



Final Evaluation of UNICEF Sustainable WASH for Resilience Programme (SWfRP) in South Sudan

Final Inception Report

February 2025

ACKNOWLEDGEMENTS

This evaluation was commissioned by United Nations Children' Fund (UNICEF) in South Sudan.

The evaluation is being conducted by a team from Muthengo Development Solutions (MDS) as follows:

Ngonidashe Marimo: Team Leader

Stewart Nyamuranga: International WASH Expert

Kuziwa Chimunda: Data Manager

Daniel Mawa: Local WASH Expert

Asobasi Joe Stephen: Survey Coordinator

Nyasha Madzingira: Project Manager

TABLE OF CONTENTS

ACKNOWLEDGEMENTS	2
TABLE OF CONTENTS	1
ACRONYMS	2
1 INTRODUCTION	1
2 BACKGROUND	1
2.1 CONTEXT OF THE PROJECT.....	1
2.2 DESCRIPTION OF THE PROJECT.....	3
2.2.1 <i>Theory of change (ToC) of the project</i>	4
2.2.2 <i>Stakeholders of the project</i>	6
2.3 EVALUATION PURPOSE, SCOPE AND OBJECTIVES.....	7
2.3.1 <i>Evaluation purpose</i>	7
2.3.2 <i>Evaluation scope</i>	7
2.3.3 <i>Evaluation objectives</i>	8
2.4 EVALUABILITY ASSESSMENT.....	8
2.5 EVALUATION FRAMEWORK.....	11
2.5.1 <i>Impact</i>	11
2.5.2 <i>Relevance</i>	12
2.5.3 <i>Efficiency</i>	12
2.5.4 <i>Effectiveness</i>	12
2.5.5 <i>Coherence</i>	13
2.5.6 <i>Sustainability</i>	13
2.5.7 <i>Gender, equity and human rights</i>	14
2.5.8 <i>Youth and private sector development</i>	14
2.6 EVALUATION USERS AND USES.....	15
3 APPROACH AND METHODOLOGY	16
3.1 EVALUATION DESIGN.....	16
3.2 GENERAL APPROACH.....	16
3.3 METHODOLOGY.....	17
3.3.1 <i>Document review</i>	17
3.3.2 <i>Qualitative data collection</i>	18
3.3.3 <i>Quantitative data collection</i>	19
3.3.4 <i>Sampling of counties, payams, schools and health facilities</i>	20
3.3.5 <i>Data collection</i>	23
3.3.6 <i>Data management</i>	24
3.3.7 <i>Data analysis</i>	24
3.3.8 <i>Validation</i>	25
3.3.9 <i>Evaluation outputs</i>	25
3.4 RISK AND MITIGATION.....	25
4 WORKPLAN	28
4.1 EVALUATION TEAM AND RESPONSIBILITIES.....	28
ANNEXES	30
ANNEX 1: TERMS OF REFERENCE.....	30
ANNEX 2: EVALUATION FRAMEWORK.....	39
ANNEX 3: DATA COLLECTION TOOLS.....	45

ACRONYMS

CCC	Core Commitments for Children
CEDAW	Convention on the Elimination of All Forms of Discrimination against Women
CEDS	Centre for Emergency and Development Services
CLTS	Community Led Total Sanitation
CCRI	Children's Climate Risk Index
EIA	Environmental Impact Assessment
GBV	Gender-based violence
GDP	Gross Domestic Product
HWTS	Household Water Treatment and Storage
IAS	International Aid Services
MDAs	Government Ministries, Departments and Agencies
MLHPU	State Ministry of Housing, Land, and Public Utilities
MoGEI	Ministry of General Education and Instruction
MWRI	Ministry of Water Resources and Irrigation
NGOs	non-governmental organisations
RWIMS	Rural Water Information Management System
SSUWC	South Sudan Urban Water Corporation
SWfRP	Sustainable WASH for Resilience Project
TOC	Theory of Change
WASH	Water, Sanitation and Hygiene

1 INTRODUCTION

This report presents the first output for the Final Evaluation of UNICEF Sustainable WASH for Resilience Project (SWfRP) in South Sudan. The main purpose of this inception phase was to agree with the Evaluation Reference Group and UNICEF on evaluation design and methods. This was based on a process set to understand the programme design and implementation in greater depth and the interests of key stakeholders from the evaluation. An inception meeting was held with UNICEF and subsequent meetings with the Evaluation Reference Group.

2 BACKGROUND

2.1 Context of the project

South Sudan has endured two decades of destructive conflict before gaining independence on 9 July 2011. Since then, the country has faced a deteriorating economic climate, a rapturing social fabric and deepening political challenges, constraining development, and intensifying a complex humanitarian crisis. Children have borne the most impact. With a population of 12,058,641, consisting of 5,931,041 (49.2%)¹ males and 6,127,600 (50.8%) females and an estimated annual growth rate of 2.069%, the country is the most oil-dependent country in the world, with oil accounting for almost the totality of exports, and around 60 percent of its Gross Domestic Product (GDP)². Following independence, the economy experienced three major shocks in the space of just three years: the 2012 oil shutdown; the armed conflict that began in December 2013; and the 2014 fall in global oil prices. Lower oil prices and reduced oil production have resulted in a budget deficit, and the country is unable to fully pay for its costs and has become dependent on borrowing. Outside the oil sector, livelihoods are concentrated in low productive, unpaid agriculture and pastoralist work, which account for around 15 percent of the GDP. Around 85 percent of the working population is engaged in non-wage work, primarily in pastoralism and crop production. Poverty levels have also risen post-independence, from 44.7 percent in 2011 to more than 57.2 percent in 2015. There has also been a corresponding increase in the depth of poverty resulting in a greater number of households living below the poverty line.

¹ United Nations Data, 2024

² World Bank, 2020



Figure 1: Map of South Sudan showing SWFRP implementation areas

Source: Progress Report Jan – Dec 2021

The protracted humanitarian situation in South Sudan coupled with the impact of climate change continues to expose the already-vulnerable children and their families to heightened risk of shocks and stresses. The crisis has also triggered a wave of returnees and refugees who are mainly women and children. Most are highly vulnerable and arrive in critically underdeveloped areas exposed to severe protection concerns including sexual violence, gender-based violence (GBV), and abuse. Girls and women face gender-based violence (GBV) whilst trying to access scarce water supplies, and their dignity is compromised by poor sanitation and hygiene practices in communities and households. As of 31 December 2023, 477,547 individuals including 246,954 children were registered as either refugees or returnees³. The situation has also heightened the overreliance and expectation of both government and communities for support from the international community towards the provision of WASH services. Trends from the 2023 WHO/UNICEF Joint Monitoring Programme data show that, despite the collective efforts of the Government and developing partners, the South Sudan WASH sector still faces significant challenges with decreasing access to safe water and very slow progress in access to safe sanitation services over the past 10 years. Over 60 percent of the population in South Sudan lack access to basic levels of drinking water. The country is still struggling in meeting the SDG 6.2 target of achieving access to adequate and equitable sanitation and hygiene for all and end open defecation. Only 20 percent of the population has access to basic sanitation services and 63 percent of the population do not have toilets at all, practicing open defecation posing a serious risk to people’s health, economic development, and well-being⁴. According to the 2020 National Household Health Survey, 74.7 percent of households practice open defecation, whilst only 5.6 percent of households have a designated place for handwashing, with water and soap available⁵. As a result, the incidence of diarrhoea is over 30 percent and malnutrition rates are over 16 percent, among children under 5 years of age. The 2017 Education Cluster Assessment reported that only 17 percent of schools have hand washing facilities and 61 per cent have functioning latrines. On average, 214 children share one functional latrine even though according to Sphere standards, there should be one functional latrine for every 30 girls and one

3 United Nations High Commissioner for Refugees (UNHCR), 2023

4 WHO/UNICEF Joint Monitoring Programme, 2023

5 National Household Health Survey, Ministry of Health, Republic of South Sudan, May 7th, 2021

functional latrine for every 60 boys. Additionally, most of the available latrines make no provision for menstrual hygiene management (MHM). On average, 214 children share one functional latrine even though according to Sphere standards, there should be one functional latrine for every 30 girls and one functional latrine for every 60 boys. Only 51 per cent of schools have access to safe water near or close to the school with variations across states. Of these, 28 per cent report that it takes more than 30 minutes to reach the water source⁶.

Furthermore, extreme climate shocks such as flooding and drought, are affecting the coping mechanism of the population exposing them to extreme vulnerability. UNICEF's Children's Climate Risk Index (CCRI) ranks South Sudan as the 7th most affected country by climate change, where children are at the highest risk. Over the past four years floods affected up to 3.2 million people (according to the international disaster database). Schools, homes, health facilities and water sources have been inundated. Another predicted major flood event is likely to occur in South Sudan over the second half of 2024 affecting 3.3 million people. To address some of the challenges related to the WASH sector, the Government of South Sudan and UNICEF South Sudan partnered to implement the five-year Sustainable WASH for Resilience Project (SWfRP) program (2019-2024) which focused on resilience programming through the involvement and empowerment of communities in the development of sustainable basic and safe water, sanitation, and hygiene (WASH) services. The SWfRP programme is well aligned with the Partnership for Resilience and Recovery (PfRR) which was launched in 2018 in response to the multiple humanitarian crises and aimed at increasing the scale, effectiveness and efficiency of partners to reduce vulnerability and increase the resilience of households and communities in South Sudan.

2.2 Description of the project

The five-year Sustainable WASH for Resilience Project (SWfRP) (2019-2024) was funded by the Dutch Government and implemented by the Government of South Sudan and UNICEF South Sudan. The main objective of the SWfRP was to support national and state governments to strengthen their capacity and systems to plan, implement, monitor, and sustain WASH services, building both community and government ownership by strengthening the enabling environment while ensuring sustained use of safely managed water supplies, the elimination of open defecation, and improved hygiene behaviors by people in targeted communities, especially by women and girls and persons with disabilities. The specific objectives were to:

1. Increase sustainable access to safe drinking water (250,000 people) and to improved sanitation facilities (175,000 people), and adoption of good hygiene behaviours (175,000 people) at household and institutional (schools, health facilities) levels
2. Increase access to pump spare parts and household sanitation and HWTS technologies via an established supply chain at the local level, whilst strengthening the management and O&M of WASH facilities in a sustainable manner
3. Promote sustainable WASH approaches in schools and health facilities, including menstrual hygiene management (MHM)
4. Increase the capacity of four state Directorates of Rural Water Supply and Sanitation

It was implemented in eleven counties in four states: Lakes State (Rumbek East, Rumbek Centre and Rumbek North); Eastern Equatoria State (Torit, Magwi, Ikotos, and Lopa/Lafon); Western Equatoria State (Yambio, Nzara, and Ezo); and Jonglei state (Bor). UNICEF works with three CSO partners: Centre for Emergency and Development Services, (CEDS) (Lakes State); Mentor Initiative (Eastern Equatorial State; and LM international (Jonglei State and Western Equatoria State). The project aimed to ensure 250,000 people in project areas have access to safe water and a subset of this (175,000) having sustainable access to sanitary means of excreta disposal and are aware and practice at least 3 key improved hygiene behaviours (handwashing, use of toilets, and HWTS technologies). It was initiated to focus on resilience programming through the involvement and

⁶ South Sudan Education Cluster Assessment, 2017

empowerment of communities to develop sustainable basic and safe water, sanitation, and hygiene (WASH) services. The program comprises of seven major components as detailed in Table 1 below.

Table 1: Components of the WASH for Resilience Project

Programme Component	Main Activities
1. Access to safe drinking water	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Rehabilitation and construction of boreholes with hand pumps, boreholes with motorized pumps, elevated storage, and limited distribution Rehabilitation of the town water supply system Water quality monitoring
2. Management and operation and maintenance of WASH facilities in a sustainable manner	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Strengthening the capacity of community-based water user committees Promoting participation in financing in all four states
3. Access to pump spare parts and household sanitation and HWTS technologies.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Mapping existing supply chains of hand pump spare parts and sanitation products in four project states Development of a framework/business model for supply chain systems hand pump spare parts and sanitation products
4. Access to sanitation	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Rollout of the Community Led Total Sanitation (CLTS) model to promote appropriate and low-cost options for institutional and household toilets
5. Hygiene behaviors	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Promotion of improved hygiene practices, namely, handwashing after defecation; safe disposal of children's faeces; and household water treatment systems (HWTS)
6. Sustainable WASH approaches in schools and healthcare facilities	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Promotion of basic knowledge on hand washing, toilet use and HWTS in schools and healthcare facilities Menstrual hygiene management (MHM) in schools Construction of WASH facilities in schools and healthcare facilities
7. Enhanced capacity for four state Directorates of Rural Water Supply and Sanitation	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Strengthen the Rural Water Information Management System (RWIMS) Improve the capacity of Directorates of Rural Water Supply and Sanitation to effectively plan, supervise, monitor, and report on WASH activities

2.2.1 Theory of change (ToC) of the project

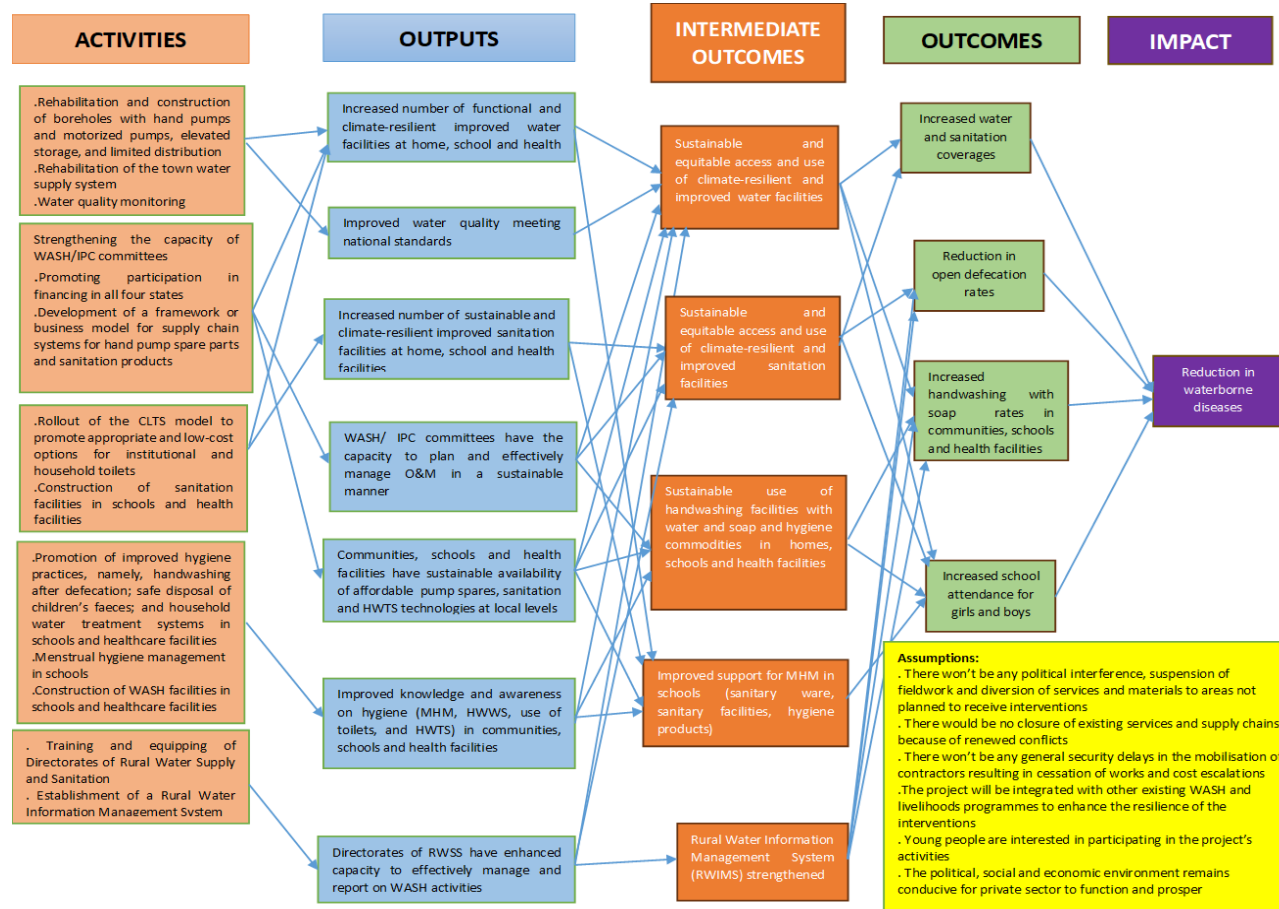
The evaluation has reconstructed the project's theory of change based on its objectives and the interventions implemented. Figure 2 presents the reconstructed TOC. At the output level interventions of the project lead to increased availability of safe water (at home, school and health facilities) with water user committees strengthened to provide and implement infrastructure management plans, spare parts and HWTS commodities being available with communities having improved knowledge and attitudes towards hygiene and HWTS. Communities will also have positive attitudes to building and using latrines as well as willingness to construct them. Directorates of Rural Water Supply and Sanitation will have enhanced capacity to effectively plan, supervise, monitor and report on WASH activities. At school level, MHM levels will improve knowledge and attitudes on MHM by learners and school authorities.

These results will lead to sustainable and equitable access to safe water; sustainable, equitable and consistent use of latrines, safe disposal of child feces, increased availability of handwashing facilities with water and soap and other hygiene commodities in homes, schools, and health facilities; and improved support for MHM in schools (sanitary ware, support for pain management and hygiene).

Once these are achieved, they will lead to reduction in open defecation, increased consistent handwashing practices which will in turn lead to reduction of waterborne and waterborne disease prevalence. Improved support for MHM in schools will lead to increased school attendance by girls.

The causal linkages in the TOC are premised on assumptions listed in the ToC diagram. These assumptions will be developed further and assessed for their validity during the data collection stage of the evaluation.

Figure 2: Theory of Change Diagram



Source: Project Reports & Proposal

2.2.2 Stakeholders of the project

As stipulated above, the “Sustainable WASH for Resilience Project (SWfRP)” has several stakeholders at national- and sub-national-levels. Table 1 shows each stakeholder engaged in the project and their corresponding roles.

Table 1: Partnership arrangements and roles

Stakeholder	Role in the Project
Fund Managers	
UNICEF	Fund and Technical Manager accountable to donors and manages all project activities
Dutch Government	Main funding partner of the SWfRP
Technical and Implementing Partners	
Programme Management Team (PMT)	Consisting of selected government and civil society organisations, it is responsible for the day-to-day management and coordination of the project, including carrying out advocacy initiatives with government.
Centre for Emergency and Development Support (CEDS)	A national NGO and UNICEF partners responsible for implementing community WASH activities in Lakes State (Rumbek East, Rumbek Centre and Rumbek North)
LM International South Sudan	An international NGO and UNICEF partner responsible for implementing community WASH activities in Western Equatoria State ie Yambio, Nzara, Ezo, and Bor
Mentor Initiative	An international NGO and UNICEF partner responsible for implementing community WASH activities in Eastern Equatoria State ie Torit, Magwi, Ikotos, and Lopa/Lafon
ACTED/REACH	International NGO contracted by UNICEF to carry out the baseline survey for the programme and lead the WASH infrastructure mapping activities
Kagga and Partners Engineering Consultancy	A private consultancy firm that was contracted by UNICEF for the feasibility study, the Environmental Impact Assessment (EIA), design, and construction supervision for the Bor Town water supply system works
2ML Consulting Limited	A leadership consultancy firm contracted by UNICEF to conduct institutional capacity building for the South Sudan Urban Water Cooperation (SSUWC)-Bor Area team.
Government Ministries, Departments and Agencies (MDAs)	
State Ministry of Housing, Land, and Public Utilities (MLHPU)	Responsible for housing development, overseeing land administration and the development of urban planning policies and regulations that promote orderly and sustainable urban growth.
State Ministry of Physical Infrastructure	Responsible for overseeing and managing the development and maintenance of the state's public physical infrastructure, including the coordination of activities related to water supply and sanitation. The project works with this public entity in Bor, Rumbek, Torit and Yambio.
State Ministry of Health	Government Ministry and its respective departments and agencies responsible for managing all public health facilities and its workers, water supply and sanitation services, enforcement of by-laws, hygiene promotion, and epidemiology and disease surveillance. The project works with these entities in Bor, Rumbek, Torit and Yambio.
Ministry of Water Resources and Irrigation (MWRI)	Government ministry responsible for managing and developing the country's water resources through ensuring access to clean and safe drinking water for all citizens and the engagement of communities for effective and equitable water resource utilization
State Directorates of Rural Water Supply and Sanitation	Chaired by the Ministry of Water Resources and Irrigation (MWRI), it is responsible for managing and coordinating the implementing of WASH interventions in rural areas.
Municipality of Bor	Government Local Authority that is responsible for maintaining public health through the provision of waste management, safe drinking water and sanitation services and infrastructure to the residents of Bor.
South Sudan Urban Water Corporation (SSUWC)	Is a government regulatory agency responsible for ensuring the provision of safe and clean drinking water and wastewater management to urban areas in South Sudan through instituting and enforcement of efficient Water Supply Management systems, infrastructure development and water supply and sanitation regulations and policies.
Bor Town Water Utility (BTWU)	Provides WASH services to the residents of Bor Town through sourcing, treatment, and distribution of clean and safe drinking water to households,

Stakeholder	Role in the Project
	businesses, and public facilities. The utility also oversees the maintenance and repair of WASH infrastructure and manages the collection, treatment, and disposal of wastewater and sewage to maintain public health.
Ministry of General Education and Instruction (MoGEI)	Government ministry responsible for the management of all public schools and for overseeing the education system in the country. It is responsible for curriculum management and formulation and implementation of education policies that ensure quality education.
Community-based Stakeholders	
Hand pump mechanics, operators and artisans	Are part of the local WASH committees formed at the village level and are responsible for the day-to-day operations, repairs and maintenance of hand pumps within their respective villages
Social Mobilizers/ Hygiene Promoters	Responsible for community mobilisation and educating communities and households on WASH issues.
Community/Religious Leaders	Key influencers on WASH issues in their respective religious sects and payams.
Village WASH Committees	Consists of between 5 to 10 members and are formed at each water point through selection by user communities and are responsible for the day to day management of their respective water point.
Community Health Workers	Responsible for educating communities about health and WASH practices, disease prevention, and hygiene and also for monitoring and reporting on the spread of diseases to help with early detection and response.
Community Groups/Associations	Rally their respective communities and members towards practicing proper health and hygiene behaviours e.g. Jonglei Women's Association
Households	Carry out WASH activities in their respective households

2.3 Evaluation purpose, scope and objectives

2.3.1 Evaluation purpose

The overall purpose of this evaluation is to 1). Support greater learning about what works, what does not and why in the context of a SWfRP. The evaluation will provide important information and a platform for engaging stakeholders to provide inputs and feedback on SWfRP implementation for strengthening future programming and results at the country level. 2) Support greater accountability of UNICEF to the SWfRP stakeholders.

2.3.2 Evaluation scope

The evaluation will be undertaken as an independent examination of the background, assessment, activities, processes and means deployed by UNICEF and its key implementing and technical partners whose roles are as shown in Table 2 above. The evaluation will cover the five-year Sustainable WASH for Resilience Project (SWfRP) implemented from 1 September 2019 to 31 December 2024 in eleven selected counties ie Rumbek East, Rumbek Centre, Rumbek North, Torit, Magwi, Ikotos, and Lopa/Lafon, Yambio, Nzara, Ezo, and Bor. It will also cover the national initiatives undertaken by the project. The evaluation will focus on all the seven major project components discussed in Table 1 above. Particular attention will be paid to equity how the project was able to integrate, reach, and benefit all categories including men and women, persons with disabilities, ethnicities, and those in remote areas. A further analysis would be the extent to which disaggregated data (sex, age, locations and disability) was collected, analysed and reported on to inform an equity-based project.

The evaluation will be conducted according to the OECD DAC criteria of relevance, effectiveness, coherence, efficiency, impact and sustainability. Additional criteria of youth, climate change, private sector development, gender and human rights will also be included. The evaluation will also include an analysis of how the project integrated the participation of men, women, adolescents, and children in schools as well as people with disabilities, and how it met the rights, needs and priorities of rights holders.

2.3.3 Evaluation objectives

The stated specific objectives of this evaluation are to:

- Assess whether envisioned results of the project at output, outcome and impact levels have been achieved as planned.
- Assess the relevance, effectiveness, efficiency, coherence and sustainability of project interventions towards achieving sustainable access to safe drinking water, adequate sanitation and hygiene services for targeted populations.
- Assess the contribution of the project towards addressing gender, climate change and conflict sensitivity issues. The evaluation also intends to assess the contribution of youth and private sector participation in project activities.
- Document best practices, key lessons learnt and provide recommendations for improvement in future project design, implementation, monitoring and evaluation.

2.4 Evaluability assessment

We have reviewed the project documents including proposal, annual reports, and have the following observations that could undermine evaluability of the project:

- **Issue 1:** The project has no output or outcome population based indicators. The project’s indicators are mainly output based collected from administrative data. This misses a significant portion of indicators for results of the programme. This may undermine full exploration of the project’s results. The project also excludes an Menstrual Hygiene Management (MHM) indicators yet MHM is a specific project intervention area. This would make the component immeasurable since there are no agreed indicators of performance.
- **Issue 2:** There was no baseline for the programme outcome level indicator: handwashing, Household Water Treatment and Storage (HWTS), sanitation etc. This will undermine the performance assessment of the project as there is no comparator baseline value to determine direction of change in the indicators.
- **Issue 3:** A large part of the implementation was affected by COVID and resurgence of conflict (in some areas) with burn rates about the 25% by end of 2022, third year of the programme.

Below we detail our proposals to improve evaluability of the project.

Issue 1: The programme has no output or outcome population based indicators

To address this challenge, the evaluation team have reconstructed the Theory of Change of the project as detailed in Figure 2. This theory of change provides an expanded analysis of the potential causal pathways for the programme that will need to be explored to ensure fuller analysis of the project’s performance. To support the efficacy of this TOC in the measurement of the project’s performance, the evaluation team proposes additional indicators to support measurement of the TOC results. These are presented in Table 2 to Table 4. The tables also include the primary data source/respondent for the indicator. Some indicators may state household, but cover schools and health facilities. For example

Table 2: Access to safe water, additional indicators proposed for the evaluation

	Primary data source				
	Household	Learners	School	Health facility	Water facility
Availability and Accessibility					
% households/ schools/ health facilities using improved (safe) water sources					
Amount of water provided per person per day (e.g., litres per capita per day, Lpcd)					

	Primary data source				
	Household	Learners	School	Health facility	Water facility
Frequency and duration of supply interruptions					
Consistency of water availability throughout the year, including during dry and wet seasons					
Average distance/time to collect water (e.g., less than 30 minutes round trip).					
% of households with access to safe water sources within a defined radius (e.g., 1 km in rural areas).					
% of schools/health facilities with access to safe water sources within a defined radius (e.g., 100m in rural areas).					
% of household income spent on water services (e.g., below 5% is considered affordable)					
Water quality					
% of users satisfied with the water quality					
Water quality levels (as reflected in the water quality testing results)					
Safe water handling and storage					
% households adopting safe water handling and storage practices					
% households treating water with appropriate agents					
Water treatment used					
Sustainability					
Level of availability of spare parts					
% of water user committees with facility management plans					
% of water user committees with functional resource mobilisation					
% schools/ facilities with a resourced WASH management plan					

Table 3: Sanitation and Open Defecation Free (ODF), additional indicators proposed for the evaluation

	Home	Learners	School	Health facility	Water facility
Availability and use⁷ of safe sanitation					
Proportion using improved sanitation facilities (JMP: basic service or better)					

⁷ **Safely Managed:** Use of improved sanitation facilities not shared with other households and where excreta are safely disposed of or treated off-site; **Basic:** Use of improved sanitation facilities not shared with other households; **Limited:** Use of improved sanitation facilities shared between two or more households; **Unimproved:** Use of pit latrines without a slab or platform, or bucket latrines; **Open Defecation:** Disposal of human faeces in fields, forests, bushes, or other open spaces.

	Home	Learners	School	Health facility	Water facility
Percentage of households with functional latrines					
% of schools with functional latrines separate for boys and girls					
Percentage of households consistently using latrines for defecation					
Percentage of households upgrading from basic to improved sanitation facilities (CLTS database)					
Latrine maintenance					
Percentage of latrines that are clean, functional, and in regular use six months or a year after construction					
Percentage of households upgrading from basic to improved sanitation facilities (evaluative)					
ODF					
Percentage of households in the community that no longer practice open defecation.					
Number of villages or communities certified as ODF (Secondary data)					
Proportion of households practicing safe child faeces disposal					
Proportion of learners/households with knowledge of safe disposal of child faeces					
Exposure to CLTS					
Proportion of households contributing to community-led sanitation efforts (e.g., building latrines, maintaining cleanliness)					
Number of community members attending triggering and follow-up sessions.					

Table 4: Hygiene, additional indicators proposed for the evaluation

	Home	Learner	School	Health facility	Water facility
Handwashing					
Proportion of the population with basic handwashing facilities at home ⁸					
Proportion of schools/health facilities with basic hygiene services					
Percentage of households with handwashing facilities near latrines or kitchens.					
% with knowledge of critical times for handwashing					
Proportion of school children practicing handwashing after toilet use (observing suing the handwashing checklist)					

These indicators will be incorporated in the quantitative data collection including the already existing project indicators in the log frame.

Issue 2: No baseline for the programme

While there was no baseline for project indicators, there are two possible sources of data for outcome level data. The first is the Food Security and Nutrition Monitoring System (FSNMS) is a seasonal countrywide assessment that started in 2010, and is conducted, funded and run by the World Food Programme (WFP), UNICEF, and the Food and Agriculture Organization (FAO). The FSNMS is designed as a representative survey

⁸ **Basic:** Availability of a handwashing facility with soap and water at home/school/ health facility; **Limited:** Availability of a handwashing facility without soap or water; **No Service:** No handwashing facility on the premises.

Commented [MM1]: I guess this is issue 2

Commented [SN2R1]: Correct

that employs two-stage cluster sampling, using a county-based sample size and cluster determination, that is conducted twice a year. In each county, access permitting, 9 clusters are selected and 12 households are interviewed per cluster. The resulting data is representative at the county level, with a confidence level of 95% and a margin of error of 10%. The FSNMS is a critical source of information at the county level that allows for the identification of affected areas, the prioritisation of resources and for monitoring trends. For the evaluation we will use the FSNMS September/October 2020 and September/October 2024 data to assess changes in five WASH indicators collected by the survey at county level:

1. % of households by displacement status;
2. % of households reporting having safe access in under 30 minutes to an improved water source² as their main source of drinking water;
3. % of households reporting having access to a latrine (private, shared, or communal/institutional);
4. % of households reporting having access to key WASH NFIs, e.g. soap, mosquito nets, water containers; and
5. % of households reporting that one or more household member was affected by water or a vector-borne disease in the two weeks prior to data collection.

To determine performance and contribution of the project to WASH indicators the evaluation will compare this county level data with primary data collection on the same indicators. The reason is that since the project did not cover all payams in a county, a county level measurement could under measure the project's performance. Therefore a comparative assessment of performance of WASH indicators at baseline and endline of the FSNMS combined with endline comparative assessment with the endline evaluation survey will provide trends in performance in indicators and performance in project areas against the county at endline. This analysis will support the contribution analysis of the project discussed later under the evaluation design section.

For indicators not covered in the FSNMS, the evaluation will perform correlation tests that tests exposure to interventions and performance of the WASH indicators as part of the contribution analysis.

Issue 3: A large part of the implementation was affected by COVID and resurgence of conflict (in some areas) with burn rates of about 25% by end of 2022, the third year of the programme

Our analysis of programme performance at outcome level will be based on the extent of implementation of activities in the counties. We will select a mix of counties/payams with full scale implementation (at least all interventions by December 2023, and others with partial implementation. In the partial implementation counties we will ensure the analysis of outcomes based on the extent of implementation with a particular focus on achievement of outputs and intermediate outcomes.

Overall, the programme is evaluable and with improvements in the evaluation design suggested above enhancing its evaluability. Output level data is available from the annual reports and can be verified through various databases and compared with baselines undertaken by ACTED/REACH and local partners on mapping water and sanitation facilities.

2.5 Evaluation framework

This section provides details of the key issues pertinent to the evaluation and summarizes them by evaluation criteria. A summary of the evaluation framework outlining the key issues, indicators, and methods for verifying them under each criterion is provided in the Evaluation Matrix in Annex 2.

2.5.1 Impact

This criterion will focus on the extent to which the project was able to increase the use of improved, equitable and sustainable WASH services for vulnerable populations, particularly children and other vulnerable groups in conflict-affected, underserved, and epidemic-prone targeted communities in South Sudan during the project period. The impact would seek to identify the broader short or long-term, intended, or unintended, positive, or

negative, macro (sector) or micro (household), or direct or indirect effects of the project on its beneficiaries. A further analysis would be on how the project contributed to improved climatic change in the targeted project areas through integration of climate resilience interventions in its design and implementation that ensure continuous access and use of safe and reliable services even in the face of climate-related challenges. A summary of the key questions to be covered under this criterion will be as follows (for further details on the sub-questions, indicators, data collection methods and data sources refer to Annex 2: Evaluation Matrix):

- What changes have resulted from the implementation of the Sustainable WASH for Resilience Project in South Sudan? Has the desired impact been achieved? Is there any unintended negative or positives impact?
- To what extent has the SWfRP contributed to improved climatic change in the targeted project areas? Did it integrate climate change issues and interventions in its design and implementation (eg climate impact analysis, adaptive designs, water-efficient technologies, early warning systems)?

2.5.2 Relevance

Under relevance the evaluation will assess whether the project's interventions and design (theory of change, validity of assumptions, approaches, risk analysis, context analysis, etc) are in line with the rights, needs and priorities of the rights holders⁹, as well as with the donor policies (Dutch Government). It will further analyse the extent to which the project was flexible and sensitive enough to changing contexts e.g. the impact of COVID-19, South Sudan conflict and humanitarian crisis. Key questions include:

- To what extent was the project in line with national and donor priorities and the requirement of targeted women, men, and children? Were they consulted during design and implementation of the project?
- To what extent was the theory of change presented in the outcome model? Was the theory of change grounded on evidence? Did it clearly articulate the assumptions about why the project approach is expected to produce the desired change?
- To what extent was the selected method of delivery appropriate to the development context and challenges in South Sudan?

2.5.3 Efficiency

This will measure how economic resources/inputs (funds, expertise, equipment, time, etc.) were converted to results (outputs, outcomes and impacts) in a timely manner ie whether the interventions were delivered within the intended timeframe, or a timeframe reasonably adjusted to the demands of the evolving context. Key questions include:

- To what extent has there been an economical use of project resources? Have resources (funds, human resources, time, expertise, etc.) been allocated strategically to achieve outcomes?
- To what extent did monitoring systems provide management with a stream of data that allowed it to learn and adjust implementation accordingly?

2.5.4 Effectiveness

Evaluation of project effectiveness will include an assessment of project's results against the planned project objectives, expected results, targets and key indicators along the results chain and causal pathway as per the results framework. Under this criterion, the evaluation will determine achievement of set targets for each of the outputs and outcomes through review of project reports supported by verification by the evaluation team in selected project areas. The evaluators will reconstruct and critically assess a logic model of how SWfRP interventions or contributions have resulted in expected results. The assessment of performance shall not be limited to verifying the "numbers" as specified in the results framework, but to also explore issues of equity in access (e.g achievements in different locations, differences in access by people with disabilities (PWDs), girls, and the elderly, and quality of services and infrastructure). Underpinning this assessment is a determination of the success factors and bottlenecks for achievement to contribute to learning for similar projects. We will also

⁹A 'rights holder' is defined as, "the individuals, groups, or organisations, whether targeted or not, that benefited directly or indirectly, from the project."

look at the monitoring systems put in place, their timeliness and adequacy to provide information required for project management, and how information from the monitoring system was used for programming at all levels. Some of the questions have been reworded by the team. Key questions include:

- Have the stated project goal, specific objectives, and indicators – as shown in the project logical framework – been achieved and if so, to what extent?
- How have corresponding outputs delivered by the project affected the outcomes, and in what ways have they not been effective?

Additional questions:

- What is the level of quality and standards of the constructed or installed WASH infrastructure? Are the facilities and services availed easily accessible to the most vulnerable, i.e., women, girls, pregnant women, the elderly and the disabled?
- How have lessons learned from various monitoring / evaluation sessions been incorporated into the program, and shared with partners

2.5.5 Coherence

To assess this criterion, the evaluation will measure the extent to which the project was integrated with other programmes or policies of UNICEF, development partners and the government ministries, departments and agencies of South Sudan, as well as other relevant sectoral programmes to ensure complementarity, consistency and collaboration, whilst avoiding duplication of efforts among entities responsible for implementation and coordination. This will also include an assessment of the effectiveness of coordination mechanisms between the project and other coordination structures for WASH at both national and subnational levels. The evaluation will identify the extent to which the project was able to address the diverse needs of sectors to ensure its strategic fit within those sectors. Both internal coherence (consistency with UNICEF's priorities and policies) and external coherence (consistency with government policies and other WASH development partners) will be evaluated. Specific questions under this criterion are as follows:

- To what extent did the programme complement other related interventions, strategies and policies of UNICEF and other WASH development partners in South Sudan?
- To what extent were stakeholders involved in the project's design and implementation?
- To what extent did the project contribute to strengthening national policies/programmes that would positively impact WASH programming in South Sudan? Was it in line with national policies and priorities of the Government of Sudan?

Additional questions:

- How effective was the project coordinated to ensure effective participation and complementarity of all government MDAs, UNICEF's implementing partners and other development partners?

2.5.6 Sustainability

The evaluation will look at sustainability concerning whether the project interventions are likely to continue after donor funding has ended, and whether its longer-term impact on the wider development process can also be sustained at the level of the community, facility, sector, county/town, and country at large. To assess this criterion, the evaluation will determine the deliberate and systematic measures put in place to sustain activities implemented and the results achieved by the project. Key questions include:

- What indications are there that the outcomes and impacts will be sustained, e.g., through requisite capacities (systems, structure, staff, etc.)?
- Did the project provide viable models that had the potential for scaling up/ catalytic effect? What factors facilitated the adoption/ scaling up of the project initiatives?
- To what extent has the programme catalyzed actions of partners to commit to transition from humanitarian to development in WASH?

Additional questions:

- Did the project prepare an efficient exit strategy in which local implementing agencies were identified appropriately? Is this exit strategy process ongoing effectively? How is it integrated into government and development partners' plans?
- What are the good practices, innovations, and key conditions for national scaling up of the project? What could or should be done differently in future replication and scaling up of the project?

2.5.7 Gender, equity and human rights

The evaluation will include an analysis of how the project empowered women and girls, and how it integrated the participation of men, women, boys, girls, adolescents, and children in schools as well as people with disabilities. It will also be assessed on how it addressed the rights, needs and priorities of its rights holders. Equity will be assessed through a determination of how the project was able to integrate, reach, and benefit all categories including men and women, persons with disabilities, ethnicities, and those in remote areas. Evidence used in decisions in the project design will be reviewed for its adequacy to inform an equity focused project design. Mainstreaming equity in project implementation will also be assessed by determining how sex, age and locations disaggregated data was collected, analyzed and utilized to inform project implementation. The project would also be assessed on what extent it integrated the realization of the human rights standards and principles for children and women from its development through its implementation. In 2010, the UN General Assembly recognized access to water and sanitation as basic human rights, essential to the realization of all human rights. Similarly, two human rights treaties — the Convention on the Rights of the Child (CRC) and the Convention on the Elimination of All Forms of Discrimination Against Women (CEDAW) — explicitly specify the right to health, water, and sanitation as fundamental rights. The UN Standard Rules for the Equalization of Opportunities for Disabled Persons and the Convention on the Rights of Persons with Disabilities also outlined the rights to health, water, and sanitation for people living with disabilities. These rights necessitate that water and sanitation services are *dignifying, appropriate, adequate, accessible, safe, secure and affordable* for all, without discrimination. The 2030 Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs) Agenda committed to realizing human rights for all, achieving gender equality and empowering all women and girls (SDG 5), and reducing inequalities to ensure that *'no one or no place is left behind'* (SDG 10).

Key questions include:

1. To what extent have gender equality and the empowerment of women and girls been addressed in the design, implementation, monitoring and evaluation of this project? Did the project apply conflict sensitive approaches in its implementation?
 - To what extent have poor, indigenous people with disability and other marginalized groups benefited from the Sustainable WASH for Resilient programme in the project areas?

Additional questions:

- How and to what extent did the project integrated equity issues, human rights and the participation of men, women, adolescents, and school children as well as people with disabilities?
- What was the extent of collection, analysis and reporting of disaggregated data (sex, age, disability, locations)?

2.5.8 Youth and private sector development

Under this criterion, the evaluation will include an analysis of how the project integrated the participation of adolescents, youths and the private sector in its interventions, and how it addressed the rights, needs and priorities of young people. Engagement with the youth is becoming increasingly important as youth tensions continue to rise in South Sudan over lack of employment. Key questions include:

- To what extent has the project ensured active private sector participation in its activities and contributed to improving conditions for private sector participation in WASH subsector in South Sudan?
- To what extent did the project integrate the meaningful participation of adolescents and youths in its design and implementation, and how did it address their rights, needs and priorities?

2.6 Evaluation users and uses

UNICEF South Sudan: As a key partner in project implementation and management, UNICEF South Sudan Country Office seeks to understand the project's overall impact and effectiveness. UNICEF will thus use this evaluation to improve its current and future programming, to document lessons learnt and best practices that can inform future WASH program replication and for strengthening its strong evidence-based approach in planning and strategizing.

Development Partners: these include UNICEF's implementing partners and other non-governmental organisations (NGOs) who will stand to benefit from the results of the evaluation as it will provide the much-needed evidence, lesson learnt and best practices which they can replicate to their current or future WASH programmes in South Sudan. Development partners will also use this evaluation to strengthen their capacities where it is lacking.

Government Ministries, Departments and Agencies (MDAs): They will use the evaluation to gather best practices and lessons to accelerate their policy and strategy reform implementation towards the national SDG targets. They will also use it to adjust their monitoring approaches to enhance quality program delivery and to also improve the allocation of resources towards implementation on WASH-related interventions.

Donors: The Dutch Government, being a funding agency or partner, is keen on the project's outcomes and results. Results of this evaluation will assist the Dutch Government in evaluating the progress towards achievement of their mission in South Sudan, its alignment with their strategic objectives, and whether the funds were allocated effectively. This informs their future funding decisions and helps them justify resource allocation. For other Donors, the evaluation will help to influence the future funding, design and scale-up of WASH programmes in South Sudan.

Private Sector Companies and Contractors: as suppliers of materials, equipment and services in the project, the evaluation will help the private companies and contractors in redesigning their innovative WASH technologies and products that enhance the use of improved WASH services.

Communities: they serve as integral components of the evaluation audience and users, providing diverse perspectives, ensuring accountability, and contributing to the sustainability and effectiveness of the 'Sustainable WASH for Resilience Programme' in South Sudan.

3 APPROACH AND METHODOLOGY

3.1 Evaluation design

As advised by the TOR, the evaluation will use a theory based design. This will be facilitated by the reconstructed theory of change for the programme including assumptions for causal chains between activities and outputs; outputs and intermediate outcomes; and intermediate outcomes and impact. As discussed under the evaluability assessment, while there is no baseline data for outcome level indicators for the theory of change we anticipate a comparison with county level data to determine the programme's contribution. This evaluation design builds on the premise of a contribution analysis approach, which will not seek attribution but rather assess how the project contributes to observed outcomes. Across all evaluation criteria, the evaluation will explore the extent to which the project design mainstreamed human rights, gender equality, disability, and equity.

Besides assessing the causal chain, the TOC approach will be used to validate the design of the programme including assessing the validity of assumptions underpinning the TOC.

The evaluation will mainstream issues of gender equality, disability, conflict sensitivity, and climate change in the issues to be interrogated. This aligns with the intentions of the programme as espoused in the proposal and the UNICEF evaluation guidelines – see details below.

The evaluation will also be utilization-focused, ensuring the evidence from the evaluation is used by stakeholders to sustain the gains through scale up of programme components or improvements in future similar programmes. To ensure this utilisation focus, participation of relevant stakeholders in the implementation of the evaluation, including in planning and validation processes including validating recommendations will be of importance. In this regard we will work with the Evaluation Reference Group (ERG) in reviewing the evaluation outputs and ensuring all stakeholders are consulted during the evaluation.

Furthermore, the evaluation will be conducted using a gender-sensitive and socially inclusive mixed-method approach to collect both quantitative and qualitative data. This will be done in several ways including ensuring the data collection approach does not reinforce power relations between men and women, and that all data is sex disaggregated and assesses equitably between men and women. A child-sensitive and child-centered approach will also be employed in applying these methods. This means that the tools and data collection approaches will ensure that all children are able to fully participate in the process and that the evaluation will do no harm to them. The analysis of performance while at household and community level will explore how these benefit children in the households and communities. We will adhere to ethical guidelines, particularly those outlined in the Ethical Research Involving Children (ERIC) guidelines. This will include submitting the inception report for ethical review in South Sudan.

3.2 General approach

The evaluation will be guided by the following UNICEF and UNEG evaluation and research guidelines:

- 1) United Nations Evaluation Group (UNEG) Norms and Standards for Evaluation in the UN System 20161 (including impartiality, independence, quality, transparency, consultative process);
- 2) Ethical Guidelines for UN Evaluations;
- 3) UNICEF Ethical Guidelines and standards for research and evaluation and Ethical Research Involving Children;
- 4) UNEG guidance on integrating human rights and gender equality and UN System-Wide Action Plan (UN-SWAP) on gender equality;
- 5) UNICEF Guidance on Gender Integration in Evaluation;
- 6) UNICEF adapted evaluation report standards and GEROS;

- 7) UNICEF Guidance Note on Adolescent participation in UNICEF monitoring and evaluation; and
- 8) Disability-Inclusive Evaluations in UNICEF: Guideline for Achieving UNDIS Standards

Principles of independence, impartiality, credibility, conflicts of interest, and accountability will guide the evaluation.

Independence, impartiality, and conflict of interest: As independent evaluators, the evaluation team has no interest in the outcome of the evaluation. The team has not been involved in programme implementation and neither will benefit from the outcome of the evaluation. Thus, the evaluation team's conclusions will not be influenced by future gain or past involvement with the programme and its implementers.

Credibility: the evaluation team will ensure that evaluation results are of high-quality based on a sound and tested methodology, which is comprehensive, evidence based, uses a mix of qualitative and quantitative methods appropriate to this assignment, and includes participation of key stakeholders and beneficiaries. The strength of the analysis and assessment is based on asking the right questions and in a language familiar with study participants, speaking to relevant stakeholders, and collecting the required information, as well as extensive experience by evaluation team members, to reach sound and justifiable conclusions and recommendations to meet the needs of the evaluation's target audience. The structure and content of the report will be strongly influenced by UNEG Norms and Standards for Evaluation and UNICEF adapted evaluation report standards and GEROS.

Accountability: All evaluation outputs will be validated with stakeholders of the programme providing them an opportunity to agree, disagree or seek clarifications on the findings and recommendations. Whenever there are disagreements in the findings, the evaluators will seek additional evidence to retract the finding or strengthening their argument. In this way the evaluators are held to account for their findings and that the evaluation conclusions remain evidence based.

Validation and triangulation: The evaluation will collect data from multiple sources providing a means of triangulating findings to ensure the evidence used for the evaluation is sound. All findings will be validated through several processes: a preliminary findings presentation with the programme team, a draft report validation meeting with the ERG and a final validation with the broader evaluation stakeholders.

3.3 Methodology

The evaluation will use several data collection approaches including:

- Secondary document review
- Quantitative data collection
- Qualitative data collection

These are detailed below.

3.3.1 Document review

During the inception phase we have used secondary document review to understand the programme and progress in implementation including the challenges experiences during the evaluation period. Findings of this review have informed the design of the evaluation presented in this inception report.

During the field mission we will continue with secondary document review to ascertain the performance of the programme as well as validate performance as reported by the programme in annual reports. Furthermore, secondary review will be used to validate findings from the primary data collection.

The secondary document review will focus on:

- Annual progress reports;
- Project financed studies;
- WASH sector reviews and monitoring reports; and
- Other studies and surveys conducted in South Sudan that may inform the context of operation and performance of the project.

3.3.2 Qualitative data collection

Qualitative data will be collected at national, county and payam levels comprising of Key Informant Interviews (KIIs), Focus Group Discussions (FGDs) and Individual In-depth Interviews (IDIs). Case studies using the most significant change method will also be used to ascertain the performance of the programme. Data collection tools are presented separately.

Key informants will be drawn from national level, state and county and payam level. At the national level interviews will be held with UNICEF staff, the donor, and government ministries. At state level we will interview the state government, implementing partner for the programme, private sector and other actors deemed important for the evaluation. At local level we will hold key informant interviews with community leaders, WASH community cadres and school head teachers, and school health club teachers.

Focus Group Discussions will be held with girls and boys in targeted schools, men and women in the community, village water and sanitation committees and members of school health clubs.

In-depth Individual Interviews will be held with private sector and pump mechanics in selected payams. We will especially seek out persons with disability to participate in the individual interviews.

Case study interviews will be done at school level, and household level. Case studies will especially seek to explore causal factors for performance of the project particularly aiming to understand the project’s contribution to observed results.

Qualitative data collection will be conducted in counties selected for the quantitative primary data collection. Additional virtual interviews will be conducted with stakeholders in non-selected counties only at state and county level. The sample size for qualitative interviews is presented in Table 5. In each selected county qualitative data collection will be conducted in two randomly selected payams.

Table 5: Sample size for qualitative data collection per county

Level	KIIs	FGDs	Case studies	IDIs
National level				
UNICEF	4			
Donor	1			
Private sector	1			
ACTER/REACH	1			
Government	3			
State level				
Governor/ representative	1			
Private sector	1			
Relevant ministries	3			
County level				
Members of WASH coordination (including PMT in Bor)	4			
County government	3			
Implementing partners	2			

Level	KIIs	FGDs	Case studies	IDIs
Private sector	3			3
Payams				
Head teachers	2			
Teacher in charge of school health clubs	2			
Learners (boys and girls separately)		4	2	
Members of school health clubs		2		
Health facility in charge	1			
Community members (women and men separately)		4		
Village water and sanitation committees		2		
Pump mechanics				2
Private sector				2

3.3.3 Quantitative data collection

Quantitative data collection will include primary and secondary data collection. The secondary data collection will comprise secondary analysis of the FSNMS data for September/October 2020 to September/October 2023. We will undertake analysis of five WASH indicators mentioned under section 2.4, Evaluability assessment. Trends in the indicators at country level will be developed over the course of the three years.

In addition to secondary data analysis, the evaluation will collect primary quantitative data from a variety of sources as detailed in Table 6. We will collect data from the school, learners, health facility, households within a 5km radius of a selected water source and a survey of water facility management committees. A sanitation and hygiene practice observation checklist has been included for learners in school. This is a special addition to the tools mix of the study specifically to triangulate hygiene practice from the student questionnaire. It will mainly focus on measuring the extent of hand washing with soap after latrine use for both girls and boys after toilet use, during break time (before eating). Data collection will involve the enumerator observing hygiene practice (or lack thereof) among girls and boys leaving specified latrines and tallying their behaviour (washing with soap, washing with water only and no washing).

Table 6: Primary quantitative data collection

Survey	Focus
Head teacher and observation school survey	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Quality of WASH infrastructure (including girl friendliness, disability inclusion) Usage of WASH infrastructure Adequacy of WASH infrastructure Availability and functionality of hygiene clubs School support for WASH and MHM
Health facility observation and head of facility tool	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Quality of WASH infrastructure Usage of WASH infrastructure Adequacy of WASH infrastructure Hygiene education
Learner survey	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Quality and adequacy of WASH infrastructure Use of WASH facilities WASH Knowledge Attitudes and Practices (KAP) including MHM (both male and female learners) Open Defecation Participation in hygiene clubs

Survey	Focus
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> MHM at school (for female learners)
Sanitation and hygiene practice observation checklist	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Handwashing observation
Household survey	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> WASH Knowledge Attitudes and Practices (KAP) including HWTS Quality, adequacy and use of water points Improved sanitation ODF practice Support for MHM
Private sector survey	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Sales of pump parts Functionality of the supply chain for parts
Water facility committee survey	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Sustainability measures Financial contributions for borehole maintenance Management plans Borehole downtime Support from pump mechanics

3.3.4 Sampling of counties, payams, schools and health facilities

Sampling of counties was based on the performance of WASH indicators at baseline using data from the FSNMS of September/October 2019 presented in the REACH report on WASH in Lake, Eastern Equatorial and Western Equatorial states of 2021¹⁰. First the WASH performance status of each county under the project from each of the three states was determined. The following indicators were used:

1. Proportion of households reportedly using improved water sources as their main source of drinking water;
2. Proportion of households who reported using improved water sources within their compound or in less than 30 minutes as their main source of drinking water;
3. Proportion of households by reported the presence and usage of latrines in the two weeks prior to data collection (two indicators, presence of latrine and always use latrine);
4. Proportion of households with any WASH-related illness reported in the two weeks prior to data collection; and
5. Proportion of households with soap present and seen.

Table 7 provides the performance of these indicators per county in 2019.

Table 7: Performance of WASH indicators at baseline

County	State	Use of Improved Water sources	Time required to collect water	Combined indicator	Latrine present	always use latrine	WASH related illness	Soap present and seen
Rumbek East	Lakes	98%	79%	64%	26%	6%	71%	27%
Rumbek North	Lakes	97%	59%	32%	4%	2%	60%	9%
Rumbek Centre	Lakes	88%	66%	54%	26%	13%	77%	42%
Magwi	Eastern Equatorial	75%	69%	46%	59%	59%	81%	58%

¹⁰ REACH (2021) South Sudan water, sanitation and hygiene (WASH) Report — Lakes State, Western and Eastern Equatoria. A report prepared for UNICEF

County	State	Use of Improved Water sources	Time required to collect water	Combined indicator	Latrine present	always use latrine	WASH related illness	Soap present and seen
Lafon	Eastern Equatorial	61%	83%	50%	19%	18%	93%	29%
Ikotos	Eastern Equatorial	60%	28%	16%	20%	10%	85%	13%
Torit	Eastern Equatorial	49%	85%	41%	15%	15%	65%	62%
Ezo	Western Equatorial	32%	69%	21%	95%	95%	88%	50%
Nzara	Western Equatorial	31%	68%	21%	95%	97%	41%	42%
Yambio	Western Equatorial	24%	38%	6%	91%		79%	46%

Source: REACH (2021) South Sudan water, sanitation and hygiene (WASH) Report – Lakes State, Western and Eastern Equatoria. A report prepared for UNICEF

To determine performance of a county across all indicators we based the performance at baseline against the average 50% target across all indicators provided for in the log frame. In each state we selected a county that was far off the base target in comparison to other counties in a state. The rationale being the project performance will be more visible in these counties than where performance of indicators was already high. It will also demonstrate the effect of the project on equity in WASH across the targeted states. Table 8 presents the results of this process. Based on this analysis the following counties were selected:

1. Lakes state: Rumbek North county
2. Eastern Equatorial: Ikotos county
3. Western Equatorial state: Yambio county

Table 8: Baseline status of WASH indicators against project target

		Use of Improved Water sources	Time required to collect water	Combined indicator	Latrine present	always use latrine	WASH related illness	Soap present and seen	Gap between target and baseline
Rumbek East	Lakes	-0.48	-0.29	-0.14	0.24	0.44	-0.21	0.23	-0.21
Rumbek North	Lakes	0.49	-0.09	0.18	0.46	0.48	-0.10	0.41	1.83
Rumbek Centre	Lakes	0.44	-0.16	-0.04	0.24	0.37	-0.27	0.08	0.66
Magwi	Eastern Equatorial	0.38	-0.19	0.04	-0.09	-0.09	-0.31	-0.08	-0.35
Lafon	Eastern Equatorial	0.31	-0.33	0.00	0.31	0.32	-0.43	0.21	0.39
Ikotos	Eastern Equatorial	0.30	0.22	0.34	0.30	0.40	-0.35	0.37	1.58
Torit	Eastern Equatorial	0.25	-0.35	0.09	0.35	0.35	-0.15	-0.12	0.42
Ezo	Western Equatorial	0.16	-0.19	0.29	-0.45	-0.45	-0.38	0.00	-1.02
Nzara	Western Equatorial	0.16	-0.18	0.29	-0.45	-0.47	0.09	0.08	-0.49
Yambio	Western Equatorial	0.12	0.12	0.44	-0.41	0.50	-0.29	0.04	0.52

Bor in Jonglei state was selected automatically because of the implementation of the urban WASH component which is different from the other three counties.

All payams in each of the selected counties will be included in the survey. The list of payams, schools and sample sizes for learners and community members is presented in Table 9.

Sampling and sample sizes: To determine the sample size for the School Survey, we will use Cochran's formula for categorical data, assuming a 50% estimated proportion of the population that has the attribute of interest ($p = 0.5$ for maximum variability) and $e = 0.004$ (margin of error). Based on these assumptions, the required sample size is 600 learners. Structured interviews will be conducted with 30 children (15 boys and 15 girls) randomly selected from each of the 20 chosen schools. Schools will be selected based on their proportion within each state using Probability Proportional to Size (PPS) for county allocation: 5 from Ikotos, 1 from Rumbek North, 9 from Yambio, and 5 from Bor (see Table 9). This method ensures equal representation of boys, girls, and age distribution, including learners over 10 years. Random selection will also ensure balanced representation across classes for both genders.

Table 9: Sample sizes

County	Payams	Selected schools	Health facilities	Learners	Community members
Ikotos	Ikotos Isohe Imatong	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Ikotos • St. Kizito • Itesu • St. Mathew • Momoria 	3	150	219
Rumbek North	Meen Malueth Maper Town Aloor	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Pakom Girls primary School. 	4	30	291
Yambio	Yambio Town Bangasu Gangura	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Baguga primary school • Naakiri Primary school • Bangasu Primary school • St. Peter Primary school • Dona primary school • Nayure primary school • Masumbu Primary School • Pazuo primary school • Tindoka primary school 	3	270	219
Bor	Bor town	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • St. Andrew Pr/s • Bor Girls Pr/s • Bor Public Pr/s • Langbar Mixed pr/s • Bor A mixed pr/s 	2	150	73
		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • 			

Health facility survey: A total of 12 health facilities will be selected with one health facility in each payam being selected.

Community survey: To determine the sample size for the Community Survey, we will use Cochran's formula for categorical data, assuming a 50% estimated proportion of the population that has the attribute of interest ($p =$

0.5 for maximum variability) and $e = 0.025$ (margin of error). Based on these assumptions, the required sample size is 800 households (see Table 9 for distribution).

The selection process for households involves choosing 11 payams from various counties and geographical locations within the project areas (see Table 9). These payams will be randomly selected from those deemed safe and accessible, in collaboration with UNICEF and key government stakeholders. The allocation of selected payams will utilize Probability Proportional to Size (PPS), ensuring that the number of payams selected from each state reflects their population size (refer to **Error! Reference source not found.**).

Within each state, the PPS weight will guide the allocation of payams, followed by a random selection to minimize bias and enhance representativeness. Each selected payam will provide an average of 73 households for sampling, specifically around improved water points. This approach aims to ensure a comprehensive and representative data collection from the target population.

We will use the Left-Hand Rule method to select households in each selected payam as follows:

1. **Sampling Water Sources:** In each selected payam, at most two water sources will be identified as starting points for household selection.
2. **Starting the Walk:** Upon reaching a water point, the Left-Hand Rule will be employed to determine the direction of the walk.
3. **Systematic Counting:** Households will be counted systematically based on a predetermined sampling interval for each payam. This interval is calculated by dividing the total number of households in the payam by the desired number of households to be surveyed (e.g., 20 households).
4. **Skipping Households:** The appropriate number of households will be skipped according to the sampling interval, and subsequent households will be selected by continuing in the same direction and distance.
5. **Repeating the Process:** This process will be repeated until the desired number of households is enumerated in each payam.

This method ensures a systematic and representative selection of households for the evaluation.

Water facility management committee survey: The Water Facility Management Committee survey will assess 40 water points within the Sustainable WASH for Resilience Programme (SWfRP), ensuring geographical representation and diversity in facility types like boreholes and hand pumps. We will employ Probability Proportional to Size (PPS) for selecting the number of each water type, proposing one water point per payam with a total of 10 points per county, using a random selection method. This approach guarantees equal chances for evaluation while maintaining overall representation. Field assessments will verify functionality and community usage, engaging local stakeholders for their insights. Structured surveys will then gather data on management practices, community satisfaction, and operational challenges, aligning with the project's objectives.

3.3.5 Data collection

Data will be collected in all districts concurrently to ensure field work is completed in two weeks. Field work will start with training of the research teams. The various aspects of data collection are discussed below.

Recruitment and training

Data collectors will be recruited and trained at county level using networks of staff our local partner has used before and are able to deliver high quality data collection. Training will be for three days in each county including two days of in-class training and one day pilot to test capacity of the team to collect high quality data. Data collection will use tablets running on mWater ensuring data is available near real-time to support data quality assurance by our Data Manager. We anticipate data collection to last at least two weeks.

Quantitative and qualitative data collection

Ten research assistants will be recruited in each county to complete the household and school level quantitative data collection. Each team will have a supervisor overseeing data collection supported by a member of the core team. The supervisor will also undertake the health facility, and private sector surveys. The core team member will undertake key informant interviews with government officials and the implementing partners. An additional four research assistants will be recruited for the qualitative data collection in each county.

3.3.6 Data management

Our data management mechanism will ensure comprehensive data protection, emphasizing confidentiality, integrity, and availability. Adherence to local and international data protection regulations, including BDSG and GDPR, is essential. Personal data will be encoded or anonymized to protect participants' privacy, with robust backup procedures in place. In collaboration with UNICEF, MDS will maintain accurate and restricted access to data, preventing unauthorized disclosure throughout all stages of data collection.

Quantitative Data Management

Quantitative data collection will utilize mWater, a digital platform designed for efficient management. The Data Manager will program the tools before fieldwork to ensure streamlined data entry and real-time validation. This approach enhances data accuracy, reduces manual errors, and facilitates timely analysis and synchronization. MDS's extensive experience with Kobo in prior projects ensures high-quality and reliable data collection.

Qualitative Data Management

Qualitative data will be captured using voice recorders during interviews in local languages, ensuring fidelity and accuracy. This method encourages natural conversation, allowing participants to share their thoughts freely. Interviews will be transcribed and translated into English, preserving original nuances. This process minimizes transcription errors and enables researchers to focus on engagement, providing a rich, contextually grounded understanding of participants' perspectives, crucial for the evaluation's depth and validity.

3.3.7 Data analysis

The data analysis for the Final Evaluation of the Sustainable WASH for Resilience Programme (SWfRP) will integrate both quantitative and qualitative methodologies, in alignment with the objectives outlined in the Terms of Reference (ToR).

Quantitative data analysis

Quantitative data for the evaluation of the Sustainable WASH for Resilience Programme (SWfRP) will be analyzed using SPSS version 26, incorporating both primary and secondary sources. Descriptive analysis will summarize key data, providing insights into demographics, access to safe drinking water and sanitation, and community hygiene practices, thereby highlighting trends and challenges. Inferential techniques will be employed where data quality allows, utilizing Chi-square analysis for categorical variables, t-tests for continuous variables, and complementing these with crosstabulations. Additional methods, including Kruskal-Wallis tests and rank tests, will assess relationships between intervention variables and outcomes, while confidence intervals (95% CIs) will be calculated via exact binomial tests. Repeated measures Analysis of Variance (ANOVA) will compare differences in numeric outcomes. All analyses will be disaggregated by key demographic characteristics, such as age, gender, and location, adhering to UNICEF's data quality standards, to draw meaningful conclusions about the programme's impact on health indicators like diarrhea rates and malnutrition.

Qualitative data analysis

Qualitative data will be analyzed to assess the level of achievement of targets within the programme’s results framework. Audio recordings will be transcribed, translated into English, and coded in NVivo 12. Codes will be organized and linked to the evaluation matrix, with emerging themes identified and articulated through analytical memos. Thematic analysis will employ both inductive and deductive approaches, guided by the evaluation questions. During the write-up, themes and sub-themes will be illustrated with verbatim quotes to enhance the richness of the findings.

By combining quantitative and qualitative analyses, the evaluation will provide a comprehensive understanding of the SWfRP’s effectiveness and its impact on promoting gender equity and addressing the needs of vulnerable populations in South Sudan.

3.3.8 Validation

The various deliverables of this evaluation will undergo validation processes with the Evaluation reference group and broader stakeholders of the project. Feedback from these meetings will be used to finalise outputs.

3.3.9 Evaluation outputs

The following will be the evaluation outputs:

- Inception Report
- Draft Evaluation report
- PowerPoint Presentation of evaluation findings
- Final Evaluation Report
- Evaluation summary

3.4 Risk and mitigation

With the help of UNICEF South Sudan, MDS will seek for ethical approval of the evaluation from the South Sudan Institutional review board (with their office at the Ministry of Health). The evaluation team has also identified the specific ethical issues that they envisage to encounter in this evaluation, together with the proposed mitigation measures. These are shown in Table 4.

Table 4: Risks and mitigation measures

Potential ethical & justice issues	Likelihood	Impact	Mitigation measures
Inception Phase			
Exclusion of some specific beneficiary groups or stakeholders from the evaluation	Medium	The evaluation will be unable to explore the full extent of the evaluation. Some critical stakeholders may question the evaluation’s credibility.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Evaluation team will do a listing of all beneficiary groups based on gender entities, inter-sectoral identities and other vulnerabilities. The team would ensure that the selected samples include these groupings or individuals. • A stakeholder analysis has been conducted in this phase with the help of UNICEF to ensure every stakeholder is included in the evaluation.
Failure to get ethical clearance and other clearances for the project	Low	The evaluation is delayed or unable to start	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Ensure research protocol is clear on all ethical issues and measures to adhere to ethical standards. • Make use of local implementing partners in the counties to facilitate necessary clearances in the districts • Ensure early engagement with the relevant institutions • Clear explanation of the aims and objectives of the data collection exercise to the granting authority
Slow review by of the inception report by stakeholders	Medium	Will delay the timelines for the evaluation	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • UNICEF, through the Evaluation Manager to ensure that timelines are adhered to for the review process by stakeholders. • UNICEF to invite comments from ERG and other stakeholders on a ‘non-objection’ basis (no

Potential ethical & justice issues	Likelihood	Impact	Mitigation measures
			response=agreement) to ensure the evaluation is completed within the scheduled timeframe.
Data Collection Phase			
Resurgence of conflict	Medium to high	Disrupt data collection and delays in completing the evaluation and disruption of the evaluation design	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Weekly briefings on security situation in the counties by UNICEF Ensure tools are ready for online data collection where this is possible and does not put respondents at risk of harm Enroll other counties not affected by resurgence of conflict for quantitative and qualitative data collection.
Difficulties in accessing data from government ministries and other stakeholders	Medium	Evaluation team will not be able to answer all the evaluation questions	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Evaluation team will ensure requests for data are consolidated possible. Seek UNICEF's support with access to data as well as keeping the Evaluation Manager informed on status with access to data.
Data may be damaged or lost	Medium	Evaluation team will not be able to answer all the evaluation questions Delays in the finalization of the evaluation	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Recordings of interviews and completed questionnaires will be uploaded on the server daily. Data on the server will be backed up daily The evaluation team will keep a daily record of completed questionnaires and qualitative interviews to match with what is uploaded on the server. Note taking will also be completed during qualitative interviews as a backup in the event of loss of recordings.
Disruption of schooling for learners and their teachers, or of livelihood or religious activities within communities and households.	Medium	Disadvantage learners involved in the study Delays in data collection	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Effort will be made to avoid times when children are having lessons (e.g. interviews can be done during break or lunch times), taking exams or times when there are community gatherings or ceremonies. Timing of, and venues for data collection exercises will be scheduled and agreed with community leadership and religious representatives and school authorities.
Staff turnover or organisational changes may make it difficult to identify staff with sufficient knowledge of past interventions to enable us to make a valid assessment of programme activities.	High	Evaluation team will not fully account for the programme performance over the implementation period	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Complement historical data from staff available since beginning with existing documentation of the programme implementation
'Difference blindness' emanating from disrespecting programme participants due to lack of knowledge of their customs, culture, values, beliefs and practices.	Low	Will lead to conflict with communities and delays in field work	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> MDS and the local partner will make use of local enumerators who are aware of, and who respect local customs, cultures and beliefs. International and national team leaders would only provide backstopping assistance and quality oversight.
Children may not be at the level of fully providing their informed consent as their age, cognitive ability or learning disabilities may preclude this	Low	Can cause safeguarding and ethical challenges with the evaluation	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> The consent of a parent or guardian will be required as well as that of the child. Prior verbal group informed consent from children and written informed from their parents/ guardians will be sought for all the sampled schools and communities during mobilizations. Written informed consent will then be sought from the children at the point of data collection. While parental consent would be required for children, the parent/guardian cannot consent on behalf of the child. For children with learning or other forms of disabilities, informed consent will be further sought from their social or community workers. Informed consent for the observation of school facilities and records will be obtained from education authorities. Confirming of consent would be considered an ongoing process and will be monitored throughout the evaluation process.

Potential ethical & justice issues	Likelihood	Impact	Mitigation measures
			<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Ensure this is included in the CAPI program and it is timed and measured. There will also be back checks conducted to ensure that teams are seeking consent properly
The most vulnerable groups, including children, may not be afforded the same degree of protection regarding confidentiality, anonymity, safety and data protection as adult participants.	Low	Safeguarding breach	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> MDS already has policies in place to address safeguarding issues during research and evaluations, in particular, confidentiality, anonymity and data protection issues. Interviews and discussions with children will only be conducted in friendly places where they feel safe and comfortable. For very young or disabled children, their parent or guardian may need to be present to provide physical help or assist with communication. Where possible, schools would be the most preferred focal points for interviewing children during this evaluation. The evaluation will use existing project or community grievance redress mechanisms to obtain any complaints from project participants related to the evaluation. The grievances would be timely addressed in consultation with UNICEF.
Data Analysis, Validation & Completion Phase			
Individuals, particularly children and the most vulnerable may be identifiable and victimized if described in case studies or quoted in the final evaluation report, even if there is anonymity.	Low	Can lead to harm of respondents	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> The evaluation team will have strict adherence to confidentiality protocols and ensuring presentation on any case studies do not increase vulnerability for harm for the vulnerable populations. All case studies or interviews for which consent and assent (for children) is provided will use pseudonyms or name neutral with district as the location variable e.g. "interviews with a child from Kasungu". We will also change changing non-material case details and select examples and quotes with particular care. In instances of clear negative impacts such as stigma and reprisals, findings will be summarized or generalized to an appropriate level of aggregation. Each potential interview and case study where potential harm may occur, the potential negative repercussions will be considered and reported by research assistants. Measures will be taken to frame the findings in such a way as to avoid these consequences e.g. avoiding mentioning specific cases or quotes, removing parts that may be identifiable to the individual etc. The best interests and rights of the child and other vulnerable groups will be the primary consideration when documenting case studies and citing quotations from qualitative interviews.
Resurgence of COVID-19, spread of mPox or other pandemics	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Low 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Can lead to delays in the evaluation 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> MDS has experience with using innovative data collection methods which allow for remote data collection. Therefore, the quantitative survey will not be affected by mobility restrictions.

4 WORKPLAN

Field Prep Phase	
Training of data collection team	26 – 27 Feb 2025
Pilot study	28 Feb 2025
Field Mission Phase	
Qualitative and Quantitative survey	3 - 17 Mar 2025
Development of Post-Data Collection Brief	18 - 21 Mar 2025
Data Cleaning and Analysis	17– 24 Mar 2025
Reporting Phase	
Development of Draft evaluation report	25 Mar – 7 Apr 2025
Review and feedback of Draft evaluation report	8 – 15 Apr 2025
Preliminary findings presentation to stakeholders/ERG	11 Apr 2025
Addressing comments and finalization of the Evaluation Report	16 – 22 Apr 2025
Development of Presentation on the Final Evaluation Report and Evaluation Brief	23 – 25 Apr 2025
Review and Feedback of Evaluation Brief	25 – 28 Apr 2025
Finalization of Evaluation Brief	29 Apr 2025
Half-day dissemination workshop presentation of Final evaluation report and Evaluation brief	30 Apr 2025

Specific dates for the evaluation are presented above. We anticipate to submit a draft evaluation report by the 7th of April 2025 and a final report on the 22nd of April 2025

4.1 Evaluation team and responsibilities

The evaluation team is comprised of Ngonidzashé Marimo (team Leader), Stewart Nyamuranga (International WASH Expert), Daniel Mawa (Local WASH Expert), Kuziwa Chimunda (Data Analyst), and Stephen Joe Asobasi (Survey coordinator). The responsibilities of the team are presented below.

Title	Name and Qualifications	Role
Team Leader and M&E Specialist	Ngonidzashé Marimo MA Poverty and Development Bsc (Hons) Applied Environmental Science	Overall technical oversight of deliverables Lead the evaluation and development of all deliverables Design M&E framework
International WASH Expert	Stewart Nyamuranga MA in Development Studies Bsc (Hons) Health Education and Promotion	Provide expertise in WASH Assist in the development of all project deliverables Participate in training and data collection
Local WASH Consultant	Mawa Daniel Post- Graduate Diploma in Monitoring and Evaluation Post-Graduate Diploma in Water, Sanitation and Hygiene master's degree in public health Bachelor of Science in public health	Provide contextual insight on the WASH landscape in South Sudan Participate in training and data collection
Data Analyst	Kuziwa Chimunda BSc Statistics and Computer Science Bachelor of Science Special Honors Degree in Monitoring and Evaluation	Programming questionnaires in CAPI Supporting training of data collectors Designing data quality assessment scripts Conducting daily data quality checks and feedbacking to data collection teams Ensuring adherence data security protocol Quantitative and qualitative data analysis
Survey Coordinator	Asobasi Joe Stephen	Oversee data collection Develop field itinerary

	<p>Master's degree in leadership and governance, 2024-2026 Post Graduate Diploma in Project planning and management Master's degree in public health</p> <p>Bachelor's degree in health services management and administration</p> <p>Bachelor of Science in Medical Nursing</p>	<p>Regular progress reports on fieldwork process and quality monitoring</p> <p>Training and day to day management of quantitative and qualitative data collection.</p>
Project Manager	<p>Nyasha Madzingira</p> <p>Bachelor of Arts International Supply Chain Management</p>	<p>Single Point of Contact for project management Day-to-day progress reporting and coordination of activities</p> <p>Accountability for budget, work plans and reporting.</p>

ANNEXES

Annex 1: Terms of Reference

TERMS OF REFERENCE

Final Evaluation of UNICEF Sustainable WASH for Resilience Programme (SWfRP) in South Sudan

BACKGROUND AND OBJECTIVES:

Introduction

South Sudan—the world’s youngest country endured two decades of destructive conflict before gaining independence on 9 July 2011. Since then, the country has faced a deteriorating economic climate, a rapturing social fabric and deepening political challenges, constraining development, and intensifying a complex humanitarian crisis. Children have borne the most impact.

South Sudan is the most oil-dependent country in the world, with oil accounting for almost the totality of exports, and around 60 percent of its Gross Domestic Product (GDP) (World Bank). Following independence, the economy experienced three major shocks in the space of just three years: the 2012 oil shutdown; the armed conflict that began in December 2013; and the 2014 fall in global oil prices. Lower oil prices and reduced oil production have resulted in a budget deficit, and the country is unable to fully pay for its costs and has become dependent on borrowing. Outside the oil sector, livelihoods are concentrated in low productive, unpaid agriculture and pastoralist work, which account for around 15 percent of the GDP. Around 85 percent of the working population is engaged in non-wage work, primarily in pastoralism and crop production. Poverty levels have also risen post-independence, from 44.7 percent in 2011 to more than

57.2 percent in 2015. There has also been a corresponding increase in the depth of poverty resulting in a greater number of households living below the poverty line.

The Sudan crisis has also triggered a wave of returnees and refugees who are mainly women and children. Most are highly vulnerable and arrive in critically underdeveloped areas exposed to severe protection concerns including sexual violence, gender-based violence (GBV), and abuse. As of 31 December, 477,547 individuals including 246,954 children were registered as either refugees or returnees. Moreover, UNHCR estimates that by the beginning of 2024, an estimated 520,000 returnees from Sudan will have arrived in South Sudan.

With the recurring humanitarian crises, the country faces over time, development partners, including the United Nations (UN), have increasingly shifted from development to humanitarian assistance. In this context, the UN has provided support for the National Dialogue and has started work on a combined effort to build resilience and support recovery, particularly in areas where there is stability to lay the groundwork for durable peace and, ultimately, sustainable development.

This shift is reflected in the UN approach to addressing humanitarian crises called the New Way of Working. It is meant to simultaneously tackle short-term humanitarian needs while planning for a more sustainable future through building local capacities and resilience at household and community levels.

Over time this can be expected to lead to improved effectiveness and efficiency and ultimately a reduction in the need for humanitarian assistance. UNICEF is committed to working jointly with other UN agencies to adopt this approach, which is reflected in the UN Cooperation Framework and the Humanitarian Response Plan. Initiatives have begun in Aweil, Yei, Torit and Yambio under the Partnership for Recovery and Resilience.

Trends from the 2023 WHO/UNICEF Joint Monitoring Programme data show that, despite the collective efforts of the Government and partners in South Sudan, the South Sudan WASH sector still faces significant challenges with decreasing access to safe water and very slow progress in access to safe sanitation services over the past 10 years. With the SDG 6.1 target of achieving universal and equitable access to safe and affordable drinking water for all, over 60% of the population in South Sudan lack access to basic levels of drinking water. The country is still struggling in meeting the SDG 6.2 target of achieving access to adequate and equitable sanitation and hygiene for all and end open defecation. Only 20% of the population has access to basic sanitation services and 63% of the population do not have toilets at all, practicing open defecation posing a serious risk to people's health, economic development, and well-being. As a result, the incidence of diarrhea is over 30% and malnutrition rates are over 16%, among children under 5 years of age. Furthermore, extreme climate shocks such as flooding and drought and the unstable economic challenges including the rapid depreciation of the currency, are affecting the coping mechanism of the population exposing them to extreme vulnerability¹

For example, over the past four years floods affected up to 3.2 million people (according to the international disaster database). Schools, homes, health facilities and water sources have been inundated. Another major flood event is likely to occur in South Sudan over the second half of 2024 affecting 3.3 million people.

Sustainable wash for resilience project (SWfRP)

To address some of the challenges of the WASH sector, the Government of South Sudan and UNICEF South Sudan received financial assistance from the Dutch Government to implement a five-year SWfRP project (2019-2024). This programme began in September 2019 and will come to an end in August 2024 and is being implemented in eleven selected counties by three implementing partners. Centre for Emergency and Development Services, (CEDS) is implementing the project in Rumbek East, Rumbek Centre and Rumbek North; Mentor Initiative operates in Torit, Magwi, Ikotos, and Lopa/Lafon and LM international implements in Yambio, Nzara, Ezo, and Bor.

The objective of SWfRF is to support national and state governments to strengthen their capacity and systems to plan, implement, monitor, and sustain WASH services, building both community and government ownership by strengthening the enabling environment while ensuring sustained use of safely managed water supplies, the elimination of open defecation, and improved hygiene behaviors by people in targeted communities, especially by women and girls and persons with disabilities.

The program comprises seven major components:

1. Access to safe drinking water

This programme is targeting 250,000 people with sustainable access to safe drinking water in rural and peri-urban communities. This is being done through rehabilitation and construction of boreholes with hand pumps, boreholes with motorized pumps, elevated storage, and limited distribution in Eastern Equatoria, Lakes, and Western Equatoria; and through rehabilitation of the town water supply system in Bor Town.

Management and operation and maintenance of WASH facilities in a sustainable manner. Through participatory approaches, facilitated by counties and civil society organizations, communities will be empowered to participate in the planning and implementation of WASH activities and to take responsibility for managing the operation and maintenance of the facilities. This will be done through strengthening the capacity of community-based water user committees and promoting participation in financing in all four states.

3. Access to pump spare parts and household sanitation and HWTS technologies.

A rapid market assessment of hand pump spare parts and sanitation products supply chains was completed. The main purpose of this assessment was to map the existing supply chains of hand pump spare parts and sanitation products in four project states- Rumbek, Torit, Yambio and Bor- and to develop a framework/business model for these supply chain systems.

4. Access to sanitation

UNICEF is targeting 175,000 people (70 percent of the target) in selected programme areas with sustainable access to sanitary means of excreta disposal through rollout of the Community Led Total Sanitation model. Appropriate and low-cost options for institutional and household toilets are being promoted as the focus is on the creation of demand for toilets rather than the usual supply driven process. This is being implemented in all four states.

5. Hygiene behaviors

The intent for this result is to ensure that intensive and extensive hygiene promotion results for programme beneficiaries adopting three main improved hygiene practices, namely, handwashing after defecation; safe disposal of children's feces; and household water treatment systems (HWTS). Both public and house to house promotional approaches are utilized in all four states.

6. Sustainable school WASH approaches

To support an improvement in the school learning environment for children, especially the girl child, the programme supports appropriate water, sanitation, and hygiene approaches in primary schools. Basic knowledge on hand washing, toilet use and HWTS will be introduced consistently in the curriculum and related activities on MHM through formation and training of school health clubs and rolling out of menstrual hygiene management in schools. This also includes construction of WASH facilities in 30 schools in the target counties in all four states.

7. Enhanced capacity for four state Directorates of Rural Water Supply and Sanitation

Building institutional capacity will ensure that local governance is well placed to support sustainable and pro-poor WASH service delivery in a participatory manner. Focus will be given to bringing about a change in approach by government WASH entities from merely direct technical implementation to playing a facilitative role of supporting communities to obtain improved WASH services which they can operate and maintain themselves.

The following are the key intended results for this project:

- I. 250,000 people in selected programme areas have sustainable access to safe drinking water.
- II. Communities are trained to plan WASH programmes and to effectively manage the operation and maintenance of WASH facilities sustainably.
- III. Communities have sustainable access to pump spare parts and household sanitation and HWTS technologies through an established supply chain at the local level.
- IV. 175,000 people (70 percent of the target) in selected programme areas have sustainable access to sanitary means of excreta disposal.
- V. 175,000 people (70 percent of the target) in selected programme areas are aware of and practice at least 3 key improved hygiene behaviors (handwashing, use of toilets, and HWTS technologies).
- VI. Sustainable school WASH approaches are implemented in targeted schools.
- VII. Four state Directorates of Rural Water Supply and Sanitation have enhanced their capacity to effectively plan, supervise, monitor, and report on WASH activities through the Rural Water Information Management System (RWIMS).

EVALUATION OBJECTIVES

The overall purpose of this evaluation is to 1). Support greater learning about what works, what does not and why in the context of a SWfRP. The evaluation will provide important information and a platform for engaging stakeholders to provide inputs and feedback on SWfRP implementation for strengthening future programming and results at the country level. 2) Support greater accountability of UNICEF to the SWfRP stakeholders.

The specific objectives of this evaluation are to:

- Assess whether envisioned results of the project at output, outcome and impact levels have been achieved as planned.
- Assess the relevance, effectiveness, efficiency, coherence and sustainability of project interventions towards achieving sustainable access to safe drinking water, adequate sanitation and hygiene services for targeted populations.
- Assess the contribution of the project towards addressing gender, climate change and conflict sensitivity issues. The evaluation also intends to assess the contribution of youth and private sector participation in project activities.
- Document best practices, key lessons learnt and provide recommendations for improvement in future project design, implementation, monitoring and evaluation.

Intended Users, Utilization and Dissemination

Primary users	How will they use the findings
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • UNICEF South Sudan CO 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • To improve programming • To document lesson learnt and best practices that can inform future WASH program replication • To strengthen strong evidence-based approach in planning and strategizing.
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Implementing partners 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • To build on the evidence generated by the evaluation to improve performance in the implementation of WASH projects/ interventions. • Strengthen capacity where it is lacking.
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Government line ministry 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • To use best practice lessons to accelerate reform implementation towards national SDG targets. • Adjust monitoring approaches to enhance quality program delivery. • To improve allocation of resources to avoid leaving gaps or overlapping in covering critical needs
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Donors 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • To influence the future design and scale-up of WASH Programmes in South Sudan • To determine the value for money spent • To know the progress toward achievement of their mission in South Sudan
Secondary users	How will they use the findings
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Other WASH actors 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • To utilize lesson learnt and best practices that can be replicated to their WASH programmes in South Sudan

The evaluation brief and final reports will be made public in forms usable by all stakeholders, including, for example, communication tools tailored to their specific needs. For this evaluation, the dissemination method will be included.

- A half-day dissemination workshop will be organized with all the stakeholders invited, and evaluation results presented.
- The evaluation firm will be required to develop an evaluation brief that will be circulated to all the participants in the workshop.

- UNICEF will publish the evaluation report and the brief on its website www.unicef.org to enable accessibility to a wider public.
- The report will also be circulated to all the ERG members and UNICEF programme section via email.

Internal staff will further benefit from the evaluation products being posted to the SharePoint and EISI

SCOPE OF WORK:

Evaluation Scope

The evaluation will focus on all the seven major programme components: i) Access to safe drinking water ii) Management and operation and maintenance of WASH facilities in a sustainable manner. iii) Access to sanitation. iv) Hygiene behaviors. v) Sustainable school WASH approaches. vi) Enhanced capacity for four state Directorates of Rural Water Supply and Sanitation. vii) Access to pump spare parts and household sanitation and HWTS technologies.

The evaluation will cover the project's geographical areas (11 counties) as well as national initiative undertaken by the project. The project duration considered for this evaluation will be 1 September 2019 to 31 August 2024.

The evaluation will be conducted according to the OECD/DAC criteria which assesses the relevance, effectiveness, efficiency, coherence, impact, and sustainability. The evaluation will also look at other evaluation criteria relevant to this programme, For example climate change, conflict sensitivity, risks as well as youth and private sector development. Gender equity and human rights dimensions will be included in the evaluation scope.

Evaluation framework/questions

The following evaluation questions are proposed:

Relevance: The evaluators will seek to establish the extent to which the programme achieved its intended results at output and outcome level (see results matrix attached in Annex 1)

- ❖ To what extent was the project in line with national priorities and the requirement of targeted women, men, and children? Were they consulted during design and implementation of the project?
- ❖ To what extent was the theory of change presented in the outcome model? Did it clearly articulate the assumptions about why the project approach is expected to produce the desired change? Was the theory of change grounded on evidence?
- ❖ To what extent was the selected method of delivery appropriate to the development context and challenges in South Sudan?

- ❖ To what extent has the SWfRP actively involved youth in its implementation?

Efficiency: This intends to measure how economically resources/inputs (funds, expertise, equipment, time, etc.) are converted to results.

- ❖ To what extent has there been an economical use of project resources? Have resources (funds, human resources, time, expertise, etc.) been allocated strategically to achieve outcomes?
- ❖ To what extent did monitoring systems provide management with a stream of data that allowed it to learn and adjust implementation accordingly?

Effectiveness: This assesses the extent to which the programmes intended results (outputs and outcomes) have been achieved or the extent to which progress toward outputs or outcomes have been achieved.

- ❖ To what extent have project results been achieved?
- ❖ How have corresponding outputs delivered by the project affected the outcomes, and in what ways have they not been effective?
- ❖ To what extent was the project appropriately responsive to the needs of the targeted population.

Coherence: The evaluator will seek to assess the compatibility of the project with other interventions in South Sudan to understand whether they support or undermine the programme, and vice versa. Internal coherence and external coherence should be considered.

- ❖ To what extent did the programme complement other related interventions of UNICEF other agencies in South Sudan?
- ❖ To what extent were stakeholders involved in the project's design and implementation?
- ❖ To what extent did the project contribute to strengthening national policies/programmes that would positively impact WASH programming in South Sudan?
- ❖ How did the project apply conflict sensitive approaches in its implementation?
- ❖ To what extent has the project ensured active private sector participation in its activities and contributed to improving conditions for private sector participation in WASH subsector in South Sudan.

Sustainability: The extent to which the project continues after the end of development assistance.

- ❖ What indications are there that the outcomes and impacts will be sustained, e.g., through requisite capacities (systems, structure, staff, etc.)
- ❖ Did the project provide viable models that had the potential for scaling up/ catalytic effect? What factors facilitated the adoption/ scaling up of the project initiatives?
- ❖ To what extent has the programme catalyzed actions of partners to commit to transition from humanitarian to development in WASH.?

Impact

What changes have resulted from the implementation of the Sustainable WASH project in South Sudan? Has the desired impact been achieved? Is there any unintended negative or positives impact?

To what extent has the SWfRP contributed to improved climatic change in the targeted project areas

Gender and human rights

To what extent have gender equality and the empowerment of women and girls been addressed in the design, implementation, monitoring and evaluation of this project?

To what extent have poor, indigenous people with disability and other marginalized groups benefited from the Sustainable WASH for Resilient programme in the project areas?

Youth and private sector development

Evaluation questions will be further refined by the evaluation team during the desk review phase and in consultation with the Reference Group and partners and stakeholders.

Methodology

The evaluation will take a theory-based approach to determine how the Sustainable WASH for resilient programme (SWfRP) has collectively contributed to any observed or documented results in South Sudan.

The evaluators will reconstruct and critically assess a logic model of how SWfRP interventions or contributions have resulted in expected results. The evaluation will be participatory and consultative

involving the project stakeholders and national partners. It will also be inclusive, with meaningful engagement of relevant partners and consistent with UNEG norms, standards, ethical guidance, human rights, and gender equality in evaluation.

The evaluation team will carry out a stakeholder mapping to identify the direct and indirect partners of the SWfRP. A matrix of stakeholders with their respective interests and roles in the SWfRP will be developed and included in the inception report. The evaluators will be expected to develop a detailed evaluation matrix to show how evaluation questions above will be answered. The evaluation team will be expected to provide a comprehensive description of the proposed methodology that articulates the survey protocol, sampling approach, sampling frame, data analysis approach, evaluation matrix, limitations, ethical protocol, data collection tools, training manual and field manual.

Data collection:

The evaluators will conduct a desk review of the key strategies and documents including reviewing the project log frame and objectives, Community Led Total Sanitation Guidelines, draft water bills, baseline review, infrastructure mapping reports, results matrix, and other relevant documentation. Evaluators will review other documents deemed necessary to understand the programming context.

Following the desk review, the evaluators will build on the documented evidence through an agreed set of field and interview methodologies, including:

- Interviews with key partners and stakeholders.
- Interviews with UNICEF staff both at CO and field office level.
- Focus group discussions with beneficiaries and field visits to project sites and partner institutions.
- Household survey, school survey, health facility survey or perception survey questionnaires as appropriate.
- Participatory observation and rapid appraisal techniques; and
- Case studies/success stories.

All data collection methods should be gender sensitive, and data should be systematically disaggregated by sex and age and, to the extent possible, disaggregated by geographical region, ethnicity, disability, migratory status and other contextually relevant markers of equity. As relevant, data disaggregated by gender,

ethnicity, age, disability language, national or social origin is needed to capture intersectionality or how multiple types of inequality and discrimination reinforce exclusion.

Use of mobile-based applications and Computer-Assisted Personal Interviewing (CAPI) data collection, entry, or similar, will be employed to increase data quality and reduce data processing time.

Limitations

- ❖ Insecurity in most parts of the country may limit the evaluation coverage to relatively stable areas. Locations accessed as insecure to visit may be left out for field visits.
- ❖ Inaccessibility of some project locations resulting from lack of or limited vehicles in the dry season and in the rainy seasons roads are flooded which may also affect the evaluation coverage.
- ❖ Unavailability of data.

3. WORKING LOCATIONS:

Remote with field travel expected, the evaluation team will cater for their travel and accommodation.

4. DELIVERABLES AND MILESTONE PAYMENTS:

Deliverables should be tangible and with a defined period for submission.

The individual or firm will be expected to produce the following deliverables linked to payments:

1. Inception report (about 20 pages with detailed information) with survey protocol, sampling approach, data analysis, evaluation matrix, ethical protocol, training manual, field manual.
2. Data collection
3. The draft final survey report, and PowerPoint presentation.
4. The final survey report, county-wide WASH inventory dataset, and PowerPoint presentation. Final Evaluation report (40-60 pages) meeting stakeholder expectations and UNEG norms and standards; and PowerPoint slides. At minimum, it must include:
 - Executive summary (not more than 5 pages),
 - Background and introduction
 - Evaluation methodology,
 - Findings,
 - Lessons learned and conclusions; and
 - Recommendations
 - Annexes
5. Dissemination materials – Slide Deck, evaluation summary brief, etc.

No	Deliverable	Estimated completion date	% Milestone payment
1	Submission of satisfactory inception report	04/Dec/2024	20%
2	Data collection and post-data collection debrief	20/Dec/2024	40%
3	Data analysis and submission of a draft evaluation report	16/Jan/2025	20%
4	Submission of satisfactory final evaluation report, evaluation brief and presentation of findings in dissemination workshop	26/Feb/2025	20%

5. MANAGEMENT OVERSIGHT:

The evaluation will be overseen by an Evaluation Reference Group. The group will be chaired by Modi Charles (UNICEF South Sudan Evaluation focal point). Charles will also be the Evaluation Manager (focal point) for this evaluation. Other members of the reference group will include representatives from the Government, Implementing partners, donors, UNICEF regional office and other WASH partners.

Quality assurance of this evaluation will be in line with UNEG evaluation quality assurance norms and standards will be ensured through reviews by the evaluation reference group. Stakeholder validation workshops will be conducted before approval. This quality assurance will not interfere with the views or independence of the evaluation team but will ensure credible evidence and analysis in a clear and convincing way and draw conclusions on that basis. Evaluation experts from the UNICEF ESARO evaluation section may provide technical advice including the quality assurance of the evaluation process.

Ethical considerations

The evaluation team should adhere to the following UN and UNICEF norms and standards, and the team is expected to clearly identify any potential ethical issues and approaches, as well as the processes for ethical review and oversight of the evaluation process in their proposal. Copies of all these documents will be provided upon request:

- United Nations Evaluation Group (UNEG) Standards for Evaluation in the UN System
- United Nations Evaluation Group (UNEG) Norms for Evaluation in the UN System, including impartiality, independence, quality, transparency, consultative process.
- Ethical Guidelines for UN Evaluations and the UNICEF procedure for ethical standards in research, evaluation, data collection and analysis will guide the overall process.
- UNICEF adapted evaluation report standards and Geros.
- The evaluation should incorporate the human rights-based and gender perspective and be based on results-based management principles and logical framework analysis.
- The evaluation team is required to clearly identify any potential ethical issues and approaches, as well as the processes for ethical review and oversight of the evaluation process in their proposal. Owing to the envisaged participation of human subjects in the evaluation, the evaluation team should seek ethical review board approval either.

The evaluation team is expected to acquire the ethical approval from South Sudan Institutional review board (with their office at the Ministry of Health). UNICEF will provide the necessary support in acquiring this ethical approval.

6. QUALIFICATIONS AND EXPERIENCE REQUIRED:

The institution would be expected to have at least a team leader with extensive experience in leading WASH evaluations, technical expert, data analyst and evaluation specialist. Only a diverse team comprising of both national and international professionals will be given consideration.

7. APPLICATION AND EVALUATION PROCESS:

LTA holders are requested to submit a technical and financial proposal and a time schedule for this assignment.

The financial proposal is to be based on the pre-approved LTA rates and category of service, and to include travel costs. Please note that i) travel costs shall be calculated based on economy class fare regardless of the length of travel and ii) costs for accommodation, meals and incidentals shall not exceed the applicable daily subsistence allowance (DSA) rates, as propagated by the International Civil Service Commission (ICSC). Details can be found at <http://icsc.un.org>

The technical proposal is to include CVs of personnel, work plan and a brief 2–3-page narrative of methodology and should include the following:

- Methodology
2–3-page methodology / approach detailing the technical approach of how the firm will conduct the evaluation.
- Work Plan
Workplan detailing timelines for each of the four components.
- Team Composition
Title and role of each team member
- CV's
CV of each team member (including qualifications and experience) as required to complete various components outlined in this document.

Annex 2: Evaluation framework

Evaluation Criteria	Key Questions	Sub-Evaluation Questions	Indicators	Data Collection Methods	Data Sources
Impact Long or short-term, intended or unintended, positive or negative	What changes have resulted from the implementation of the Sustainable WASH for Resilience project in South Sudan? Has the desired impact been achieved? Is there any unintended negative or positives impact?	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Has the project contributed to increased use of improved, equitable and sustainable WASH services? What were the barriers or enabling factors facilitating or inhibiting the use of improved, equitable and sustainable WASH services? Were there any positive or negative unanticipated direct or indirect impacts of the project on communities? How were these dealt with? 	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> Rural Sanitation Coverage Rural Water Coverage Number of diarrhoea cases ODF rates Range of barriers or inhibiting factors 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Desk Review Secondary Data Analysis KIIs FGDs Structured interviews 	<p>Main Sources: DHS-MIS, EMIS, Project Annual Reports, mWater Database,</p> <p>Complimentary Sources: Water Utility Reports, Ministry of Health Records, Ministry of Education records, Stakeholders: KIIs with UNICEF POs, Implementing Partners, South Sudan Urban Water Corporation, Ministry of Health Officials, Ministry of Water, Ministry of Education/ Schools, State Directorates of Rural Water Supply and Sanitation, Community leaders (religious, cultural and administrative), FGDs with WASH/IPC Committees, School Health Clubs, Beneficiary Communities Structured interviews with households and school heads and school children Case studies with beneficiary communities, schools and health facilities</p>
	To what extent has the SWfRP contributed to improved climatic resilience in the targeted project areas? Did it integrate climate change issues in its design?	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Did the project integrate climate change issues and interventions in its design and implementation (eg climate risk analysis, adaptive designs, water-efficient technologies, early warning systems, etc)? To what extent did the project promote the construction or install climate-resilient WASH infrastructure in the communities, schools and health facilities? 	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> Extent of integration of climate-resilient issues/ interventions in the design and implementation of the project % of climate resilient drinking water points constructed % of climate resilient sanitary facilities constructed in homes, schools and health centres 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Desk Review KII FGDs Structured interviews 	<p>Main Sources: Project Reports, Construction reports</p> <p>Stakeholders: KIIs with UNICEF POs, Implementing Partners, Ministry of Health officials, Ministry of Water, South Sudan Urban Water Corporation (SSUWC), Ministry of Education/ School officials, FGDs with WASH/IPC Committees, School Health Clubs, Beneficiary Communities Structured interviews with households and school heads and school children</p>
Coherence	To what extent did the project contribute to strengthening national policies/programmes that would positively impact WASH programming in South Sudan? Was it in line with national policies and priorities of	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> To what extent is the project compatible with South Sudan's national priorities and policies? Is it consistent and complementary to other WASH interventions in South Sudan? 	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> Range of national policies and programs strengthened as a result of the project Degree of complementarity or duplication of activities with other projects Alignment of climate-resilience interventions employed with national 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Desk Review KIIs 	<p>Main Sources: Project Reports, WASH Policy Sector Documents, National WASH Sector Documents</p> <p>Stakeholders: KIIs with UNICEF Officials, Implementing Partners, Ministry of Water and Ministry of Health officials,</p>

Evaluation Criteria	Key Questions	Sub-Evaluation Questions	Indicators	Data Collection Methods	Data Sources
	the Government of Sudan (external coherence)?	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> To what extent were stakeholders involved in the project's design and implementation? How effective was the project coordinated to ensure effective participation and complementarity of all government MDAs, UNICEF's implementing partners and other development partners? What challenges did the coordination structures face which hindered their effectiveness? 	<p>and international climate policies and strategies</p> <p>4. Extent of stakeholders' involvement in the design and implementation of the project</p> <p>5. Effectiveness of coordination mechanisms employed by the project</p>		Ministry of Education officials, State Directorates of Rural Water Supply and Sanitation Officials
	To what extent did the programme complement UNICEF's strategies, goals, priorities and international commitments (internal coherence)?	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Are there any synergies and interlinkages between the project and UNICEF's strategies, goals and priorities? Is the project consistent with UNICEF's international commitments, standards and norms? 	<p>1. Extent of project alignment and synergies with UNICEF's strategies, goals and priorities</p> <p>2. Level of the project's consistency with UNICEF's international commitments, standards and norms</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Desk Review - KIs 	<p>Main Sources:</p> <p>Project Reports, UNICEF South Sudan Country Programme Document (2023-2025), UNICEF Strategic Plan (2022-2025), UNICEF Global WASH Strategy (2016-2030), SDG Documents,</p> <p>Stakeholders: KIs with UNICEF Officials</p>
Effectiveness	Have the stated project goal, specific objectives, and indicators – as shown in the project logical framework – been achieved and if so, to what extent.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> What is the extent to which the project achieved its objectives, and its results, including any differential results across districts and beneficiary groups? What were the key drivers or barriers which facilitated or inhibited the achievement of the project's results? Were there any interventions which significantly contributed to the results more than others? 	<p>1. Level of achievements versus planned objectives and targets as per results framework</p> <p>2. Range of factors and barriers which facilitated or inhibited the achievement of the project's results.</p> <p>3. Extent of interventions' contribution to the results.</p> <p>4. Beneficiaries' perceptions on the quality of WASH services availed, including on issues of equity.</p> <p>5. Level of improvements in water quality meeting national standards</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Desk review - Secondary Data Analysis - KIs - FGDs - Most significant change case (MSC) studies 	<p>Main Sources:</p> <p>Annual Reports, DHS-MIS, RWIMS, HIMS, EMIS, WASH Sector Review reports, KOBQ/ mWater database, GIS data, <u>MSCs</u> with beneficiary communities, schools and health facilities</p> <p>Stakeholders:</p> <p>KIs with UNICEF POs, Implementing Partners, Ministry of Education officials, Ministry of Health officials, South Sudan Urban Water Corporation, State Directorates of Rural Water Supply and Sanitation Officials, Social Mobilisers, Community Leaders</p> <p>FGDs with school health clubs, WASH/IPC committees, community groups</p> <p>Structured Interviews with households, school heads and school children</p>

Evaluation Criteria	Key Questions	Sub-Evaluation Questions	Indicators	Data Collection Methods	Data Sources
	Has the project increased the capacities among government, communities, schools, health facilities and local authorities/ water utilities and the State Directorates of Rural Water Supply and Sanitation, to operate, manage and maintain the installed WASH facilities?	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> To what extent has the project improved the capacities among government, communities, schools, health facilities and local authorities/ water utilities and State Directorates of Rural Water Supply and Sanitation to self-manage, operate, and maintain their WASH services and infrastructure? To what extent has the project ensured active private sector participation in its activities and contributed to improving conditions for private sector participation in WASH subsector in South Sudan? 	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> Extent of government, schools, health facilities and communities' capacities to self-manage, operate, and maintain (and raise funds) their WASH facilities and services Extent of the availability and accessibility of pump spare parts and household sanitation and HWTS technologies Quality levels and standards of installed/ constructed WASH infrastructure Levels of private sector participation in the project 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Desk review KIIs FGDs Direct observations 	<p>Main Sources: Project Annual Reports,</p> <p>Observations of WASH infrastructure installed/ constructed for levels of quality and maintenance/ functionality</p> <p>Stakeholders: KIIs with UNICEF POs, Implementing Partners, Private sector companies, South Sudan Urban Water Corporation, State Directorates of Rural Water Supply and Sanitation, School Authorities, Health Facilities staff FGDs with WASH committees, Community members</p>
Relevance	To what extent was the theory of change presented in the outcome model? Was the theory of change grounded on evidence? Did it clearly articulate the assumptions about why the project approach is expected to produce the desired change?	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> To what extent are the project's interventions and design (theory of change, validity of assumptions, approaches, risk analysis, context analysis, etc) grounded in evidence? Is the project design and ToC in line with the rights, needs and priorities of the rights holders, as well as with the donor policies (Dutch Government)? 	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> Degree of the strength of causal linkages in addressing the rights, needs and priorities of rights holders Extent of the validity of assumptions to the operating context and to the ToC Range of factors facilitating or undermining the causal linkages 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Desk review KII FGDs 	<p>Main Sources: Project Proposal, Project ToC and Results Framework, Project Annual Reports</p> <p>Stakeholders: KIIs with UNICEF staff, Implementing Partners, Ministry of Water, Ministry of Health, School Officials FGDs with Community leaders, School children and Community members</p>
	To what extent was the selected method of delivery appropriate to the development context and challenges in South Sudan?	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Were the delivery models and approaches for the project relevant to the context of South Sudan, and to changing circumstances? 	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> Level of appropriateness of the of the delivery methods used 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Desk review KII FGDs 	<p>UNICEF staff, Implementing Partners, Environmental Health Officers, Healthcare Workers, Community Health Workers, Ministry of Education officials, Ministry of Water, Community members</p>
Efficiency	To what extent has there been an economical use of project resources? Have resources (funds, human resources, time, expertise, etc.) been allocated strategically to achieve outcomes?	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> To what extent were the economic resources/inputs (funds, expertise, equipment, time, etc.) converted to results (outputs, outcomes and impacts) in a cost-effective manner? To what extent were the interventions delivered within the intended timeframe, or a 	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> Unit costs, cost per beneficiary and cost-benefit ratios Adequacy of resourcing for the SWfRP Perceptions levels of beneficiaries and stakeholders on the timeliness of interventions 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Desk review KII FGDs 	<p>Main Sources: Project Proposal, Annual Reports, Donor Statements by Activity (DSA) reports, Ministry of Finance records, Implementing Partners Financial records</p> <p>Stakeholders: KIIs with UNICEF POs, Implementing Partners, South Sudan Urban Water Corporation, State</p>

Evaluation Criteria	Key Questions	Sub-Evaluation Questions	Indicators	Data Collection Methods	Data Sources
		timeframe reasonably adjusted to the demands of the evolving context.			Directorates of Rural Water Supply and Sanitation, School Authorities, Health Facilities staff, Social Mobilisers FGDs with school children, community members
	To what extent did monitoring systems provide management with a stream of data that allowed it to learn and adjust implementation accordingly?	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> To what extent were the M&E tools aligned with the project's ToC and results framework? What were the gaps Which tools have been developed to monitor the progress and impact of the project? Were they used effectively? How can they be improved? Did the tools developed ensure the monitoring, collection, analysis and use of disaggregated data (sex, age, geographical location, urban versus rural, disability, etc)? Were there any mechanisms to facilitate the use of, and sharing of lessons generated from project implementation? How did the lessons learnt inform ongoing programming? What were the gaps? How have lessons learned from various monitoring / evaluation sessions been incorporated into the program, and shared with partners 	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> Alignment of tools to ToC Adequacy of tools to measure the performance of the ToC Level of capacity of users to use the tools Extent of the use of data from M&E in planning and informing decision-making Range of gaps in the development and use of the tools Appropriateness of data collection methods Extent of monitoring, collection, analysis and use of disaggregated data (sex, age, diversity) Range of mechanisms used for sharing findings with partners and stakeholders Range of mechanisms used to facilitate use of lessons learned from monitoring 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Desk review KII FGDs 	<p>Main Source: Progress Annual Reports, Project Reviews reports, Field Monitoring Reports, Project M&E Framework (if available)</p> <p>Stakeholders: KIIs with UNICEF staff, Implementing Partners, Ministry of Education/ School officials, Ministry of Health officials, South Sudan Urban Water Corporation, State Directorates of Rural Water Supply and Sanitation, Social Mobilisers FGDs with WASH/IPC Committees, School Health Clubs</p>
Sustainability	<p>What indications are there that the outcomes and impacts will be sustained, e.g., through requisite capacities (systems, structure, staff, etc.)?</p> <p>What are the individual, organisational and institutional</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Did the project provide viable models, good practices and innovations that had the potential for scaling up/ catalytic effect? What factors facilitated the adoption/ scaling up of the project initiatives? 	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> Range of viable models, good practices and innovations with a potential for scale up Range of individual, organisational and institutional factors that supports or may constrain the sustainability of project's results and initiatives 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Desk review KIIs FGDs 	<p>Main Sources: Project Annual Reports</p> <p>Stakeholders: KIIs with UNICEF Officials, MoH Officials, MOE/School Officials, South Sudan Urban Water Corporation Officials, State Directorates of Rural Water Supply and Sanitation Officials,</p>

Evaluation Criteria	Key Questions	Sub-Evaluation Questions	Indicators	Data Collection Methods	Data Sources
	factors that support or may constrain the continuity, ownership and sustainability of the project's results?	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> To what extent has the programme catalyzed actions of partners to commit to transition from humanitarian to development in WASH? Are the government ministries departments and agencies (MDAs), local authorities/ water utilities, schools, health facilities and communities sufficiently capacitated (financially, economically, socially, environmentally and institutionally) to continue implementing WASH interventions after the project ends? What are the gaps and challenges? 	<p>3. Levels of commitment from partners to transition from humanitarian to development actions</p> <p>4. Levels of MDAs, local authorities, water utilities, schools, health facilities and communities' capacity to continue implementing WASH interventions</p>		Implementing Partners, Social Mobilisers/ Community Health Workers, Community Leaders FGDs with WASH/IPC Committees, Community groups Structured interviews with households and school heads and school children
Human rights, equity and gender	<p>To what extent have gender equality and the empowerment of women and girls been addressed in the design, implementation, monitoring and evaluation of this project? Did the project apply conflict sensitive approaches in its implementation?</p> <p>To what extent have poor, adolescents, youths, people with disabilities and other marginalized groups benefited from the Sustainable WASH for Resilient programme in the project areas?</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Did the design adopted of the project ensure the inclusion of the most vulnerable groups, locations, communities, schools and health facilities? To what extent did the services and infrastructure availed by the project meet the diverse needs and rights of women, men, girls, boys and those of vulnerable groups (the poor, pregnant women, the sick, the elderly, disabled persons)? Were there any rights of women and children which were violated? Did women and girls benefit less from the project compared to their male counterparts? Were there any interventions that discriminated against women and girls? To what extent did the project integrate the meaningful 	<p>1. Levels of women and girls' empowerment initiatives instituted by the project</p> <p>2. Range and effectiveness of engagement platforms used for men, adolescents, youths, children and people with disabilities</p> <p>3. Extent of the presence of accessible, dignifying, private, gender-disaggregated, child and disability-friendly WASH facilities and services</p> <p>4. Range and effectiveness of actions taken to ensure the inclusion of the most vulnerable groups, communities, schools and health facilities (inclusion and exclusion errors).</p> <p>5. Levels of violations or protections of human rights of rights holders instituted by the project eg grievances/ complaints redress and feedback mechanisms</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Desk review - KIIs - FGDs - Structured interviews 	<p>Main Sources: Project Proposal, Annual Reports,</p> <p>Stakeholders: KIIs with UNICEF Officials, MoH Officials, MOE Officials, Implementing Partners, School Heads, WASH/IPC Committees, Social Mobilisers, FGDs with CBOs/ Women's Groups, Community Leaders, Community Members, School Health Clubs Structured interviews with households and school heads and school children</p>

Evaluation Criteria	Key Questions	Sub-Evaluation Questions	Indicators	Data Collection Methods	Data Sources
		<p>participation of adolescents and youths in its design and implementation, and how did it address their rights, needs and priorities?</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • What is the extent of collection, analysis and reporting of disaggregated data (disability, locations)? 	6. Extent of participation of adolescents and youths in the design and implementation of the project		

Annex 3: Data collection tools

Presented separately