

Principal Consultant

Professional profile

Dr Katharina Welle is a principal consultant with Itad. She specialises in the interface between research, policy and practice of development. Her key expertise is in water and sanitation in the South. Since 2003, she has carried out applied research, reviews and evaluations in the water sector related to politics and governance, aid relationships in the sector and on sector-based monitoring and evaluation. Katharina has led a number of ICT-related assessments, including several reviews of WaterAid's approach to water point mapping and a comparative study of the use of ICTs for greater sustainability of water supply services. She is interested in innovative impact evaluation methodologies and has co-written a number of practice papers for the Centre for Development Impact. Previous clients are NGOs, multilateral agencies and private foundations including AusAid, CARE, the Danish Development Cooperation Agency Danida, the UK Department for International Development (DFID), the Canadian International Development Research Centre (IDRC), the International Fund for Agricultural Development (IFAD), the International Water and Sanitation Centre (IRC), Oxfam GB, Pact Sudan, Tearfund and WaterAid. Katharina holds a PhD from the University of Sussex where she was previously Visiting Fellow at the STEPS (Social, Technological and Environmental Pathways to Sustainability) Centre.

Nationality German

Age 43 years

Languages German (mother tongue), English (fluent), French (good), Spanish (medium), Amharic (basic), Arabic (basic)

Country experience Burkina Faso, DRC, Egypt, Ethiopia, Ghana, Kenya, Lebanon, Jordan, Madagascar, Malawi, Morocco, Nepal, Nigeria, Pakistan, Sierra Leone, South Sudan, Tanzania, Uganda, and Yemen.

Education

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| 2008 - 2013 | PhD in Science and Technology Policy Studies - Title: "Monitoring Performance or Performing Monitoring? The case of access to rural water supply in Ethiopia"
STEPS Centre, University of Sussex |
| 2003 | M.A. European Studies (distinction)
University of Osnabrück |
| 2001 | M.A. Environment and Development (distinction)
School of Oriental and African Studies (SOAS), University of London, UK |

Employment

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| 2019 – present | Principal Consultant
Itad Ltd., UK |
| 2014 - 2019 | Senior Consultant
Itad Ltd., UK |
| 2013 - 2014 | Visiting Fellow
STEPS Centre, Institute of Development Studies, University of Sussex, UK |
| 2009 - 2014 | Consultant
Independent |
| 2005 - 2008 | Research Officer, Water Policy Programme
Overseas Development Institute (ODI), UK |
| 2007 - 2007 | Advisor to the Regional Health Bureau in Amhara National Regional State, Ethiopia
World Bank, Water and Sanitation Program (WSP), Africa Region |
| 2004 - 2004 | Junior Officer
World Bank, Water and Sanitation Program (WSP), Africa Region |
| 2003 - 2003 | Junior Officer
Public Policy and Education Department, WaterAid, UK |

Project experience

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| 2019 - Present | Global Evaluation of Water, Sanitation and Hygiene Programming in Protracted Crises, 2014-19
Role: Project Director Client: UNICEF Location: Cameroon, Lebanon, Somaliland, South Sudan,
This global evaluation was commissioned by the UNICEF Evaluation Office (EO) following concern expressed within the humanitarian WASH sector over the quality and standards of humanitarian WASH programming and related accountability mechanisms. Itad conducted a formative and summative |
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evaluation covering the delivery of quality in WASH services, the exercise of coordination and leadership roles, implementation capacity, monitoring and reporting, and linkages between humanitarian and development programming in WASH in protracted crises. The evaluation findings provide learning for UNICEF in regards its WASH policy related to WASH in protracted crises, as the timing of the production of the WIPC evaluation report is expected to converge with the issue of the revised Core Commitments for Children in Humanitarian Action.

Portfolio Evaluation: Dubai Cares School Health Nutrition (SHN)

2019 - 2019

Role: Team Leader | Client: Dubai Cares | Location: Ethiopia, Madagascar, Vietnam

Dubai Cares invests in improving access to and the quality of education and Itad was commissioned to assess their School Health and Nutrition portfolio. Itad undertook a portfolio evaluation of WASH, nutrition and mass drug administration projects across 11 countries, including three country visits. The objective of the assignment was to evaluate the foundation's approach, partnership engagement and results achievements across individual programmes and the portfolio as a whole. This was achieved through a theory-based mixed method design.

2018 - 2019

Independent Monitoring and Verification (IMV services): Accelerating Sanitation, Hygiene and Water for All (ASWA II).

Role: Deputy Team Leader | Client: DFID | Location: Bangladesh, Cambodia, Eritrea, Haiti, Madagascar, Myanmar, Nepal, Niger, Pakistan, South Sudan

ASWA II is a £56 million programme financed by DFID and implemented through UNICEF in ten countries, over the period October 2017 to December 2022. The program is focused on sanitation and hygiene behaviors, and places particular emphasis on achieving sustainability through conditional financing. This is achieved through a small Payment by Results (PbR) for obtaining an Open Defecation Free status and maintaining this status for at least one year. Itad along with our partners Iwel and Aguaconsult have been appointed to provide independent monitoring and verification support to DFID through i) periodic assessments of the monitoring systems, sustainability checks and outcome surveys used by UNICEF to report project results to DFID; ii) follow up monitoring of project activities and results and iii) project related advice to DFID. This package of activities is referred to as the Independent Monitor and Verifier (IMV).

2014 – 2018

Monitoring, Verification and Evaluation Service Provider for the WASH Results Programme

Role: Deputy Team Leader | Client: DFID | Location: Bangladesh, DRC Congo, Ethiopia, Ghana, Kenya, Mozambique, Nepal, Pakistan, South Sudan, Tanzania, Zambia

The WASH Results Programme aims to improve poor peoples' health through sustained access to water supply, sanitation and hygiene services across 12 countries. The WASH Results Programme follows the financing modality: of payment by results. Itad leads the monitoring and verification of the programme. The verification component follows a systems based approach: upon an initial audit of each WASH supplier's monitoring and evaluation system, follows a tailored approach to verify the supplier's outputs and outcomes and assess their monitoring data provided for verification. To deliver the verification services, Itad employs a lead verifier for each WASH supplier, backed up by a team of country verification experts.

2014 - 2016

Testing the Waters: how can ICTs for monitoring be strengthened and made more inclusive to achieve greater sustainability of rural water services?

Role: Team Leader | Client: WaterAid | Location: Multi-country

This research project, funded by Hivos under the MakingAllVoicesCount Initiative, and administered by the Institute of Development Studies, brings together WaterAid, IRC, the Rural Water Supply Network secretariat and Itad. The research first investigates the enabling and constraining factors of ICT innovations for improving rural water supply sustainability, followed by an in-depth exploration of specific governance-related dynamics that empower water fetchers and managers - rural women, girls and boys in sub-Saharan Africa - to report and receive support to improve the sustainability of water supply services.

2013 - 2014

Optimising Road Development for Groundwater Recharge and Retention in Ethiopia

Role: Rural Water Expert | Client: Institute of Development Studies | Location: Ethiopia

The trans-disciplinary research project investigates how the fast growing road development programmes in Sub-Saharan Africa can become more inclusive by securing, and where possible, improving, the

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groundwater sources of the poor living within 10 km of road stretch. The project addresses technical issues (multi-functional road design, groundwater recharge and retention) and social issues (inclusive processes, security of tenure, water-related livelihoods and equity). Kathi developed methodology and workplan for social research component; conducted fieldwork in Tigray, Ethiopia, using participatory appraisal, qualitative assessment of local costs and benefits, semi-structured interviews and group discussions with villagers affected by changes in groundwater patterns due to road building; developed report outline and reviewed report.

2013 - 2013 **Ethiopia National WASH Inventory; Lessons Learned and Maximising Value**

Role: Water and Sanitation Expert | **Client:** The International Water and Sanitation Centre | **Location:** Ethiopia

The day-long seminar 'Ethiopia National WASH Inventory: lessons learned and maximising value' was part of a wider initiative to support WASH sector information systems in Ethiopia by IRC and ODI, previously led under the research programme consortium RiPPLE. Together with IRC, Kathi conceptualised the seminar, which brought together Ethiopian government staff, non-governmental organisations, key federal government agencies and other stakeholders involved in designing, collecting data, and analysing it for the National WASH Inventory; wrote seminar report.

2013 - 2013 **Women and Men in WASH Assessment**

Role: Gender and Water Expert | **Client:** Oxfam | **Location:** Sierra Leone

The Freetown INGO WASH Consortium (2010-2013), made up of five INGOs, supports the Government of Sierra Leone in improving the health status of Freetown urban communities and attain water, sanitation and health MDGs. The objective of the gender assessment was to inform the Consortium's second phase of joint programming. Kathi undertook an assessment of the performance of the Freetown Urban WASH Consortium's programme related to gender mainstreaming (semi-structured interviews, gender matrix and transect walks) and made recommendations for future gender sensitive programming.

2013 - 2013 **ICT for Monitoring Sustainable WASH Service Delivery**

Role: Water Sector Expert | **Client:** WaterAid | **Location:** International

WaterAid convened Topic 4 'ICT for monitoring sustainable WASH service delivery' as part of the international IRC Symposium 2013: Monitoring Sustainable WASH Service Delivery, held in Addis Ababa from 9-11 April 2013. Prepared key note paper on 'ICT for monitoring sustainable WASH service delivery', reviewed papers on 'use of data for decision making' theme and facilitated the session on 'use of data for decision making'.

2013 - 2013 **Sustainability Monitoring of Rural Water Supply**

Role: International Consultant | **Client:** Care International | **Location:** Ethiopia, Tanzania, Uganda

Under the Global Water Initiative (GWI), CARE International implemented water and sanitation services in Ethiopia, Tanzania and Uganda from 2007-12. During the project implementation phase, GWI developed a number of learning, monitoring and evaluation tools to monitor the sustainability after project completion, in particular the effect of governance on water supply functionality. The objective of the consultancy assignment was to carry out a follow-up monitoring exercise of all schemes implemented under GWI and to review the Initiative's existing monitoring tools with a view to identify and address governance factors. Provided support and quality control to national consultants who carried out scheme surveys, carried out an international literature review on sustainability monitoring, developed a synthesis and briefing paper based on consultant reports and outlined a future strategy for sustainability monitoring under GWI.

2012 - 2012 **Mid-Term Assessment of the Triple S Programme**

Role: Rural Water Expert, Case Study Leader Uganda | **Client:** The International Water and Sanitation Centre (ICR), The Bill and Melinda Gates Foundation | **Location:** Uganda

Sustainable Services at Scale (Triple-S) is a six-year (2009-2014) multi-country learning initiative that aims to contribute to the realisation of indefinitely sustainable water services delivered at scale. Triple-S supports a paradigm shift at the operational level for decentralised service delivery and aims to bring about a re-appraisal of the design and planning mechanisms of development assistance to the rural water supply sector. As part of the Mid-term Assessment team, Kathi led the case study of Triple S operations in Uganda. This included individual interviews, group discussions, and a Net-Map exercise with the major project stakeholders in Uganda, providing preliminary feed-back to the Uganda team and writing relevant

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sections in the overall report. Participated in head office interviews and Net-Map exercise and in the international level case study Net-Map exercise; contributed to and reviewed the overall evaluation report.

2006 - 2012

Research-Inspired Policy and Practice Learning in Ethiopia and the Nile Region

Role: Researcher | Client: DFID | Location: Ethiopia

Commencing in 2006, RIPPLE was a 5-year Research Programme Consortium, aiming to advance evidence-based learning on water supply and sanitation. The RIPPLE Consortium was led by the Overseas Development Institute, in partnership with College of Development Studies at Addis Ababa University; the Ethiopian Catholic Church Social and Development Coordination Office of Harar; The International Water & Sanitation Centre and WaterAid-Ethiopia. Kathi conducted and coordinated action research under the following themes: aid environments, governance and planning, sanitation and woreda inventories; led the mapping component, prepared and co-facilitated learning and practice alliance events that were designed to test new approaches and learn from their experiences; contributed to internal monitoring using the outcome mapping methodology.

2010 - 2011

Tailoring National WASH Inventory Data to Information Needs for Managing Access to Water Supply, Sanitation and Hygiene in Ethiopia

Role: WASH M&E Specialist | Client: Overseas Development Institute | Location: Ethiopia

As part of its ongoing support to the water sector in Ethiopia, the RiPPLE programme organised a number training workshops with local government stakeholders and a national symposium with regional and national government staff, donors, NGOs and academia on managing and using sector monitoring information. Prepared training and national symposium concepts, co-facilitated training, prepared reports, background documentation for a book chapter and an academic article reflecting on lessons learned from the process (Title: 'Enabling or Disabling? Reflections on the Ethiopian National WASH Inventory Process.').

2009 - 2010

Strategic Review of WaterAid's Water Point Mapping in East Africa

Role: Consultant | Client: WaterAid | Location: Kenya, Tanzania, Uganda

WaterAid uses Water Point Mapping (WPM) as a tool for monitoring the distribution and status of water points, and to inform planning of investments to improve water supply coverage. In December 2009, WaterAid's East Africa Programme decided to conduct a strategic review of the evolution of its WPM approaches in the East Africa Region concerning purpose and scope, successes and challenges, lessons learned and comparative advantages vis-a-vis other organisations. Kathi developed a methodology, conducted telephone interviews with relevant WaterAid staff, international agencies and stakeholders in Kenya, conducted field visits in Tanzania and Uganda, facilitated discussions and verified findings with country programme staff, and produced synthesis report; presented findings at international IRC Symposium 2010.

2008 - 2010

Governance and Drivers of Change in Ethiopia's Water Supply Sector

Role: Researcher | Client: DFID | Location: Ethiopia

The study was commissioned by DFID to better understand the governance dynamics in the sector, to test the capability, accountability and responsiveness (CAR) framework at sector level and to assess the level of insights provided on drivers of change when combined with a political economy analysis. Kathi led the proposal development for this research including oversight of a literature review of sector-focused political economy approaches, developing a conceptual framework and conducting explorative interviews with sector stakeholders in Ethiopia.

2008 - 2008

Achieving Greater Progress on Aid Effectiveness in the Water Sector

Role: Deputy Team Leader | Client: DFID | Location: Multi-country

The study reviewed the extent to which the Paris Principles on aid effectiveness are being applied in the water and sanitation sectors compared to health and education and to identify ways in which external support to the sector can be tailored better to support the Paris Principles. The study was based on a literature review and fieldwork in Bangladesh, Ethiopia and Tanzania. Kathi developed methodology, carried out a literature review, coordinated the country case studies, conducted Ethiopia country case study, lead-authored the report, presented the findings to various audiences and developed an academic article based on the findings (Title: 'Is the water sector lagging behind on aid effectiveness?').

2007 - 2008

External Evaluation of the Water for Recovery and Peace Programme in Southern Sudan (WRAPP)

Role: Team Leader | Client: Pact Sudan | Location: South Sudan

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The purpose of the evaluation was to assess the WRAPP approach in terms of its appropriateness, effectiveness and sustainability. The evaluation team followed the log frame approach, assessing to what extent the programme met its objectives and achieved outcomes with a focus on qualitative methods to assess the soft aspects of the WRAPP approach. Kathi carried out interviews with key sector stakeholders in Juba, conducted field visits to Equatoria, Bahr-el-Ghazal, Lakes, and Jonglei States, provided feed-back to project-internal and sector stakeholders in Southern Sudan, and wrote the evaluation report.

2007 - 2007

Mid-Term Review of the Regional Water Demand Initiative for the Middle East and North Africa

Role: Team Leader | **Client:** Canadian International Development Agency (CIDA), Canadian International Development Research Centre (IDRC), International Fund for Agricultural Development (IFAD) |

Location: Multi-country

WaDImena aimed to facilitate the adoption and implementation of water demand management strategies, policies and tools in countries of the Middle East and North Africa. The purpose of the Mid-Term Review was to assess the project's progress in 2007 and to suggest ways forward to strengthen the project during its remaining lifespan. Kathi led the team and acted as main point of contact with the donors; carried out field visits in Egypt, Jordan, Lebanon and Morocco using participatory methods (force-field analysis and feed-back meeting with local research teams), conducted telephone interviews to assess policy impact and to obtain feed-back from project stakeholders in project countries not visited, authored the evaluation report.

2006 - 2007

Sanitation and Hygiene Promotion Research, Policy and Advocacy

Role: Team Member | **Client:** Tearfund | **Location:** Multi-country

This project was a scoping study, to collect information on, and carry out analysis of, the institutional factors which constitute blockages and barriers to increasing sustainable access to sanitation and adoption of hygienic behaviour in three case study countries in sub-Saharan Africa. Kathi contributed to desk study on the institutional factors that hinder and support the promotion/progress of sanitation and hygiene initiatives at national and sub-national level, led Burkina Faso case study, including developing a research plan with Tearfund's local partner, conducting interviews and supervising inputs by local researchers, facilitating an in-country research seminar and writing the research report.

Publications

Welle K, Williams J, and Pearce J (2016): ICTs help Citizens Raise Concerns over Water – or Do They? In: IDS bulletin 47(1).

Schatz F and **Welle K (2016):** Qualitative Comparative Analysis: A Valuable Approach to Add to the Evaluator's Toolbox? Lessons from Recent Applications. CDI Practice Paper 13. Brighton: IDS.

Williams J, **Welle K** and Pearce, J (2016): *How can ICT initiatives be designed to improve rural water supply?* Brighton: IDS and WaterAid.

Punton M and **Welle K (2015):** Straws in the Wind, Hoops and Smoking Guns: what can Process Tracing offer to Impact Evaluation? CDI Practice Paper 10. Brighton: IDS.

Demenge J, Alba R, **Welle K**, Manjur K, Addisu A, Mehta L, and Woldearegay, K (2015): Multifunctional Roads: The Potential Effects of Combined Roads and Water Harvesting Infrastructure on Livelihoods and Poverty in Ethiopia. *Journal of Infrastructure and Development*. 7(2).

Pearce J, Dickinson N and **Welle K (2015):** Technology, data and people. Opportunities and pitfalls of using ICT to monitor sustainable WASH service delivery. In: Schouten T and Smits S (eds) (2015): *From Infrastructure to Services. Trends in monitoring sustainable water, sanitation and hygiene services.* Rugby, UK: Practical Action Publishing.

Welle K (2014): Monitoring Performance or Performing Monitoring? Exploring the power and political dynamics underlying monitoring the MDG for rural water supply in Ethiopia, *Canadian Journal of Development Studies*

Welle K and Williams J (2014): Monitoring and addressing governance factors affecting rural water sustainability. *GWJ Regional Approach Paper*.

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Pearce J, **Welle** K, and Dickinson N (2013): Information and Communication Technologies (ICTs) for monitoring sustainable service delivery. Keynote Paper, The International Water and Sanitation Centre, The Hague.

Butterworth J., **Welle** K., Bostoan K., and Schaefer F (2013): WASH Sector Monitoring. In: Calow R, Ludi E., and Tucker J. (eds): Achieving Water Security. Lessons from research in water supply, sanitation and hygiene in Ethiopia, Practical Action Publishing Rugby.

Welle K, Schaefer F, Butterworth J and Bostoan, K (2012): Enabling or Disabling? Reflections on the Ethiopian National WASH Inventory Process. IDS bulletin 43(2).

Welle K (2010): Water Point Mapping – a tool for increasing transparency and accountability? IRC Symposium: Pumps, Pipes and Promises.

Welle K (2010): Waterpoint mapping in East Africa. Based on a strategic review of Ethiopia, Tanzania, Kenya and Uganda. Wateraid.

Welle K, Tucker J, Nicol A and Evans B (2009): Is the water sector lagging behind education and health on aid effectiveness? Lessons from Bangladesh, Ethiopia and Uganda. Water Alternatives 2(3).

Welle K (2008): Improving the provision of basic services for the poor in fragile environments. Water Supply, sanitation and hygiene international literature review. Humanitarian Policy Group, ODI.

Welle K (2008): WaterAid learning for advocacy and good practice. Water and sanitation mapping. A synthesis of findings. WaterAid.

Welle K (2008): Is water lagging behind on aid effectiveness? Lessons from Bangladesh, Ethiopia and Uganda. ODI Briefing Paper 40.

Welle K (2007): Mapping for better accountability in service delivery. ODI Briefing Paper 29.

Welle K (2006): Harmonisation and Alignment in Water Sector Programmes and Initiatives. Good Practice Paper. Ministry of Foreign Affairs Denmark.

Welle K (2006): Sanitation and Hygiene: knocking on new doors. ODI Briefing Paper 13.

Redhouse D and **Welle** K (2004): Turning on the Tap. Demand and supply at community level for financing of water and sanitation. Discussion Paper. WaterAid.

Welle K (2003): Is Technical Co-operation path dependent? A comparative analysis of British and German application of the Sector-wide Approach with illustrations from the Tanzanian health sector. Nord-Sued aktuell.2003/4

Welle K (2001): Contending discourses on 'Partnership'. A comparative analysis of the rural water and sanitation sector in Ghana. Occasional Paper 40. Water Issues Study Group, SOAS.