

💧 Zimbabwe WASH Cluster 💧

Emergency Sitrep – 21 August 2009

Reporting Period: 27th July to 9th August, 2009

This report covers issues regarding WASH matters during the reporting period and cumulatively since the onset of the 2008 outbreak. Information sent by WASH cluster members for a given two week period 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.

CHOLERA SITUATION – OVERVIEW from 27th July to 9th August inclusive

Cholera was declared ended by the minister of Health and Child Welfare on July 28, 2009. Surveillance and monitoring activities continue in order to detect new cases and inform responses. The last reported case was on 3 July 2009.

Emerging Issues & Highlights

The WASH Cluster will sponsor a three day training on Cluster Coordination in Zimbabwe. Target participants include potential district level focal points (Provincial and District Medical Officers, local and international NGOs) district, provincial and national governmental representatives from the Health and Water sectors. The goal of this training is to improve coordination capacity within the country with an emphasis on WASH , improve coordination between governmental and non governmental actors, improve understanding of the WASH Cluster's role in cholera response and to ensure that the WASH Cluster is effectively supporting the Government of Zimbabwe's response to this year's anticipated cholera outbreak. The workshop will be held September 28-30. Space is limited. Interested individuals and organizations are encouraged to contact Mark Peters at mpeters@unicef.org.

The comprehensive assessment tool (CAT) is being used by WASH cluster members in a number of districts throughout the country in order to provide a baseline for their programs and to help rank relative WASH risks in the country. More support is needed, however. Specifically, the following districts, which had high cholera attack rates last year, are not currently being assessed.

| Location | | |
|---------------------|--------------|---|
| PROVINCE | DISTRICT | CAT Survey |
| Matabeleland South | Beitbridge | WVI |
| Mashonaland West | Makonde | GAA, FCTZ |
| Mashonaland West | Kadoma Urban | Oxfam |
| Mashonaland East | Mudzi | Oxfam |
| Mashonaland West | Chegutu | Oxfam, MMT |
| Masvingo | Chiredzi | |
| Mashonaland Central | Mt Darwin | Oxfam, WVI |
| Masvingo | Bikita | |
| Mashonaland Central | Bindura | IMC, FCTZ (clinics) |
| Manicaland | Buhera | |
| Manicaland | Mutare Rural | FCTZ |
| Mashonaland Central | Shamva | FCTZ |
| Mashonaland West | Kariba | |
| Manicaland | Chimanimani | |
| Midlands | Gokwe North | |
| Manicaland | Chipinge | MMT |
| Harare | Chitungwiza | GAA (wards 22,23,25) |
| Harare | Harare Urban | Oxfam, GAA (Ward 33), PENYA trust (interested in DZ, Mbare and Hatcliffe) |
| Masvingo | Chivi | |
| Mashonaland West | Hurungwe | |
| Matabeleland North | Binga | |

If your organization is working within these areas and is interested in implementing the CAT please contact Mark Peters as soon as possible, additional funding may be available within the Cluster to support assessment activities.

On Thursday the 20th August, WASH Technical Task Force with generous support by Dr. Peter Morgan and V&W organised a “B” Type Bush Pump Parts Inspection Workshop, with over 60 WASH cluster members participating. The participants received information on how B Type Bush Pump works, names and functions of parts, and tools required for its maintenance, together with advice on ensuring quality of parts.



Bush Pump parts inspection Workshop

Cholera response activities between 27 July and 9 August include community activities such as rehabilitation of 46 water points and trucking of 710,000 litres of water. NFI distributions continued, with 20,886 complete packages and a re-supply of 48,840 NFI consumables. Training included 57 WASH awareness sessions benefiting 6,741 people and 65 PHHP trainers' were trained and have so far reached their own households waiting for the roll out. Ten bio-sand filters were installed in households, in Rushinga and Bindura districts, i.e. 5 per district. The bio-sand filters were given 1 per household. Institutional activities include water trucking (205,000 litres) which was done at clinics in Harare and Chitungwiza. Two clinics in Bikita namely Chirorwe and Mungezi were equipped with water and sanitation facilities. At Chirorwe a borehole was rehabilitated, a new water pump installed, a storage tank constructed, a new hand washing facility constructed and 2 flush toilets were rehabilitated. At Mungezi, rehabilitation of the clinic water network was done, rehabilitation of a flush toilet and construction of a hand washing facility. New water pumps were installed at 2 schools in Mwenezi, 1 pump per school.

The following organizations have reported specific activities:

- CARE reports that behavioural change in water treatment is still a challenge e.g. beneficiaries are giving feedback that they find it hard to boil water in the case of inaccessibility of other water treatment methods. In line with WASH Cluster recommendations this year's non-food item packages will contain enough consumables (soap and water treatment tablets) for 3 months.
- Also reported by CARE, in Zaka large populations are being served by a single borehole and this contributes to continuous breakdowns. In Bikita, more borehole breakdowns are reported at schools and business centres due to high number of people using the facilities when the facilities were supposed to serve a certain number of people.
- PumpAid reports that Efforts are still on going to install pumps on all unsecured wells within their operating areas before the onset of the rainy season.
- UNICEF reports that community capacity building on operation and maintenance of emergency boreholes drilled in urban centres is needed. Local authorities to work with NGOs on this development.
- IMC conducted a KAP survey in Bindura and will continue with another in Rushinga to obtain baseline information related to cholera awareness, access to clean water, and hygiene practices at household level. Over 140 households were surveyed in Bindura. Once the data is analyzed, the findings will be shared with the WASH cluster.



IMC provides bio-sand filters and community education as part of an ECHO-funded pilot water purification project



IMC is constructing latrines at Health centres as part of an ECHO-funded project to strengthen preparedness at community and facility level

- IMC completed refresher training of VHWs, having trained a total of 181 in Rushinga and Bindura Districts in partnership with the District Health Teams. Installation of bio-sand filters continued during this period with a total of 10 installed in this reporting period. Beneficiary households were provided hygiene kits and health and hygiene education.

Social Mobilisation

The social mobilization group has supported the Ministries of Health and Child Welfare and Environment to organize a solid waste clean up campaign during the month of September. The national initiative will be publicly launched by the Ministers. Provincial authorities will organize specific clean up days. The entire initiative is voluntary, and is supported by a range of governmental, non-governmental and private actors. The hope is that central government supports an ongoing, monthly initiative enabling and encouraging people to take responsibility for solid waste management in and around their communities.

For further information, please contact:

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