

Guidance Note on Community-Led Repair and Maintenance of WASH Facilities in Rohingya Camps, Cox's Bazar



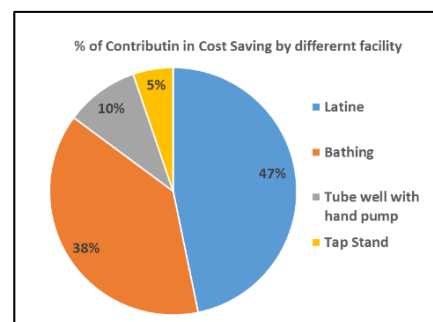
Background and Context

To ensure the safe access into functional WASH facilities, (like: latrine, bathing, tap stand, tube well with hand pump etc.) regular repair and maintenance is on the key factor. As the humanitarian response in Cox's Bazar moves into a protracted phase, so the continuation of repair and maintenance through paid volunteer is one of the central concern. To overcome this, community contribution through participation in WASH facilities repair and maintenance can be a way forward. A piloted project named “**Community Led Repair and Maintenance of WASH Facilities in the camps**” have been initiated by BRAC under UNICEF and UNHCR AoR. To get more insight on community led repair and maintenance of WASH facilities, WASH sector have formed a technical consultation group (TCG) with 11 members (mixed with WASH software and hardware personnel). The main objective of this group is to develop a guidance note on community led repair and maintenance of WASH facilities. To achieve the objective, TCG had been conducted several discussion meeting as well as 4 FGD (2 in the doers area and 2 in the non-doers area) with the community. Following key findings have been outlined from the FGDs and piloting:



Key Findings from the FGDs and piloting

- Community have been expressed the **willingness to continue and participate** in WASH facilities repair and maintenance through **physical labor, supervision and encouraging others to participate**.
- Although, **both men and women were participated** in doer areas, but **mostly men** have been **involved** in the repair work while **women contributed** by **encouraging, instructing, communicating and cleaning** due to **less skill and cultural barrier**.
- **Tools, materials, technical guidance and orientation** should be ensured by **WASH agencies**
- Small scale repair work (like: fixing the tap, fixing the locks, plastering floors, repairing bamboo fencing, replacing wooden frames, replacing hand pump handle, connecting rod, cylinder, small site protection work etc.) of **latrine, bathing, tap stand, hand pump and connecting drain** can be done by community participation.
- In total around **0.56 million USD** can be saved **annually** through community participation in repair of **latrine, bathing, tube well with hand pump and tap stand**



Recommendation:

Based on the evidence, community perception, current context as well as sustainable future scope of WASH facilities repair and maintenance, following recommendation have been outlined to scale up and promote this initiative:

- Community led repair and maintenance initiative need to be **scale up and promoted by WASH agencies** through the existing community engagement structure.
- Initially repair works of latrine, bathing, tap stand and tube well with hand pump can be started through this initiative. However, incorporation of other WASH facilities repair works can be done in future.
- **Tools and materials supply** should be ensured by **WASH agencies** through a central storage system at camp level including record keeping.
- **Technical guidance and orientation/training with field demonstration** will be ensured by **WASH agencies**. In the training content environmental, social, cultural and personal health safety should be incorporated
- Community can be ensured their participation through **physical labor, guidance, supervision, encouraging others to participate etc. In kind contribution** (like: buying tap, small cash contribution etc.) of community **need to be explore in future for the adaptation within this initiative.**
- **Adults and youth (18 – 40 years)** can be considered as ideal participants for the repairs works, however, elderly and person with disability people can be contributed through guidance, supervision and decision making process.
- Proper utilization of tools and material need to be ensured by WASH agencies through monitoring
- Community need to be ensured the return of tools and leftover materials to the WASH agencies
- As starting, following repair works can be done the community, however in future other works can be incorporated:
 - Fixing the tap
 - Tap stand and hand pump platform plastering
 - Handle, connecting and cylinder rod replacement
 - Cylinder Repair/Replacement
 - Plunger & Foot Valve Repair
 - Bucket/Washer/Check Valve Replacement
 - Head assembly, base plate, nut & bolt replacement
 - Washer Replacement
 - Flange Joint Tightening
 - Handle Pin Replacement
 - Cleaning of Pump Head & Cylinder
 - Floor, side wall, footrest plastering
 - Small Fixing of side wall steel sheet, Roof sheet, door sheet by nail plugging with wooden frame
 - Pan Replacing and earth excavation for pit
 - Small scale site protection through bamboo
 - Lock and door handle fixing
 - Privacy screener fixing



Plastering Work of Hand Pump and Tap Stand Platform



Component of Hand Pump

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Annex:

- [Community Consultation Questionnaire for Doer and Non Doer Camps](#)
- [Community Consultation Notes for Doer Camps \(01E & 14\)](#)
- [Community Consultation Notes for Non Doer Camps \(18 & 24\)](#)
- [Report on Community Consultation for Community-Led Repair and Maintenance of WASH Facilities](#)