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**COURSE:**

**ONLINE POSTGRADUATE DIPLOMA IN WASH**

**ASSIGNMENT: NO. ONE**

**AUGUST 2019**

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**Online postgraduate Diploma in WASH**

**Subject: Assignment NO. 1 Date: 24/08/2019**

**Question one 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**

1. **Audience**

Radio communication is one of the media coverage which very important disseminating the messages of WASH in developing countries and it also cover the large part of the community within the shortest time, however radio is very important particularly the illiterate community can understand the messages simply.

The first thing my radio station would do to let my audience understand the message is to allow them to express their feeling about the effect of bad hygiene practices through phone call or by hosting one the well-known person either chief or any other person who is capable to let the community understand the message.

I would also play traditional songs that are discouraging bad hygiene practice within that community and some other songs that are praising those who perform well in hygiene and sanitation activities.

1. **WASH Messages**

WASH messages are some of the vital messages that every community would want to listen to it because it would give them an opportunity eradicate the current and the future damage that might be cause by the bad practice of WASH.

Therefore WASH messages are disseminated in many ways either through posters showing some picture of WASH bad practice and good practice but all those are secondary source of getting message and the primary source of getting the quality WASH messages is the radio because not everyone in the community is literate to read what is written on the poster concerning WASH messages.

However I would arrange the program to when exactly the community would be attentive to listen to the message and I would collect the opinion from them on how the message should be published.

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

Public health refers to health care and health promotion that targets a population or particular group within the population which means it is the practice of preventing disease and promoting good health within groups of people from small communities to entire countries. It does also rely on policy and research strategies to understand issues such as infant mortality and chronic disease in particular population.

The key elements of public health are as follow:

1. **Protection:** The first mission of public health is to protect the population against exposure to illness that are contagious person-person or transmissible from environmental source like tainted food, polluted water, air pollution, this basic function, which protects the public against “enemies of the people” in this case not foreign militaries but rather foreign (or domestic) microbes, bring the formal power of the state to bear against biological and /or environmental threats.
2. **Prevention:** Public health practitioners also work to identify and arrest threats to health (which may or may not originate in contagions or environmental assaults) before they strike. The strategies deployed- vaccinations, screening for an ever-longer list of conditions e.g. diabetes, cancer of the breath and diseases management (which aims to keep ailments like diabetes from worsening), create an ambiguous partnership between public health and the medical community in defining (sub) population at risk and identifying and applying procedures and treatments.
3. **Promotion:** In its quest to keep people well, public health increasingly adopts means that transcend the conventional preventive agenda. Strategies conducive to health “healthy living” which may extend from encouragement to eat more fresh fruits and vegetables and fewer fatty, salty foods and to get more exercise.
4. **Prognosis:** Because public health professional try to anticipate threats to the health of the public, surveillance and monitoring of health conditions in communities are traditional tools in their strategic kit. That these tools ought to be broadened and put in services of genuine planning that would replace institutional fragmentation with the comprehensive, coherent, coordinated arrangements communities deserve has long been a central tenet among public health aficionados.
5. **Provision:** In many developed countries across the world, public health institutions – especially city, county, and state health centers, clinics, and hospitals- delivers medical services to disadvantaged citizens (particularly the uninsured and some of those covered by Medicaid) and non-citizens, including illegal aliens.

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

1. **Recruitment:** NGO recruit expert and local base staffs who are from that area where the project is being implemented because they have proper understanding of the disaster and are locally known by the community they will be working for and they also have better understanding of how community behave.
2. **Training:** NGO provide adequate training to make sure that their project are properly implemented by their staffs as required by the community
3. **Funding:** all NGOs are implementing different projects base on the funding they get from donors but they differ in positive impact brought by the project to the communities, this is done through project monitoring and evaluation whether the project has a positive impact and any change brought to the community by project.
4. **Monitoring for public health projects contribute to the success or failure of those projects in the developing countries:**

Most of the public health projects are implemented in rural areas and these areas may have no access to proper road network or may have insecurity like civil war in that location where the project is being implemented, when monitoring is carried out after the conflict then the project is said to have failed to implement the expectation of the donor and the demand of the community.

Another project may be successful if the implementing agency has correctly allocate the project in a community who are in need of that particular project and they are ready to protect the project from any failure due to insecurity. Therefore, the most important thing that may let the projects fail or succeed is the proper identification of target population and the geographical location of the projects.

**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;**

1. **General overview of the situation:** In general overview of the situation, you have to asked the historical background of the disaster situation whether this disaster has ever occurred before, if it has, then there would be two questions, one would be did you received any indicators or warning regarding this disaster?

How did you cope with it when it happened, it means that what the community did in order to avoid the severe effect of the disaster on the community. And another have you ever received any support from either government or NGO regarding the disaster?

1. **Water supply:** In this case you ask the community where do they normally get their water from, you asked if they get their water from open source either pool or open well or do they have protected source such as drilled borehole or do they get water supply from water tankers and another question would be how do they store their water whether water collected open source or protected source unprotected source
2. **Solid waste disposal:** As an environmental officer you have to ask where they dispose their waste material. Are they dumping their waste openly meaning randomly or is there any specific location chosen far away from residential areas as dumping site? Do they have rule that regulate the disposal of waste material in case of any violation?
3. **Excreta disposal:** Here you ask the community where do they dispose their excreta like how do they urinate, do they have latrine in public places or does every household has a latrine or do they use open defecation (OD)
4. **Vector-borne diseases for purposes of assessing local conditions, health needs and identifying local resources in the disaster situation that you are addressing.**

Vector-borne diseases are spread by means of insect or rodent vectors, these diseases are like malaria which is cause by the bites of mosquitoes (anopheles). Here you ask the community what do they think the cause of malaria and what do they normally do prevent the cause of malaria; another vector that cause diarrhea is the houseflies.

What do they do to prevent diarrhea and what do they think as the cause of diarrhea. In this case the community may come up with solution of preventing the spread of these diseases by digging pit latrine and making the surrounding environment clean.

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