

Akvo Flow training Sierra Leone – WASH baseline 2016

In the week before the start of the training we entered the survey into the Akvo Flow system. On the 13th of April 2016 we arrived in Freetown Sierra Leone for the preparation of the training. During the technical meeting the next day we discussed the plan and agenda for the next week.

- 6 surveys
- 14 districts
- 180 enumerators

Trainers	Dates Sierra Leone	Email
Francis Warui	13 April - 23 April	francis@akvo.org
Geert Soet	14 April - 10 May	geert@akvo.org
Abdoulaye Semde	2 May - 8 May	abdoulaye@akvo.org

Week 1 (18-22 April) : Selected group enumerators + pretest

This group contained SSL staff, senior engineers and Water directorate staff. Beginning of the week we discussed all surveys on paper and with knowledge from the field made corrections were needed. After this, corrections have been made in the questionnaire on the phones.

A selected group of enumerators have been trained in using the app in depth. This group will be used in the field for troubleshooting as they know how to install the app, handle user and device ID's.

2nd part of the week we spent time on testing the surveys in the field with conducting actual interviews and mapping real water points. Every survey was tested by one group + all groups did the household and water point mapping as they are most important. Feedback of surveys has been processed and uncertainties regarding the surveys have been discussed and updated in methodology/manual.

Week 2 (3-7 May): Training of trainers

With experience from week 1 we selected a group of 12 people which were trained in the app, dashboard, data cleaning, data analysis and user management.

We repeated all surveys with a focus on how to train people in them. We wrote down objectives of all surveys so that enumerators get a better understanding why were are doing this. Akvo prepared multiple presentations which were used in week 3. On Friday we agreed on the training agenda and decided on which trainers were going to train together.

Week 3: Enumerator training

In the last week 180 enumerators have been trained in four rooms. Despite having logistical

issues with phones, limited projectors, no internet, warm rooms, I think we can say it was a successful training. The trainers trained in week 2 did an outstanding job.

This weeks focus:

- Smartphone basics
- Battery and data saving
- Akvo Flow training
- Methodology
- Feedback of surveys

During this weeks training surveys have been tested again. In general we can say that some questions needed explanation but there were not many errors made.

Looking at the smartphone skills of the enumerators, their motivation shown during the week and their knowledge of WASH topics handled we are confident that they are now all qualified to do this job.

Data quality assurance plan first two weeks

- Daily review of data from the previous day: Akvo will send findings before 16.00 GMT. Geert (Akvo) and Ruth / Sonnia (SSL) will have contact on daily basis to discuss possible issues.
- We distinguish global issues and district/enumerator issues: Global issues can be for example a blocker mistake in the survey (which we don't expect after extensive pretesting). Global issues should be discussed with the technical team.
- District/enumerator issues: issues signalled at district level will be shared with the district manager on daily basis. We expect them to read their e-mail before start of the day. This contact is managed by SSL.
- District managers should share concerns as soon as possible. It is a good idea to give them a template they can follow to structure feedback regarding survey/staff/logistics.
- Before data collection starts Akvo will work on an Excel template that gives us statistics on number of datapoints collected per team and enumerator. This will give us insight in attendance and progress of the project as we have set targets per day.

Project risks as seen by Akvo

Battery in the field

As enumerators use used phones with not contain the best battery they could quickly run out of battery in the field

- Provide a good powerbank to each team which they can charge in the car
- Use car charger splitters + car chargers to charge all phones

Enumerator training payment

Paying the enumerators on Monday was in our opinion bad for the moral of the enumerators and could impact on attendance rate in the future.

→ Formally invite enumerators who will be used in this data collection round. Make a statement about how payment will be done in the future.

Momentum of data collection

There is a gap between training and data collection. This loses momentum of the project and also could make enumerators forget knowledge handled before.

→ Start data collection as soon as possible
 → Make sure all enumerators have their print outs of manual and methodology

Water point mapping time pressure

95% of the water point mapping data will be collected in month two. This is a short period which leaves little room for mistakes.

→ Already start request with partners to sponsor their staff also in month 2
 → Map areas with bad roads in the beginning looking at the rainy season starting soon
 → Monitor progress of districts/teams so that we can act where needed

Phone status

Table with partners, number of phones provided, number faulty and possibly fixable (think of SD cards etc). For a more detailed list see attachment *phone status.xls*.

Partner	Number of phones	Number faulty	Fixable?
UNICEF	55	4	2
GOAL	50	7	1
NaCSA	42	4	
MWR	25	1	1
	172	16	4
Total working phones	152		
Number of Enumerators/supervisors that have the application on their phone:	27		
Phones needed	142		
Phone buffer	37		

During training there have been a lot of complaints regarding the Galaxy Fame phone (GOAL, 50). The screen is very small which causes a lot of typos. Contrast and battery life is not good. If possible we use the buffer to avoid handing out the Samsung Fame as much as possible.