







# The role of concerned stakeholders in enhancing water sector integrity and means of cooperation at local, national, and cross-border levels

Water Integrity Network
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# WIN: championing integrity in water and sanitation



We support organisations at all levels to develop and implement integrity management plans to improve service delivery.

We provide **integrity management training.** 



We work with partners globally and regionally to **drive the agenda for integrity** and take a deliberately pro-poor approach to benefit those being left behind.



We research the impacts of poor integrity, the dynamics of corruption, and the levers for improved integrity in the water and sanitation sectors.

# A global network for change

Members



















**Partners** 













































































































# WIN expertise: Advocacy, Research, Integrity assessments, Integrity management, Collective action – current initiatives

Integrity management for utilities across Latin America

Development of integrity data standards for earlystage infrastructure development

Research on integrity and sector finance for WIGO 2024 Assessment of regulatory framework and integrity risks for CWIS

Research on prevalence and drivers of sextortion in Bangladesh and Mexico Training of water sector professionals on integrity or service delivery in informal settlements

Tools for big data analysis of procurement data – Water Integrity Risk Index

Integrity risk mappings of multi-sector partnerships for water

## Free online training and knowledge exchange







**Self-paced course: Integrity Basics** (in EN and ES)

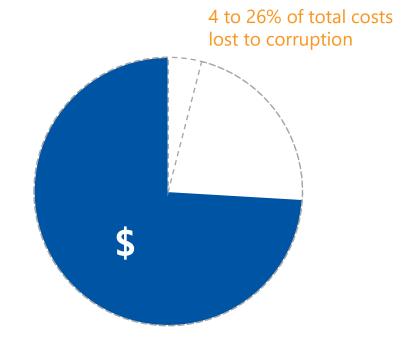
Self-paced course: Informal Settlements and Human Rights to Water and Sanitation

(in EN and ES)

### **Integrity Talks**

Interactive discussions on specific challenges or topics related to water integrity, with partner and topic experts

# Not just a financial drain, a matter of life and dignity



Financial cost – waste, drain on resources

+

Social costs – poor water quality and service - direct impact on people's health, lives, livelihoods.

4

Long-term system failures – poor quality, delayed, or **missing infrastructure**  +

Lack of trust between water users and government

+

**Environmental costs** – pollution, vulnerability to disaster

4

**Maladaptation** to climate change

+

Loss of economic productivity

# Corruption in water and sanitation and climate adaptation – a threat for resilience

1.

New actors without strong compliance and integrity mechanisms, acting as vehicles of international climate finance in countries in an already fragmented water sector

2.

No clear or standardised criteria in place to assess which project qualify as climate adaptation ones, can lead to maladaptation

3.

Inadequate traceability of climate funds in national and local PFM systems 4.

Evaluation of climate adaptation interventions rarely focused on governance issues, insufficient mapping of corruption risks and untested tools

Added risks, which are poorly taken into account, threaten to derail progress and sustainability,

### The most vulnerable left behind

Both the **impacts** of climate change and lack of

integrity are

vulnerable

disproportion-

ately **borne by** 

communities.

Climate injustice:

- A fraction of total climate finance is going to WASH
- A fraction of total climate finance is reaching vulnerable people

Nonparticipatory decision making: Communities, beneficiaries and CSOs not necessarily part of climate adaptation project planning

Little attention to **needs for** service of people who will be displaced or affected by climate change (possibly in informal settlements)

**Bias towards** major infrastructure projects, leaving water and sanitation behind

**Need for** stronger accent on human rights to water and sanitation and the need to leave no one behind, shift in discourse and perspective

### Rethinking integrity and anti-corruption work for water



NO ROOM FOR CORRUPTION



NO REPRIEVE FOR CORRUPTION

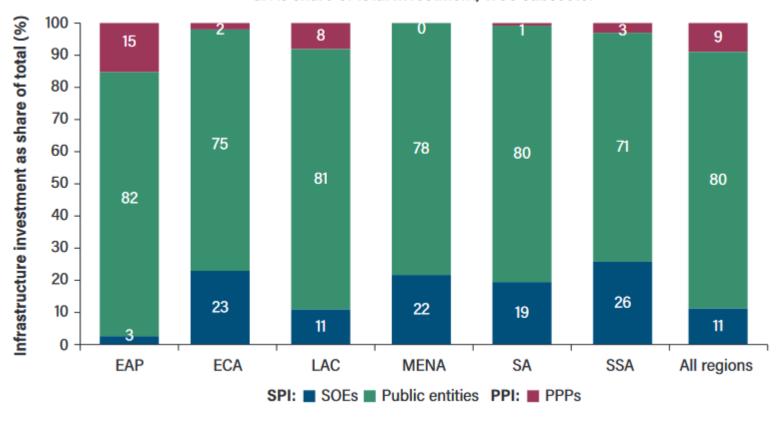


NO REASON FOR CORRUPTION

A collective endeavor

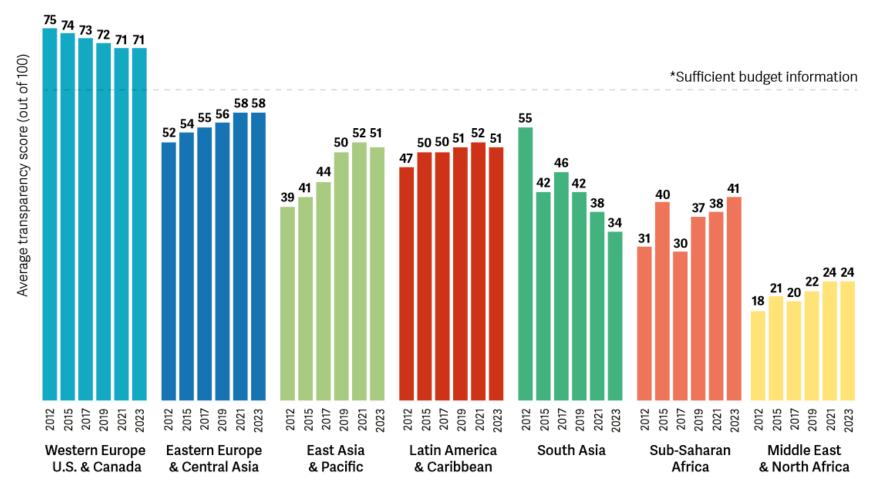
A culture of integrity

### d. As share of total investment, WSS subsector



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Figure 3. Regional trends in transparency, 2012-2023

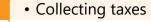


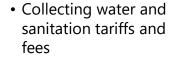
Note: Compares the 100 countries assessed since OBS 2012

### PLANNING, ESTIMATING. **ALLOCATING BUDGETS**

- Estimating available financial resources
- Prioritising projects / areas / activities
- Dividing available budget between capex, manex, and opex
- Designing recurrent and capital subsidies
- · Designing tariffs
- · Designing, appraising, and approving infrastructure projects
- Approving proposed budgets

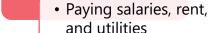


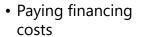




- Seeking and receiving transfers
- Raising repayable finance from public and private concessional and non-concessional sources







• Procuring and paying for goods and services (for new capital assets and rehabilitation of assets)





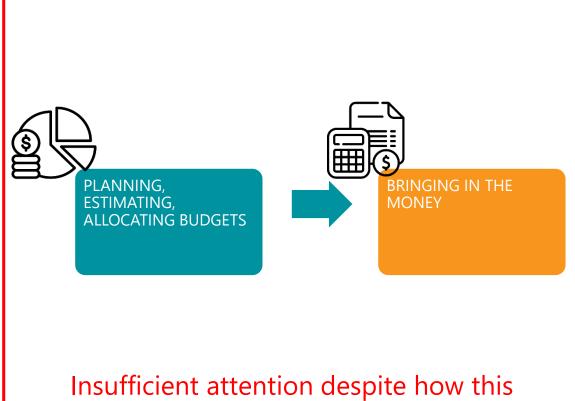
- Monitoring expenditure and performance
- Keeping financial records and accounts
- Providing in-year and ex-post spending reports (to authorities and the public)
- Preparing, auditing, and submitting financial statements
- Accounting to oversight bodies for money spent and results
- Taking action on irregular, wasteful or corrupt expenditure

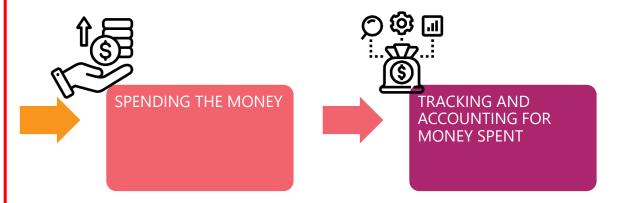












Insufficient attention despite how this influences the entire project

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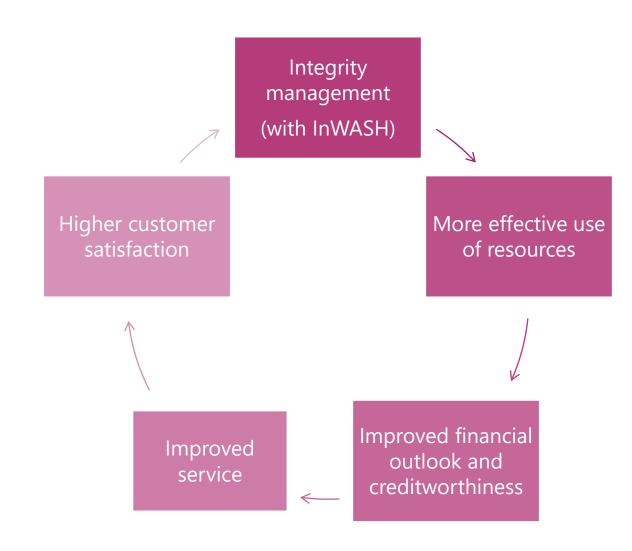
New indicators to identify red flags in infrastructure planning

#### Indicators to examine:

- ✓ Project beneficiaries
- ✓ Project location
- ✓ Project timing
- ✓ Engagement processes
- ✓ Environmental and social impact
- ✓ Vetting systems
- ✓ Policy transparency
- ✓ Project scope
- ✓ Project amount
- ✓ Project feasibility
- ✓ Budget allocation
- ✓ Budget oversight

The integrity opportunity for organisations: service providers, basin organisations, regulators...

- Focus on and alignment with the mandate or mission of the organisation and the way integrity can boost own organisation objectives
- Practical tools to support work processes: human resources, financial management, customer service, operations, and corporate governance



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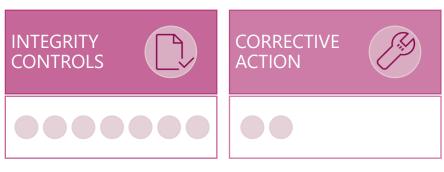


# Utility Integrity Assessment: assessing internal integrity practices

- Produce evidence on integrity preparedness for internal planning or external accountability mechanisms
- Inform integrity-related interventions in utilities, monitor and improve integrity practices
- Improve reputation, credit-worthiness, performance

### 15 indicators across 5 integrity principles



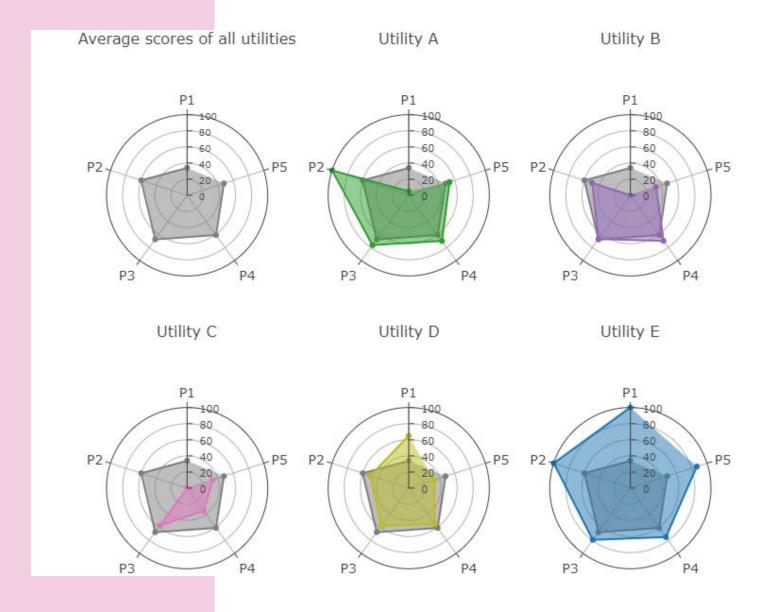




# Integrity Assessment: first findings

Top 5 integrity practice shortcomings identified in utilities:

- 1. No anti-corruption policies
- Board of directors not monitoring management override and fraud
  - 3. No corruption risk assessments
    - 4. No whistleblower protection
  - 5. No systemic disciplinary action



# Going a step further for integrity – also in practice

1.

### CLIMATE RISKS

Procurement is a high risk and high cost process that needs stricter control.

2.

# NRW, PETTY AND NOT SO PETTY CORRUPTION:

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Limiting opportunities for petty corruption prioritises and benefits the most vulnerable.

3.

### **SANITATION:**

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Prioritising sanitation and setting stricter standards for both onsite and offsite is a matter of dignity for all.

4.

# LOW INCOME AREAS:

-

Integrity failures, prejudice, legal gaps and data poverty are leading to service exclusion in violation of human rights.

5.

### **SEXTORTION:**

Sextortion must be recognised and clearly condemned, women need safe reporting mechanisms and support.

#### **AVENUES FOR PARTICIPATION**

### **Policy-makers:**

Building avenues for participation in PFM

Tariff-setting

### Implementing institutions:

Customer feedback and service information

Decision-making

#### **Funders:**

Support to social accountability initiatives

#### **BASIS FOR INTERACTION**

### In gov and in institutions

Transparent budget and expenditure information

Open procurement

# In WSIs, nexus, MSPs, also with private sector:

Transparency is a must esp. on terms of engagement Conflicts of interest, beneficial ownership data,

#### **COLLABORATION**

### **Civil society**

As partner

As voice

### **Integrity champions**

Promoting integrity in the water sector, changing social norms

### Asivikelane: Social audits in Ekurhuleni, South Africa

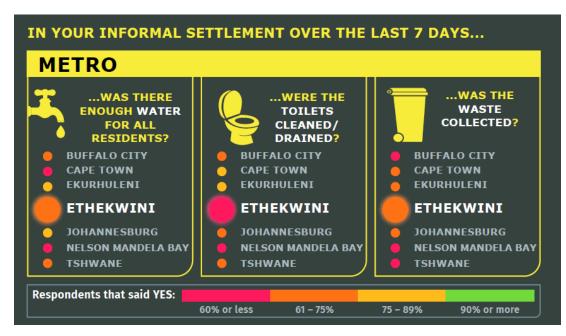


Image: Dashboard on service levels from the Asivikelane campaign, launched in March 2020 in response to COVID19 pandemic, and based on social auditing work of the coalition of IBP partners in Ekurhuleni and other metros

- International Budget Partnership (IBP) and civil society partner coalition supported community-led social budget audits in six metropolitan municipalities across South Africa starting in 2018
- In Ekurhuleni metro, 157 volunteers from 13 informal settlements checked and reported on the state of chemical toilets
- Produced valuable information showing where service fell short of policy promises and serving as a basis for dialogue with service providers.
- Based on audits, city developed new contract for service in 119 informal settlements for 600,000 people, with:
  - better working conditions for cleaners,
  - more accessible service delivery schedules in toilets,
  - measures to address obstacles for people with certain disabilities