

# BRIEFING SHEET

## Defining the Cluster Caseload

### What is a Cluster Caseload?

The Cluster Caseload is the consolidation of a number of pieces of information derived from various exercises including those outlined in the Table below. It delimits the targets of the IASC humanitarian response actors within a given emergency.

### Why do we need a Cluster Caseload?

The Cluster Caseload is required for strategic planning, to identify realistic targets for interventions for the Cluster in both the Strategic Response Plan and Strategic Operational Framework. It also provides a benchmark for cluster response monitoring (see Section/Tools for Strategic Planning & Response Monitoring)

Information	Source	Process
Strategic Response Plan boundaries	OCHA	SRP boundary definition
Information from assessments including requirements of the affected population in relation to all WASH domains	Partners, Govt etc.	Analysed using e.g. QDA software
Vulnerability of the affected population (location prioritisation)	Various data sources (outlined in Needs Section)	Derived from 1000Minds software – see Needs Section
Partner Capacity	WASH Partners	Derived from the Capacity exercise – see Capacity Section
Humanitarian access	OCHA/partners	Access from IMWG
Response duration	OCHA/partners	Access from IMWG/Cluster/UNICEF
Other key information on capacity of agencies that may not be part of the Cluster (or Cluster SRP) e.g. Government response, private sector response, ICRC/MSF response	Various agencies/ Government	Consolidate with partner capacity data

### How to express Cluster Caseloads / boundaries?

Transparency in determining the caseload is essential, and the logic of the process should be documented. Typically targets are determined through a consideration of the factors above, and which are described in the document within the following categories: Geography; Demography; Vulnerability; Time; Sub-Sectoral

### Who should define the Cluster Caseload?

There is no definitive calculation to create a Cluster Caseload; rather it is a figure that should be arrived at from informed discussions between the Cluster Coordinator, WASH Strategic Advisory Group (if in existence) and other Clusters. The Cluster Coordinator is ultimately responsible for defining the Caseload based on best information available (from IMO) coupled with country and emergency specific WASH knowledge.

### TIPS

- Ensure that the Cluster Coordinator receives the most up to date information on partners
- Consult with other clusters on what other agencies are working in the response, but not part of the SRP. These agencies' caseloads need to also be identified so that the Cluster is not duplicating efforts.