



## **WASH Cluster Report, Somalia - November 2008 -**

### **Coordination and related activities**

The security situation have not allowed coordination meetings to take place in Somalia. Meetings have been held in Nairobi only.

In order to improve coordination at the field level the newly developed TOR for the WASH Cluster includes the possibility of appointing field-level focal points. The identification of focal points is on-going.

An additional tool for improving coordination is the wwww database (WASH, Who, What, Where, When). If you have not filled in the form - and a lot of you have not - please do so and forward it to [etoft@unicef.org](mailto:etoft@unicef.org).

The next WASH Cluster meeting will take place in Nairobi on Tuesday, January 20 at 14.30 in the UNICEF Somalia Annex Conference room.

On December 11 at 10.30 a meeting will be held in the UNICEF Somalia Annex Conference room to prioritise projects submitted for the CAP 2009, and to finalise the WASH response to the IASC-led contingency planning process.

Minutes from cluster meetings are available on the OCHA Somalia website ([www.ochaonline.org/somalia](http://www.ochaonline.org/somalia)), or for direct access go to [washcluster.org](http://washcluster.org).

From January 27 to February 2, 2009 the WASH Cluster will have a training course on 'Water and Sanitation in Emergencies'. The training will be held in Nairobi. The training is intended for operational staff in Somalia. More information will be distributed shortly.

The WASH Cluster has initiated the development of a bulletin on access to protected water sources and sanitation facilities at district level. The work is undertaken with the assistance of FSAU and SWALIM, utilising their data.

## Access and other constraints

Some NGOs are reporting delays in implementation due to security incidents.

Following the decision by the IASC to develop a six-month contingency plan a number of potential 'hotspots' have been identified. A main concern is of course if cluster members will be able to assist the people in need due to limited access.

The lack of agreed upon population data remains a constraint for proper planning as well as restrict possibilities for advocating for scaling up activities.

## Drought/Flooding

The rain appears to have stopped, which minimise the risk of flooding. However, the premature cessation of the rainy season of course have implications for the coming dry season.

It is anticipated that there will once again be a need for support to water trucking towards the end of the dry season. Partners are encouraged to prepare themselves for this, i.e. plan accordingly and possibly apply for funds.

## IDPs

There has not been enough progress on establishment of piped water schemes for the IDPs in Afgooye Corridor. However, there are signs that more piped systems will be finalised within the next months. In the meantime water trucking is on-going, unfortunately limited by a shortage a funds.

Latest figures for the population in the Afgooye Corridor indicate that there might be around 400,000 IDPs.

More and more refugees are arriving in Kenya, and there is information indicating that more IDPs are amassing at the border, waiting to get into Kenya.

OCHA has for some months led efforts to produce new maps and updated population figures, The outcome of these efforts remains to be seen, but it is anticipated that it will greatly facilitate more accurate planning and optimum use of resources.

There is a shortage of sanitation facilities in most IDP camps and actors are strongly encouraged to focus hereupon.

Information on activities undertaken and meetings held in relation to WASH interventions for IDPs should be shared with the Cluster Coordinator.

## Comments/Inputs

Comments and inputs for the next cluster report should be submitted to the WASH Cluster Coordinator Erik Toft, email: [etoft@unicef.org](mailto:etoft@unicef.org).

The Cluster Coordinator will be out of office from December 22 to January 9, but can be reached by email or telephone +45 60 80 72 77.