**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:
2. **Audience.**

Audience refers to a group of people who participate in a show or encounter a work of art, literature, theatre, music, video games, or academics in any medium. Audience members participate in different ways in different kind of art. Some events invite overt audience participation and others allowing only modest clapping, criticism and reception.

With regards to radio audience awareness, people should be aware about the effect of bad environment and its result on people. If they know this, they will ask solution of such problem, hence allowing the intervention from public health projects.

1. **WASH messages?**

Radio WASH messages to the public or audience would be based on problem analysis on the following headings:

1. **The importance of washing hands with soap or ash at five critical times.**
2. **General cleaning of the environment of the households.**
3. **Avoiding open defecations.**
4. **Cleaning of the water containers with soap or ash.**
5. **Avoid sharing rooms with animals or poultry.**
6. In your own words, what is your understanding of public health and what are its key elements?

Public health refers to "the science and art of preventing disease, prolonging life and promoting health through organized efforts and informed choices of society, organizations, public and private, communities and individuals." It is concerned with threats to health based on population health analysis.

Overall, public health is concerned with protecting the health of entire populations. These populations can be as small as a local neighborhood, or as big as an entire country or region of the world.

Public health professionals try to prevent problems from happening or recurring through implementing educational programs, recommending policies, administering services and conducting research—in contrast to clinical professionals like doctors and nurses, who focus primarily on treating individuals after they become sick or injured. Public health also works to limit health disparities. A large part of public health is promoting healthcare equity, quality and accessibility.

**The Key elements of Public health**

Public health has identified the following essential elements that define public health practices:

a)- **Monitoring health Status**. To identify community health problems on daily basis, in case of disease outbreak, the report has to be taken to the authorities concerned to response to the problem immediately.

b)- **Diagnose and investigate**. This refers to diagnose and investigating community health problems and health hazards.

c)- **Inform, educate and empower people** about health issues.

d)- **Mobilizes the community partnerships** to identify and solve health problems.

e)- **Develop policies and plans** that support individuals and community health efforts.

1. Public health is about partnership between the different players. Explain how the role of international non-profit/NGO in terms of i)-recruitment, ii) training, iii) funding, iv) monitoring for public health projects contribute to the success or failure of those projects in the developing countries.

Ans: Non-profit organizations play critical roles in public health by providing health services that government agencies and private businesses. Non- profit sector provides solutions for health issues related to infectious diseases, public safety, environmental hazards and disparities in health care that threatens the well beings of the communities around the world. The roles of non-profit in public health leads to failure success under the following headings:

1. **recruitment**

This leads to failure in public health if wrong people are recruited, e.g. unqualified and will lead to success if qualified people are recruited.

**ii) training**

Recruited people should be given intensive training in order to equip them with knowledge that can help public and the communities at large.

**iii) funding**

Enough and accurate funding should be provided to public health projects in order to complete the cycle of the projects successfully and not provided, the project will fail.

**iv ) - Monitoring.**

monitoring for public health projects contribute to the success if regular monitoring is carried out and it leads to failure of the project if no good monitoring policy provided by the project authorities concerned.

1. 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 ii)Water supply iii) Solid-waste disposal iv) Excreta disposal and v) Vector-borne diseases for purposes of assessing local conditions, health needs and identifying local resources in the disaster situation that you are addressing.

Assessing disaster situation is a process of determining the nature and extent of risk by analyzing potential hazards and evaluating existing conditions of vulnerability and capacity.

Disaster Risk assessment is a process to determine the nature and extent of such risk, by analyzing hazards and evaluating existing conditions of vulnerability that together could potentially harm exposed people, property, services, livelihoods and the environment on which they depend. In this way, informed decisions can be made regarding steps to reduce the impacts of disasters.

A comprehensive risk assessment not only evaluates the magnitude and likelihood of potential losses in case of a disaster but also provides full understanding of the causes and impact of those losses. DRA is an integral part of the decision making process. It therefore needs to engage multi-stakeholders from various disciplines and requires close cooperation and collaboration of different organizations and institutions of the target area.

The disaster risk assessment should be done in the following steps:

1. Assessing the situation
2. Get help
3. Assess the environment
4. Assess the injuries
5. Know your limits.

At this point, you can perform basic triage and assess the injured people involved in the emergency situation. Look to the most vulnerable individuals first, see if you can help any of the ones with the most immediate medical needs. Ideally, you’d have an EDC bag with a first aid kit on you, or perhaps even a trauma kit in a bug out bag to use. If not, do the best you can with what you have: alcohol in your car or tearing up clothes to use as bandages would be great in these types of situations. Check for loss of consciousness, major bleeds, and asphyxiation, and deal accordingly, again, from the most to least injured. Your goal is never to completely heal victims, but to keep as many of them alive as possible until the physicians arrive. Never forget that.

Therefore, the two key questions under each of the following five headings would be as follows:

1. General overview of the situation.

A)- Who are the people affected by the disaster?

B)- What is their immediate need?

2- Water Supply.

A ) – What is the Quantity of Water needed at the situation

B ) – Who are the most people affected by the Disaster that need water?

3 – Solid waste disposal.

A ) – what are the targeted solid waste?

B ) – Which method would be used to dispose them?

4 – Excreta disposal

Excreta disposal is given less priority in emergencies than other humanitarian interventions, such as **health care, food and water supply**. This despite the fact that many of the most common diseases occurring in emergency situations are caused by inadequate sanitation facilities and poor hygiene practices.

5 – Vector Borne diseases

Natural disasters (hurricanes, floods, earthquakes and volcanic eruptions) can contribute to the transmission of some diseases provided the causative agent is already in the environment. Rapid changes in the human environment may occur also as a result of acts of war or of other man made circumstances including major industrial accident

When disasters hit disease transmission risk factors increase, vector control activities are disrupted and pre-existing emergency plans must become operational. Experts have noted that the majority of these plans are too rigid and should be adapted to local circumstances. The optimum use of available resources should always be taken into account.

In the period immediately following a hurricane, the risk of acquiring malaria, dengue or encephalitis may decrease as a result of the destruction of breeding places of the local vectors. The epidemiological situation is likely to change a few weeks later. It is necessary to watch for indirect effects of the disaster. Destruction of aqueducts will prompt the population to accumulate fresh water in temporary containers, which constitute an ideal breeding place for dengue carrying mosquitoes. Casualties resulting from earthquakes may increase the demand for blood transfusion, a risk in itself in areas where Chagas' disease is endemic. Living conditions in temporary camps increase man-vector contacts.

**Prepared by:**

**John Tuol machot Jech**

**PGD in WASH,**

**Hygiene promotion lead trainer**

**Waster for Lakes**

**Rumbek South Sudan**

**Tel. no. 0921297445**