

National WASH Multi-Stakeholder Forum 7

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Status of Emergency WASH: Preparedness, Response and Planning Process

The case of Tigray and Afar National Regional States

Summary Report of Joint Technical Review-IX Mission

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Outline of the Presentation

- **Background**
- **Objective the Emergency WASH JTR-IX**
- **Status of Emergency WASH**
- **Opportunities and Challenges**
- **Recommendations**
- **Lessons Learnt and Innovations**



Background

- Ethiopia is vulnerable to many forms of hazards and has a long history of natural and complex/chronic disasters
- Integrated planning and coordination is required among stockholders to combat drought and WASH related emergencies
- For the Water, Sanitation and Hygiene (WASH) Sector, coordination has always been a challenge as it involves different Ministries and several DPs/NGOs.
- The establishment of the Water Sector Working Group and Emergency WASH Task Force (ETF) a step in the right direction.
- The ETF is a platform which brings together partners involved in Emergency work (DPs, NGOs)
- Emergency WASH at Federal level is coordinated and led by the MoWIE. (Co-chaired by UNICEF)
- The level of coordination, information sharing and etc. Can be rated as moderately good. (Meeting frequency is bi-monthly)
- Emergency WASH is selected as one of the themes in this year's JTR to review the emergency WASH preparedness and response approaches including the coordination status of selected Regions; Tigray and Afar Region.



OBJECTIVES OF THE EMERGENCY WASH JTR MISSION

- **The main objective of the JTR mission is to assess the existing:-**
 - preparedness
 - Response; and
 - planning processes
- **This includes**
 - looking the existing structural arrangements to respond to WASH emergencies;
 - how it is linked up with the annual work plan of the Regional Water Bureaus and Woreda Water Offices structure;
 - allocation of contingency budget at all levels;
 - the existing linkage of the emergency affected areas with the development works of the stakeholders.



Status of Emergency WASH

(Hazards, Coordination , planning preparedness and response)

Hazards

- **Tigray**
 - Drought as a result of failure rainfall
- **Afar Region**
 - Drought
 - Flooding
 - Conflict (with communities of neighbouring regions)



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Coordination:- Regional Level

- **Emergency WASH Coordination is strong Tigray**
 - Joint assessment of the affected locations
 - Developing contingency plans
- **Detailed plan and reporting of who is doing what and where needs improvement**
- **Emergency Coordination is moderately good in Afar**
 - Huge gap in implementation of plans and decision-making found between government agencies
- **Linkage with DPPFSCO and the regional water bureau strong in Afar.**



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Coordination:- Woreda Level

- Coordination in Afar and Tigray chaired by Woreda Administrator.
- Task force at Kebele level
 - Leaders of the Kebele, representatives of youth and women associations, representatives of teachers, development agents, and health extension workers
- Generally, except one Woreda in Tigray, coordination is weak and needs improvement



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Preparedness and Response

Tigray:

- Early preparedness plans to avert the expected hazards in the year
- Strategies used:
 - Providing spare parts for rehabilitation of non-functional water schemes
 - Revolving fund at woreda level supports continuous availability of the needed spare parts
 - Rehabilitation and maintenance crews in four clusters

Afar:

- Not to the level of expectation (As compared to the scale of the problem)
 - Only two mobile garages and two cranes to do maintenance work in the whole region



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Linkages of Emergency WASH with Development

- In all woredas the linkage between the Emergency situation and development is almost zero
- DRM/FSS document was not adopted by any stakeholder
- Regional ETF is expected to develop the guiding framework to bring all implementers on board



OPPORTUNITIES CHALLENGES

OPPORTUNITIES

- Tigray: Team who study the hydrogeology of the drilling locations and designs makes the water development simple
- JTR gave a good opportunity for all partners to bring them on the same interface to discuss
 - issues, barriers and challenges;
 - help to act according to the principles of One WASH framework

Challenges

- Work for emergency is understood as action once the situation is “on”
- This understanding weakens the response
- Woredas are expecting support from Federal level
- Information on who is doing what and where is challenging



RECOMMENDATIONS

- Strengthen Regional WASH ETF to support Woredas at scale
- 4w's matrix at each level should be developed and adopted
- The DRM/FSS strategy has to be mainstreamed by all stakeholders to link the emergency and development
- All regional bureaus need to include emergency WASH in AWP
- Make use of capacities present at regional level
 - Afar could use rigs of the water drilling enterprise for maintenance and rehabilitation of non-functional wells



LESSONS LEARNED AND INNOVATIONS

- **Use EFFORT, water enterprises, EZANA mines in drilling activities to ease the burden of WASH humanitarian actors and the regional bureaus**



Thank You



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