



WASH Cluster Report, Somalia - February 2009 -

Coordination and related activities

Besides the regular cluster meetings held, a number of meetings focusing on Afgooye Corridor have been held.

Please remember to return the filled in wwwww form (WASH, Who, What, Where, and When) to etoft@unicef.org. A number of organisations have not yet returned these, including IASC members and national NGOs.

Minutes from cluster meetings are available on the OCHA Somalia website <http://ochaonline.un.org/somalia/wash>. On the website you can also find useful documents such as assessments, PHAST/CHAST manuals, documents from the recent training on Water and Sanitation in Emergencies, etc. Many of the documents are quite useful, so please have a look. If you would want to have a CD with copies of the documents from the training, please contact me.

Please remember to share copies of relevant documents in order for me to publish them on the website.

The process of hiring cluster support officers - for WASH to work on an improved database combining needs and deliveries - have been delayed. The recruitment process has to be repeated. Most likely we will not have anybody on board until the second half of the year.

The next WASH Cluster meeting will take place in Nairobi on Tuesday, March 17 at 14.30 at the Kalson Tower. On Monday, March 9 at 8.30 at Kalson Tower there is a small meeting to discuss demobilisation of wash facilities from Afgooye Corridor in case the IDPs return home.

Access and other constraints

Overall it appears that the security situation have improved, with some areas still being inaccessible. Delays in implementations due to poor security are still occurring.

The WASH CAP 2009 has still only received less than 1 %f (300,000 USD) of the requested amount (36 million USD), severely limiting the cluster member's availability to respond to the needs.

As mentioned above, many cluster members, including some of the major actors, still have not filled in the wwwww database, creating risks of overlaps. Please do so.

Achievements

As per information received from partners in January and February WASH Cluster members have delivered or is planning to deliver the following:

- Piped water schemes now provide water for probably 80% of the more than 400,000 IDPs in Afgooye Corridor.
- More than 1,600 latrines have been finalized or are in the pipeline.
- 17 boreholes have been or will be rehabilitated/constructed.
- 104 shallow wells have been or will be rehabilitated/constructed.
- Traditional water catchment facilities are also being rehabilitated, and a study to improve on these is being finalised

Locations include: Afgooye Corridor, Hargeisa, Bay, Hiran, Mogadishu, Gedo, Galgaduud, Lower Juba, Mudug, Nugal.

Please note that because a great number of NGOs do not provide the information to the Cluster Coordinator the above list does not provide a full picture of achievements.

Drought/Flooding

The dry season is now seriously affecting the water supply in many locations, especially in central and south Somalia. Water trucking has been initiated by a number of partners. In particular ICRC is undertaking a major exercise in this regard.

IDPs

The final draft of guidelines for construction of latrines for emergencies have been distributed for final commenting.

The final draft of guidelines for operation and maintenance are being developed and will be distributed when finalised.

At the next WASH Cluster meeting there will be a presentation on guidelines for hygiene promotion.

Water trucking for the displaced population in and around Duriel and Dushamareb is on-going. So far the situation seems to be under control. All partners are kindly requested to monitor the situation and to initiate appropriate measures should the situation deteriorate.

In order to have a more detailed overview of the coverage of the piped systems in Afgooye Corridor maps with details of distribution points, reservoirs and boreholes are being developed.

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.