Assignment

1. Explain 5 reasons why emergencies can put people at greater risk of waterborne disease.

An emergency is a dangerous or serious situation, such as an accident, that happens suddenly or unexpectedly and needs immediate action (Dictionary.cambridge.org, 2019). It may include fire outbreak, floods, droughts, communal conflict, wars and all forms of natural disaster. In some emergency situation and all complex emergencies, there are relative breakdown in basic amenities namely piped and treated water, electricity, health services, phones services, etc., and it may result in many people fleeing their natural habitat and moving to safe haven which maybe a host community, Internally Displaced Persons (IDP) camps or Refugee camps.

Meanwhile, Complex emergencies are situations of disrupted livelihoods and threats to life produced by warfare, civil disturbance and large-scale movements of people, in which any emergency response has to be conducted in a difficult political and security environment (Who.int, 2019). Complex emergencies are mostly beyond the capacity of the affected community or country because of the scale of the devastation.

People in emergency situations described above are generally much more susceptible to waterborne disease because:

* They lack structured sanitation infrastructures and practices,
* They have inadequate water supplies and poor hygiene because of the makeshift accommodation.
* Overcrowding.
* IDPs or Refugees are exposed to new pathogens

1. Sustainability is essential in any project. Substantiate this claim. How is sustainability achieved in donor funded projects? Explain 3 aspects

Sustainability in project entails the planning, monitoring and controlling of project delivery and support processes, with consideration of the environmental, economical and social aspects of the life-cycle of the project’s resources, processes, deliverables and effects, aimed at realizing benefits for stakeholders, and performed in a transparent, fair and ethical way that includes proactive stakeholder participation. (Gilbert Silvius, 2015, Considering Sustainability in Project Management Processes). A project planned, executed and managed with focus on sustainability will facilitated the realization of the following benefits (Pmi.org, 2019):

* Institutional stability
* Continued operation and maintenance of project facilities
* Continuous flow of net benefits
* Maintenance of environmental stability
* Equitable sharing and distribution of project benefits
* Continued community participation
* Opportunities for increased program impact,
* Sequence and continuity in educational programs,
* Clarification of actions and resources needed to implement a program,
* Planned program marketing,
* Improved evaluation and accountability,
* Improved scheduling and management of time and other resources, and
* Greater personal satisfaction through a sense of progress and accomplishment.

Sustainability is achieved in donor funded projects in three stages namely planning, implementation/construction and post implementation/construction stage.

* During the planning stage: Participatory planning, socially inclusive designs and technology choice.

Participatory planning as defined here involves the systematic effort to envision a community’s desired future and planning for that future, while involving and harnessing the specific competencies and input of community residents, leaders, and stakeholders in the process (Anon, 2019). While social inclusive designs in WASH adopts the following in the planning and design of WASH facilities:

* + Inclusive – so everyone can use it safely, easily and with dignity
  + Responsive – taking account of what people say they need and want
  + Flexible – so different people can use it in different ways
  + Convenient – so everyone can use it without too much effort or separation
  + Accommodating for all people, regardless of their age, gender, mobility, ethnicity or circumstances
  + Welcoming – with no disabling barriers that might exclude some people
  + Realistic – offering more than one solution to help balance everyone’s needs and recognizing that one solution may not work for all

The benefits of inclusive design are wide-ranging and can lead to greater social inclusion and sustainable usage by people of different social class and status (Inclusive Design Hub, 2019).

* During construction stage: Location (site selection), quality assurance (effective management during construction) and focus on functionality.

Community participation in site selection and interest in the project to ensure that peculiarities of the communities and community knowledge are integrated into the project implementation for sustainable usage.

* During post-construction stage: Management, operation and maintenance and governance.

The benefiting communities must be supported to establish governance bodies to provide oversite, control and direction for the sustainable operation and maintenance of the facilities deployed.

The three aspect of sustainability are sustainable behaviour, financial sustainability, and good governance and social accountability.

1. Sustainability of behaviour change

So the sustainability of a certain behaviour means that the ability of an individual to maintain that behaviour (in this case a hygiene and sanitation behaviour) for a long time. Ideally the behaviour change becomes a habit, something that is so familiar it is routinely practiced correctly, without variation and without thinking.

1. Financial sustainability

Financial sustainability refers to the ability to generate adequate revenue from provision of services, in order to cover expenses and generate additional money for future needs. In simple terms, there must be more money coming in than there is going out.

WASH facilities are usually designed and operated in such a way that that they can generate income (revenue). The income is collected from users, who may be individuals in the community, companies and organizations. These users may pay for the services they get on a regular basis or per use. A group or company is established to manage the facility, its revenues and expenses. For example, a private company may take on a contractual agreement with a municipality to manage a public latrine.

1. Good governance and social accountability

WASH facilities and services are provided as a result of decisions made by those with leadership roles. These decisions include approval of plans, allocation of necessary resources for construction and enforcement of standards during construction and service periods. Such leaders also create and support management bodies for WASH facilities, establish tariff rates and manage revenues from WASH services. Decisions made by those who assume responsibility at different levels affect the sustainability of WASH services enormously.

1. How would you explain what advocacy means to a colleague who is not a WASH worker? Explain the difference between policy advocacy and programme advocacy.

Advocacy means making a case in support of a particular cause. It is a process that aims to influence decisions within political, economic and social systems and institutions to take ownership of cause or proposed change.

Policy advocacy involves trying to influence senior politicians who are responsible for policy setting and aims to get changes in policies and legislation. It is also defined as the process of negotiating and mediating a dialogue through which influential networks, opinion leaders, and ultimately, decision makers take ownership of your ideas, evidence, and proposals, and subsequently act upon them (Advocacyguide.icpolicyadvocacy.org, 2019). While programme advocacy is more localised and directed to make changes in the opinions and attitudes of local leaders.

1. Outline four particular challenges involved in urban WASH advocacy.

These challenging activities could include:

1. Educating national and local political leaders on urban WASH
2. Strengthening policy dialogues between communities, civil society groups and decision makers
3. Urging increased funding for government-funded urban WASH programmes
4. Supporting high-quality urban WASH messaging in local news media etc. may require more time and resources.
5. What do you understand by community mobilization? Describe briefly how it can be achieved.

b). Explain why knowing your community is essential for effective community mobilization.

Community mobilization is the process of mobilizing people within communities. This means encouraging and supporting them to act together to achieve desired community goals. Communities can be mobilized through helping them to identify their priorities, resources, needs and solutions.

b. Knowing the community is essential for effective community mobilizations because you need to understand the people in the community and the issues that are important to them. Facilitators should be familiar with the social structure of the community and the different groups and their leaders. Knowing about language, culture, religion and economic status are also important. It’s important to identify the key stakeholders who have influence of others and who are likely to lead any decision-making process. For WASH projects, the current water supply situation, sanitation habits and health status of the community are also essential information.

**References**

Anon, (2019). [online] Available at: https://www.igi-global.com/dictionary/place-making-through-participatory-planning/21944 [Accessed 31 Aug. 2019].

Dictionary.cambridge.org. (2019). *EMERGENCY | meaning in the Cambridge English Dictionary*. [online] Available at: https://dictionary.cambridge.org/dictionary/english/emergency [Accessed 31 Aug. 2019].

Inclusive Design Hub. (2019). *What is Inclusive Design? - Inclusive Design Hub*. [online] Available at: http://inclusivedesign.scot/what-is-inclusive-design/ [Accessed 31 Aug. 2019].

Pmi.org. (2019). *Fundamentals of project sustainability*. [online] Available at: https://www.pmi.org/learning/library/fundamentals-project-sustainability-9369 [Accessed 31 Aug. 2019].

Who.int. (2019). *WHO | Complex emergencies*. [online] Available at: https://www.who.int/environmental\_health\_emergencies/complex\_emergencies/en/ [Accessed 31 Aug. 2019].

Advocacyguide.icpolicyadvocacy.org. (2019). *2.1 Defining policy advocacy | Making Research Evidence Matter*. [online] Available at: https://advocacyguide.icpolicyadvocacy.org/21-defining-policy-advocacy [Accessed 31 Aug. 2019].