

# Building global capacity for hygiene promotion in emergencies

Concept Note / **Global training** / 21<sup>st</sup> – 27<sup>th</sup> April 2024, Madrid, Spain



Credit: IFRC



Credit: Vanuatu Red Cross.

## Background: why this training?

Hygiene promotion is the foundation of any successful WASH programme and operation; yet it often does not receive as much attention (or resources) as water and sanitation. The [hygiene promoter role](#) has been identified as a gap profile, which is critical for WASH rapid response and emergency response Unit (ERU) rosters outlined on [IFRC GO - Deployments](#) for example: Mass Sanitation Module 20 (MSM20), Household water treatment and Safe Storage (HWTSS) and Water Supply Rehabilitation (WSR).

This is an advanced level course for hygiene promotion in emergencies (HPiE), which aims to prepare National Society staff to implement high quality hygiene promotion programmes and operations which adhere to IFRC WASH guidelines for hygiene promotion in emergencies. This training is aligned with [IFRCs WASH Technical Competency Framework](#) (Tier C - Design hygiene promotion programmes and evaluate the outcomes) for hygiene promotion, and the [Rapid Response Profile for WASH Officer – Hygiene Promoter](#).

## When and where?

This training will take place from Sunday 21<sup>st</sup> till Saturday 27<sup>th</sup> April 2024 and be held face-to-face in a training centre outside of Madrid, Spain. There will be mandatory online pre-training exercises to complete (estimated to take up to 10 hours) and post-training follow-up (based on action plans to be developed during the training).

## Overall goals

The overall goal of this training is to increase the surge pool of hygiene promotion (HP) profiles at global, regional, and country level, and to build on the existing knowledge and skills of National Societies to implement effective, appropriate, and inclusive hygiene promotion actions in emergency contexts.

Secondary goals are to provide a platform for capacity and experience sharing, to strengthen the global network of hygiene promotion/public health/CEA/PGI etc. practitioners, and to harmonize current HPiE global training packages. Many National Societies are already conducting HP and public health related trainings at field and national level (for example, for cholera preparedness and response) and there is an opportunity to harmonise existing local and global tools.

## Objectives of the training

- Increase the pool of skilled hygiene promoters (in emergency contexts) that can be deployed as surge rapid response capacity (either stand alone or as part of a WASH or public health ERU).
- Develop a potential pool of HPiE trainers, who could be utilised for future trainings at global, regional and country level.
- Ensure HPiE training package familiarisation and harmonization at global and regional levels.

## Specific learning objectives

By the end of the course the participants are expected to be able to:

- **Demonstrate** technical knowledge and practical skills in applied hygiene promotion, including training and organising volunteers and being able to explain to others how public health risks interact with WASH.
- **Design, implement, monitor and evaluate** hygiene promotion emergency interventions, based on the training scenario and using IFRCs 8 steps for hygiene promotion as a framework (see Figure 1, end of document).
- **Explain** strategies for strengthening participation and accountability as part of WASH interventions in emergencies.
- **Illustrate** how cross cutting such as protection, gender, and inclusion (PGI), community engagement and accountability (CEA), cash and voucher assistance (CVA) and green response can be included in hygiene promotion interventions.
- **Describe** key actions and considerations for harmonization, cooperation and coordination with water, sanitation and hygiene promotion global response tools (e.g., RDRT, ERU etc.) and with other Movement and external partners.

Upon successful completion of the training, participants will be included in the [IFRC Rapid Response personnel](#) register for surge deployments.

## Participants profile

The expected number of participants is between 25 and 30, with diverse backgrounds, roles and sectoral experiences – for example some participants with a public health, CEA or PGI background are expected to attend. Between 3 and 5 participants are tentatively expected from each region, to ensure a balanced geographical representation. Participants living with disabilities, those who identify across the gender spectrum and from marginalised groups are encouraged to apply.

### Participant profile and selection criteria:

Because this is an advanced level training (Tier C), participants are expected to have previous knowledge and experience with hygiene promotion and in responding to emergencies.

Candidates for training are expected to have the following profile:

- Participants should have a minimum of three (3) years' work experience within hygiene promotion, WASH, public health, or health communication.
- Participants must have completed a Foundation level (or similar) Hygiene Promotion training, and be familiar with common WASH response modalities such as NDRT, RDRT, ERU etc.
- Participants must have at least one previous experience in emergency response.
- Participants should be fluent in both written and spoken English, and skills to present and convey information to others.

- Participants should be willing and available to facilitate related response trainings, and participate in refresher courses and Technical Working Groups (TWGs).
- Participants should be available for one emergency deployment in the 24 months following the training (line manager approval for attending the training and possibility to be deployed is required).

A limited budget is available to support travel costs of some National Society participants; for others, funding will be sought from partners or covered by national programme budgets.

Please fill in this short survey form **by 10<sup>th</sup> December 2024** to register:  
<https://eenew.ifrc.org/x/STAW5vSN>

## **Training curriculum and methodology**

A 5-day face-to-face training is planned, developed from the existing syllabus of the Hygiene Promotion in Emergencies (HPiE) specialised trainings conducted to date (Sweden, Austria, Indonesia, France, German, and Spain). The principal training language will be English.

This training will include an increased emphasis on scenario-based WASH assessment, planning and monitoring, as well as volunteer management and soft skills.

Based on experiences and recommendations, this training will:

- Utilise practical activities and exercise to complement and cement theoretical learning (e.g. theory in the morning and practice in the afternoons).
- Make use of one realistic scenario right across the training (this training will focus on diarrhoeal diseases such as cholera, highlighting the link between public health and WASH).
- Integrate cross-cutting aspects such as PGI, CVA and green response, right through the training (rather than having isolated or stand-alone sessions on these topics).
- Include a diverse group of participants, including from sectors other than WASH such as public health.
- Apply a mentor model, where experienced ‘facilitator mentors’ are assigned to each group and support and follow that group throughout the training and practical activities.
- Prior to the training, participant knowledge, experience and expectations will be evaluated (through an online survey) and used to tailor the training curriculum and activities accordingly.
- Focus on improving quality of community engagement and accountability in WASH, clarifying the role of HP and the cross over with CEA (for example).
- Leave sufficient time for sharing experience, socialising and rest (e.g. not too packed or long days).

Throughout the training, emphasis will be providing opportunities for National Societies to share and discuss their experiences, lessons and recommendations. In addition to presentations from both facilitators and participants, emphasis will be put on practical group exercises and interactive discussions.

On the final day of the training, participants will be required to develop an action plan and document their key activities/plans/goals that they will be expected to work on and follow-up with after returning home.

A post-training evaluation survey will be conducted. 2 to 3 months after the training a short follow-up to participants is also planned, to monitor progress of identified actions and next steps.

## Want to know more? Contact

In the IFRC Geneva Health Unit: **Alexandra Machado**, Senior Officer, WASH in Public Health,  
[ALEXANDRA.MACHADO@ifrc.org](mailto:ALEXANDRA.MACHADO@ifrc.org), Tel. +41 (0)22 730 4631

**Figure 1: IFRCs 8 steps for hygiene promotion action**

