

# UNICEF & Save the Children

## WASH in Schools (WinS) O&M Study

**Background of study:** In 2013, UNICEF conducted a bottleneck analysis to assess the effectiveness of its WinS support to countries. The analysis found that globally only an estimated 20% of what is required for WinS is currently allocated by national budgets. Also across all its programs, only 20% of schools had a budget for maintenance of WASH facilities and purchase of soap. Recent research by Save the Children on the key factors for sustainable WinS supports the need for a reliable source of funding if schools are to maintain their WASH facilities.

Acknowledging the need for a better understanding on what are the various financing systems in place in countries for the operation and maintenance (O&M) of facilities, how much is allocated and how well it works, UNICEF NY and Save the Children USA have partnered to undertake an exploratory study titled **“A Comparative Study of O&M Financing of WASH facilities in Schools”**.

**Study Objective:** The study objective is to get a global understanding of the financing of operation and maintenance (O&M) costs of water, sanitation and handwashing facilities in schools. The findings of the study will be used to draw conclusions on what is needed from governments and communities to support WinS and will help organizations to consider how they must adequately allocate O&M budgets for sustainable WASH in schools, based on what is and is not found to be successful.

### How will the study be conducted and what role can my organization play?

1. The study will first involve an exploratory global desk review to learn about policies and practices in funding allocations and use of funds for school facilities, including WinS.

**MY ORGANIZATION’S ROLE:** Your WASH/ WASH in School Focal Points are requested to provide any relevant documentation (including national standards, information on sources of financing , cost data) as well as information on studies on O&M of WinS that have been undertaken in their country or region. If you are in one of the countries on the table below, please contact the Save the Children contact listed. If you are in another country or work at the international level, please email Susan Davis ([sdavis@improveinternational.org](mailto:sdavis@improveinternational.org)) and Steve Sara ([ssara@savechildren.org](mailto:ssara@savechildren.org)) for more details about the information needed.

Country	Save the Children Contact	Email
Ethiopia	Alene Yenew	<a href="mailto:Alene.Yenew@savethechildren.org">Alene.Yenew@savethechildren.org</a>
Haiti	Django Mazars	<a href="mailto:django.mazars@savethechildren.org">django.mazars@savethechildren.org</a>
Honduras	Belkis Rodriquez	<a href="mailto:BelkisRodriguez@savethechildrenhonduras.org">BelkisRodriguez@savethechildrenhonduras.org</a>
India	Swapnodipa Biswas	<a href="mailto:s.biswas@savethechildren.in">s.biswas@savethechildren.in</a>
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- The desk review will be followed by more in-depth case studies in about 10 countries to determine good practices or challenges with different methods of financing the O&M of WinS, and the reasons for success or failure. The case-studies involve a data gathering exercise, which involves in-depth interviews and focus group discussions with government and other local counterparts. The case-study countries have been selected by Save the Children where its country offices have WinS experience and an interest to lead the case-study. The case-study countries to date are: Armenia, Bangladesh, Bolivia, Egypt, Ethiopia, Guatemala, Indonesia, Kenya, Malawi, Nepal, Nigeria, Pakistan, Philippines, South Africa, and Tajikistan.

**MY ORGANIZATION'S ROLE:** Your WASH/ WASH in School Focal Points in the case-study countries are encouraged to support and participate with Save the Children Country Office colleague in the exercise. Please email the Save the Children contact(s) listed in the table below:

Country	Save the Children Contact	Email
Armenia	Naira Sergeeva	<a href="mailto:naira.sergeeva@savethechildren.org">naira.sergeeva@savethechildren.org</a>
Armenia	Iren Sargsyan	<a href="mailto:iren.sargsyan@savethechildren.org">iren.sargsyan@savethechildren.org</a>
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- The findings of the desk review and case-study countries will be used to draw conclusions and recommendations for governments and development partners on the funding mechanisms to maintain WASH facilities in schools. Save the Children will share the final results with you.

**MY ORGANIZATION'S ROLE:** Your WASH/ WASH in School Focal Points are encouraged to disseminate the findings of the study in their countries and use it for their local advocacy.