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MEASURING IMPACT AND SUSTAINABILITY

Red Cross Red Crescent National Societies deliver developmental water, sanitation and hygiene promotion (WASH) projects under the framework of its Global Water and Sanitation Initiative (GWSI).

Access to WASH facilities is a human right. Our WASH efforts contribute to broader goals of reducing mortality and morbidity and strengthening community resilience while upholding dignity of the people reached. We are accountable to our target population and other stakeholders to justify the investment made in our WASH projects and demonstrate sustainable impact. However, demonstrating impact and sustainability requires revisiting communities at least several years after project completion.

For WASH projects, IFRC is using a rapid mobile phone-based (RAMP) system and look back study, a set of tools and guidance, as a means to collect key data to measure sustainable impact.

RAPID MOBILE PHONE-BASED SYSTEM

The use of mobile phone technology and online platforms has over recent years become increasingly applicable to both humanitarian and developmental efforts. The proven benefits and indeed potential broadened scope and use of these technologies is fast evolving and becoming standard practice, even in the most difficult contexts.

International Federation of Red Cross and Red Crescent Societies' RAMP system is being adapted and field tested to serve the full project cycle for GWSI projects.

The RAMP system enables its users to have access to data in real-time (as soon as it is uploaded to the cloud), and provides quick analysis, visualization, and mapping. This has proven to be of enormous benefit to programme managers, increasing transparency and providing a platform for improved knowledge sharing between the field, headquarters and other stakeholders.

In the longer-term, RAMP will increasingly have a role in empowering populations targeted for humanitarian and development interventions. Giving individuals and groups an effective platform to disseminate their views gives them a greater role in decision-making.

THE LOOK BACK STUDY

Currently, 476 WASH projects are being implemented in more than 80 countries. Since 2005, we have reached 15 million people with safe water and improved sanitation and another 6 million people with hygiene promotion activities. GWSI will continue until 2025 and intends to reach a further 15 million people at least.

We and our partners have often questioned to **what degree are we achieving an acceptable level of impact and sustainability?**

We have set a provisional target that 70 per cent of project inputs (hardware and software) should be achieved and maintained over a ten year period.

Added to this are questions on **when we should measure, how we should measure and what should be the outcomes?**

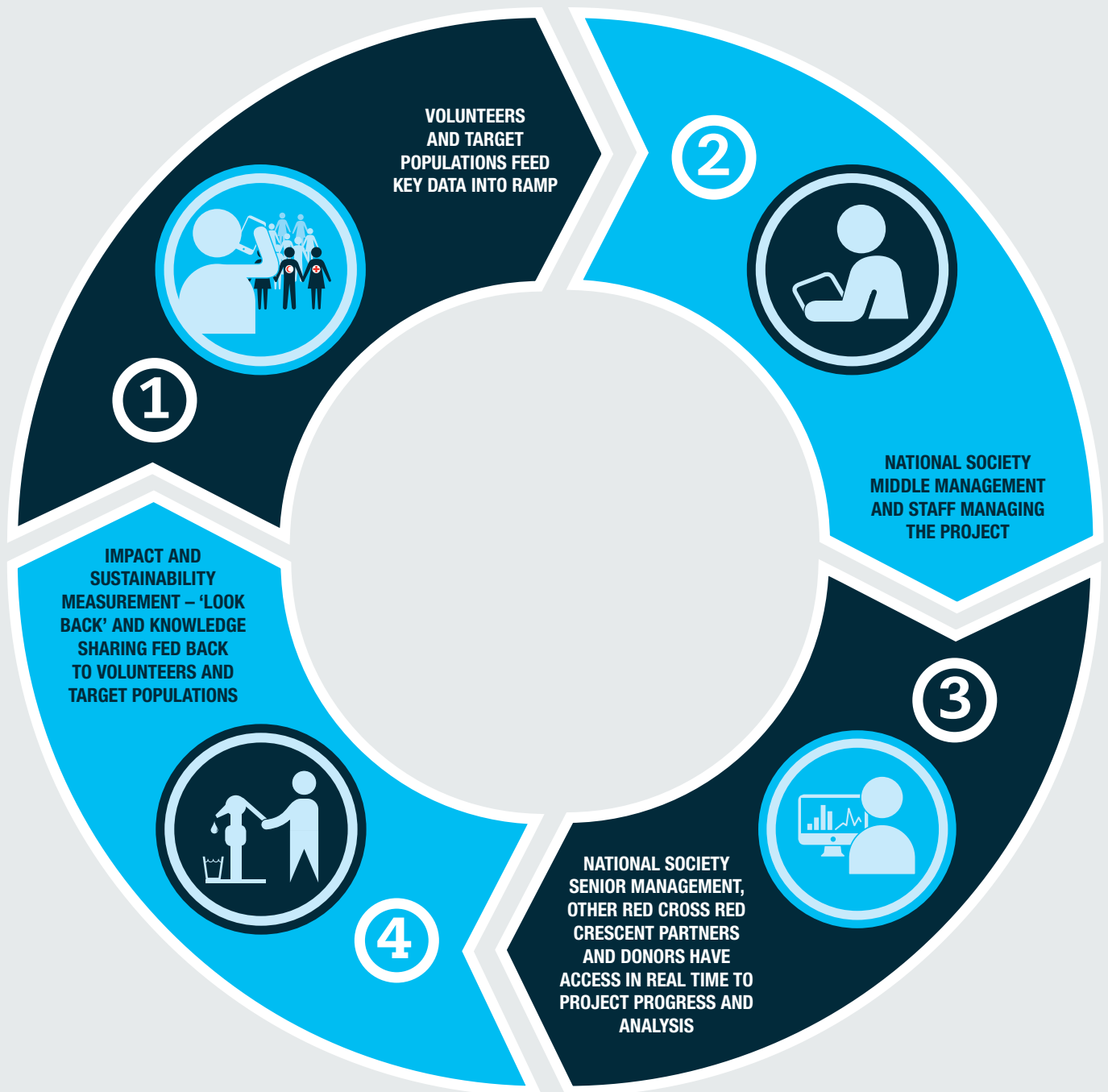
This led us to formulating the **look back** study, a set of tools and guidance (still evolving) that is helping us revisit projects – preferably three to five years or more after completion. As a result of such studies, recommendations can be made to:

- **Inform on-going and planned WASH programming in the project country or globally.**
- **Define remedial action, if appropriate, to maximize impact and sustainability and reduce the need for 'repeat' programming.**

We have not undertaken enough **look back** studies as yet, but intend to do so and refine the process and expected outcomes over time.

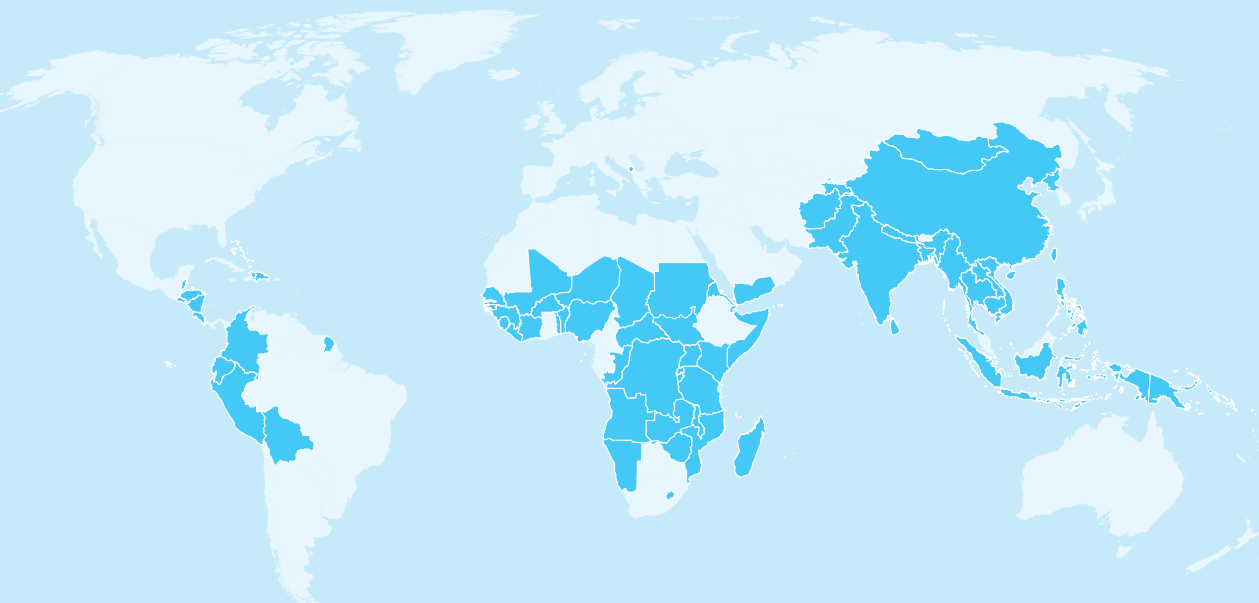
We advocate for a certain degree of consensus among WASH implementers, donors and partners to define what is an acceptable level of impact and sustainability that we can aspire to achieve in the lead up to attaining universal WASH coverage.

USING MOBILE PHONE TECHNOLOGY THROUGHOUT THE PROJECT CYCLE



WHERE WE WORK

**104 National Societies are supporting and implementing
476 water and sanitation projects in 80 countries**



Implementing National Societies

- Afghan Red Crescent Society
- Angola Red Cross
- The Bahamas Red Cross Society
- Bangladesh Red Crescent Society
- Belize Red Cross Society
- Red Cross of Benin
- Bolivian Red Cross
- Burkinabe Red Cross Society
- Burundi Red Cross
- Cambodian Red Cross Society
- Central African Red Cross Society
- Red Cross of Chad
- Red Cross Society of China
- Colombian Red Cross
- The Comoros Red Crescent
- Red Cross of the Democratic Republic of the Congo
- Congolese Red Cross
- Costa Rican Red Cross
- Cuban Red Cross
- Red Crescent Society of Djibouti
- Dominican Red Cross
- Ecuadorian Red Cross
- Red Cross Society of Eritrea
- Ethiopian Red Cross Society
- The Gambia Red Cross Society
- Guatemalan Red Cross
- Red Cross Society of Guinea
- Red Cross Society of Guinea-Bissau
- The Guyana Red Cross Society
- Haiti Red Cross Society
- Honduran Red Cross
- Indian Red Cross Society
- Indonesian Red Cross Society
- Red Cross Society of Côte d'Ivoire
- Kenya Red Cross Society
- Red Cross Society of the Democratic People's Republic of Korea
- Lao Red Cross
- Lesotho Red Cross Society
- Liberian Red Cross Society
- Malagasy Red Cross Society
- Malawi Red Cross Society
- Maldivian Red Crescent
- Mali Red Cross
- Marshall Islands Red Cross
- Mongolian Red Cross Society
- Red Cross of Montenegro
- Mozambique Red Cross Society
- Myanmar Red Cross Society
- Namibia Red Cross
- Nepal Red Cross Society
- Nicaraguan Red Cross
- Red Cross Society of Niger
- Nigerian Red Cross Society
- Pakistan Red Crescent Society
- Red Cross Society of Panama
- Papua New Guinea Red Cross Society
- Peruvian Red Cross
- Philippine Red Cross

Supporting National Societies

- Rwandan Red Cross
- Salvadorean Red Cross Society
- Sao Tome and Principe Red Cross
- Senegalese Red Cross Society
- Sierra Leone Red Cross Society
- Solomon Islands Red Cross
- Somali Red Crescent Society
- South Sudan Red Cross
- The Sri Lanka Red Cross Society
- The Sudanese Red Crescent
- Red Crescent Society of Tajikistan
- The Thai Red Cross Society
- Tanzania Red Cross National Society
- Timor-Leste Red Cross Society
- Togolese Red Cross
- Uganda Red Cross Society
- Vanuatu Red Cross Society
- Vietnam Red Cross Society
- Yemen Red Crescent Society
- Zambia Red Cross Society
- Zimbabwe Red Cross Society
- American Red Cross
- Australian Red Cross
- Austrian Red Cross
- Belgian Red Cross
- British Red Cross
- The Canadian Red Cross Society
- Red Cross Society of China
- Danish Red Cross
- Finnish Red Cross
- French Red Cross
- German Red Cross
- Hong-Kong Red Cross
- Irish Red Cross Society
- Japanese Red Cross Society
- Red Cross of Monaco
- The Netherlands Red Cross
- New Zealand Red Cross
- Norwegian Red Cross
- Qatar Red Crescent Society
- Spanish Red Cross
- Swedish Red Cross
- Swiss Red Cross
- South Korea Red Cross
- Red Crescent Society of the United Arab Emirates

Partners



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