



REPORT ON THE KENYA NATIONAL ENVIRONMENTAL SANITATION & HYGIENE INTERAGENCY CORDINATING COMMITTEE (ESHICC) MEETING AND FIELD LEARNING EVENT



CLTS in Practice



School WASH in Practice



HHWT PRACTICE

15TH - 16TH JULY 2010
JUMUIA GUEST HOUSE & CONFERENCE CENTRE
KISUMU- KENYA

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INTRODUCTION:

This is the second report of the Environmental Sanitation and Hygiene inter agency coordinating committee that was re-launched from the ESHWG with the primary role of coordination and spearheading Sanitation and Hygiene issues in the country. Six technical working groups were formed namely; School WASH, Hygiene Promotion, Sanitation Promotion, Policy, Resources Mobilization & Research, House Hold Water Treatment & Storage and General & Health Care Waste Management. Different organizations were appointed conveners and the ministry IS the lead coordination role.

The ICC also doubles as the National [Coordinating Mechanism for the Global Sanitation Fund, that includes all National Sanitation and Hygiene key sector players](#). This follows Kenya being earmarked as one of the latest recipient of round two of the Global Sanitation Fund and the processes are ongoing.

This meeting was made possible with financial support from Networking, Partnerships and Knowledge Management section of the Water Supply and Sanitation Collaborative Council (WSSCC). The ICC meeting was to be used as a platform in which the technical working groups could highlight the progress made since the inception while the learning event was to offer ICC members an opportunity to learn best practices and challenges in implementing Sanitation and Hygiene programs/ projects and deliberate on the way forward.

OBJECTIVES OF THE MEETING:

- To review progress towards the realisation of global sanitation funds,
- To review progress made by the technical working groups along the drafting of the terms of reference and workplans
- To share knowledge experiences and challenges faced during the implimentation of water sanitation and hygiene activities
- Visit existing sites to learn the best practices, and see ways in which they could be adopted.

CORE GROUP EXPECTATIONS:

Members gave the following as their expectations:

- To share the successes and challenges faced during the implementation and how to overcome the challenges
- To receive feedback on the progress of the technical working groups
- To strengthen the capacity of the ministry to deal appropriately with water sanitation and hygiene challenges in the country
- Learn on how to increase funding mechanism for the country water sanitation and hygiene sector

OFFICIAL OPENING OF THE MEETING

The Chief Public Health Officer, in his opening remarks as he invited the UNICEF Chief, WASH to officially open the meeting, thanked WSSCC for the support it had extended to the Sanitation and Hygiene sector in the country. The Chief highlighted key milestones which had been achieved including the transformation of Environmental Sanitation and Hygiene Working Group to an ICC which had a big role in informing overall ministerial policy. Representatives of different stakeholders were asked to highlight different issues they felt were a success or challenge.

- The Ministry of Education representative said that the ICC was important because most of the partners worked through schools and it was therefore important to harmonise the methodologies applied in promoting Sanitation and Hygiene in schools so that the messages communicated on the topics are similar.
- The Ministry of Water representative told the meeting that the collaboration with the ministry of Public Health and Sanitation had achieved key milestones and provided for harmonious implementation of hygiene and sanitation projects. The meeting was informed of the need to continually work together for synergy creation.
- The Water & Sanitation Programme (WSP-A)- WB representative said that it was expected that all stakeholders were expected to actively participate

in the programme to meet the targets and set realistic targets of their activities.

In his official opening remarks, the The Chief UNICEF WASH underscored the importance of the meeting in enhancing partnerships and collaboration among sector players. He lauded the cordial relationship that exists between UNICEF and the government which has led to positive results that are being witnessed in the implementation of Kenya WASH program, among others. Participants were invited to participate actively and give constructive contributions to the meeting.

RECAP OF THE MINUTES OF PREVIOUS ICC MEETING

The meeting was reminded that the previous ICC convention had the following outcomes:

- ICC on Environmental Sanitation and Hygiene launched
- Formation of six technical working groups along different themes of sanitation
- Appointment of the conveners and co-conveners of the groups

Briefing on the Global Sanitation Fund and Kenya country position as a recipient of the funds

PROGRESS ON GLOBAL SANITATION FUND

The Chief Public Health Officer indicated that there was remarkable progress towards the realization of the global sanitation funds. The meeting was reminded on how the hygiene and sanitation sector had been under funded previously and that's why it lagged behind other sectors in health. The meeting was told that the global sanitation fund offered an opportunity for the sector players to upscale the hygiene and sanitation services and where practicable replicate them to other areas. Among the key achievement made towards the realization of the funds were:

- **Establishment of a Project Coordinating Mechanism (PCM):** The former Environmental sanitation hygiene & sanitation working was transformed to Inter agency Coordinating Committee (ICC). This committee is the overall national sanitation and hygiene steer and sets the programme scope for the country and link to government, WSSCC and others. This is the body charged with developing the Country Workplan and also has an oversight responsibility for the coordination of GSF implementation in the country. **Appointment of a consultant to GSF: The meeting was informed** that a consultant had already been selected. This was done competitively from different applicants. WSSCC, through UNOPS, will contract this consultant directly. A formal appointment letter from UNOPS was being awaited. The main duty of the consultant is to support the PCM in developing the Country Workplan.

Executing Agency (EAs): The meeting was told that appointment of the EA and the **Country Programme Monitor (CPM) will be done soon**. An advert was posted in a local daily (the Daily Nation Friday 16th. July,2010) on Expression of interest (EOI). Members were asked to encourage qualified firms and NGOs to apply for the positions, respectively.

WSSCC NETWORKING & KNOWLEDGE MANAGEMENT

Ina Jurga informed members that WSSCC comprised of a number of departments of which GSF and Networking and Knowledge Management were part of. She indicated that she was impressed by the workshop organization and vibrant discussions and looked forward to continued partnership with the ICC. She said that her department was working in complementarity with the GSF activities but its support was independent of the GSF implementation structure. Networking and Knowledge Management department is actively involved in capacity building of countries to meet the hygiene and sanitation needs and the millennium development goals. There are 146 member countries in WSSCC and [Kenya was one of the key members](#). Ina indicated that the institutional arrangements which had been put in place so far were very impressive. The meeting learnt that different countries had different institutional arrangement but WSSCC did

not restrict countries to any administrative structures arrangement. It was indicated that WSSCC was ready to support the training of the community services organization capacity building activities.

WSSCC had worked hard to streamline the different approaches which had been developed and had developed one common manual for sanitation training. Members requested for distribution of the manuals and they were promised to avail the manuals adequate for the organizations need.

PRESENTATION BY THE TECHNICAL WORKING GROUPS

Members were informed that three Technical Working Groups namely, Household Water Treatment & Storage (HHWTS), School Water Sanitation & Hygiene plus community (SWASH+), and Hygiene Promotion (HP). Technical working groups are constituent members of the inter agency coordinating committee and inform the sector on the strategies to be applied in a particular issue. The groups were to draw annual work plans and terms of references which would guide their operations. The terms of references were drawn about: Background information of ICC, purpose, roles and relationship with the Ministry of Public Health and Sanitation, the Objectives of the group, Annual ministerial operation Plans extracts, coordination, Membership, convening and the frequencies of meeting.

Members were informed that all the groups had agreed to meet on quarterly basis. However ad hoc meetings could be called to address urgent issues related to the group as and when need arises.

All the groups identified Monitoring and Evaluation as a cross cutting need and required urgent redress. The groups were to do an inventory of all the members.

It was suggested that the work groups could publish to the general public on their call for membership and a specified criteria could be used to determine if an organization qualified to join. It was agreed that only organizations which were actively involved in the sanitation and hygiene activities could be enrolled

as new members. It was suggested that the level of participation of working groups be decentralized to lower levels in which some organizations with lower level involvement be encouraged to participate in district environmental sanitation working groups or so.

It was agreed that the technical working groups draw their work plans along the ministerial work plan on water sanitation and hygiene.

The meeting was informed that the government had provided policy and strategic frameworks to guide the implementation of sanitation and hygiene activities. Among them were the Environmental Sanitation & Hygiene policy, School Health Policy, Environmental Sanitation & Hygiene strategies and guidelines, Child Survival Strategy and ministry of water & irrigation hygiene related policies.

UNICEF promised to immediately support the production of water sanitation and hygiene inter agency committee newsletter to be done before the next ICC meeting. The newsletter would publish the deliberation successes and challenges encountered during WASH activities implementation. An editorial team was selected in which all the conveners and co-conveners were to give their input along what had been achieved since their formation. The first editorial meeting was to be held on 27th July 2010 at the Chief Public Health Officer's office.

ANNUAL OPERATION PLANS, NATIONAL SANITATION WORK, NATIONAL WASH M&E AND THE WASH PROGRAM ACHEIVEMNT

The meeting was taken through ministerial annual operation plans 5 & 6. Key achievements made were highlighted. The meeting was informed that most of the plans were effected and most targets had been met. The meeting agreed that the annual operation plan and the national sanitation action plan needed to be shared widely to inform stakeholders' plans. The meeting was informed

was informed that there was a weak national sanitation and hygiene sector monitoring and evaluation system to inform the operations. It was agreed that drafts monitoring and evaluation plans and tools would be shared to all the members to input for the improvements. The meeting was told that UNICEF project offered services with focus on vulnerable groups especially women and children and the most marginalized regions of Kenya. Among the immediate expected results were:

- 600,000 people and 44 health facilities in 20 arid and semi-arid and flood prone districts consistently use improved water by 2013.
- 600,000 people and 44 health facilities in 20 arid and semi-arid and flood prone districts consistently use improved sanitation by 2013.
- 120,000 households in arid and semi-arid and flood prone districts practicing improved hygiene care practices by 2013.
- Women and child friendly systems/policies for survival and development in two partner ministries are developed and implemented effectively and the government capacity strengthened to lead monitor, coordinate and implement the policies by 2013.
- 200,000 school children in 20 arid, semi-arid and flood prone districts consistently use improved WASH facilities by 2013.
- 1,000,000 vulnerable people in emergency prone areas; drought, floods, cholera, are timely provided with water, sanitation and hygiene services.

The meeting was told that the total cost of the project was to cost 242,937,176 million shillings.

Presentation By CEDS.

Members were informed that the CEDS hygiene promotion and marketing project was doing well in the hardship areas in Turkana. Members were taken through pictorial slides to appreciate some of the best practices and successes the project had achieved so far. It was suggested that the group be strengthened to continually reach the marginalized areas.

FIELD LEARNING EVENT:

Members were divided into three groups to visit different intervention areas namely: Community Led Total Sanitation (CLTS); Integrated House Hold Water Treatment and Storage and School Water Sanitation and Hygiene Plus community (SWASH+). Members were taken through a structured checklist to guide the learning process.

COMMUNITY LED TOTAL SANITATION

The group went to one of the villages which had been declared open defecation free (ODF). Within the households and homesteads the group identified the following success story;

- 100% latrine coverage,
- 100% provision of leaky tins and ash for hand washing and as a desiccant,
- 100% of the households had dish racks,
- initiation of Income Generation Activities for sustainability and cohesion,
- active and Committed 50 community health workers dedicated to ensure that good hygiene and sanitation practices were sustained in the community,
- well kept community based morbidity and mortality chalk board to monitor health trends related to sanitation and hygiene practices and that the project received unrivalled support from the provincial administration

The community members said that the motivating factors were the fact the through the intervention many diseases had been prevented and this led to development.

The group cited volunteerism, floods and difficult geophysical conditions as the key challenges. It was recommended that:

- Linkages for support from ministries and organizations

- Scale up of the technologies to the neighbouring villages
- Capacity building for safe water
- Capacity building for entrepreneurship skills
- Enhancement of Support supervision
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INTEGRATED HOUSE HOLD WATER TREATMENT AND STORAGE

The group reported that this was another success story in which communities and schools had adopted the technologies for making their water safe. Some of the interventions were

- Hygiene education in 44 schools
- Training of School patrons
- School Health clubs were formed
- Cultivation of nutrition gardens

The driving force towards the adoption of the technology was Perceived reduction of diseases and some profit for selling of chlorine tabs etc and pots.

There were some challenges identified including;

- There is dependence on donors
- Lack of operation maintenance of hand washing stations in some schools
- Some facilities like the septic tank system were not in use

The key learning points were

- There is a strong community acceptance of the different technologies
- A very good understanding of the relation between sanitation and hygiene and disease transmission

SCHOOL WATER SANITATION AND HYGIENE PLUS THE COMMUNITY

The group visited two different school wash models:

- 1) Implementation through partners
- 2) Direct funding to the school (enhanced KESSP model)

Observations

1. Hand washing facilities + soap had been availed
2. Toilets were clean and structural sound
3. Water had been provided

4. both places have pure black, very unstable soil
5. Token and award for good hygiene behavior and engagement in School Health Competition
6. Regular exchange among the “direct funding” schools in the zone

Challenges

- National design standard don't work in each situation (handwashing units requires a constant piped water supply, and soil condition / local material)
- Affordability of soap, toilet paper and disinfectants
- Slow acceptability of project by community of 1st project (stealing water)
- Inadequate water supply

Recommendations

- Provide kitchen garden, tree planting to take care of surface runoff water from the hadwashing.
- Stronger and –long term engagement of community
- Direct funding approach should be preferred

CONCLUSIONS

The Inter agency Coordinating committee had met some of its targets some of which include;

- Field knowledge exchange was far the most interesting activity of this meeting
- formation of active working group,
- continued networking and collaboration among members,
- spelling out of annual plans and among others.

Different challenges as highlighted earlier need to be addressed.

All the interventions on the ground had started producing visible and perceived results. The most important issue was to continually seek innovations for the betterment of the technologies in use currently and fully engage the community for the sustainability of the behavior changes and the project as a whole.

The next meeting was scheduled for October in Mombasa. It is expected that all the technical working groups shall have an inventory of all their members and the newly recruited, that the terms of references and the work plans shall have been completed and shared among members and an inter agency coordinating committee newsletter shall have been completed.

The meeting was closed by the Provincial Public Health Officer- Rift Valley Province who lauded its success. Beth, the WSSCC country WASH representative, in passing a vote of thanks, congratulated the office of the CPHO for the success of the meeting; she also thanked all participants for availing themselves and actively participating and called for fast tracking of our GSF activities.

The meeting closed at 5.00pm with prayers

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