

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: *12:10 pm*
Date of the Meeting: *25th Feb 2015*
Present Agencies: *MUDA, MoPH, MoE, World Bank, UNICEF, SCA, NCA, , DACAAR, HELVETAS, Caritas Germany, Medair, AKF, OHW, Afghanaid, , WHO, Oxafam, Save the Children, IMC, Ru-WatSIP and a volunteer member*
Absent Agencies: *ACF, AUWSSC, SI,*

No.	Agenda Point	Discussion	Result/Decision	Action by:
1.	Brief introduction/ chairing of the meeting and review of previous action points.– (Eng. Ghulam Qader)	The chairperson welcomed the participants and requested them to introduce themselves. Then he briefly went over the actions points of the previous WSG meeting minutes and briefed the attendees on the progress.	All the participants introduced themselves. Reports on most of the action points are reflected in other agenda items.	The chairperson/ participants.
2.	Technical committee for revision of WASH policy (line ministries, NGO partners and donors)	The formation of a committee and its membership for the revision and updating the WASH policy was discussed. MRRD with the support of UNICEF and DACAAR was agreed. It was also proposed and agreed that the line ministries including MoE, MoPH, MUDA and MRRD and I/NGOs are to be part of this committee. The lead is to get feedback and comments from other partners and incorporate in the paper, and then report to WSG members. The chairperson called on the I/NGOs to work jointly with committee in the revision of the policy	For the committee, Momin Rad and Eng. Mukhles from MoE; Dr. Hemat and Eng. Ali from MoPH, and Eng. Hafiza and Fatima Jafari from MUDA were nominated. Similarly, Eng. Meharabi from Afghanaid and M. Taher from SCA volunteered to be part of this committee. Eng. Qader also asked Eng. Saquib to be part of the committee which was agreed.	MoE/MoPH/MUDA Ru-WatSIP/ Afghanaid/SCA

		Eng. Saquib also proposed that one member should be introduced from Humanitarian WASH, therefore, Fredric nominated from WASH Cluster to jointly work with this committee.		
3	Update on ICWG meeting (Eng. Safi)	<p>The participants were updated on the 7th Inter Country Working Group (ICWG) meeting, which was held at Dhaka on 27 and 28 of January 2015.</p> <p>The aim of that meeting was:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ➤ Discussing the progress of the commitments each member state has declared in SACOSAN V. ➤ Discussing the objectives of SACOSAN VI. ➤ Discussing how to get prepared for the upcoming SACOSAN supposed to be held on 11-13 January 2016. <p>Regarding preparation for the 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.</p> <p>Outlines for the country paper and the thematic session (Hygiene Promotion) alongside with working plan and responsible person were presented, details of which are in the presentation, already has been shared by Eng. Sahib Safi.</p>	<p>All concerned ministries (MoPH, MoE, MUDA and MRRD) and I/NGOs as well as UN agencies are to support MRRD in the preparation of the country paper and come up with a research like paper based on facts and figures in hygiene education and possibly thematic topics assigned to other 7 countries.</p> <p>It was very much emphasized that the paper should be a novel one and be developed on facts so that it can give a real image of WASH status in the country.</p> <p>The paper and other details will be discussed in the STWG meeting.</p> <p>The steering committee already in existence will be reactivated and will call its meetings shortly.</p>	<p>MoPH/ MoE/ MRRD/concerned UN and INGOs.</p> <p>Eng. Safi</p>

4	Reports from WTWG (DACAAR-), HTWG (MoPH-Dr. Hemmat), and STWG meetings (Eng.Naeem).	<p>The participants of the WSG meeting were updated on the WTWG meeting held at January as follow:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ➤ Review of WASH policy had been discussed. ➤ Gaps and challenge in water sector had been talked about. <p>Regarding HTWG meeting, held at January, updates were provided by Dr. Javed as below:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ➤ Presentation on WASH KAP survey findings has been delivered. ➤ Achievements of Hygiene Promotion Campaign in 2014 were discussed. <p>The attendees were also updated on STWG meeting, held on 23 February 2015, in which the following issues were discussed:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ➤ Definitions and criteria for improved and unimproved latrines. ➤ The section of CSO survey tool /questionnaire for gathering data on WASH including improved and unimproved latrines was presented and agreed to be shared with partners for comments and amendment. 	<p>The baseline KAP survey was conducted in eight districts of four provinces (Kandahar, Nangarhar, Badghis and Bamyan)</p> <p>Once the comments and revision of the WASH part of the CSO questionnaire is finalized, it will be translated into Pashto and Dari languages so that the public can understand and will be sent to CSO.</p>	Eng. Naeem.
5	MIS/GIS orientation (Zemary Hamidi)	<p>An orientation presentation on MIS/GIS was delivered and some of the features of this system were shown to the participants.</p> <p>It was recommended that the participants should be asked for what type of information they required to obtain through MIS/GIS system, so that those requirements are meet by the system.</p>	The members were asked to introduce MIS focal points from their organizations to the MIS orientation workshop supposed to be held on 4 th March 2015.	Zemary Hamidi/ Participants.
6	Brief on 3rd International Fecal Sludge Management conference” in Hanoi, Vietnam (Eng. Noor)	Eng. M. Noor could not participate. Therefore, the presentation was not delivered.	This agenda point was postponed to the upcoming STWG meeting, supposed to be held in March 2015.	Eng. M. Noor-MUDA

7	<p>AoB:</p> <p>1. Discussion on Celebrating World Water Day (WWD)</p> <p>2. 2015 budget allocation by Gov. and other partners to the WASH sector;</p> <p>3. How WSG meeting should be better sustained?</p>	<p>It was discussed on what to do to celebrate the World Water Day. There were some suggestions like:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ➤ Messages about water to be conveyed through mobiles to public. ➤ A special meeting to be held in which brief presentations will be delivered on water. <p>The participants were informed that government and other line ministries have allocated US 10 million dollars. Likely, MoF has assured allocating a small size of budget for trainings for the WASH sector. MoE also informed a less amount of budget allocated by the government and UNICEF for the WASH sector.</p> <p>It was suggested to have a tracking system like OCHA for for the partners to voluntarily report their WASH funding each year and the data to be inserted in the WSG website.</p> <p>Regular support and capacity building interventions to MRRD for leading WSG was proposed. This support was suggested in the form of co-leadership or deputation by some of the key players in the sector. This way regularity in the meetings, readiness of the WSG to accept additional responsibilities such as humanitarian WASH and constant follow-up in the actions will be ensured.</p>	<p>It was agreed that a meeting will be called for and the mechanism of celebrating this day is to be discussed. Eng. Qader will also raise this with SCWAM and see if they want to be part of the celebration. Otherwise a celebration in the WASH context will be tried</p> <p>For raising funds, MRRD was suggested to develop a fund tracking system and put it on Website. A format to be developed for this purpose and shared with the partners for volunteered reporting</p> <p>Some partners agreed to provide support to MRRD but not in the form of co-lead, or deputy. Others due to time constraint did not share their views. The proposal need to be followed with partners in the coming WSGs.. However MRRD will ask some partners to chair WSG meetings in case the management of MRRD is not available for official reasons.</p>	<p>MRRD/UNICEF</p> <p>Ru-WatSIP</p> <p>Ru-WatSIP/ WSG partners</p>
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List of Participants in WSG meeting of February 25, 2015

Date: February 25, 2015		Time: 10:00am -12:00 pm		Venue: Ru-WatSIP Conference Room	
No	Name	Title/Position	Organization	Contact No	Email Address
1	A. Samay Saquib	WASH Specialist	Volunteer	0776033040	samay.saquib@gmail.com
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