

# Country-led monitoring in West and Central Africa

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**WASH  
NOTE**

# Definition of country led-monitoring

Country-led monitoring is a mechanism for monitoring, evaluation and learning which is led by countries themselves.

- Country, not the donor, leads and owns the monitoring cycle by determining the questions to be asked, the methods applied, the analytical approach, the communications and how the information is used.
- Shared civil society, private sector and government roles in the process.
- Encompasses an entire country
- The government coordinates regular updating, ensures availability and encourages use of the data.

# Background / Challenges

In 2015, 10 countries in WCAR that represented nearly **74 million people** living in rural areas with **11%, 10% and 53% access to sanitation, hygiene and water services respectively**

Service levels for **sanitation and hygiene** in the WCA region are **behind on the SDG targets for 2030;**



**THE GLOBAL GOALS**  
For Sustainable Development

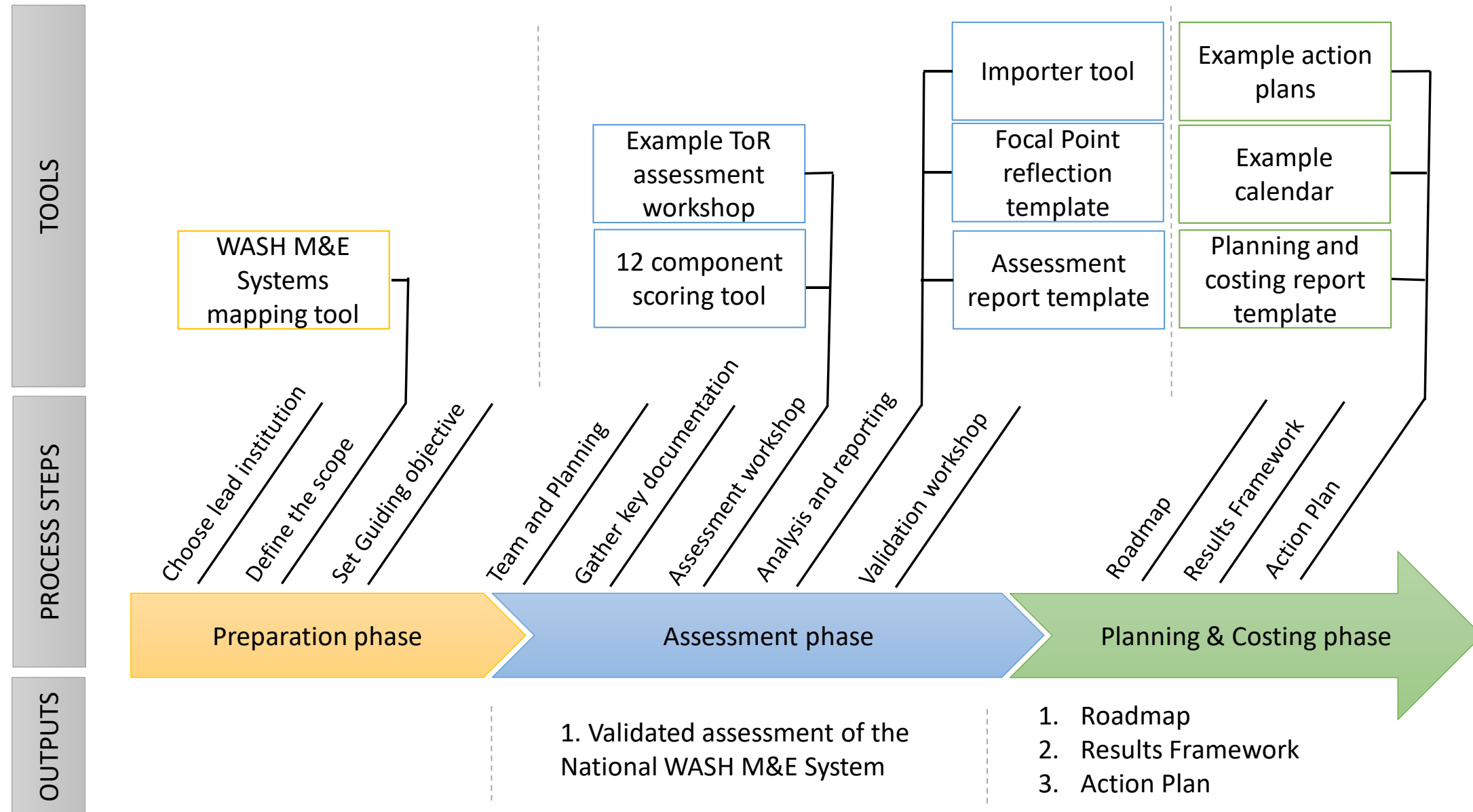


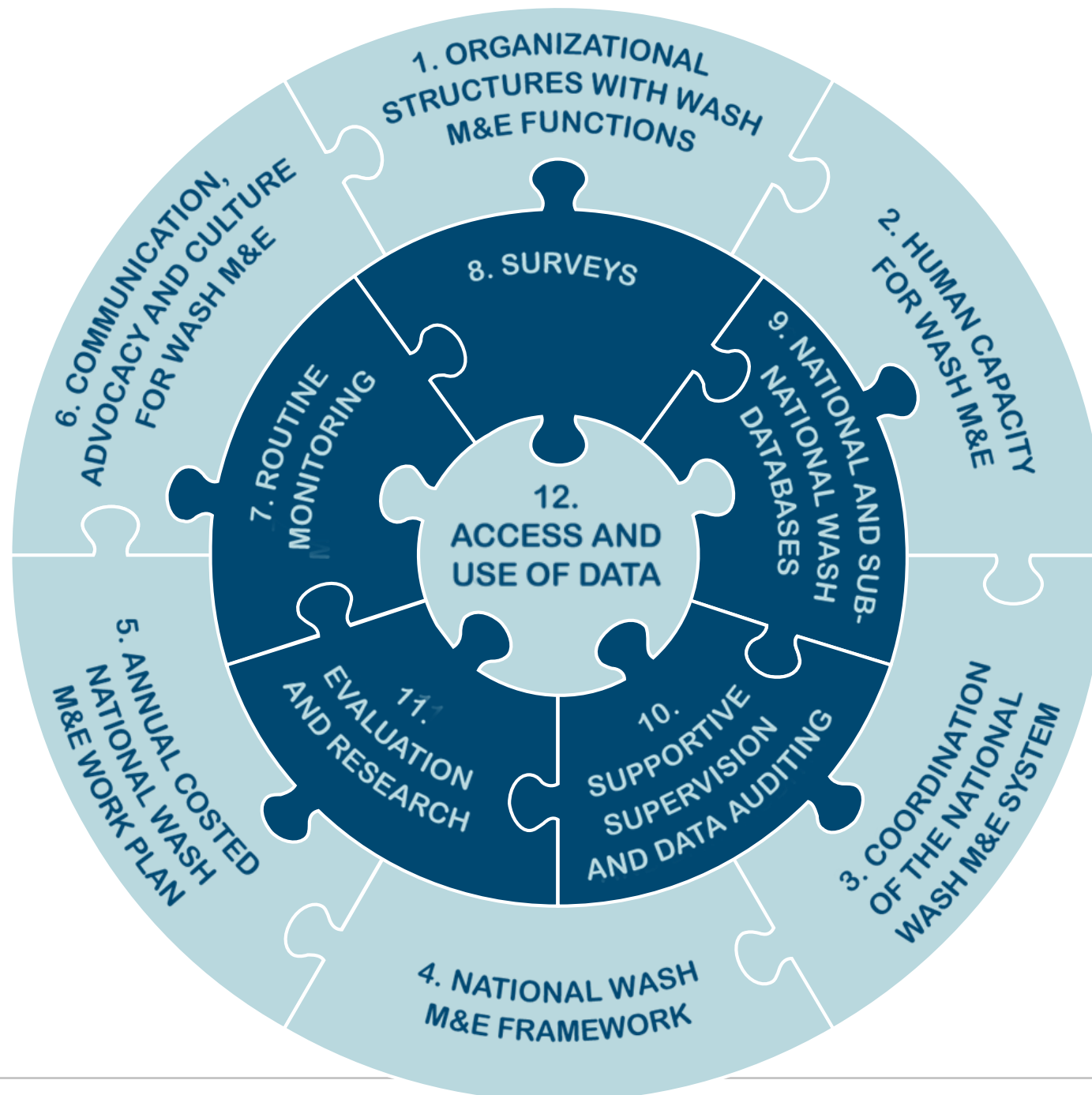
**Need for Robust M&E systems** to improve WASH services, decision-making at national and sub-national levels, and to generate evidence needed to build a case to increasing financing required to achieve the sanitation-related SDG 6.2 targets;

Also, the **need to address the SWA and AMCOW-Ngor commitments** on Sanitation and Hygiene, provides an opportunity for WCAR countries to develop and implement robust monitoring systems that are integrated with the national planning and monitoring system.

# Why did we need a new approach?

- MIS and National M&E Framework (top down) approaches did not work
  - Contracting / procurement
  - Maintenance of (legacy) systems
  - Poor sub-national use / little user focus
  - Not addressing key issues: roles, accountability, diverse needs for different systems and solutions
  - Turnover
- Complex data: admin boundaries, pop data, etc.
- Energy, connectivity distance, inequity





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### Organizing framework for functional national WASH monitoring and evaluation systems

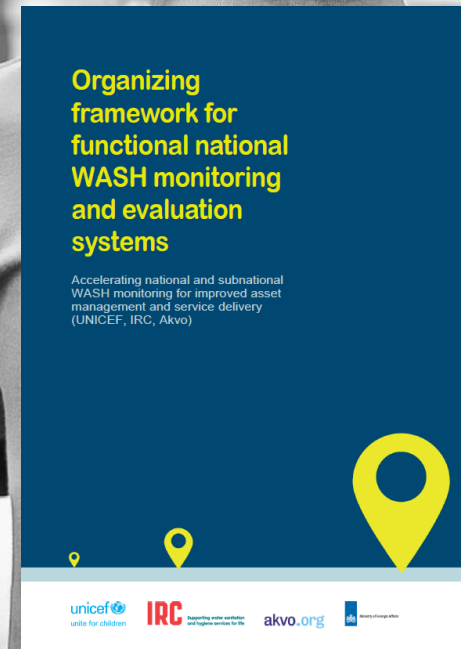
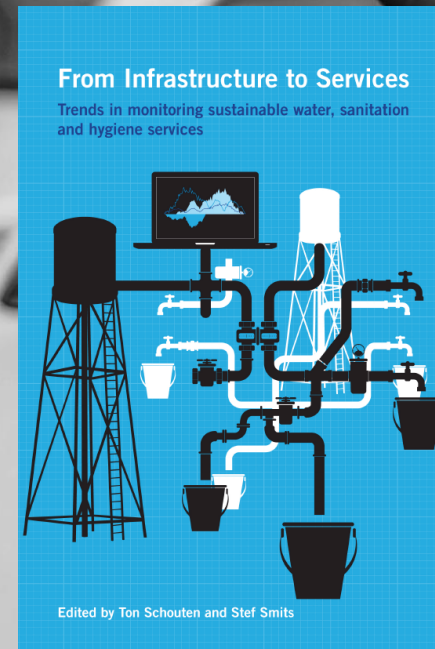
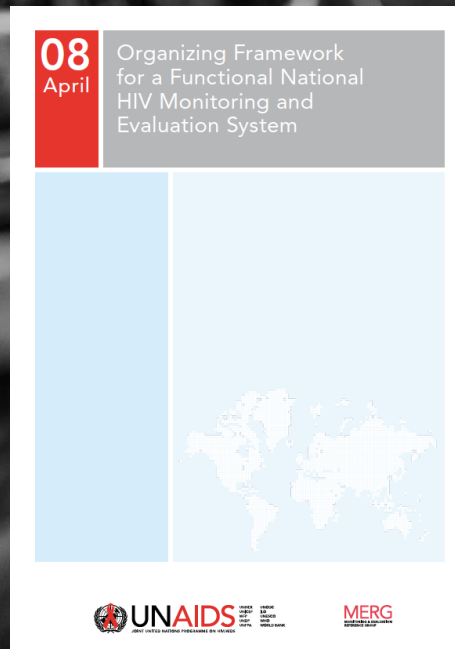
Accelerating national and subnational WASH monitoring for improved asset management and service delivery (UNICEF, IRC, Akvo)



Using data for  
decision-making  
**INSIGHTS**

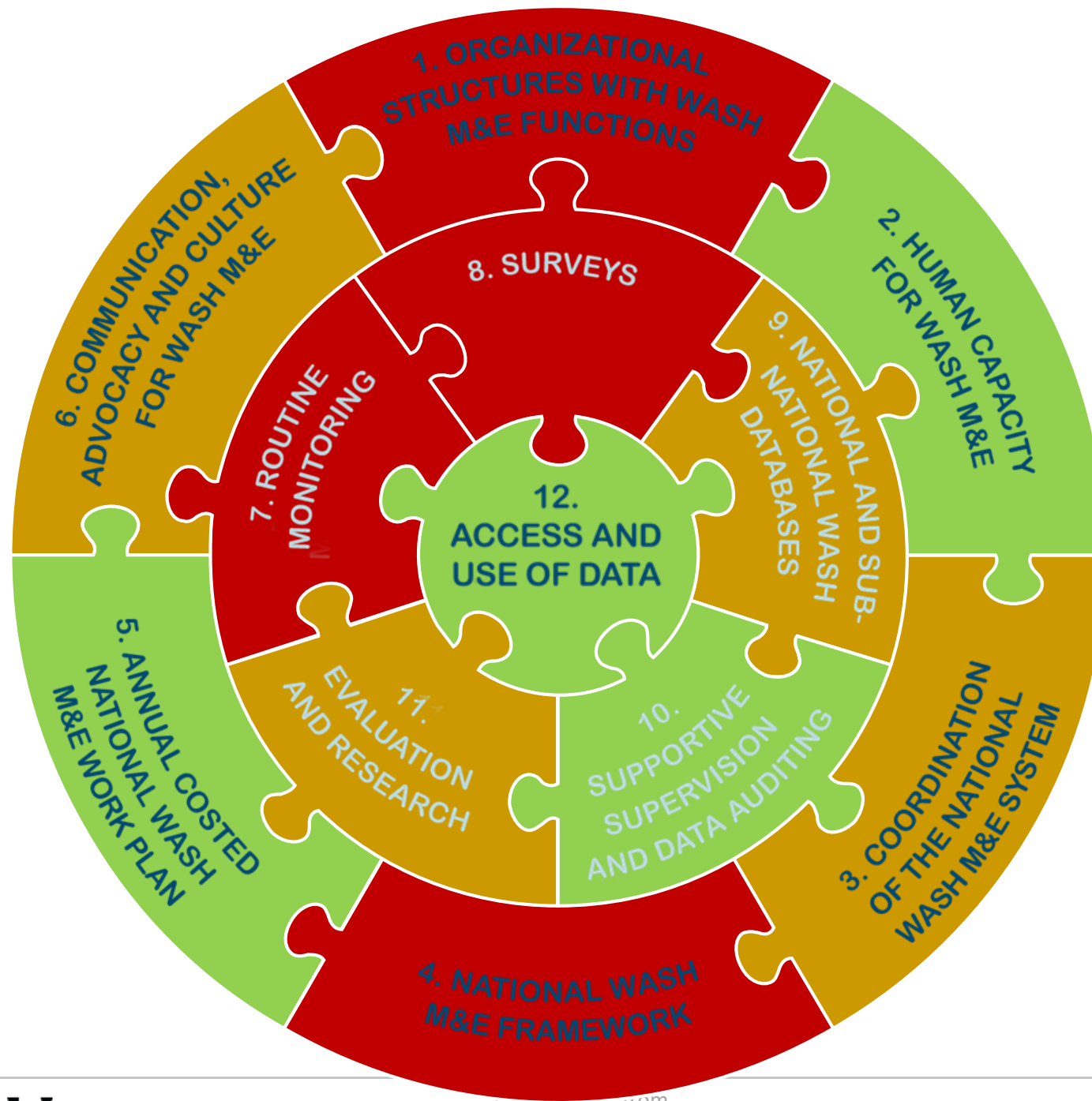
Collecting,  
verifying, and  
analyzing data  
**M&E  
METHODS AND  
ACTIVITIES**

People, partnerships,  
planning  
**ENABLING  
ENVIRONMENT**



Participation	Assessment phase	Planning phase	Steering plan
Lead Ministry for Water	10 / 10	8 / 8	8 / 8
Lead Ministry for Sanitation	9 / 10	5 / 8	6 / 8
Public regulator	4 / 10	2 / 8	2 / 8
National statistics office	9 / 10	6 / 8	6 / 8
Lead Ministry for Water Resources	6 / 10	4 / 8	3 / 8
Lead Ministry for Health	8 / 10	6 / 8	3 / 8
Lead Ministry for Education	8 / 10	1 / 8	0 / 8
Development partners	7 / 10	2 / 8	0 / 8
Utilities and services providers	8 / 10	3 / 8	2 / 8
Civil society (et collectivités territoriaux)	6 / 10	2 / 8	2 / 8
Research institutions	1 / 10	0 / 8	0 / 8
Deconcentrated government	5 / 10	2 / 8	2 / 8
Local government	6 / 10	4 / 8	3 / 8





# Drivers, triggers and factors?

## One case



## A summary

# Sierra Leone

**WASH  
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unicef   
unite for children

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**IRC** Supporting water sanitation  
and hygiene services for life

akvo.org



Ministry of Foreign Affairs

# Strengths (sanitation)

The Ministry of Health and Sanitation has a strong health monitoring and evaluation system led by Directorate of Policy Planning and Information

- Management information system (DHIS2)
- District teams (DHMTs) in place
- Routine monitoring, and
- Supportive supervision of health facilities.

The SDG indicator framework includes some sanitation indicators related to household hygiene, sanitation services and extra-household services

# Sanitation related M&E challenges

There is no complete sanitation specific M&E framework and currently environmental health is a low priority in the MoHS M&E systems.

Lack of strategic information on an annual basis to meet wash goals

The SDG indicator framework does not yet include targets

# 5 year plan

## Four outcomes

- **Routine monitoring of WASH services:** Routine collection and routine use of data to improve WASH services and performance
- **Periodic surveys and baselines (census):** Research and evaluation of WASH to strengthen approaches and the knowledge of WASH in Sierra Leone
- **Use of M&E results:** Use of M&E results for planning, decision making and corrective action
- **Strengthening the enabling environment:** A strong enabling environment for a functional national M&E system and improved WASH services



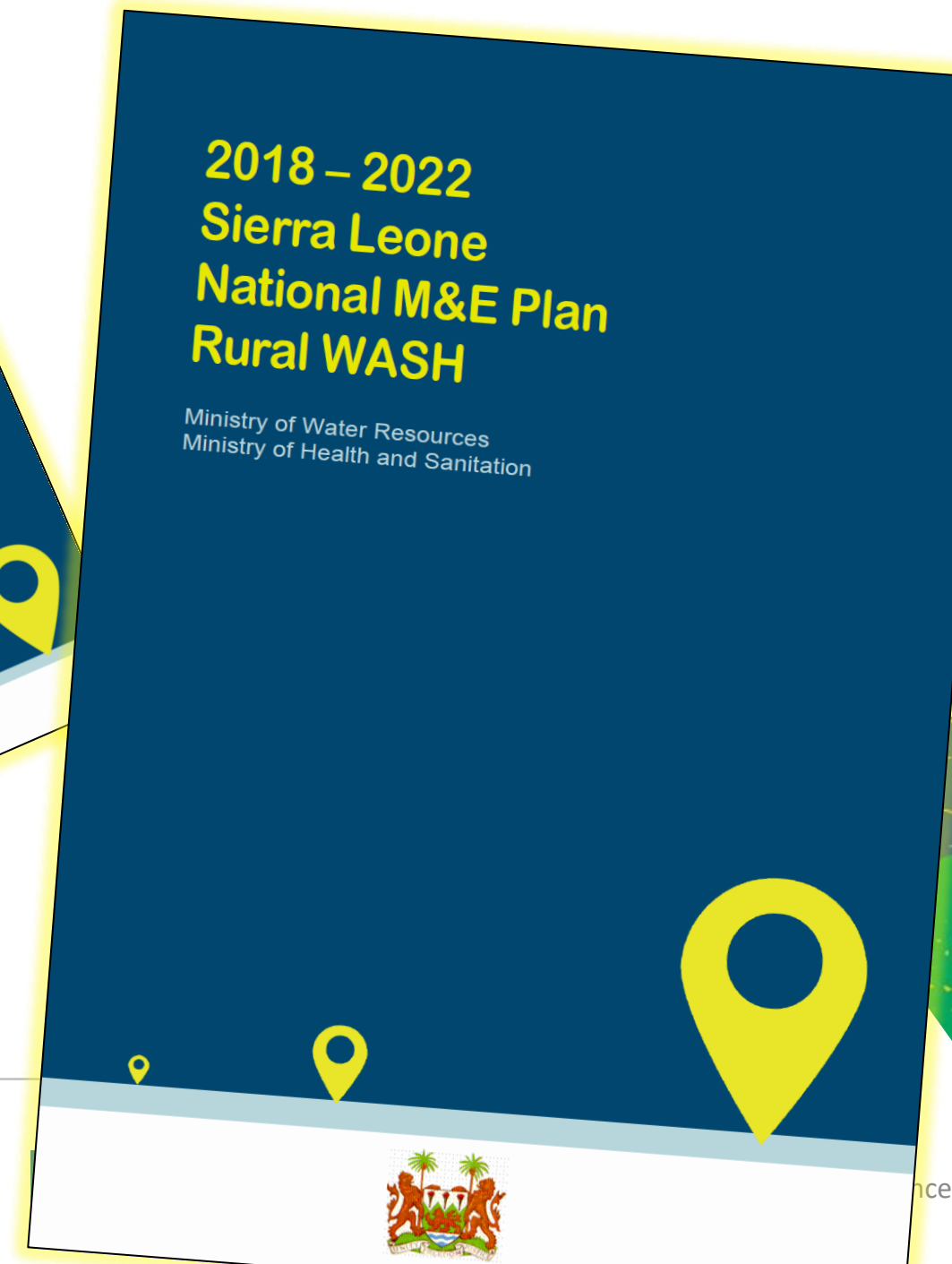
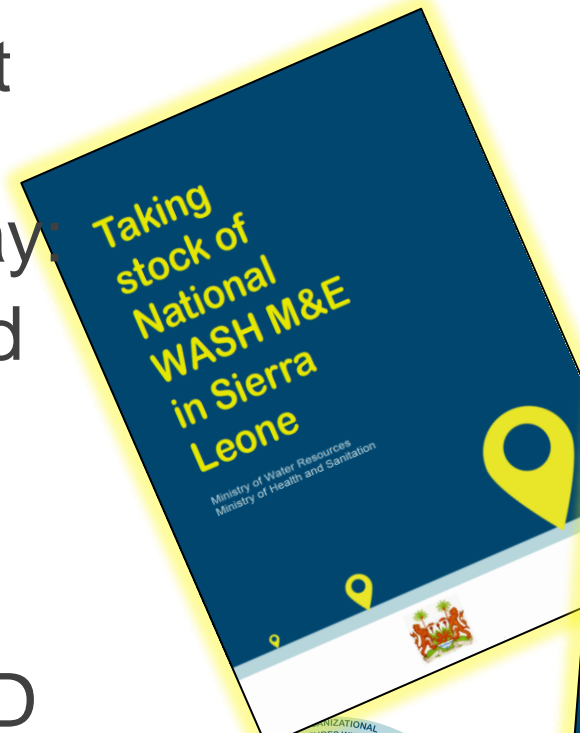
# Success of 2017/2018

National Costed M&E Workplan

National WASH M&E Assessment  
validated

Parts of the plan already underway:

- Development of a data standard (WPDx) for reporting data
- District WASH monitoring
- National WASH Conference
- UNICEF, AfDB, MCC, IRC, DFID are contributing



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# Birds eye view

# 4.1 Enabling Environment (EE)

## Problems identified

1. No active leadership coordinating sector M&E activities
2. Mandates of institutions and departments not well defined or coherent with respect to WASH M&E (creating redundancies)
3. Not enough M&E personnel / insufficient skills / motivation
4. No active or inactive coordination platforms for WASH M&E related activities
5. No coherent and operational sector monitoring framework

## Activities planned

1. Define and/or resource the lead institution to coordinate sector M&E activities
2. Update institutional / departmental roles in the national M&E framework; update mandates
3. Develop and resource a national capacity development plan / institutional HR plans
4. Create / reactivate national and sub-national coordination mechanisms (ML at sub-national level)
5. Identify/update minimum information requirements, indicator set, and matrix of accountability (who report to whom)

## 4.2 Monitoring and Evaluation (M&E)

Challenges identified	Activities planned
1. Limited financial resources for routine monitoring	1. Update legal framework to mandate revenue collection from service providers for the monitoring of water resources
2. Insufficient human resources to execute expected annual M&E activities	2. Outsource M&E activities to delegated service providers and put in place measures to check reports and enforce measures for non-compliance
3. WASH information systems are not coherently organized (incompatible metrics, data fields and/or outputs)	3. Update legal framework, guidelines, and tools used for national WASH M&E processes, including auditing and quality control
4. National database is not used / never integrated its use into standard practices	4. Enforce protocols for service providers reporting data and establish quality assurance
5. Research and evaluations on project, programs are not widely available and policies and strategies are not reviewed on a regular basis	5. Reinforce access and mechanisms to share and use research results.

## 4.3 Insights and Use of Data

### Challenges identified

1. No (regular) dissemination of M&E results
2. No national directory of WASH organizations
3. The quality of WASH M&E reports is generally unsatisfactory, e.g. incomplete, outdated, insufficient quality of data
4. No guidelines for processing/analyzing data nor a data use calendar indicating when any data collected is used
5. M&E data not used to inform policy, strategies, decision making, support functions and service delivery

### Activities planned

1. Implement sector communication strategy containing performance reports
2. Establish a national directory of WASH organizations
3. Support for data analysis, annual report preparation, and dissemination by key sector institutions
4. Develop a data use calendar in national WASH M&E guidelines to indicate how and when data are used
5. Organize sector reviews and present findings to support collective decision making and strategic discussions. Disseminate data through appropriate channels, also within/to sub-national



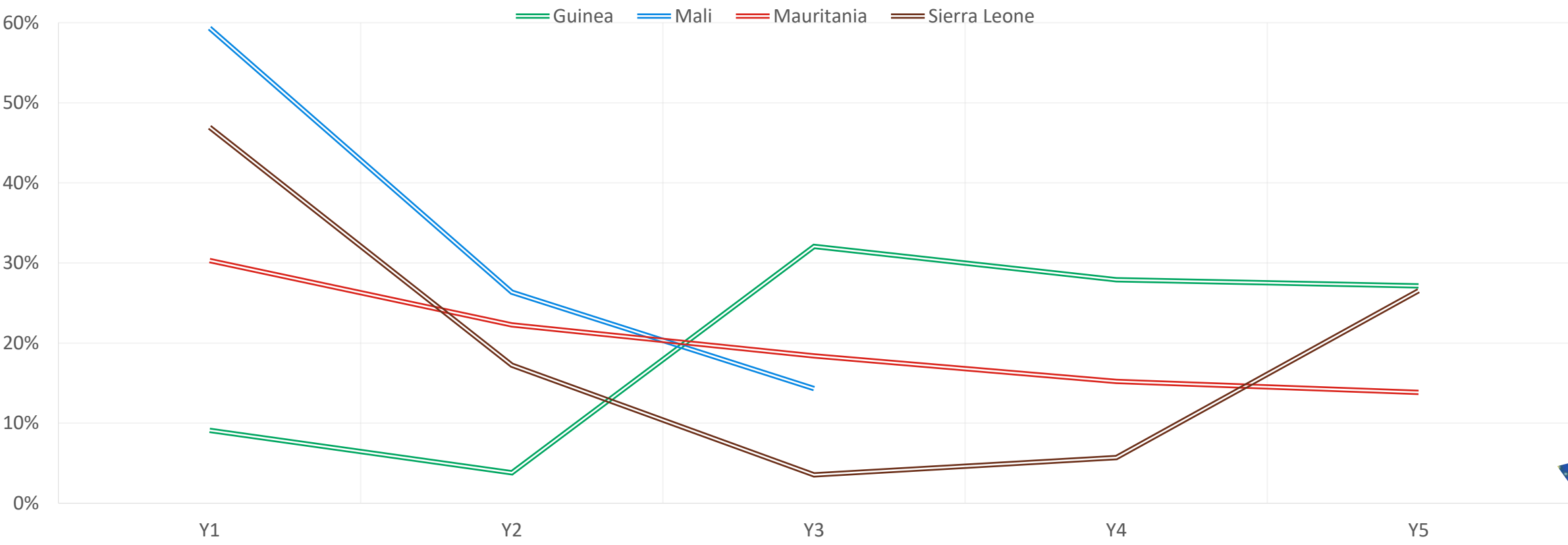
# Costs per person per year

Country	Cost / person / year	Focus
Niger	\$ 0.02	Rural water supply and sanitation
Benin	\$ 0.03	Rural water supply and sanitation
Mali	\$ 0.04	Rural water supply and sanitation
Côte d'Ivoire	\$ 0.05	Rural water supply
Guinea	\$ 0.06	Rural water supply
Central African Republic	\$ 0.08	Rural water supply
Mauritania	\$ 0.38	Rural water supply and sanitation and water resources
Sierra Leone	\$ 0.49	Rural water supply and sanitation
Liberia	\$ 0.59	Rural water supply and sanitation

# Mauritania snapshot

Institution	Domain	Total cost	Cost / person / year
CNRE	Water resources	\$ 1,996	\$ 0.09
DA	Sanitation	\$ 695	\$ 0.08
DH	Water supply	\$ 237	\$ 0.03
DHP	Hygiene	\$ 82	\$ 0.01
DPSC	Overall coordination	\$ 891	\$ 0.10
ONSER	Delegated service delivery (small piped systems)	\$ 622	\$ 0.07
TOTAL		\$ 4,485	\$ 0.38

# Timing of M&E plan costs



# Conclusions

- No single set of recommendations was the same: factors, drivers and triggers can be best identified in participatory workshops
- Understanding costs: these vary enormously based on local context, whether the enabling environment is in place, whether data collection is part of routine monitoring, etc.
- Let's try to continue to understand the whole WASH/institutional/political/economic system even if from an M&E perspective – use the **12 components**.