GREEN HABITAT INITIATIVE

Green Habitat Initiative

2023 ANNUAL REPORT

www.greenhabitat.ng

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GLOSSARY

ACRONYM	DEFINITION
BMP	BEST MANAGEMENT PRACTICES
CLTS	COMMUNITY-LED TOTAL SANITATION
DEE	DECENTRALISED RENEWABLE ENERGY
DO	DEVELOPMENT OBJECTIVE
DRPC	DEVELOPMENT RESEARCH AND PROJECTS CENTER
EHC	ENVIRONMENTAL HEALTH CLUBS
GIS	GEOGRAPHIC INFORMATION SYSTEM
GHI	GREEN HABITAT INITIATIVE
I-CONS	I I-WASH CONTINUITY AND SUSTAINABILITY
IOT	INTERNET-OF-THINGS
I-WASH	INTEGRATED WATER, SANITATION, AND HYGIENE
KESEPA	KEBBI STATE ENVIRONMENTAL PROTECTION AGENCY
LGA	LOCAL GOVERNMENT AREA
MOU	MEMORANDUM OF UNDERSTANDING
ODF	OPEN DEFECATION FREE
RUWASSA	RURAL WATER SUPPLY AND SANITATION AGENCY
SBMC	SCHOOL-BASED MANAGEMENT COMMITTEE
SE	SOCIAL ENTERPRISE
SEWMA	SOKOTO EROSION WATERSHED MANAGEMENT AGENCY
SLA	SERVICE LEVEL AGREEMENT
SPBHS	SOLAR-POWERED BOREHOLES
WAMSS	WATER MAINTENANCE AND SUPPORT SERVICES
WASH	WATER, SANITATION AND HYGIENE
WASHCOM	WATER SANITATION AND HYGIENE COMMITTEE
WASH-NORM	WATER SANITATION AND HYGIENE NATIONAL OUTCOME ROUTINE MAPPING

1.0 MESSAGE FROM THE CEO

Dear Esteemed Readers,

I am presenting the 2023 GHI Annual Report to you. 2023 is our year of significant achievement. We successfully closed out the USAID-funded I-WASH Project by achieving all project milestones. We reached more than 76,000 people directly and more than 100,000 indirectly through improving their access to essential water and sanitation services. The sustainability mechanisms built in I-WASH will sustain the numerous project gains. Nonetheless, we felt compelled to self-fund a new program called I-CONS that will focus on supporting government agencies to continue from where we all stopped. We will duly follow up with them and only provide support when necessary.

Beyond that, we cemented our relationship with the United Nations Climate Technology Centre and Network (CTCN) by formally submitting our application to join their elite membership network of organisations implementing innovative climate-smart projects. Our application was successful, and we are now joining a privileged list of technology firms capable of bidding for calls proposing climate-smart solutions.

I joined water colleagues at the World Water Week in Stockholm as part of the SIWI Annual Water Conference in August 2023. Discussions were diverse over the 5-day conference with a running theme of planting the seeds of innovation to ensure we accelerate efforts in closing the water gap globally. I deeply resonated with the call, and I am happy GHI is leading stakeholders in implementing socially innovative solutions in Nigeria. This was a resounding call for us to keep innovating amidst the growing challenges we face in our work.

The driving force of our work is the partnerships we always aim to build in our programs. I cannot call 2023 our year of achievement without appreciating all my staff who bend their necks to reach the targets the organisation is aiming for, the stakeholders who work cooperatively for us to deliver on our missions jointly, our donors who fund our dreams, our families who have to endure our numerous hours of working without spending it with them, and to other various supporters who give us all the resources we need and wish us all.

As of today, there are more Nigerians who need access to improved water and sanitation services. There are more of us who need to be better equipped to adapt to the negative and harsh impacts of climate change. We go into 2024 with a renewed interest and resolve to lead and join others in the sustainable development of our country.

I finally call you to donate to our cause. Say a word about us in essential circles. Join us in the field. Call us to join the water and climate walks. We will always be interested in fulfilling our mission of empowering communities with improved water and sanitation services and combating climate change.

Thank you.

Sadiq Abubakar GULMA.
Founding CEO.

2.0 ABOUT US

Our journey began in 2015 when a group of passionate individuals came together inspired by a shared concern for the environment and a deep commitment to sustainable development and general sustainability issues. We originated as a blogging platform where our founders voiced their concerns and insights on environmental issues in Nigeria. This advocacy, initiated in 2015, catalysed what became a full-fledged organisation.

We officially emerged as a youth-led organisation in 2016. Initially existing in the digital realm, our evolution took us from the virtual world into physical spaces, allowing us to engage directly with underserved, deserving, marginalised, and vulnerable communities.

This transition enabled us to implement tangible solutions for promoting environmental sustainability and providing water, sanitation, and hygiene services while also addressing the pressing issue of climate change.

To ensure sustainability, we leverage the power of participatory implementation and technology to enhance the positive impact we create. We have forged partnerships with higher policy-level organisations, government and donor agencies, and beneficiary societies we work with. Our network extends beyond the federal government to state and local governments and international institutions, fostering connections that amplify our impact. We serve as a lighthouse, guiding individuals and institutions toward a more socially and environmentally sustainable and hygienic future.

2.1.1 OUR THEMATIC AREAS

Green Habitat Initiative is working towards the following SDGs:

-Clean Water and Sanitation (SDG 6): Ensure availability and sustainable management of water and sanitation for all through the I-WASH project.

-Affordable and Clean Energy (SDG 7): working towards ensuring universal access to reliable, sustainable, and modern energy sources to drive positive environmental and social impact.

-**Sustainable Cities and Communities (SDG 11):** Through innovative projects and community engagement, we strive to build urban environments that are socially inclusive, environmentally conscious, and economically vibrant, contributing to a more sustainable and harmonious future.

-**Climate Action (SDG13):** we actively pursue initiatives that mitigate carbon emissions, promote sustainability, and foster resilience, contributing to a more sustainable and climate-resilient future for our planet.

2.1.2 HOW WE DELIVER

COMMUNITY DEVELOPMENT

INNOVATIONS LAB

SYMPOSIA

R&D

2.1.3 Our Mission

We empower communities to combat climate change and enhance their access to water and sanitation services.

2.1.4 Our Vision

We envision a future with global equitable access to water, sanitation, food, and energy. A world with resolved climate challenges.

2.1.5 Values

Values bring us together and fulfil the purpose of our daily activities. Our intention when we work together is always to achieve a greater purpose of making a positive difference in our work areas. Our core and aspirational values are;

- Leadership
- Learning
- Multi-dimensional view
- Partnership
- Passion
- Quality
- Respect
- Self-Leadership
- Service mind to partners
- Sustainability
- Wellness
- Accountability
- Boldness
- Courage
- Diversity
- Empathy
- Eco-friendliness
- Fairness
- Humility
- Initiative
- Innovation
- Integrity
- Kaizen

2.1. Approach

GHI leverages the TIPS approaches for the implementation of its activities;

1. **Technology:** Technology is an enabler and transformer. We utilise technology to make our work more accessible, and the output of the work reaches its full potential of changing lives.

2. **Innovation:** Our top priority is providing innovative and better solutions.

3. **Partnership**: With more partners, we can leverage each other's knowledge and resources to do more.

4. **Sustainability:** It matters only if it is sustainable for the community, economy, and environment.

2.2 Governance Structure

GHI has a governance structure comprising the Governing Board, the Advisory Board, and the Management Board. The Governing Board oversees the organisation's sustainability and accountability, overseen by the board chair. The Advisory Board provides expert recommendations on GHI's core focus areas. The Management Board oversees the organisation's day-to-day operations, headed by the CEO/President.

Governing Board

Salma Mohammed
Board Chair

Dayo Olaide
Board Member

Sadiq Abubakar Gulma
Board Member/CEO/Founder

Abdulmumin Tanko
Board Member/Secretary

Advisory Board

Maria Yetano Roche
Focus: SDG 7

Operations Team

Sadiq Abubakar Gulma
Board Member/Founder

Hamza Jakada
Programs

Zainab Yunusa
Chief Strategy Officer

Sada Haruna
Chief Technology Officer

Mustapha Muhammad Dewu
Monitoring & Evaluation Specialist

Hassan Abbass
Finance & Admin Officer

Aishat Oluwatosin Yusuf
Program Assistant

Musa Mohammed Ashabu
Program Officer

Management/ Operations Team

Muhammad Sheriffdeen

Program Formulation Officer

Ikram Abdulmajeed

Program Assistant

3.0

Summary of Implemented Programs: I-WASH

Title of Project: The Project for Improved Sustainability of Integrated WASH Services (I-WASH)
Donor: United States Agency for International Development
Duration: February 2021 to May 2023
Value: Two million USD
Role: Primary implementing partner.
Project Location: Kebbi and Sokoto States, Nigeria

A. Background of the Activity

The project aims to reduce waterborne diseases and associated socioeconomic challenges through an integrated, participatory, and innovative approach to improving reliable and inclusive access to WASH services in health centres, schools, and unserved/underserved communities in Kebbi and Sokoto States. The project is informed by data from WASH-NORM (2018), which indicates that only 44.4% of the population in Kebbi State has access to improved water supply.

Regarding the percentage of the population with access to unimproved water supply, Kebbi State is the third highest in Nigeria, only better than Zamfara and Sokoto State, respectively. Similarly, only 7.8% of the population in Kebbi State use safely managed sanitation services and ranked 31st out of the 36 States of Nigeria. Also, only 25.5% of its population has access to basic sanitation services, while only 7.9% have access to basic hygiene services.

Across all WASH indices, Kebbi State ranks well below the national average. For Sokoto State, the WASH-NORM 2018 report indicates that it has the least access to basic water services, with only 32% of the total population having access to basic water supply.

In addition, 24.3% of the population uses safely managed sanitation services, while only 6.6% have access to basic hygiene services. Water scarcity in the region is exacerbated by climate change and other natural disasters such as drought and flooding.

These disasters and inadequate access to WASH services contribute to outbreaks of waterborne diseases, economic losses, and worsening learning, living, and working conditions in health centres, schools, and communities. These challenges informed the design of the I-WASH Activity to focus on not only WASH hard infrastructure but also the environment and emerging watershed risks in the target environment.

Figure 1: In the picture is the representative of Executive Governor of Kebbi State, Hajiya Aisha Garba during the handover ceremony of I-WASH facilities at Dangoma JSS.

B. Overall Objectives of Activity

The main goal of the I-WASH Activity is to reduce waterborne diseases and associated socioeconomic challenges in the target locations of Kebbi and Sokoto States, in Northwestern Nigeria, aligned with USAID's development objective to promote broadened and inclusive economic growth.

The I-WASH activity achieved its goal by providing reliable, sustainable, and inclusive access to WASH services in communities and institutions, explicitly targeting households, schools, and health centres. GHI constructed and rehabilitated water facilities and constructed sanitation and hygiene facilities across selected underserved communities, schools, and health centres in Kebbi and Sokoto States.

These complex output deliverables were consolidated with soft components of the Activity, promoting good operation and maintenance, ownership, sanitation, hygiene, and end-to-open defecation.

Besides these, several systems-strengthening activities such as administrative and finance training as well as data management workshops were carried out to improve the capacity of the Rural Water Supply and Sanitation Agencies (RUWASSA), Local Government WASH Units, and other relevant stakeholders such as Ministries of Water Resources, Environment, Health, Education, Agriculture, Budget and Economic Planning and others in the two (2) states.

C. Overall Deliverables of the Activity

I-WASH activity was implemented in 3 LGAs in Kebbi State, Gwandu, Argungu, and Kalgo, and 2 LGAs in Sokoto State, Silame, and Yabo LGAs. The communities are home to large proportions of vulnerable populations that lack primary access to WASH services.

The Activity reached 77,395 direct beneficiaries through:

I. Construction of nineteen (19) solar-powered boreholes.
II. Rehabilitation of twenty-seven (27) boreholes (hand pumps and motorised).
III. Construction of thirteen (13) sanitation facilities (Pour flush and VIP latrines) and
IV. Construction of seventeen (17) hygiene facilities (hand washing).
V. Establishment of remote monitoring technology (pumpview) of water pumps and installed 100 numbers on motorised/ solar-powered water facilities.

The project was implemented in two components which include:

Component 1A: Integrated Water Resources Management (IWRM)

Integrated water resources management (IWRM) seeks to promote watershed health and functionality by promoting key practices that will sustain the watershed health and ecology.

Similarly, it aims to increase the capacity of stakeholders, particularly the river basin authorities, for better watershed management. The key output of this component was the establishment of good watershed practices amongst communities, as well as the development of best watershed management practices and guidelines for improved water resources management for state actors and the local populace.

Component 1B: Watershed Best Management Practices (BMPs) and Guidelines Developed

During our watershed studies, comprehensive assessments were conducted to establish baseline conditions for water and environmental parameters in the watersheds of Kebbi and Sokoto States. Collaborative efforts with key stakeholders, including participatory workshops, facilitated the development of Best Management Practices (BMP) and guidelines for State Authorities. Subsequently, an action plan and implementation framework were formulated through joint workshops with stakeholders.

As a tangible outcome of these engagements, Kebbi State responded by incorporating the recommended measures into the 2022 State budget, demonstrating a commitment to watershed conservation. The Kebbi State Environmental Protection Agency (KESEPA) actively implemented the open defecation action plan and conducted awareness campaigns to address the identified challenges.

Similarly, in Sokoto State, the Ministry of Budget and Economic Planning committed to making necessary budget allocations for watershed BMPs in the 2023 appropriation bill. This commitment includes policy change recommendations slated for proposal to the State legislature. Notably, allocations were earmarked for the newly established Sokoto Erosion and Watershed Management Agency (SEWMA), reflecting the State's dedication to watershed management. These commitments were encapsulated in the 2023 budget allocation for watershed management initiatives in Sokoto State.

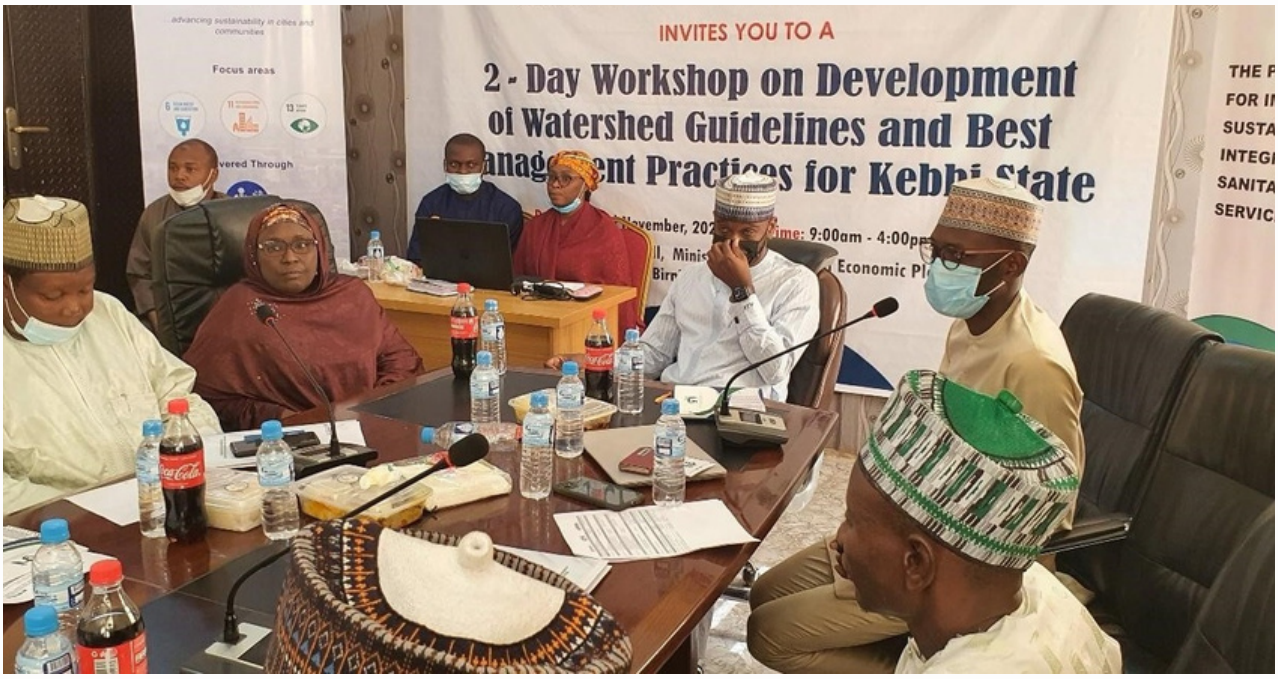


Figure 2: During a 2-day workshop with Kebbi State stakeholders on developing watershed guidelines and management practices in Kebbi State.

Component 1C: Watershed Health and Protection Practices Established

The Water Resources Management activity's advocacy component and the implementation of Community-Led Total Sanitation played a pivotal role in fostering the adoption of essential hygiene and sustainable watershed practices within beneficiary communities. In collaboration with key stakeholders, the I-WASH initiative developed context-specific watershed health and protection practices to promote environmentally conscious behaviours.

GHI organised engaging drama/role-play sessions in Kebbi and Sokoto States to amplify these practices. This dynamic approach involved a blend of professional drama troupes and community members, ensuring a relatable and impactful presentation. Using drama as a medium of entertainment, the initiative effectively highlighted negative attitudes and behaviours related to Water, Sanitation, and Hygiene (WASH) practices, guiding communities toward positive change.

These impactful dramas drew large crowds from communities, effectively conveying valuable messages. Key watershed health protection practices embraced by the communities include the cessation of open defecation practices, focusing on containing faeces. Additionally, the establishment of centralised waste collection points ensures the proper containment and treatment of contaminated runoff within impermeable zones.

Figure 3: A drama presentation done to promote WASH in communities and schools in Kebbi State.

Component 2A: Water, Sanitation and Hygiene (WASH) Services

A detailed construction plan was developed that guided the construction of all WASH facilities in Kebbi and Sokoto States, particularly emphasising the sustainable and safe use of facilities. The following sections present all the construction works achieved under the I-WASH Activity.

Component 2B: Rehabilitation of 27 Non-functional Boreholes

As part of the activity's deliverables, 27 water facilities were rehabilitated across the five LGAs of intervention (three LGAs in Kebbi and two LGAs in Sokoto States). The rehabilitation consists of twenty (20) hand pumps and seven (7) motorised boreholes. Twenty (20) boreholes were rehabilitated in Gwandu, Argungu, and Kalgo LGAs of Kebbi State, while seven (7) boreholes were rehabilitated in Silame and Yabo LGAs of Sokoto State. The rehabilitation of the boreholes provided 15,475 beneficiaries across the target communities access to improved drinking water.

Figure 4: A group picture with the USAID monitoring team for the I-WASH Project in Etene ward in Kalgo LGA, Kebbi State.

Figure 5: USAID monitoring team inspecting a rehabilitated handpump in Etene ward, Garkar Hakimi community in Kalgo LGA, Kebbi State.

Component 3B: Construction of 19 New Water Boreholes

The I-WASH activity constructed nineteen (19) new solar-powered boreholes across the communities of intervention in the Kebbi and Sokoto States.

In Kebbi State, fourteen (14) new solar-powered boreholes with a combined storage capacity of 138,000 litres were constructed in selected communities and institutions across Gwandu, Argungu, and Kalgo LGAs, while five (5) new SPBHs with a combined storage capacity of 75,000 litres were constructed in selected communities across Silame and Yabo LGAs of Sokoto State. The newly built facilities provide access to basic (a round-trip of less than or equal to thirty minutes) drinking water needs to 51,892 beneficiaries by providing them with an improved water supply.

Figure 6: Showing a newly constructed 12,000 ltr capacity solar-powered borehole in Bayan saula community in Sauwa ward, Argungu LG, Kebbi State.

Figure 7: A newly constructed handwashing in Madawaki Primary School in Yabo LGA, Sokoto State.

Table 1 presents an overview of I-WASH facilities constructed/rehabilitated across Kebbi and Sokoto states.

S/N	Activities	Number in Schools	Number in Health-centres	Number in Communities	Total
1.	Rehabilitated water facilities	1	2	24	27
2.	Solar-powered boreholes	4	1	14	19
3.	Sanitation facilities	9	4	Nil	13
4.	Hygiene facilities	12	5	Nil	17

D. Remote Monitoring of Functionality of Solar/Motorised Water Pumps through PUMPVIEW

Green Habitat Initiative (GHI) has introduced an innovative solution, Pumpview, to address the persistent challenges hindering sustained access to potable water, particularly in rural communities. The Pumpview system is designed to tackle issues related to the lack of proper monitoring and maintenance of water supply facilities, which is a common cause of failed interventions in improving water access.

Pumpview is a groundbreaking Internet-of-Things (IoT) and GIS-enabled solution. It offers remote monitoring capabilities for water pumps situated in remote and challenging-to-access communities across Nigeria. It is accessible through a user-friendly website from any part of the world; the system utilises IoT technology to track and report the functionality of water pumps.

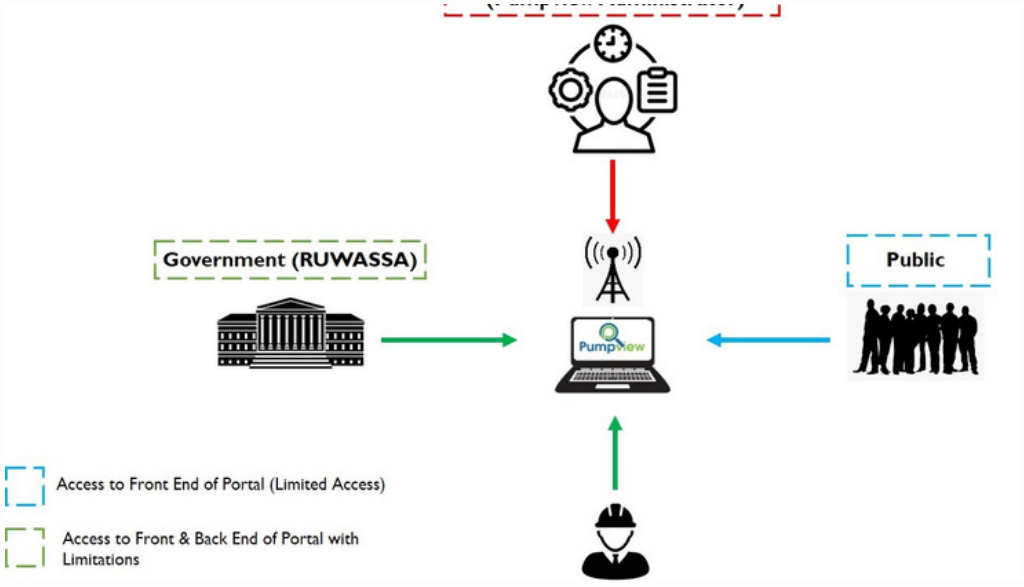


Figure 8: Showing Conceptual Architectural Design for the Pumpview System.

Upon successful testing and deployment, GHI established monitoring stations at Kebbi and Sokoto State Rural Water Supply and Sanitation Agencies (RUWASSA) offices. GHI also conducted comprehensive training for agency officers on effectively utilising the Pumpview platform for tracking and monitoring borehole facilities. The two government agencies noted significant optimisation in planning and logistical operations since implementing the remote monitoring system. They can now observe facility functionality from their offices and dispatch local agents only when necessary. The Pumpview solution has resulted in an enhanced response to broken boreholes, effectively reducing downtime for water pumps.

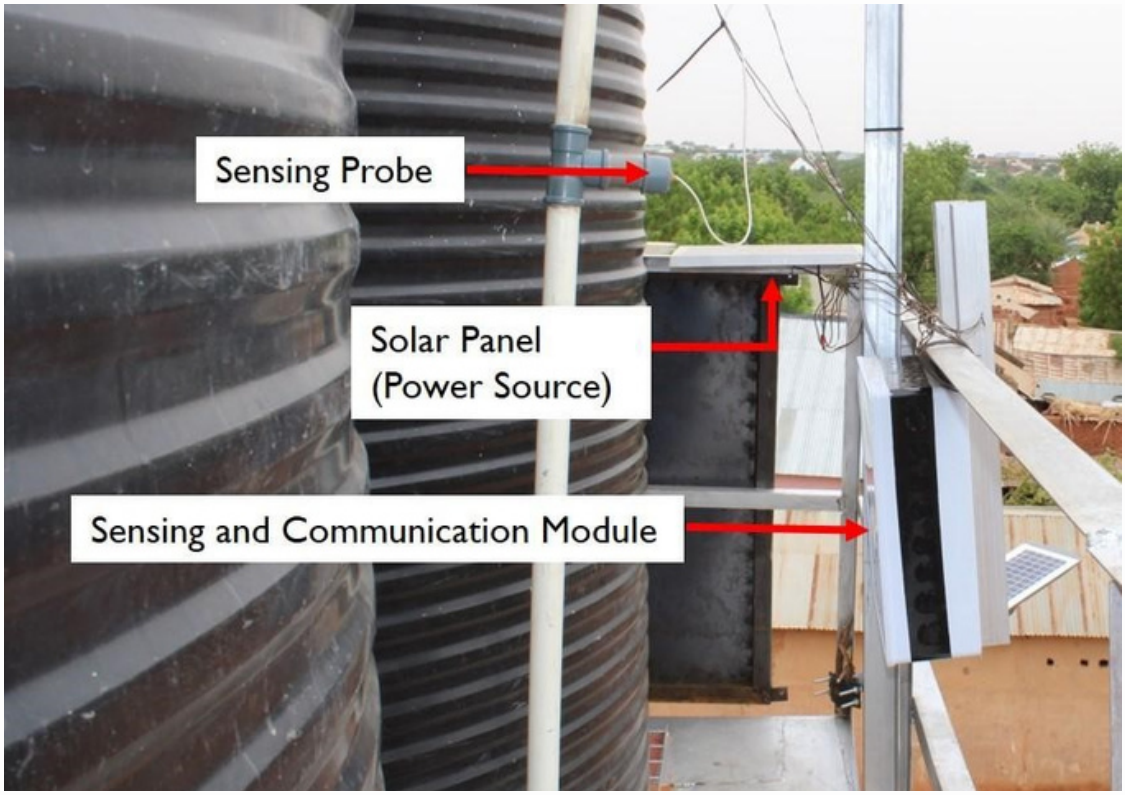


Figure 9: Pumpview Sensor installed on a Facility at Baicin Ganji Community, Yabo LGA, Sokoto State.

Result

The I-WASH Activity, from February 16th, 2021, to May 31st, 2023, has successfully mitigated waterborne diseases and addressed associated socioeconomic challenges in beneficiary communities. A total of twenty-one (21) milestones were successfully completed, significantly impacting the lives of 77,395 individuals. Key achievements include improved access to safe drinking water, enhanced sanitation facilities, and increased knowledge of good hygiene and sanitation practices across intervention locations.

Impact on Beneficiary Communities:

- **Access to Safe Drinking Water:** The Activity has successfully enhanced access to safe drinking water for the targeted communities.
- **Improved Sanitation Facilities:** Beneficiary communities have experienced substantial improvements in sanitation facilities, contributing to better overall health and hygiene.
- **Knowledge Dissemination:** The dissemination of knowledge regarding good hygiene and sanitation practices has led to positive behavioural changes within the intervention areas.

Cholera Cases Reduction:

Significant Decline: A notable decrease in cholera cases has been observed across the I-WASH intervention in Local Government Areas (LGAs). This decline is attributed to the comprehensive advocacy and interventions that ensured widespread dissemination of knowledge on good sanitation and hygiene practices, resonating across the entire LGAs of intervention.

Table 2: Average cases of water-borne diseases reported per week (Source: I-WASH baseline survey (2021) and Sokoto & Kebbi States Epidemiology Unit of their respective MoHs)

LGA	Average cases of water-borne diseases/week	
	Baseline (May 2021)	End-line (May 2023)
Silame (Sokoto)	125	17
Yabo (Sokoto)	80	2
Argungu (Kebbi)	9	1
Gwandu (Kebbi)	9	3
Kalgo (Kebbi)	46	5

3.1.2

Summary of Implemented Programs: ICONS

Title of project: I-WASH Continuity and Sustainability (I-CONS) Project
Donor: self-funded
Duration: June 2023 to December 2024
Role: Implementing agency

The Green Habitat Initiative (GHI) is implementing a sustainability promotion program for the I-WASH Activity called the I-WASH Continuity and Sustainability Program (I-CONS). This new program is designed to monitor and provide support to key the sustainability components of the I-WASH Activity.

The overall aim of the program is to guarantee the gains made during the completed Activity, especially in the areas of sanitation as well as the sustainability components. I-CONS is not a contractual agreement of I-WASH but is an afterthought to the achievements of the Activity. The sustainability components of the I-WASH Activity include the Water, Sanitation, and Hygiene Committees (WASHCOMs), Social Enterprises, and the Pumpview borehole monitoring system.

The WASHCOMs were set up in each beneficiary community to provide leadership and promote ownership of the water facilities provided. Their role includes sanitation and hygiene promotion in the community, especially around the water point.

There will be a need to closely monitor their performance, including bi-weekly meetings, collection of financial contributions from beneficiaries, and management of the facility through collaboration with the private sector mechanics. In addition, the social enterprises were set up to provide guaranteed operations and maintenance services of boreholes through a retainer-ship service agreement between them and each beneficiary community. Finally, the Pumpview borehole monitoring system was designed and set up to monitor the functionality of boreholes remotely to reduce downtime when they break down.

Each of these sustainability components requires some level of support and monitoring to actualise absolute success and autonomy, primarily because the three-year lifetime of the I-WASH Activity could be longer. Part of the learning from the I-WASH is that these sustainability mechanisms, especially in rural areas, require time to become thoroughly entrenched and autonomous.

In particular, the Pumpview technology is an innovation in the sector and would require technical support even after the project closeout. Consequently, the I-CONS program was conceived by GHI to ensure the long-term benefits of the investments made in Kebbi and Sokoto States. The I-CONS program requires some presence of GHI in these States and the beneficiary rural communities to advance these objectives. The I-CONS program is designed to run for two years after the I-WASH closeout, from June 2023 to June 2025.

A. Sustainability of Community WASH Committees (WASHCOMs)

As a fundamental component of the sustainability framework within the I-WASH initiative, the establishment of Water, Sanitation, and Hygiene Committees (WASHCOMs) has been a cornerstone in ensuring the enduring impact of I-WASH facilities in beneficiary communities. Each community hosting an I-WASH facility now boasts a dedicated WASHCOM comprised of selected members from the community.

In Kebbi State, a total of thirty-four (34) WASHCOMs have been established, each consisting of nine (9) members. Concurrently, thirteen (13) WASHCOMs have been established in Sokoto State. The primary responsibility of these committees is to coordinate the routine operations and maintenance of WASH facilities within their respective communities, thus contributing significantly to the sustainability of these crucial facilities.

Comprehensive training sessions were conducted to fortify the capacity of the WASHCOMs. The training covered the concept of WASHCOMs, their organisational and operational modalities, and procedures for WASHCOM registration and active participation in WASHCOM activities within their Local Government Areas (LGAs).

A notable achievement in fostering gender inclusiveness and promoting women's leadership roles is reflected in the composition of the WASHCOMs. Women account for 47% of the WASHCOM members and hold at least two (2) executive positions within each committee. This deliberate effort ensures a gender-inclusive approach, empowering women to take leadership roles within the WASHCOMs.

Figure 10: During WASHCOM training tasked with Operations and maintenance of I-WASH Facilities in Kebbi State.

B. Sustainability of Social Enterprises for WASH Services

As a strategic initiative under I-WASH, two social enterprises (SEs) were established—one in each State, Kebbi and Sokoto—to implement the I-WASH business model, focusing on the preventive and corrective maintenance of Water, Sanitation, and Hygiene (WASH) investments. In Kebbi State, the social enterprise named Water Maintenance and Support Service (WAMSS) was established, while FISTECH Nigeria Limited operates as the SE in Sokoto.

These social enterprises operate on a subscription-based model, offering community operation and maintenance services for all I-WASH facilities. The engagement process between the SEs and communities was highly successful, leading to the signing of Service Level Agreements (SLAs) between the SEs and thirty-four (34) communities in Kebbi State and thirteen (13) communities in Sokoto State. These SLAs guarantee the provision of maintenance services by the SEs.

Figure 11: During Social enterprise training as a business model tasked with Operations and maintenance of I-WASH Facilities in Kebbi State.

In addition to community engagements, Memoranda of Understanding (MOUs) were signed between the SEs and relevant government stakeholders. These MOUs outline the collaborative efforts to support the maintenance of WASH infrastructures across both Kebbi and Sokoto States. Establishing a strong partnership between the SEs and government entities further enhances the sustainability and impact of the maintenance services.

Furthermore, as part of a comprehensive sustainability strategy, all Water, Sanitation, and Hygiene Committees (WASHCOMs) associated with I-WASH have opened bank accounts. These accounts are dedicated to saving contributions for maintenance services, ensuring a financial mechanism for sustaining WASH services over the long term.

C. YOUTH AND GENDER INCLUSION

Youth and gender inclusion are integral facets of Green Habitat Initiative's (GHI) activities, particularly within implementing the I-WASH Activity. The project has demonstrated a deliberate commitment to fostering gender equity and systematically integrating gender perspectives throughout its implementation.

The drama plays conducted as part of the project underscored the crucial role of inclusion in effective community development and the management of Water, Sanitation, and Hygiene (WASH) facilities. Significant strides have been achieved in promoting gender inclusivity within the I-WASH project. Notably, a considerable number of women have been actively involved in leadership and management roles. The Water Sanitation and Hygiene Committees (WASHCOMs) established across the I-WASH Local Government Areas (LGAs) reflect this commitment, with women comprising 47% of Kebbi and Sokoto States committees. These women actively participated in decision-making processes related to WASH activities in their communities.

In addition to WASHCOMs, seven (7) Environmental Health Clubs (EHC) were established and inaugurated in selected schools across Kebbi and Sokoto States. The schools include Government Day Secondary School Kambaza, Dangoma Junior Secondary School, Dalijan Model Primary School, Sauwa Model Primary School, Tungar Zazzagawa Model Primary School, Girls Government Day Secondary School Yabo, and Madawaki Model Primary School. A comprehensive training session on the domains of hygiene accompanied the formation of EHCs in each school. Participants included members of WASHCOM, School-Based Management Committee (SBMC), community leaders, and EHC members.

To enhance the impact of these clubs, they were organised into thematic groups based on the six (6) hygiene domains. The overarching goal is for these clubs to actively promote safe hygiene and sanitation practices within schools and the broader community. Additionally, they play a crucial role in maintaining the WASH facilities provided in the schools.

Figure 12: Formation of Environmental health clubs in Dangoma JSS in Kalgo LGA, Kebbi state.

Their activities include;

a) Development of action plans and rosters for hygiene improvement using songs, dance, poems, or displaying key messages about hygiene on their notice board.
b) Promotion of personal and environmental cleanliness of the school.
c) Supervise the operation and use of WASH facilities.
d) Carrying hygiene messages from the school to the community.
e) Ensure cleanliness of water points, latrines/urinals, and tippy taps.
f) Sensitize peers (boys and girls separately) on Menstrual Hygiene Management.
g) Observe the parade/procession for "Hygiene Day" during the school and community
Interface.

Figure 13: Students of Lailaba JSS conducting Sanitation exercise.

Project Impact Figure in Summary

2

States reached (Kebbi and Sokoto)

34

State actors trained in Integrated Water Resources Management (IWRM).

5

LGA were reached (3 in Kebbi and 2 in Sokoto)

13

Toilets constructed across Kebbi and Sokoto states.

17

76

Communities impacted by the I-WASH project.

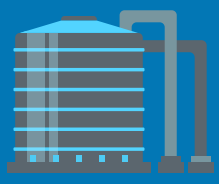
Handwashing facilities provided.

50

Local artisans trained in constructing cost-effective latrines in rural communities.

55,000

Drama views to promote WASH in communities and school.



213,000

Litres of water provided.

34

Stakeholders trained on Data use for decision-making in the WASH sector.

77,000+

Lives impacted .

4.0

Conferences and Workshops Attended

A. World Water Week Stockholm 2023

Figure 14: The CEO and other participants during the World Water Week held in Stocholm.

As a participant at the 2023 World Water Week in Stockholm, our CEO actively engaged in discussions surrounding the central theme of "planting seeds of innovation" to address the escalating water gap. The CEO and other stakeholders underscored the pivotal role of innovative approaches spanning financing, water treatment, protection, governance, collaboration, and management within the water sector.

One notable observation during the conference was the absence of representation from the Nigerian government, a circumstance our CEO recognised as a missed opportunity for global learning and collaboration. Key insights were highlighted, such as the significance of social innovation, the necessity for cross-sector collaboration, and the importance of innovative governance strategies.

Financial discussions at the event emphasised the imperative of a triple increase in water financing. Experts at the conference, including our CEO, noted that many states globally spend less than 75% of their budgets, prompting a call for innovative financing methods. Furthermore, there was a shared understanding of the importance of building the capacity of actors for effective fund utilisation.

Overall, our CEO's participation underscored the event's significance as an annual opportunity for global collaboration and the promotion of innovative ideas at World Water Week in Stockholm.

B. SDG7 Deep Dive: Applied Research for Accelerating Off-Grid Projects

As part of our commitment to expand off-grid electrification in Nigeria, GHI attended a workshop organised by Reiner Lemoine Institute. The workshop was organised to present the research findings that the Reiner Lemoine Institute carried out in collaboration with Clean Technology Hub and the Greenwerk. The research is focused on expanding climate-friendly energy supply through decentralised renewable energies (DEE) in Nigeria.

During the workshop, the research proponents and key stakeholders made several presentations, including GIZ, Rural Electrification Agency Nigeria, and Clean Technology Hub. Generally, the presentations and discussion focused on how to expand off-grid electrification in Nigeria. The need to develop technical solutions, as well as an understanding of local needs and realistic financial frameworks to optimise the use of off-grid systems and make them profitable, were elucidated.

Similarly, Greenwerk, the technical partner implementing the CP project, is interested in GHI's work with social enterprises to provide operations and maintenance services.

This is because the communities will require service operators to offer some O&M and technical support after the power project is completed. The founder of Greenwerk expressed his interest in any literature on GHI's work with social enterprises.He also indicated a potential for GHI to collaborate to scale their solution (if successful) to other communities where GHI has already established community-based leadership and management committees.

Finally, the Co-founder and CEO of Clean Technology Hub expressed her desire to work with GHI on a WASH project by the first quarter of 2024. She requested GHI to email her to initiate discussions before the end of the year.

C. Advocacy and Communication for Safe School CSO Action Training Workshop

GHI was privileged to attend a two-day training and workshop organized by the Development Research and Projects Center (dRPC) on Advocacy and Communication for Safe School CSO Action. In 2014, the Federal Government launched the Safe Schools Initiative (SSI) to ensure that children in conflict areas or affected by insecurity continue with their education. The "Safe Schools Initiative" comprises a combination of:

1. School-based interventions.
2. Community interventions to protect schools.
3. Special measures for at-risk populations.

Figure 15: GHI attendees and some other participants during the two-day training and workshop organised by dRPC.

Overall, from the training and workshop, the key takeaways for GHI is to engage and understand the specific environmental challenges facing schools in Nigeria. This could include issues like access to clean water, waste management, energy efficiency, and natural disaster preparedness. Engage with local communities, schools, government agencies, and other NGOs working in the education and environmental sectors to build partnerships to amplify our impact and help identify specific needs. Through campaigns, workshops, and events, GHI can help raise awareness about the importance of safe and sustainable schools through various communication channels, including social media, local media, and community gatherings.

Additionally, advocating for policies that promote environmental sustainability in schools could involve lobbying for regulations on waste management, energy efficiency standards, or funding for green initiatives and, likewise, Providing training and resources to schools, teachers, and students on environmental best practices. This could include workshops on waste reduction, renewable energy, and disaster preparedness.

D.Nigeria, Climate Change and the Green Economy

GHI was invited to the Agora policy conference with the MacArthur Foundation's support to discuss climate change in Nigeria. MacArthur Foundation is investing 8 billion dollars in fossil fuels to encourage other organizations to invest.MacArthur Foundation has also allocated 500 million dollars for impact investment to accelerate solar finance. They expressed their enthusiasm for being able to be part of the Agora policy event and its charitable works toward advocating for climate change consciousness. The key learnings from this conference include bankable climate actions: GHI needs to make climate action bankable, which involves aligning projects with economic goals, exploring innovative financing models, mitigating risks, building financial capacity, supporting policies, raising market awareness, and ensuring transparent reporting.

Localising national climate policies: GHI can help by localising national climate policies as it is essential for effective action. Tailoring initiatives to local contexts enhances relevance, engages communities, optimises resource allocation, builds resilience, preserves ecosystems, promotes innovation, and empowers local authorities.

This approach recognises the diversity within the country, fostering efficient and impactful climate responses at both the national and grassroots levels. GHI should bridge the gap in climate change policies and prioritise inclusivity for persons with disabilities. Key actions include designing inclusive policies, providing accessible information, offering capacity-building programs, ensuring infrastructure accessibility, incorporating inclusive disaster risk reduction, fostering employment opportunities, and promoting advocacy and awareness. These measures aim to address the unique needs and vulnerabilities of persons with disabilities, enabling a more inclusive and resilient response to climate change.

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5.0

Stakeholders Contributions

5.1 Donor Recognition

Thanks to the generous support of our funding allies, GHI has empowered marginalised communities in Nigeria. Our partners have consistently upheld their enduring dedication, and we are grateful for their unwavering commitment.

5.2 Partner Recognition

In our journey towards success, we are immensely grateful for the support and collaboration of our valued partners. As we move forward, we remain dedicated to nurturing these valuable connections and exploring new avenues for growth and innovation.

5.3 Tech Supporters

Our appreciation goes to these tech companies that enable our work to flourish efficiently. The generous nonprofit offers we enjoy impact the work we do daily.

5.4 Award Recognition

We are honoured to share the remarkable achievements and industry recognitions that have adorned our organisation. These accolades serve as a testament to our unwavering commitment to excellence and underscore every team member's dedication and hard work.

6.1 Strategic Planning: 2024 Outlook

In the vibrant landscape of 2024, GHI is poised for an impactful year, weaving a narrative of sustainable change and resilience. Our journey unfolds through an array of initiatives, each thread meticulously designed to address pressing global challenges and leave a lasting imprint on communities we serve, but also to place GHI in her deserved position among leading organisations in the sustainable development arena.

At the forefront of our agenda is a dynamic webinar series, a virtual platform where experts and thought leaders converge to discuss pivotal topics within our focus areas. These digital gatherings will disseminate knowledge and foster a global dialogue, sparking ideas that transcend borders. It's a platform where innovation meets collaboration, setting the stage for transformative solutions to sustainable development.

Similarly, GHI recognises the transformative power of knowledge. In 2024, we are poised to become more active participants in the research landscape, exploring untapped insights and contributing to the evolving discourse within our focus areas.

By engaging in rigorous research initiatives, we aim to deepen our understanding of critical issues and refine our strategies and interventions based on evidence and innovation. But we are not stopping there. GHI is stepping out from the virtual realm to engage directly with key stakeholders. Through meticulously curated training and workshops, we assume a leadership role in intellectual and human capital development, focusing on vital areas such as Water, Sanitation, and Hygiene (WASH), Climate Action, and Waste Management. It's about empowering individuals with knowledge, instilling a sense of responsibility, and nurturing the seeds of change at various levels.


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