

COMMUNITY TRAINING FOR HAND PUMP MAINTENANCE

The following tool is dedicated to the animation team in charge of the water committee training. These guidelines give a clear process on how to conduct the water committee training according to Inter Aide strategy in Sierra Leone.

At least 3 days should be spent in the community to complete and assess this training

The water committee training is targeting 3 complementary steps:

- **A meeting with the entire community** (page 1 to 5 of the document)

The general objective is to make sure all members are aware of the importance of drinking safe water and therefore of taking care of their water point and hand pump. It is an opportunity to give to everyone some basic knowledge on their pump and its parts, as well as explaining why they have to plan preventive maintenance and how.

During this meeting, Inter Aide's [strategy](#) is explained. This step is essential to mobilize the entire community on their water point management and emphasize on the ownership, especially in terms of money contribution. It is the time when the water committee is elected.



- **A collective training with the water committee members elected by the community** (page 6 to 14)

The collective training is an important phase of the training. It allows the committee members to identify themselves and understand each other's role and responsibilities. A role play at the end of the collective training will be used as an assessment of the whole work of the water committee as a group.



Anne Laure Sablé -September 2014 - 1



'PRATIQUES' Network

Sharing experiences to enhance the quality of development programmes

<http://www.interaide.org/pratiques>



- **An individual training for the pump care taker and the secretary, key positions of the water committee**

The pump care taker and the secretary are the one having the most technical positions.

The pump care taker needs to be trained practically on the pump to ensure the minor maintenance and the general care of the water point (greasing chain and bearings, tightening nuts, cleaning the platform and ensuring good drainage...). Inter Aide is encouraging women to take such responsibility as most of the time they are the one dedicated to the questions of water and hygiene at the household. It is a guarantee of commitment¹.



The secretary on the other hand will be trained on how to organise and record the money contribution and any intervention on the pump. The focus is made during the training on the importance of having a good record of all contributors in order to be able to have a clear picture of the money they should get, and to be able then to compare the amount that is going in and out.

Once the water committee training has been completed, a refreshing training can be led after several months to reach a better understanding and make sure the water committee is effective within the community.

Images used in the manual and for the training are directly extracted from tools developed by ANTEA in a project in Mali and that can be downloaded from pS-Eau website:

www.pseau.org/outils/organismes/organisme_detail.php?org_organisme_id=4374&l=fr

IMPORTANT NOTICE

These technical notes are distributed through the "Pratiques" network between the NGOs who have signed the "Inter Aide Charter" The aim of this network is to facilitate the exchange of ideas and methods between field teams working on development programmes.

We would like to stress here that these technical notes are not prescriptive. Their purpose is not to "say what should be done" but to present experiences that have given positive results in the context in which they were carried out.

*"Pratiques" authors allow the reproduction of these technical notes, provided that the information they contain is reproduced entirely including the source (Pratiques Network), the authors and **this notice**.*

¹ See also www.interaide.org/pratiques/sites/default/files/pratiques_notes_watsan_ia_sierral_leone_involving_women.pdf

