

Professionalising Manual Drilling in Africa

UNICEF, Practica and Enterprise Works/VITA have developed a toolkit for African countries wishing to embark on the professionalisation of manual drilling. This toolkit includes Technical Notes, Technical Manuals, Advocacy Materials, Mapping of suitable areas for manual drilling, Case Studies, and Implementation and Training Manuals. This initiative builds the capacity of the local private sector in order to respond to the ever increasing demand for safe water in rural areas. This Technical Note is the **second** in a series of five.

Overview

The goal of this initiative is to develop a professional private manual drilling sector in at least 20 countries in Africa. Starting with an assessment of the potential for manual drilling to impact the MDGs and the development of the tools required for building the private sector capacity. This program will require substantial investment in time and money to professionalise the private sector so that the implementation is consistent with national legislations and policy and can respond to the demand for safe water points from governments, donors, villages, and individuals.

Mapping the Potential for Manual Drilling

The potential for manual drilling is being mapped in 20 countries based on available data including hydrogeology, satellite images, and population density. This will provide a clear indication of the countries with the highest potential to benefit from the 4 to 10-fold cost savings that can be realized when manual drilling is used in suitable areas to complement other conventional means of providing safe water.

Implementation and Training Manuals

Manuals are being developed that provide the best practices to assist country offices and national governments to implement and scale-up the local capac-

ity to support the manual well drilling sector. A general 'implementation manual for professionalising the manual drilling sector' providing the steps involved will be supported by detailed technical manuals on: Groundwater and Wells, Manual Drilling Techniques (rota-sludge, augering, jetting and manual percussion), Business Training, Social Marketing, Social Mobilization and Financing Options.

Promotional and Advocacy Materials

Documents are being produced to increase awareness among donors, governments, implementers and communities of the benefits and limitations of manual drilling as a means of accelerating the drive toward the MDGs. The materials will include case studies, flyers, posters and videos.

Country Level Activities

Using the implementation guide and the technical manuals, countries will be able to assess the existing capacity of enterprises and organizations in the manual drilling sector for: drilling, quality control, business development services, and social mobilization. In the light of prevailing governmental policies and the training needs assessment, training programs and a social marketing campaign will be developed. Over a 3-5 year period the professionalised manual drilling sector will gain the capacity to respond to the demand for safe water points from donors, communities and individuals, benefiting tens of thousands of people in rural areas. In addition, technical standards for wells and the inclusion of manual drilling as part of national water sector policy will be promoted.

Contact for additional information:

UNICEF: sgaya@unicef.org

EnterpriseWorks/VITA:

nauglej@enterpriseworks.org

Practica Foundation:

arjen.vanderwal@practicafoundation.nl

Professionalising Manual Drilling in Africa

