

🔹 Zimbabwe WASH Cluster 🔹

Emergency Sitrep – 27 April 2009

Reporting Period: 6th April – April 26th 2009

This report only covers issues regarding WASH matters during the reporting period and cumulatively since the onset of the emergency. Information sent by WASH cluster members from Monday to Sunday of each week is reflected. More detailed reports are attached in the appendix. The SitRep is to be used as a vehicle of information exchange among partners and with other agencies. As of the Feb. 10th, 2009 SitRep, situation issues and partner activities will be summarized primarily from the Zimbabwe WASH Cluster WWWW IM tools.

CHOLERA SITUATION – OVERVIEW from the 22nd to the 26th inclusive

The past 5 days has seen 84 cholera cases reported throughout Zimbabwe and 7 cholera related deaths. Cholera cases increased to 97,198 and deaths increased to 4,244. Case fatality rate has **remained stable** at 4.4. The last week has seen a steady decline in both cases and deaths in most areas, but hotspots are still being reported, especially in Harare and surrounds.

Emerging Issues & Highlights

The WASH cluster continues to respond to cholera spikes as they occur. Particular emphasis this month has been in Harare and Chitungwiza and Mashonaland West – Chinhoyi and Karoi towns. The latter town has received almost no water for weeks. Distribution of NFIs and negotiations with ZESA are on-going to ensure at least some power each day for pumping of water.

Water treatment chemicals have been distributed to 20 urban centres, including Harare. This programme has now secured funding for at least 6 months with the intention to a) provide immediate and continuous water treatment and hence safe water pumping (other factors depending) and b) allow councils space to develop an appropriate revenue base, ensuring equitable provision, cost recovery and cross subsidies, taking into account the needs and capacities of all population sectors to pay for services and particularly supporting the most vulnerable.

Assessments in urban areas for immediate emergency rehabilitation of water and sewage systems have been carried out in Chitungwiza, Kadoma, Kwekwe, Mutare, Marondera, and Chinhoyi, and are on-going in Bindura, Gweru and Bulawayo.

Evaluation of NFI distribution in three districts enters its last week and will cover Beitbridge, Mount Darwin and Harare. The survey has covered households, NGO and Government district partners involved in the process as well as providing opportunity for partners to respond to an on-line questionnaire.

WASH cluster members report training over 27,000 people in basic hygiene (PHHE). Water trucking continues in Chitungwiza and Kadoma, with some support being provided to trucking in Karoi. Over 4.2 million litres have been distributed. Meanwhile, partner organisations report rehabilitating 122 water points (boreholes) during April. 5,000 litre water tanks have been distributed to 111 schools and 28 health facilities and other institutions.

Consultants will be on board early May for the WASH response evaluation, learning and preparedness exercise. It is hoped that the process will be completed by end June 2009.

Meanwhile some specific responses: ----

- Care International reports they have rehabilitated 5 boreholes in Mwenezi, and continue to distribute 1,287 NFI Kits the week 20 – 26 April.
- Welcome to FENIX Trust - this is the first sitrep that includes reporting 56 borehole rehab projects in 10 wards in Bikita. This means improved access to safe drinking water for more than 11,000 men, women and children, 15 schools and one health clinic.
- Mercy Corps with ZimAhead worked in Mutare to visit 15,429 households and distributed 24,695 NFI Kits within the past week. Mercy Corps and ACF coordinated their efforts in Chimanimani, distributing the 9,471 kits provided by UNICEF and trained 9,486 households in PHHP.

- NFIs are being distributed by GOAL in Harare, where Kuwadzana Phase 3 received 9,500 kits, and ward 5 in Chitungwiza received 5,509 kits last week. NFIs are being distributed in Nyanga, Chegutu and Binga. Chinhoyi districts by Concern, Save the Children UK and CHCC, and will report next week on their distribution and level of intervention.
- Concern World Wide in Nyanga reports the blanket distribution of NFI Kits to 17,580 HHs half completed.
- In Gokwe South Concern WW has been training CHVs (Community Health Volunteers) to cover the district and is nearly complete (963 trained currently)
- In Chegutu, Concern WW is pleased to report 38 latrines now functional in ward 12, but heavy rains last week were challenging. CWW has completed 18 boreholes, and CHV training is complete - 338 community health volunteers (CHVs) trained and 38 health professionals trained as trainers. The NFI distribution is about half done (4,852 HH this last week.)
- In Gokwe North, Concern reports the blanket distribution of NFIs to prioritised wards has so far reached 15,600 HHs. They have also trained 946 Community Health Volunteers complete coverage throughout the district nearly achieved.
- GOAL reported critical shortage of Water supply in Karoi Urban and that GAA worked with ZINWA on repairing pipes and negotiating with ZESA for some supply to the pumping station
- GAA reports that overflowing sewage is still the main challenge in Unit O Chitungwiza. In Kadoma, GAA reports that toilet facilities still remain a challenge, OXFAM has pledged support. Inconsistent supply of water and non-treatment of water from the Council water works is of concern. Power cuts being experienced have worsened the situation.
- In response to Kadoma, water quality monitoring and control to be done at all new tanks installed under the emergency water supplies project for one month. The drilling of boreholes by UNICEF ongoing. The council bowser needs to be repaired and allocated water trucking duties to some of the tanks as a way of increasing emergency water supply in response to the increase in demand.
- In Harare IOM was implementing health promotion campaign for travelers during Easter Holidays until the 20th of April at travel points.
- In Hwange, IOM noted major problems of treated water supply citing that water runs only for 3 hours per day and that ZESA and Colliery are not providing treated water anymore. All latrines at schools and travelers points are not functioning and trains are not providing proper sanitation.

Reporting and the WWWW

Thanks to the partners for putting in a lot of effort for weekly reporting – many who are now also reporting by ward. Many of you have been able to provide NFI distribution and water point rehab / new boreholes by ward – this will help next year’s effort tremendously. A dataset of the last months WASH response activities will be available in the next couple of weeks. The WASH cluster Information management Technical Working Group (TWG) is moving towards implementing the Global WASH tools, so future efforts will be compatible with other countries, but more importantly, will give managers a suite of analysis tools to better understand the changing cholera landscape conditions and coordinate next years response.

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