



Mission Report

7th WASH in School International Learning Exchange
Crowne Plaza Manila Galleria, Manila, Philippines

November 11-15, 2019

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A. SEAMEO Official and Staff Member on Mission

1. Wahyudi, DDPD

B. Background, Description and Objectives of the Activity

1. The International Learning Exchange (ILE) on WASH in Schools (WinS) is an annual event held in South Asia and Southeast Asia that aims to strengthen regional commitment to ensure that all schools have access to sustainable water and sanitation services, along with proper hygiene practice by all learners. Previous Learning Exchanges have been held in Philippines (2012), India (2013), Laos (2014), Sri Lanka (2015), Indonesia (2016) and Myanmar (2017). Bringing the ILE back to the Philippines, DepEd will showcase its progress in scaling up WASH in Schools since hosting the inaugural WinS ILE in 2012.
2. The Department of Education of the Republic of the Philippines hosted the 7th WinS ILE with the theme "Taking WinS to Scale Towards Achieving SDG 4" on 11-15 November 2019 in Manila. The event is supported by the United Nations Children's Fund (UNICEF) and the Deutsche Gesellschaft für Internationale Zusammenarbeit (GIZ).
3. In pursuit of improving water, sanitation and hygiene (WASH) conditions in schools in Asia and the Pacific, the 7th WinS ILE aims to:
 - 1) Facilitate learning on WASH in Schools among countries in Asia and the Pacific towards reaching SDG 4
 - 2) Generate momentum and political commitments towards accelerating progress on WASH in Schools in Asia and the Pacific
 - 3) Reinforce linkages between Ministries of Education in Asia and strengthen the regional network of WinS practitioners
4. Towards the above objectives, the DepED Philippine organized the 7th WinS ILE into several sessions comprising 2 days focusing on the WinS enabling environment and commitment setting, followed by 3 days of technical level discussions. School visits were arranged for participants on Day 3, Wednesday, 13 November 2019.

C. Organizers

1. The Department of Education (DepEd) of the Republic of the Philippines
2. The United Nations Children's Fund (UNICEF)
3. The Deutsche Gesellschaft für Internationale Zusammenarbeit (GIZ)
4. Save the Children Philippines

D. Participants

191 participants from 16 countries of the South/East Asian and Pacific regions, namely, Cambodia, Indonesia, Lao PDR, Myanmar, Philippine, Timor-Leste, Vietnam, India, Nepal, Sri Lanka, Afghanistan, Pakistan, Bangladesh, Bhutan, Papua New Guinea, and Federal State of Micronesia. They come from government ministries, international organizations, research institutions and development partner agencies.

E. Highlight of the Activity/Summary Points

Day 1

Session 1 – Welcome and Opening Ceremony

- Undersecretary Alain del Pascua delivered Secretary Leonor Magtolis Briones' 7th WinS International Learning Exchange Keynote Presentation and welcomed all participants and delegates.



Figure 1. Undersecretary Alain del Pascua delivered Welcome Remark



Figure 2. Group Photo after Opening Ceremony

Session 2 – Keynote: 2018 WASH in Schools Global Baseline Report

- Christie Chatterley from WHO/UNICEF Joint Monitoring Programme shared Wash in School (WinS) Global baseline report in 2018.

Session 3 – Regional Overview of Enabling Environment Progress on WinS

- Mr Evariste Kouassi Komlan, Regional Adviser, WASH UNICEF EAPRO presented the overview of enabling environment on WaSH in School.

Session 4 – Sharing good practices on WinS

- Session 4.A.1. focused on Good Practices on WinS Policy and Governance
 - Three countries, namely Afghanistan, Bangladesh and Pakistan shared their best practices on WinS Policy and Governanvce.
- Session 4.A.2. devoted to Good Practices on Institutional Capacity Development
 - In this session Lao PDR, Bhutan and Philippines show-cased their best practices in WinS Institutional Capacity Development.
- Session 4.B.1. Good Practices on WinS Data & Performance Management
 - Cambodia, Phillipines and Fedral State of Micronesia shared their best practices on WinS Data and Performance management.
- Session 4.B.2. Good Practices on Financing WinS
 - Indonesia and Nepal shared their best practices on Financing WinS.
- Session 5. WinS General Directions, Comments, and Resolution Drafting
 - Professor Habib Benzian explained WinS General Directions and called for participation from the delegates on Resolution Drafting.

Session 6 – Welcome dinner hosted by DepEd

Day 2 – Tuesday, 12 November 2019 (High-Level Commitment and Technical Sessions)

Session 8 – Monitoring the SDGs for WinS

Christie Chatterley of WHO/UNICEF Joint Monitoring Programme led the session. She shared with us on (1) the recommended core (and expanded) questions to monitor the SDGs for WinS, (2) how two countries (Myanmar and India) are monitoring the SDGs for WinS and (3) how others in the region are monitoring the SDGs for WinS.

Session 9 – Implementing the Three-Star Approach (TSA) for WASH in Schools

This session aimed to (1) Strengthen understanding of the Three Star Approach and adaptation at global level, (2) Increase appreciation of how the Three Star Approach has been used to scale up WinS at country level, and (3) understand the relation between the TSA and the WinS in the EMIS.

Five countries, Nepal, India, Philippines, Sri Lanka and Lao PDR presented their experiences on implementing the TSA for WaSH in school.

Session 10 – Global Wins Platform

This session aimed to share information on the Global WinS Network covering (1) the Status of developing a new global WinS strategy, (2) Technical resources available, (3) How people can get involved, and (3) Introduce the new design for the WASH in Schools online platform.

Session 11 – Parallel technical sessions

Six parallel technical sessions were held to provide a platform for the participating countries to share and discuss on the following topic: WASH Behaviour Change, Menstrual Hygiene Management, Operation and Maintenance for WinS, WASH in ECCD, WinS contribution to disease prevention, WinS in DRR / Climate Change Adaptation and Menstrual Health and Hygiene.

Session 12 – Preparation for field work

Day 3 – Wednesday, 13 November 2019 (School Visits)

DDPD joined the school visit at Mambugan I Elementary School of Antipolo. Detail of the school can be found in the following link: [Mambugan I Elementary School of Antipolo](#). After the schools visit, we had discussion on the school journey in implementing the WinS and their efforts to get three stars according to the TSA approach.

Day 4 – Thursday, 14 November 2019 (Sharing Country Experiences on WinS)

Participating countries updated their progress on WinS by video presentations. 10-minute moderated discussions were conducted after every 5-video presentation in a session.

Country Update Block 1: Update on WASH in Schools

- **WASH in Schools implementation in Sri Lanka.** Government of Sri Lanka implements WASH in Schools. The intervention consists of provision of Water, Sanitation, Handwashing facilities, including activities around hygiene promotion and Menstrual Hygiene Management.
Video Link: https://youtu.be/j_VpEy_ewyk

- **WASH in Schools in Laos.** In the last ten years, Lao Government has made a good progress in providing WASH in Schools facilities. However, there is still huge gaps and lot of things to be done at schools, like hygiene practice adoption and ensuring WASH facilities are well maintained and operated. The community and private sector involvement are crucial to support the schools in providing access to water, sanitation and hygiene.
Video Link: <https://youtu.be/Q2eSojl0SZo>
- **Bangladesh: We Will Never Let WASH to Drop Out from Schools.** Girls and boys testified about the benefit of having improved WASH condition in their schools. Government of Bangladesh has been providing WASH in Schools facilities, including facility for disable children. The main challenge is around maintenance and operation of the WASH facilities that has been built.
Video Link: <https://youtu.be/dL43NaSr1CE>
- **WASH in Schools in Papua New Guinea.** In 2018, Department of Education launched Policy and Standard for WinS and National Quality Schools Standard Framework. Both are used as references and tools to improve WinS condition in Papua New Guinea. Although positive behavior changes, like handwashing with soap and Menstrual Hygiene Management, has been achieved in some pilot schools, geographical and financial challenges remain impede the progress nationwide. Video Link: <https://youtu.be/-oyuKK0slJ0>
- **WASH in School Implementation in Pakistan.** Pakistan education statistic showed increase access to water and toilets at schools in Pakistan. However, challenges remain on the functionality and sustainability of the facilities. Pakistan modified the global three stars approach into national context. The focus is on peer learning, group handwashing with soap and adequate OM cost to sustain the functionality of WASH facility. WinS is mainstreamed into government planning, policy and agenda.
Video Link: <https://youtu.be/s2Zzj3t-Na0>

Country Update Block 2: MHM, Innovation, Inclusive WinS, intervention in minority area

- **Menstrual Hygiene Management in Afghanistan.** Three strategies are prioritized by Ministry of Education to advance MHM: capacity building, advocacy, and supporting WASH services in schools. Several achievements have been made such as the publication of MHM guidance for teacher and MHM comic book for students. However, there are challenges remains, for instance most schools do not have access to water, poor understanding on the specific need for girls, and lack of privacy and uncomfortable toilet for girls to manage menstruation hygienically at schools.
Video Link: <https://youtu.be/c7LQqAD7Aio>
- **WASH in Schools in Timor Leste.** UNICEF supported Ministry of Education, Youth and Sport to develop WASH in Schools Costed Action Plan. This plan is used as reference by the Directorate of Education Infrastructure to provide

WASH in Schools services throughout the countries, including inclusive WASH in Schools facilities. Video link: https://youtu.be/1XzSYAO_tI8

- **Bhutan: Innovation on School Toilet Rehabilitation.** In order to achieve SDGs target on WASH in Schools, Bhutan Toilet Organization (BTO) in collaboration with UNICEF support Ministry of Education of Bhutan to upgrade all school's toilet with an innovative solution called SATO technology. SATO technology provides several benefits, such as safer sanitation facility, more efficient cost than to re-construct toilet, and lesser water usage. With this innovative approach it is expected that all of the schools could be equipped by safe sanitation facility in the next few years. Video link: <https://youtu.be/qfX4qEfg1-o>
- **Progress and Challenges of WinS in Cambodia.** WASH is included in the new inter-ministerial National Policy on School Health. WinS indicators also appear on the government Education Strategic Plan 2019-2023, This development has led to significant increase of budget allocation for WinS in 2020. Some specific intervention, such as inclusion of WASH in Schools, and specific design for WASH for Pre-schools.
- **Myanmar: WinS in Kayin.** The provision of WASH intervention in schools could change life of girls and boys. Since running water, comfortable toilets and handwashing facilities are exist on their schools, student do not have to fetch water to the schools, or do not need to do their "business" in the bushes again. Video link: https://youtu.be/hIErsG_OP14

Country Update Block 3: Policy, Planning, Commitment, Data, Investment Scaling Up, and Institutionalization

- **Institutionalization of WinS in the Philippines.** Department of Education issued WinS policy in 2016. The policy cover water, sanitation and solidwaste management, hygiene and food safety, health education and deworming. A monitoring system was established, followed by setting up operational standard that guide concrete action to achieve national standard on WinS. Video Link: <https://youtu.be/loRWww6I8bQ>
- **India: High level commitment and collaboration.** India's Prime Minister Narendra Modi has made a political commitment in 2014 that all of the schools in India should have a sex-separated toilet. This high-level political commitment has triggered a collaboration among government, development partners, communities and private sector to accelerate the provision of WASH facilities across the countries. Video link: https://youtu.be/Lh7g4tDc_LA and <https://youtu.be/PwaNor-SLVA>
- **Indonesia: Data Driven WinS Investment.** Indonesia has making a good progress in the provision of water, sanitation and hygiene. WinS SDGs indicators are reflected on EMIS. Funding for construction, rehabilitation are available and

ready to be requested by local government. Although investment for WinS is improving significantly, there are some challenges remain, such as huge Indonesia context in term of area covered. Video link:

https://youtu.be/jr_9n7QwPKU

- **Vietnam: Provision of 60,000 new School Sanitation Facilities.** In 2018, Vietnam Prime Minister declared to end decades of smelly school latrine. As a result, between 2018 and 2019, Vietnam has allocated funding for provision of 60,000 WASH facilities across the country. Video Link: <https://youtu.be/qGNdXLnUCnQ>
- **WASH in Schools Nepal.** After implementing different approaches on sanitation and hygiene for schools' settings, Government of Nepal initiated Three-star approach to WASH in Schools in 2016. Under the WASH in Schools approach, many positive changes happened at the schools, such as provision of WASH facilities for disabled children, ensure operation and maintenance, and MHM for girls. Challenges remains on the inadequate of funding for repair and construction of WASH facilities in remote areas and water scarcity locations. Video link: <https://youtu.be/UyXeBxjub-E>
- **WASH in Schools in Micronesia.** WinS piloting in Chuuk and Pohnpei highlights the contribution to children behavioural change towards proper handwashing with soap. Despite of many challenges, the schools are encouraged to promote and strengthen interagency and intersectoral relationship and collaboration among teachers. Video link: https://youtu.be/HIPfGXyhF_g

Day 5 – Friday, 15 November 2019 (Highlight and closing)

Closing Ceremony

Review of ILE Week – Video highlight: <https://youtu.be/tc7mn1ctPdw>

Presentation of ILE Outcome document

Formal closing speeches

- ❖ UNICEF
- ❖ GIZ
- ❖ Senior Education Officials from other countries
- ❖ DepEd

Certificate Ceremony

F. Role/Participation of SEAMEO

On behalf of the SEAMEO Secretariat Director, DDPD fully attended and actively participated during the conference.

G. Follow-up Actions Needed

The committee approached DDPD and discussed the possibilities to have High Officials of members countries in the next 8th WinS ILE. DDPD informed the committee the possibility and procedures of doing so. It is a good opportunity for SEAMEO Secretariat to play role as co-organiser of the 8th WinS ILE in 2020.