



A Brainstorm on Facilitating the Strengthening of Local Authorities

to face the water challenges

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Focus on Local Authorities

- Provision of essential water related services is primarily a local affair, essential role of local authorities
- Main challenge:
 - get people connected,
 - payments for services – fair tariffs
 - development of service organisation and
 - building trust
 - to keep people connected

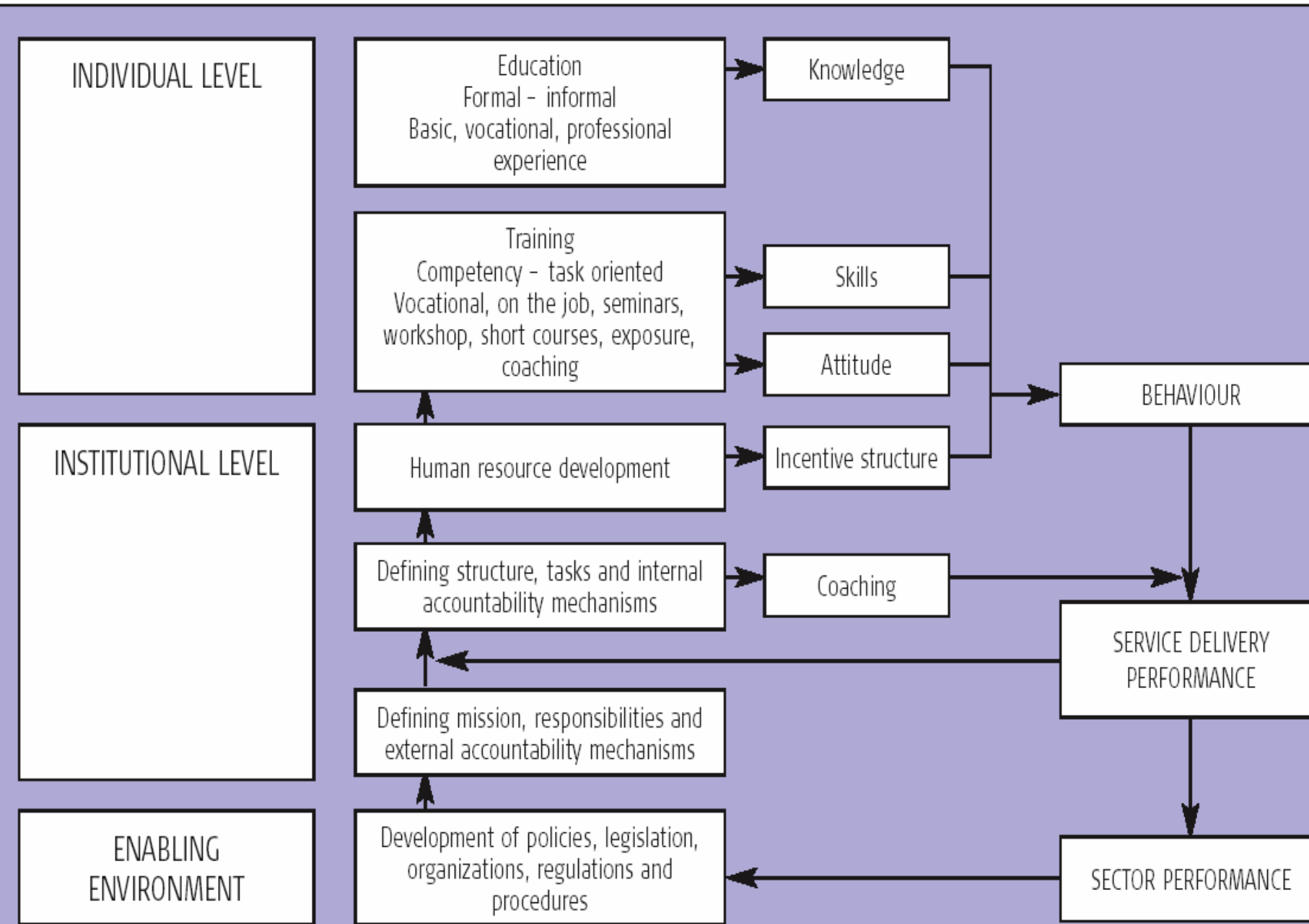
Main constraints reported at 4th World Water Forum

- Capacity to develop and manage financially viable and sustainable services,
- Water Governance: Transparency – Accountability
- Access to local finance
- Human Resources – incl. elected people!
- Monitoring

This requires

- Strengthened and empowered local authorities critical to achieve MDGs:
- How we do this ????

Figure 13.1: Capacity development: Levels, activities, outputs and goals



Strengthening Local Capacity in what...?

- **Knowledge and skills** to identify, develop and implement sustainable solutions for development and management of water resources and services
- **Access to resources:** Finance, technology, water and land!
- **Power** to consult, consider and take right decisions! Institutions to govern, ensure peoples participation
- **Institutions to control** and enforce collective decisions.

Many things are done.....

- **GoF Dialogues:**
 - local – national - regional levels
 - across sectors
- **Water Aid - Local MDG Initiative:**
 - Local government leading the process of change
- **UN-Habitat**
 - urban governance, sustainable cities
 - High level expert group on decentralisation
- **UNCDF: Local Devt Programs: lower courts in Uganda**
- **Worldbank – SLOGA training materials**
- **CGLU – National associations of Local Govt**
- **ICLEI – Loc Govts and Resource management**
- **WUP – strengthening utilities**
- **WSP – WSS Country programs**
- **Etc, etc,.....**



... but do we need more or different?

Please Tell Us !!!!

- Perception of local authorities themselves?
- Role of Central Government?
- How do we know what is effective – what works and why?
- Are we at the right pace or do we need more effort?
- What action is necessary by whom?

For Today:

- What are the capacity challenges local authorities face?
- What are the main constraints in strengthening local authorities?
- What are the required actions?
 - LOCAL GOVERNMENTS,
 - NATIONAL GOVERNMENTS,
 - PRIVATE SECTOR,
 - DONORS AND INT. FINANCING INSTITUTIONS
- How can we bring attention for these actions them to the appropriate political levels?