Using evidence to influence change on audit recommendation on WASH in schools in Sierra Leone

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Introduction

• Every child has right to quality education and conducive environment that enables them to fully learn and thrive.

• Part of these rights include access to safe-drinking Water, Sanitation and Hygiene (WASH) services while at school.

• WASH in schools is part of the Sustainable Development Goals (targets 4.a, 6.1, 6.2), which clearly shows it importance and increasing recognition as part of human development.
Schools without water supply facilities: 17% of the sampled schools (representing 6 out of the 35 schools visited) did not have water supply facilities. This scenario could expose 13,394 pupils to diseases related to poor sanitation and hygiene.

School Performance report 2018

- 29% (3,162) of schools do not have drinking water leaving approximately 574,917 pupils without drinking water.
- Of those that have drinking water, 18% do not have protected drinking water hence exposing approximately 292,613 to diseases related to lack of clean drinking water.

Education hub
(https://educationdatahub.dsti.gov.sl/education)
Scorecard development

Cartoon diagram was used to illustrate the information on both the performance audit and the school census.

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**School performance report**

29% (3,162) of schools do not have drinking water leaving approximately 574,917 pupils without drinking water—**Education hub**
The scorecard was given human face

The toilets were hardly clean and in addition to this, no hand washing facilities were found in most of the schools visited. - School Performance Audit - 2018
The use of the scorecard

• The scorecard which contain user friendly information was use to engage stakeholders on the effect of not implementing the audit recommendations on WASH in schools

• Information in the scorecard was use to develop position paper on the need for 15% of the school budget to be use for WASH

• It was use engage the general public as audit report are most time technical
Lesson learn

- Collaboration with Audit Service- This is done through providing complimentary data on their report and constructive engagement

- Giving the scorecard a human face help to bring citizen along the campaign

- Using government own data to collaborate it with the audit report bring credibility to the campaign and hence government full attention is draw to the issue

- Form coalition with other CSOs working on similar issues (eg, Education for All, WASH-NET etc)

- Mapping and using data to engage relevant stakeholders