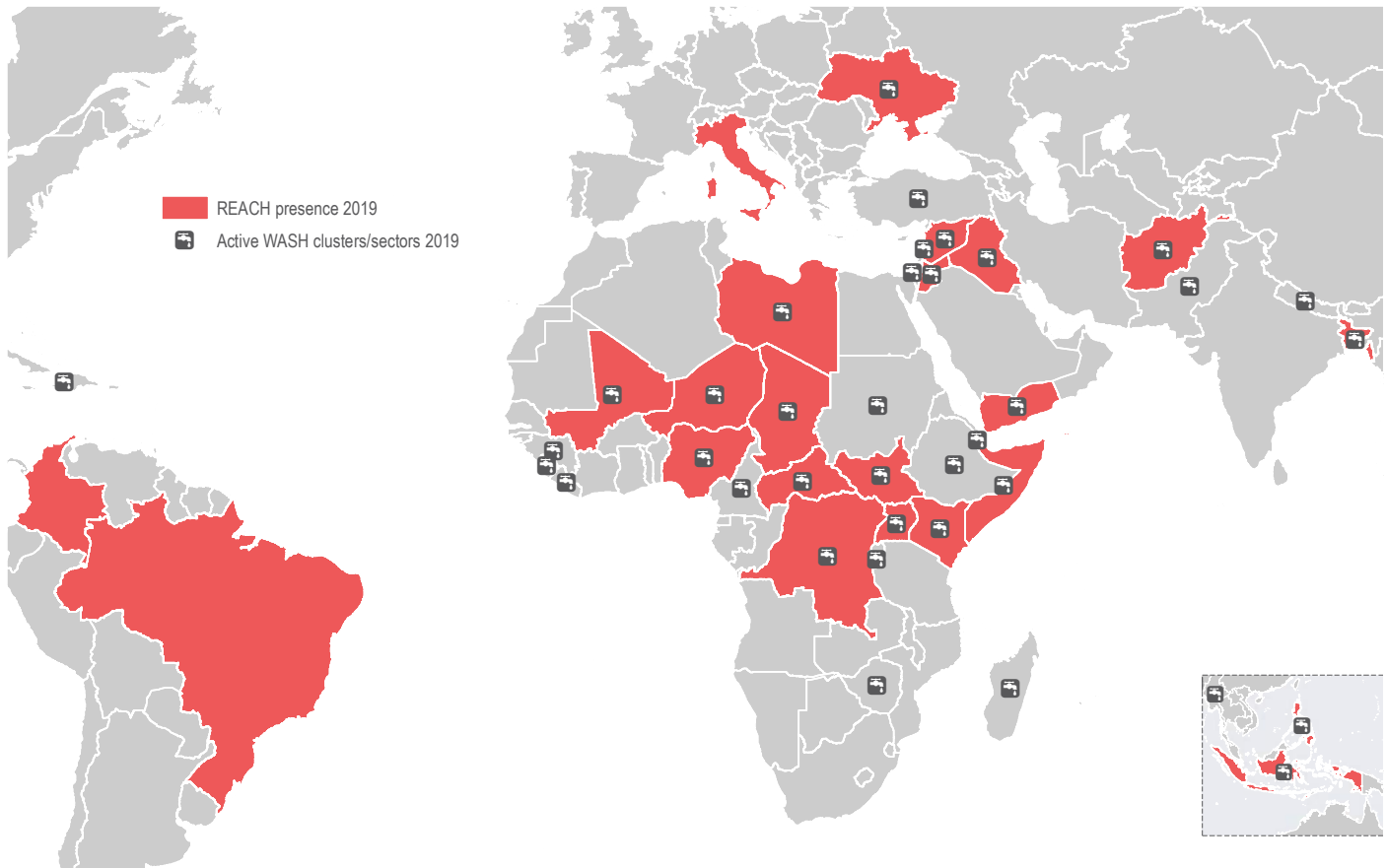# SUPPORTING EVIDENCE-BASED WASH COORDINATION

REACH Assessment Activities and Support

REACH presence in countries with active WASH Clusters or Sectors.

Legend:
- REACH presence 2019
- Active WASH clusters/sectors 2019

Clusters are the backbone of the humanitarian system. As such, they play an integral role in informing, shaping and monitoring humanitarian response throughout the Humanitarian Program Cycle. REACH has operated at the heart of the Cluster system since its first deployment in 2010. Since then, REACH has supported coordination platforms in grounding their work on evidence in order to ensure effective and efficient humanitarian response.

REACH and the WASH Cluster

REACH has established partnership frameworks with the Cluster at country and global levels in order to provide assessment, analysis and information management support. This partnership has helped the Cluster in fulfilling its key functions from strategic planning to response monitoring, with a strong evidence-based approach. Last year alone, REACH and the WASH Cluster collaborated in 11 crisis-affected countries.

REACH assessment activities

This document outlines assessment activities and resulting information products that can be produced by REACH in support of the WASH Cluster. This compendium is a tool to help facilitate the engagement of WASH coordinators with REACH field missions in the planning phase of assessments and provides an overview of the various activities carried out by REACH and the information produced out of these activities.

WASH Cluster Water Sanitation Hygiene   **REACH** Informing more effective humanitarian action

WASH-specific needs assessments
A deep dive into the complexities of WASH

OVERVIEW

WASH-specific needs assessments are fully dedicated to the WASH sector, which allows the deriving of a granular understanding of underlying factors, needs and vulnerabilities. These assessments complement data collected through multi-sector needs assessments and feed the Humanitarian Needs Overview (HNO) and Humanitarian Response Plan (HPR) process, as well as inform the sector's strategy and operations. REACH provides 360-degree support throughout the assessment cycle, from research design to data collection, often done in partnership with operational actors.

KEY INFORMATION
• Useful for strategic planning and outcome monitoring
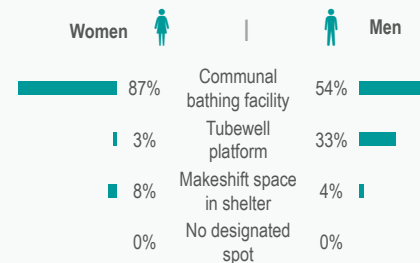• One-off assessment, ideally to be repeated annually

RECENT EXAMPLES
• **Bangladesh** (presentation, factsheets, report)
• **DRC** (presentation, factsheets, report)
• **Niger** (factsheets, report)

Findings from the Water, Sanitation and Hygiene follow-up assessment during the monsoon season, Bangladesh, August - October 2018.

% of households reporting women and men using types of bathing facilities

Women			Men
87%	Communal bathing facility	54%	
3%	Tubewell platform	33%	
8%	Makeshift space in shelter	4%	
0%	No designated spot	0%	

% of containers tested for chlorine returning chlorine residual (c/r) values[1]

3 c/r	2 c/r	1.5 c/r	1 c/r	.6 c/r	.3 c/r	0.1 c/r	0.0 c/r
1%	0%	0%	0%	0%	0%	15%	84%

23% of households reported witnessing someone treating water with chlorine the last time they were at a waterpoint[1ᵘ]
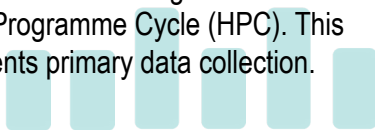
30% of households reported normally treating water before drinking

Secondary data review
Making sense of existing data

OVERVIEW

National governments, UN agencies and organizations specialized in assessments collect large amounts of data on a continuous basis. Challenges in analysing secondary data are often related to the overwhelming quantity, uneven quality and incomplete coverage of the information at hand. REACH supports coordination platforms in conducting secondary data reviews by collating and analysing all relevant data available. To make sense of large data flows, REACH implements WASH secondary data reviews throughout the Humanitarian Programme Cycle (HPC). This also complements primary data collection.

Findings from a secondary data review depicting primary water source used by households in selected governorates, Yemen, July 2017.

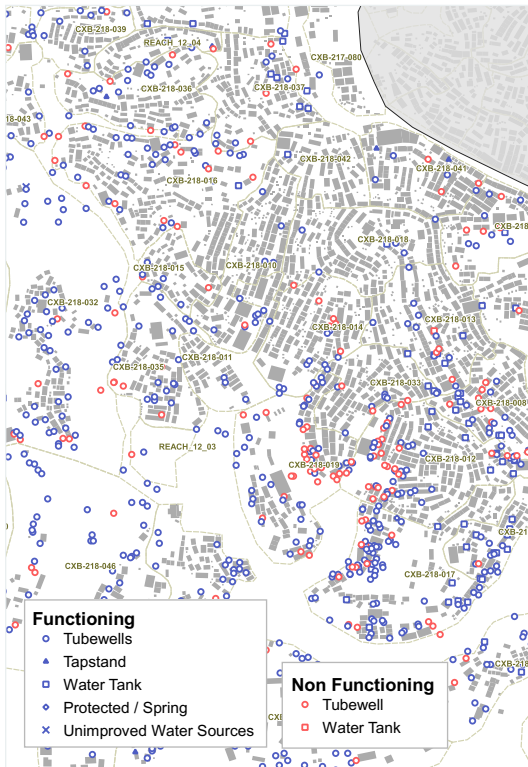Legend: Bottled Water, Water Network, Other Improved Sources, Water Trucking, Other Unimproved Sources

RECENT EXAMPLES
• **Yemen** (report)
• **Democratic Republic of Congo** (presentation)

KEY INFORMATION
• Useful in analysing large amounts of graular WASH data
• Should be updated regularly throughout the HPC

REACH *Informing more effective humanitarian action*

Infrastructure assessments
Granular understanding of WASH infrastructure

OVERVIEW

Infrastructure assessments provide detailed data on the position, number, type and functionality of sanitation facilities, water points, solid waste disposal systems and other key WASH infrastructure. Often done on a regular basis, infrastructure assessments enable the tracking of the response and the identification of gaps in the coverage of the response. Beyond basics information on coverage and functionality, data is also used to conduct advanced analysis to understand other issues, such as infrastructure exposed to hazards, the proximity of sanitation facilities to shelters and water points at risk of contamination.
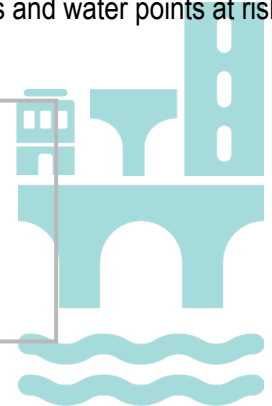

Functioning
- ○ Tubewells
- ▲ Tapstand
- ◻ Water Tank
- ◇ Protected / Spring
- ✕ Unimproved Water Sources

Non Functioning
- ○ Tubewell
- ◻ Water Tank

Map from a WASH infrastructure monitoring assessment in Cox's Bazar, Bangladesh, November 2018.

KEY INFORMATION
- Useful for output monitoring and gap analysis
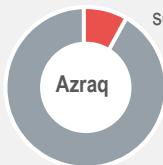- Both one-off or continuous, depending on needs
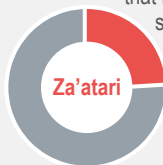
RECENT EXAMPLES
- **Bangladesh** (factsheets, maps)

WASH in schools
Measuring access to WASH infrastructure in schools

OVERVIEW

Children spend a significant portion of their day at school. WASH services can have a critical role in improving educational opportunities and decreasing the potential for disease transmission between students. These thematic assessments – often carried out jointly with the Education Cluster – aim at tracking drinking water, sanitation and hygiene services to inform targeted WASH interventions in schools.

Toilets

8% of students reported that they did not use school toilets

Azraq

24% of students reported that they did not use school toilets

Za'atari

Handwashing

98% of students reported using handwashing facilities in both camps.

Azraq

65% WASH centres provided indoor handwashing facilities

100% WASH centres provided outdoor handwashing facilities, 4% of which were located in close proximity to the toilets

Za'atari

57% WASH centres provided indoor handwashing facilities

89% WASH centres provided outdoor handwashing facilities, 91% of which were located in close proximity to the toilets

➡ Student health and hygiene practices

Azraq

4% of students never brushed their teeth

24% bathed once every three days or less

Za'atari

25% of students never brushed their teeth

34% bathed once every three days or less

Findings from a WASH-in-Schools Infrastructure Assessment and Knowledge, Attitudes and Practice survey, Jordan, September 2018.

KEY INFORMATION
- Useful for joint planning with the Education Cluster
- One-off assessment, done when relevant

RECENT EXAMPLES
- **Jordan** (factsheets, report)

WASH Cluster
Water Sanitation Hygiene

Multi-sector needs assessments

A bird's-eye view on complex humanitarian situations

OVERVIEW

Multi-sector needs assessments (MSNAs) are assessments covering multiple sectors at once. Through these assessments, coordination platforms obtain a crisis-wide overview that supports the cross-sectoral analysis process and informs the Humanitarian Needs Overview and Humanitarian Response Plan. REACH facilitates the engagement of WASH coordination platforms in MSNA processes to ensure that the information needs and technical considerations specific to WASH are duly considered.
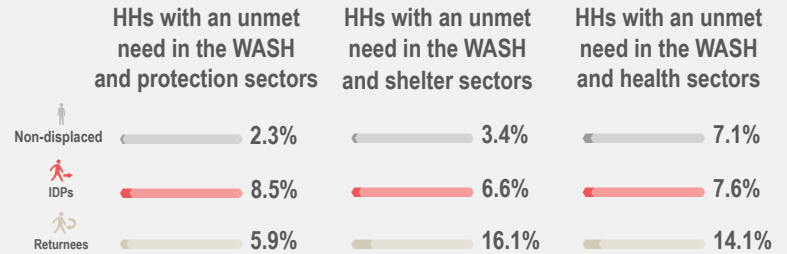
KEY INFORMATION
- Useful to inform key HPC milestones
- One-off assessment, to be implemented yearly

RECENT EXAMPLES
- **Iraq:** factsheets, report
- **Libya:** factsheets, report
- **Nigeria:** factsheets, report

Findings from a multi-sector needs assessment, Libya 2018.

	HHs with an unmet need in the WASH and protection sectors	HHs with an unmet need in the WASH and shelter sectors	HHs with an unmet need in the WASH and health sectors
Non-displaced	2.3%	3.4%	7.1%
IDPs	8.5%	6.6%	7.6%
Returnees	5.9%	16.1%	14.1%

Findings from a multi-cluster needs assessment in IDP camp settings, Iraq 2018.

Households with access to:

35% *Private latrines*

87% *Key hygiene items (e.g. soap, diapers)*

99% *Waste collection / Communal bins*

37% **Households with at least 50 litres* of water per person per day**

*Cluster-defined minimum standard

Rapid needs assessments

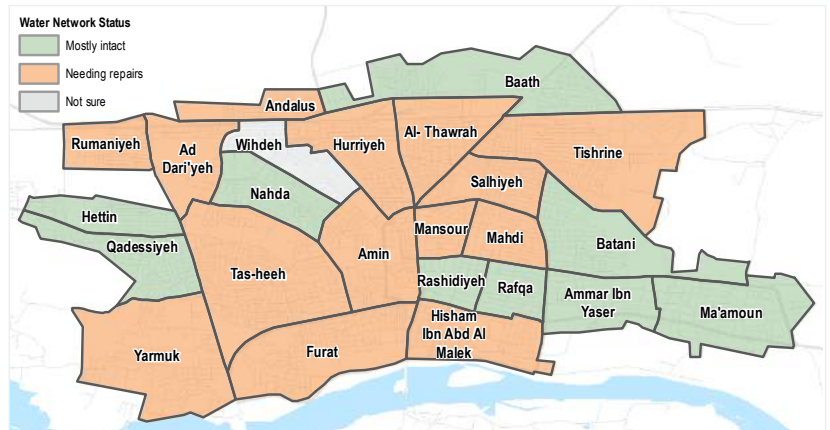**Quick snapshots of urgent needs**

OVERVIEW

In the event of a sudden-onset crisis or a deterioration of the humanitarian situation, REACH facilitates the implementation of rapid needs assessments (RNAs) either through ad hoc assessments or through the setup of permanent systems that can be swiftly activated when needed. RNAs focus on collecting a carefully defined amount of information as quickly as possible to inform the kick-off of the response and the planning of life-saving interventions over the first weeks. Due to time constraints, RNAs are often inter-sectoral, which enables the maximising of data collection and analysis efforts.

KEY INFORMATION
- Useful to kick-start life-saving emergency response
- Should be conducted right after the shock

RECENT EXAMPLES
- **South Sudan** (overview)
- **Libya** (overview)
- **Syria** (overview)

Water Network Status
- Mostly intact
- Needing repairs
- Not sure

Findings from the Ar-Raqqa City Situation Overview showing condition of water networks in the city, Syria, September 2017.

Needs monitoring systems
Regular updates on needs and vulnerabilities

OVERVIEW

In volatile settings, WASH coordination platforms require data on a regular basis on needs and population movements, in order to adjust the response accordingly. REACH helps setting up light assessment systems that allow continuous needs monitoring throughout the Humanitarian Programme Cycle by providing data on a defined set of indicators.
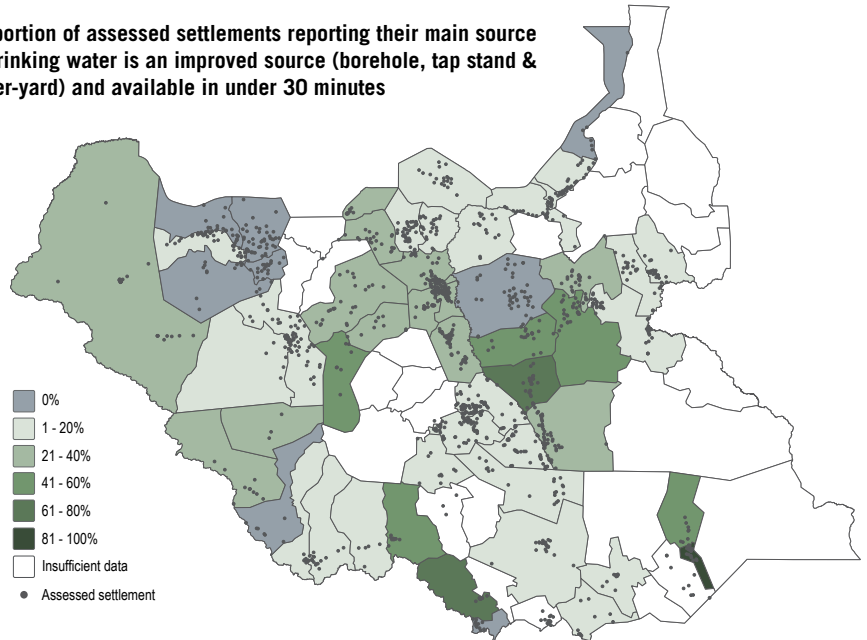
> **KEY INFORMATION**
> • Useful to monitor volatile situations and adjust the response accordingly
> • Should be done on a continuous basis throughout the Humanitarian Programme Cycle
>
> **RECENT EXAMPLES**
> • **South Sudan** (overview)
> • **Syria** (overview)

Proportion of assessed settlements reporting their main source of drinking water is an improved source (borehole, tap stand & water-yard) and available in under 30 minutes

Legend:
- 0%
- 1 - 20%
- 21 - 40%
- 41 - 60%
- 61 - 80%
- 81 - 100%
- Insufficient data
- Assessed settlement

Findings from a WASH assessment in hard-to-reach areas, South Sudan, September 2018.

Cash and market assessments
Analysing market dynamics to inform market-based interventions

OVERVIEW

Cash and market assessments aim to provide an understanding of whether market-based interventions are feasible in a given context. Furthermore, these assessments provide price and stock information on relevant WASH non-food items and services to inform market-based WASH response programming. If relevant, price and stock monitoring can be done on a regular basis to enable WASH coordination platforms to continuously adjust interventions based on the latest available data.
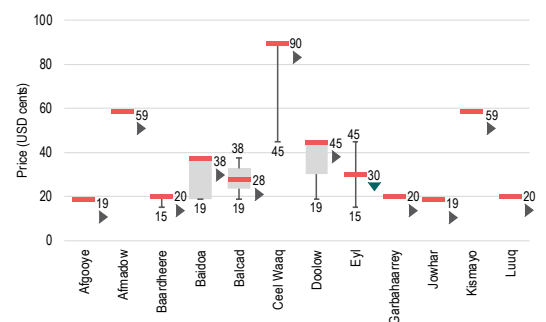
> **KEY INFORMATION**
> • Useful to track prices and market dynamics
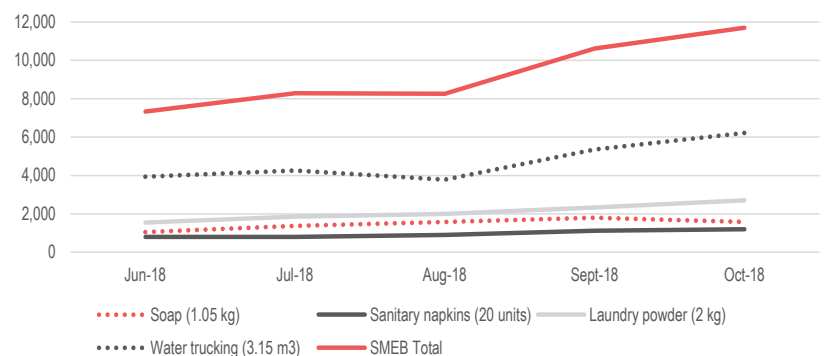> • Should be done on a continuous basis throughout the Humanitarian Programme Cycle

Findings from a water price monitoring, Somalia, November 2018.

Distribution of water prices across assessed districts

> **RECENT EXAMPLES**
> • **Somalia** (overview)
> • **Syria** (overview)
> • **Yemen** (overview)

MEDIAN WASH SMEB PRICES, BY MONTH AND GOVERNORATE

Legend:
- Soap (1.05 kg)
- Sanitary napkins (20 units)
- Laundry powder (2 kg)
- Water trucking (3.15 m3)
- SMEB Total

Findings from the Yemen Joint Market Monitoring Initiative, October 2018.

WASH Cluster
Water Sanitation Hygiene

TYPES OF INFORMATION PRODUCTS

1 | Datasets and comparison tables
Rapid identification of urgent needs and priorities

As soon as collected data is clean, coordination platforms can start analysing it. The produced dataset can also be formatted into comparison tables that allow the contrasting of a large number of indicators broken down by geographic locations or population groups. Thanks to the traffic light systems, comparison tables help in spotting issues needing the attention of decision-makers. Comparison tables are usually ready within a week after the completion of data collection.
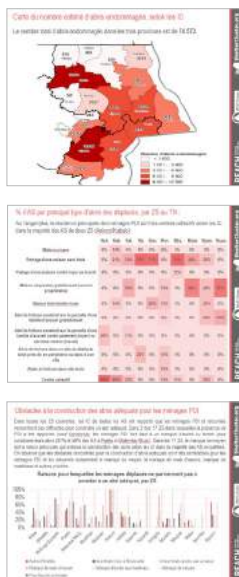
Reported access to water from the public network in the 7 days prior to data collection, per mantika:

	Every day (7 days)	Most days (4-6 days)	Rarely (1-3 days)	Not at all (0 days)
Al Jabal Al Akhdar	58.0%	29.6%	2.8%	4.7%
Al Jabal Al Gharbi	7.3%	5.3%	20.3%	65.8%
Aljfara	62.6%	35.9%	1.2%	0.0%
Aljufra	0.3%	30.2%	57.4%	12.1%
Alkufra	29.1%	41.4%	28.2%	1.2%
Almarj	55.2%	0.1%	3.4%	39.7%
Azzawya	36.1%	12.9%	9.4%	40.4%
Benghazi	75.7%	10.9%	3.9%	9.1%
Derna	18.3%	36.0%	26.5%	19.2%
Ejdabia	59.2%	13.1%	22.9%	4.9%
Ghat	7.2%	72.8%	19.4%	0.5%
Misrata	41.8%	20.5%	17.8%	14.1%
Murzuq	36.3%	60.2%	3.2%	0.4%
Sebha	53.4%	23.0%	18.7%	1.0%
Sirt	18.6%	45.3%	35.5%	0.1%
Tobruk	2.6%	3.3%	36.3%	52.0%
Tripoli	45.8%	15.9%	8.4%	28.8%
Ubari	35.4%	47.5%	16.0%	0.5%
Wadi Ashshati	93.1%	6.9%	0.0%	0.0%
Zwara	63.2%	35.9%	0.8%	0.0%

Comparison table from the Libya multi-sector needs assessment, September 2018.

2 | Presentation
Quick analysis of preliminary findings

This type of output aims at presenting the results of an assessment as soon as data is cleaned and analysed. This way, the WASH coordination platform can start disseminating and using the findings while more elaborate information products are crafted. Preliminary presentations are often delivered by REACH staff at WASH coordination platform meetings to facilitate joint analysis and interpretation by utilising the technical knowledge of WASH partners. Preliminary presentations are usually ready within a week after the completion of data collection.
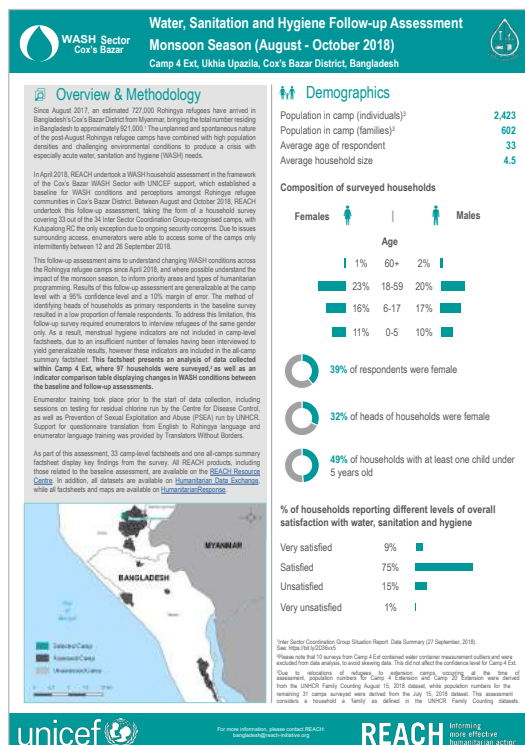

Presentation from a joint WASH-Shelter assessment, DRC, November 2018.

3 | Factsheets
Compact overviews on key WASH indicators

Factsheets provide a readable, compact, and concise overview of key information on the WASH and humanitarian situation in a certain area. They outline and highlight key indicators using data visualization tools such as pie and bar charts, tables and headings making the document clear and approachable for decision-makers. Usually, each factsheet covers a specific administrative area, be it district or sub-district, and they are therefore particularly useful for zooming in geographically. Factsheets are ready within approximately ten days after the completion of data collection.
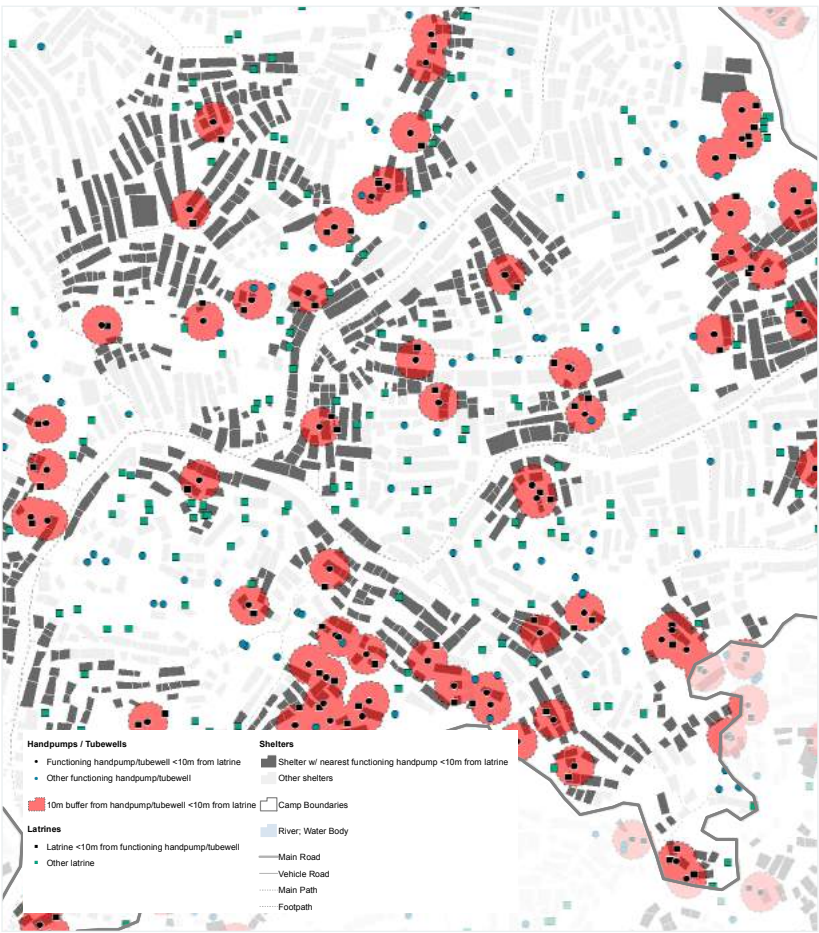

Factsheet from a WASH assessment conducted in Cox's Bazar, Bangladesh, October 2018.

Above: A map highlighting proximity of handpumps and tubewells to latrines in Camp 3, Cox's Bazar, Bangladesh, March 2018. Right: Hygiene maps on the proportion of households reporting the use of aquatabs, Cox's Bazar, Bangladesh, 2019.
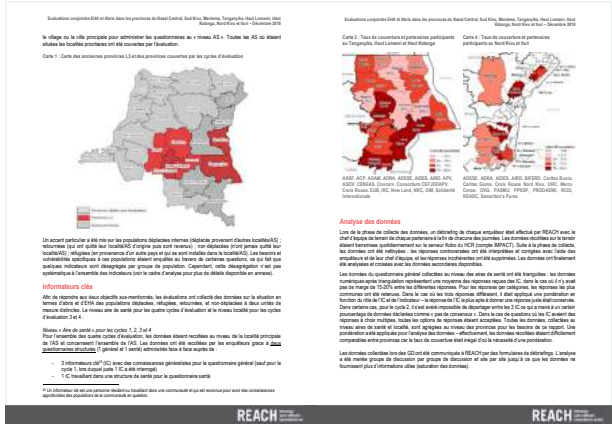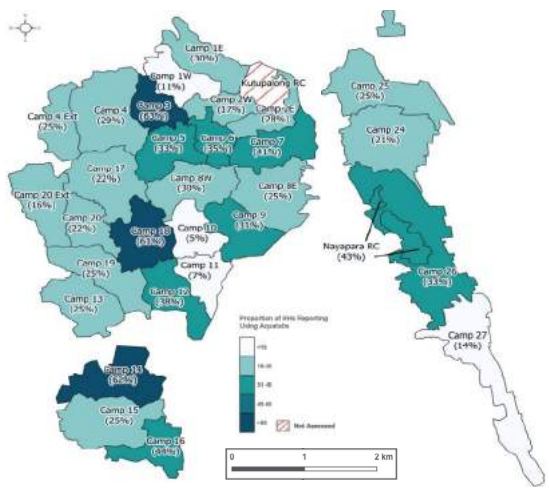
4 | Thematic maps
Spatial visualization of WASH issues

Thematic maps focus on specific WASH issues and aim at emphasizing the spatial variation of key indicators. Besides providing information on particular locations, these maps are useful in detecting spatial patterns between different areas. They are therefore key in informing the geographic prioritization of humanitarian aid. Maps are generally ready within ten days after the completion of data collection.

Narrative report on a WASH and Shelter assessment, DRC, 2019.

5 | Narrative report
In-depth analysis of WASH conditions

Narrative reports deliver a holistic understanding of WASH and humanitarian conditions. They allow for an exhaustive overview of complex issues, such as drivers and underlying factors behind WASH needs and vulnerabilities. Furthermore, they provide an opportunity to conduct advanced analysis and explore potential correlations between issues and topics and placing these into context. Reports are usually ready within one month after the completion of data collection.

REPUBLIQUE DEMOCRATIQUE DU CONGO

Evaluations conjointes EHA et abris dans les provinces du Kasai Central, Sud Kivu, Maniema, Tanganyika, Haut Lomami, Haut Katanga, Nord Kivu et Ituri

Décembre 2018

ABOUT THE GLOBAL WASH CLUSTER

The Global WASH Cluster supports WASH coordination platforms to improve the relevance, quality, coverage and effectiveness of WASH assistance provided to people affected by emergencies. It provides operational support, capacity building, advocacy and knowledge management to improve WASH humanitarian coordination at the national and sub-national level.

ABOUT REACH

REACH facilitates the development of information tools and products that enhance the capacity of aid actors to make evidence-based decisions in emergency, recovery and development contexts. All REACH activities are conducted through inter-agency aid coordination mechanisms. REACH is a joint initiative of IMPACT, its sister-organisation ACTED and theUnited Nations Institute for Training and Research – Operational Satellite Applications Programme (UNITAR-UNOSAT).

CONTACT

Ross Tomlinson
Senior WASH Cluster Coordinator
Global WASH Cluster
+49 151 2405 40 05
rtomlinson@unicef.org

Augusto Comé
Assessment Specialist
Global WASH Cluster
+41 78 626 81 31
acome@unicef.org

UNICEF - United Nations
Children's Fund
5-7 Avenue de la Paix
1202 Genève

IMPACT Initiatives & REACH
International Environment House 2
9 Chemin de Balexert
1219 Châtelaine

WASHClusteGlob

washcluster.net

REACH_info

reach-initiative.org