

Water Supply, Sanitation and Hygiene (WASH) Jordan Working Group Terms of Reference

Introduction

Jordan is considered to be the fourth water scarce country in the World. In the past decades Jordan has shown a remarkable progress in terms of reaching to around 98 % of the population through piped network water supply. In addition Jordan has also been able to cover around 65 % of its population through provision of Sewerage Network. Unfortunately these achievements have been offset by low water availability, competing water demands from other water consuming sectors and more importantly through a regular influx of refugees from neighbouring countries.

Jordan hosts around 600,000 Syrian Refugee population as of June 2014 (with around 100,000 refugees in camp and the rest in the Host Communities). Under the overall coordination of UNHCR and along with other sectoral Working groups, the Water, Sanitation and Hygiene (WASH) sector Working Group, in Jordan led by UNICEF, has been established in response to the Syrian Refugee influx. The WASH Working group is aiming to coordinate the efforts of the Humanitarian agencies, for the refugees in camps and in the host communities. .

Objectives:

1. To work towards a coordinated and integrated approach in the all WASH related interventions (emergency response, early recovery and resilience).
2. To ensure formal links between the water sector and other relevant sectors in particular shelter/NFI, health, camp management and education.
3. To work towards evidence based planning, actions, gap filling and prioritization.
4. To ensure prioritization, evidence based actions and gap filling; and to enhance accountable, predictable and effective emergency WASH response to the affected population.
5. To ensure Gender main streaming in all WASH interventions

Structure:

1. The WASH Sector shall be led by UNICEF in close collaboration with UNHCR and the Ministry of Water and Irrigation.
2. It will be a multi-agency mechanism that promotes coherence in, and coordination of, WASH actors actions aimed at the implementation of the strategy as defined by the Working group.
3. The WASH Sector is open to all WASH sector stakeholders i.e. governmental organisations/ departments, local, national and international NGOs, faith-based organisations, UN agencies, private sector, donor organisations etc.
4. There is no time limit for the validity of the Terms of Reference for the WASH sector, but it can be revised when the members, in consensus, with the sector leads, agree to revise the document.

5. The WASH Sector will have a Strategy Advisory Group (SAG) comprising of WASH Sector lead, UNICEF, UNHCR, other interested agencies (including donors) and National and International NGO's.
6. The WASH Sector will have a number of Technical Working Groups (e.g. Hygiene promotion, minimum standards, Sanitation School WASH etc.). These working groups can be formed as per needs and would provide recommendations in relation to their specific areas to the WASH Sector and/or any other sector as required

Frequency

1. WASH Sector meetings will take place once a month and can be held in any organization's Offices (who can provide the space).
2. WASH SAG and Technical Working groups would meet as and when required.
3. WASH sector members will upload information on WASH activities regularly to Activity Info. The information drawn from the reported activities will provide a basis for needs and gap analysis, enabling an improved targeting of the response

Responsibilities:

1. Develop and carry out joint sectoral needs assessment and analysis to common methodologies, involving all relevant partners and ensuring beneficiary participation.
2. Develop and update WASH Sector Strategy and action plans.
3. Bring together agencies that are active in the WASH sector i.e. are either working or have an interest to work for the Syrian Refugees as well as the Jordanian population both as part of humanitarian response and development activities.
4. Ensure effective coordination of all WASH interventions in the camps and within the Syrian Refugee Hosting areas and ensuring that all planning is based on gender sensitive programming and are promoting gender equity.
5. Work towards development of adequate preparedness measures and contingency plans for the WASH sector in emergency and recovery periods. Pre-positioning of core pipeline supply.
6. Provide a platform for learning and sharing - including dialogue on establishing links between emergency and development WASH actions through interventions that build resilience in the affected communities.
7. ensure that WASH responses are in line with existing water and sanitation policy guidelines, technical standards, and relevant Government human rights legal obligations.
8. Solicit progress reports from WASH agencies and provide consolidated sector reports and updates to WASH partners and other relevant inter sector coordination bodies. Adequate WASH impact reporting and effective information sharing to demonstrate gaps addressed.
9. Advocate for donors to fund WASH actors to carry out priority WASH activities in the sector, and also encourage WASH actors to mobilize resources for their activities through their usual channels.

WASH sector IM

Information Management plays a vital role in collecting, analysing, and sharing information that is important for the sector stakeholders to make informed (evidence based) strategic decisions.: The WASH Sector Jordan will therefore tthrough provision of dedicated Information Management capacity.

- Develop IM tools to support the production and dissemination of information, identify gaps and suggest solutions and to respond to any other IM needs as required by the sector partners.
- Maintain information on all current and potential WASH partners, their capacities and areas of work (including Who, What, Where and by When).
- Identify barriers for information collection, collation, analysis and sharing and work with the national level Information Management Specialist to develop appropriate supportive strategies which includes convincing agencies of the purpose and importance of collecting and sharing data/information by providing a timely, added value service to all stakeholders.
- Liaise with the national Information Management Specialist in assisting in the design of WASH data collection forms, ensuring that the purpose and use of all data collected is clear, questions are simple, clear, collectable and easily collatable, highlighting where potential problems might arise; organize and manage the data input and initial analysis and presentation of data for the WASH sector.

Principles of Partnership

WASH Sector will uphold the spirit of supporting a culture of mutual respect, equality, trust and transparency where partnerships flourish, in accordance with the Global Humanitarian Principles of Partnership.