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Course Name: Post Graduate Diploma for water hygiene and Sanitation

### ASSIGNMENT 1

1. Suppose you work with a community radio station, describe what your radio station would do to address water, sanitation and hygiene issues with regard to your  
  
i) **Audience:** In regard to the audience on water, sanitation and hygiene, the radio plays an important role in raising awareness to influence changing the public opinion and the behavior of the target audience.

Additionally, the radio plays, a key role in raising advocacy so that the public and the humanitarian actors can extend to their support to areas that have gaps in water, sanitation and hygiene.

Radio programs serve an educational tool by passing messages to the audience to mobilize them against diseases outbreaks related to water borne, water washed, water based and water related diseases. Prevention measures against those diseases and community role in reporting cases detected to the nearest health centers and services available controlling the situations from pandemics is stressed.

Radio station can have held a motivational programs including sports, drama and plays, elevating community interactions, peaceful co-existence and sharing the limited water sources available. This improves protection of water sources through fencing and equitability of water, preparing the community, the attainment of the recommended 15l/ of water per person per day through the WASH sphere standard hand book.

The radio station can invite a fund raising programs through the community initiated development goals. Water being a scarce resource and a basic element for human and animal life, community elites organize presentations and broadcasts at the radio station stations encouraging community contributions and the permanent water sources that would be extracted if community makes the desired contributions. Looking from the sustainability, the believe they have to their local leaders, the community makes the contributions and the permanent water source is extracted. The community resource ownership is attained and the operation and maintenance of the water source is again very effective.

development and sustainable goals and

- ii) **WASH messages:** One has to select a message relevant to his audience and appropriate means of delivering the message to the right audience. The key messages passed to the audience are:
- a)** Messages of good handwashing.
  - b)** Hand washing steps.
  - c)** Maintaining Food and personal hygiene
  - d)** Excreta disposal
  - e)** Environmental hygiene.
  - f)** Critical times of hand washing
  - g)** Faecal route transmissions.
  - h)** ORS-(Oral rehydrated solution).
  - i)** Signs and symptoms of water borne diseases.

2. In your own words, what is your understanding of public health and what are its key elements?

Public health is the protection and the improvement of health of entire population through community wide-action, primarily by government agencies. Therefore, public health workers deal with the health status of a community. The key elements of public health include:

- a): Identification of community problems, make the necessary investigations of the community health hazards, coming to the diagnosis of the diseases.
- b): Public health workers inform people about health issues, educate and give the necessary community empowerment to resist diseases.
- c): Help community mobilization and engagement to strengthen strong community partnerships in identifying and solving community health problems.
- d): Help in developing policies and plans that supports the community and individual health efforts.
- e): Public health enforce laws and regulations that protects health and upholds safety.

f): Struggle to assure the provision of health care when not available to the community or at an individual level. Here it links people to the needed health services.

g): Advocates skilled and competent work force is available for the public and personal health care.

h): Conducts research for new insights, suggesting new innovative solutions to the health problems, and make checking and balance for accessibility and quality of personal and population based services.

3. Public health is about partnership between the different players. Explain how the role of international non-profit/NGO in terms of

i) **Recruitment:** Non-profit making organizations are those organizations whose services are not attached to any cost. They deliver services asking no pay and remuneration in return. The role of non-profit organizations in recruitment are

a): **Creation of Jobs:** Non-profit making organizations secure funds for projects. The implementation of these projects is always attached to service men and women and also contractors that implements on their behalf. Here persons involved benefits from their services by getting either salary for the fixed or partial term contracts and profits for the supply and procurements made for the non-profit organizations. All parts stay employed in the capacity of service offered.

b): **Advocacy:** Non-profit making organizations advocates for women, youth, people with disabilities and minority groups whose rights have been violated in one way or the other. Non-profit making organizations campaigns against gender based violence and women say no to any protection abuse. Additionally, they advocate resource distribution among people to attain basic human survival. Through non-profit making organizations voice many communities organized themselves and extracted permanent water sources, reliable sanitation facilities and mass hygiene campaigns leading community led total sanitations.

c): **Economic development:** professionals and skilled full People are employed, improving their income. The government in return collects taxes from the employees and services offered by the companies attached to the non-profit making organizations. This boasts the economic

development of a country as the government constructs roads, railway lines, electricity, communication networks and industrial development.

d): **Positive competition:** Non-profit making organizations recruits competent and people with profound knowledge to managerial positions. The managers again absorb position to subordinate people with good skills and ready to develop him/herself. Here then all persons in service compete for development and yearns to change positions.

ii) **Training:** Non-profit making organizations help in

a): **Individual in-service training:** The non-profit making organizations commits to train their staff on the best way of handling their jobs. The in-service trainings are either short term and long term trainings and staff is prepared to handle their jobs professionally.

b): **Individual staff development:** End term performance appraisal, good performing staff are promoted, delegated or send to missions to expound his experience. This eases individuals with good career growth to ascend the ladder in short time and grow to decision making position.

c): **Works ethics:** Staff are trained in good ethics to prepare them grow as a role models to the people they serve. Staff should groom professionally and carry preach with a lot of good. Punctuality and time management is taken seriously. Report submissions and tight deadlines is a robust in non-profit making organizations.

iii) **funding:** Non-profit making organizations secure funding to sponsor projects through community developments. Some of the projects include:

a): **Projects improving access to water, hygiene and sanitation for target locations:** Water being a basic and limited resource, many populations among third world and developing countries have serious problems. Non-profit making organizations advocates to uplift the said shortages and it happened they played an important role in improving the problems. Improving hygiene and sanitation services reduced diseases, improved dignity and protected gender based violence.

b): **Projects improving environmental impact assessments:** All interventions are connected to human and environment. Therefore, non-profit making organizations secured funding to assessment environmental factors and the likelihood of events before and after interventions.

c): **Research projects:** Non-profit making organizations conducts research to new innovations of identifying new opportunities to cut prevailing diseases and also encourage better methodologies of offering response to yearn development goals.

iv) **monitoring for public health projects contribute to the success or failure of those projects in the developing countries.**

Monitoring of public health projects creates proper and timely planning for pandemics thereby gearing the necessary response including vaccinations such as polio, measles, diphtheria and other childhood infections.

Monitoring of public health projects enables reduced cost for medical services to individuals especially children, pregnant and nursing women and people with special needs.

Monitoring of public health projects attributes good design and sewage regular tests. This ensures drinking water is clean and not contaminated by sewage hence preventing water borne diseases.

4. In your capacity as the environmental health officer you have been tasked to lead the assessment of a disaster situation. Come up with two key questions under each of the following five headings in your assessment list, namely

i) **General overview of the situation:** This is the observation one makes to understand and charge the degree of the disaster. The question he/she ask him/herself are:

a): How is the general living condition of the community? I.e. Livelihood, health and nutrition status, presence of governmental and non-governmental organizations.

b): What services are available? Access to services, roads, markets, health and sanitation services.

c): What is the community knowledge? Community level of education, community awareness and hygiene and sanitation campaigns including community's ability to practice safe hygiene such as having the knowledge and resource.

- d): Is their ongoing WASH and Health interventions?
- e): What are the main needs and priorities of the community on WASH services?

iii) **Water supply:**

- a): What are the existing water source? These one concerns of the main water source of the community such as shallow wells, boreholes, Barkets and other seasonal water storage pans.
- b): How is the accessibility of the water to the communities? Water accessibility includes location of the water source, distribution systems (pipelines, water point and other means of drawing water). Also water accessibility the queuing time and protection related concerns and measures such possible risks and abuses to women in the process of water collections.
- c): Is the water Affordable? The status of the borehole in providing sufficient water to the target communities, communities (vulnerable and drought affected people) position/able in get household needed water, water price per 20l jericans. This can reflect to capacity of the borehole such storage capacity and solar power system.
- d): Is there existing water management committees? Existing of water management committees contribute majorly to the sustainability of the water source in providing water to the target communities. Water committees take lead in the mobilization of the communities to improve the source such as rehabilitations of the distribution pipes, water points, control the system/engine and operation systems.

iii) **Solid-waste disposal**

- a) Do the communities have rubbish/waste pits? drainage lines?
- b) Are there stagnant waters all around in and out of homes?
- c) Are the designated areas for waste disposals or incinerators for the health centers?

iv) **Excreta disposal**

- a): Do the community have latrines? If yes, how is their situation?
- b): Do the community use latrines? If yes, check if any faeces on the slab of the latrines.
- a): Knowledge of the communities on hygiene situations

- v) **Vector-borne diseases for purposes of assessing local conditions, health needs and identifying local resources in the disaster situation that you are addressing.**
- a):** Are there cases of diseases in the recent days? -Refer after the disaster outbreak and record from the signs and symptoms of the said diseases.
- b):** What did they use against mosquito bites? Record from the client if the uses mosquito nets for malaria protection.

**NB: All questions carry 10 marks each**