African Group

Kenya

Initiative: Up-scaling Basic Sanitation for Urban Poor (UBSUP)

Institution: Water Sector Trust Fund

In low-income urban areas of Kenya, inadequate and unsustainable access to sanitation and water affected the hygiene and living conditions of residents. These issues most affected women, children and other vulnerable populations of the community. UBSUP ensured safe and sustainable emptying, transport and treatment of toilet sludge through the construction of the decentralized treatment facilities (DTFs). Further, UBSUP established a monitoring system for tracking access to safe water and basic sanitation facilities. It also developed a sanitation up-scaling concept in line with the sector reforms. According to evaluations provided, the initiative’s objectives and strategic approach make a significant contribution to ensuring access to adequate sanitation for those living in low-income urban areas. By December 2018, the initiative had provided 200,000 residents with safe access to water and sanitation.

Latin America and the Caribbean Group

Brazil

Initiative: Waste Collection Program: Enhancing a Cooperative Network for Productive and Social Inclusion

Institution: Prefeitura do Jaboatão dos Guararapes

Waste collection in Jaboatão dos Guararapes was an informal activity that exposed the waste-collectors to ‘Lixão da Muribeca’- an open-air dump yard. This made them
vulnerable to diseases, toxic gases and fumes and compromised their social and economical growth. In 2009, the dump was closed and the municipality implemented a new scheme to formally employ some of the former waste and street cleaners. The programme offers training as well as technical and infrastructure support, aiming also at environmental benefits of waste collection. It prioritizes women and other groups in vulnerable situations, such as HIV-positive, former offenders, former drug addicts to encourage entrepreneurship and self-management of co-operatives.

**Western Europe and Others Group**

**Australia**

**Initiative: Victorian Rabbit Action Network**

**Institution: Agriculture Victoria**

In the State of Victoria, the European Rabbit created unstable land use by burrowing and reproducing at high rates. The Victorian Rabbit Action Network (VRAN) forges communication and provides the opportunity for information exchange between the local community and local government on how to address the invasive rabbit species. VRAN records lessons learned to help adapt response mechanisms and future interventions to control the invasive species problem. It also includes an engagement with policymakers to help local government pass better policies. In four years, it has covered 2.4 million hectares of land that was affected. Surveyed responses and evaluations of the initiative have indicated a fundamental shift in invasive species management towards the community-led approach.
Asia and the Pacific Group

Indonesia

Initiative: PetaBencana.id

Institution: Badan Nasional Penanggulangan Bencana

As weather patterns intensify and become increasingly unpredictable, cities in Indonesia are regularly faced with the challenges of extreme weather events. A lack of access to verified, real-time data compromises the ability to make informed decisions for planning and response, resulting in ineffective resource management and conflict. By providing free real-time disaster information, and making it possible to safely and easily share it, PetaBencana.id leverages capacities for all residents to equally participate in decision-making. The platform is designed to operate smoothly with the other existing platforms such as instant messaging, social media, and SMS-based communications. The initiative is intended for underfunded communities, agencies with limited technical means, and individuals with modest means for data usage. Since the launch of PetaBencana.id website in December 2015, the platform has been accessed 737,102 times by 361,478 unique users.

Latin America and The Caribbean Group

Argentina

Initiative: Social, Synergistic and Sustainable Business Model

Institution: Public Enterprise

Many chronic illness patients in Argentina require expensive medications to survive, but do not have the economic resources or health coverage to pay for them. As such, there was a gap in access to expensive medicines for the poor and/or vulnerable, and particularly for drugs manufactured using blood products like plasma. The creation of the Blood Products Laboratory aims to transform pathogenic residue (plasma) into
safe, effective and affordable medicines for the most poor and vulnerable while created a supply network that can access the affordable drugs for patients. The Laboratory further developed a Drug Donation Program that enables people without health coverage and/or economic resources to treat their illnesses with the donated medicines. Ultimately, the access to medication at a lower price in Argentina has improved and the Blood Products Laboratory has expanded its operation through plasma exchange agreements with Chile, Uruguay, Paraguay and Ecuador.

Western Europe and Others Group

Portugal

Initiative: The National Support Centers for the Integration of Migrants (CNAIM)

Institution: High Commission for Migration

Migrants in Portugal had to visit multiple offices to receive information about their settlement process. This led to long wait times, delayed responses and deferred procurement of required documents which impacted legal, social and employment circumstances of the migrants. The initiative enables concentration and cooperation of various public institutions by facilitating a unified working process. The services inform, guide and advice migrants by providing consistent information and minimizing inaccuracy and delays. As a result, migrants were able to address issues regarding their settlement in a single visit to the offices. Between March 2004 and September 2018, CNAIM provided 4,599,749 services, focusing their effort on quality and efficiency.
In the sub-district of Nong Ta Tam, many households did not have access to basic electricity, which greatly affected the living standards of its people. The Self-reliant Solar Energy Community initiative provided 100 percent of the households in the sub-district with low-cost solar energy, taking into consideration the suitability of areas where electricity expansion was impossible. It also established a self-reliant alternative energy learning center for the community to train individuals to become technicians and promote revolving capital for purchasing solar energy equipment. They facilitated 3 learning centers and ensured there were 5 community technicians per 100 people in the sub-district. The results include knowledge of solar energy, environmental sustainability and CO2 reduction.
Medical records of the Costa Ricans were not easily accessible or transferable between different offices and regions. The Single Digital Health File (EDUS) consists of a set of applications and services that allows the automation of health processes. Using the EDUS, health professionals of the CCSS (Caja Costarricense de Seguro Social) can review patients’ health record from any medical establishment and throughout its network of services. It facilitates better clinical decision making and quality control. The access to clinical information available in real time and the implementation of clinical protocols for the medical care guarantee the standardization of the processes. The system also employs mobile messaging features to directly communicate with people using EDUS. As a result, it is used in 1,047 Basic Teams of Integral Health Care (Primary Care Establishments) of the Costa Rican Social Security Fund in the 7 provinces.
Category 5: Promoting gender-sensitive public services to achieve the SDGs

Asia and the Pacific Group

Republic of Korea

Initiative: Public Sanitary Pads Support Policy for Menstrual Health Equity

Institution: Seoul Metropolitan Government

In Korea, women from low-income population do not readily have access to affordable sanitary pads and public bathrooms generally do not have vending machines for sanitary pads for purchase. In response to the need, the initiative is created in 2016 that focuses on providing sanitary pads to low-income teens. In 2017, it reached approximately 992 facilities used by disadvantaged individuals. There is a plan to further install 200 public sanitary pad dispensers in 2019 with expansion in the future. Seoul Metropolitan Government (SMG) also operates 250 “Girl Care” pharmacies and has designed an informational website and notebook on menstruation to better educate the public. Furthermore, SMG is implementing diverse initiatives to improve public perception of menstruation, such as making reusable sanitary pads events and festivals participated by corporate employees and celebrities. Respectively, the initiative has increased the accessibility of menstrual care such as emergency sanitary pad and information to a national scale.

Western Europe and Others Group

Austria

Initiative: Competence Checks for Refugee Women, ABZ*Kompetenzcheck

Institution: Public Employment Service Austria, AMS in partnership with ABZ*Austria

Austrian companies faced difficulties in integrating refugee women, who were unable to
provide their competences and qualifications and secure decent employment. The initiative offers certification of skills of refugee women or provide training to update the skills to possible career opportunities in the Austrian labor market. The training and counselling are carried out exclusively by mother-tongue experts in Farsi and Arabic. Women are accompanied for 7 weeks and have the opportunity to do internships. Through the programme, refugee women were able to be prove their knowledge and skills, bolster their language skills, expand their social network and become financially independent.

Latin America and the Caribbean Group

Chile

Initiative: Promotion of Women Led Companies Through Public Market

Institution: ChileCompra

There was evidence of a gender gap in women’s participation in the public marketplace in Chile. Only few suppliers were women-owned businesses and there was limited opportunities to enter the market. The creation of the “Sello Empresa Mujer”, (Woman Company Seal), which identifies products/companies led by women or where women are shareholders with 50 per cent or more stake in the company, encourages more women to participate in the opportunities offered by the public marketplace. Furthermore, women have been given training and tools to improve the management of their businesses. Public procurement was also instructed to make purchases with affirmative measure to support hiring of women. The initiative has been instrumental in promoting micro and small enterprises owned by women in the marketplace and public procurement processes.