

SIERRA LEONE

WASH IN HCF CONFERENCE IN
GENEVA

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ASSESSING READINESS OF HEALTH FACILITIES

By

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INTRODUCTION

Sierra Leone is remarkable as one of the most water rich countries in West Africa, yet also one of the poorest, where water scarcity and grossly inadequate sanitation threaten to compromise the gains of a hard won peace.

Relevant results of a 'Best Estimates' analysis, undertaken for UNICEF in September 2006 (Westhof, 2006), are summarized as follows:

Access to water: Use of improved drinking water resources national = 52% (MDG target 76%)

Urban 84% and

Rural 32%

Use of adequate sanitation national = 34% (MDG target 66%)

Urban 57.2%

Rural 10.3% (UNICEF 2006).

The country is seriously off-track for reaching most MDGs, including those on halving extreme income poverty, child mortality, life expectancy, water and sanitation and health. However, recent positive developments in governance, educational enrolment, legal reform on gender, together with widespread peace and a nationally endorsed decentralisation process, suggest an enabling environment to reverse this situation and improve social indicators.

ASSESSING READINESS OF HEALTH FACILITIES

Effective and efficient planning with SMART objectives (Plan, Implement, monitor and evaluate.

FACILITY IMPROVEMENT TEAM (FIT) assessment score select health facilities including CHCs on their readiness to provide Emergency Obstetric and Neonatal Care (EmONC) and BEmONC based on whether they meet certain criteria for each of seven enablers to provide quality care

The Enablers are:

- Water and Sanitation
- Electricity
- Referrals
- Blood storage and laboratory
- Equipment
- Staffing
- Drugs and supplies

PERFORMANCE RATING SCORE

GREEN	4 = MEET ALL CRITERIA
YELLOW	3 = MOSTLY MET CRITERIA
ORANGE	2 = PARTIALLY MET CRITERIA
RED	1 = NOT MET CRITERIA

WATER, SANITATION AND HYGIENE

WATER SUPPLY NEEDS TO BE

- Safe (ie drinkable)
- Piped and available in labour room, theatre toilet
- Available 24 hrs a day
- Effectively drained from the facility
- Functional hand washing facilities available in the labour ward, theatre and toilet

WASTE DISPOSAL

- Incinerator available and functional
- Waste bins for dry and wet waste with cover
- Functional autoclave

DEVELOP SOPs AND GUIDELINES AND DEVELOP
MONITORING AND EVALUATION TOOLS : FOR
ASSESSING ENVIRONMENTAL HEALTH AND
SANITATION SERVICES

SERVICE ABILITY AND READINESS ASSESSMENT (SARA) SURVEYS

A WELL DEVELOPED HEALTH INFORMATION
MANAGEMENT SYSTEM: provide baseline
information and data base.

From Joint Thinking to Joint Action: A Call to Action on Improving Water, Environmental Health and Sanitation at health facilities

Water, Environmental Health and Sanitation at Health Care Facilities: An Opportunity for Progress and sustainable development

THANK YOU