

WASH & Dignity Kit — First Response

UNICEF GUIDANCE

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This guidance information is meant for WASH and Child Protection specialists who are procuring WASH & Dignity Kit – First Response (S9901153) through UNICEF Supply Division. This global kit is designed for distribution during the first phase of emergency response (within 8 weeks of onset) to address the immediate needs of the affected population. It is a lifesaving pre-packaged kit on the Emergency Supply List (ESL). The kit was launched in October 2018 and replaces two kits: S9901151 Immediate Response WASH & Dignity Kit and S5006281 Family Hygiene and Dignity Kit, Standard.

The kit helps fulfill UNICEF's commitment to provide gender-specific 'non-food items' (NFIs) to women and adolescent girls in line with their rights to health, dignity and protection in emergencies.

This new global kit is to be used as a last resort, where local procurement options are not possible (e.g., due to lack of pre-positioning, lack of suppliers or insufficient quantities). The contents of the kit have been revised based on a review conducted in 2016-2017¹ which reflects experiences in Country Offices. Local procurement is always recommended as first option. Locally procured kits should always be in line with SPHERE standards², UNICEF's Core Commitments for Children (CCCs) in Humanitarian Action³, and the Inter-Agency Standing Committee (IASC) Guidelines on Integrating Gender-based Violence Interventions in Humanitarian Action.⁴

1 <https://icon.unicef.org/apps02/cop/edb/Lists/Evaluation%20Reports/Attachments/9085/WASH%20Related%20Kits%20Review.pdf> (Limited to UNICEF internal access. For implementing partners, it is available upon request.)

2 <http://spherehandbook.org/>

3 https://www.unicef.org/publications/index_21835.html

4 https://gbvguidelines.org/wp/wp-content/uploads/2015/09/TAG-wash-08_26_2015.pdf

1. Kit contents

The WASH and Dignity Kit – First Response is comprised of 12 pre-packaged items, accompanied by a leaflet on usage. Each ‘standard’ kit contains sufficient quantities for 5 families (25 individuals) to address basic needs for one month. Although a version of the kit is also available packed for one family (S9901152), this is not recommended due to the increased logistical costs.

Since the consumable contents will need to be replenished one month after distribution, Country Offices need to plan for the second phase response in parallel to procuring the initial kits.

Kits without water purification tablets will be also kept at suppliers, as backup option.



Table 1 Contents of the WASH and Dignity Kit – First Response

Item	Specification	Quantities for	
		1 family	5 families (standard kit)
Water container	PVC/PE, 10 litres, collapsible, w/o logo	2	10
Bucket	HDPE, with lid, 14 litres	1	5
Soap	Toilet bar, approx. 110g, wrapped	12	60
Water purification tablets (NaDCC)	33mg tabs/PAC-50	6	30
Torch	Handheld, self-powered	1	5
Child potty	Plastic	1	5
Multipurpose cloth	Cotton, 1m x 1.5m	2	10
Reusable menstrual pads	Set of 2 pad holders, 2 straight pads, 3 winged pads, 1 storage pouch	2	10
Sanitary pads	Female, w/wings, disposables, min. qty 20/package	2	10
Whistle	Metal, w/cord lanyard	1	5
Underwear	Female panties, Sx3, Mx3, Lx3	1	5
Laundry detergent	1.5kg pack, concentrated washing powder	1	5
Guidance on kit use	Paper flyer	1	5

For more information, please refer to:

1. Supply Catalogue⁵
2. Freight estimate calculation⁶
3. UNICEF Product & Procurement Guide for Menstrual Materials (To be launched later in 2018)

⁵ [https://supply.unicef.org/unicef_b2c/app/displayApp/\(layout=70-12_1_66_67_115&area=%24ROOT\)/.do?rf=y](https://supply.unicef.org/unicef_b2c/app/displayApp/(layout=70-12_1_66_67_115&area=%24ROOT)/.do?rf=y)

⁶ <https://intranet.unicef.org/Denmark/DanHomepage.nsf/0/CCA5F38980538D52C12572BF002E6965?open&expandlevel=MainLevel7&expandlevel2=SecondLevel38>

(5 & 6: Limited to UNICEF internal access.)

2. Considerations for kit distributions

Kit distribution may be planned by consulting with clusters or alternative sectoral coordination mechanisms as well as other stakeholders, particularly women and girls from the affected population, to address specific needs appropriate to a situation. Kit distribution provides an important opportunity to provide information on other available WASH, health, protection or education services such as:

- Hygiene promotion, including guidance on the correct use of any WASH infrastructure that has been set-up for the emergency (in particular if the affected population usually practice open defecation).
- Culturally-relevant sexual and reproductive health information, such as on spotting danger signs during

pregnancy and delivery, the importance of obstetric care, or the availability of sexual and reproductive health services.

- Information on known risks for Gender-based Violence (GBV) in the location, such as unsafe areas, threats associated with water/firewood collection, the benefits of seeking post-sexual assault care within 72 hours, available GBV services and what to expect when seeking help from services. GBV-related outreach activities targeted at affected communities should always be planned in coordination with experienced GBV actors and should always contain information about available response services/referrals.

3. Distribution process

The process of distribution begins with a needs assessment and design of distribution, followed by the distribution itself, and then monitoring by UNICEF and its partners.

The below elements should be included in Programme Cooperation Agreements (PCAs) and contracts with partners and service providers.

3.1 Assessment and design

Geographical area: Through consultation with the relevant cluster lead agencies and members (e.g., NFIs, camp management, shelter, WASH, protection, health, nutrition and education), first define the geographical area for the distribution (e.g., region, district, camp, settlement or community). Geographical coverage of the WASH and Dignity Kits – First Response distribution will be influenced by:

- Distribution of similar NFIs by other actors;
- Location and number of affected people;
- Presence of distribution partners; and
- Access including infrastructure damage, ongoing conflict and security, political instability.



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Targeting criteria for distribution: Clear and specific selection criteria for the target population who will receive the kits should be agreed through consultation with women and girls, community leaders, local organisations and actors, and clusters. The criteria should be communicated to the community prior to distribution to promote transparency and minimise the potential for backlash against individuals receiving the kits. Vulnerability and need based on factors such as age, health status, security and family composition need to be considered when developing targeting criteria. For example, the possibility of younger menstruating adolescent girls and older women with delayed menopause need to be discussed – as does family composition, for example in communities that practice polygamy.

Distribution planning: A distribution plan developed in consultation with all stakeholders – including affected populations – is an important part of response design. WASH and Dignity Kits – First Response distribution can be embedded into UNICEF WASH, child protection, health, nutrition and education services and activities, where appropriate.

Risks and unintended consequences of distributions: Potential safety and security risks associated with kit distribution should be identified. For example, the threat of harassment, humiliation or attack when travelling to or from distribution points, or the risk of recipients being targeted for theft of items contained in the kit. Ensure

3.2 Distribution

Country Offices need to provide sufficient relevant information about the contents, use and benefits of the provided items to the recipients. Where possible, women should distribute the kits – this helps ensure that messages on the purpose and use of menstrual hygiene and other gender-sensitive materials are properly explained, and that women and girls receiving the kits feel comfortable asking questions.

Ensure distribution is done in a way that minimises safety risks and stigma (see the IASC GBV guidelines⁸ for additional information). For example, GBV survivors should never be singled out or identified during distribution.

Provide information to women and girls collecting kits on how and to whom they can provide feedback or complaints about the kits or the distribution process;

3.3 Monitoring

UNICEF must make sure that post-monitoring is planned and specified in Programme Cooperation Agreements, project documents and contracts to ensure accountability to affected populations (AAP). It is UNICEF's responsibility to make sure that proper post-distribution monitoring is undertaken, through implementing partners or third-party contractors, measuring the acceptance and use of items as soon as possible after distribution. This includes unintended consequences of kit distribution, such as increased safety/GBV risks, people selling items from the kit and unsafe waste disposal of sanitary items.

unintended consequences of kit distribution are included in monitoring.

Equipping distribution staff with information on available GBV services: All distribution staff should have up-to-date information on what GBV services are available in the location where the distribution is taking place, in case a survivor chooses to disclose an experience of GBV. This information can be obtained from the GBV sub-cluster, UNICEF GBV specialists and/or organisation(s) implementing GBV programming. For locations where no services are available, a 'Pocket Guide'⁷ has been created (available as both a PDF and smartphone app).



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provide information about their rights and entitlements with local languages where appropriate.

Monitoring can be done through household visits, individual interviews, focus group discussions and by contracting a third party. Emerging issues and lessons must be documented and used to make adjustments if further distributions are planned, or shared with others to ensure lessons and good practice are followed in other UNICEF and partner kit distributions. Ensure interviews and group discussions with girls and women are conducted privately, so participants can speak freely.

⁷ <https://gbvguidelines.org/en/pocketguide/>

⁸ https://gbvguidelines.org/wp/wp-content/uploads/2015/09/TAG-wash-08_26_2015.pdf