

POLICY BRIEF



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GOVERNANCE TO SUPPORT INTEGRATED WATER MANAGEMENT IN SOLOMON ISLANDS: ASSESSMENT OF INSTRUMENTS SUPPORTING INTEGRATION BETWEEN WASH AND WATER RESOURCES MANAGEMENT



RESEARCH PURPOSE

This policy brief summarises the key findings of a Masters research project completed in 2019 by Richard Molea, supervised by Dr Regina Souter. **The project aimed to assess whether the existing governance instruments used to govern water resources management (WRM), and water supply, sanitation and hygiene (WASH) in the Solomon Islands, are designed to support integrated governance and management across these activities.**

RECOMMENDATIONS

1. The lack of coherence and coordination between instruments is a critical deficiency across all instruments. It is recommended that the updating of individual instruments should involve awareness and review of related instruments. This process may need to involve recommendations for revisions to related instruments to improve integration.
2. In particular, it is seen that most legislations are weak, outdated and lack a mechanism for integration. It is recommended these legislations are updated and reviewed to meet increasing development aspirations. This can be achieved through water committees.
3. Most policies do not capture the SDGs and NDS to drive policy changes. It is recommended that policies must align with the main international and national government goals through incorporating and capturing policies from documents such as the SDGs and NDS.
4. Most of the instruments do have a recommendation to information-sharing between ministries. It is recommended that key line ministries should have policies on how and when to share information such as data with each other.
5. It is evident that many instruments individually support some integration, but as a collective group of instruments, they do not support integration. It is recommended that a thorough review should be conducted of how instruments are developed, to ensure coherence and coordination between instruments during the development process.
6. The research only focuses on a stated objective for integration. further research is required to identify 'what' is integrated and 'how'.

BACKGROUND

WRM and WASH are interconnected, influence each other and are integral to sustainable development, as indicated by the interconnected SDG6 targets relating to WASH and WRM. This is especially important in Pacific Island countries where government capacities and resources are stretched, and coordination and cooperation are critical to avoiding duplication and misdirected investment. This research sought to assess the current state of water governance in the Solomon Islands (SI), with a focus on whether governance instruments (policies, guidelines, regulations) encourage integration of WASH management and WRM.

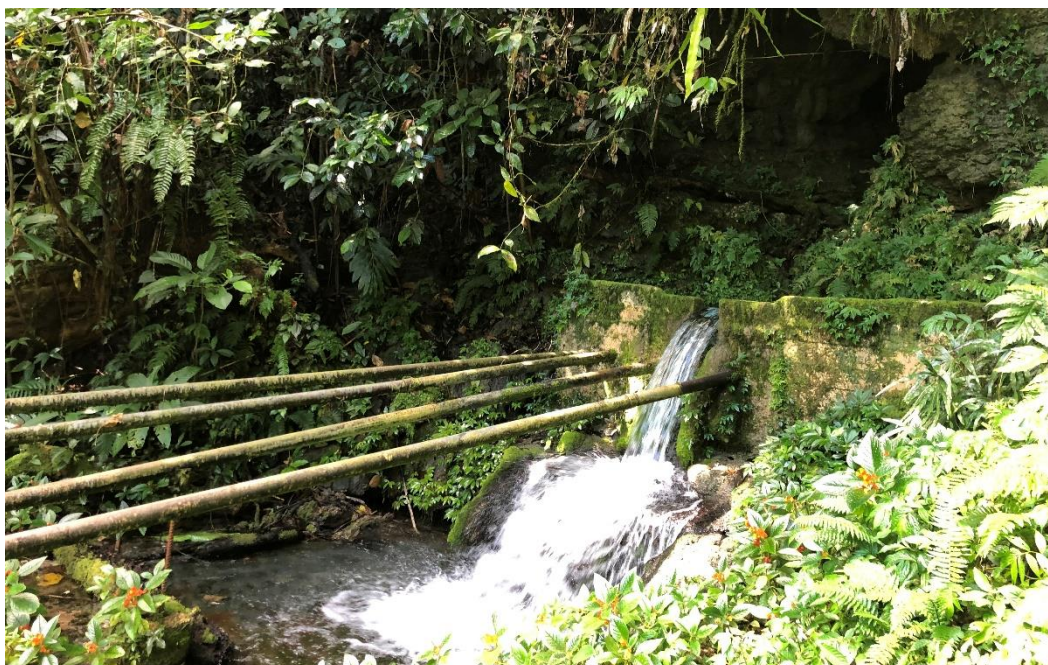
In the Solomon Islands, in 2016, 67% of the national population had access to basic water and 35% had access to basic sanitation (JMP, washdata.org). In line with SDG6, the Solomon Islands Government established a target to ensure universal access to water and sanitation by 2024 (SIG, 2016). SDG6 is comprised of 8 targets linked together in recognition that different aspects of water management, including water resources and WASH, are interconnected by the water cycle, and that these activities influence each other. SDG6 indicates that integrated water management is necessary to ensure all SDG6 targets can be achieved (UN-Water, 2016).

As in many countries, in Solomon Islands, the management of different aspects of water is conducted by different sections of the government, and WRM and WASH governance involves several different ministries. Local stakeholders believe the lack of integration between ministries and departments, as well as

between national and local level management, combined with weak accountability of politicians and decision-makers, has led to ineffective governance instruments and implementation of WRM and WASH (Low, 2011). The literature indicates that the governance of WASH in the Solomon Islands has significant deficiencies; effective coordination, finance, regulation and planning, information sharing and compliance in monitoring and reporting are the main characteristics that would enable integration between WASH and WRM but are currently lacking (Water Aid, 2016). Governance instruments, such as policies, plans, regulations and guidelines, play a significant role in influencing how governance happens in practice and also affecting the integration between WRM and WASH. Although whether instruments are in fact used, and how way they used, affects their potential to support integration, the instruments should at least be designed to support and encourage integration.

Furthermore, when these instruments are outdated and institutional frameworks and arrangements are not harmonised, there is weak and ineffective coordination between agencies.

Improving and updating the deficiencies in the governance instruments to complement each other is crucial for integration. The objective of this research was to assess the instruments that are used in governing WASH and WRM in the Solomon Islands, for their potential to support integration between these two critical aspects of water management.



METHODS

The research involved a desktop analysis of governance instruments, relating to WASH and WRM in the Solomon Islands. This was supported by a broader (global) review of the literature describing the integration of WRM and WASH through governance instruments, to identify the attributes of policies, strategies and other instruments that help to enable and improve integration between WASH and WRM.

The literature on governance instruments and their effectiveness indicated that different types of governance instruments require different characteristics to support the integration of WRM and WASH.

Five types of instruments were identified:

- Policies
- Strategies and Plans

- Legislation and Regulations
- Guidelines
- Technical Manuals and Standard Operating Procedures.

To ensure the assessment of governance instruments was rigorous, systematic and systemic, a framework was used to guide the assessment process. Through the literature review process, no existing frameworks were identified that are designed to assess the potential for governance instruments to encourage the integration of WRM and WASH. In response, through this research project, such a framework was developed, and the instruments were assessed using the framework displayed in table 1 below.

TABLE 1: FRAMEWORK DESCRIBING CHARACTERISTICS OF INSTRUMENTS TO ENABLE INTEGRATION OF WRM AND WASH MANAGEMENT

Type of Instruments	Characteristics of instruments to enable integration of WRM and WASH management
Policies	<p>Characteristics of the collection of policies that exist:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Consistency across different policy documents from related ministries, departments and institutions from the water sector and in describing WRM and WASH priorities and needs. 2. Coherence in sector policies where all activities required and relevant to WRM and WASH are addressed and are identified in at least one of these policies. 3. Inconsistency because of duplication as there might be overlapping WRM and WASH activities between different policies. 4. Clear actions that translate practical deliverable outcomes <p>Characteristics of each policy:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Policy development gains consultative inputs involving all actors such as ministries, departments and women from WRM and WASH. 2. The policy identifies and acknowledges both WRM and WASH priorities (even if their objective is to progress either WASH or WRM) 3. Potential linkages, overlaps and trade-offs with other policies are identified 4. Different agencies and organisations roles and responsibilities are clearly defined to actively engage (check the table with ministry's roles) 5. Finances are well-targeted, coordinated and disbursed to the actions in the policy and meet funders expectations 6. Government funding is adequately allocated for all and expectations of beneficiaries' contributions are addressed. 7. To be accountable, the policy must describe how and to whom the policy implementers must report progress and outcomes to include all line ministries and institutions that are linked to WRM and WASH. 8. Information sharing is described clearly in the policy to ensure relevant data and information will be shared with other ministries, how and when this will happen. 9. Capacity building objectives and activities are described clearly in the policy for enhancing both the knowledge relating to understanding links between WRM and WASH and the skills to support integration actions, 10. There is an intention to monitor the effectiveness of integration.

	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 11. Coordination mechanisms between different ministries, agencies and organizations are clearly described to monitor the coordination process. 12. The coordination activities that are described in the policy are sufficient and effective in terms of how the coordination activities will be implemented and whether they're going to work. 13. The policy clearly described and identify the roles of other policies, plans, strategies and agencies.
Strategies and plans	<p>Characteristics of the collection of strategies and plans that exist:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Consistency across different strategy and planning documents from related ministries, departments and institutions from the water sector in describing WRM and WASH priorities and needs. 2. Coherence in sector strategies and plans where all activities required and relevant to WRM and WASH are addressed and are identified in at least one of these documents. 3. Inconsistency because of duplication - overlapping and inconsistent of WRM and WASH activities between different plans and strategies 4. Procedures for proper coordination of WRM and WASH activities <p>Characteristics of each strategy or plan:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Plan and strategy were developed through inputs involving all actors such as ministries, departments and women from WRM and WASH. 2. The plans and strategies identify and acknowledge both WRM and WASH priorities (even if their objective is to progress either WASH or WRM) 3. The roles and responsibilities of different ministries and institutions are clearly defined, to enable active engagement in the implementation 4. Coordination mechanisms between different ministries and institutions are clearly described to monitor the coordination process. 5. The content and process of Information sharing between ministries and institutions are described clearly in the plans and strategies to ensure relevant data and information will be shared with other ministries and institutions. 6. The coordination activities that are described in the plans and strategies are sufficient and effective in terms of how the coordination activities will be implemented and whether they're likely to work. 7. Capacity building objectives and activities are described clearly and includes enhancing both the knowledge relating to understanding links between WRM and WASH, and the skills to practically integrate WASH and WRM as relevant to the plan/strategy. 8. The plans and strategies describe how and to whom the implementers must report progress and outcomes, including all line ministries and institutions that are linked to WRM and WASH. 9. Reporting includes assessment of the effectiveness of coordination and integration, and capacity building activities. 10. Sources of finance are identified, are aligned to the planned actions and there is a described approach to disbursement. This should include identifying any expectations of beneficiaries' contributions are address.
Legislation – Laws	<p>Characteristics of the collection of legislations or laws that exist:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. The legislation, as a collection, describe all required governance mechanisms to address the WRM and WASH activities 2. Coherence and consistency between legislations in terminologies and intentions <p>Characteristics of each law or regulation:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. The purpose of the legislation concerning to WRM and WASH is clearly defined 2. A whole-of-government approach is specified and the roles and responsibilities of all government ministries are specified 3. Regularly review and amended across all laws related to WRM and WASH to ensure consistency 4. The process to review the law/regulation describes how input from other actors within the water sector will be achieved 5. The legislation describes effective compliance for strong partnership and resource sharing through integration 6. Legislations promote sector alignment of technical design for services provided and engagement
Guidelines	<p>Characteristics of the collection of guidelines that exist:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Guidelines that cover all major activities about how to do specific actions relating to WRM or WASH 2. Each ministry has guidelines that advice to external actors/organisations about what the government expects from them if they intend to do some actions relating to WRM or WASH

	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> Each ministry has guidelines for collecting data and measuring results consistently from all line stakeholders in WRM and WASH so that each one is accountable to the other Each ministry has shared guidelines that ensure a common understanding of WRM and WASH problems and an integrated approach to address through agreed procedures and action <p>Characteristics of each guideline:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> Ensures the process and procedure for integration between WRM and WASH is clearly stated Potential links and coordination on overlaps and trade-offs in the goals and actions that exist between WRM and WASH Mechanisms are in place to ensure guidelines actions and procedures are linked and collaborate within the water and sanitation sector Provides effective supporting guidelines that support aligned activities among WRM and WASH
Procedures and Technical Manuals	<p>Characteristics of each standard operating procedure (SOP) and technical manuals:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> Identify the potential overlaps in the procedures and processes that exist between WRM and WASH for integration Describe the procedures each guideline that enables collaboration within the water and sanitation sector Each SOP and manual describe a process for regular review through collaboration with all actors in the different ministries Each ministry carried out its guiding activities according to SOP and manuals Provide effective supporting procedures and guidelines that support aligned activities among WRM and WASH Provision for different activities of WRM and WASH being coordinated through integrated procedures and guidelines Consistency across different SOP and Manuals documents from related ministries, departments and institutions from the water sector and in describing how to conduct WRM and WASH activities Coherence in SOP and manuals where all procedures required and relevant to WRM and WASH are addressed and are identified in at least one of these documents

The assessment of WRM and WASH government instruments (in their potential to support integration) involved the following steps:

- Identifying and selecting governance instruments.** Multiple search methods were used to find the relevant literature. Documents were sought through literature databases, such as Web of Science, Google Scholar, government websites and stakeholder contacts. The documents selected were focused on water resource management and water supply, and sanitation and hygiene governance instruments, such as policies, plans, strategies, laws and regulations that support integration.
- Categorising instruments.** The governance instruments were categorised into five types, as represented in the framework above.
- Analysing each instrument, using the framework developed above.** The extent to which the instrument satisfied the characteristic was scored, using the following scale:

Score 1 = significant deficiencies in meeting the characteristic

Score 2 = some deficiencies in meeting this characteristic

Score 3 = meets this characteristic.

This enabled a total score for each instrument to be calculated; this was converted to a percentage, representing the proportion of characteristics each instrument satisfied, to allow comparisons between different types of instruments. A score of 100% would indicate the instrument had all the characteristics to support the integrated governance of WRM and WASH.

- Analysing each group of instruments (by their type) using the framework above.** The same scoring approach used in (c) above was used to score the extent to which each group of instruments satisfied each characteristic; the percentage score represents the proportion of characteristics that the collection of instruments adequately satisfied.

KEY FINDINGS

1. Characteristics of instruments to support the integration of governance of WASH with the governance of WRM

Across the literature describing water governance, a range of attributes and characteristics of policies, strategies and other instruments that enable and improve integration between WASH and WRM are mentioned. No existing framework of characteristics of governance instruments that encourage integrated WRM and WASH governance could be identified. Some literature identified characteristics that exist in examples of good governance instruments, but more usually, literature identified characteristics that are missing, using examples of inadequate governance instruments.

From these dispersed analyses of governance, a range of characteristics was identified and used to formulate a framework for this assessment. For each of the five types of instruments, a range of 4 to 13 characteristics that encourage integrated governance were identified. Some characteristics are common to different types of instruments, but many are unique to the specific type of instrument.

It was also clear from the literature that different characteristics of different governance instruments are required to support the integration of WASH and WRM, as different instruments have different ways of working. As shown in Table 1, some characteristics relate to each instrument and some relate to the group of instruments separately.

2. Identification of governance instruments of Solomon Islands, relating to WASH and WRM

A total of 17 instruments were identified as currently being used in the governance of WRM and WASH, indicating the complexity of governance arrangements. One reason for a large number of instruments could be that each instrument has a focused mandate. This reinforces the need for mechanisms for integration and coordination to be identified within instruments.

3. Assessment of governance instruments of Solomon Islands, relating to WASH and WRM

The assessments of existing instruments using the above framework to support integrated WRM and WASH are summarised below:

POLICIES

The results in Table 2 show that all policies have at least 60% of the characteristics to support integration. This may be correlated with the relatively recent date of development of these policies. The characteristics of the policy instruments that needs strengthening and improvement are finance, effective coordination, and information sharing.

It is evident from Table 2 that the collection of policies as a group score poorly, as they account for 33%, but the policies identified indicate there are no policies below 60% that support integration. Almost all the policies are relevant and recent, so they meet some of the characteristics that enable and support integration.

TABLE 2: SUMMARY ASSESSMENT OF **POLICY** INSTRUMENTS WITH REGARD TO THEIR POTENTIAL TO SUPPORT INTEGRATION OF WASH AND WRM GOVERNANCE.

Instruments Type	Score %	Comments – weakness and gaps
All policies as a group	33%	It was evident that there is consistency and linkage in most of the policies. However, monitoring and implementation needs improvement due to finance and human resources.
Policy 1 - National Water Resources and Sanitation Policy 2017	83%	Effective consultation through the NIWCC is important to monitor and ensure the governance process of the policy is implemented. Finance may not be adequate for the implementation process; commitment is important, as is political will to support this policy.
Policy 2 – Rural Water Supply, Sanitation and Hygiene Policy 2014	70%	The lack of awareness of WASH is a challenge as is finding the resources to maintain the systems. Proper hygiene behaviour training and sanitation awareness is key to policy implementation. Effective coordination must be enhanced.
Policy 3 – Climate Change Policy 2012	76%	Understanding the linkage between WASH and WRM must improve, thus mainstreaming CC into other policies. Effective coordination and budgetary support are needed for effective implementation of this policy.
Policy 4 – Draft National Water Policy 2007	63%	This draft water policy lacks a sanitation component as it focuses more on sustainable water management. The lack of funding and wider consultation prevented this policy from being endorsed.

TABLE 3: SUMMARY ASSESSMENT OF **STRATEGIES AND PLANNING** INSTRUMENTS WITH REGARD TO THEIR POTENTIAL TO SUPPORT INTEGRATION OF WASH AND WRM GOVERNANCE.

Instrument type	Score %	Comments – weakness and gaps
All strategies and plans as a group	33%	All the strategies and plans must strengthen the procedures for effective implementation. The roles and responsibility of those involved to implement the strategies and plans must also be clear.
S&P 1 - National Development Strategy 2016-2035	80%	There may be the political will to drive most sector plans and strategies. However, limited finance, and lack of coordination, monitoring and reporting are some of the areas that need improvement and strengthening. Reporting and information sharing is also not efficient.
S&P 2 – National Adaptation Plan of Action	73%	The priority sectors that are impacted by CC are targeted in this national plan of action. As it covers almost all sectors, mainstreaming climate change into sectoral policies and planning is lacking. Review of the plan is a must to ensure effective coordination.
S&P 3 – National Infrastructure Investment Plan 2013	70%	Strategic planning, prioritisation and implementation is a challenge for this plan. Proper and effective coordination and adequate planning and commitment are lacking for infrastructure development. Fair budget allocation and compliance must be updated and reviewed regularly.

STRATEGIES & PLANS

All the strategies and plans indicate some characteristics that support linkage and integration, but they all require some strengthening.

The NDS (National Development Strategy, 2016-2035) is the most recent, and it is an overarching strategy that links all policies, strategies and plans (Table 3). The NDS needs the political will and sufficient finance to drive it forward, as it will impact other sector improvements as well. Some of the gaps in the other strategies can still be seen in the NDS, which indicates it needs to be strengthened through monitoring and proper planning.

Looking at the strategies and plans, it is clear that proper procedures as to whom implementers will report about progress and outcomes must be enhanced. These are national strategies and plans, so clear roles and responsibilities of institutions, finance to fund the activities and proper planning and effective coordination are required. The challenge is to have more effective governance derived from the existing institutions and mechanisms.

LEGISLATION

Even though they have some potential to support integration of WASH and WRM, the assessment of governance legislation (as shown in Table 4) indicates that almost all legislation is outdated and ineffective, with most of the clauses spelling out actions and activities no longer relevant. This legislation is related to the key sectors that link WASH and WRM and each depends on or is impacted by the others. For example, the Land and Titles Act 1969 deals with water rights with landowners, as most of the land is traditionally owned. Land rights must be settled before the Solomon Islands Water Authority Act 1992 can build water supply systems.

It is also evident from Table 4 that the key sectors or resources that link with water can be identified. These key resources are land, forestry and environment, because they connect water and support water resources. It is therefore important that these legislative instruments are updated and improved to enable more integration and linkages in their mandates to protect, sustain, conserve and develop water resources and the related

resources. Instructions on information sharing are lacking. This legislation, identified as a group, lacks integration, because there is no collaborative mechanism that links each instrument. The 13% score for support of integration as a collection of instruments indicates a lack of integration, and most of the instruments are old and outdated.

GUIDELINES

Table 5 shows the most appropriate and relevant guidelines that deal with water resources and sanitation. Community engagement is one of the most important participatory processes in WASH and WRM implementation. Engagement in the community and schools is the basis for WASH intervention. Table 5 shows that the two sets of guidelines were made within a year of each other, which indicates an important principle in governance: that community or stakeholder engagement must come before policy formulation.

STANDARD OPERATION PROCEDURES AND TECHNICAL MANUALS

This is important even though there is only one SOP or technical manual because it could reflect others that were not examined for this research. This is the most recent SOP and one that relates to WASH. The RWASH Design and Construction Standards (Table 6) indicates the construction design for WASH sanitation and water supply. The potential for integration is that it links the standards to the NDS. It also indicates that there are old documents that are no longer in use. As a new standard of design, it provides an overview of the RWASH framework and how it features in other regulations and strategic objectives (RWASH Design and Construction Standards, 2017).

The results indicate significant deficiencies in the outdated instruments and a few of the new and recent instruments. Effective coordination, finance, regulation and planning, information sharing and compliance in monitoring and reporting are the main characteristics that enable integration between WASH and WRM (Water Aid, 2016). The results show that some of these characteristics are lacking or ineffective, and need improvement to enhance coordination. This must be done through an integrated approach with effective institutional mechanisms in place.

TABLE 4: SUMMARY ASSESSMENT OF **LEGISLATION** INSTRUMENTS WITH REGARD TO THEIR POTENTIAL TO SUPPORT INTEGRATION OF WASH AND WRM GOVERNANCE

Instrument type	Score %	Comments – weakness and gaps
All legislation as a group	13%	Most of the legislation must be updated and improved in order to properly address WASH and WRM issues. The coherence and consistency of the acts needs strengthening.
L1 – River Water Act 1969	53%	The measures for watershed control and equitable use are only applied to few rivers. The Act only links to the Land and Titles Act. The Act needs a thorough review to capture all related natural resources.
L2 – Lands and Titles Act 1969	43%	Only acquires land for water development but does not have a clause to protect water on land to show a linkage to water management. Land underpins everything so it should be integrated with all other sectors. Lacks integration and is outdated.
L3 – Forestry Act 1969	46%	Links to water and environment but lacks coordination; covers mainly exploitation of forest resources. Effective planning and reporting are lacking. An old act that needs to be updated.
L4 – Environment Health Act and Provincial Ordinance 1998	56%	The effectiveness and coordination for securing and maintaining environmental health are weak. Lack of instructions on information sharing and coordinated collaboration among provinces, and budget allocation appears to be inadequate.
L5 – Solomon Islands Water Authority Act 1992	53%	This legislation does not cover all urban centres. It is also evident that finance is a challenge to meet its aims. The Act lacks linkage to other sectors. Coordination and integration are lacking at times.
L6 – Draft Water Resources Act 2006	66%	This legislation recognises and realises the enabling environment for IWRM and its linkage to other sector legislation. More awareness and consultation are needed.
L7 – Environment Act 1998	60%	Pollution is a challenge and the legislation indicates and recognises the need for improved legislative mechanisms to

TABLE 5: SUMMARY ASSESSMENT OF **GUIDELINE** INSTRUMENTS WITH REGARD TO THEIR POTENTIAL TO SUPPORT INTEGRATION OF WASH AND WRM GOVERNANCE

Instrument type	Score%	Comments – weakness and gaps
All guidelines as a group	30%	The percentage score indicates the difference from the relevant legislation due to the fact that the two guidelines are more recent. Having strict guidelines to monitor data collection and ensure NGOs and other organisations follow them when they want to work in WASH and WRM would ensure coherence in implementing activities and actions.
G1 – RWASH Community Engagement Guidelines 2014	70%	The linkage between WASH and WRM must be clearly explained to the communities. Effective coordination and planning must be strengthened for community awareness. Adequate finance must be allocated and commitment must be enhanced. Monitoring must be strengthened.
G2 – WASH in Schools Policies and Guidelines 2015	73%	The document does not provide effective guidelines that support and align activities among WRM and WASH in schools. Capacity building that links WASH and other sector guidelines to understand the linkage of WASH and hygiene for girls must be enhanced.

TABLE 6: SUMMARY ASSESSMENT OF STANDARD OPERATIONAL PROCEDURES AND TECHNICAL MANUALS INSTRUMENTS WITH REGARD TO THEIR POTENTIAL TO SUPPORT INTEGRATION OF WASH AND WRM GOVERNANCE.

Instrument type	Score %	Comments – weakness and gaps
SOP & TM1 – RWASH Design and Construction Standards 2017	70%	This SOP links NDS and improves coordination to ensure there are regular reviews of the overlaps in design procedures. The RWASH framework was factored in and it fits well into other related sector standards, regulations and strategies objectives. However, awareness of the standards needs to be improved.

CONCLUSIONS

The desktop analysis found that 11 ministries are involved in WRM and WASH governance, with 3 key ministries having major responsibilities. The 17 governance instruments included policies, strategies and plans, legislation and regulations, guidelines, and standard operating procedures and technical manuals.

None of the individual instruments had all the characteristics to support the integration of WASH and WRM. However, most of them had many of the characteristics to support integration: 12 instruments had more than 60% of the recommended characteristics, and only 5 had less than 60%.

All the individual instruments, apart from the legislative instruments, had more than 60% of the characteristics, indicating they had some potential to support integrated WASH and WRM. However, most of the legislation needed updating: 5 of 7 legislative instruments had less than 60% of the characteristics to support integrated WASH and WRM. For these legislative instruments, the most common deficiencies related to lack of recognition of links between land and water, insufficient instruction of information-sharing to support coordination, and inadequacies in monitoring, reporting and accountability.

Even though there was potential for integration according to the above assessment of the individual instruments, when each group of instruments was assessed collectively, fewer of the characteristics supporting integration were present. The collection of policies had only 33% of the characteristics to support integration; the same result was observed for the collection of strategies and plans. The collection of legislation had only 13% of the characteristics for integration, and the guidelines had only 30%. These results indicate a lack of coordination and coherence across instruments during their development.

All governance instruments could be improved in terms of their design to support integrated WASH and WRM governance. Specifically, the following key recommendations have been developed based on this research:

RECOMMENDATIONS

The research findings indicate recommendations to improve the governance instruments:

- 1) The lack of coherence and coordination between instruments is a critical deficiency across all instruments. It is recommended that the updating of individual instruments should involve awareness and review of related instruments. This process may need to involve recommendations for revisions to related instruments to improve integration.
- 2) In particular, it is seen that most legislations are weak, outdated and lack a mechanism for integration. It is recommended these legislations are updated and reviewed to meet increasing development aspirations. This can be achieved through water committees.
- 3) Most policies do not capture the SDGs and NDS to drive policy changes. It is recommended that policies must align with the main international and national government goals through incorporating and capturing policies from documents such as the SDGs and NDS.

- 4) Most of the instruments do have a recommendation to information-sharing between ministries. It is recommended that key line ministries should have policies on how and when to share information such as data with each other.
- 5) It is evident that many instruments individually support some integration, but as a collective group of instruments, they do not support integration. It is recommended that a thorough review should be conducted of how instruments are developed, to ensure coherence and coordination between instruments during the development process.
- 6) The research only focuses on a stated objective for integration. further research is required to identify 'what' is integrated and 'how'.



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