

UNICEF Egypt



A son helps his mother with the washing up after being connected to the water mains by UNICEF. © UNICEF Egypt/2018

WASH

SECTORAL AND OR+ THEMATIC REPORT

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PREPARED BY:
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1. ACRONYMS & ABBREVIATIONS

EDHS	Egypt Demographic Health Survey
HCWWW	Holding Company for Water and Waste Water
MOETE	Ministry of Education and Technical Education
ORE	Other Resources (Emergency)
ORR	Other Resources (Regular)
RR	Regular Resources
USD	United States Dollar
WASH	Water, Sanitation and Hygiene

2. EXECUTIVE SUMMARY

Water, sanitation and hygiene (WASH) deprivations in Egypt still affect many children's lives, health and educational performance and attainment. These deprivations mainly result from economic barriers, socio-geographical factors and weak institutional capacity and policy frameworks that refrain the most vulnerable households - especially women and girls - from the benefits of having a tap and sewage connection in their homes, practice safe hygiene and household water safety, keep children - especially girls - in schools and increased dignity and child well-being.

UNICEF's WASH programme benefits from a close relationship with the Ministry of Education and Technical Education (MOETE), as well the Holding Company for Water and Waste Water (HCWWW), to implement its activities. Key results achieved in 2018 include raising awareness and promoting healthy behaviours related to water, sanitation and hygiene reaching just under 300,000 pupils in 367 primary schools in seven districts of four governorates. 67 of those schools also benefitted from upgraded WASH facilities. UNICEF also supported the sustainability of the HCWWW through training 250 of its staff members on water customer services, monitoring and planning of awareness activities.

3. STRATEGIC CONTEXT OF 2018

Egypt has made considerable progress in terms of access to water and sanitation services throughout the country, but nevertheless natural water sources are often of poor quality due to pollution, and population growth means there is an increasing demand on this limited natural resource. In addition, many old water plants need to be rehabilitated and simple safe technologies for sanitation need to be made available to improve the environmental and health conditions in homes, especially in rural areas.

Rural Upper Egypt is Egypt's most economically challenged geographical area. Coverage of potable water and sanitation remains relatively low in rural areas of Upper Egypt compared to urban areas in Upper Egypt and Lower Egypt. Households' access to their own potable water in rural Egypt is 87%, according to the Egypt Demographic and Health Survey (EDHS) 2014. In order to improve the environmental and health conditions in homes, it is essential that families have the appropriate facilities at home that would further encourage better health and hygienic practices.

UNICEF is well positioned to address resulting inequities based on past experience and ongoing programming and partnerships. Recent political and programmatic conditions provide an opportunity to strengthen WASH programming. This includes focusing on the causes of these deprivations, strengthening programmatic synergies and scaling up successful frameworks.

For the new country program, the strategic direction focuses on a set of integrated strategies that can accelerate results for the most vulnerable, including i) scaling up the existing revolving fund for household water and wastewater connections, linked to a financial incentive system for increased school retention, ii) improving hygiene practices through hygiene education and promotion and basic household water safety practices, iii) reinforced budgeting, capacity and local support systems

for sustainable WASH in school results, iv) evidence-based advocacy and adjusted service delivery packages for urban slums, and v) emergency preparedness capacity and advocacy for the use of improved sources of water in development and emergency contexts.

Access to water and sanitation is a right for every child, and is fundamental to the enjoyment of other rights such as the rights to survival, health and development. In Egypt, water infrastructure coverage has grown substantially over the last decades. In 2014, around 91 per cent of the Egyptian population received water directly into their residence. However, while access to water is almost universal and reliable in urban formal areas, a significant number of households are still not connected with the water system in rural areas and in urban slums¹. Around 7.3 million people are deprived of access to safe water, among which 5.8 million live in rural areas and 1.5 million in urban areas. In rural areas, around 12 per cent of the population live in dwellings not connected to the water system. In urban areas, around 4 per cent of all urban dwellers do not have water connection, especially in urban slums and poor informal settlements². In urban slum areas, only around 77 per cent of households have piped water coming into their homes and in many cases the connection is illegal (without water meter).

With regard to access to sanitation, according to the EDHS 2014, 8.4 million people are deprived of access to improved sanitation; 7.8 million in rural areas and 0.6 million in urban areas and an almost stagnating trend has been observed since the mid-2000s. Overall, 10 per cent of the Egyptian population did not benefit from access to improved sanitation, with marked geographical and socio-economic disparities in 2014. In rural areas, on average, the share of population without access to adequate sanitation was around 15 per cent in 2014 (but reaching more around 20 per cent in rural Lower Egypt), compared with around 1 per cent among urban dwellers. Around 96 per cent of all Egyptian households have place for washing hands, with no substantial difference between urban and rural households, however, along the latter in around 13 per cent of the cases, no soap or other detergent is in use.

Regarding water, sanitation and hygiene in schools, most updated statistics report access to piped water coverage at 98 per cent in urban areas and at 84 per cent in rural areas. As for sanitary drainage coverage, it is estimated at 73 per cent in urban areas and at 22 per cent in rural areas.

Lack of access to safe water and proper sanitation facilities as well as poor hygiene contribute to the spreading of diseases, which significantly and negatively impact on children's health and nutrition. In Egypt, diarrhea is the second leading cause of death among under-5 children. Most diarrhea-related deaths in children are due to dehydration from loss of large quantities of water and electrolytes. Statistics³ show that 3,500 – 4,000 under-five children die of diarrhea every year. Also, according to EDHS 2014, incidence of diarrhea is the highest among the age of 12-23 months and in Upper Egypt is 1.3 times higher when compared to the rate in Lower Egypt. Personal hygiene, handling of water and sanitation practices is generally poor especially in rural Egypt.

¹ Source: *Egypt Demographic and Health Survey 2014*.

² *Multidimensional child poverty in slums and unplanned areas in Egypt, UNICEF 2013*

³ *WHO (2015) World Health Statistics 2014*

4. RESULTS ACHIEVED IN THE SECTOR

UNICEF continued to scale up a model that is meant to fill existing gaps in terms of access to improved water and sanitation in primary schools. The model benefits from a partnership it has fostered between state-owned water companies and the MOETE and aims at complementing the existing system whereby MOETE provides water and sanitation in schools through the schools building authority.

The UNICEF-supported interventions include a soft component promoting awareness and healthy behaviour related to water sanitation and hygiene, as well a hard component focusing on direct provision of water and sanitation in school.

In this context, in 2018 UNICEF supported interventions that raise awareness and promote healthy behaviours related to water, sanitation and hygiene reaching 291,730 pupils in 367 primary schools in seven districts of four governorates (Minya, Fayoum, Sharkia and Damietta). These interventions uses a cascade training method whereby 1,800 teachers were trained by 105 water companies teachers and then made use of the contents of the training in classes throughout the school year.

As part of the hard component of the model, UNICEF supported rehabilitation and maintenance of water and sanitation facilities in 67 of the 367 primary schools. This resulted in 57,338 pupils gaining access to improved water and sanitation in schools.

The above model has proven successful as it benefits from the virtuous partnership with institutions that have specialised technical expertise in the area of water, sanitation and hygiene. Its possible scale up by MOETE has a strong potential to results in faster progress in increasing access to and adequate use of safe water and sanitation facilities in schools.

As a part of the UNICEF's technical support to the HCWWW, UNICEF trained 250 staff members from the HCWWW Awareness Department in 23 governorates water companies; trainees gained knowledge on water customer services, monitoring and planning of awareness activities. The main scope of this training was to provide HCWWW with results-based management tools for planning, monitoring and evaluation of the community mobilization interventions.

In 2019, UNICEF will continue its coordination with the HCWWW to support the formulation and revision of the annual plans prepared by each targeted water company at the governorate level; these work-plans will provide the opportunity to put into practice the training tools. Focus will be given to the sustainability of the programme, improving the status of WASH facilities in schools and raising the awareness towards WASH issues.

5. FINANCIAL ANALYSIS

Despite attempts to achieve and improve value for money in its programmes, needs continue to out-strip UNICEF's funding resources. Fundraising for WASH in a country with so many competing priorities is understandably challenging, and this thematic funding provided absolutely essential support for the programme in 2018. Predictable and flexible funding will be vital to supporting a scaled-up response next year.

The below tables give a financial overview of the programme in terms of budget and expenditure:

Table 1: Planned Budget for the thematic sector

Intermediate Result	Funding Type	Planned Budget (USD)
24-01 Water	RR	200,000
	ORR	500,000
24-04 Children in Urban Settings/ Local Governance	RR	-
	ORR	-
Total Budget		700,000

Table 2: Country-level thematic contributions to thematic pool received in 2018

Donor	Grant Number	Contribution Amount (USD)	Programmable Amount (USD)
United Kingdom Committee for UNICEF	SC1499030056	122,890	117,038.09
United Kingdom Committee for UNICEF	SC1899060061	24,832	23,649.52
Turkish National Committee for UNICEF	SC1899060053	5,995	5,709.52
Total		153,717	146,397.13

Table 3: Expenditures in the thematic sector by results area

Organisational Target	Expenditure Amount (USD)			
	Other Resources - Emergency	Other Resources - Regular	Regular Resources	All Programme Accounts
24-01 Water	1,112	214,555	123,888	339,555
24-04 Children in Urban Settings/ Local Governance	248	56,824	0	57,072
Total	1,360	271,379	123,888	396,627

Table 4: Thematic expenses by results area

Organisational Target	Expenditure Amount (USD)			
	Other Resources - Emergency	Other Resources - Regular	Regular	All Programme Accounts
24-01 Water	-	51,367	-	51,367
24-04 Children in Urban Settings/ Local Governance	-	37,441	-	37,441
Total	0	88,808	0	88,808

Table 5: Expenses by Specific Intervention Codes

Intervention	Expenditure (USD)
24-01-04 Water supply - sustainability checks	70,072
24-01-05 Water supply - institutions (schools, health care facilities, ECD centres)	69,388
24-01-07 Water supply - peri-urban and urban communities service delivery	28,463
24-04-99 Technical assistance - Children in urban settings	37,441
26-02-04 Stimulating demand for and capacity to use data	2,042
26-02-05 Administrative data, registers and non-MICS household surveys and censuses	2,031
26-03-01 Advocacy and partnership-building for social behaviour change	18,672
26-03-03 Children, adolescent and youth engagement and participation	777
26-03-04 Community engagement, participation and accountability	17,796
26-03-05 Innovation, multi-media content production and dissemination	3,557
26-03-06 Research, monitoring and evaluation and knowledge management for C4D	97
26-03-07 Strengthening C4D in Government systems including preparedness for humanitarian action	90
26-03-99 Technical assistance - Cross - sectoral communication for development	4,304
26-06-01 Parliamentary engagement for policy advocacy	1,162
26-06-02 Innovation activities	863
26-06-05 Leading voice	4,777
26-06-07 Leading brand	1,693
26-06-09 CRC, CEDAW or CRPD - reporting	5,067
26-06-12 Learning	2,421
26-07-01 Operations support to programme delivery	12,072
27-01-06 HQ and RO technical support to multiple Goal Areas	4,866
27-01-07 HQ and RO technical support on gender	32
28-07-04 Management and Operations support at CO	107,070
30-02-09 CO/RSC staff not attributable to one channel	1,874
Total	396,628

Table 6: Planned budget for 2019

Organisational Target	Expenditure Amount (USD)			
	Other Resources - Emergency	Other Resources - Regular	Regular	All Programme Accounts
24-01 Water	-	210,000	-	210,000
24-04 Children in Urban Settings/ Local Governance	-	-	60,000	60,000
Total	0	210,000	60,000	270,000

6. FUTURE WORK PLAN

The following table summarises the priority actions in 2019-2021.

Categories of activities to achieve result	Estimated cost (US\$)	2019	2020	Total
Result 1: Communities in target rural Egypt have access to improved water and sanitation services in family health units and primary schools				
Act. 1.1: WASH facilitates assessment in FHUs and schools Description: predesigned assessment tools will be used to assess the WASH facilities in FHU for measuring service availability and Readiness. Also, the available tools for schools will be updated and used.	45,000	25,000		
Act. 1.2: Service Delivery Description: rehabilitate/improve the WASH facilities in schools and FHUs in targeted areas base on the need assessment undertaken	180,000	100,000		
Result 2: Communities in targeted rural areas achieve improved hygiene and nutrition's practices (specially hand-washing)				
Act. 2.1: Capacity building Training of key water company's awareness staff and school teachers on the various aspects of water, sanitation, hygiene and nutrition awareness, so that they are qualified and capable to transfer the required knowledge to the students	65,000	35,000		
Act. 2.2: Implement structured awareness raising sessions in schools Description: The school teachers, under the guidance of their headmasters/supervisors from water company awareness staff will provide an orientation on the package of WASH and nutrition messages, preceding the activities that will be implemented with the school children, in a simplified, child-friendly manner.	120,000	50,000		
Technical Assistance				
NOB WASH officer	120,000	60,000		
Total	510,000	270,000		

7. EXPRESSION OF THANKS

The operational context in Egypt is complex and varied, requiring flexible programming to meet emerging needs and embrace new opportunities. UNICEF Egypt's WASH section has benefitted significantly from thematic funding. The above activities could not be implemented without thematic funding from its committed partners, as well as cooperation with the government, implementing partners and local staff.

ANNEX I: HUMAN INTEREST STORY

Water taps ease the daily burden of families in Ezbet Khairalla

Access to clean water in the family's house was a comfort to their daily struggle with poverty and the deprivations associated with life in slum settings

Ghada Nadi



UNICEF/Egypt 2018/Shehzad Noorani

22 May 2018

Cairo, Egypt – The sound of splashing water falling into a clean sink every morning. In the sprawling city of Cairo, in Ezbet Khairalla, an informal settlement located just 20 minutes away from the up-scale district of Maadi, living without water had been the daily routine of Enaam and her children since the family's arrival at the area more than 20 years ago; not because of water cuts, but because there was no water supply connected to their house.

Enaam, who is in her early-40s, is a mother of six and the main caregiver for six children, since her husband abandoned the family five years ago. "We used to buy empty plastic containers and go down the valley to 'Batn El Baqar' and knock on people's houses asking to fill up seven or eight plastic containers of water from their taps," explained Enaam, "some people would accept and others didn't. It was very humiliating." She also explained that occasionally a cart selling water containers would pass by their street.

The installation of a clean water connection in this family's house took place in 2015 through a UNICEF project, in close collaboration with the Cairo Water Company and the Community-Based Organization (CBO) 'Kheir w Baraka.' Access to clean water in the family's house, was a comfort to their daily struggle with poverty and the deprivations associated with life in slum settings.

Enaam's oldest child is eighteen and the youngest is six years old, all living with their mother in a fragile two-room house. A corner is used as a kitchen and a small bathroom contains a sink and squat toilet. The house barely has furniture other than mattresses on the floor, a small closet and a TV connected to satellite through which the family- despite the harshness of their life- enjoy watching Egyptian soap operas.

Covering the basic needs of this family is a challenge for Enaam who is largely dependent on a monthly grant and food assistance from local community-based associations. "We are living on lentils and beans," accounts Enaam as she washes her dishes at the sink. Recalling the nutrition education classes provided by the Community-Based Organization 'Kheir w Baraka' she adds, "these are good sources of protein for the children."

Despite the recent water connection that slightly eased their daily life, income poverty is still preventing the family from paying the water bill to the water utilities company regularly, and from subscribing to a proper connection to the sewage system that was recently established in the area. Currently, the basic waste water pipes that were built through individual efforts for the house have been run down and blocked. Using clean water is a blessing, but having to collect the waste water in a bucket and throwing it outside the house is still a burden for Enaam and her children. "I need to pay 3,000 pounds to get a proper connection to the government sewage system. It has been done in houses next door, but I cannot afford it yet," she said.

A few blocks away, lives Nadia an elderly widow whose legs are paralysed. Her seven children are all married and either jobless or work as irregular labourers, except for Doha, who is still living at home taking care of her old mother. One of her sons and his family share the same house, and the other son lives close by. The extended family enjoys the clean water coming from the tap in their mother's house, installed not too long ago. Nadia's grandchildren wash their hands, some of them practicing the correct handwashing steps they learnt at their local school as part of hygiene awareness provided through the CBO 'Kheir w Baraka' supported by UNICEF.



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Nadia looks at a framed black and white photo of a middle-aged man hanging on the wall of the house.

“My late husband used to take his cart and go fetch us water in plastic containers every day,” Nadia said. When the husband was no longer around, Nadia’s children used to go around asking neighboring houses to use their water taps. “Some neighbours would not agree, because they have water meters and don’t want to be charged extra money for us,” added Doha, Nadia’s daughter, “Now since we have our own tap, we are just keeping the water containers for emergencies.”

UNICEF in collaboration with the Cairo Water Company through the CBOs “Kheir w Baraka” in Ezbet Khairalla and “Hadayek El Qubba” in Ezbet Abu-Hashish has been able to provide 1,307 potable water connections in the houses of families like Enaam’s and Nadia’s. The resources provided have also been used to support these communities through classes for 6,022 mothers on proper nutrition practices and growth monitoring, as well as reach out to 27,000 students and mothers of children under five with key WASH awareness messages.

This support contributed to the “Integrated Child Survival Partnership Initiative” in Informal Settlements in Cairo, that started in 2014 seeking to improve the health status of mothers and under-5 children in slum areas through improved access to essential services, and to tackle environmental conditions of underserved urban settings, with a specific focus on access to safe water.

ANNEX II: DONOR REPORT FEEDBACK FORM

Report Feedback Form

UNICEF is working to improve the quality of our reports and would highly appreciate your feedback. Kindly answer the questions below for the above-mentioned report. Thank you!

Please return the completed form back to UNICEF by email to:

Name: Fazlul Haque and Peter Tubman

Email: fhaque@unicef.org and ptubman@unicef.org

**SCORING: 5 indicates “highest level of satisfaction” while
0 indicates “complete dissatisfaction”**

1. To what extent did the narrative content of the report conform to your reporting expectations? (For example, the overall analysis and identification of challenges and solutions)

5	4	3	2	1	0

If you have not been fully satisfied, could you please tell us what we missed or what we could do better next time?

2. To what extent did the fund utilization part of the report meet your reporting expectations?

5	4	3	2	1	0

If you have not been fully satisfied, could you please tell us what we missed or what we could do better next time?

3. To what extent does the report meet your expectations in regard to the analysis provided, including identification of difficulties and shortcomings as well as remedies to these?

5	4	3	2	1	0

If you have not been fully satisfied, could you please tell us what we could do better next time?

4. To what extent does the report meet your expectations with regard to reporting on results?

5	4	3	2	1	0
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If you have not been fully satisfied, could you please tell us what we missed or what we could do better next time?

5. Please provide us with your suggestions on how this report could be improved to meet your expectations.
6. Are there any other comments that you would like to share with us?

Thank you for completing this form!