Module 10.1: Introduction to WASH FIT
(Water and Sanitation for Health Facility Improvement Tool)

Ministry of Health Liberia
Division of Environmental & Occupational Health

WASH & EH Package – Early recovery & Resilience Building from EVD outbreak
Objectives

- To understand the importance and benefits of improved WASH services
- To define WASH FIT (*Water and Sanitation for Health Facility Improvement Tool*)
- To establish the link between WASH safety plans and health care facility management
- To discuss the key steps in WASH FIT
- To outline job responsibilities towards implementation of WASH interventions in healthcare facility
By the end of the session, participants will be able to:

- Explain the global context of WASH in HCF
- Define the meaning of WASH FIT
- Describe the role of WASH FIT in HCF management
- Explain the key steps in WASH FIT
Global context

- WHO / UNICEF 2015 report: 
  *Water, sanitation and hygiene in health care facilities: status in low and middle income countries and way forward*
- 38% of health care facilities do not have an improved water source
- 19% do not have improved sanitation
- 35% do not have water and soap for handwashing

- Ebola highlighted this issue
- URGENT ACTION IS NEEDED!
WASH in HCF global vision

- To provide universal access to WASH services in all facilities, in all settings, by 2030
- Special attention paid to the needs of women and girls
- Global action plan, with 4 task teams
  - Advocacy and leadership
  - Monitoring
  - Operational research
  - Policies, standards and facility-based improvements
- Regional, national and global efforts
- [www.washinhcf.org](http://www.washinhcf.org)
In your opinion…

- What makes a facility Clean?
- Safe?
- Well managed?
- How can people be encouraged to use a facility?
What are the benefits of WASH in HCF?

Consider all of these users
Benefits of WASH in HCF

- Facilities better prepared to continue to provide WASH in disasters; climate related events
- More efficient services; Disease / deaths averted
- Facilities model good behavior; improved hygiene practices at home

- Reduced health care acquired infections
- Reduced anti-microbial resistance
- Improved occupational health and safety

- Outbreak prevention and control (e.g. cholera, Ebola)
- Diarrheal disease prevention and control

- Improved satisfaction and ability to provide safe care
- Increased uptake of services; e.g. facility births, vaccinations

Roles & responsibilities

What roles and responsibilities do each of these groups have for WASH in HCF?

- National level
- Country level
- District level
- Facilities
- Individuals
  - Staff
  - Patients & visitors
WASH FIT is a management tool aimed at providing a holistic approach to protecting public health through the assessment and management of risks from insufficient or unsafe water supply, inadequate sanitation and poor hygiene practices.

To make facilities
- Clean
- Safe
- Well-managed

Adapted from Water Safety Plan approach
**Principles**

- Cyclical, continuous process
  - 5 steps
- Flexible methodology
- Involves a range of stakeholders
  - Facility members/users and external team
- Incorporate the tasks of a safety plan into the existing roles and responsibilities of staff
- Helps facilities to better manage activities already going on
- Small incremental improvements
WASH FIT methodology

1. Assemble a facility safety plan team
2. Conduct thorough assessment of WASH throughout the facility
3. Identify and prioritize areas for improvement
4. Develop & implement an incremental improvement plan
5. Continuously evaluate and improve the plan
What you will need

- WASH FIT guide
- Ready to use tools
- Supplementary protocols
- A folder to keep paperwork
- Teamwork
- Positivity and energy!
List of Templates

- Tool 1-A. WASH FIT team list
- Tool 1-B. Protocol of team meeting
- Tool 2-A. Walkthrough assessment
- Tool 2-B. Sanitary inspection forms
- Tool 3. Hazard analysis and risk assessment
- Tool 4. Improvement plan
- Supplement 1. Activity Planning
WHO Standards

- WHO 2008 Essential Environmental Health Standards in Health Care
- Sets out standards to provide safe conditions to provide adequate health care
There are eight key environmental health domains which are the minimum requirements to make a facility safe.

What are they?
Key Domains

- Water
- Sanitation
- Health care waste management
- Hand hygiene
- Hygiene promotion
- Cleaning and disinfection
- Environmental management and energy
- Facility management
<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Domain</th>
<th>Sub-domain</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>1. Water</td>
<td>Treatment, supply, storage, (energy) Water quality testing</td>
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<tr>
<td>2. Sanitation</td>
<td>Latrine maintenance, access, cleaning Showers / bathing places</td>
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<tr>
<td>3. Healthcare Waste Management</td>
<td>Waste sorting, waste disposal, waste transport equipment, waste storage, waste treatment, Final disposal</td>
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<tr>
<td>4. Cleaning and Disinfection</td>
<td>Cleaning medical equipment, surfaces, toilets; protective measures</td>
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<td>5. Hand hygiene</td>
<td>Infrastructure- hand washing stations, behavior</td>
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<tr>
<td>6. Hygiene Promotion</td>
<td>BCC, IEC Materials, Messages</td>
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<td>7. Environmental Management and Energy</td>
<td>Vector Control, domestic animals, general appearance, energy use and conservation</td>
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<tr>
<td>8. Facility Management</td>
<td>Staffing, Problem reporting, Accounting/book keeping</td>
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Supplementary Protocols

1. Drinking water
2. Storing chlorinated products
3. Water supply and storage
4. Medical waste management
5. Hand washing
6. Maintenance and cleaning of latrines
7. Cleaning and disinfection
8. Hygiene promotion
9. Environmental management
10. Facility management