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# Securing Water Resources Approach (SWRA)

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# Water Security: WaterAid definition

*“Reliable access to water of sufficient **quantity** and **quality** for basic human needs, small-scale livelihoods and local ecosystem services, coupled with a well **managed risk** of water-related disasters”*



# Securing Water Resources

The Securing Water Resources Approach (SWRA) is a set of activities and relationships designed to improve **local management of water resources**, and so enhance resilience to **threats** like increasing demand, environmental degradation, and climate variability.

Delivery of  
WASH services



With

Actions that strengthen resilience to **ongoing** water-related threats likely to impact on health and livelihoods



# Why SWRA?

- Standard WASH approaches do not adequately prepare communities to manage **on-going threats to their water supplies.**
- Communities remain vulnerable to **competing demands** and **changing water availability.**
  - Water is needed for more than drinking only: water for animals; crops; small-scale and large-scale industries; moisture-dependent ecosystems.
  - Water resources are variable over time: natural variability; droughts; floods; the impact of population growth; the impacts of climate change.
- Monitoring these pressures locally helps communities make decisions about managing their water.

# SWRA activities

## 1. Understanding threats



- Community vulnerability mapping is conducted to identify threats to water resources and infrastructure.

## 2. Monitoring threats

- Threats and priorities are monitored by the community.



# SWRA activities

## 3. Interpreting the data



- Joint analysis of risks & threats is conducted local government and communities.

## 4. Sharing risk information

- Information is shared with local, district, national and regional governments.



# SWRA activities

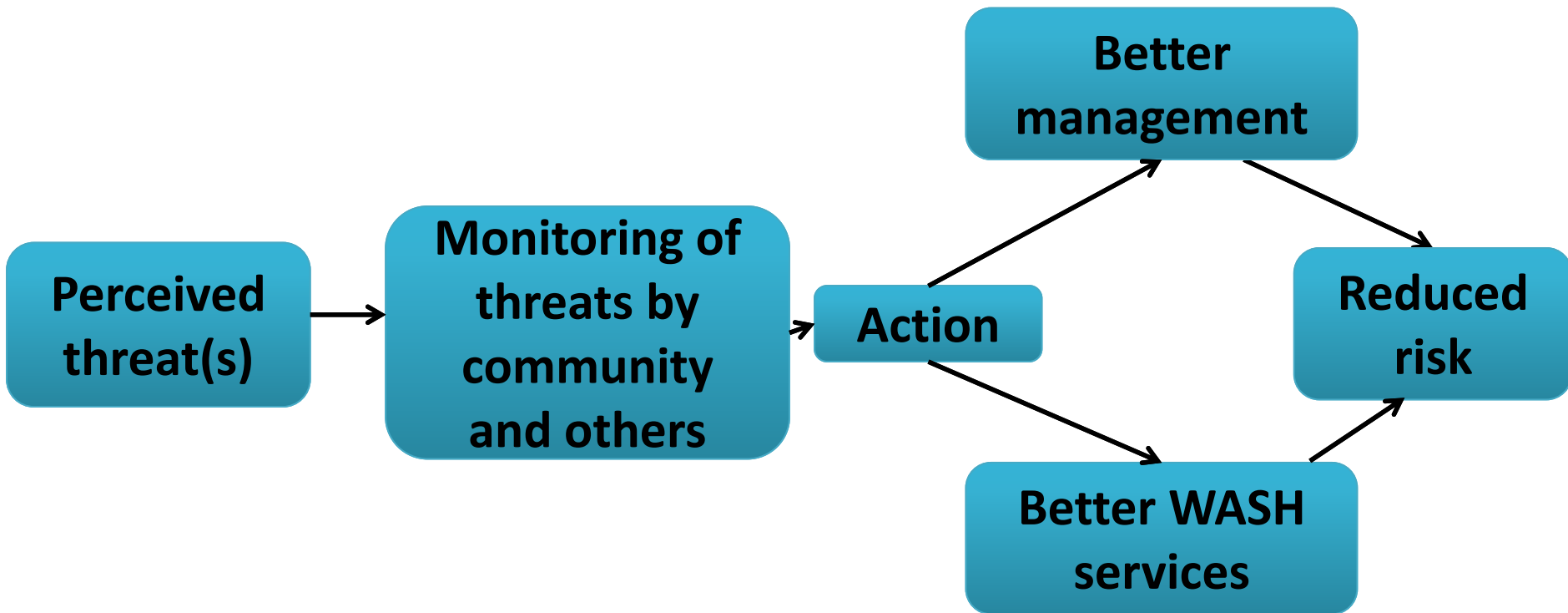
## 5. Enhancing resilience

- Community-based decision making
- Early warning systems
- Working with local authorities for better WASH services





# Recap: The logic of SWRA

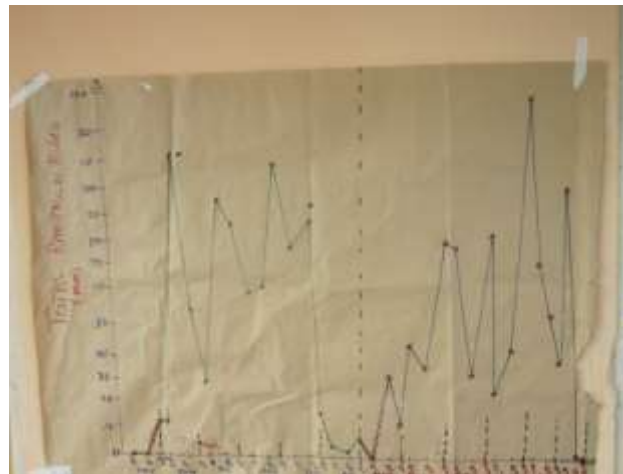


# Achievements

- More than six years of high-quality water resource data
- Development of local WRM expertise
- Independent expansion to new areas
- High engagement with local authorities
- Improved WASH services
- Increased climate resilience
- Effective advocacy tool

# Challenges

- High government staff turnover
- Integrating into all WASH programming as relevant
- Embedding in (or connecting with) national IWRM institutions
- Scaling up
- Adapting to new (more challenging) contexts
- Data management at local government level
- Continued commitment of Community Monitors
- Cost of monitoring equipment
- Measuring resilience
- Accessing climate finance



THANK  
YOU.

