

## Supplementary material

Table 1. Overview background and expertise of informants

Background	Number of participants
<b>Gender</b>	
Male	15
Female	4
<b>Discipline</b> (can be multiple)	
Engineering	9
Hydrology	1
Environmental health	7
Epidemiology	2
Microbiology	3
Virology	1
Economics	2
Biochemistry	1
Urban planning	1
<b>Expertise</b> (can be multiple)	
Waste water management	1
Water resources management	1
Environmental management	1
Water security	1
NGOs	6
Monitoring & Evaluation	2
Rural development	2
Urban development	1
Infrastructure finance	1
Sanitation	4
Clinical trials	1
Behaviour change	1
Children health	1
Governance	1
Physician	1
<b>Country</b> (can be multiple)	
Bangladesh	3
Israel	1
India	4
Kenya	1
South Africa	1
United States	9
United Kingdom	7
Uganda	1
Zambia	1
Pakistan	1
Nepal	1
Tanzania	1

**Table 2. Semi-structured interview guide**

Please outline your own biography with ‘WaSH’

Can you share your perspective on the history of WaSH as a sector?

Can you tell me from your perspective how this field emerged – called ‘WASH’?

What would you say are the central tenets of the WaSH field/sector? What are its core commitments? What/who/where would you say are the biggest influencers in shaping this field?

What would you say have been aspects of the WaSH sector that have been most highlighted, and what have been less so – in terms of action, visibility, legibility, accountability?

Are there any key documents – reports, media, studies, archives – that you think are important to consider in constructing this account of a history of WASH?

Are there any individuals you think we should speak to in order to get a fuller perspective of the history of this sector?