

# Participatory Water and Sanitation Resources Inventory and Assessment in a Community

by  
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## Participatory water and sanitation resources inventory and assessment (PWSRIA) is about engaging with the communities we serve.

- PWSRIA is a research process involving community mapping, transect walk, focus group discussions and practical analysis with the community.
- Data obtained from PWSRIA are used by the community in planning, implementation, and policy recommendations.



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**PWSRIA results are used in technology selection and design.**

**PWSRIA enables the community to analyze and decide which water supply and sanitation technology options they want to implement for themselves.**



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**In PWSRIA, community members collectively draw a map of their locality, indicating the locations of water sources, households, toilets, drainage systems, roads, public areas, landmarks, creeks and other relevant features.**



**They then walk through the community to validate their map and gather data from other residents. Questionnaires and observation tools are used.**



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Some of the data to be gathered include: available water resources; water quality; estimated water quantity needed by the community; waste management; existing water and sanitation facilities including those needing rehabilitation and improvement; population; number of households; distribution systems; future needs of the people in the community; spring flow and distance measurements; etc.



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**Findings and other relevant information gathered are presented in a community assembly, validated and processed in a discussion session.**



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## The focus group discussion tackles:

- The local water supply, sanitation and hygiene situation.
- Upholding the human right to water and sanitation, and people's collective right to manage their water resources.
- Activating the moral imagination to awaken the community's potential, inviting people to be part of their community's growth with equity process.

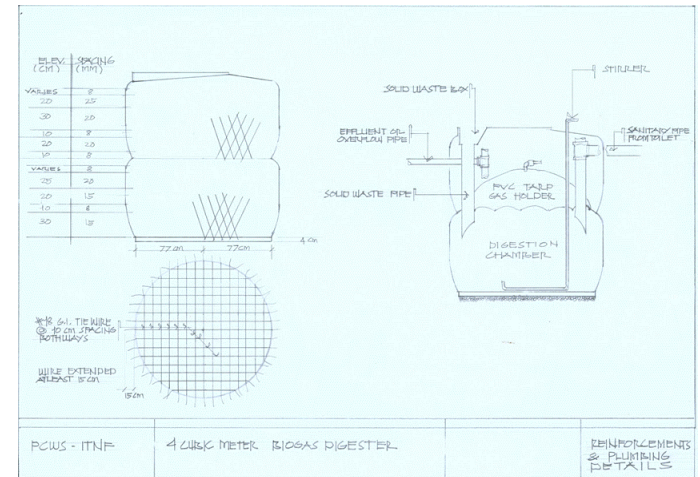


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In view of the findings from the PWSRIA, the PCWS-ITNF engineers then present and explain to the community the various feasible water supply and sanitation technology options in the local context to enable the community to make informed choices, undertake collective agreements and make decisions.



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**Through PWSRIA, community water availability, use, needs and consumption are determined.**

- From the resulting inventory of their available water, sanitation and hygiene (WASH) resources, the community then proceeds to do action planning and tackles other related activities that will follow.
- Building the community's capacity to construct, operate, sustain, innovate and scale-up water supply and sanitation systems becomes a shared goal.

**After the water supply and sanitation systems are built, the community is able to think about possible livelihood options. WASH could contribute to poverty reduction.**



*The ferro-cement biogas digester septic tank connected to a toilet could also take in other biodegradable solid wastes and convert them into methane gas for cooking.*



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**PWSRIA is part of interrelated activities of a bigger effort combining policy recommendation, awareness raising, capacity building, hygiene promotion, and strengthening partnerships to ensure access to potable water and improved sanitation in a community.**

**It is also a way to start community dialogue, understand the local situation and explore possibilities for community Improvement.**

**PWSRIA ensures that effective social preparation activities are conducted.**



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**Based on PWSRIA, water and sanitation systems are built in place with and through community effort, maintained and sustained by the local people themselves.**

**PWSRIA has the potential to support the advancement of community leadership on water, sanitation and hygiene (WASH), encouraging them to take on new challenges, cross-community learning opportunities and promoting shared prosperity.**



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