

# Root Cause Analysis

## Identification of Root Causes

1. **Lack of Dedicated Water Management Committee and Coordination with WASH Authorities**
  - **Explanation:** The absence of a dedicated committee to manage water systems and poor coordination with relevant authorities has led to the degradation of WASH infrastructure.
  - **Implications:** Without a governing body or proper coordination, maintenance and oversight of WASH systems are neglected, leading to functional decline.
2. **Lack of Awareness and Knowledge**
  - **Explanation:** Communities and schools need more awareness and knowledge about operating and maintaining WASH infrastructure, as well as hygiene practices and disease prevention.
  - **Implications:** This ignorance results in improper usage and upkeep of facilities, contributing to their rapid deterioration.
3. **Insufficient Water Supply and Prioritization**
  - **Explanation:** Water supply is insufficient, leading to hygiene being deprioritized after drinking and agricultural needs.
  - **Implications:** Hygiene infrastructure gets neglected out of necessity, exacerbating the decline of WASH systems.
4. **Improper Installation and Maintenance**
  - **Explanation:** There have been issues with improper installation, plumbing, and waste drainage.
  - **Implications:** These installation errors result in frequent breakdowns and inefficiencies in the WASH infrastructure.
5. **Economic and Resource Constraints**
  - **Explanation:** Schools and communities face economic constraints and resource limitations, with insufficient budget allocation for WASH programs.
  - **Implications:** Limited financial resources hinder the proper maintenance and development of WASH systems, leading to their degradation.
6. **Geographical and Seasonal Challenges**
  - **Explanation:** Geographical barriers and seasonal changes present challenges to maintaining consistent WASH services.
  - **Implications:** These challenges complicate infrastructure upkeep and service delivery, contributing to the degradation of WASH systems.
7. **Competing Priorities and Capacity-Building Constraints**
  - **Explanation:** Competing educational priorities and limited capacity-building at the local level detract from focusing on WASH programs.
  - **Implications:** WASH initiatives are sidelined, leading to insufficient attention and resources dedicated to their upkeep.

## Project Strategies to Address Root Causes

1. **Establishment of WASH Committees**
  - **Action:** Form dedicated WASH committees within schools to manage and oversee WASH infrastructure.
  - **Impact:** Ensures continuous attention to the maintenance and operation of WASH systems, preventing degradation.
2. **Training Programs for Operation and Maintenance**
  - **Action:** Provide comprehensive training for the operation and maintenance of WASH infrastructure.
  - **Impact:** Equips communities and schools with the knowledge and skills needed to sustain WASH systems effectively.
3. **Hygiene Behavior Change Training and Oversight**
  - **Action:** Implement training programs to promote hygiene behavior changes and establish oversight mechanisms.
  - **Impact:** Enhances awareness and practices related to hygiene, reducing the risk of system neglect.
4. **Stabilization of Water Supply**
  - **Action:** Install larger holding tanks and piping from existing and new water sources to ensure a stable water supply.
  - **Impact:** Guarantees adequate water availability, allowing hygiene needs to be met alongside drinking and agricultural demands.
5. **Capacity Building of Local Authorities**
  - **Action:** Build the capacity of WASH committees and local authorities through targeted training and support.
  - **Impact:** Strengthens local governance and coordination, improving the management and sustainability of WASH systems.
6. **Addressing Economic Constraints**
  - **Action:** Create dedicated bank accounts for WASH maintenance and repairs in schools.
  - **Impact:** Secures financial resources specifically for WASH programs, ensuring funds are available for ongoing upkeep.
7. **Infrastructure Improvement and Resource Provision**
  - **Action:** Upgrade WASH infrastructure, provide necessary supplies, and develop educational resources for teachers.
  - **Impact:** Enhances the physical infrastructure and educational capacity to support and sustain WASH initiatives.
8. **Training Teachers and Community Engagement**
  - **Action:** Offer specialized training for teachers on WASH topics and effective community engagement strategies.
  - **Impact:** Empowers educators to promote WASH practices within schools and communities, fostering a culture of hygiene and maintenance.

**By addressing these root causes through comprehensive strategies and targeted interventions, the project aims to establish a sustainable and functional WASH system that will prevent the degradation experienced in the past.**