

UNHCR Greece

WASH Sector Inter-Agency Coordinator

Terms of Reference (ToR)

Context

Over one million refugees and migrants undertook the perilous journey across the Mediterranean into Europe in 2015, the majority having crossed the Aegean Sea from Turkey to Greece. Despite worsening weather conditions brought on by the onset of winter, movements did not subside. These were mainly driven by the absence of political solutions to major conflicts in the Syrian Arab Republic (Syria), Iraq and Afghanistan, as well as the increasing number of refugee populations in neighbouring countries of first asylum affected inter alia by deteriorating living conditions, leading to onward movements out of desperation.

Border restrictions in February 2016 and subsequent closure in countries along the Western Balkan route have led to a large build-up of refugees and migrants in Greece. Since early March, new sites are regularly being opened and operated by the Government on the mainland with some 55,000 people currently living in 40+ of these sites across the country.

Although the Greek Authorities, Military and NGOs and have been responding around the clock to the current crisis, thousands of PoCs still have little or no access to basic services and of particular concern is access to water and sanitation. Under the coordination of the National Level Inter-Sector Inter-Agency Coordination Structure, the WASH Sector Inter-Agency National Level Working Group has been established as a response to the refugee and migrant influx into Greece. The Working Group aims to coordinate the efforts of the humanitarian agencies and key actors for the refugees in camps/sites and in host communities across Greece.

Objective

The objective of the National Level WASH Sector Inter-Agency Coordinator is to guide, lead and coordinate the WASH Sector and its established sub-national (regional) WASH working groups to ensure the effective and timely provision of coordinated WASH actions in support of Persons of Concern (PoC). The National Level WASH Sector Inter-Agency Coordinator reports to the Senior Inter-Agency Coordination Officer. The role aims to promote:

1. Responses based on needs.
2. Comprehensive and credible assessments of needs, resources and capacities.
3. Implementation based on agreed appropriate Minimum Standards, indicators and timelines.
4. Monitoring and reporting against the above standards, indicators and timelines.
5. Strengthened humanitarian WASH response through high standards of predictability, accountability and partnership.

Tasks

In close collaboration and supported by the National Level WASH Sector Inter-Agency Co-Coordinator, the National Level WASH Sector Inter-Agency Coordinator will be responsible to lead, facilitate and guide the following functional areas:

Assessment and Analysis

- Participate in joint WASH needs assessment and analysis.

- Organise WASH needs assessments when necessary.
- Collect and analyse available data related to current and planned WASH sector activities.

Coordination of Programme Implementation

- Ensure that national and/or internationally accepted and relevant standards and policies are applied and adapted in close coordination with the relevant Government Ministries, UN agencies and Implementing Partners.
- Ensure appropriate coordination with partners and other sectors in implementing the WASH strategy
- Promote the integration of agreed cross-cutting issues (protection, age, gender, diversity and the environment) using participatory approaches.
- Secure commitments from partners in implementing timely and proportionate WASH programmes that respond to needs and fill gaps.
- Coordinate as needed with local civil and military actors.

Monitoring of Programme Implementation

- Ensure adequate monitoring mechanisms are in place to assess the impact of activities and progress against plans and targets.
- Ensure adequate reporting and effective information sharing using agreed Information Management (IM) modalities e.g. UNHCR website, Dropbox.
- Provide input to information material to be disseminated through the WASH sector website.
- Regularly exchange information and Best Practices with relevant stakeholders.
- Provide and coordinate input to WASH sector 4W (Who What When Where) charts and regularly update Inter-Sector Coordination on changes and updates made.

Planning and Strategy Development

- Develop a common strategic framework and guidelines on the WASH Sector response.
- Identify geographical and thematic gaps in coverage.
- Update agreed response strategies and action plans according to the evolving context.
- Promote synergies with other actors active in complementary sectors, in particular Health, Shelter and SMS (CCCM).
- Draw lessons from activities and beneficiary feedback to revise strategies/plans accordingly.
- Ensure that the WASH sector response is guided by relevant policies, minimum standards and commitments that the Government has undertaken.
- Ensure approval by relevant national and regional authorities of the strategic documents produced in the coordination of the WASH Sector by the WASHWGs.

Advocacy and Resource Mobilization

- Support members in advocating for donors to fund WASH activities, while at the same time encouraging WASHWG members to mobilize resources and leverage programme funds through their usual channels.
- Support discussions with main stakeholders on prioritization, resource mobilization and advocacy on WASH issues.

Training and Capacity Building

- Support capacity building initiatives so that Persons of Concern (PoCs) and Implementing Partners acquire the needed knowledge, skills and sense of responsibility/ownership of WASH programmes.
- Support efforts to strengthen the capacity of National Authorities and Civil Society.
- Share relevant guidelines and information materials on WASH activities with WASHWG.

The National Level WASH Sector Inter-Agency Coordinator will act as focal point for WASH within the Inter-Sector Inter-Agency Working Group and will endeavour to establish fruitful working relationships and shared coordination structures with the Greek authorities and Military.

Drafted in Athens on 07 June 2016