

## Context

The existing Arba Minch Town water supply system was designed for a population of 46,000 inhabitants and made operational in 1956. Nowadays it results far inadequate to meet the needs of a fast growing population, currently estimated as 85,000 individuals, and the Town expansion. In addition to the water shortages, pipes incur in more and more frequent breakages causing sever water losses. The overall sanitation of the Town is poor and sanitation associated diseases are widespread. There are no sewerage systems nor wastewater treatment facilities.

## Impact

AWSSE managers and technicians will increase their technical and management know-hows and capacities.

A software for infrastructure network monitoring, modeling and management will be implemented; Equipment, tools and a guidelines manual for infrastructure maintenance will be implemented and put in use.

AWSSE, Arba Minch Town Municipality, local stakeholders, population leaders and representatives will enhance their capacity of dialogue, participation and coordination.

## Objectives

The **overall objective** of the WATSAM Project is to contribute to the achievement of a sustainable local development, management and governance of the water and sanitation sector in Arba Minch Town.

The **specific objective** of the WATSAM Project is to improve the efficiency, dissemination and quality of the water supply and sanitation services with regard to the managerial, administrative and technical fields of AWSSE Water Utility and Arba Minch Town Municipality, thus enhancing the coordination among stakeholders in the governance and proper use of water resources and infrastructures, and fostering at the same time the partnership network between Ethiopian and Italian water organizations.

## Outcomes

The Water Utility AWSSE and its technicians and managers will be more efficient, productive, organized, technically equipped in their functions of water resources management.

The Sanitation Department of Arba Minch Municipality will have its capacities and efficiency in managing sanitation service in the town reinforced.

The two beneficiary partners will enhance their collaboration and synergy among themselves and with the other stakeholders involved.

## Axes of activity

- **CAPACITY BUILDING**: to enhance operational/management capacities even in a mid-long term perspective ;
- **TRAINING** to strengthen the local technical and managerial skills of the beneficiaries in field of water and sanitation management ;
- **TRAINING OF TRAINERS** : to enhance the abilities of the facilitators working for AWSSE and Municipality of Arba Minch to promote the participation and involvement of local communities in the management of the water and sanitation infrastructures.

## LOCATION AND TOTAL DURATION OF THE ACTION

**Location:** Municipality of Arba Minch Town, Ethiopia

**Duration:** 3 years

**Start:** August 2012

## SOURCES OF FOUNDING

- The European Union
- The Partners

## THE PARTNERSHIP

### Lead Partner

**HYDROAID (HYA)** - recently recognized as *special consultant* of UN-ECOSOC - has a wide experience in development and implementation of both face-to-face and distance learning programs, capacity building actions, seminars and internships in the water resources and sanitation sectors.

### Beneficiary Partners

**AWSSE, AMTM and AMU** already had experiences in projects connected to the water and sanitation sector: ROSA, SPA and CLARA Projects, dealing with water supply and sanitation systems and technologies for Africa's peri-urban and rural areas. However, the Ethiopian partners have experienced a low level of community awareness related to water and sanitation issues and developed a low capacity to administrate and mobilize the local actors due to a management skills gap.

### Implementing Partners

**ENAS** has a wide experience in management, administration and operational activities on the whole integrated water resources cycle and infrastructures in the Sardinia Region (Italy).

**SMAT** has a wide experience in management and technical activities on the whole integrated water resources services and plants in Turin metropolitan area (Piedmont Region, Italy).

### Supporting Partners

**CISV** is an Italian development NGO based in Turin (Italy) operating in the international cooperation. With a 50-years history, CISV is currently working in 12 countries in Africa and Latin America, supporting communities and civil society organizations in agriculture, microfinance, water supply, and human rights with a partnership and empowerment approach. CISV also runs several activities and campaigns of education, information and people's awareness on intercultural and global issues in Italian schools and for general public.

**Polytechnic of Turin (POLITO)** was founded in 1906 and is one of the most advanced European centres for university studies and research in the fields of engineering and architecture, strongly committed to collaboration with international institutions, high-tech companies and governmental authorities.

**University of Trento (UNITN)** has past experiences in waterworks characterization and in free software development for water infrastructures modeling and design. It has already worked in cooperation projects in Rwanda by carrying out this kind of activities with the use of monitoring tools and free software, whose effectiveness and applicability in developing countries have already been tested.

### Contacts

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