

International Department

WASCO Utility Management Support, St. Lucia



The Water Supply and Sewerage (WSS) sector of Saint Lucia is managed by the national Water and Sewerage Company Inc. (WASCO) being in charge of providing drinking water and sewerage services for the entire island country. WASCO operates at least 18 water treatment facilities, over 80 reservoirs and storage tanks, and a nationwide drinking water distribution network with approximately 800 km of pipes. Saint Lucia's drinking water system heavily relies on surface water resources that are fed by intense precipitation (up to 3,800 mm/a) especially during rainfall period lasting from June to November.

WASCO's water supply infrastructure is increasingly strained by the national economic-demographic situation with an annual population growth of well over 10% (approximate total population of 179,000 as of 2011) and a prospering tourism sector. In addition, large parts of the infrastructure are outdated or insufficiently operative due to lacking maintenance capacities or expertise, and need to be replaced. As a result of a major change within its directing board paving the way for a more efficient, capable utility culture concerning operation and management (O&M) procedures, WASCO now approaches these issues and undertakes necessary efforts aiming to improve drinking water supply stability and sustainable Water Loss Reduction (WLR). However, this reforming process has just been triggered and there still is a lot of work to be done.

During a fact-finding study for WASCO conducted in June 2014 major improvement areas have been identified. Examples for major improvement areas are insufficient technical asset management and systematic condition assessment, low level of workflow description and institutionalisation and long response times concerning infrastructure maintenance.

These areas are starting points for the consultants input in order to initialize improvement and change processes.

Client:

WASCO, Saint Lucia

Financed by:

GIZ - Gesellschaft für Internationale Zusammenarbeit

Information:

Project country:	Saint Lucia
Overall project value (EUR):	246,470.00
Provided staff:	7 Key Experts

Service provided:

The primary objective of this assignment is to support WASCO in improving its institutional and human resources' capacities to reduce the current value of non-revenue water efficiently and effectively. Correspondingly, the present high energy consumption and costs will be reduced due to overall improved operation efficiency. The measures implemented in the one-year assignment focus on:

Adequate operation, maintenance and repair of valves and network components in general; support on leak detection measures

Support on overall asset condition assessment and mapping, hydraulic modelling and GIS application in order to promote future planning, to improve utility asset management and to achieve energy efficient operation of water network and treatment facilities

Audits on energy management concerning the operation of pump stations

Support to WASCO for submitting project proposals for essential further activities

Implementation:

2012 - 2014