

Minutes of Meeting | 21st of February | UNICEF India Office WASH and Shelter Sector Committee

The combined meeting for WASH and Shelter Sector Committees was held on the 21st of February 2020 at the UNICEF India office. List of sector committee members, members participated, and the agenda of the meeting is attached in the Annex 1 and 2. The agenda wise key discussions, decisions and actions points are as below:

Agenda item 1: Background of NAEPR and Sector committees

Key Discussions:

- 1.1 A presentation with briefing of Sphere India sector committees, Vision, results and specific outputs for 2020 were presented to sector committee members.
- 1.2 The scope of the sector committee should evolve beyond coordination to include larger aspect of collaborations. Accordingly, sector committee should develop a multiyear collaborative program workplan, lead and jointly monitor the progress with projects to be undertaken by sector committee members and larger WASH sector development networks.
- 1.3 Multi year sector plan should converge with priority areas of corresponding Govt. Departments.
- 1.4 The plan should be inclusive of Govt and all stakeholders.

Agenda item 2: Priority issues and programming areas

Key Discussions:

- 2.1 Specific indicators and targets should be agreed for mainstreaming DRR in WASH and Shelter sectors.
- 2.2 SFDRR and linked CCA indicators and targets may be converged/ contextualised for the purpose.
- 2.3 The focus on children and other vulnerable groups, especially covering core commitments for children.
- 2.4 Development actors should be involved for DRR mainstreaming in linked SDG indicators and targets.
- 2.5 COVID 19 and preparedness for WASH was discussed.
- 2.6 What role CSOs can play and how the committees can steer EPR for COVID 19
- 2.7 Oxfam has a policy for staff and community preparedness which will be shared with committee members.
- 2.8 CSOs can play possible role in BCC, Hand WASH messaging, IPC and community preparedness.
- 2.9 As a strategy limiting crowding at water points was suggested.
- 2.10 Concerns of exclusion with such limiting access was raised. It needed to be planned properly.
- 2.11 URS in preparedness may be activated. Agencies with varied preparedness measures can share. All those who have experiences in BCC, Hand WASH messaging can be mapped.

Action Point:

- 2.12 Activation of URS for COVID -19. URS matrix to be shared and agencies with preparedness capacities be mapped.
- 2.13 Oxfam to share its COVID – 19 WASH preparedness guidelines.

Agenda item 3: Revise TOR of Sector Committee

Key Discussions:

- 3.1 The ToR was briefly introduced. Team has incorporated points from OCHA clusters also.
- 3.2 OCHA cluster experience has been more for fragile Governance context. We need to see relevant and adaptation for Indian context.
- 3.3 A case study of WASH cluster in Ethiopia was suggested which has a lot similar context.
- 3.4 Unicef will share 6+1 core functions for sector coordination and also Strategic Plan Framework used in Ethiopia.
- 3.5 In India WASH key actions are on concurrent list of STATES and Centres. In States there is lot of variation of which department deals with which sector. So, contextual adaptations to the states will be needed.

3.6 Ideally Govt should be part / lead the committee. That's the aspiration. For more ownership of Government, representatives from linked departments should be invited to join the meeting and at later stage meetings should be hosted there.

3.7 A high level meeting with Govt linked Ministries and schemes are planned every quarter. Representatives from committee who already have connections were requested to lead for liaison and briefing,

3.8 A lot of our work is more concrete and visible at state levels like in Kerala , Odisha , Bihar etc. If we keep sharing the same with Govt line ministries at centre also, it will help build the trust and partnership.

3.9 Briefing points be developed for synergy among all representing committee with different Govt and other stakeholders.

3.10 . The number of members in the committee should be an odd number to help decision making using voting when needed.

Actions

3.11 Members to send in their inputs on TORs by 29th Feb. After that it will be finalised over email or skype call meeting.

3.12 Unicef to share 6+1 core functions and Strategic Plan Framework for sector coordination.

Agenda Item 4: Revise TOR of Sector Chair/Lead organisation

Action: 4.1 Members to send inputs to TOR by 29th Feb. TOR to be finalised over emails or in next skype call.

Agenda Item 5: Draft structure for policy guideline to be adapted from global sector (cluster) guideline and experience.

Key Discussions/Actions

5.1 There needs to be distinction between the 1st and the 5th sections of the draft policy guidelines.

5.2 Section no. 3 should be rephrased to 'Role of stakeholders.'

5.3 The committee should develop some low-input high-frequency indicators in WASH & Shelter upon which the committee can report performance regularly.

5.4 Further detail the sections in policy guidelines.

5.5 Study the Strategic Operational Framework for Yemen so as to substantiate the policy framework.

5.6 Need to develop a series of indicators to gauge the coordination among sector committee members and external stakeholders and include it in the policy framework.

5.7 The Framework should have a section on lessons learnt after each disaster.

5.8 Urban disasters should also be an area of focus in the framework.

5.9 The drafting-process and the document should be owned by Govt.

Agenda item 6: Dates and Milestones for Sector in NAEPR.

Key Discussions: 6.1 The NAEPR timeline and the quarter-wise expected outputs were discussed. Enclosed as Annex 3

Agenda Item 7: Draft agenda of sector consultation for NPDRR pre event and NPDRR main event

Key Discussions:

7.1 The Draft Agenda for the sector consultation for NPDRR pre-event was shared and discussed

Decisions/ Actions:

7.2 A session should be incorporated before the concluding session so as to consolidate the discussions held during the entire day, group works and chart the way forward.

7.3 Speakers be briefed on the topic of presentation which should be different for different speakers to avoid repetition.

7.4 The letters to concerned official in Ministries to be written by NIDM. The committee members can then follow up on that.

Agenda Item 8: AOB and other discussions.

Key Discussions

- 8.1 There is generally a lag in providing for financial support between the onset of disaster and disaster-response. Some planning should be done for forecast based financing (FBF).
- 8.2 Sphere India has done some capacity building on FBF with IFRC and WHH. German Govt and donors have an interest in it.
- 8.3 A study on the public finance mechanism to disaster-response may be undertaken with Public Finance Institute.

Actions

- 8.4 WAP protection to share the report on FBF
- 8.5 Unicef with India water forum is organising consultations in three states for World Water Day on 22nd of March. If other committee members are organising the same, they can share the details.
- 8.6 Inputs received from AIDMI for the Shelter sector committee was discussed to be included in as part of key program issues and priorities for shelter sector multiyear plan.
- 8.7 For doing the business of committee, the following task groups and actions were proposed to be completed by 29th Feb:
 - Nomination and selection of Chair and Co Chair
 - Govt Relationships and advocacy
 - Collaborative Plan and finances
 - Communications as a cross sectoral component with other sectors



WASH and Shelter Sector Committee Meeting, 21st of February, 2020 at UNICEF India office

Annexure I: List of Participants

Registration for Sector Committee Meeting for WASH and Shelter		
Sr. No.	Attendee	Organization
1.	Arumugam K.	WASH Institute
2.	Mihir Joshi	SEEDS
3.	Rahul Chaudhary	
4.	Ajaykumar	NCDHR
5.	Suneel Padale	CARE India
6.	Delhi Rose	Oxfam India
7.	Parmeshwar Patil	Oxfam India
8.	Neha Varma	Oxfam India
9.	Swamini Adityananda Saraswati	GIWA
10.	Justin	Habitat for Humanity India
11.	Sinu	RedR India
12.	Prem Livingstone	EFICOR
13.	Ram Chhetri	World Vision India

14.	Shalini	C4D, UNICEF India
15.	Marje B.	UNICEF India
16.	Shalini	UNICEF India
17.	Sarbjit Singh	UNICEF India
18.	Vikrant, Eilia, Kennedy, Paritosh	Sphere India
Regrets		
1.	Islamic Relief	
2.	CRS	
3.	ADRA	
4.	UNNATI	
5.	Caritas	
6.	IGSSS	
7.	PGVS	
8.	Change Alliance	
9.	Terre Des Homme Foundation	
10.	Water Aid India	
11.	Handicap International	

Annex 2 Agenda of the Meeting

1. Priority Issues and Programming Areas
2. Revise TOR for the sector committee (draft attached)
3. Revise TOR of the sector lead (draft attached)
4. Dates and milestones for the Sector in NAEPR (will be discussed).
5. Draft structure for GO-NGO-UN policy guideline to be adapted from global (sector) cluster guideline and experience (draft attached)
6. Draft agenda of sector consultation for NPDRR pre event.
7. AOB

Annex 3 Dates and Milestones

