

COWASH Phase III Extension Project Brief Pager: COVID-19 Preparedness, Response and Resilience

As part of the COWASH phase III extension, the Government of Ethiopia and Finland extended the Community-Led Accelerated WASH (COWASH) Project for additional six months to support the government and the communities in the fight against COVID-19. The extension will focus on the COVID-19 emergency support, preparedness and resilience building. The support is community-led.

To this end, a total of **4,931,550 Euros** approximately (**187,398,900 Birr**) is allotted to the six-month project in the five regions of Ethiopia. The aim of the extension of the COWASH III project is to support the COVID-19 preparedness, build the capacity of the government to respond and build resilience to COVID-19 challenges by improving the WASH services through its Community Managed Project (CMP) approach in COWASH Woredas.

Briefly, the extension project aims to achieve the COVID-19 resilience under the below pillars.

Preparedness Support

Ensure households, water points, schools and healthcare facilities have functional water service (hand washing and cleanliness). This leads to the reduction of risks associated with COVID-19 transmission at water points, institutions and households. This is done through maintenance and rehabilitation of existing water schemes and promotion of hand washing and hygiene at households.

Targets: *Repair/rehabilitate 963 community water points, 196 school points and 196 in Health facility water points. Total of 310,200 people to benefit.*

Maintain/rehabilitate 498 school and 498 health facility latrines. Total 298,800 people to benefit.

Response

Provision of emergency support through procurement of water and sanitation related emergency items or services for the COVID-19 response hot spots in the 5 regions. This support focuses on WASH related emergency procurements in treatment centers, isolation centers and quarantine centers or in other important hot spots identified by the regions

Targets:

8 million Birr used for emergency procurement

Resilience

Advocate for stronger WASH systems at local level, ensure the right leadership, governance, coordination, integration, financing, accountability and capacity are in place to deliver sustained, inclusive services to all in the longer term

Build enabling environment for hand wash by introducing intensive hand wash at all levels by building accessible hand wash facilities for homes, institutions and water points managed by communities

Introduction of local soap production and promotion of sustained behavior change on hygienic practices

Targets:

**Installation of 1,500 hand wash facilities
Advocating > 175,000 people
Training 25,000 people**

Out of the total budget of 4,931,550 Euros

- Government of Ethiopia's contribution is EUR **2,261,550, (85,938,900 Birr)**
- Government of Finland's contribution is **EUR 2,670,000, (101,460,000 Birr)**

COWASH COVID-19 resilience building is implemented in Amhara, Benishangul Gumuz, Oromia, SNNP and Tigray regions during a period of July 1, 2020-December 31,2020.

