



**UN EBOLA RESPONSE MPTF
ANNUAL PROJECT NARRATIVE REPORT
Year: March 2017**

Project Number and Title: #46 – Upgrading water and sanitation systems incorporating skills-based training and employment for youth in Ebola-affected slum communities of Liberia.	PROJECT START DATE¹: 01-02-2016	AMOUNT ALLOCATED by MPTF <i>(please indicate different tranches if applicable)</i> \$...	RECIPIENT ORGANIZATION 1. UNICEF 2. ILO 3. UN HABITAT IMPLEMENTING PARTNER(S):
Project ID: 00097566 (Gateway ID)	EXTENSION DATE: 31 January 2017	FINANCIAL COMMITMENTS \$1,000,000:00	1. Ministry of Public Works
Project Focal Point: Name: James Conrad Massaquoi E-mail: jmassaquoi@unicef.org	EXTENSION DATE: 31 January 2017	FINANCIAL COMMITMENTS \$1,000,000:00	2. Ministry of Health and Social Welfare
Strategic Objective (STEPP) RSO1 Health, Nutrition, and Water, Sanitation and Hygiene (WASH) Recovery Strategic Objectives RSO# - Description	PROJECTED END DATE: 31 July 2017 (NCE)	EXPENDITURES as of [date] \$578,885:00	3. Ministry of Gender and Social Development
Mission Critical Action MCA# - Description			4. Liberia Water and Sewer Corporation 5. Monrovia City Corporation 6. Slum dwellers Association of Liberia (SLUMDAL) Ministry of Internal Affairs through local Commissioner
Location: Country or Regional: Liberia, West Africa	Sub-National Coverage Areas: Full list of countries and/or districts Clara Town/Doe Community, Montserrado County, Monrovia Liberia.		
Report Submitted by:	Report Cleared by:		
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> o Name: Kamrul Islam o Title: Chief, Child Survival and Development o Date of Submission: 31 March 2017 o Participating Organization (Lead): UNICEF o Email address; kislam@unicef.org 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> o Name: (Head of Agency) o Date of Submission o Participating Organization (Lead): o Email address 		

¹ The date project funds were first transferred.



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OUTPUT INDICATORS					
Indicator	Geographic Area	Projected Target (as per results matrix)	Quantitative results for the reporting period	Cumulative results, since project commencement (quantitative)	Delivery Rate (cumulative % of projected total) as of date
<i>Description of the quantifiable indicator as set out in the approved project proposal</i>					
1(a).Percentage of target group accessing at least 20 liters of water/day/ person	Clara Town	Baseline: 77% Target: 85%	75%	75% -	75%
1(b).Maximum distance from household to water point	Clara Town	Baseline: 500m Target: 200 m	200m	200m	100%
1(c).Maximum queuing time at water points	Clara Town	Baseline: 15min Target: 10 mins	Less than 10 mins for completed locations	Less than 10 mins	80%
1(d).Number of latrines constructed and being used	Clara Town	Baseline: 11 Target: 20	2	10	50%
2(a).Percentage of households gaining access to solid waste management services	Clara Town	Baseline: 35% Target: 50%	50%	50%	100%
2(b).Number of	Clara	Baseline: 0		5	50%



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youth groups trained on solid waste management entrepreneurship	Town	Target – 10	5		
3(a).Number of youths directly engaged in construction of WASH facilities	Clara Town	Baseline: 0 Target: 250	250	250	100%
3(b). Number of community groups (consisting of 20 to 50 members) established and trained on maintenance of WASH facilities	Clara Town	Baseline: 5 Target: 20	3	5	25% 5 community groups trained of 10 persons
3(c).Number of youths willing to pursue entrepreneurship mentored/trained	Clara Town	Baseline: 0 Target: 60	60	60	100%
4(a).Number of public agencies whose staff is trained on water supply, sanitation and solid waste management	Monrovia	Baseline: 2 Target: 2	2	2	100%
EFFECT INDICATORS (if available for the reporting period)					



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PROGRAMME REPORT FORMAT

EXECUTIVE SUMMARY

The MPTF Liberia Urban Slum upgrading project achieved a number of its planned goals during the reporting period. This was despite a delayed start owing to the complexity of the task in the identified location, unexpected flooding during the rainy season, and other bottlenecks.

Some of the key achievements include the construction of five new public latrines to reduce open defecation in the community, and put in place modalities for their operation, maintenance and management (OM&M) to ensure sustainability; construction of 70 per cent of a 5000 meter water supply pipeline extension with corresponding branch and distribution lines, reaching at least 75 per cent of the population in Clara town (around 43,000 people) ; enabling the access of at least twenty liters of water per person per day within 200 meters from homes, and; reducing queueing time to below 10 mins at peak fetching times (morning and late evening); Recruitment and training of five community based enterprises (CBEs) for solid waste management, including signing an agreement with five CBEs for OM&M of WASH infrastructure – water kiosks and public latrines; identification and placement of sixty youth in a technical and vocational institute to impact or improve skills. These youths were provided tools and supplies upon graduation and have been absorbed into the CBEs operating under the project.

Owing to delays during the commencement of the project, a request for no cost extension was approved. The new project completion date is 31 July 2017.



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Current Situation and Trend *(please provide a brief introduction to the project and the related outcomes in relation to implementation of the project (1-2 paragraphs))*

With Liberia having been declared Ebola-free on 9 May 2015 the focus has now shifted to a recovery phase, with an emphasis on “building back better”. The economic drain of Ebola on Liberia has been immense and its social impact on ordinary Liberians’ lives far-reaching. Clara Town is one of the many slum communities highly hit by Ebola due to over population and lack of basic social needs. It is a slum community of about 74,000 persons located on Bushrod Island in Monrovia. It is one of many slum communities in Monrovia and occupies an area of about 2.2 km² which represents a population density of about 34,000 persons per km². The settlement has been built up on a swamp posing severe problems of drainage and regular flooding during periods of heavy rainfall, imposing danger of the Ebola Virus Disease. It is against this background that the Project targets Clara Town, with an integrated package of interventions in water supply, environmental sanitation and youth employment, which aims at strengthening resilience and improving livelihoods.

Narrative section *(About 1,000 words):*

Following a stakeholders’ inception workshop held on 1-2 March 2016, the project took an early opportunity to revise the indicators and targets indicated above to reflect the realities on the ground at the project location and to align them with national standards. Some indicators and targets were changed while some process indicators were also included during this exercise. The project also reviewed alternatives for technology options for water supply and sanitation in line with the results of recent baseline surveys conducted in the project location.

UNICEF took over coordination, oversight and reporting after UN-HABITAT scaled down its operations in the country. The time period it took to identify suitable implementing partners, locating appropriate sites for the new latrines and water kiosks, and halt in construction owing to unexpected flooding during the rainy season resulted in delays in implementing the programme. Given these delays, a request for a no-cost extension was approved by the donor, with a new project end date of 31 July 2017.

Key Achievements:

- Recruited and provided a two days training in May 2016 to five Community Based Enterprises (CBE) for management of solid waste in the Clara town and extension communities. The trained groups (including Exquisite Sanitation Inc., Community Waste Disposal Enterprise, SKD Venture Services, Liberian Youths for Progress and Development, and Drainage Maintenance Garbage Services) were provided with an assorted set of basic tools (50 pieces each of wheel barrows, shovels, rain boots, nose marks, reflector jackets, brooms, rakes and hand gloves) to implement the environmental sanitation project. Additionally, contracts were signed between ILO and the CBEs, effective 1 June 2016 to 31 January 2017 for implementation of solid waste management activities. These have resulted in at least 50 per cent of the community now having access to solid waste collection.
- In consultation with the local authorities/community leadership, selected 60 youth from the twelve zones of Clara Town to undergo training in the semi-skilled construction component of this project at



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a Technical and Vocational Training (TVET) institution. These youth were trained in carpentry, masonry and plumbing services. They graduated in January 2017 and are currently working with the selected CBEs. Sixty sets of tools kits have been issued to the youth when they graduated twenty sets per vocation for the three programs).

- An additional forty two students had been recruited in collaboration with the Commissioner of the Township to benefit from phase two of the skills training program in computer software, catering and interior decoration. A TVET institution is presently conducting a six month intensive training, which commenced in mid-February 2017.
- Through a Direct Cash Transfer to the Liberia Water and Sewer Cooperation (LWCS), completed a 3500 metre long extension (70 per cent) of a planned 5000 meter water supply pipe network with corresponding branch connections to water kiosks; completed rehabilitation of 15 existing water kiosks and constructed seven of eight planned new kiosks - reaching an estimated 75% of urban slums dwellers in Clara town. This is enabling the access of at least 20 litres of water per person per day within 200 metres from homes, and reducing queueing time to below 10 mins at peak fetching times (morning and late evening). New water kiosks will provide space for vendors to also stock and sell groceries, mobile phone call cards and other fast going commodities.
- Completed construction of five new six-cubicle public flush latrines and rehabilitated five existing facilities, increasing access to toilets and reducing open defecation.
- Through a Direct Cash Transfer (DCT) to the Monrovia City Corporation (MCC), conducted training for five Community Based Enterprises (CBEs) and Community Management Teams (CMTs) on how to source funds, manage CBEs, and ensure sustainability of solid waste collection in urban settings. The CBEs are those involved in solid waste management. The Community Management Teams (CMTs) were established by the community leadership to manage and ensure O&M of WASH infrastructure.
- Finalised agreement with two CBEs and water vendors to undertake operation, maintenance and management of the water kiosk and completed public latrines through a delegated management framework for sustainability.
- Four skip buckets (garbage collection bins) were fabricated and delivered to the Monrovia City Corporation (MCC) for collection and disposal of solid waste from the project communities. Three tricycles were also procured and turned over to two CBEs, while an additional one was allocated to the Clara Township Community Leadership to aid with solid waste management.
- In addition, at present a Programme Corporation Agreement is being finalized with Population Services International (PSI) for Information Education Communication (IEC)/Behaviour Change Communication (BCC) activities which will include promotion of household water treatment in the



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Clara Town community.

Project Coordination and Monitoring:

- Regularly monthly project coordination meetings are being held (involving UN-Habitat (until they left Monrovia), ILO, UNICEF and sometimes involving partners - Liberia Water and Sewer Corporation, Monrovia City Corporation, RC office.
- One joint programme monitoring visit conducted in the Clara Town community. The monitoring team consisted of UNICEF, ILO, Local Commissioner Office and office of the UN Mission's Ebola Multi Partner Trust Fund which was represented by its Planning, Monitoring & Evaluation Officer. Discussions were held with all five selected CBEs on their ongoing work activities of solid waste collection, tools and funding received and actions being taken to ensure sustainability beyond project implementation period.

Delays or Deviations – *(Please indicate, if applicable, any reason that may have contributed to any delays or deviation, and describe the measures adopted to move forward to achieve the expected results)*

- Construction work on latrines delayed due to the non-availability of appropriate land for excavation owing to flooding, congested housing and disputed ownership in the community.
- The construction phase of this project has witnessed further delays due to the complexity of the project, coupled with the limited experienced in-country partners capable of undertaking comprehensive WASH activities within an urban slums context. The onset of the rainy season also continues to present challenges with finalization of construction related activities including the extension of water supply pipelines. To overcome this, a revision of the procurement process/approach has been made, assigning some civil works to the LWSC for extension of water supply pipe lines and identification of civil engineering contractors who have already been pre-qualified by UNICEF for implementation of the sanitation component of this project. The software elements (e.g. on sanitation marketing programme to raise awareness and enhance the effective demand for improved sanitation) will be awarded through a Programme Cooperation Agreement
- The closure of the UN Habitat office in Monrovia (and Liberia) resulted in a revision of the programme document including the implementation plan, necessitating the reallocation of responsibilities among the three participating agencies. Consensus was reached for UN-HABITAT to reimburse unused funds already disbursed to the agency for implementation of activities initially allocated to the agency under this project

Best Practice and Summary Evaluation – *(Please indicate what are the best practice guidelines adopted and the impact on the implementation process)*

- With the adoption of the delegated management frame/ public-private partnership model to urban slum settlement in Liberia, the project is seemingly set on the right trajectory for sustainable programmes. At its inception, it is noted that this approach will be fraught with challenges of finance



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for CBEs and will be reported after an in-depth evaluation of the approach.

- **Lessons learned** – *(Please, share a couple of lessons learned that can be beneficial for future projects)*
- For sustainability of the urban slum project, it is important to seek the partnership of private entities to ensure operation, maintenance and management of the systems. It is therefore important to build the capacity of and empower private partners and get them actively engaged in project implementation.
- The involvement of youth in the project has shown its benefits, as they take stock of every process and monitor or support implementation of the construction process.

Story from the Field – *(Please, provide one story from the field that has contributed to the success of this project)*

“Without any system for the collection and disposal of garbage, Clara Town have been heavily littered with garbage, which added to our many problems of water and sanitation caused by the widespread practice of open defecation. Today we are grateful for your intervention which have reduced our problems through the construction and rehabilitation of toilets, showers and water kiosks”

Mr. Varney Kiwon - Assistant township commissioner

Gender and Environmental Markers *(Targeted – from pro doc - Please provide disaggregated data, if applicable)*

No. of Beneficiaries 58,482	
Women	14,620
Girls	16,471
Men	11,210
Boys	16,180
Total	58,482

Environmental Markers
Potential flooding in some sections of the community due to heavy rainfall in last few weeks