

WASH – FRIENDLY SCHOOL PROCESS

RANO WASH participated in multiple national-level working sessions on improving the WASH-friendly process in schools. While the project still uses the WASH-Friendly process described in national guidelines, RANO WASH is testing some additions and modifications that ensure all actors, from regional to the school level, have a sense of ownership and are ready to take responsibility at each step. The focus is on improving technical and management support for WASH committee members, as these are the actors tasked with monitoring progress and ensuring schools meet standards. This was validated by the Ministry of Education (MoNE). RANO WASH’s next step will be implementation and advocacy for a national endorsement from the MoNE and other actors. Only schools that have demonstrated clear willingness and commitment to improving their WASH situation will be supported by the project to maximize available project resources and collective action

	Key step	Expected result	Activities by RANO WASH staff	Remarks
1	Engage local and regional actors in the WFS process	School managers (FEFFI) and Commune, as well as MoNE at district and regional level (CISCO and DREN) demonstrate willingness to support WFS process	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Inform on the WFS process and its importance - Clarify the roles and responsibilities of each actor to achieve the WFS status - Establish a partnership agreement between the school and RANO WASH, with Commune’s involvement as project owner (maître d’ouvrage) 	
2	Support the school (management staff or FEFFI ¹ , teachers, pupils, parents) and the Commune (through STEAH) to undertake an initial self-assessment of the school’s WASH situation	The school community and the Commune are aware of the WASH situation and decide to take action	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Facilitate an initial self-assessment of WASH situation: WASH behaviors and practices, access to WASH services and facilities, SWOT analysis, resources analysis - Facilitate restitutions of results to all stakeholders to allow feedbacks and strengthen ownership 	The self-assessment has two components: (i) WASH practices and behaviors, management and sustainability issues, (ii) situation in relation to water and sanitation facilities and technical studies
3	Support the setting up of a school WASH Committee	The WASH committee is set up at school level. It will work with the FEFFI and will focus on improving access to WASH services and practices within the school community. WASH committee is the key structure to lead the WFS process to achieve the WFS status.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Identification of key members within school community: teachers, parents, students, managers - Facilitate the definition of clear roles and responsibilities of committee members - Facilitate the development of an action plan to achieve WFS status 	STEAH, as well as district level authorities are always involved as much as possible through restitution, information sessions, etc.

¹ FEFFI (*Farimbon’Ezaka ho Fahombiazan’ny Fanabeazana eny Ifotony*) is the official management structure established in each public school in Madagascar since 2015

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4	Support the organization of training sessions for school WASH committee members and teachers	School WASH committee members have the organizational and managerial skills to lead the WFS process Teachers have the technical skills to integrate WASH messages and behavior change activities in the daily lessons for students	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Organize and hold training sessions for WASH committee members - Facilitate the organization of training sessions for teachers 	<p>Training sessions for WASH committee members can be conducted by project's staff using the handbook developed by MoNE</p> <p>Training sessions for teachers can only be done by trained trainers from the MoNE</p> <p>RANO WASH will support the MoNE to identify and train regional trainers, as well as improve the training curriculum</p>
5	Support the setting up of management - operations and maintenance plan of infrastructure	WASH committee members have the technical skills to operate and maintain WASH facilities, as well as management plan to ensure sustainability An operation and maintenance plan is available	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Organize and hold technical training for WASH facilities management, operation and maintenance - Support the development of a management, operation and maintenance plan 	The commune, as project owner, will play a big role in the discussions and the involvement for the operationalization of the management and maintenance plan
6	Support the construction or rehabilitation of WASH infrastructure (toilet, hand-washing system, shower...)	The school meets the required criteria in relation to access to water and sanitation facilities	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Support the school to develop a context-specific inclusive infrastructure plan - Support the school to construct or rehabilitate those infrastructures by mobilizing their own resources or partly fund the construction works 	Infrastructure construction or rehabilitation is not funded by RANO WASH in its entirety. The WASH committee, along with the FEFFI, are encouraged and supported to mobilize their own resources to improve their WASH facilities. RANO WASH will support part of the required facilities, including access to improved latrine, access to

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				safe water and handwashing devices.
7	Organize regular follow-up and technical support sessions to encourage the school to be able to self-proclaim as WFS	The school community practice WASH behaviors and use WASH facilities WASH Committee members use the management plan to make sure the facilities are always in good shape The school community self-proclaims as WFS	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Provide technical or organizational insights on how to manage WASH services and activities, including behavior change activities such as nudges, within the school - Organize regular follow-up with MoNE responsible at district and regional level - Encourage stakeholders to bring potential issues to be discussed within SLC 	

This process is specific for RANO WASH’s current support to schools as part of the WASH Friendly process. A similar process will be developed with the MoPH. However, the project is aware that the WASH-Friendly process requires high levels of advocacy to address issues related to sustainability of access to WASH services. As WASH in schools is not yet considered as priority, there is a lack of specific budget allotted to WASH expenses in FEFFI and Commune budget. Advocacy will need to work to negotiate increases in investment for schools, in parallel to the support listed above.