



Strengthen cholera preparedness and response in Yemen by improving management and implementation of WASH interventions

Project Information

- ◆ Department: Public Health Programs
- ◆ Unit: Public Environmental Health

SCOPE OF WORK

The project's main goal is to upgrade the Rapid response Team (RRT) training curriculum recently supported by GHD to integrate the water, sanitation and hygiene (WASH) component to ensure best practices and risk mitigation methods.

BENEFICIARIES

This project intends to reach District Health Management Team (DHMT)/RRT including WASH and surveillance officer at targeted priority districts

GEOGRAPHICAL COVERAGE

The project will be implemented in Yemen including 30 targeted priority districts

PROJECT DESCRIPTION

GHD will train at least two members of the District Health Management Team (DHMT)/RRT including WASH and surveillance officer in each of the 30 targeted priority districts. Criteria for selecting the districts will be based on the risk assessment and vulnerability indicators in addition to the availability of rapid response teams in the selected districts. The training will be conducted over a six-day period focusing on strengthening capacities to better respond to emergencies and work with local communities to provide solutions for WASH related challenges. The selected DHMT members will be trained to perform RRT tasks related to healthcare waste management and its impact on the environment, water purification methods and safety guidelines, test water quality and prepare stock and Chlorine solutions, and ability to timely respond to WASH related emergencies and outbreaks in their respective governorates and districts. It is worth noting, that in order to maximize engagement and response, GHD will carry out a district level planning meeting involving MOPHP, Ministry of Water, WHO, UNICEF to plan and schedule this training.

Further, GHD will develop a monitoring system to capture the effect of WASH training and will work jointly with the WASH staff/RRT to develop these indicators and their data collection tools. Collection of data will be piloted in two districts. Examples of key indicators to be monitored include: availability of WASH/Cholera preparedness and response plan for districts, timeliness of activating a response team, timeliness and completeness of reporting cholera outbreaks to the relevant districts, tracking the availability of WASH supplies at health facility, participation in investigating and responding to Cholera outbreak.

Project Start and End Date	June 15, 2021- June 14, 2022
Partner Organizations	Ministry of Health in the Yemen
Funded by	Department of Health and Human Services Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC)

PROJECT PHASES

The project involves three phases:

Phase I – Preparation: Customize RRT curriculum with WASH interventions for district level use including community and household level, develop a monitoring tool (including indicators, data collection tools) to capture the effect of WASH training,

Phase II – Implementation: Conduct six-day training workshops on WASH interventions and cholera epidemiology for 32 health professionals including RRT and community workers in Dhamar Governorate, Collect information against the performance indicators under the developed monitoring system

Phase III: Documentation: Report on the effect of WASH training using the performance indicators identified under the developed monitoring mechanism, Report of the six-day training workshops on WASH interventions and cholera epidemiology for 32 health professionals including RRT and community workers.

Currently . . .

Water is a scarce resource in Yemen. Before the current civil war began in 2015, experts already warned that Yemen's capital city, Sana'a, might run out of water in 10 years. In a BBC report, they noted that this water problem is exasperated by farmers drilling underground wells without any government regulations. Destruction of wastewater treatment plants is contributing to poor sanitation in Yemen. Without facilities to treat wastewater, raw sewage is usually diverted to poor neighborhoods and agricultural lands. This leads to further contamination of local water wells and groundwater sources

What's next . . .

The need of sanitation in Yemen highlights continuing problems as well as several efforts to address them. Water was already a scarce resource in Yemen even before the current conflict which started in 2015. As the Yemeni civil war continues, the effects of the deteriorating sanitation in Yemen are more than clear. However, efforts by groups such as GHD and other partners which all together are working to fund preparedness and response in Yemen by improving management and implementation of WASH interventions will improve the Yemen WASH situation in the future.

By Numbers

19.3M

people did not have access to clean water and sanitation in 2018

11,531

suspected cases of cholera in Yemen as of November 2019

32

health professionals including RRT, and community workers will benefit from this project

GHD|EMPHNET Information: Global Health Development (GHD) and Eastern Mediterranean Public Health Network (EMPHNET) works at achieving its mission by responding to public health needs with deliberate efforts that allow for health promotion and disease prevention.

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