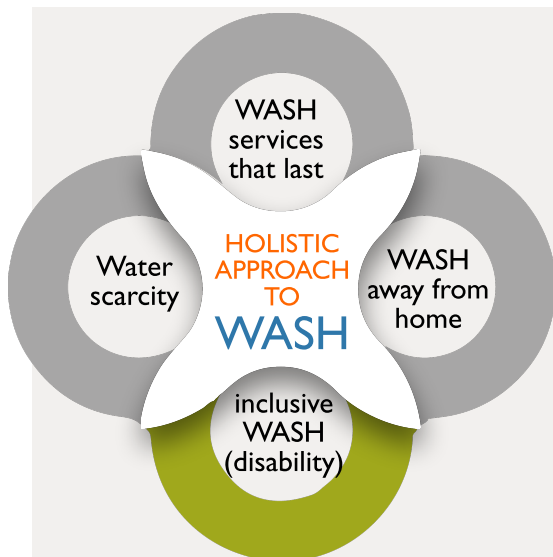




INCLUSIVE WASH

BACKGROUND



Persons with Disabilities (PWD) represent the largest socially excluded group and mostly live without access to basic sanitation services (Wateraid, 2010). UN estimate there are over 750 million

PWD in the world, and 75% live in low-income countries (DFID, 2000). Numbers are increasing, due to violent conflicts, accidents, HIV/AIDS, environmental pollution and ageing. Numbers of PWD are higher amongst the poorest of the poor in low-income countries; as many as 1 in 5 are likely to be disabled (Elwan, 1999; European Disability Forum, 2002). Almost every chronically poor family is affected by disability. Poverty is both a cause and a consequence of disability:

- Likelihood of disability is increased by lack of quality of nutrition, unsafe water, inadequate living conditions, poor hygiene and sanitation, limited (access to) health services, more exposure to environmental pollution, war,

conflict and disaster, lack of information, HIV/AIDS and hazardous working conditions.

- Likelihood of poverty levels of PWD is increased by inadequate treatment to reduce impairments, lack of assistive devices, lack of access to education or employment, and effects of exclusion.

As well as low income, poverty is about limited opportunities, choices and social exclusion, all of which are applicable to disabled people (Jones and Reed, 2005b). These factors as well as current developments related to sustainable water sanitation and hygiene (WASH), intensifies the challenge to ensure accessibility for all, inclusive of PWD.

CALL FOR ACTION: COMING TOGETHER - 'EVERYONE FOREVER'

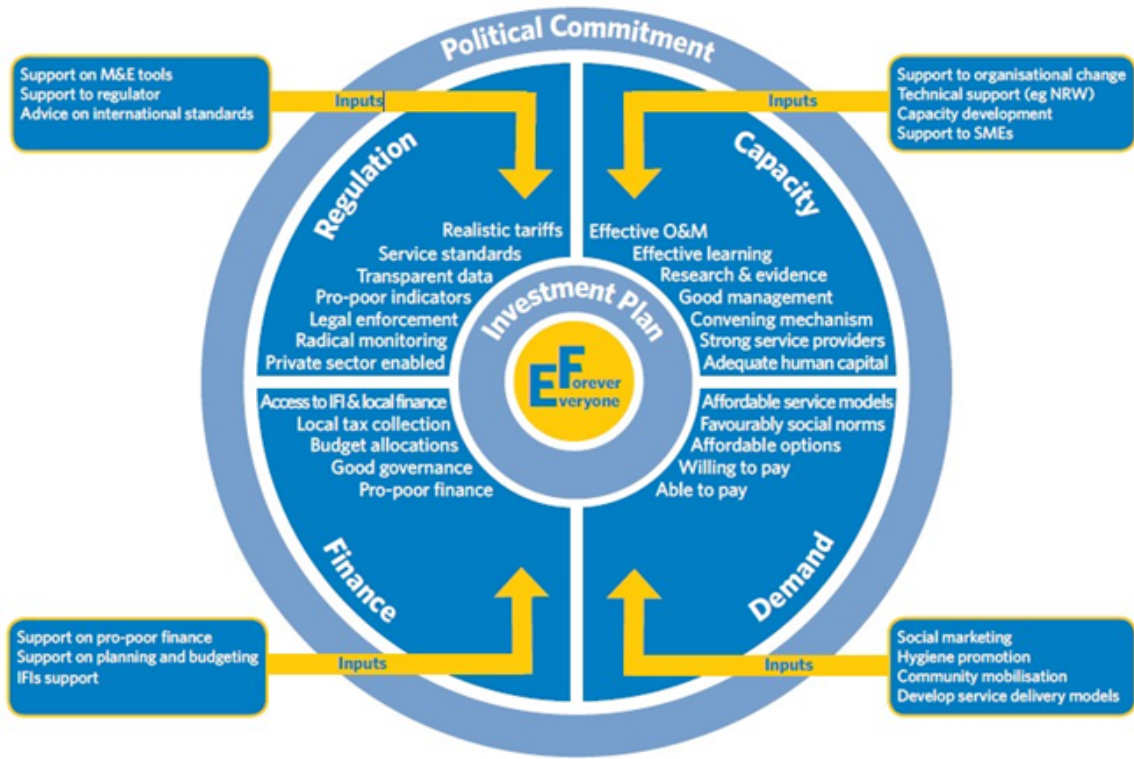
Key organisations in the WASH sector, including World Vision are reflecting on a systems approach towards sustainable WASH services. It aims to result in appealing, sustainable and affordable WASH products and services that are widely and continuously available (**FOREVER**), to all people (**EVERYONE**).

Opportunities exist for closer links between “community-focused” models, like community led total sanitation (CLTS), “private sector” products and service models. Several organisations, including World Vision, are developing systems approaches for WASH and would like to reflect on how we can better ensure that the developed systems also cater for people with disabilities.

The diagramme on the following page depicts the systems approach and the different elements required for an inclusive and sustainable result: a situation where local actors (both public and private) own and drive inclusive, sustainable service delivery.



Visualising 'Everyone Forever'



FOCUSING ON INNOVATIVE SOLUTIONS

In order to achieve truly inclusive solutions we need to acquire good insight in both the supply and demand side of WASH: insight in the level of awareness about needs of PWD that exists in services offered by service providers (governments, private sector and WASH programmes & projects), as well as insight in the particular needs of PWD and the difficulties they experience currently in these services. In order to ensure WASH services are accessible for everyone including PWD, skills, expertise and tools of external actors, need to be brought to the table. Innovations will include:



TECHNOLOGY

Technology developments to minimise constraints, reduce costs, increase appeal to the consumer, or to improve quality of service;



INVESTMENT

Investment plans to facilitate various types and levels of financing and make them available for entrepreneurs, businesses, and customers and that are engaged in monitoring, evaluation, and learning efforts.



PARTNERSHIPS

Encouraging multi-sectorial partnerships and improving systems for business incubation around disabilities. This entails mainstreaming facilities and services to include PWD and encouraging changes in attitude and behaviour.

INCLUSIVE WASH in KRI

World Vision KRI initiated community surveys in November 2015 in which it became clear that disability inclusive facilities were needed in both public institutions and households. Consequently World Vision has provided a total of 50 households with improved WASH facilities tailored to persons with disabilities with funding from the government of Finland. World Vision KRI also partnered with a local disability organisation to address institutional and social barriers.

In a training event in May 2016, local partners were able to learn about these barriers, share success stories and collectively come up with WASH related solutions in public institutions. Since then World Vision KRI is further scaling up the work on WASH in disability in Jordan.

