

Hygiene Promotion Technical Working Group

Terms of reference

Version Date: 16/04/2020

Background:

As described in the Global WASH Cluster (GWC) Strategic Plan 2016-2020, the GWC's vision is that increased coordination and response quality and capacity of national WASH coordination platforms will result in the improved relevance, quality, coverage and effectiveness of WASH assistance provided to people affected by emergencies.

This was translated into four Strategic Objectives, which were reaffirmed in the Revised GWC Strategic Plan for 2018-2020:

1. Provide timely operational support to national and sub-national humanitarian WASH coordination platforms to meet the TA 6+1 core functions and improve Humanitarian WASH service delivery;
2. Ensure that key WASH stakeholders (sub-national, national and global) have the capacity to coordinate and deliver an appropriate and timely response in emergency;
3. Influence and advocate for an effective humanitarian WASH coordination response and funding;
4. Provide to the Humanitarian WASH actors a timely access to appropriate and accurate knowledge on coordination and response.

Key considerations:

Following discussions with WASH partners over the past year, several gaps and needs were identified in hygiene response to crisis evolving especially around strengthening the coordination of HP at national level in WASH emergencies and capacity building for WASH cluster partners.

In response to the COVID-19 pandemic (December 2019) and absence of a global hygiene promotion coordination platform, multiple initiatives on coordinating and technically supporting hygiene promotion and behaviour change are currently being set up - primarily by academic institutions and the private sector. In addition, several institutes are developing and implementing training on Covid-19 for WASH actors at global / regional and country level.

The creation of the HP TWiG at this stage is in line with the GWC strategic objectives and commitment and vital to i.) enhance the coordination of WASH cluster partners work on hygiene promotion in the context of the Covid-19 and longer-term, ii.) ensure that multiple initiatives are complementary and iii.) in line with existing humanitarian standards,

Main objectives:

Short-term goal: to contribute to the effective coordination of Hygiene Promotion in the Covid-19 pandemic

Specific objectives:

- Objective 1 - Coordination: To ensure that HP related initiatives are coordinated across WASH cluster partners and complementary with new initiatives developed outside of the GWC;
- Objective 2 - Technical support: To provide specific technical guidance to the Covid-19 pandemic (identify existing guidance / develop and/or adapt if needed) to support WASH cluster partners and national WASH cluster strategies to mitigate the PH impact of covid-19;
- Objective 3 - Knowledge management: To develop and share best practices and lessons learned, building upon existing KM platforms;
- Objective 4 - Advocacy: To identify needs for advocacy together with WASH cluster partners and develop / update key advocacy messages if needed, to be communicated through appropriate channels;

Longer-term goal: to coordinate and technically support WASH cluster partner's Hygiene Promotion work

Specific objectives:

- Objective 1 - Coordination: To coordinate the WASH Cluster partners' projects related to Hygiene Promotion;
- Objective 2 – Capacity Building: to build knowledge and capacity in hygiene promotion based on past and ongoing crisis (capacity building needs analysis, roll-out of online, organise trainings with institutes etc.);
- Objective 3 – Knowledge management: to assist the GWC in sharing tools and good practices through existing channels and new platforms if needed;

Membership

As one of its Strategic Principles, the GWC works in partnership with all WASH actors - government, local NGOs, INGOs, development NGOs, academia, private sector - to find solutions to issues arising in humanitarian contexts. The TWiG members commit to participate on a yearly basis.

The re-activation of the Hygiene Promotion TWiG will initiate with invitations to the original TWiG members and thereafter draw in additional resource agencies. The final composition of the TWiG will be agreed by the Strategic Advisory Group (SAG).

Working Group Structure and Modalities:

- The detailed objectives and corresponding work plan are to be designed for a yearly period, after which the plan should be revised and updated as needed.
- TWiG meetings will be held on a monthly basis or ad hoc in case of specific issues.
- The first meeting will be held virtually in April 2020 with a representative of each member organization present. The agenda will include the review of the specific objectives and development of a work plan focusing primarily on the short-term goal related to the Covid-19 pandemic.

- The following meetings will be held virtually, meeting minutes will be done by members on a rotating basis
- Meetings should be done in-person at least once a year, ideally as part of the yearly GWC meeting.
- Members commit to meet the TWiG responsibilities and outputs and to provide feedback on documents and emails exchanges as and when required, to actively and consistently participate in meetings/teleconferences and to provide timely contributions to TWiG work plan/ outputs, and to demonstrate a commitment to the TWiG by contributing to activities.
- After one year, the SAG will review the Twig For progress against the work plan, to measure achievements and review the need for continuation.

Glossary

TA 6+1 – Transformative Agenda 6+1 Core functions for cluster coordination

TWiG – Technical Working group

PH – Public Health

SAG – Strategic Advisory Group of GWC

GWC – Global WASH Cluster

IPC – Infection Prevention Control (pillar 6 of SPRP)

RCCE – Risk Communication and Community Engagement (pillar 2 of SPRP)

SPRP – Strategic Preparedness and Response Plan (WHO Led plan for COVID containment)

GHRP – Global Humanitarian Response Plan