

DRAFT - Minutes from WASH Cluster meeting June 24th 2009.

Held at the Somalia Support Secretariat

List of Participants attached

Agenda

1. Action Points
2. Afgooye/Mogadishu Update
3. AWD/Cholera Update
4. Drought Update/Galkayo WASH Coordination Meeting/Focal points
5. WASH Guidelines Update
6. GPS/Humanitarian Reference Grid Training - SWALIM
7. WASH Activity Map and quarterly reporting Update
8. AOB - HRF format

The chair welcomed the members to the meeting and went through the action points of the previous minutes.

1. Action Points

1. Complete first draft of WASH guidelines before next WASH meeting - COMPLETED
2. Hold a contingency meeting for Hiraan and M.Shabelle before next WASH meeting - COMPLETED
3. Hold a drought mitigation meeting before next WASH meeting – MEETING HELD IN GALKAYO, BUT NOT IN NAIROBI

2. Afgooye/Mogadishu Update

UNHCR to do a population assessment – results in 5 weeks – number of IDPs now in Afgooye 625,000 according to WASH partners.

The participants were informed of an Afgooye technical group who are trying to provide accurate information on IDPs in Afgooye and who is doing what, where.

3. AWD/Cholera

Outbreak in Hobyo under control.

In Kismayo, Lower Jubba, there is an increase in AWD with 190 cases and 6 deaths, particularly around the villages of Buulo-Kuusoo, Majir, Kuudud, Kurkumeyse and Diidimeyse. ORS distributed to affected HH, chlorination of shallow wells. Juba Shine and Muslim Aid to rehabilitate shallow wells in the area.

SANCO, NGO reported a new outbreak in Mogadishu and Marka stating that improper management of the water sources was the cause.

DTA also reported an outbreak in the areas surrounding Afgooye and lower Shabelle.

The Chair said that action plans can be built upon rumors, but there is also a need for providing reliable information on outbreaks. Members were reminded to refer to guidelines for cholera response.

The chair provided an update on AWD from WHO – since 2007. In 2007 there were 130,950 cases diarrhoeal disease and 1,790 related deaths with a CFR 1.37%, and a major outbreak between 1 Jan and 7 June with 36,275 cases and 1,102 deaths CFR 3.04% from 10 regions in SCZ.

In 2008 there were 94,217 cases with 432 related deaths, a CFR of 0.46%, which is a 28% decrease in reported cases and decrease of 66% CFR.

So far in 2009 28,000 cases CFR of 0.38% = 60-70% decrease in cases and 300% decrease in CFR over 2007.

The reason for the reduction to the fatality rates are due to improvements made by the health and WASH clusters in terms of AWD/Cholera case management, prevention and response.

The chair requested information of any outbreak to be forwarded to him so that he can forward the information to WHO. HARD said there are reports of a new outbreak in Elwak districts of Somalia.

4. Drought

The drought in Somalia's central regions has extended north into the key pastoral areas of the Sool plateau, Nugal valley and Hawd livelihood zones.

This drought threatens over 700,000 pastoralists and a significant number of urban households.

An update from the Drought Coordination Meeting, HADMA Office, Garowe-Puntland, 28th May 2009 was given. The results showed that only 20% of the entire Puntland received inadequate Gu rains and 80% did not receive rains and in need of water.

157,152 people or 2,192 HH are in need of urgent water trucking as they are surviving on less than 2 litres/p/day. The authorities recommend 7.5 litres/p/d for 60 days, while the SOMALIA WASH minimum standard is 5 litres.

UNICEF stated 7 abandoned villages along the road from Galkayo to Hobyo, with about 3,300 persons having left their homes.

RAHMO has finished water trucking in Mudug with HRF.

The chair said the drought in central regions is now affecting Puntland and Somaliland due to failed rains in these regions

The cost of water trucking is expensive and would exceed 2.5million for Puntland alone, because of the distance between the collection and delivery points

Eng WARFA mentioned the need to improve sanitation but the chair responded that the main concern now is the emergency rather than the sanitation needs in Somalia

A summary of a meeting held in Galgayo on IDPs and Drought related issues was presented to the cluster.

The chair said that the outcome of the meeting he had with the partners and local NGOs in the Mudug region had been to map areas where strategic boreholes could be located, where shallow wells could be constructed against areas suffering from drought and areas where there are good pasture at the moment. The chair also mentioned the need to replace water trucking with drought mitigation.

A similar meeting occurred in Bay and areas where access to water is chronically low: mainly clusters of villages between Waajid and Baidoa and Waajid and Xuddur, and south-west of Dinsor were mapped.

Also mapped were areas where poor access to water regularly leads to social tensions and conflict: Idaale and Siliga (bush area south of Tieglow where pastoralists use to concentrate).

One organisation had conducted a drought related assessment in Tieglow but the Chair stated that the village locations could not be found. The chair requested all organisations to provide specific locations when stating areas they are working or when undertaking assessments – GPS points or Humanitarian Grid References should be used to help in identification. The WASH cluster does not have the resources to find villages and assign them GPS coordinates. This is the responsibility of the WASH partners.

5. WASH Guidelines

Mercy USA raised concern that a diameter of 1.5m radius was too large for a shallow well. It was stated that this was a mistake and should have been the diameter.

It was also suggested that anything of technical nature could be handled and addressed bilaterally rather than in the Cluster Coordination Meeting. It was stated that the guidelines a

minimum recommendations and organisations could go above the standards in the guidelines. The guidelines are also meant to provide guidance so that each organisation knows more or less what they should be doing for WASH in Somalia, and it was mentioned that some NGOs were still submitting proposals for latrines costing over 1,000 USD each, while the guidelines clearly state the approximate cost and methodology for each WASH activity. It saves a lot of time if organisations read the guidelines before submitting proposals, but many organisations are not complying.

The WASH guidelines are now in their final draft but can still be used as they are.

The chair also indicated that there is a need to distinguish between permanent Constructed Shallow Wells and seasonally constructed wells that are unlined, since there can be hundreds of seasonal wells in a location and these are different to shallow wells constructed by WASH organisations.

6. GPS/Humanitarian Reference Grid Training – SWALIM

SWALIM made a presentation on another mechanism that can be used in addition or a substitute for GPS for humanitarian assistance. The topographic mapping can be used if GP is not available or usable. It has numbers and letters for tracing or pinpointing specific locations for humanitarian operations.

Some specific faults were pinpointed on the mapping system presented but SWALIM said it had all the 74 districts of Somalia prior to the civil war.

SWALIM said that it is developing new strategies for data collection, distribution and information sharing.

7. WASH Activity Map and quarterly reporting Update

The Chair informed the participants that OCHA can create maps for WASH activities in Somalia, based on the WASH Activity Map/Quarterly report. These maps can be tailored for individual organisations, and can help organisations avoid duplicating activities. The maps can include any activity undertaken by the WASH partners, such as sanitation, solid waste, hygiene promotion etc.

The chair informed members to provide information about their organization activities to be included in the quarterly report.

8. AOB – HRF Format

HRF advised participants to use the new HRF format when submitting proposals.

The chair also suggested that organizations submitting proposal should refer to available WASH guidelines so as not to lose time. The WASH assessment guidelines should also be used when making assessments to ensure that the right information is collected.

The Chair stated that there was a need to resolve land ownership issues to provide facilities for IDPs before the development of wells and boreholes and sanitation facilities could be constructed. This came out of the visit to Galkayo IDP camps.

Issues of funding were brought up by members and the Chair was asked what was being done to secure funding. The Chair had made a presentation at the previous donor/IASC meeting but stated more would be done in the future. It was suggested that the Chair submit an advocacy paper to the donors.

Action Points

1. Convene a special meeting on funding for the WASH cluster.

NGO Updates

COOPI

Gedo Region

- Completed rehabilitation of 10 pans as follows; Daso, Mudale, Bura Allan, Dibayo in El Wak District; Qooney and Farda-jirow in Dolow District; Quran-Gogo in Garbaharrey District; Madawaje in Luuq District;
- Rehabilitation of pans at Yagle and Harmandera in Bulahawa and Garbaharey Districts ongoing;

Other Activities

- Completed rehabilitation of 9 shallow wells in four villages (Busar 3 wells, Garsal 2 wells, Samarole 1 wells and Owsqurun 3 wells) in Elwak district
- Rehabilitation of two mini-water supplies (El-ade and Maykereb boreholes) in Garbaharey district ongoing;

Hiran Region

- Rehabilitation of 3 pans at Jiraw in Jalalqsi District, Salah-Salid in Mataban District and Weyrah in Buulo Burte District completed;

Galgadud Region

- Rehabilitation of 7 pans at Diriye Hasan and Dhegohoney in Guriel District; Kalmoon and Qalqoryale in Ceel Bur District; Qallanqalle in Cabudwaqk District; Laandheere and Xamurre in Dhusamareb District ongoing;

Nugal Region

- Drilling of 1 borehole in Rebenti village ongoing, Garowe District;
- Planning to start drilling 1 replacement borehole at Burtinle in July, Burtinle District;

Other Activities

- Construction of 117 household latrines ongoing in Nugal and Mudug;
- Constructed 399 latrines to-date out of targeted 600 latrines under NEWS II project;
- O & M Training conducted for PSAWEN Garowe, PSAWEN Galkayo, Nugal Water Co., Galkayo water Co. and the field technical staff;
- O&M training for 4 WES committees (Abarey, Godobjiran, Galkayo Orphanage Centre, Bursalah) ongoing;
- Mid term evaluation of the NEWS II project is carried out, report writing ongoing;

ADRA

100 WASH committee members (composed of VHPs, chairmens, chlorinators and village elders) were trained by external consultants in water management and conflict mitigation training for one week in Baidoa. These participants were drawn from WASH committees working with ADRA in Qansadhere, Ufurow and Dinsor districts.

Also 30 pump operators were trained in O&M from 15 boreholes in Qansadhere, Dinsor and Ufurow districts.