The Human Rights Based Approach
for water and sanitation
28th April 2021
Publication Launch

A practical guide on how to implement the human rights to water and sanitation at each stage of the project cycle

www.humanright2water.org/publications
Welcome and Introductions

- **Introduction**: Dhesigen Naidoo, President HR2W
- **Session 1: The HRBA in practice**
  - Case studies from Panama and Tunisia (ILO/EIIP)
    - introduced by Imanol Aguilera, Kamal Boulehmi
    - Fredy Camerena, Saiida Zwawi, Maria Teresa Gutierrez
- **Session 2: The global imperative to include an HRBA**
  - Discussions with OHCHR, WaterAid, World Bank
    - Rio Hada, Louisa Gosling, Jonathan Grabinsky

- **Host**: Amanda Loeffen, CEO HR2W
Dhesigen Naidoo

President of Human Right 2 Water

- Climate Commissioner in the Presidential Climate Change Coordinating Commission in South Africa
- CEO of the Water Research Commission
Overview

- Based on the Common Understanding
- Through all steps of programming
- Cross-cutting principles

Aspires to support rights-holders to claim rights and duty-bearers to fulfil obligations
Stages of implementing HRBA

1. Identify issues and causes, stakeholder mapping, emphasis on vulnerable
2. Define objectives based on situation, align with HR protection mechanisms
3. Include HR standards and principles
4. M&E aligned with HR standards to uphold sustainability
Benefits of HRBA

- Sustainability
- Charity → rights-based
- Individuals
- Engagement
- Inequalities
- Interlinked rights
- Political commitment
Session 1: The HRBA in Practice

Fredy Camerena  
Director of water and sanitation  
Pueblo Ngäbe, Panama

Saiida Zwawi  
President  
Agricultural Development Group, Thburnica, Tunisia

Kamel Boulehmi  
National Coordinator  
ILO, Tunisia

Imanol Aguilera  
Legal Researcher  
Human Right 2 Water
CASE STUDY 1:
Empowering marginalised groups in Panama
Community-empowered programme

IRAP Tool to assist planning agencies

Ethnographic studies and consultations with indigenous groups

New facilities; monitoring programme; and promotion of women and youth
Fredy Camarena

Technical Assistant in the Regional Health Directorate - Ngäbe Bugle District

- Technician in environmental sanitation
- Primary school teacher
- Civil servant (ministry of health in the Ngäbe district)
CHALLENGES

- Lack of adequate access roads hinders community’s access to external material
- Need for continuous support by public entities in the monitoring process of aqueducts maintenance
- Lack of economic resources to develop water programmes
- Need for State public policies which allow for the realization of the right to access clean and safe water
PARTICIPATION

It might be better to talk about compromise rather than participation. A compromise was found with the communities to find a solution to the water problem, knowing that it is a right for mankind.

As civil servants, our mission is to ensure that all families have access to safe water to reduce the risks of water-borne diseases amongst the population.
SUSTAINABILITY

The participation of our communities was crucial in the development of the programme and has been essential in building the sustainable solutions required. Without the participation of the community, our programmes would not work/have as much impact.
INCLUSIVENESS

Active participation of women and youth in the programme

Participation of local authorities
PARTICIPATION OF WOMEN

Integration of women through their participation in building directives as part of the rural aqueducts’ administrative “juntas”

Integration in decision-making as leaders and treasurers

Active leaders in the decision-making of the community

Women participation in the capacity enhancement development process and in the construction of health units
FOR THE FUTURE...

- Programmes should continue to take into account women’s participation in decision-making as a fundamental aspect of development programmes.

Continuous support and compromise with public institutions in charge.
CASE STUDY 2:
Water and Jobs for Kesra, Tunisia
EIIP Irrigation Project in rural town of Kesra

Crucial involvement of women in the community

Planting of fig trees, improved irrigation, more productive harvests and fruit production

Sustainable project through adoption of local technology in a gender-inclusive manner
Saiida Zouioui

President of Thuburnica Agricultural Group, Municipality of Galaa, Tunisia

- Inherited father’s trade and farm
- Represents farmer beneficiaries of the project (29 in total)
- Married mother of 5 children
We aimed to:

- Broaden the irrigated area and the areas cultivated by the farmers, knowing that 70 Ha are under-utilized.

- Increase the quantity of water for irrigation, especially during summer.
ROLE AS A WOMAN

- I am a woman among 29 farmers and I am the president of the group for agricultural development.
- I am the leader and manager of this structure, and supervise the implementation of the project.
- Frequently, people come to me for information and I am respected by the administrative and political structures of my region.
PARTICIPATION AND SUSTAINABILITY

- Regarding the main beneficiaries of the project, 29 farmers, the project has allowed to increase the flow of water for irrigation and has allowed to minimise the waiting time to access water.

- Most importantly, we have developed a project that is sustainable to improve and ensure the continuity of our farming activities.
IMPORTANCE OF INCLUSIVENESS

- If the programme had not been inclusive, we would not have such immediate results.

- All the participants benefitted from the project following their contribution, either directly or indirectly.
- Future programmes should keep on focusing on the well-being of farmers.
- While this project has offered solutions for the water problem, much work is still needed on raising awareness to modernise our agriculture and our socio-professional practices, as well as to embrace the benefits offered to farmers by the state.
ANY QUESTIONS?
Session 2: The global imperative to include an HRBA

Rio Hada
Team Leader
Office of the High Commissioner for Human Rights (OHCHR)

Louisa Gosling
Senior WASH Manager
WaterAid

Jonathan Grabinsky
Senior Consultant
World Bank
The Global Imperative to include an HRBA

Case Study in West Bengal: fostering local participation in locally available water resources