



**ANNUAL PROGRAMME NARRATIVE PROGRESS REPORT
REPORTING PERIOD: 1 JANUARY – 31 DECEMBER 2010**

Programme Title & Number

- Programme Title: Water security and Safety for the vulnerable communities in Suleimaniya city
- Programme Number(*if applicable*) E3-16
- MDTF Office Atlas Number:54882/66882

Country, Locality(s), Thematic Area(s)

Iraq, Suleimaniya

Participating Organization(s)

UNICEF, WHO

Implementing Partners

- Ministry of Municipalities and Tourism, General Directorate for Water and Sewerage and Suleimaniya Water Directorate – Kurdistan Regional Government
- Collaborating Ministries: Health and Environment

Programme/Project Cost (US\$)

ITF Fund Contribution	:	\$4,719,558
UNICEF	:	\$3,858,919
WHO	:	\$ 860,639
Agency Contribution		
Government Contribution	:	\$1,060,000
Other Contribution:		
Total	:	\$5,779,558

Programme Duration : 30 months

Start Date : 15.10.2008

Original End Date: 15.10.2010

Revised End Date: 15.04.2011

Extensions;

1st Extension: 15.04.2010 (both Agencies)

2nd Extension 15.04.2011 (UNICEF only)

Programme Assessments/Mid-Term Evaluation

Assessment Completed - *if applicable please attach*

No

Mid-Evaluation Report – *if applicable please attach*

No

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NARRATIVE REPORT FORMAT

I. Purpose

Three main outcomes were set for this project aiming to safeguard the well-being of children and women of Suleimaniya city and Sarchinar district through increased access to improved water quality and quantity. The main outcomes of the projects are as follows:

- IP Outcome-1:** 400,000 inhabitants of Suleimaniya city have improved access to safe water.
- IP Outcome-2:** Residents in peripheral/ high risk areas of Suleimaniya city are safeguarded against water borne disease out-breaks.
- IP Outcome-3:** Over 60 Government Authority staff have strengthened skills for improved operation and management of water facilities.

In view of the fact that this is UNICEF, WHO joint project, main outputs were set in addition to agency specific output as explained below:

IP Outcome-1: 400,000 inhabitants of Suleimaniya city have improved access to safe water.		
Output	Agency Specific Output	Agency
IP Output 1.1: 400,000 inhabitants have access to increased quantity and improved quality of water;	1.1.1 Sarchinar water source protected based on Sanitary Survey;	WHO
	1.1.2 Sarchinar Water Project upgraded through priority civil, mechanical and electrical repairs including provision of equipment;	UNICEF
IP Output 1.2: Water quality laboratory established within the Sarchinar water project and operational;	1.2.1 Procurement and delivery of laboratory equipment, supplies and reagents for both DWS and DOH/Suleimaniya water quality control laboratories.	WHO
	1.2.2 Water quality testing laboratory within the Sarchinar water project complex set up.	
IP Outcome-2: Residents in peripheral/ high risk areas of Suleimaniya city are safeguarded against water borne disease out-breaks.		
IP Output 2.1: Water networks within the high risk areas rehabilitated/ replaced;	2.1 Water networks in priority high risk areas rehabilitated/ replaced.	UNICEF
IP Output 2.2: Awareness campaigns on hygiene and water handling practices conducted;	2.2.1 Four awareness campaigns conducted; 2.2.2. 3,000 families in high risk areas aware of hygiene practices.	WHO
IP Outcome-3: Over 60 Government Authority staff has strengthened skills for improved operation and management of water facilities.		
IP Output 3.1: Over 30 Government Authority staff trained in implementation, operation and management of water facilities	3.1 Over 30 Government Authority staff trained in implementation, operation and management of water facilities	UNICEF
IP Output 3.2: Over 30 Government Authority staff trained in water quality monitoring and surveillance	3.2 Over 30 Government Authority staff trained in water quality monitoring and surveillance	WHO

The immediate objectives of the project is to address the water shortages and water quality issues in the targeted areas, leading to an enhancement of quantity and quality of water delivered to underserved residential areas in Suleimaniya city and Sarchinar district; and improvement in the operational efficiency of the Sarchinar W/P through rehabilitation/ replacement of civil and electro-mechanical works and simultaneous software interventions (capacity building and hygiene awareness campaigns). This will result in more quantities of safe water available to the nearly 400,000 inhabitants.

- **The Programme relates to the Strategic (UN) Planning Framework guiding the operations of the Fund/JP as the following.**

The project is in line with the 2008-2010 UN Assistance Strategy for Iraq contributing to the overall targets of reducing morbidity and mortality. Specifically the project addresses Sector Outcomes 1, 2 and 3 of the Watsan Sector Outcome Team and conforms to Goal 4.4.1.5 of the International Compact with Iraq. It responds to the attainment of NDS goals and target 7C of the MDG-7 – “to halve by 2015, the proportion of people without sustainable access to safe drinking water and basic sanitation”. The project indirectly contributes to the realization of MDG goals -1, 2, 3, 4, and 5 related to poverty reduction, universal primary education, gender equality and women empowerment, child mortality and maternal mortality respectively. By improving access to safe water, the project addresses the rights of women and children as enshrined in CEDAW and CRC.

The program is also contributes to the Iraqi National Development Plan (2010-2014) and addresses improved access to safe water in Suleimaniya city and Sarchinar district.

II. Resources

Financial Resources:

- **Other funding resources.**

During the negotiation stage of the project, it has been agreed that the Ministry of Municipalities and Tourism / Kurdistan Regional Government will contribute 20% of total project cost valued at US\$ 1.06 million. However, during the course of implementation the Ministry of Municipalities and Tourism / Kurdistan Regional Government agreed to implement part of the rehabilitation work for Sarchinar water project with a value of around US\$ 1.2 million. In addition UNICEF invested additional funds of about US\$ 140,000 from other donor contributions to supplement the rehabilitation of Sarchinar water project in Suleimaniyagovernorate as the actual cost of the project was higher than UNICEF estimate.

- **Budget Revisions**

No cost extension of project duration was approved twice. Movement of funds between the budget lines to reflect the actual cost of contracts has been requested once and approved by SCSO.

- **Good practices and constraints in the mechanics of the financial process, times to get transfers, identification of potential bottlenecks, need for better coordination, etc.**

At the beginning of the project implementation, a steering committee consists of UNICEF, WHO, General Directorate for Water and Sewerage and Suleimaniya Water Directorate was established to oversee and coordinate the implementation of the project. The steering committee meets periodically to share the information and take decisions to achieve the maximum impact of the project.

No financial constraints were recorded during the course of project implementation.

Human Resources:

- **National Staff:**

One national officer in Erbil (35%), one WASH Specialist (10%), one National officer Operation at ISCA (10%) and one Programme Assistant (10%) were assigned by UNICEF to monitor the overall implementation of the project activities and coordinate the implementation at the General Directorate of Water and Sewage (GDWS) level, verify the technical specifications and ensure integrity of financial documents.

WHO assigned one Sanitary Engineer for the same purpose. In addition, two national Senior Facilitators (one from UNICEF and the other from WHO) were assigned to work closely with the Suleimaniya Water Directorate (SWD) and Directorate of Environment (DoEnv.) in preparation of technical specifications, Bills of Quantities and monitor implementation of field activities.

In addition UNICEF staff at the Supply Division in Copenhagen provided support for off-shore procurement of equipment and spare parts, processing of tenders, transportation of supplies and payments.

- **International Staff:**

UNICEF assigned one International Project Manager (Chief WASH – 5%) responsible for the overall management of the project. He is in regular contact with both the national staff and project counterparts through different means of connectivity such as e-mails, phone, video conferences and meetings in Amman and Erbil. In addition, missions to Iraq were undertaken to monitor the implementation of activities on the ground.

WHO International Water Quality Expert visited the project sites many times during the reporting period to provide technical advice to both SWD and DoEnv. in the areas of water quality monitoring, sanitary inspection and hygiene awareness.

III. Implementation and Monitoring Arrangements

- **The implementation mechanisms primarily utilized and how they are adapted to achieve maximum impact given the operating context.**

The steering committee consist of UNICEF, WHO, General Directorate for Water and Sewerage and Suleimaniya Water Directorate which was established to oversee and coordinate the implementation of the project. UNICEF's vast experience in similar works was deployed at the preliminary discussion stage, preparation of Bills of Quantities, awarding the contracts, monitoring and supervising the project. UNICEF transparent contracting system was used to contract the rehabilitation/construction work through competitive bidding process. UNICEF international and national procurement system was also utilized for the procurement of equipment and spare parts for Sarchinar water project. Moreover, the technical experience complemented the efforts of UN agencies in reviewing and approving the technical documents.

Field work was jointly supervised by the government and UNICEF. Contracting of international pumping expert was done through GDWS and SWD contracting system in agreement with UNICEF.

For WHO the delivery mechanism adopted is as follow:

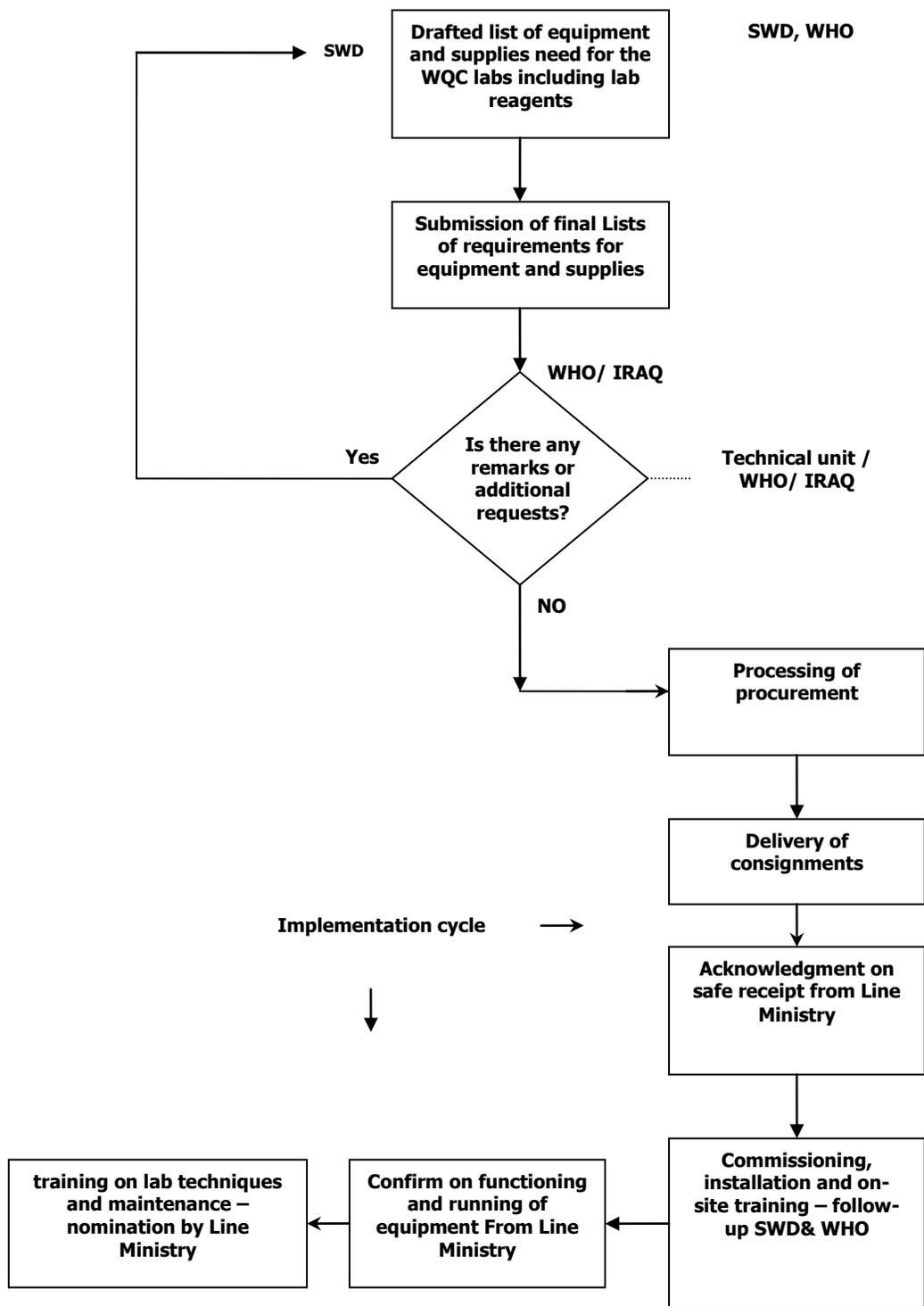
- WHO in consultation with their counterparts prepared the technical specifications for the necessary water analysis equipment and supplies.
- WHO in consultation with SWD technical staff assessed the chemicals and other laboratory reagents needed for Sarchinar water quality control laboratory.
- The procurement was carried out through the procurement section at WHO country, regional and Headquarters offices as shown in the below diagram.
- WHO in consultation with the counterparts, facilitate the implementation of training of trainers programs where the participants become trainers for the technical staff.
- WHO in consultation with their counterparts, design and support the implementation of hygiene awareness programs for the community leaders.

- **The procurement procedures utilized.**

UNICEF through its Supply Division in Copenhagen carried out the procurement of spare parts for Sarchinar water project. No deviation from the standards took place in the procurement process.

WHO procurement process for the water quality laboratory equipment and laboratory reagents is according to the following

diagram:



- **The monitoring system.**

Different monitoring layers were adopted during the implementation of the project. Overall monitoring was done by the steering committee through periodic meetings to follow up on implementation and take decisions to overcome any bottlenecks. WHO Sanitary Engineer and UNICEF Engineer/Senior Facilitator were contracted to undertake the day-to-day monitoring and supervision of the implemented work and report the progress on a weekly basis in addition to ad-hoc reports. Additionally, frequent field visits were conducted by WHO International Water Quality Expert and UNICEF WASH national officer to monitor the work progress. Likewise, Suleimaniya water directorate assigned a site supervisor engineer working closely with UNICEF contracted engineer to conduct day-to-day supervision on the implemented work while General Water Directorate was involved in the project handing over process.

- **Assessments, evaluations or studies undertaken.**

To ensure operation of Sarchinar water project in its full capacity, UNICEF supported Suleimaniya water directorate to recruit international pumping expert. The expert conducted a detailed assessment of the project and provided designs and Bill of Quantities to rehabilitate Sarchinar water project and procure equipment and spare parts.

WHO has supported both WSD and Ministry of Environment in conducting a sanitary inspection survey for Sarchinar Water Facilities and an Environmental Health Survey for Schools at Suleimaniya City. The sanitary inspection survey assessed in detail the existing situation of the components of Sarchinar Water Facilities and identify the gaps for the improvement, based on the recommendations all the gaps identified have been implemented.

IV. Results

- **Programme progress in relation to planned outcomes and outputs.**

UNICEF

Although project witnessed some delays in the overall implementation timeframe, it is anticipated that upon full completion all planned outcomes and outputs will be met.

During the reporting period, rehabilitation/extension work of Bakhtiary quarter water network and rehabilitation/extension work of Sarchinar quarter water network were completed. This work has contributed to increased access to improved water quality and quantity to around 60,000 people and reducing the risk of outbreak of water borne diseases. Construction of chlorine hall in Sarchinar water project has contributed to reduction of the risk of outbreak of water borne disease through improvement of water quality in addition to reduction of chlorine gas leakages that pose hazard to residents living close to Sarchinar water project

WHO

The sanitary inspection for Sarchinar water facility helped in identifying the gaps within the water facility, and based on the inspection outcome, the chlorination system has improved in terms of storage, operation and maintenance; in addition to that, the water is tested four times daily before pumped to the end users to ensure its compliance with Iraqi Drinking Water Standards; which never happened before the intervention.

In order to enhance the water quality monitoring and ensure the proper disinfection for drinking water through chlorination, WHO in coordination with DWS established a water quality control laboratory

at Sarchinar Water Facilities, the laboratory supplied with essential water quality testing equipment, and the laboratory technicians have been trained on water quality monitoring and analysis. The establishment of the water quality laboratory assessed the DWS to test the water quality before supplying to the end users; also it will help DWS in ensuring that the water quality is in compliance with Iraqi Drinking Water Standards and WHO Guidelines.

In terms of capacity building, the TOT which was conducted for 12 laboratory technicians from DWS had positive impact on the performance of the staff by exposing them to the up-to-date technology and procedures in water quality testing and monitoring. The trained technicians were able to conduct 20 on job trainings for 500 water technicians.

The awareness campaigns helped in enhancement the knowledge of Sarchinar community particularly the housewives and school children through the distribution of posters, leaflets, T-shirts, caps and hygiene kits on the importance of water, water conservation and hygiene awareness; which consequently will have impact on the health of the community through the decrease of the incidence of water borne diseases.

- **The key outputs achieved in the reporting period including # and nature of the activities (inputs), % of completion and beneficiaries.**

Output 1.1.1 Sarchinar water source protected based on Sanitary Survey;

The sanitary inspection for Sarchinar water facility 100% completed and helped in identifying the gaps within the water facility, and based on the inspection outcome, the chlorination system has improved in terms of storage, operation and maintenance; in addition to that, the water is tested four times daily before pumped to the end users to ensure its compliance with Iraqi Drinking Water Standards; which never happened before the intervention.

Output 1.1.2 Sarchinar Water Project upgraded through priority civil, mechanical and electrical repairs including provision of equipment.

The construction of chlorine hall was finalized; this work contributed to the increased access to improved water quality to 400,000 people in Suleimaniya city and Sarchinar district. Upgrading the mechanical and electrical installations of Sarchinar water project has reached 40%; contracting international pumping expert was done. The pumping expert finalized the assessment and provided the designs, specifications and necessary spare parts to be procured. The physical rehabilitation of electro-mechanical work was awarded to the local contractor.

Output 1.2: Water quality laboratory established within the Sarchinar water project and operational;

Essential water quality laboratory equipment, laboratory supplies and laboratory reagents were 100% procured and delivered to both DWS and DOH water quality laboratories. The equipment helped to perform a water quality testing for Sarchinar water facility before pumping it to consumers, also it will enhance the water quality monitoring at consumers level.

2.1 Water networks in priority high risk areas rehabilitated/ replaced

Rehabilitation/extension of Bakhtiary quarter water network benefiting 40,000 people and rehabilitation/extension of Sarchinar quarter water network benefiting 20,000 people were completed contributing to the improved access to safe water.

Output 2.2: Awareness campaigns on hygiene and water handling practices conducted;

Four hygiene awareness campaigns were implemented in Sarchinar sub-district; targeted housewives, school children and community leaders, around 15,000 people had benefitted from the campaigns, the awareness tools include posters, leaflets, T-shirts, caps and hygiene kits.



School children distributing awareness material

School children receiving awareness information

3.1 29 Government Authority staff trained in implementation, operation and management of water facilities

29 Government Engineers/Technical staff from (Suleimaniya, Erbil and Dohuk) water directorates were trained on the operation and maintenance of diesel generators (July – August 2010). The training aimed to build the capacity of the technical staff on Generators operation procedures and maintenance routines. This is to ensure sustainability of power supply to the water project including Sarchinar Water treatment Plant (WTP).

Output 3.2: Over 30 Government Authority staff trained in water quality monitoring and surveillance

During the reporting period, a five-day TOT course was conducted by WHO on chlorination techniques for 12 technicians from the DoWS; the 12 trainers have conducted on job training for more than 500 operators and chlorine technicians in the three northern governorates (Suleimaniyah, Erbil and Dohuk);



TOT for water quality laboratory technicians/ Suleimaniya

- **The delays in programme implementation, the nature of the constraints, actions taken to mitigate future delays and lessons learned in the process.**

Lack of data for Sarchinar water project and water networks delayed the project implementation, the absence of original drawings, flow meters and pressure meters resulted in delays in identification of scope of work for the international pumping expert and delayed the implementation of chlorine hall where a trunk pipe was found in the location identified for construction of chlorine hall leading to redesign of hall form the very beginning.

Upon obtaining of necessary information, UNICEF issued Request for Proposal for International Pumping Expert; however, only one company responded to the tender. According to UNICEF internal rules and regulations, contract could not be awarded based on the single offer. UNICEF did not carry out second bidding envisages difficulties in identifying suitable Expert due to lack of local expertise and unwillingness of international companies/experts to work in Iraq due to security conditions. Accordingly, it was agreed that General Directorate for Water and Sewerage and Suleimaniya Water Directorate will carry out tendering according to their rules and regulations. Suleimanya Water Directorate issued request for proposal and four companies responded. The bidding documents were reviewed by UNICEF and mutually agreed with the General Directorate for Water and Sewerage and Suleimaniya Water Directorate on the best bidder. The expert commenced the data collection, assessment and analysis work on 1 May 2010 and provided first draft of the recommended rehabilitation work based on amended design of the project and recommended spare parts list by end July 2010.

- **The key partnerships and collaborations, and their impact on the achievement of results.**

MMT/KRG, GDWS and SWD in addition to MoEnv and DoEnv were the main partners in this program; the governmental counterpart worked closely with UNICEF and WHO to ensure smooth implementation of project activities. Also the financial contribution of MMT/KRG to this project contributed to reduction of risk of outbreak of water-borne diseases in the targeted areas. Additionally, continuous sharing of information ensures streamlining of activities and conformity with the program outcomes.

The historical and well-built partnership between UNICEF and Iraqi water authorities' contributed to the achievement of project results.

- **Other highlights and cross-cutting issues pertinent to the results.**

In general, the project affects many cross-cutting issues. In terms of the environment, the project is targeting the protection of Sarchinar water resource from pollution through sanitary inspection and source protection. As a result, it will have a positive impact on the environment. In terms of gender, the project will benefit all water consumers (men, women and children); with regards to capacity building there was a conscious gender balance. At the training conducted by WHO/UNICEF was around 40% women participation. In relation to human rights, one of the primary goals of WHO and its Member States is that "all people, whatever their stage of development and their social and economic conditions, have the right to have access to an adequate supply of safe drinking water". In terms of employment creation, the rehabilitation works and local procurement and transport of goods create job opportunities. In terms of public participation, the hygiene campaign was based purely on public participation and targeted school children, housewives and community leaders.

V. Future Work Plan

- **The projected activities and expenditures for the following reporting period (1 January 2011 – completion of the project), using the lessons learned during the previous reporting period.**

During the future period, the rehabilitation of Sarchinar water project will be finalized with the cost of US\$845,140

Equipment and spare parts will be delivered to the Suleimaniya water directorate.

Final handing over of chlorine hall will be conducted by Suleimaniya water directorate.

As part of UNICEF capacity building plan, a training of 20 engineers on WaterCAD and SewerCAD design softwares will be conducted to improve technical staff capacity in planning and design of water and sewage networks and ensure effective operation of network.

Indicate any major adjustments in strategies, targets or key outcomes and outputs planned.

No major adjustment in strategies, targets or key outcomes is expected during the future reporting period.

VIII. INDICATOR BASED PERFORMANCE ASSESSMENT

	Performance Indicators	Indicator Baselines	Planned Indicator Targets	Achieved Indicator Targets	Reasons for Variance (if any)	Source of Verification	Comments (if any)
Outcome 1							
Output 1.1	Indicator 1.1.1	# of sanitary inspection conducted B: 0	# of sanitary inspection conducted T: 1	1	0	Sanitary inspection Survey report	Actions for improvement were implemented based on survey recommendations
	Indicator 1.1.2	Current operational capacity is 78,000 m ³ /day	400,000 upgraded to 216,000 m ³ /day capacity	0	The targeted indicator will be achieved upon completion of rehabilitation work of Sarchinar water project		
Output 1.2	Indicator 1.2.1	No any equipment for water quality	Essential equipment available for water quality testing	Yes	No variance	Receiving reports from DWS and WHO monitoring report.	Equipment are in use for water quality testing
	Indicator 1.2.2	B: 0	T: 1	Yes	No variance	DWS & WHO Reports	Water quality control laboratory established well equipped and function.

	Performance Indicators	Indicator Baselines	Planned Indicator Targets	Achieved Indicator Targets	Reasons for Variance (if any)	Source of Verification	Comments (if any)
Outcome 2							
Output 2.1	Indicator 2.1.1	N/A	Water networks in two priority high risk areas rehabilitated/ replaced.	Two water networks in two areas were implemented	No variances	UNICEF field progress assessment/ monitoring reports; BoQ/ Contract for civil works; Government records; Water project records	
Output 2.2	Indicator 2.2.1	B:0	T: 4	4 hygiene awareness implemented	No variance	DOEnv& WHO Progress Reports	
	Indicator 2.2.2	B: 0	T: 3000 Families	3500 families	Expanded the awareness capmains	DOEnv& WHO Progress Reports	
Outcome 3							
Output 3.1	Indicator 3.1.1	0	30	29	It was planned for 30 Participants but one participant didn't attend due to personal reasons	Progress reports Attendance of Training	29 staff trained on O&M of Generators, a second training of 20 engineers on WaterCAD&SewerCAD planned in beginning of April

	Performance Indicators	Indicator Baselines	Planned Indicator Targets	Achieved Indicator Targets	Reasons for Variance (if any)	Source of Verification	Comments (if any)
Output 3.2	Indicator 3.2.1	B: 0	T: 30	512 technicians trained	WHO put more resources for training additional chlorine operators based on the need and request from Ministry of Municipalities	DWS & WHO Technical and progress reports.	