inadequate harmonization of Programmes/projects
- Sanitation not a priority to most MMDAs especially basic sanitation

On the way forward, he stated:

- Approval of the Strategic Environmental Sanitation Investment Plan
- Increased investment to the sanitation sector for provision of sanitary infrastructure – treatment and disposal
- Implementation of the RSM&S – Community – Led Total Sanitation
- Commitment of all stakeholders to the frameworks in place particularly the DESSAP, NESSAP and MAF – new projects on sanitation
- Increased private sector investments to sanitation

Dr. Iyabode Olusanmi, Country Representative of UNICEF followed with a goodwill message on behalf of development partners. She started by congratulating the effort of government to organize NESCON 2011 and the recent appointment of former President John Agyekum Kufour as the first high level chair for the global partnership, Sanitation and Water for All (SWA). She also commended government for taking steps to deliver water and basic sanitation services in a sustainable manner. However she bemoaned that only 5 of the recommended 20 commitments in the SWA Compact have been fulfilled by government and further urged government to fully implement its commitment. The full statement by the UNICEF Country Representative, Dr. Iyabode Olusanmi is attached as Annex 2.3.

Mr. Benjamin Arthur of the Coalition of NGOs in Water and Sanitation (CONIWAS) delivered a short address on behalf of Civil Society. His message dwelt mainly on the inadequate financing to the sector. He stated that only 0.1% of the GDP was earmarked for the sanitation sub-sector which falls short of the agreed 0.5%. Further to this, disbursement of the already inadequate funds is very slow hence making implementation of plans and programmes difficult.

The Ashanti Regional Director of the Ministry of Women and Children (MoWAC), Mrs. Augustina Gyamfi gave a brief message on behalf of all the invited ministries. She congratulated MLGRD and its partners for their effort in improving environmental sanitation in Ghana. She further stated that women and children are the worse affected from effect of poor environmental sanitation and hence the need for improvement.

Ms Ruby Sandhu-Rojon, UN Resident Coordinator, Ghana followed with her speech. Her speech mainly centered on the need for an accelerated action to meet the sanitation target of the MDGs by sector practitioners and government. She stated “In light of this critical and untenable situation, the United Nations General Assembly last year declared access to water and sanitation as a human right. The General Assembly resolution was later confirmed unanimously by the Human Rights Council. This she said was a very positive development and should have a substantial impact on the water and sanitation sector. In 160 countries in all regions of the world, citizens are now entitled to demand water and sanitation services from their governments. In turn, governments have an obligation to heed those demands and address the inequalities which exist today.” The full statement is attached as Annex 2.4



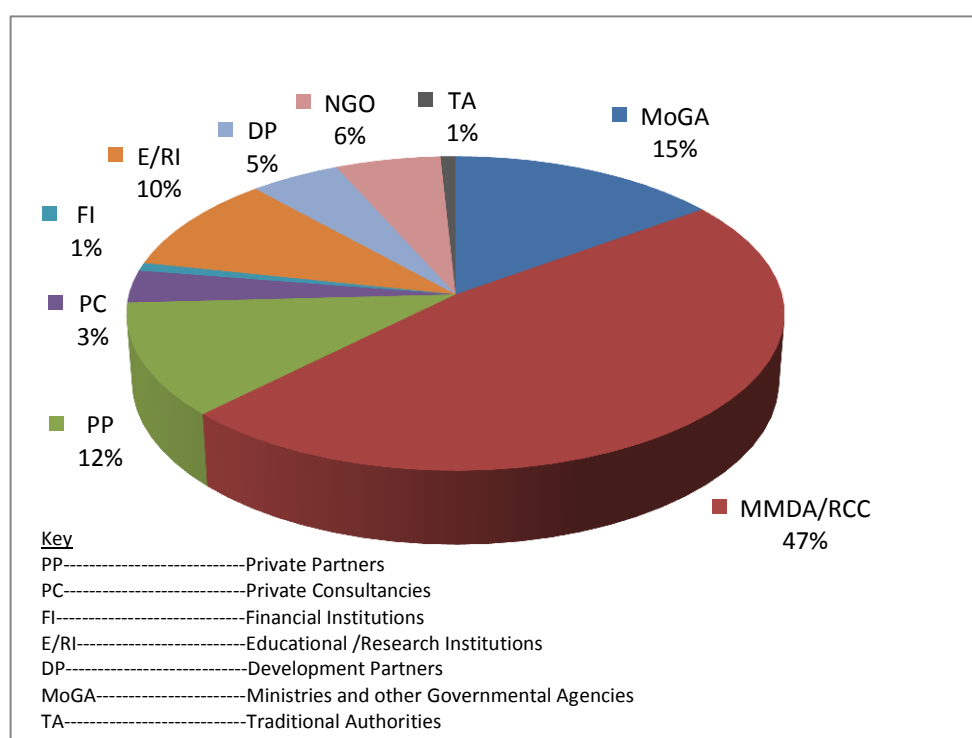
The Minister of Local Government and Rural Development, Honourable Samuel K. Ofosu-Ampofo delivered the key note. A copy of his address is attached as Annex 2.5. The key issues raised in the sector Minister’s speech include the following:

- The Ghana Shared Growth and Development Agenda (2010 -2013) which recognizes the import of improving environmental sanitation services and the medium-term national development policy framework and has prioritised issues of environmental sanitation under the Human Settlements focus area as well as under the maintenance of natural resources focus area;

- Rural Sanitation Implementation Model and CLTS Scaling-up Strategy as a key strategic intervention of the Environmental Sanitation Policy (Revised, 2010) and the National Environmental Sanitation Strategy and Action Plan (NESSAP) adopted by the Ghana SWA Compact is Community-Led Total Sanitation.
- The Millennium Development Goal (MDG) Accelerated Framework (MAF) Country Action Plan (CAP) tilted Go Sanitation Go! The three (3) areas recommended for immediate attention in order to accelerate progress towards achieving the MDG Target for sanitation and sustain gains in excreta treatment and disposal cover are;
 - Scaling-up of CLTS country-wide;
 - Implementing a Micro-finance credit scheme for household latrine construction; and
 - Implementation of decentralised treatment/disposal systems incorporating harvesting/re-use of biogas.



This maiden conference saw participation which cuts across a wide spectrum of sector players including staff of core sub-sector agencies, other relevant ministries and agencies, private sector, academia, traditional institutions, financial institutions, NGOs, development partners and representations from private consultants. The chart below shows the distribution of the main sector groups that participated in the Conference.



SESSION 2 – SETTING THE STAGE FOR PROGRESS IN ENVIRONMENTAL HEALTH AND SANITATION POLICY, PLANS AND SUSTAINABLE FINANCING

Day 1 PM December 07, 2011

The second session of the first day was in two sessions. The first session had three plenary presentations and then the conference went into two parallel sessions. Summary of the plenary presentations are as follows;

5.2.1 2010 – 2011 Sector Performance Assessment by Mr. Kweku Quansah, EHSD

The afternoon session for the day began with an assessment of gains made based on the 2010 communique. Out of the 8 conference statements, none was fully implemented, five (5) were partially implemented and three (3) not implemented. The full assessment is attached as Annex 2.6.

5.2.2 GoG PPP Policy and Strategic Objectives – Relevance to Environmental Sanitation Services by Mr. Daniel Coleman, MoFEP

In his presentation, he identified the following as the key drivers of PPP for the government;

- Financial Constraints
- Capability/Expertise
- No Infrastructure
- Need for optimizing costs of services
- Increasing Competition/ Improving Market Maturity
- Improving Efficiency
- Improving Service Levels

The presentation touched on the current state of PPP, GoG National Policy on PPPs and the PPP Process.

5.2.3 “Decentralised services delivery within Decentralised Governance structures: Oversight at the centre and performance at the local level- How to Optimise?” by David Osei-Wusu, ILGS

The presentation touched on the following area;

- Decentralisation
- Legislations, Institutions and Resources for Decentralized Service Delivery
- Priorities Arising from these Arrangements

5.2.4 “Proof of Environmental Sanitation Offences and Presumption of Guilt by Maxwell Opoku-Agyeman, Legal Consultant

The presentation was an eye opener to most of participants. It touched on the following;

- The basic underpinnings of law
- What constitutes an offence or crime
- Principles of criminal liability
- Proof of mental element
- Commencement of criminal proceedings
- Proof of offence
- Presumption of guilt
- Effects of exceptions

The conference went into two (2) parallel sessions. An overview of the proceedings for each session is presented in Tables 5-1 & 5-2

Table 5-1: Overview of the proceedings for 1st segment of day (1) one's parallel sessions

Segment 1		Room 1	Room 2
	Thematic Area	Decentralised Governance Mechanisms and Services Delivery	Pollution Abatement, By-Product Recovery Technologies and Strategies
	Topic./Presenter	Planning for effective Sanitation Service Delivery through Results – Based Monitoring and Evaluation Alfred Kwasi Opoku, JEAVCO Consult	Determinants of WTP for the restoration of Polluted Water bodies in Ghana (A case study of Korle Lagoon, Accra) Anthony Amoah, Central

			University College
1	Summary	This presentation highlighted on the conceptual framework for Results – Based Monitoring and Evaluation (R-B M&E) as well as the steps/procedure in development of (R-B M&E) system as an effective monitoring and planning tool. The presentation further highlighted the advantage of the Results Based M & E over the traditional M & E approaches to project planning	Findings of a research study on the Determinants of the Willingness To Pay (WTP) for the restoration of the Korle lagoon. The presentation also highlighted the factors that influence an individuals' willingness to pay (WTP) as well as factors that influence the restoration of the Korle Lagoon in generating revenue for the nation and its people.
2	Topic./Presenter	Public-Private-Partnerships: Private Sector Perspectives & Initiatives Emmanuel Bekoe, Zoomlion GH Limited	Promoting enterprise – based ecological public toilets in Ghana: Technology and economics Edem Bensah, Kumasi Polytechnic
	Summary	The presentation showcased some initiatives and perspectives of Zoomlion Ghana Ltd. as a leading Private sector organization engaged in the delivery of environmental sanitation services. The presentation highlighted some of the challenges faced by the private sector in the delivery of services and how these challenges can be addressed.	This presentation assessed the financial feasibility to develop an enterprise-based public toilet system based on an ecological concept where aspects such as hygiene, ventilation, privacy, waste treatment, and bio-power generation are prioritized.

Table 5-1: Overview of the proceedings for 2nd segment of day (1) one's parallel sessions

Segment 2		Room 1	Room 2
	Thematic Area	Land Acquisition and Management for Treatment/Disposal of Wastes	Participatory Methods for Behavioural Change - CLTS
1	Topic./Presenter	Implementing Rehabilitation, Improved Closure and aftercare Management of Solid Waste Disposal Sites by Metropolitan, Municipal and District Assemblies: Kobina Afful/Kwodwo Keelson, WasteCare Limited	Climbing the Sanitation Ladder: Loretta Roberts, UNICEF Ghana
	Summary	The presentation covered a comprehensive overview of the methodology used to estimate post-closure leachate quantities as well as the design results for the Mallam SCC and Obolgo No. 1 dumpsites. This presentation also highlighted components of the WasteCare Sub-surface Irrigation System (WC-SIRL) and its application	This presentation showed how access to basic sanitation can be improved through the use of simple and inexpensive technologies. The presentation amongst others showed some findings on basic and low cost technologies developed and adopted by locals towards improved sanitation.
2	Topic./Presenter	CALSWEM SOFTWARE: Computer Aided Learning (CAL) and Computer Aided Assessment (CAA) in Solid Waste Engineering and Management Kodwo B Keelson, WasteCare Limited	Scaling-up CLTS Through Natural Leaders Samuel Sarpong, ProNET
	Summary	This presentation gave an overview of the CALSWEM software package. The software is a user friendly e-learning tool which is intended to assist in the learning and teaching of fundamental solid waste engineering and management principles at the undergraduate and post-graduate level	The presentation basically showed some cases of the Natural Leaders Concept in scaling up CLTS, lessons learnt and challenges.

		in tertiary institutions.	
3	Topic./Presenter	Experiences and Lessons of implementing District Environmental Sanitation Strategies and Action Plans (DESSAPs) Martin Amevor, REHO, CR	Effective Communication for Improving Sanitation Services Dr. Opoku-Amankwa, KNUST
	Summary	Many MMDAs have prepared and are currently implementing District Environmental Sanitation Strategies and Action Plans (DESSAPs). This presentation shared experiences and lessons on how effective implementation of DESSAPs has been achieved through incorporation in District Medium-term Development Plans (DMTDPs) and the key challenges and constraints encountered and how these can be resolved to enhance incremental improvement in access and coverage of environmental sanitation services.	The outlined the role of effective behaviour change communication as an important and cost-efficient mechanism for engendering participation and contribution by all stakeholders, especially households, towards improved services. It also shared lessons and experiences on how effective communication may be applied to enhance mass participation in improving services with active participation of households and community members.
4	Topic./Presenter		Coordination in Sanitation – The CLTS Example Kweku Quansah, MLGRD
	Summary		The presentation focused on the functions of the National Technical Working Group on Sanitation (NTWGS).

SESSION 3 – CONTINUATION OF PARALLEL SESSIONS, NATIONAL ZOOM KIDS COMPETITION AND PANEL DISCUSSION

Day 2 AM December 08, 2011

The parallel sessions continued after a quick recap by the facilitator of proceedings of the first day. Table 5-3 presents a summary of presentations for the two parallel sessions for day two (2).

Table 5-3: Overview of the proceedings for 1st segment of day twos' parallel sessions

Segment 1		Room 1	Room 2
	Thematic Area	Performance Management and Results-Based Monitoring and Evaluation	Pollution Abatement, By-Product Recovery Technologies and Strategies
1	Topic./Presenter	Improving Performance Management for National Planning – The case for environmental Sanitation Services Mr. Bruno Dery, NDPC	WatSan Mapping for Improving Environmental Sanitation Services Dr. Afia Zakiya, Country Rep., WaterAid Ghana
	Summary	The presentation, among other issues, gave a background to the medium-term planning and the sector performance progress reporting framework, the challenges of engaging decentralised level stakeholders and the uniqueness of lack of data for environmental sanitation services compared to other sectors. The presentation also shed light on “better” performing sectors regarding reporting and information management and the “ingredients” of success and suggestions as to how the EHSD/MLGRD can	This presentation gave an insight into what WatSan mapping is, recent development in the its approach and use and its advantages and disadvantages.

		enhance reporting and the advantages thereof.	
2	Topic./Presenter	Operationalising Results Based – Monitoring and Evaluation at the District Assembly Level – MintESAA as a tool Richard Osafo , Wastecare	Improving Communal Waste Collection in Urban Poor Communities – A Case study of Sabon Zongo Selasi Elorm Amekudzie, Wastecare
	Summary	This presentation gave the general features and capabilities of MintESAA 2.0, a data Management and Information System (MIS) designed for the Environmental Sanitation sector. The presentation also demonstrated the advantages of the software as a tool in Results Based – Monitoring and Evaluation across all the local government levels.	This gave the findings of a study on refuse generation and how to improve collection at household level and communal container transfer in Sabon Zongo, a low –income urban community in the Ablekuma Central Sub-metro. The presentation also showed some strategies for not only improving waste collection but also ensuring cost recovery of operation and sustained maintenance.
3	Topic./Presenter		Polluter-Pays-Principle: Experiences from BUSAC Support to Private Operators Capt. Amo-Twum, ESPA
	Summary		This presentation shared the experiences of the BUSAC support to the private sector and how this support can be replicated in the Environmental sanitation sector.

5.3.1 Wastewater and Faecal Sludge Treatment – ingredients for sustainability by Professor Esi Awuah, KNUST

The presentations touched on the energy and nutrient recovery value of wastewater (faecal sludge, urine). The following are some of the recommendations;

- Plan for the operation and maintenance of the technology and after math
- Identify needed institutional changes
- Budget for it
- Make it sustainable by looking at benefits and incorporate it in the planning
- Make hygiene education a key component of education

5.3.2 Advantages of decentralized treatment of excreta disposal and recovery by Dr. John Idan, Biogas Technology West Africa Limited

His presentation basically showed various cases of decentralized anaerobic digesters with the harvest of biogas for energy.

5.3.3 Panel Discussion – Status of Excreta/Liquid Waste Management in Ghana

The panel discussion was preceded by documentaries on the state liquids/excreta treatment systems in;

- Accra – The Accra Sewerage Treatment Plant
- Kumasi – The Kumasi Septage and faecal sludge treatment facility
- Tema – The Tema Sewage treatment Plant.

These set of documentaries set the tone for an interesting panel discussion. Panelists were drawn from various departments and agencies as follows;

- Major (Rtd.) Awuah (AMA-ASIP)
- Edward Mba (TMA-WMD)
- John Idan (BTWAL)

Panelists gave their opinion on various questions posed to them. On the issue of the challenges faced in effective and efficient management of liquid/excreta, panelists lamented on financial constraint, lack of political will and appropriate technology for treatment.

5.3.4 National Zoom Kids Quiz Competition

Another improvement on at NESCON 2011 is the involvement of children through the National Zoom Kids Quiz competition. Children have been identified as one of the strong drivers in the behavioural change campaign towards improved sanitation. Preliminary competitions were held among selected basic schools in the Ashanti, Eastern, Western and Northern regions. The grand final took place concurrently with conference proceedings between 11:00am and 2:00pm. The results at the end of the quiz are presented in Table 5-4

Table 5-4: Results of the Grand Final of the National Zoom Kids Quiz Competition

REGIONS	SCHOOLS	TOTAL SCORE	POSITION
Ashanti	Tweneboah Koduah	35	1st
Eastern	Pentecost Preparatory School	34	2nd
Western	Asare Oppong School Complex	30	3rd
Northern	Alhassan Gbanzaba Memorial School	28	4th
Quiz Master: Richard Amoaning – REHO, Ashanti Region			

Prizes ranging from books, certificates, television set and computers were presented to the contestants and their schools.



Director of Finance, MLGRD presents the winners of the National Zoom Kids Competition 2011 with their Trophy



Prof. J.G. Monney, presents award to the 2nd placed school.

SESSION 4 – FIELD TRIP AND “MINT” GALA NIGHT

Day 2 PM December 08, 2011

5.5.4 Field Trip

There were field trips to the KMA landfill, one of the two engineered landfills in the country and Lake Bosomtwe. Mr. Awantongo, Plant Manager, briefed the section participants who visited the site on the operations and management practices at the site. He also highlighted some of the challenges the KMA-WMD is facing in the management of the facility. At Lake Bosomtwe, participants enjoyed cruising on the natural lake after a historical briefing on existence of the lake.



Participants being briefed on arrival at the Lake



Participants enjoy a cruise on the lake

5.4.6 Mint Gala Night

The Mint Gala night amongst other activities, showcased a fashion show with models dressed in apparels made from re-used plastic waste. Background music was by Agya Koo Nimo Ensemble and Golden Tulip Live Band.



SESSION 5 – FINANCING OPTIONS

Day 3 AM December 09, 2011

5.5.1 Rolling Out Successful Microfinance Interventions through the Rural Banks and other Microfinance Institutions – The Role of ARB APEX Bank by Theophilus Obeng, ARB Apex Bank

This presentation covered among other issues the following

- ▶ The bank's collaboration with various government and non-governmental institutions in rolling out various microfinance interventions;

- ▶ Why the use of the ARB Apex Bank system?
- ▶ The effectiveness of the Apex system using the CBRDP and SIF interventions as examples
- ▶ The approach to accessing funds
- ▶ The loan approval process

5.5.2 *Experiences of using MFIs in delivery of facilities and services at community level by Clement Kojo Nminibapiel, CBRDP/GSOP*

The presentation covered the following:

- ▶ Background Of CBRDP Micro-Credit Scheme
- ▶ Eligible Facilities
- ▶ CBRDP- Mechanisms
 - Establishment of revolving fund at ARB Apex Bank
 - Sensitization of stakeholders
 - Accreditation of banks
- ▶ CBRDP- Tools
 - CBRDP Micro-Credit Operational Manual
- ▶ Key Elements of Credit Scheme
- ▶ Repayment of Loans
 - Repayments by clients
 - Repayments by PFIs
- ▶ Achievements
- ▶ Some Lessons Learnt



5.5.3 *Ghana MAF CAP (Go Sanitation Go!) by Lukman Y. Salifu/Evans Darko Mensah*

The presentation gave a brief overview of the content of the Ghana MAF Country Action Plan dubbed "Go Sanitation Go". It covered

- ▶ Summary of the MAF Process
- ▶ Interventions and Solutions
- ▶ Benefits/Value of the MAF Process

5.5.4 *Poster Exhibition*

A poster exhibition was set up to showcase various efforts already being made at actualizing the MINT philosophy. The poster exhibitors included:

- Zoomlion Lion Ghana Limited
- Interplast Limited
- Resource Centre Network
- MLGRD-CLTS
- CHF Ghana
- Valley View University, Accra: Project: Ecological Sanitation
- EnvironSan Limited
- Biogas Technologies, West Africa- Project: Installation of Bio-digestion Systems for Bio-waste and wastewater in Health-Care Facilities



hibit at the



Minister –MLGRD being briefed on ecological projects undertaken at Valley View University



Some exhibits at the interplast stand

SESSION 6 – CLOSURE

Day 3 PM December 09, 2011

5.6.1 Presentation of Awards

Awards were presented to winners of the National Zoom Kids Competition as stated in section 5.3.4 of this report.

Also plaques were presented to the sponsors of the conferences. These included;

- Canadian International Development Agency (CIDA)
- UNICEF Ghana
- Danish International Development Agency
- Embassy of the Kingdom of Netherlands
- WaterAid Ghana
- World Vision
- ZoomLion Ghana Limited



5.6.2 Closing Address

A short closing address was given by Mr. Naa Demedeme, Ag. Director of the EHSD, MLGRD. He thank all the participants for their presence and active participation. He also thanked the donors sincerely for their support and hope they will do more in the upcoming NESCONs.

ANNEXES

6. ANNEX 1: CONFERENCE PROGRAMME

2ND NATIONAL ENVIRONMENTAL SANITATION CONFERENCE NESCON 2011

Theme: Enhancing Public-Private-Partnership for Effective Environmental Sanitation Services - The Role of Stakeholders

Tuesday, 6th December 2011, Venue: Golden Tulip, Kumasi City – Ashanti Region

Arrival of Participants	From 3: 00 p.m.
Overview of Logistics and Conference Management Procedures	4: 30 – 7:00 p.m.
Dinner	7:00 p.m.

DAY ONE – WEDNESDAY, DECEMBER 7

DAY 1	Morning Session	Opening Plenary Session & Key Note Addresses:
	8:00 – 9:00 am	Registration
	9:00 – 9:10 am	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Opening Prayer and Introduction of Chairperson
	9:10 - 9:15 am	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Chairperson's Response
	9:15 – 9:25 am	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Welcome Address Hon. Kwaku Agyeman Mensah (Dr.), Minister, Ashanti Region
	9:25 – 9:40 am	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • State of Environmental Sanitation in Ghana Naa Lenason Demedeme, Ag Director EHSD-MLGRD
	09:40 - 10:30 am	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Goodwill Message on behalf of Development Partners Dr. Iyabode Olusanmi, Country Representative, UNICEF • Goodwill Message on behalf of Civil Society Mr. Benjamin Arthur, CONIWAS • Goodwill Message on behalf of other Ministries Mrs. Augustina Gyamfi, Ashanti Regional Director, MoWAC
	10:30 – 10:45 am	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Ghana's Five Year Drive for Sanitation Ruby Sandhu-Rojon, UN Resident Coordinator
	10:45 – 11:30 am	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Key Note Address/Launching of Ghana's Five Year Drive for Sanitation and MAF Hon. Samuel K. Ofofu-Ampofo, Minister, MLGRD.
	11:30 – 1:00pm	Group Picture/Opening of Exhibition/Lunch Break
	1:00 – 1:20 pm	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • 2010-2011 Sector Performance Assessment Mr. Kweku Quansah, EHSD
	1:20 – 1:50 pm	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • GoG PPP Policy and Strategic Objectives – Relevance to Environmental Sanitation Infrastructure and Services Mr. Daniel Coleman, MoFEP
	1:50 – 2:20 pm	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Decentralised services delivery within Decentralised Governance structures: Oversight at the centre and performance at the local level- How to Optimise? David Osei-Wusu, ILGS
	2:20 – 2:50 pm	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Proof of Environmental Sanitation Offences and Presumption and Presumption of Guilt Maxwell Opoku-Agyeman, Legal Consultant
	2:50 – 3:30 pm	Snack Break

Segment 1: Afternoon Session	Decentralised Governance Mechanisms and Services Delivery	Pollution Abatement, By-Product Recovery Technologies and Strategies
3:30 – 4:00 pm	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Planning for effective Sanitation Service Delivery through Results – Based Monitoring and Evaluation Alfred Kwasi Opoku, JEAVCO Consult 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Determinants of WTP for the restoration of Polluted Water bodies in Ghana (A case study of Korle Lagoon, Accra) Anthony Amoah, Central University College
4:00 – 4:30 pm	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Public-Private-Partnerships: Private Sector Perspectives & Initiatives Emmanuel Bekoe, Zoomlion GH Limited 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Promoting enterprise – based ecological public toilets in Ghana: Technology and economics Edem Bensah, Kumasi Polytechnic
Segment 2: Afternoon Session	Land Acquisition and Management for Treatment/Disposal of Wastes	Participatory Methods for Behavioural Change – CLTS
4:30 – 5:00 pm	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Implementing Rehabilitation, Improved Closure and aftercare Management of Solid Waste Disposal Sites by Metropolitan, Municipal and District Assemblies Kobina Afful/Kwodwo Keelson, WasteCare Limited 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Climbing the Sanitation Ladder: Loretta Roberts, UNICEF Ghana
5:00 – 5:30 pm	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> CALSWEM SOFTWARE: Computer Aided Learning (CAL) and Computer Aided Assessment (CAA) in Solid Waste Engineering and Management Kodwo B Keelson, WasteCare Limited 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Scaling-up CLTS Through Natural Leaders Samuel Sarpong Coordination in Sanitation – The CLTS Example Kweku Quansah, MLGRD
5:30 – 6:00 pm	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Experiences and Lessons of implementing District Environmental Sanitation Strategies and Action Plans (DESSAPs) Martin Amevor, REHO, CR 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Effective Communication for Improving Sanitation Services Dr. Opoku-Amankwa, KNUST
6:00 pm	Closure	
7:00 pm	Dinner	

DAY TWO – THURSDAY, DECEMBER 8

DAY 2	Morning Session: Reports and Overview of Presentations on Thematic Areas		
	8:00 - 8:30 am	Registration	
	8:30 – 9:00 am	Feedback from Parallel Sessions and Discussions	
		Performance Management and Results-Based Monitoring and Evaluation	Pollution Abatement, By-Product Recovery Technologies and Strategies
	9:00 - 9:30 am	<ul style="list-style-type: none">Improving Performance Management for National Planning – The case for environmental Sanitation Services Mr. Bronu Dery, NDPC	<ul style="list-style-type: none">WatSan Mapping for Improving Environmental Sanitation Services Dr. Afia Zakiya, Country Rep., WaterAid Ghana
	9:30 - 10:00 am	<ul style="list-style-type: none">Operationalising Results Based – Monitoring and Evaluation at the District Assembly Level – MintESAA as a tool Richard Osafo , WasteCare	<ul style="list-style-type: none">Improving Communal Waste Collection in Urban Poor Communities – A Case study of Sabon Zongo Selasi Elorm Amekudzie
	10:00 - 10:30am		<ul style="list-style-type: none">Polluter-Pays-Principle: Experiences from BUSAC Support to Private Operators Capt. Amo-Twum, ESPA
	10:30 – 10:45 am	Snack/Cocoa Break	
	10:45 -11:05 am	<ul style="list-style-type: none">Wastewater and Faecal Sludge Treatment – ingredients for sustaining operation and maintenance management Professor Esi Awuah, KNUST	
	11:05 - 11:25 am	<ul style="list-style-type: none">Documentary- Status of Excreta/Liquid Waste Management in Ghana - A look at Accra, Kumasi and Tema.(Prelude to Panel Discussion-)	
	11:30 –11:45 pm	<ul style="list-style-type: none">Advantages of decentralized treatment of excreta disposal and recovery Dr. John Idan, Biogas Technology West Africa Limited	
	11:45 – 1:00 pm	<ul style="list-style-type: none">Panel Discussions - Status of Excreta/Liquid Waste Management in Ghana	
	NB: Final of Zoom Kids Quiz competition runs between 11:00am and 2:00pm		
	1:00 – 2:00 pm	Lunch/Exhibition	
	Afternoon Session	Field Trip	
	2:00 – 5:00 pm	Lake Bosomtwe/Kumasi Landfill,	
	5:00	Closure	
7:30 – 9:00	Dinner and MINT Gala Night (Live Band/Traditional folkloric Music)		

DAY THREE – FRIDAY, DECEMBER 9

DAY 3	Morning Session: Presentation of Key(Invited) Papers	
	8:00 –8:30 am	Registration
	8:30–9:00 am	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Operationalising Revolving Funds for Delivery of Facilities through MFIs: Lessons on the Role of APEX Bank Mr. Theophilus Obeng, Head Micro-Finance Unit/ARB Apex Bank
	9:00 – 9:30 am	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Experiences in using MFIs in delivery of facilities and services at community level Mr. Clement Kojo Nminibapiel, CBRDP/GSOP
	9:30 - 10:00 am	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Ghana MAF CAP (Go Sanitation Go!) Lukman Y. Salifu/Evan Darko Mensah
	10:00 – 10:15 am	Snack/Cocoa Break
	Conference Communique and Closing Session	
	10:15 - 10:45 am	Brief Report on Quiz/Debate Competition and Presentation of Awards to Winners
	10:45 – 11:15 am	Closing Address
	11:15 – 12:00 pm	Main Conclusions of Conference and Way forward (Conference Communique)
	12:00 - 12:30 pm	Closing Statement
	12:30 – 1:30 pm	Lunch/Exhibition/Departure

7. ANNEX 2: SPEECHES AND KEY NOTE ADDRESS

Annex 2.1 Chairman's Opening Address read on behalf of the Asantehene, Otumfuo Osei Tutu II by Nana Darko Wontswe II, Paramount Chief of Maaban Traditional Area

Thank you very much for the kind words said about me. I am here to represent Otumfuo Osei Tutu II, the Asantehene and read his remarks. I will like to convey to you, his apologies for his inability to be with you.

It is a great honor and a greater given responsibility, to have been chosen to chair the opening session of the National Environmental Sanitation Conference (NESCON) 2011. I have great passion for partnering others to ensure complete environmental cleanliness and purity in our dear nation. I do accept your invitation and ask for your support to successfully guide the deliberations planned for the conference.

It is quite obvious that environmentalists and all those who have assembled here have a rich history of innovations and engagements that is reflected in the PowerPoint Presentations that you are going to listen to these three days. I look forward to becoming acquainted with you all and I will cooperate with you to deliberate together to enhance the opportunities and mainly the challenges that would present themselves in our shared vision.

Honorable Ministers, all dignitaries present, ladies and gentlemen, the earth's environment- its land, water bodies and air are showing signs of serious strains in most areas. Part of this is being ushered in by unprecedented expansion of human activity- in farming, mining, industrialization, off-shore oil exploration, urban development and widespread use of plastics made from petro-chemicals. Consequently land and water bodies are being polluted with garbage and toxic waste while the air is secondly over saturated with dangerous gases. Carbon dioxide and other gaseous emissions are responsible for the greenhouse gas effect. This understandably, will significantly lead to global warming.

Dear partner participants, it is not now that you are going to identify the causes of environmental degradation rather, you must immediately address the remedies which go beyond simple measures and interventions. You must continue to advance your ability to respond to issues related to natural resources, waste management, water quality, land use, urban sprawling, deforestation, degradation of water bodies, collection and disposal of municipal waste. Bio-fuels for cooking also present the cleanest option in terms of indoor pollution. These are few drivers impacting our environment. We all know our consumers want clean water, safe and nutritious food to eat. In addition, people want safe viable communities to live in. The environmental sanitation program will be addressing these as well.

Ladies and gentlemen, it is about time Ghana places bio-fuel on the agenda for action. Existing institutions should partner the energy commission to identify new technologies to produce liquid and gas fuels from a large range of biological intricacies including traditional crops, crop residue, energy dedicated crops, municipal solid and liquid waste including human excreta and dung. Producing energy from municipal waste that does not pollute the environment, affect the climate and cost too much appears a very attractive option to follow and this would go a long way to clean up our environment. We also need cooperation from Development Partners to support, the packaging, transportation and disposal of obsolete agricultural chemicals and veterinary wastes. The categories of waste which you must address include pesticides-organo-chlorinated products (e.g. DDTs) and highly toxic organo-phosphates.

Ladies and gentlemen, driven by the rapid urbanization, growing waste water volumes, waste is slightly used as a low cost alternative to conventional water use for irrigation in urban and per-urban agriculture. In the 1980s, the Kumasi City Council had a program to treat waste water in ponds planted with water lettuce and use it to irrigate vegetables and supply the entire Kumasi City. The use of untreated wastewater for irrigation presents undesirable health and environmental risks. The practice will have to be reversed. Another important issue I would like the conference to address is maintenance. The environment is the main location and is littered with broken down machinery, equipments and vehicles, computer housing, collapsed buildings which evidently cause vicious pollution. There is an obvious need for maintenance culture to assume the place of importance in environmental sanitation programs. Indeed the question of maintenance goes beyond rudimentary skill which is needed to operate a product and it is more than that to decide the capacity of the people to use it. In the same way, they can be taught

to perform routine maintenance operations. But it seems to me that, the key to effective maintenance of equipment, buildings, etc is to pay regular and thorough attention that invokes personal intelligence which goes deeper than simple training. This calls for a higher standard of discipline and responsibility if we can win the fight against waste generation in the ecosystem.

Ladies and gentlemen, putting maintenance aside, I expect that this conference takes enhanced more look at how practical science can be applied to waste management problems. In view of the conference threats to the natural environment posed by unwanted waste creation and degradation requires an integrated response which can yield to many benefits in waste management and environmental sanitation endeavors. Further, I am proud of the collaboration effort between and among sector practitioners. The water and sanitation sub-component of the worldbank finance group project which I Otumfuo initiated years ago and implemented was a clear demonstration of the way to handle environmental sanitation issues and challenges.

Finally, the challenges and opportunities for environmental sanitation service programs would continue to grow in the future, would continue to be met through the collaborative efforts under the strong leadership of the Ministry of Local Government and Rural Development (MLGRD). Let us keep on moving forward.

Thank you.

Annex 2.2 Welcome Address by Hon. Kwaku Agyeman Mensah (Dr.), Ashanti Regional Minister.

Mr. Chairman,
Hon Ministers,
Development Partners,
Municipal and District Chief Executives present,
Heads of Department,
Friends from the Media,
Distinguished guests,
Ladies and Gentlemen:

I deem it an honor and a pleasant duty to welcome you all to this second edition of the National Environmental Sanitation Conference (NESCON 2011).

Mr. Chairman, environmental sanitation management constitutes a major factor in our development efforts. With the ever increasing population of our cities and municipalities and its attendant environmental sanitation challenges, the need for the nation to adopt strategies that will ensure effective environmental sanitation management in our cities and urban centers cannot be over emphasized. To do this effectively requires participation of all sector stakeholders.

Mr. Chairman, as the MDG Target date of 2015 draws near, the need to vigorously pursue and implement improvements has become more urgent. Sharing lessons and exchanging experiences to enable rapid country-wide uptake and implementation has also become necessarily urgent. To ensure a better quality of life of the people, we need to avoid conditions that will predispose them to diseases like malaria, cholera and typhoid which have close correlation with unsanitary conditions prevailing in most of the communities.

Mr. Chairman, Ladies and Gentlemen last year we were at this same venue to share lessons and experiences. Time has come again this time round not only to share experiences, but also to look back and evaluate what we set ourselves to achieve over the course of the year. I am sure that during the conference, our progress will be discussed. I am emphasizing this because it seems the problems are not going away, if anything environmental sanitation problems seem to become more severe. For example the death toll and dislocations due to recent floods in Accra and other parts of the country indicates a worsening situation. Some of us keep on asking, “what needs to be done to address these challenges effectively?”

Distinguished guests, we are however encouraged by the level of commitment of government and its development partners towards addressing the issues. That Professor Atta Mills’ government has earmarked US \$ 3 billion towards the implementation of the Ghana Shared Growth and Development Agenda of which environmental sanitation is an important component is an ample demonstration of working towards the Better Ghana Agenda.

The 2011 NESCON theme “enhancing public-private-partnerships for effective environmental sanitation services - the role of stakeholders” calls for all hands on deck. Many people in the country still consider environmental sanitation management as entirely the business of our assemblies. While this perception may be true, it is however important for the people to observe basic environmental and sanitation practices as their contribution towards the maintenance of sound and healthy environment. Indeed we need to take bold steps towards the enforcement of the regulation which makes it obligatory for house owners to provide toilets in their houses and keep their immediate surroundings clean.

Mr. Chairman, as I understand, from the programme and exhibitions that have been mounted, while we want to solicit the participation of all our stakeholders the issues of reuse and harvesting of by-products from our waste streams, for example biogas from excreta is still an important part of strategies for sustainable environmental sanitation management. Just as was suggested last year, I wish to reiterate the need for us to critically examine more avenues for creating value from our wastes and thus jobs for our youth.

Mr. Chairman, ladies and gentlemen, it is my wish that while we devote attention to the programme for this conference, participants will take advantage of their presence in the region to visit some interesting places in Kumasi and its environs. I will also like to propose to the organizers to make Kumasi the home of NESCON as we have successfully hosted two NESCON conferences which enabled ease of participation by all stakeholders.

On this note, I welcome you once again to this conference and wish you fruitful deliberations.
Thank you.

Annex 2.3 Address on Behalf of Development Partners by Dr. Iyabode Olusanmi, Country Representative of UNICEF

I am delighted to be here today to speak on behalf of the Development Partners in the Water and Sanitation Sector. The effort of the Government of Ghana to organize this 2nd National Environmental Sanitation Conference (NESCON) indicates the willingness and the commitment of the government to provide an annual forum for sector players to share knowledge and deliberate on the strategic issues that will move the subsector forward. We commend you for this initiative!

Before I highlight some of the key areas which require further efforts and concrete action, I would like, on behalf of the DPs, to congratulate the government and people of Ghana on the recent appointment of Ghana's former President John Agyekum Kufour as the first high level chair for the global partnership, Sanitation and Water for All (SWA). I feel sure that this appointment results from Ghana's global leadership during the SWA high level meeting in Washington in 2010 and its launch of "The Ghana Compact on Sanitation and Water for All".

The government has also taken commendable steps to deliver water and basic sanitation services in a sustainable manner. These include: the revised Environmental Sanitation Policy; the National Environmental Sanitation Strategy and Action Plan (NESSAP) with the district equivalents (DESSAP); the Strategic Environmental Sanitation Investment Plan (SESIP); adoption of the Community-led Total Sanitation Strategy. Furthermore, the formulation of key implementation strategies (notably, the rural sanitation model and scaling up strategy; the hand washing with soap strategy and the household water treatment and safe storage strategy) has been completed. Additional key achievements include the establishment of the National Technical Working Group on Sanitation; development of the water and sanitation sector strategic development plan; and development of the MDG Acceleration Framework (MAF) for Sanitation. I congratulate the government and partners for these accomplishments.

Development Partners see these developments as strategic milestones providing direction and guidance for the delivery of sustainable water, sanitation and hygiene services. However, without action on the ground, these initiatives will not translate into concrete results for the people of Ghana. We would therefore like to highlight areas in which critical and urgent action is required to accelerate the delivery of basic sanitation and hygiene services.

First, DPs urge the government to fully implement its commitment in the Sanitation and Water for All Compact launched in 2010. We recognise that Government is making efforts to implement the commitments with some allocations in the 2011 and 2012 budgets. Sadly, only 5 of the recommended 20 commitments in the Compact have been fulfilled. We urge Government to redouble its efforts so that it can report full achievement of all 20 commitments at the next SWA high level meeting in Washington on 20 April 2012.

Second, strategic capacity improvements are urgently needed at the Environmental Health and Sanitation Directorate (EHSD) of the Ministry of Local Government and Rural Development and the Water Directorate (WD) of the Ministry of Water Resources, Works and Housing. The positions for the Director of Environmental Health and Sanitation, Director of Water, and the Chief Director of MWRWH need to be urgently confirmed. At the regional and MMDA levels, coordination needs to be strengthened. These strategic capacity improvements are necessary to enhance sector coherence, reinforce government's ownership of the sector and strengthen the confidence of DPs and other sector players for continued investment.

Third, DPs commend the current efforts at implementing the decentralisation policy. The MMDAs have developed their medium term strategic plans, the district water and sanitation plans and the District Environmental Sanitation Strategy and Action Plans (DESSAPs). DPs propose that adequate funds for water, sanitation and hygiene be channelled to the District Assembly Common Fund to enable MMDAs to finance the delivery of water, sanitation and hygiene services. In addition to finances, MMDAs need additional personnel in the water and sanitation related departments. And, these departments should be positioned close to executive decision making authority, given government's decision on water and sanitation as essential services.

Fourth, with the global economic crisis affecting the Official Development Assistance (ODA) budgets of many donor governments, there is growing realisation of the need to leverage additional internal resources through innovative Public-Private Partnerships (PPP). DPs are willing to work with the government to facilitate PPPs to support the implementation of the sectoral plans.

Finally, in the past one year, there has been considerable debate on the status of water and sanitation as a single sector. These calls indicate that there is a need to critically review the structure and composition of the sector and its institutions. We propose that the government clarifies its position on these issues and lead a strategic dialogue among sector partners to reach concrete agreements that will remove ambiguities and provide focus and harmony.

Nana Chairman, Your Excellency, the Vice President, distinguished participants let me conclude by wishing the government of Ghana and sector partners a fruitful NESCON 2011, a successful implementation of the agreements that will be reached and a prosperous 2012.

I thank you for your attention.

Annex 2.4 Address Delivered by Ms Ruby Sandhu-Rojon, UN Resident Coordinator, Ghana

Your Excellency the Vice President
 Honorable Minister of Local Government and Rural Development
 Regional Minister for Ashanti Region
 King of Ashanti
 Distinguished Guests
 Ladies and Gentlemen

Barely three years away from the MDG deadline of 2015, we are still living in a world where four out of every ten people do not have access to even a simple pit latrine; and nearly two in ten have no source of safe drinking water. In such an environment, achieving the Millennium Development Goal 7 target to “halve, by 2015, the proportion of the population without sustainable access to safe drinking water and basic sanitation” becomes a formidable challenge. Every year millions of people, most of them children, die from diseases associated with inadequate water supply, sanitation, and hygiene. According to the World Health Organization, each and every day some 3,900 children die because of dirty water or poor hygiene. Diseases transmitted through water or human excrement are the second-leading cause of death among children worldwide. Water scarcity, poor water quality, and inadequate sanitation have a negative impact across all MDGs affecting food security, the dignity and well-being of women and girls, livelihood choices, and educational opportunities for poor families across the world.

In light of this critical and untenable situation, the United Nations General Assembly last year declared access to water and sanitation as a human right. The General Assembly resolution was later confirmed unanimously by the Human Rights Council. This is a very positive development and should have a substantial impact on the water and sanitation sector. In 160 countries in all regions of the world, citizens are now entitled to demand water and sanitation services from their governments. In turn, governments have an obligation to heed those demands and address the inequalities which exist today.

On behalf of the UN Country Team, I am glad to say that Ghana has fully embraced the MDG agenda and has recognized that all MDGs are achievable – whenever supported by the right set of enabling elements, including targeted technical assistance, institutional capacity, adequate funding and strong political commitment. Ghana has also demonstrated its ability to succeed by achieving MDG 1 – reducing extreme poverty by half – and a number of other MDGs, although regional disparities remain.

Ghana has already achieved the MDG target for drinking water. However, the MDG sanitation target 7c is hugely off-track. At the current level of 13% for adequate sanitation, coverage will have to increase by more than five times to meet the MDG target of 54%.

In view of this alarming situation, Ghana has firmly established sanitation as a top priority of the national development agenda. This is further confirmed by strategic initiatives such as the Water and Sanitation Sector Strategic Development Plan, the National Environmental Sanitation Strategy and Action Plan, and the MDG Acceleration Framework on Sanitation.

The MDG Acceleration Framework – or MAF – has been introduced recently by the United Nations as a practical tool to boost progress on specific MDGs and MDG targets. Its strength lies in focusing on interventions that provide quick wins and potential for up-scaling and country-wide replication.

The MAF Action Plan on Sanitation, developed by the Ministry of Local Government and Rural Development in collaboration with the UN Country Team, does not replace existing strategies and initiatives in the sanitation sector. . Rather, it supports agreed national priorities and builds on ongoing interventions that have the potential to prompt a large percentage of households to adopt improved sanitation. As such, the MAF is directly linked to the Ghana Shared Growth and Development Agenda 2010-2013 and reflects the Government of Ghana and Development Partners’ renewed focus on supporting water and sanitation as a key area of programming over the next years.

As a tool that rallies partners behind some of the most promising initiatives for achieving the MDGs, the MAF Action Plan is fully aligned with the theme of this year’s NESCON which highlights the importance of bringing together all stakeholders so that we can jointly close the sanitation gap and meet the MDG sanitation target.

“Go Sanitation Go”, Ghana’s chosen slogan for the MAF Action Plan, highlights the need to quickly accelerate progress so that Ghana can become the first sub-Saharan country to attain the MDG target for sanitation.

The MAF Action Plan concentrates on three specific areas of intervention:

1. Community-Led Total Sanitation (CLTS)
2. A targeted micro-finance credit scheme to support household latrine construction, and
3. Provision of a decentralised treatment and disposal system which incorporates re-use of by-products such as biogas.

The mutually reinforcing nature of these interventions should further increase the impact of the MAF Action Plan.

The declaration of water and sanitation as a human right and the launch of a 5 Year Drive for Sanitation by the United Nations to achieve MDG 7 are integral parts of the global effort to call attention to sanitation and galvanise broad-based support. I am therefore glad to see that the NESCON programme includes presentations on the key messages we need to get across to all partners and the general population so that sanitation features high on each and everyone’s agenda.

Only recently, His Excellency John Agyekum Kuffour, former President of Ghana, was appointed as the first Chair of another important initiative, the Sanitation and Water for All Partnership. On behalf of the UN Country Team I would like to congratulate Ghana on this accomplishment which, in turn, increases expectations that Ghana will meet the MDG target for sanitation and fulfil its Sanitation and Water for All Compact commitment of providing more than USD350 million annually for sanitation and water services.

Excellencies, Distinguished Guests, Ladies and Gentlemen: Coming together here today we might ask ourselves, why is it that, in the year 2011, 2.6 billion people don't have a proper toilet. Many experts have tried to answer this question, and clearly there is not one single answer. Certainly, it is difficult to expand sanitation services in pace with rapid population growth. However, all the experts agree that strong public awareness and education, combined with targeted policies and, above all, the political will to tackle this challenge, can ensure that this basic human need – which is now recognized as a basic and universal human right – is fulfilled for every single person in the world. .

Thank you.

Annex 2.5 Key Note Address Delivered by Hon. Samuel K. Ofosu-Ampofo, Minister, MLGRD

**MR. Chairman,
Hon. Minister for Local Government and Rural Development
Hon. Ministers of State,
Hon. Metropolitan, Municipal and District Chief Executives,
Chief Directors present,
Development Partners,
Directors and Heads of Ministries, Departments and Agencies
Nananom
Distinguished Participants
Invited Guests,
The Media
Ladies and Gentlemen,**

I wish to first and foremost express my gratitude to the organizers of this conference for the opportunity granted me to be part of this very important conference which seeks to provide the platform for sector players to dialogue on a very important issue that confronts us as a nation.

There is no doubt that environmental sanitation particularly solid wastes, excreta and sullage/storm-water management continue to be major challenges to our development effort with its social, economic and public health consequences.

The theme for this Conference “Enhancing Public Private Partnerships for Effective Environmental Sanitation Services - the Role of Stakeholders” cannot only be said to be most appropriate but also timely in view of the current state of environmental sanitation in the country and the fact that Government alone cannot manage the situation. The National Sanitation Week celebration is a programme to undertake nationwide clean up exercises in our communities and intensify education and awareness raising on sanitation and hygiene.

I wish to urge all Metropolitan, Municipal and District Assemblies to take the necessary measures to ensure that the required impacts are achieved.

Mr. Chairman, distinguished participants, Ladies and Gentlemen, H.E the President, Professor Evans Atta Mills, has expressed great concern over the way and manner our communities are being engulfed with waste especially plastic waste and the general attitude of the citizenry towards basic sanitation and hygiene. That poor environmental sanitation is an important dimension of poverty is not in doubt; the burden of diseases and related hardships on the population (for example, the dislocations due to the recent floods) require urgent attention by all in dealing with them.

Distinguished Ladies and Gentlemen, despite the huge investments that go into the sector from Government, MMDAs and Development Partners, little impact seems to be made in terms of cleanliness on our streets, markets, open spaces and places of convenience.

It is sad to note that at this age of our nation’s history only 13% of us have access to improved latrines and less than 30% of our solid waste is managed with the rest thrown into drains and open spaces. The perennial floods in our cities and towns during rains requires that, drastic measures such as strict enforcement of national and Assemblies byelaws on sanitation and the provision of the needed resources and infrastructure to reverse the situation are needed.

Mr. Chairman, this is not to say that progress has not been made, what is required is doubling our efforts since environmental sanitation which includes waste management has direct correlation with population growth and Urbanization. With the increasing population and urbanization, waste management will continue to be a problem if effective and innovative measures are not put in place to address it. It is therefore refreshing that this platform exists and I urge the Ministry of Local Government to sustain it as an annual affair.

The Ministry of Local Government and Rural Development has put in place the required Policy, institutional and implementation frameworks to address the challenges confronting the sector. What are needed now are the collective efforts of all sector players and stakeholders to bring about the required improvements.

Ladies and gentlemen, one area that I will appreciate to be discussed at this conference is how to institute mechanisms of waste avoidance, minimization, recycling, recovery, appropriate licensing, collection and storage requirements as well as environmentally sound treatment and disposal of problematic waste streams particularly plastic waste. This is so in view of the fact that increasingly land is becoming a big challenge in our cities for land filling not forgetting the “NIMBY” (Not in my back yard) syndrome which is posing a big problem for MMDAs. Effective management of the waste streams can also be an avenue for job creation, reduction in poverty and an improvement in the quality life of the population.

Madam Chairperson, Distinguished Invited Guests, Ladies and Gentlemen, I am aware of the many challenges that face municipalities with regards to waste services, but the need to expand delivery of the solid waste services sector will require, amongst others, greater efficiency of fiscal mechanisms and a clear strategy to improve operating efficiencies to secure financial sustainability.

Cabinet has recommended the legislation of the polluter pays principle as part of the recently approved revised environmental sanitation policy. The Ministry of Local Government must take steps to ensure that the principle goes through the required legislative processes to make it enforceable since it will provide an opportunity for waste generators to contribute to sustainable financing of waste management services and not make it the sole responsibility of Government and MMDAs. I am reliably informed that BUSAC has agreed to finance the process for which we are grateful to them.

Mr. Chairman, distinguished participants, the Media, Ladies and Gentlemen, permit me to extend Government’s appreciation to all Developments, NGOs, the Private sector and all stakeholders who have contributed and continue to contribute in various ways in bringing the environmental sanitation sector this far.

Though the list is long, my special thanks go to UNICEF, WaterAid, the Canadian International Development Agency (CIDA), DANIDA, The Kingdom of Netherlands, World Bank, AFD, European Union and Zoomlion among many others.

Many thanks also go to all who in diverse ways have ensured the successful organization of this conference and call on you to continue to support and sustain it.

Madam Chairperson, Distinguished participants, Ladies and Gentlemen, it is my singular honour at this juncture to declare the 2011 National Environmental Sanitation Conference, National Sanitation Week and the Country’s 5-year drive on sanitation duly launched.

Thank you and have very fruitful deliberations.

May the Almighty God Richly Bless Us All.

8. ANNEX 3: LIST OF PARTICIPANTS

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**2nd NATIONAL ENVIRONMENTAL SANITATION CONFERENCE
NESCON 2011
8th DECEMBER 2010
(GOLDEN TULIP, KUMASI CITY)**

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