

💧 Zimbabwe WASH Cluster 💧

Emergency Sitrep – 04 May 2009

Reporting Period: 27th April – 3rd May, 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 April 27th to May 4th inclusive

The past week has seen 544 cholera cases reported throughout Zimbabwe and 11 cholera related deaths. Cholera cases increased to 97,795 and deaths increased to 4,265. 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.

Emerging Issues & Highlights

In a number of areas WASH cluster members are winding down their emergency interventions focusing more on medium term activities: borehole rehabilitation, sewer clearing, maintenance and repair of public toilets as examples.

NFI distribution however, continues in Mount Darwin, Mudzi, Harare and Chitungwiza, Gokwe, Mutare, Nyanga, Chivi Mwenezi and Binga, while hygiene promotion training and campaigns are still major activities in most affected areas.

In Harare and Chitungwiza water trucking continues to six clinics and in Chitungwiza to community sites - a total of 1,170,000 litres per week. Meanwhile 5,000 litre water tanks have been distributed to 33 clinics. Out of the 220 new urban boreholes programmed by WASH partners, 18 +++ have been completed to date.

Recent reports of Cholera cases increasing in Gokwe North and Mudzi are attributed by partners to members of the Apostolic faith refusing cholera treatment and water treatment tablets- engagement with leaders of the sect continues.

The WASH learning exercise/evaluation of the response is now finalised and will run from 18 May to 19 June. Organisations – members and others are being asked to share all relevant reports, studies and other background documentation to feed into the evaluation.

The weekly WWWW reporting is being phased out as from 15th May 2009 and the dataset is being re-formatted into a legacy database to inform the evaluation. An Information (technical working group (TWG) is currently developing a new reporting format for the next emergency to be more in line with global cluster tools. For the meantime however, a simple report format will be used every two weeks by partners.

Extracts from partner reports....

- In Chegutu Urban, GAA is winding down their activities, and focusing on medium term activities: sewer clearing, maintenance and repair of public toilets.
- Farm Community Trust of Zimbabwe continues to offer PHHP training in Murehwa to 417 families; In Goromonzi, 105 families, and has provided 154 NFI kits to households in rural areas in Marondera.
- Oxfam is preparing to distribute NFIs in Mudzi (25,000 HH) next week, and spent last week distributing 700 flyers to families there.
- Mercy Corps is working in Chimanimani and Mutare Urban, completing NFI Kit distribution and PHHP training in the coming weeks.
- Oxfam reports Highfield - 4,000 HH were provided with 2 kg soap, 60 aqua tabs and water containers - Tafara and Mabvuku both received Kits for 4,000 HH in each area. Cleaning of water tanks for water trucking that is ongoing in Glenview, Dzivaresekwa, Chitungwiza and Budiriro. Designation of WASH committees for the 20 new boreholes done in Harare and 18 of the proposed 20 boreholes have been

drilled and cased. 6 locations in Mudzi have been proposed for the development of communal latrines, particularly at growth points in Nyamapanda and Kotwa, and the apostolic faith have acknowledged their interest and 4 latrines will be provided for the apostolic faith.

- A high number of cases (37 cases and 5 deaths) were reported from the Masarakufa clinic, attributed to a funeral gathering where the parents of the deceased acknowledged that their relative had died from malaria, when in reality it was due to cholera.
- Cholera campaigns were conducted in Bangauya, Masahwa, Makaha, Nyamukoho, Masenda and Masarakufa targeting 6,500 people (2,300 male and 4,200 female).
- Concern World Wide (CWW) has 4,810 NFI kits distributed to prioritised wards in Gokwe North. 2 wards still outstanding. CWW has trained 1439 Community Health Volunteers so far. In Nyanga, 18,627 NFI kits distributed to prioritised wards by Concern, and a total of 341 Community Health Volunteers (CHVs) trained across the district. A further 3000 kits are to be distributed to urban areas in Nyanga.
- CWW reports Apostolic believers are refusing cholera treatment and water treatment tablets, prolonging a cholera outbreak in the Goredema area of Gokwe North.
- CWW plans for distribution of schools NFI kits in schools in 23 wards in Gokwe North.
- In Mudzi, Oxfam is awaiting parts for bush pump repair, yet still rehabilitated 7 pumps this last week.
- Save the Children (SCUK) in cooperation with Environment Africa has distributed 948 kits to households in Hwange. In Kariba, SCUK has completed distributing NFI Kits to 9,923 households.

Social Mobilisation

ORS Distribution Policy Review: This issue has now been sent to the Ministry of Health & Child Welfare which is looking into the possibility of deregulating ORS at health centres and to make it available at household level. However the issue of Standards Control on ORS will be looked into so that the commodity is available everywhere, in shops and small retail places. This has been an issue under discussion within the Ministry of Health and Health/WASH clusters, and has been concluded as a critical strategy to reduce community deaths during a cholera outbreak. The social mobilization group will therefore intensify education on the use of ORS and the importance of re-hydration.

Advocacy Package for parliamentarians: This has been finalized and sent to the Ministry of Health for endorsement. Once cleared, the team will be ready to approach relevant authorities for presentation in parliament.

Community Mobilization Training at district level: Members of social mobilization are supporting district level training in order to ensure quality of facilitation and most importantly consistency of messages.

Phasing out the WWWW

The WWWW dataset is being re-formatted into a legacy database and **your final “IMPLEMENTED” activity level of response are needed** to complete the database inventory. Choose “IMPLEMENTED” for the STATUS for as many of your activities as possible. For example, if you are using “ONGOING” or “PLANNED” please calculate the weekly and cumulative totals for the implemented portion.

Second, **change any “Other, specify in Comment Box”** can be changed to **an appropriate menu choice**, as this would permit your activities to be summed under that category rather than set aside as a comment. Regrettably, most of you found the menu choices to narrow, and “Other” has been used liberally rather than sparingly.

The last reporting date for the WWWW will be the Week of May 9 – 15th. Please send all the tools to choleraresponse@unicef.org (NOT dravenstein@unicef.org) before Monday, May 18th, end of day.

The WWWW will then be compiled into consolidated legacy database, covering the period from February 9th to May 15th. The legacy database will then be made available via OCHA, and with instructions on how to use it. Further information on the legacy database will be sent out separately in the end of May.

For further information, please contact:

Ben Henson
WASH Cluster Coordinator
mobile: +263 (0) 912513758
email: bhenson@unicef.org

Jenny Lamb
WASH Cluster Co-lead (Oxfam GB)
Mobile : +263 (0)912 437 566
jlamb@oxfam.org.uk

SitRep ID: 040509WASH_CZim