

# DRAFT

# Sector Midterm Review Report



**Sector: *Water and Sanitation***

**Reporting period: January 1, 2008 – March 31, 2009**

## A) OVERALL ASSESSMENT OF PROGRESS TOWARDS UNCT OUTCOME

<b>UNCT OUTCOME</b>			
● <i>Improved and equitable access to essential social services.</i>			
<b>Suggested Indicators</b>	<i>Baseline</i>	<i>Target</i>	<i>Status as of 3/2009</i>
% households with continuous availability of drinking water	77.4%, VAM <sup>1</sup> 2008	Baseline + 2.0% through WatSan Sector interventions	N/A
% of houses served with improved garbage collection	48.2%, WB –IHSES <sup>2</sup> 2007	Baseline + 1.0% through WatSan Sector interventions	N/A
% of urban wastewater undergoes treatment	56% in Baghdad and less in other cities, UNHABITAT "The State of Iraqi cities Report" 2007	Baseline + 0.5% through WatSan Sector interventions	N/A

*Narrative Analysis of progress:*

The UN Agencies (UNDP, UNOPS, UN-HABITAT, UNICEF, OCHA and UNHCR), International Organization of Migration, and the humanitarian NGOs namely, Relief International, Mercy Corps, International Medical Corps, Norwegian Church Aid, Islamic Relief, Life USA, Premiere Urgence, ACTED, HELP and International Relief and Development, continued supporting the Iraqi water and sanitation sector during 2008 and early 2009 through various interventions across the country. Some lie under rehabilitation activities, others of capacity building nature and the rest are for emergency humanitarian relief. All has contributed to provide improved access to safe water and sanitation for more than 3 million Iraqis.

The sector's three key achievements are:

1. Engaging the Government of Iraq in upstream policy dialogue and building decentralized capacities for judicious investment of Iraq's resources for improved basic services. National legislation on solid waste management is drafted and a master plan for solid waste management in Basra is developed. These will translate policy and plans into action. Dialogue for developing National Water and Sanitation policy is ongoing.
2. Working in close collaboration with the Government of Iraq, the WatSan Sector Outcome Team (SOT) comprising the UN agencies and NGOs listed above has supported over 1.6 million vulnerable Iraqis to have increased access to safe water and improved sanitation facilities. It also contributed to the local employment generation. Simultaneously, the sector supported the strengthening of planning, management and operational capacities of Iraqi officials at all levels with more than 1,500 government staff being trained on various water and sanitation related topics. WatSan SOT also provided humanitarian assistance to 1.4 million vulnerable Iraqis across the country.
3. Showcasing the joint programming initiative, four UN agencies are pooling respective expertise for a comprehensive capacity development and master planning programme in selected governorates in Iraq.

During 2008, a total of 925 cases of cholera were reported of which 47% were children under five. WHO and UNICEF with partner NGOs provided emergency assistance to the population in the most affected governorates of Babil, Missan, Wasit and Baghdad through distribution of Oral Rehydration Salts (ORS), water purification tablets, disinfectant, soap and other personal hygiene items as well as safe water storage

<sup>1</sup> Vulnerability Analysis Mapping (VAM)

<sup>2</sup> Iraq Household Socio-Economic Survey (IHSES)

containers for household and community use. In addition, Water Directorates have been supplied with water testing equipment and the staff have been trained on its use.

UNICEF and WHO called for a renewed drive during 2008, which was the International Year of Sanitation, to invest much-needed resources in this critical sector. UNICEF-WHO "Water Quality Control and Surveillance" joint project in two phases has so far contributed widely to a network of well-equipped water quality control laboratories, which in return has helped to control the risk of waterborne diseases.

In response to the drought in the northern and central parts of the country, the WatSan SOT played a key role in coordinating the process of planning and conducting assessments by key concerned agencies. A regional workshop on drought response was conducted by the UNICEF MENA Regional Office, in coordination with the WatSan SOT, with participation of senior Iraqi government officials. The workshop featured discussions on the impact of drought on vulnerable communities, water resource management, water quality and quantity issues as well as drought preparedness and response plans.

Through its interventions, the WatSan SOT has contributed to achieving Millennium Development Goal (MDG) 7 Target 10. The WatSan SOT continues to work on ensuring sector interventions are gender sensitive, including increased involvement of women in capacity building activities (Outcome 3).

WatSan SOT projects were designed to be in line with the International Compact with Iraq (ICI) goals and particularly relevant to section 4.4.1. "Delivering Basic Services to achieve significant progress in meeting the 2015 MDGs". Also, water and sanitation projects in general have contributed to the employment generation goal under section 4.4.1.2 "Build human capital necessary to sustain growth, reduce unemployment by one half and double labour force participation for women". It also contributed to the Environment, Water and Sanitation, Housing goal under section 4.4.1.5 "Preserve Iraq's environment and ensure careful exploitation of its natural resources for the benefit of all citizens, improve access to housing by 15% , improve access to water and sanitation by one third".

## B) OVERALL ASSESSMENT OF PROGRESS TOWARDS SECTOR OUTCOMES

### SECTOR OUTCOME 1

*Increased sustainable access to safe water for urban and rural population in 10 governorates especially the vulnerable*

*REVISED: Sustainable access to safe water for urban and rural populations increased.*

Outcome Indicators (Revised and/ or suggested)	Baseline	Target	Status as of 3/2009
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>■ % increase in urban and rural population with sustained access to safe water</li> </ul>	79%, MICS <sup>3</sup>	2008: 83% 2009: 85%	<i>More than 1.3 million people in urban, suburban and rural areas</i>
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>● <i>REVISED: Number of population in urban and rural areas benefited from increased access to safe water (disaggregated by gender)</i></li> </ul>	<i>2,281,494 in 2006 &amp; 2007</i>	<i>2,000,000</i>	
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>■ Reduction in diarrhoea prevalence among children below 5 years</li> </ul>	3 in 2007, MoH <sup>4</sup>	N/A in 2009, MoH and 2 by 2010	
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>● <i>REVISED: % of bacteriologically and chemically tested samples that comply with National Standards at the national level</i></li> </ul>	88% for bacteriological sample and 93% for chemical samples (Source MoEnv <sup>5</sup> 2007)	97% for bacteriological and 98% for chemical	

<sup>3</sup> Multiple Indicator Cluster Survey (MICS)

<sup>4</sup> Ministry of Health (MoH)

<sup>5</sup> Ministry of Environment (MoEnv)

Overall analysis of progress:

**UNDP** completed two integrated potable water supply schemes in Basra serving 71,000 inhabitants who previously received water from unsustainable sources. UNDP projects included construction of two Reverse Osmosis (RO) plants of 100 and 50 cubic metre per hour capacities including provision of spare parts and consumables for two years of operation; construction of two elevated storage tanks of 500 cubic metre capacities (each), 63 water distribution points and four water tankers. Furthermore, UNDP completed the rehabilitation of Al Karama Water Treatment Plant thereby restoring production capacity of the Line I. UNDP also addressed several shortfalls in Lines II and III, which rendered the overall production capacity of the facility serving the Al Karkh district including Al Khadimiya, Al Oteifya and other adjacent areas totalling to 900,000 inhabitants. Construction activities are nearing completion on both Abu Khaseeb and Umm Qasr projects. Upon completion of both projects in mid June 2009, sustainable potable water will be provided to 30,000 and 54,000 inhabitants in Abu Khaseeb and Umm Qasr towns respectively.

**UNICEF** completed two water projects in highly under-served urban areas benefiting around 67,500 inhabitants in Wasit and Kirkuk governorates, through the rehabilitation of a water treatment plant and four water distribution networks. UNICEF also installed Laboratory Information Management System (LIMS) software in 33 quality control laboratories of the Ministry of Municipalities and Public Works (MMPW), MoEnv, and Mayoralty of Baghdad (MoB). In 2008, UNICEF provided cash assistance to the Ministry of Municipalities in the Kurdistan Region to carry out drought assessments in three northern governorates. UNICEF and its implementing partners have stand-by capacity to respond to drought-related needs in Diyala, Kirkuk, Suleimaniyah, and Salaheldin governorates.

**WHO:** Procured and delivered eight mobile laboratories for water quality monitoring (three each for the MoEnv and MMPW and one each for the Mayoralties of Baghdad and Erbil). WHO also completed the rehabilitation and refurbishment of the central laboratory of the MoEnv.

**UNOPS:** Implemented a water project in Thiqr and installed 12 kilometres of pipeline with 950 house connections in Al-Refai'e town and 10 kilometres of pipeline with 1,000 house connections in Al-Bath'a town. The project significantly augmented the quality and quantity of water supplied to 35,000 consumers in the two cities. The other completed project in Erbil is the installation of 9 kilometres and 3 kilometres of water supply mains in Sidikan and Rawanduz towns respectively; construction of three water collection tanks of 8m<sup>3</sup> and 12m<sup>3</sup> capacities and construction of reinforced reservoirs of 750m<sup>3</sup> in Sidikan town to improve the quantity and quality of water supply for 30,000 inhabitants. The third project is rehabilitation / extension of approximately 30 kilometres of water distribution network with expansion to the un-served areas of Takia town in Suleimaniyah benefiting 25,000 inhabitants; construction of 750m<sup>3</sup> reinforced concrete storage reservoir, drilling two deep wells, building pump house and a guard room to reduce contamination in stored water.

**OCHA** contributed to Outcome 1 through their local NGO partners by the following completed activities during the review period: construction of two reinforced concrete water reservoirs (500m<sup>3</sup> and 1,000m<sup>3</sup> in Ninevah governorate to serve approximately 9,000 families including IDPs in Azadi camp; extension of two water networks (1.5 kilometres and 4.0 kilometres) in two different locations in Najaf serving 3,500 families; installation of RO units (5,000 litre/hr) in Missan serving 2,000 families; and drilling deep well with all relevant works serving 458 families in Dohuk.

**IOM** has contributed in improving the access to clean potable water by implementing 35 water projects targeting 13,975 IDP families in Mosul, Ninevah, Baghdad, Najaf, Babil and Wasit. In coordination with NGOs, 14 deep wells were drilled and 15 submersible pumps were installed, in addition to the provision of 51 water tanks of different sizes, generators and water coolers. Furthermore, these items were connected to the main water stations and water units through maintaining the needed extension and repair for the main water pipelines in the targeted sub-district. Moreover, 16 water systems were rehabilitated and RO units were provided to schools and families in Basra, Thiqr and Kerbala in response to clean water needs for 124 households, 358 IDP families and nine schools. The projects have contributed to the reduction of waterborne diseases and provided the IDP families with access to potable water.

**Islamic Relief** rehabilitated water compact unit in Tarmia sub-district, Baghdad governorate.

**Norwegian Church Aid** rehabilitated water treatment unit in Babil; installed two RO units for health centres in Basra; constructed 5 kilometre water networks in Babil and Wasit and two networks in two villages in Basra.

**Help** rehabilitated water treatment unit and maintained network in Diyala and Kut.

**ACTED** constructed / extended four water networks in Wasit, and rehabilitated three water compact units in Wasit.

## SECTOR OUTCOME 2

*Increase sustainable access to improved sanitation for urban and rural populations, especially for the vulnerable*

*REVISED: Sustainable access to improved sanitation for urban and rural populations increased.*

Outcome Indicators (Revised and/ or suggested)	Baseline	Target	Status as of 3/2009
● % increase in population with access to safe sanitation	73% functional facilities, MICS 2006	2009: 74% 2010: 75%	293,000 people in Basra, Muthanna, Kerbala and Kirkuk governorates benefited from improved sanitation services
● <i>REVISED: Number of population in urban and rural areas benefited from increased access to improved sanitation (disaggregated by gender).</i>	1,072,260 in 2006 & 2007	1,150,000	

*Overall analysis of progress:*

**UNDP** contributed to the improved sanitation in Safwan and Khor Al Zubair in Basra governorates through the removal of 200 tons per day of garbage from the residential areas through the supply of five solid waste skip loaders and 300 solid waste containers serving 71,000 inhabitants. Additionally, the provision of six sewage tankers have contributed to the elimination of sewage ponds on streets resulting from overflowing on-site sanitation facilities and blocked sewer lines.

In addition, UNDP have provided one solid waste skip loader and 100 solid waste containers, which have contributed to removal of piled garbage in residential areas benefiting 150,000 inhabitants. Thanks to the supplied sewage tankers, sewage ponding in streets have been decreased significantly.

**UNICEF:** Access to improved sanitation was restored for 54,000 inhabitants in Kerbala and Kirkuk governorates, through rehabilitation of three sewage networks in highly under-served urban areas. Strengthening sanitation infrastructure in selected areas led to an improvement in the environment by eliminating sewage pools and reduced pollution loads into rivers.

The Master Plan for Solid Waste Management project for Basra was developed. The plan assesses the performance of current solid waste management systems in Basra, lays out plans for needed improvements in infrastructure, institutional structure and staff capacity, and estimates future investment needs. It also looks at social issues and the possibility of private sector participation in the solid waste sector. The Master Plan serves as a guiding strategy document directing future investments.

**UNHABITAT** finalized a draft revised law for solid waste management and submitted it to the parliament for review and endorsement. UNHABITAT also completed the construction of two maintenance workshops for garbage collection vehicles to enhance the capacity of Basra municipality in collection and disposal of solid waste. Two storm water networks were constructed in Muthanna, benefiting around 18,000 inhabitants.

**WHO** completed hygiene education campaigns, targeting community leaders and school teachers in eight governorates (Baghdad, Najaf, Kut, Basra, Diwaniyah, Erbil, Thiqr and Missan) where 4,000 school teachers and community leaders participated, of which 45% were women. Leaflets, booklets and posters were printed and distributed during the campaigns.

**IOM** has renovated the sanitation facilities in 37 schools in Baghdad (2), Basra (5), Anbar (12), Salaheldin (15), Thiqr (1) and Missan (2) governorates providing safe educational and sanitary environments for 18,840 students.

### SECTOR OUTCOME 3

*Capacities for effective management of WatSan sector enhanced*

*Revised: Government of Iraq has enhanced capacities for effective management of WatSan sector*

Outcome Indicators (Revised and/ or suggested)	Baseline	Target	Status as of 3/2009
Efficiency of WatSan systems enhanced	N/A	2009: Baseline+5% 2010: Baseline+10%	57 directorates nationwide, including Directorates of water, environment, sewerage, municipalities and quality control laboratories, benefited from all interventions and activities
Efficiency of WatSan systems enhanced (No. of governmental directorates benefited from capacity building)	75 directorates (Directorates of water, environment, sewerage, municipalities, and planning) nationwide	60 directorates	

*Overall analysis of progress:*

**UNICEF:** In line with its increasing emphasis on the 'software' elements of the programme, the skills of 145 Government staff were strengthened in planning, implementation, and Operation and Maintenance (O&M) of WatSan systems. Technical support was provided in developing a Master Plan for solid waste management in Basra. Hygiene awareness and cross-cutting elements were incorporated into training programmes. Women's participation in capacity building dropped to around 26% from the previous high of 34% in 2007, mainly due to their unwillingness to travel abroad and partly due to the nature of the training programmes.

UNICEF procured Water and Sewerage network design software for use in Baghdad and Basra training centres and trained 14 master trainers on its use.

33 senior Government officials attended international conferences, gaining increased understanding of global best practices and how to factor these into sector planning.

Towards establishing a Management Information System (MIS)/Geographic Information System (GIS) for the water and sanitation sector, four government staff were trained in advanced features of GIS in Amman to serve as Master Trainers. Subsequently, 80 government staff have benefited from basic GIS trainings in Najaf, Thiqr, Qadissiyah, Wasit and Kirkuk governorates. In addition, 24 government staff were trained as Master Trainers in Erbil, some of whom conducted workshops benefiting another 30 government staff from Basra.

**UNDP:** upon completion of the integrated potable water supply schemes in Safwan and Khor Al Zubair, four governorate officials received comprehensive O&M training. During the course of implementation and upon completion of the rehabilitation of Al Karama Water Treatment Plant, two technicians from the Plant received training on instrumentation, two on recording and documentation, two on safe handling of chemicals and 16 on laboratory equipment usage and statistical analysis.

**WHO** conducted 12 Trainings of Trainers on advanced laboratory operation, water monitoring and surveillance for 112 laboratory staff from across the country. Also, 50 on-the-job trainings were delivered to around 980 laboratory technicians, and 35 senior staff received advanced laboratory training.

**UNOPS** conducted two trainings in water supply network design and management for the Directorates of Water and Sanitation in Erbil and Suleimaniyah for 22 technical staff to improve implementation quality and efficiency throughout the management cycle (planning, execution, monitoring) for service provision.

## SECTOR OUTCOME 4

*Availability of safe water, personal hygiene and a sanitary environment for the most vulnerable population ensured*

Outcome Indicators (Revised and/ or suggested)	Baseline	Target	Status as of 3/2009
■ Reduction in diarrhoea prevalence rate among children below 5	3 in 2007, MoH	N/A in 2009 and 2 in 2010	<i>About 1.4 million vulnerable people benefited from humanitarian interventions</i>
■ (REVISED: Number of vulnerable population with adequate access to safe water and sanitation services and improved hygiene practices)	<i>726,430 vulnerable</i>	<i>1.9 m vulnerable people</i>	

Overall analysis of progress:

UNICEF's emergency responses ensured that 1,305,874 Iraqis in crisis, including most vulnerable communities and IDPs in 18 governorates of Iraq, had safe water, improved sanitation as well as hygiene supplies and services. This support was delivered in close collaboration with NGO implementing partners and local government authorities. In conflict affected areas of Basra, Sadr City and Mosul, UNICEF responded to immediate needs of over 26,000 families by providing safe water, hygiene materials and essential emergency supplies. In total, 134,000 vulnerable people benefited from UNICEF emergency supplies including:

- 300 million litres of water through trucking
- 5 million water purification tablets delivered to Directorates of Health to be used in emergencies nationwide.
- 20,000 drums of bleaching powder (40 Kg each) provided to Directorates of Water.
- 852,000 toilet soaps (100gm), 80,000 packs of washing powder (2.5 Kg) and 40,000 PVC toilet pitchers (2 litres) delivered to acutely vulnerable people.
- 34,400 collapsible water containers (10 litres) delivered in five governorates to increase safe water storage capacity at household level.
- To sustain hygienic environment at the household level, 16,650 baby 40,600 adult hygiene kits and 77,000 female sanitary napkins were distributed.

In response to the cholera outbreak, UNICEF supported the provision of 5 million water purification tablets, 134,000 chlorine testing tablets (DPD-1 and DPD-3) to the Water Directorates, and 18 water testing equipment to reinforce capacity of Water Directorates for rapid water testing in high-risk areas.

UNHCR distributed jerry cans benefiting a total of 49,790 IDPs, refugees, and returnees across the country, in addition to the distribution of 32,842 hygiene kits. UNHCR also implemented the maintenance and management of the water network in Al Waleed Camp benefiting around 2,000 people to receive about 21 litres/person/day.

OCHA contribution to Outcome 4 is: provision of 12 household RO units and 24 community RO units with 24 tanks for 120 families in Thiqr, Diwaniyah and Babil; awareness campaigns on hygiene promotion and other health aspects for around 9,000 families in Najaf.

IOM conducted a hygiene awareness campaign in four schools in Basra, accompanied by the distribution of 731 hygiene kits to the same schools. Moreover, during the first quarter of 2009, IOM responded to the essential needs of 14 IDP families living in a polluted area of Al-Zahra neighbourhood in Kerbala city centre, through the distribution of hygiene kits, and installation of 14 households RO units and 14 household water tanks.

Norwegian Church Aid distributed hygiene kits and held hygiene awareness training in Basra.

Life USA distributed 180,000 litres of water in Diyala and water purification tablets in Basra.

Premiere Urgence distributed household filters and hygiene kits in addition to conducting ten hygiene promotion campaigns in five villages in Al- Mada'in district in Baghdad, benefiting 1,900 vulnerable families.

## C) RECOMMENDED ADJUSTMENTS IN UNCT AND/ OR SECTOR OUTCOMES (WITH RATIONALE)

The following indicators are suggested for measuring the UNCT outcome on water and sanitation activities and interventions:

- 1- % households with continuous availability of drinking water
- 2- % of houses served with improved garbage collection
- 3- % of urban wastewater undergoes treatment

They represent the direct measures that can be applicable to the three main municipal services (potable water supply, sewage disposal from households and streets, and garbage collection and disposal from residential areas).

The information relevant to the above indicators can be collected directly from the MMPW, MoB and MoEnv upon agreement to systematically provide them for their own performance measurement, as well as to UN counterpart agencies in order to measure progress against outcomes and outputs of the Assistance Strategy. These have already been assessed for measurability through surveys conducted by UN agencies and the World Bank as referred to in the baselines above.

The wording of Outcomes 1 and 2 has been modified in consultation with the sector members to reflect the fact that these outcomes can only be monitored and attributed by using the absolute number of people reached rather than an overall percentage increase in national coverage.

## D) KEY ASSUMPTIONS, RISKS AND OPPORTUNITIES

### Assumptions:

- Security situation remains unchanged
- Political will to affect socio-economic improvement conditions remains unchanged
- Local and central government resources (i.e. financial, human, basic infrastructure, etc) for sustaining interventions provided
- Prices of raw materials, fuel, oil, and other basic commodities remain stable
- Timely availability of funds

### Risks:

- Organizational-institutional arrangement: turnover in senior positions and associated loss of political will
- Financial constraints and shortages at the governmental level and unmet funding by the donors to achieve the Assistance Strategy
- Organizational-institutional Capacity: insufficient procurement capacity, lack of adequate human resources in all aspects including numbers and technical capacity
- Strategic-Programme Alignment: Change in Central and Local Government's priorities based on unknown reasons and changes due to the recent elections
- Deterioration of security situation
- Worsening drought situation
- The lasting shortage in power supply will hamper the water facilities from a proper functioning and resulting into constant malfunctions of equipment, which demands additional costs

### Opportunities:

- Improvements in the security situation
- A constant focus of the government on water and sanitation infrastructure to improve life conditions and mitigate hardships in underserved areas is keeping the door open for any assistance by UN agencies
- Institutional gaps in hygiene promotion awareness, water conservation, and community participation programmes can be filled by the UN agencies' highly experienced interventions
- Government recognizes the need for technical assistance in the sector's relevant aspects including: modern treatment technologies, climate change and impact on water resources and supply, renewable energy for operating water and sanitation facilities, etc.

- Government recognizes the need for Sector reform including decentralization in WatSan services' delivery and participation by private sector
- Government recognizes the need for updating / reformulating existing water and wastewater relevant laws, regulations and standards

## E) JOINT PROGRAMMES, UN CONVERGENCE AND SYNERGIES

The following joint projects under the UNDG -Iraq Trust Fund (ITF) reflect the spirit of joint programming though not meeting all their requirements.

The joint planning and implementation of programmes has led to more cost effective and efficient implementation mechanisms, with the joint coordination bringing together expertise from different agencies and utilizing in-country capacities of different agencies, to focus on most deprived areas and deliver as one

These include, yet are not limited to the following:

- Incorporating lessons learnt from different projects completed by different agencies in Iraq and other countries;
- Full utilization of the comparative advantages of each agency;
- Developing synergies between the different projects/outcomes;
- Full engagement of the same government counterparts;
- Effective sharing of information;
- Ensuring complementarities;
- Strengthened joint monitoring and evaluation.

The following joint programmes are currently ongoing:

- Water Quality Control and Surveillance in Iraq Phase II (UNICEF and WHO)
- Solid Waste Management Project for Iraqi MMPW and the Governorate of Basra (UNICEF and UNHABITAT)
- Up-grading Sarchinar Water Project and Associated Works in Suleimaniyah (UNICEF and WHO)

## F) LESSONS LEARNED

The following lessons have been learnt during the implementation of WatSan projects:

**Rationalize timelines for project completion:** In Iraq, project completion takes longer than anticipated although insecurity is factored in. This is mainly due to limited capacities of the contractors, inefficient coordination between the central and governorate level authorities and delayed decision making, insecure environment and local disturbances. On an average project completion including warranty period takes 2 years compared to 12 months as anticipated earlier. All new project proposals should take these factors into consideration.

**Monitoring mechanisms need strengthening:** Significant work still needs to be done in terms of having reliable data on the WatSan infrastructure and putting in place robust systems for monitoring and surveillance of water and wastewater quality, early warning/early action for drought and unfolding humanitarian situation.

**Need to enhance resources mobilization:** With the imminent termination of the ITF approach as the major funding source for water and sanitation activities, UN agencies with mandates on increasing sustainable access to water and sanitation should attempt the bilateral funding approach and condense their direct communications with donors.

**Better communication /coordination:** Visits by senior UN officials and video conferences in linkage with other duty stations found of high importance to achieve mutual concurrence with the Iraqi government. Also, effective coordination with other UN agencies and NGOs through sector meetings is paving the road towards sharing ideas and experiences, enhancing knowledge, better understanding of the implementation obstacles and finding the appropriate solutions.

**Main factors to reduce diarrhoea:** Access to water and sanitation services alone will not reduce incidence of diarrhoea unless hygiene practices are promoted simultaneously. Representation of women in community participation in water conservation and use, hygiene awareness and practices is of great importance to reduce the incidence of diarrhoea among family members and particularly children.

**Sector wide evaluation will support measuring results and contribution at the outcome level**

**Situation analysis** and assessments should be conducted as close as possible to commencement of activities.

**Entering into Memorandum of Understanding (MoU)**, or the like with counterparts, articulating counterpart and agency roles and responsibilities, whereby counterparts make their own commitments to fulfil their obligations following project completion. Alternatively, this could be part of project documents.

**Avoid National Execution** as long as ground presence is sub-optimal.

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