Plumbing Aspects of Health Care Facilities in the Philippines

Dr Bonifacio B. Magtibay
Technical Officer, Environmental/Occupational Health
WHO-Philippines
Outline

- Introduction
- Progress of WASH FIT Program in the Philippines
- WASH FIT Indicators Related to Plumbing
- Plumbing Technologies and Products in WASH FIT
- Plumbing Issues in Health Care Facilities
- Proposed “Plumbing for Health Project” in the Philippines
Countries and Areas of the WHO Western Pacific Region

- Western Pacific Region Population: 1.9 billion across 37 countries and areas

- Philippine Population (2023): 117 Million
Status of WASH in Health Care Facilities

World

- 1 in 4 lack basic water (25%)
- 1 in 5 have no sanitation (20%)
- 42% lack hand hygiene at point of care
- 40% lack systems to segregate waste


Western Pacific Region

- 35% of all HCFs do not have access to an improved water source on premises.
- 18% of all HCFs have no access to sanitation services.
- 16% of all HCFs do not have access to functional hand hygiene that include soap and water or hand sanitizer at points of care or close to the sanitary facilities.
- 78% of all HCFs do not have a sound waste management system in place.

Source: HAE/WPRO, 2019-2020 Assessment of WASH in HCFs)
Health Care Facilities in the Philippines

The official national reference directory or master list of health facilities in the Philippines.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Total Health Facilities</th>
<th>Total Hospitals</th>
<th>Total Infirmaries</th>
<th>Total Rural Health Units</th>
<th>Total Barangay Health Stations</th>
<th>Total Other Health &amp; Health Related Facilities</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>39,610</td>
<td>1,345</td>
<td>656</td>
<td>2,605</td>
<td>25,664</td>
<td>9,340</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Source: https://nhfr.doh.gov.ph/Home
WASH in HCF in the Philippines
(based from 28 HCFs supported by WHO)

- Lack basic water – 61%
- Lack basic sanitation – 82%
- Lack basic hand hygiene -32%
- Lack health care waste management-------- 50%
Water, sanitation and hygiene in health care facilities

The Seventy-second World Health Assembly,

Having considered the report on patient safety: water, sanitation and hygiene in health care facilities;¹
WASH FIT as a Strategy

A risk-based management tool for improving and sustaining WASH services

A planning and implementation guide

A tool that supports infection prevention and control
Progress of WASH FIT Programme in the Philippines

Introduction to the Philippine government

Stage 1 - 2018
- Introduction to the Philippine government

Stage 2 - 2019-2022
- Pilot testing in Selected Areas

Stage 3 - 2023
- Department of Health Policy Issuance

Stage 4 - 2024-onwards
- Nationwide Roll out
WASH FIT in the Context of Universal Health Care Law and Climate Change

- Code on Sanitation of the Philippines (PD 856)
- Philippine Clean Air Act of 1999 (RA 8749)
- Philippine Clean Water Act of 2004 (RA 9275)
- Renewable Energy Act (RA 9513)
- Energy Efficiency and Conservation Act (RA 11285)
- Climate Change Act of 2009 (RA 9279)
- Philippine Disaster Reduction and Management (RA 10121)
- Philippine Green Building Code (Referral code of PD 1096)
DOH Guidelines for WASH FIT

DOH Department Circular No. 2023-0185: Circulation of the Guidelines on Water and Sanitation for Health Facility Improvement Tool (WASH FIT)

The Department of Health has released the Guidelines on Water and Sanitation for Health Facility Improvement Tool (WASH FIT): A Practical Guide for the Use of Hospitals and Other Health Facilities, developed in partnership with the World Health Organization and the United Nations Children's Fund. The WASH FIT guidelines were simplified to allow the straightforward application and the prompt development of water, sanitation and hygiene improvement plans.

Implementing WASH FIT can guide HCFs to become climate resilient

The DOH Guidelines of WASH FIT has been simplified to allow the straightforward application of the tool and the prompt development of water, sanitation, and hygiene (WASH) improvement plans.
Six WASH FIT Domains

1. Water
   - Supply, storage, quality, conservation

2. Sanitation
   - Toilets, treatment, wastewater

3. Waste Management
   - From generation to final disposal

4. Hand Hygiene
   - Infrastructure, compliance, training

5. Environmental Cleaning
   - Staff, protocols

6. Management
   - Lighting, pumping, heating, ventilation, training, occupational health
WASH FIT Indicators

TOTAL INDICATORS
50

NATIONAL INDICATORS
34

GLOBAL INDICATORS
16

Water
9 INDICATORS

Sanitation
9 INDICATORS

Health Care Waste Management
10 INDICATORS

Hand Hygiene
6 INDICATORS

Environmental Cleaning
7 INDICATORS

Management
8 INDICATORS
WASH FIT Indicators Related to Plumbing: Water

INDICATOR: 1.15 P  Improved DRINKING WATER supply piped into facility or on premises

INDICATOR: 1.1  Improved water supply piped into facility or on premises, with no leaks

INDICATOR: 1.3  Reliable drinking water station available

INDICATOR: 1.4  Drinking water safe storage and has no E. Coli

INDICATOR: 1.8  Water storage is sufficient

INDICATOR: 1.13  Shower and bathing areas accessible and functioning
<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Indicator</th>
<th>Description</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>INDICATOR 1.12</td>
<td>Sufficient number of functional toilets or latrines available</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>INDICATOR 2.2</td>
<td>Toilets or latrines separated for staff, patients, and visitors</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>INDICATOR 2.3</td>
<td>Toilets or latrines separated for male and female</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>INDICATOR 2.5</td>
<td>Toilet meeting the needs of people with reduced mobility</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>INDICATOR 2.6</td>
<td>Functioning hand hygiene stations at latrines or toilets</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
WASH FIT Indicators Related to Plumbing: Sanitation

**INDICATOR 2.8**  
Wastewater (both greywater and black water) is safely managed

**INDICATOR 2.9**  
Greywater drainage system is safely managed
WASH FIT Indicators Related to Plumbing: Hand Hygiene

**INDICATOR 3.1**  Functioning hand hygiene stations are available at all points of care

**INDICATOR 3.3**  Functioning hand hygiene stations available in service areas

**INDICATOR 3.3**  Functioning hand hygiene stations available in waste disposal area
Plumbing Technologies and Products in WASH FIT

• Water
  Pipes, fittings, storage tanks, water dispensers, showers, water pumps

• Sanitation
  Toilet bowls, bidet, wastewater/drainage pipes, septic tanks, flexible hose for desludging

• Hand hygiene
  Handwashing facility, sinks, lavatories
Plumbing Issues in Health Care Facilities

• Sub-standard plumbing materials
• Plumbing defects (e.g. leaks, broken flush tank valves) not immediately repaired
• Lack of guidelines for regular maintenance of storage tanks and water dispensers
• Inadequate desludging services and septage treatment facilities
• Uniform plumbing code still to be adopted as a reference code of the National Building Code
Proposed “Plumbing for Health Project” in the Philippines

• Development of guidelines for determining standard plumbing materials

• Introduction of green plumbing design standards in health care facilities

• Capacity building for sanitary engineers and plumbers for green plumbing design and installation

• Updating of Uniform Plumbing Code of the Philippines to become Green Plumbing Code in the Philippines
THANK YOU FOR YOUR ATTENTION!!!

• Email: magtibaybo@who.int