# charity: water MAP Framework Overview

## Introduction

Through the charity: water monitoring and evaluation framework – called the MAP Framework – implementing partners collect data across a wide range of water, sanitation, and hygiene (WASH) indicators in line with sector standards.

### Aims of the MAP Framework

Broadly speaking, the aims of the charity: water MAP Framework are to:

- **Understand Impact.** With quantitative information about WASH programs, charity: water can share this both internally, and externally for fundraising purposes.
- **Maximize Effectiveness.** With quantitative information about implementing partners' strengths and weaknesses, charity: water can support partners to target areas for improvement in programming, and share lessons of success between partners.
- **Guide Priorities.** With quantitative information about a variety of global programs, charity: water can make informed decisions about what to fund in the future, both with current and new implementing partners.

### Questions the MAP Framework aims to answer

Data collection has been designed to answer three main questions about charity: water funded programs:

1. **What are the immediate improvements?**
   Do funded programs provide improvements for individuals in terms of: water access, use of sanitation facilities, and knowledge of hygiene practices?
2. **Is there sustained access?**
   Over time in funded areas, is there sustained use of water points, sustained water point functionality, and sustained delivery of high quality water?
3. **Why?**
   What are some possible reasons that water points may be: non-functional, not used, or providing low quality water?

## Data Collection Basics

charity: water's objective is to collect data on every grant we support, although every few years we will invest in a larger-scale effort to measure sustainability. The basics of the data collection are described below.

Please note that this document explains the Framework as it applies to most charity: water funded programs providing community-level water supply. Requirements will differ slightly for programs that provide household-level interventions or school interventions.

### What kind of data is collected?

Quantitative data about WASH programs is collected through surveys and water quality testing. Indicators are measured in the themes of water access, water quality, sanitation, hygiene, and WASH management. Please see the list of charity: water indicators for more details.

## How is data collected?

There are two distinct data collection types that comprise the charity: water MAP Framework:

**Annual Check-in:** A household survey completed at the baseline and endline of a charity: water grant. This occurs for most grants, unless a PIM evaluation is being done in that grant period.

**Post-Implementation Monitoring (PIM):** A comprehensive assessment of past charity: water funded work. This occurs once every four years. Data is collected at a representative sample of past projects to monitor sustainability.
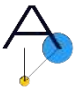
## How often is data collected?

Post-implementation monitoring data collection is done every four years, and the Annual Check-in is done for all other grants. (Please note that some partners may have a modified schedule from what is detailed here, and partners that have already been onboarded to the MAP Framework should follow the plan that has been discussed with their charity: water contacts.)

## Where is data collected?

Data is collected in a random sample of communities that are served by charity: water-funded projects. The sample size and surveys completed depends on the type of data collection.

- For the **Annual Check-in**, data is collected at households, typically in 40 communities.
- For **Post-Implementation Monitoring (PIM)**, a sample size (typically 80-100 communities), is calculated for each specific program. Data is collected at water points, households, and with community management committees.

The data collection types are summarized in the table below.

| Data collection type | How often data is collected | Surveys conducted | Water quality testing conducted |
|---|---|---|---|
| Annual Check-In | All grants not undergoing a PIM data collection | Household surveys at baseline and endline of a grant | No testing |
| Post Implementation Monitoring | Once every four years | Surveys at water points, with community management, and households funded through previous grants | *E. coli* testing at water points |

## What water quality testing is done?

As part of the post-implementation monitoring data collection, samples from water points are tested for *E. coli,* which is a fecal indicator bacteria. Water quality testing is performed by survey enumerators or water quality testers on site with standard portable field laboratory equipment, or samples may be taken to a laboratory. Water quality testing is not performed during the Annual Check-in.

# Managing the MAP Framework

## Who collects and manages the data?

The data collection team consists of at least four trained survey enumerators and one or two supervisors. This team is supported by charity: water and the implementing partner.

Enumerators collect survey data (survey responses and water quality test results) with mobile data collection software. The supervisors manage the enumerator team by ensuring they have proper equipment and assignments, observing enumerators, and holding refresher trainings as needed.

## How long does data collection take?

It is estimated that a team of two enumerators can complete data collection in one or two communities per day. charity: water estimates that data can be collected in the following times, although it will depend on the sample size, number of enumerators, distance between households and communities, and other factors.

- Annual Check-in: 1-2 weeks
- Post-Implementation Monitoring: 2-6 weeks

## What training and resources does charity: water provide?

Prior to the first MAP Framework data collection, charity: water provides a virtual training for the partner organization's program and M&E staff. This includes training on conducting surveys and managing the data collection process.

Prior to each PIM data collection, charity: water also provides either a virtual or in-person training specific to the PIM data collection.

## Can partners collect different indicators or ask different questions?

charity: water has carefully chosen its indicators, survey questions, and water quality test methods to align with data that is being collected by organizations throughout the WASH sector. As such, we expect many of our indicators align with those collected by other partners and funders.

For the Annual Check-in data collection, partners are free to use survey tools of their choice, so long as the charity: water indicators can be calculated. For the PIM data collection, partners are asked to use the standard charity: water survey tools.

## Who has access to the information and what is the data used for?

Monitoring data belongs to both charity: water and the grantee partner organization. The partner organization cleans and analyzes the data and shares detailed results with charity: water, and is encouraged to propose evidence-based improvements in future grant proposals. charity: water also may request the data to use for portfolio-level analyses and comparisons. For more detail, see the charity: water Water Programs Data Policy.