

Water and Sanitation Group (WSG) Meeting Minutes of Meeting

Venue: *Ru-WatSIP conference room/ MRRD*
Chaired by: *Eng. Ghulam Qader, Executive Director of Ru-WatSIP*
Minutes by: *Naseer Ahmad Nazari, Reporting Officer*
Meeting started at: *10:00 am*
Meeting Ended at: *12:30 pm*
Date of the Meeting: *25 March 2015*
Present Agencies: *MoPH, MoE, UNICEF, SCA, DACAAR, HELVETAS, GIZ, Medair, BORDA, Afghanaid, ACF, IMC, RI, SI, Ru-WatSIP and a volunteer member*
Absent Agencies: *MUDA, World Bank , NCA, AKF, Save the Children,*

No.	Agenda Point	Discussion	Result/Decision	Action by:
1.	Brief introduction/ chairing of the meeting and review of previous action points.– (Eng. Ghulam Qader)	<p>The chairperson welcomed the participants and requested them to introduce themselves.</p> <p>He briefly went over the actions points of the previous WSG meeting minutes and briefed the attendees on the progress.</p> <p>Next, the chair person reported that Leendert Vijselaar has retired and is no longer working in DACAAR. Leendert was mentioned a supportive partner and his work in Afghanistan, particularly, in WASH was appreciated by the chairperson.</p> <p>The participants were reminded about the agenda point on deputation or co-leadership for WSG</p> <p>The chairperson also updated the participants on celebrating the World Water Day (WWD) that will be held on Wednesday 1 April 2015 in MRRD.</p>	<p>All the participants introduced themselves. Reports on most of the action points are reflected in the previous WSG meeting minutes.</p> <p>Mr. Betman has taken over Leendert’s tasks and responsibilities.</p> <p>The agenda point of the previous meeting on deputation or co-leadership for WSG was raised again and MRRD will keep this as a live agenda and asked the participants to internalize it, discuss with their superiors and be ready for discussion and action in the coming WSG meetings</p>	<p>The chairperson/ Participants</p> <p>Betman.</p> <p>Partners</p>
2.	Technical committee for revision of WASH policy (line	The issue of which meeting is to be specified for talking over the revision of WASH policy was discussed.	It was decided that the revision of WASH policy is to be discussed in the technical working groups, and the results are to be presented in the WSG meeting. Thus, this	Task force committee/ TWGs/ Eng. Joyan

	ministries, NGO partners and donors) - Eng. Joyan.	<p>It was very much emphasized that the policy should be concise, WASH relevant and free of unnecessary and irrelevant topics.</p> <p>The name of the policy was also discussed. It was said if the policy is entitled (<i>National WASH policy</i>), it need to cover a number of other issues as well. However, if it is <i>Rural WASH Policy</i>, then the current paper can suffice.</p> <p>In the current Rural WASH Policy, lack of capacity building, scaling up, monitoring and evaluation, sustainability and Disaster Risk Reduction (DRR), highlights humanitarian WASH and transition of WASH cluster were mentioned major gaps.</p>	<p>issue was planned to be discussed in WTWG meeting, supposed to be held on Tuesday, 31 March 2015 at DACAAR.</p> <p>All agreed that the current paper is Rural WASH Policy, and since then it is to be written <i>Rural WASH Policy</i>.</p> <p>The task force committee was to take these gaps into account while working on the revision of the policy.</p>	<p>Taskforce committee</p> <p>Taskforce committee</p>
3	Update SACOSAN preparation (country paper, etc.) (Eng. Safi)	<p>The participants of the meeting were briefed on information about SACOSAN conference and ICWG meetings.</p> <p>The next SACOSAN conference (VI) is supposed to be held in January 2016.</p> <p>For that SACOSAN conference, each member country is required to prepare a country paper and lead a thematic session. Thus, Afghanistan is to prepare a country paper and take preparation for leading Hygiene Promotion thematic session and gather information on this topic from the region.</p> <p>Outlines for the country paper and the thematic session (Hygiene Promotion) were shown to all the participants.</p>	<p>The outlines for the country paper were presented and agreed to be prepared with wide participation from sector ministries, I/N NGOs and UN agencies as well as CBOs, CSO and individuals involved in Sanitation promotion. The thematic session to be clarified in a meeting of the steering committee.</p> <p>To discuss this issue, the steering committee meeting will be called on Sunday, 8 April 2015.</p>	<p>MoPH/ MoE/ MRRD/concerned UN and INGOs.</p> <p>Eng. Safi</p>

4	<p>Reports from WTWG (DACAAR-), HTWG (MoPH-Dr. Hemmat), and STWG meetings (Eng.Naeem).</p>	<p>The participants of the WSG meeting were updated on the STWG meeting held on 23 March as below:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ➤ The participants of STWG meeting had agreed on the tool (Questionnaire) for the CSO led survey that will be conducted this year. The tool includes all types of the latrines currently in use in the country. Maybe a very small percentage if not match with the list of the latrines, they can be registered under any other types. There is need to elaborate more on the definitions. ➤ The list of available latrines was finalized and agreed up on, but the definition are not yet finalized. <p>The participants were updated on HTWG meetings as below:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ➤ Presentation on WASH KAP survey findings had been delivered. ➤ Achievements of Hygiene Promotion Campaign in 2014 were discussed through which they have trained teachers, religious leaders and transferred hygiene messages to households. ➤ Implementation manuals and hygiene promotion plans of the partners had discussed in HTWG. ➤ The national Hygiene Communication Strategy had been presented in the meeting was to be signed by H.E minister of MoPH. Once it was endorsed, will be published. <p>Water Technical Working (WTWG) meeting: The WTWG meeting was not yet held.</p>	<p>The definitions of improved and unimproved latrines are to be discussed in the coming STWG meeting and will be finalized.</p> <p>The KAP survey report will be shared by Dr.Aelmi.</p> <p>It is to be held on Tuesday, 31 March at DACAAR.</p>	<p>Eng. Naeem</p> <p>Dr. Sharifullah Aelmi, MoPH</p> <p>Dr. Betman.</p>
5	AOB	<p>The chairperson requested all the technical working groups to come up with their plans for the year 2015 and share with WSG members.</p> <p>The MIS/GIS manager of Ru-WatSIP proposed conducting a separate meeting for MIS/GIS focal points of the WASH Sector so that they can discuss MIS-related issues and enhance coordination among the partners.</p>	<p>The focal points of the Technical Groups agreed and are to share their plans.</p> <p>It was decided that the MIS issue is to be followed up in the WSG meetings rather than in a separate one till the system is fully operationalized. Afterwards, they can call for separate meetings when there is necessity.</p>	<p>HTWG/STWG/WTWG</p> <p>Zemary /MIS</p>

List of Attendees in WSG Monthly Meeting

Date: March 25, 2015

Time: 10:00am- 12:30 pm

Venue: Ru-WatSIP Conference Room

NO	Name	Title	Organization	Contact No.	Email Address
1	Zeenat Nisaa	Water Quality expert	GIZ	0796192658	zeenat.nisaa@giz.de
2	A. Samay Saquib	WASH Specialist	Volunteer	0776033040	samay.saquib@gmail.com
3	Aziz Ahmad J.	Head of M&E	Ru-WatSIP	070026474	ahmad.joyan@mrrd.gov.af
4	Eng. Meharabi	WASH Coordianator	Afghanaid	0792494082	jmmehrabi@afghanaid.org.uk
5	Eng. Ali Akbari	Head of WASH	MoPH	0706713098	muhammadaliakbari@gmail.com
6	S. Nasrullah	WASH Manager	ACF	0799292612	washamtmanager@af.missions-acf.org
7	Dr. Sharifullah	N. H. Officer	HPD/MoPH	0789098909	sharifalemi@hotmail.com
8	Dr. Hemat	HP director	HPD/MoPH	0706941242	s_hemat@hotmail.com
9	Amy Jennings	P. Coordinator	BORDA	0789108566	jennings@borda-afg.org
10	Romal Omari	WASH PM	Helvetas	0775375363	Romal.omari@helvetas.org
11	Sayed Burhan	WASH Officer	Helvetas	0773344610	sayed.burhan@helvetas.org
12	Rahela	WASH Officer	Helvetas	0779522474	rahelaforugh@yahoo.com
13	Ahmad Suhail	ISD Engineer	MoE	0799612711	ah.sohail1990@gmail.co
14	Najeebullah No.	WASH DHoD	ACF	0778678354	washdod@af.mission-acf.org
15	Eng. Anwar	PM	Medair	0799444446	Watsaneng-afg@medair.org
16	Dr. Betman	WASH Advisor	DACAAR		betman.bhandari@dacaar.org
17	Eng. M. Yousaf	WASH Coordianator	IMC	0799308786	ymazhar@InternationalMedicalCorps.org
18	Dost Mohammad	Senr. Eng.	RI	0700697727	Dost.sediqi@ri.org

19	M. A. Safi	N. P. A	Ru-WatSIP	0782761827	m.asafi@mrrd.gov.af
20	Zemary Hamidi	Head of MIS/GIS	Ru-WatSIP	0788887989	zemary.hamidi@mrrd.gov.af
21	Ali Reza Azizi	Dep. WASH Co.	SI	0777892802	Afg.cdm@solidarites-afghanistan.org
22	TadesseZerihun	Senr. Advisor	SCA	0705021845	tzer66@yahoo.com
23	Tahir Khalil	EU. Manager	SCA	0700473098	tahir.khalil@sca.org.af
24	Zahid	Senr. P. Manager	Ru-WatSIP	07874944	fazilomer.zahid@sca.org.af
25	Takashi	WASH Pr.	UNICEF		thonda@unicef.org
26	LucksonKatsi	WASH Spcialist	UNICEF	0798507601	lkatasi@unicef.org
27	Qumrun	WASH Spcialist	UNICEF	079507659	qnahar@unicef.org
28	Naseer Ahmad	Reporting Officer	Ru-WatSIP	0789343394	naseer.nazari@mrrd.gov.af
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