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Resilient nations.*

**First Consolidated Annual Report of the Administrative Agent of
the Water, Sanitation and Hygiene in Disaster Prone Communities in Northern Ghana
for the period 1 January to 31 December 2014**

**Multi-Partner Trust Fund Office
Bureau of Management
United Nations Development Programme
[GATEWAY: http://mptf.undp.org](http://mptf.undp.org)**

31 May 2015

EXECUTIVE SUMMARY

Flooding events pose a major challenge in Ghana with a record of 13 events accounting for 33.9% all deaths related to disaster. It is noted that in terms of financial damages and number of people affected by disasters, flooding claimed the highest financial damages and affected the most people. Recurrent flooding events in Northern Ghana usually result in the disruption of WASH services which in turn could lead to significant damages to property and trigger other emergency situations such as outbreaks of diarrhea, cholera, and other water related/borne diseases. The combination of these effects reduces the productivity of the population and the losses they suffer are immense and seriously affect their economic and social circumstances.

DFATD has provided funding support for a Programme of interventions targeted at improving sustainable access to disaster-resilient WASH facilities in 265 communities in 24 Districts for 200,000 people including 50,000 school children in Disaster Prone Communities in Northern Ghana. The Programme is designed to provide improved and resilient WASH facilities and services in disaster-prone communities in the 3 Northern regions of Ghana. It also provides a framework for DFATD to partner with the UN team (in line with UNDAF), and contribute to the national development policy framework (GSGDA, 2010 – 2013) and efforts towards implementation of the Ghana Plan of Action for Disaster Risk Reduction and Climate Change Adaptation.

UN-Habitat, UNDP, UNICEF and WHO are Joint Partner UN organisations (PUNOs) providing technical assistance, facilitation and funds management support for the Programme and collaborating with the Government of Ghana partners in the WASH sector as well as private sector and nongovernmental organizations to achieve the expected Programme outcomes.

The expected ultimate outcome of the Programme is reduced burden of WASH-related diseases among men, women, boys and girls in disaster-prone communities in Northern Ghana. Key elements of the Programme include: increased access to disaster-resilient sanitation and water facilities; improved hygiene behaviours; strengthened disaster resiliency at the community level; and increased regional, district and local capacity for sustainable management of WASH.

During the reporting period, the main focus was on preparatory work to facilitate programme implementation and delivery of planned results. These include:

1. Establishment of a genderised performance measurement framework through a joint effort of the PUNOs, and in consultation with a team from DFATD, to facilitate the eventual monitoring and measurement of the envisaged Programme results
 2. organisation of the first Programme Steering Committee Meeting
 3. collaboration with national partners to establish criteria and adopt a participatory process for the selection of the 265 beneficiary communities for the programme;
 4. preparation of a Programme Implementation Manual;
 5. an ongoing comprehensive baseline survey to establish baselines to facilitate the monitoring of the targets and indicators as outlined in the Programme performance framework
 6. development of scale up plans for district-wide ODF coverage; and
 7. preparation of ToRs for the procurement of consultancies for:
 - WASH technology assessment for the development of a disaster risk reduction (DRR) tool kit (this will facilitate a menu of options for resilient WASH systems in relation to the location and physical characteristics of the communities).
 - Hydrological/hydrogeological assessments in the selected communities to assist the identification of potential sources of surface/ground water to be exploited for resilient water supplies to the communities, schools and safe havens.
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Based on the above, work on providing gender sensitive, child friendly and disaster resilient WASH facilities in the beneficiary communities will begin during the second half of the year, and will continue until the third year. Provisioning will be accompanied by the promotion of measures for the adoption of good hygiene practices for improved health in schools and the communities, the strengthening of community structures and schools capacity to manage the installed facilities, as well as the capacity enhancement of local institutions to plan and facilitate implementation of WASH programmes in Disaster prone areas and assisting with measures to increase the preparedness to disasters by disaster prone communities.

Key milestones for the Programme have been set and are being tracked to ensure that the Programme is on track to achieve the set targets. A total of USD 7,545,704.00 has been received by the MPTF Office the Administrative Agent for the Programme. This has been repartioned to the PUNOs for the Programme activities.

This Consolidated Annual Progress Report under the Water, Sanitation and Hygiene in Disaster Prone Communities in Northern Ghana covers the period from 1 June to 31 December, 2014. This report is in fulfillment of the reporting requirements set out in the Standard Administrative Arrangement (SAA) concluded with the Donor. In line with the Memorandum of Understanding (MOU) signed by Participating UN Organizations, the Annual Progress Report is consolidated based on information, data and financial statements submitted by Participating Organizations. It is neither an evaluation of the Joint Programme nor an assessment of the performance of the Participating Organizations. The report provides the Steering Committee with a comprehensive overview of achievements and challenges associated with the Joint Programme, enabling it to make strategic decisions and take corrective measures, where applicable.

Programme Title & Project Number
<p>Programme Title: Water, Sanitation and Hygiene in Disaster Prone Communities in Northern Ghana</p> <p>Programme Number: MPTF Office Project Reference Number: 91421</p>
Participating Organization(s)
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • UNDP • UNICEF • UN-Habitat • WHO
Programme/Project Cost (Can\$)
<p>Total approved budget as per project document: CAN\$19,915,904</p> <p>MPTF/JP Contribution</p> <p>Agency Contribution: n/a</p> <p>Government Contribution: n/a</p> <p>Other Contributions (donors)</p> <p style="padding-left: 40px;">DFATD CAN\$19,915,000</p> <p>TOTAL: CAN\$ 19,915,000 / US\$ 17,583,230</p>
Programme Assessment/Review/Mid-Term Eval.
<p>Assessment/Review - if applicable <i>please attach</i></p> <p><input type="checkbox"/> Yes <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> No Date: <i>dd.mm.yyyy</i></p> <p>Mid-Term Evaluation Report <i>n/a</i></p> <p><input type="checkbox"/> Yes <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> No Date: <i>dd.mm.yyyy</i></p>

Country, Locality(s), Priority Area(s) / Strategic Results
<p>Northern, Upper East and Upper West regions; Ghana</p>
<p>UNDAF outcomes 4 and 5</p> <p><u>Outcome 4:</u> At least 15% of the Slum and Disaster Prone Communities including women have improved livelihoods through better access to affordable and sustainable housing and skills training in 5 major regions.</p> <p><u>Outcome 5:</u> An additional 2.5% of the population have sustainable use of improved drinking water and sanitation services and practice the three key hygiene behaviors by 2016</p> <p>Wellbeing through resilient WASH infrastructure to 200,000 people, including 50,000 school children from 265 disaster prone communities and the</p>
Implementing Partners
<p>Ministry of Local Government and Rural Development (MLGRD), Ministry of Water Resources Works and Housing (MWRWH), Ministry of Gender Children and Social Protection (MGCSPP), National Disaster Management Organisation (NADMO), CONIWAS</p>
Programme Duration
<p>Overall Duration : 36 (<i>months</i>)</p> <p>Start Date 1 June 2014</p> <p>Original End Date 31 May 2017</p> <p>Current End date 31 May 2017</p>
Report Submitted By
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ Name: Eric Moukoro ○ Title: UN Focal Person for the WASH in DPC ○ Participating Organization (Lead): UN-Habitat ○ Email address: eric.moukoro@unhabitat.org

List of Acronyms

CLTS	Community Total Led Sanitation
CONIWAS	Coalition of NGOs in Water and Sanitation
CWSA	Community Water and Sanitation Agency
DRR	Disaster Risk Reduction
DFATD	Department of Foreign Affairs, Trade and Development, Canada
GoG	Government of Ghana
GSGDA	Shared Growth and Development Agenda
JMP	Joint Monitoring Programme
M&E	Monitoring and Evaluation
m/f	Male & Female
MAPLE	Management Planning and Environment
MICS	Multiple Indicator Cluster Survey
MLGRD	Ministry of Local Government and Rural Development
MMDAs	Metropolitan Municipal and District Assemblies
MoF	Ministry of Finance
MPTF	Multi Partner Trust Fund
MWRWH	Ministry of Water Resources, Works and Housing
NADMO	National Disaster Management Organization
NGO	Non-Governmental Organization
PIM	Programme Implementation Manual
PMF	Performance Monitoring Framework
PUNO	Participating United Nations Organization
SC	Steering Committee
ToR	Terms of Reference
UNDAF	United Nations Development Assistance Framework
WASH	Water, Sanitation and Hygiene
WASH in DPC	Water Sanitation and Hygiene in Disaster-prone Communities
WRC	Water Resources Commission

I. Purpose

The UN system, in partnership with the Government of Ghana is implementing a joint WASH programme covering 265 communities in 24 districts in the three Northern regions of Ghana to reduce disaster risk and build resilience in the WASH sector. The programme which is conceived within the framework of the Joint UN programming approach fits within the GoG-UNICEF WASH programme; and has a focus on supporting scalable models of sustainable WASH services through the delivery of disaster-resilient WASH infrastructure, complemented by appropriate communication for behavior change messages.

Specifically, the programme aims to provide services to around 200,000 people in the 265 communities and 24 districts, including 50,000 school children with the promotion of measures that ensure resilience of the facilities to climate related disasters, as well as measures to promote behavior change towards proper water, sanitation and hygiene practices.

The ultimate outcome of the programme is reduced burden of WASH-related diseases among men, women, boys and girls in disaster-prone communities in northern Ghana.

The Intermediate outcomes are:

- Increased equitable use of disaster-resilient improved sanitation and water facilities by people in disaster-prone communities in northern Ghana.
- Improved hygiene practices among women, men, girls and boys before, during and after disasters in disaster-prone communities in northern Ghana.
- Improved planning and implementation of WASH programs by local institutions.

II. Results

The start-up of the programme saw some unforeseen delays. Accordingly during the reporting period, the programme focused on groundwork and preparations necessary for smooth implementation and delivery of the planned results in the remaining two years of the programme. The narrative below highlights the preparatory work accomplished, an indication of the process towards achievement of the planned results.

Performance Measurement Framework (PMF)

A genderised Performance Measurement Framework (PMF) was developed to form the basis for monitoring the programme. This was a joint effort of PUNOs and their respective gender specialists, with facilitation from a team from DFATD. The indicators agreed on in the PMF will inform the comprehensive baseline survey to firm up the baseline indicators and facilitate regular progress monitoring for the Programme.

Process for the Selection of beneficiary Communities

Information gathered from NADMO and other sources on flooding characteristics in the Northern regions provided the geographic information of the boundaries of the flood-prone areas. Additional criteria were agreed on with all partners to facilitate the identification and selection of districts and communities to benefit from the interventions of the WASH in DPC Programme. These were (in no order of priority): Potential risk of flooding of the district/community; Communities yet to benefit from proper WATSAN interventions; Incidence of Poverty; Health status of the district/community; Female Headed Households; and Households Headed by uneducated

Using this criteria, a joint team from GoG and the PUNOs undertook reconnaissance field visits to the region and led the organization of 3 workshops in each of the 3 regions to further assess the communities in the delineated flood prone areas. Participants to the workshops were drawn from MDAs and NADMO at the regional and District levels based on their knowledge of the environment at district and community level.

The result of the process of identification of communities and subsequent selection of 265 communities in 24 districts to benefit from the programme is summarized in the foregoing sections and annexes.

Table 2: Summary of the selected Districts and Communities

	WASH facilities affected by flood			Selected Districts/Communities		
	Districts	Communities	Population	Districts	Communities	Population
Upper East	6	91	103,981	6	52	64,170
Upper West	10	137	89,166	9	100	41,897
Northern	9	218	138,056	9	113	99,125
TOTAL	25	446	331,203	24	265	205,192

This final list was checked and validated by the regional and district stakeholders during a startup meeting held in Tamale from 9-13 March 2015.

Baseline Study

A consultancy firm, Management Planning and Environment (MAPLE), was appointed to conduct the baseline study after an open bidding process in January 2015. The ultimate aim of the baseline study is to provide the requisite baseline information that will facilitate the monitoring of the expected deliverables and indicators as outlined in the Programme Measurement Framework. The study also looks at the beneficiaries with regard to their knowledge, attitude and behavior in water, sanitation and hygiene, including their awareness and preparedness in disaster situations.

A striking observation made in the inception report was the limited harmonization of statistical indicators across various levels and the associated challenges for data tracking, access and review. Ghana's WASH Sector Performance Report (SPR) recently signaled the urgent need to address the general tendency among sector actors to "resort to different sub-sector monitoring methodologies", which stems from lack of a central monitoring framework and system.

The review has to date identified a variety of WASH indicators that have been harnessed in the PMF for the WASH in DPC Programme. It is observed that although on the whole there is inadequate coordination among WASH sector agencies, it is evident that there is a fair degree of harmonization of the key indicators adopted by the WHO/UNICEF Joint Monitoring Programme (JMP), the MICS and the GoG-UNICEF WASH Programme. The latter focuses on the 5 most deprived Regions which include the three Northern Regions targeted for the WASH in DPC Programme. Over all, it is noted that the scope of UNICEF's WinE framework which exhibits a relatively more innovative and context-specific approach, not only holds better prospects for the introduction of disaster-resilient WASH interventions in the three Northern Regions, but also provides a minimum number of key indicators to inform the field assessment phase.

As a result of the challenges the work plan for the assignment has been revised by the consultant's team to reflect reality and to ensure completion of the study within an acceptable time frame. It is expected that a final draft report of the baseline study shall be available by early May 2015.

Programme startup meeting

The Programme startup meeting took place in Tamale, in the Northern region from 9 to 13 March 2015. The meeting was organized to inform, discuss and share ideas on issues related to the implementation of the Programme with the regional, district and community stakeholders directly involved in the implementation of the Programme. The occasion was used to share the draft final version of the Programme Implementation Manual and elicit feedback from programme partners at the regional and district level on how best the programme activities can be delivered, monitored and reported with a

view of ensuring sustainability. It also provided an opportunity for the consultant who has been procured for the baseline study to interact with the participants and prepare them for the field assignment.

Agreement was reached with the meeting stakeholders on an initial list of 72 communities from the 24 districts (three disaster prone communities per district) where the programme interventions should start off. Profiles of each of the 72 selected communities on: the population, number of households; existing facilities (i.e. schools, health centers, safe havens); the water, sanitation and hygiene situation (water services, sanitation facilities, CLTS programme, how WASH services are affected by floods, etc.) was elaborated on by participants from the respective district from which the community was selected. Finally, participants suggested solutions which, from their perspective, will likely lead to facilitate implementation of interventions for to ensure resilience of their WASH services.

Programme Implementation Manual

The Programme Implementation Manual is in its final version. It is a collective document prepared with the involvement of all implementing partners (Government stakeholders at national, regional and local level, PUNOs and WASH sector stakeholders) to guide the programme implementation activities. As the programme progresses the PIM will be reviewed to take account of emerging circumstances that may be deemed necessary to further enhance implementation.

Follow up of first steering Committee meeting

The first Steering Committee meeting held on 16 October 2014 came out with some recommendation. Their follow up is resumed in the table below.

Recommendations	Actions
Update the Programme implementation schedule and suggest options to catch up the existing time gap.	The Programme implementation schedule has been revised and a benchmark has been developed to fast track implementation. Monthly meetings are held between PUNOs and DFATD to monitor progress.
The PUNOs and GoG will maintain a core technical group to meet bimonthly to enhance programme implementation. The Consortium of NGOs in the WASH Sector (CONIWAS) will integrate this core technical group.	The Programme Technical committee has been established. Terms of Reference have been developed and a draft working programme has been elaborated. The first meeting of this technical group took place on 15 January 2015. The Committee has a schedule to meet every two months. The members have thus far been active in addressing technical issues concerning the programme, even through Email exchanges
The UN team will consult with DFATD about the suggested dates for the launch of the programme and the venue for the event.	The Programme had a start-up meeting with involves ALL the implementing partners (see section 5.4 above)
Partners are invited to provide a short list of potential consultants for the baseline study.	A consultant (MAPLE Consult) has been recruited from a list of consultants suggested by partners.
A gender specialist will be recruited to assist intermittently during the Programme implementation period.	After the completion of the Baseline study, a gender specialist will be recruited on a part time basis to join the Programme Management Team to specifically address gender issues as appropriate

The M&E person will be recruited immediately before the draft baseline study is submitted.	The M&E specialist has already been appointed
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Challenges and Lessons Learned

The start-up of the programme suffered an initial delay as a result of some unforeseen delays in the necessary preparatory work for the start up. The challenges have been addressed in discussions and negotiations with the relevant partners. Milestones have been established and are being closely tracked to ensure the Programme is back on track. It is expected that all the Programme results will be delivered by the end of programme implementation period.

Coordination mechanism should be reinforced as appropriate. With the development of the Programme Implementation Manual and the participation of all stakeholders in its preparation, the communication and coordination of all implementing partners will be improved.

Partnerships and Sustainability

The programme is being implemented by four Partner UN Agencies (viz., UN-Habitat, UNICEF, WHO and UNDP) as a joint UN programme. Beyond the UN partners, the PUNOs will work in partnership with a range of other organizations including National, Regional and District level Government partners as well as NGOs and Civil Society to achieve the stated programme results.

Partner Category	Partner	Role
Government	MLGRD (Environmental Health and Sanitation Directorate)	Has the lead role in coordination and harmonization of the planning, implementation and monitoring of the Programme from the Government side in close collaboration with the UN team; technical direction and guidance for the implementation of the programme; Implementation support of the environmental sanitation components of the Programme. Support the formation and coordination of WASH in DPC Technical Committee (Co-Chair with the Programme Manager)
	Ministry of Water Resources, Works and Housing (MWRWH)	Implementation support on the water supply components through CWSA in particular and WRC as appropriate and components of capacity building for community WASH institutions.
	School Health Education Programme(SHEP) of the Ghana Education Service	Implementation of WASH in schools component of the programme.
	NADMO	Disaster preparedness of the communities before, during and after disaster events, Contribution to ensuring resilience of the WASH solutions to be adopted, particularly in safe havens.

Partner Category	Partner	Role
	Metropolitan, Municipal and District Assemblies (MMDAs)	Responsible for programme implementation at community levels and district level coordination.
Civil Society	CONIWAS	CONIWAS and its members working in WASH in the northern regions will be engaged as necessary on various components of the programme.

Other strategic Government partners include Ghana Health Service,

- Ministry of Gender, Children and Social Protection
- Ministry of Finance (MoF)
- Ministry of Interior

Indicator Based Performance Assessment:

EXPECTED RESULTS	INDICATORS	PROGRESS ACHIEVED
Intermediate Result		
1100 Increased equitable use of disaster-resilient improved sanitation and water facilities by people in DPCs in Northern Ghana	<p>Percentage of population with access to improved disaster resilient sanitation facilities in the 3 northern regions</p> <hr/> <p>Percentage of population with access to safe drinking water sources in the 3 northern regions</p> <hr/> <p>Percentage of rural population with sustainable access to safe drinking water sources in the 3 northern regions</p> <hr/> <p>Number (out of 200,000) of women, men, boys and girls with access to improved disaster resilient sanitation facilities in DPCs</p> <p>Number (out of 200,000) of women, men, boys and girls with access to safe water in DPCs</p>	<p>265 communities in 24 Districts have been selected to benefit from the programme. An Initial 53 of these communities have been prioritized for immediate interventions.</p> <p>A process for the procurement of a consultant to carry out WASH technology assessment and development of a national DRR tool kit to guide implementation as well as Hydrological/hydrogeological assessments in the selected communities to assist the identification of potential sources of groundwater to be exploited for resilient water supplies to the communities, schools and safe havens; is ongoing and is expected to have been engaged by the end of April 2015.</p> <p>The roll out of the CLTS including microfinance targeting household sanitation facilities will follow the completion of technology assessment and development of guidelines for sanitation facilities in DPC.</p>
	<p>Girls' assessment of suitability of improved disaster resilient sanitation facilities in DPCs by region</p> <p>Rating scale:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1, Highly unsatisfactory, 2. Unsatisfactory, 3 Neither satisfactory or unsatisfactory, 4. Satisfactory, 5. Highly satisfactory 	<p>Scale up plans for district-wide ODF coverages are being drafted in the first 11 out of the 24 targeted districts. There will be ongoing financial and technical support to the districts for finalization of the plans before the end of April 2015.</p>
1200 Improved hygiene practices among women, men, girls and boys before, during and after disasters in DPCs in Northern Ghana	<p>Number and Percentage of population (m/f) practising hand washing with soap in DPCs</p> <p>Number of school children (m/f) practising hand washing with soap in DPCs</p>	<p>Planned interventions to achieve progress include:</p> <p>Reviewing and adapting existing materials for promoting hygiene in schools and communities to include disaster-resilience messages.</p> <p>Capacity of school health clubs will be built to develop operational</p>

EXPECTED RESULTS	INDICATORS	PROGRESS ACHIEVED
	<p>Number of school children (m/f) having access to improved disaster resilient sanitation facilities in target DPCs</p>	<p>management plans for WASH facilities along with the construction of the facilities.</p>
	<p>Number of communities in DPCs with access to disaster resilient sanitation facilities (3 northern regions)</p>	
	<p>Number of communities practising household water treatment and safe storage in DPCs (3 northern regions) Number of people (m/f) using household water treatment and safe storage systems</p>	<p>This will be done in collaboration with UNICEF, UN-Habitat and WHO and will be closely linked to the construction of water facilities.</p>
<p>1300 Improved planning and implementation of WASH programs by local institutions</p>	<p>Number of districts with roll-out implementation programs of WASH in DPCs</p>	<p>An assessment will be undertaken to assess the existing capacity needs and awareness gaps in the communities and develop plans to enable the GoG structures at various levels, and CBOs at the local level to provide the necessary oversight during the Programme duration and to facilitate the sustenance of the installed facilities post Programme. Assessments will also be made to identify capacity strengthening needs for sector planning, monitoring and evaluation, knowledge management and advocacy required as part of the implementation and ultimate delivery of resilient WASH facilities and services to people living in disaster prone communities in the Programme area.</p>
	<p>Effectiveness of district WASH implementation program Rating scale: 1, Highly unsatisfactory, 2. Unsatisfactory, 3 Neither satisfactory or unsatisfactory, 4. Satisfactory, 5. Highly satisfactory</p>	
	<p>Number of targeted districts with functional NADMO offices</p>	<p>There has been capacity strengthening of staff of Regional NADMO from the three regions and district NADMO from 16 of the 24 targeted districts. The capacity was aimed at setting up coordination mechanism in these districts for emergency preparedness to ensure adequate response in communities. Further activities will be</p>

EXPECTED RESULTS	INDICATORS	PROGRESS ACHIEVED
		undertaken to strengthen capacity of these initial 16 districts along with the other eight districts to ensure preparedness for emergencies.

Particular baseline indicators (and subsequent planned targets) will come from the on-going baseline study

III. Programmatic Revisions

Due to the delay in putting in place all required mechanism prior to a full implementation of the programme, the implementation strategy has been revised to take and milestones have been established and are being closely tracked to ensure the Programme is back on track. Monthly coordination meetings with PUNOs, the donor and Government partners are in place. Such milestones will be updated on quarterly basis for a tentative period of six months.