

PEOPLE NEED WATER FOR MULTIPLE USES:

- › drinking
- › cooking
- › washing
- › sanitation
- › crops
- › livestock
- › fisheries
- › gardens
- › small-scale enterprises

**BUT ARE THEY
GETTING IT?**




IN MOST COMMUNITIES
THE **SYSTEMS** IN PLACE
HAVE BEEN DESIGNED
FOR JUST **1** **TYPE**
OF USE:



DOMESTIC

OR

IRRIGATION



WHAT HAPPENS WHEN PEOPLE ARE **FACED** WITH A **SINGLE-USE** **SERVICE?**

They use it to meet
their multiple needs,
which often involves...

...making illegal connections

...destroying or alter pipes,
pumps or canal access

...drinking water that's unsafe

...exceeding the limits of the
system

TOGETHER
WE CAN ADDRESS THIS

MULTIPLE-USE WATER SERVICES (MUS)

is a participatory approach that ensures people have the water they need for healthy, productive lives.

WE KNOW IT WORKS.



It's already been succesful in more than 22 countries

WHEN PLANNING A NEW WATER SERVICE OR UPGRADING EXISTING SERVICES, MUS BRINGS THESE BENEFITS:

FOR INVESTORS

COST- BENEFIT

Multiple-use services far outstrip single-use: in terms of domestic services, a study in 2007 calculated the following cost-benefit ratios for new services:

EFFICIENCY

MUS makes the **most efficient use of water resources** by taking into account different water sources and their quality, quantity, reliability and distance from point of use.

SUSTAINABILITY

When you support a range of livelihood needs, you increase people's stake in sustaining the service and their ability to contribute.

HIGHEST LEVEL MUS	Cost	CBR
	\$140	1.3
INTERMEDIATE LEVEL MUS	Cost	CBR
	\$56-105	3 - 8
BASIC LEVEL MUS	Cost	CBR
	\$96-116	.67
BASIC LEVEL DOMESTIC	Cost	CBR
	\$63-91	0

RENWICK, et al., 2007. "Multiple Use Water Services for the Poor: Assessing the State of Knowledge"
Arlington, VA: Winrock International.

FOR THE COMMUNITIES SERVED:

MORE BENEFITS

In domestic systems, 1 extra litre* generates \$0.50-\$1 per year of income. For a family of five increasing access from 20 to 100 litres per person per day could generate **\$200-\$400 more per year**.

**once basic domestic needs are met.*

FOR MORE PEOPLE

Women benefit most (they're more likely to generate income in and around the home). In irrigated areas, the landless and other non-irrigators benefit too: with more opportunities to live healthily and earn money.

LESS VULNERABILITY

When you enable people to ...

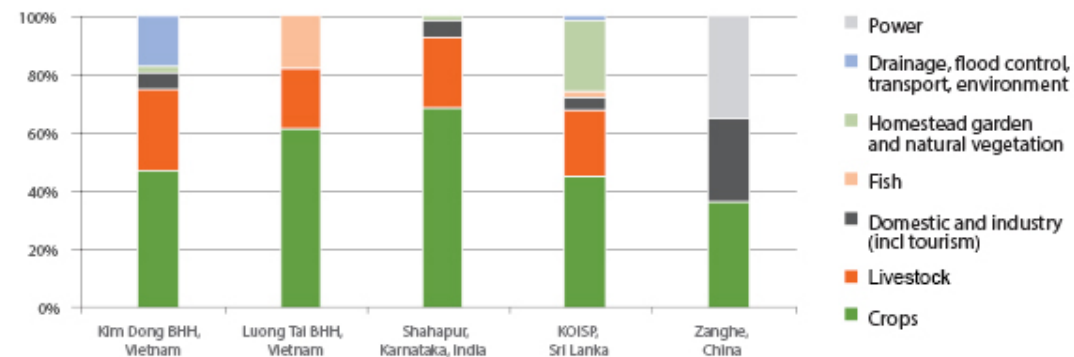
diversify their livelihoods

you reduce vulnerability to **economic shocks**.

use water from multiple sources

you make more efficient use of resources and reduce vulnerability to **climate change**.

SHARE OF BENEFITS FROM VARIOUS USES OF WATER IN IRRIGATION SYSTEMS



Source: FAO. 2010. Mapping Systems and Service for Multiple Uses in Shahapur Branch Canal. Rome: UN Food and Agriculture Organization, p. 39.

WHY DO SINGLE-USE SYSTEMS STILL DOMINATE?

ARGUMENTS FOR THE STATUS QUO – AND HOW YOU CAN ADDRESS THEM:

'IT'S NOT MY JOB'

Adjust **incentives, accountability structures and budget conditions** to encourage (instead of discourage) WASH and irrigation sector professionals to respond to people's multiple water needs.

'USING POTABLE WATER ON PRODUCTIVE USES IS WASTEFUL'

It's happening already and is almost impossible to stop. Isn't it better to support it in a cost-effective way that benefits health and livelihoods?

'USING IRRIGATION WATER FOR DOMESTIC USES IS UNHEALTHY'

Unless they have another option nearby, people will continue to fetch water from irrigation canals - increasing their **risk of drowning and schistosomiasis**. You can prevent this with **smart planning and infrastructure design**, and low-cost, **point-of-use treatment** for drinking water.



‘HOW CAN WE AFFORD TO UPGRADE SERVICES WHEN MANY STILL LACK BASIC DOMESTIC ACCESS?’

RESEARCH* SUGGESTS THAT
USERS COULD REPAY CAPITAL COSTS OF MUS **WITHIN 2.5 YEARS**



FOR UPGRADED SYSTEMS

Within one year – for surface gravity fed systems
Within two years – for groundwater pumped systems



FOR NEW SYSTEMS

Within 13 months – for gravity-fed spring systems
Within 30 months – for piped systems

With access to well-targeted subsidies, loan schemes and technical support, people won't have to wait for public services to reach them.

* Hall, R. 2012. The Productive Use of Rural Domestic Water in Senegal and Kenya and Its Relationship to System Sustainability. Presentation at World Water Week conference, 30 August 2012, Stockholm, Sweden.
Renwick, et al. 2007. Multiple Use Water Services for the Poor: Assessing the State of Knowledge. Arlington, VA: Winrock International.



WHAT WILL IT TAKE?

BUDGETS

Look at how budget conditions could be **broadened to support** (or at least not hinder) multiple-use approaches.

NORMS AND STANDARDS

Advocate for changes in norms and standards, management and operations arrangements that currently favour single-use.

EXPERTISE

Find ways to **unlock silos of single-use expertise:** through training and development that creates professionals who understand and can deliver MUS.

PLANNING

Apply more transparent, inclusive, participatory planning **methods that empower and inform** communities about all the options.

INFRASTRUCTURE

Design infrastructure that has the **flexibility and capacity** to support multiple-uses.



WHAT ARE MY NEXT STEPS?

1

LEARN MORE - JOIN THE MUS GROUP

The MUS Group is a network of 15 core partners and over 350 members, all working towards ways of **putting MUS into practice** and **sharing learning**. See www.musgroup.net for more information.

2

TRY IT OUT

Many models have been tested, but may need adjustment to your context. We encourage you to **check out the toolkit at www.musgroup.net, test, adapt and then scale up.**

3

ADVOCATE

MUS needs the actions and expertise of a range of stakeholders: no-one can promote and develop MUS on their own. By advocating the potential of the MUS approach among the people you meet and work with, **you can inspire change.**

JOIN
THE MUS
GROUP!





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