

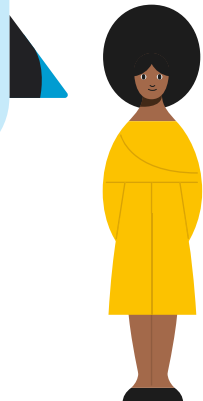


Water, Sanitation and Hygiene (WASH)

Young people are central to humanitarian WASH efforts as both learners and doers. The most efficient way to change adult behaviour is through educating young people, and today's young people will be the decision makers about the future use of water resources. In emergency contexts, WASH facilities (and the routes used to access them) can become areas of heightened threat for GBV. A major impediment to girls' school attendance is a lack of adequate water and sanitation facilities.

Empowering young people as WASH promoters assures that a project has a greater effect and more lasting impacts on communities. Many of the proven strategies in WASH are in areas that young people are naturally attracted to, such as: creating appealing campaigns; volunteerism; developing technical and communication skills; green technologies; peer-to-peer mobilization; cooperative learning and teamwork.¹⁶⁷

"Can you engage with social innovation for youth to bring innovative ideas in WASH problems, as youth bring innovative approaches."





Tip sheet

Key actions for WASH programming at each stage of the humanitarian programme cycle (HPC)

HPC phases	What to do	Tips for young people's participation
Needs assessment and analysis 1	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> → Collect data on the differing WASH needs of young people, and analyse these data disaggregated by sex, age and disability. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> → Hold consultations – grouped by age and sex of participants – with a diverse cross-section of young people in order to establish their needs and any barriers with regard to WASH and menstrual hygiene management (MHM).
Strategic planning 2	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> → Ensure that the WASH response plan addresses the needs of young people identified in the needs assessment, and from other relevant data on young people. → Ensure that intersectoral linkages are present in WASH response plans for young women, with attention to the Protection, Education and Health sectors. → Ensure the WASH response plan builds upon existing entry-points for WASH and young people, for example through schools and Community-Led Total Sanitation (see LIST OF RESOURCES ►), and school-based WASH initiatives. → Establish linkages with other sectors (Health, including sexual and reproductive health [SRH], and Protection, including gender-based violence [GBV]) on their planned interventions for adolescents and youth that may have complementarity to the WASH programmes (e.g., peer education and dissemination of MHM supplies, safety patrols, distribution of hygiene supplies). 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> → Consult with adolescents and youth during the design and development of strategic planning documents such as the WASH response plan and MHM interventions.

HPC phases	What to do	Tips for young people's participation
<p>Resource mobilization</p> <p style="text-align: center; font-size: 24px; font-weight: bold; background-color: #0070C0; color: white; border-radius: 50%; width: 40px; height: 40px; margin: 0 auto; display: flex; align-items: center; justify-content: center;">3</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> → Utilize information and key messages on young people's priorities and needs to influence WASH funding priorities, and regularly report on gaps in WASH to donors and other humanitarian stakeholders and partners. → Report on gaps for adolescents and youth in WASH programmes when reporting to donors and other humanitarian stakeholders. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> → Engage young people in developing key advocacy messages pertaining to their WASH needs.
<p>Implementation and monitoring</p> <p style="text-align: center; font-size: 24px; font-weight: bold; background-color: #0070C0; color: white; border-radius: 50%; width: 40px; height: 40px; margin: 0 auto; display: flex; align-items: center; justify-content: center;">4</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> → Ensure that WASH facilities are continuously safe, hygienic and accessible to all young people, including those with disabilities. → Ensure that WASH programmes provide opportunities for young people to have leadership roles in school and community WASH initiatives, including those who are not in school, and those living in vulnerable situations. → Work with adolescent girls and young women to integrate MHM throughout all WASH programming. → Develop and maintain feedback mechanisms for young people to express their views on the effectiveness and quality of WASH programmes. → Coordinate the implementation of WASH activities with Health (e.g., SRH) and Protection (e.g., GBV) interventions to complement distribution of supplies, dissemination of information, development of key messages, and training of adolescents and youth. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> → Engage with young people in the coordination mechanisms, design and implementation of WASH programmes, and dissemination of hygiene messaging. → Engage and consult with adolescent girls and young women on whether WASH facilities are adequately gender-segregated, perceived as secure and equipped for MHM (e.g., water for cleaning, waste disposal), and materials (e.g., correct type and size of pads).
<p>Operational peer review and evaluation</p> <p style="text-align: center; font-size: 24px; font-weight: bold; background-color: #0070C0; color: white; border-radius: 50%; width: 40px; height: 40px; margin: 0 auto; display: flex; align-items: center; justify-content: center;">5</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> → Review projects within the WASH response plans to assess if the needs of young people were effectively addressed through programming. → Document and disseminate good practices on addressing the needs of young people – particularly adolescent girls and young women – in WASH and MHM programming. → Evaluate the quality of MHM interventions to determine if there are adequate facilities (e.g., water for cleaning, waste disposal) and materials (e.g., correct type and size of pads) available. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> → Facilitate the participation of young people in WASH project reviews. → Ensure that vulnerable groups, such as pregnant or lactating women and young mothers, are able to safely and effectively raise their concerns during WASH programme reviews and evaluations.