



9 MINIMUM SECTORAL DATA: A. PUBLIC HEALTH, WATER, SANITATION, HYGIENE, FOOD SECURITY AND NUTRITION

9.1 OVERVIEW AND FUNCTION

The minimum sectoral data presented in these guidance notes are based on the standards and units of measurement set by the SPHERE Project's Humanitarian Charter and Minimum Standards in Humanitarian Response in 2011, as well as through internal UNHCR standards. These guidance notes work to establish what all staff members, including an Information Manager, needs to know in order to inform operational planning and an information management strategy.

9.2 HOW-TO GUIDE

The UNHCR sector specialists generally cover public health, nutrition and Water, Sanitation and Hygiene (WASH), informing the initial emergency response based on the following key indicators.

9.2.1 Key minimum emergency indicators for public health, nutrition, food security and WASH for refugee camp populations

Indicator	Source
Crude mortality rate	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Health information system • Partner reports • Rapid assessments
Under-5 mortality rate	
Measles vaccination coverage	
Proportion of births attended by a skilled health worker Note: Defined as doctors and/or persons with midwifery skills who can diagnose and manage obstetrical emergencies as well as normal deliveries. Traditional birth attendants (trained or untrained) are not included	
Global acute malnutrition (GAM) prevalence	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Nutrition surveys • Partner reports • Mid-upper arm circumference (MUAC) screening (to be interpreted with caution)
Severe acute malnutrition (SAM) prevalence	
Number of Kcal/person/day, in situations where people are reliant on food aid as their main source of food	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • WFP • Partner reports • Food Basket Monitoring (FBM) reports
Liters of potable water / person / day Note: For the first few days of the emergency, it is 7 liters/person/day, moving to 10-15 liters after a few weeks, and reaching 20 litres thereafter.	
Number of persons per communal latrine Note: The standards increase in the first weeks of an emergency: 100 people per latrine during the first few days of the emergency, moving to 50 after a few weeks, and finally 20 after two to three months.	
Hygiene promoter / refugee Note: number of hygiene promoters per refugees (standard is 1:500)	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • WASH monitoring (monthly) • System partner reports • Monitoring forms at productive source, i.e.: boreholes, protected wells, springs, intakes

Population denominators for the calculation of rates are referenced from registration statistics shared by the UNHCR registration officer or Information Manager, or from other estimation sources.

9.2.2 Public health, WASH, food security, and nutrition information products to expect

The sector specialist will be working with a web-based application that combines streams of information to inform decision-making in the humanitarian sector, (the application, called *TWINE* may be found online at: <http://twine.unhcr.org/app/>) which integrates minimum sectoral data and presents the information in summary reports. Data is derived from surveillance systems at the service provider level and aggregated to foster epidemiologic needs. Data is entered directly into the Twine database or uploaded online either by partners or by the UNHCR sectoral expert. Indicator guidance is integrated directly into the application and may also be downloaded as individual indicator guidance sheets.

At the very onset of an emergency when Twine (the web-based Health Information System (HIS)) or other data collection systems have not yet been established, data for 10 basic indicators are collected on a weekly basis. This data is compiled into the Basic Indicator Report and shared internally and externally with partners. The reports should also be integrated into wider reporting platforms, such as Situation Updates and the operational web portals.

The Twine comprehensive indicator reports and summary reports facilitate inter-sector analysis through online reporting formats within the health, WASH, nutrition, food security and morbidity sectors. For example, HIS mortality data is integrated with WASH data to create the WASH Report Card, allowing for trends to be observed and be interpreted. These reports are available in PDF format, and should be integrated into the information dissemination strategy. Raw indicator data may also be downloaded from the web application directly into spreadsheet formats for additional analysis.

When analyzing the information contained in the reports, it will be important to consider links that may arise from parallel assessments taking place at the onset of the emergency, such as between the emergency needs assessment and the ongoing monitoring and analysis of emerging trends within the refugee population, that may impact the public health, WASH, nutritional or food security situation.

9.2.3 Considerations when cross-analyzing data

When cross-analyzing secondary data, it is imperative to take into consideration possible protection, shelter or CRI implications or compounding factors. This can be done for all members of the population or specifically for vulnerable groups.

The sector specialist may share data in order to facilitate analysis with non-health sectors. The sector specialist may also share the outputs of Health/WASH/nutrition/food security information products by posting on the UNHCR country web portal or by including this information in the camp profile and other standard information products. Most data is available online through Twine and accessible to partners after an initial sign-in, and may be downloaded via .csv or .pdf reports.

The sector specialist will also need to provide contextual data such as rapid assessment methodologies that will allow readers to determine the quality of the data or to whom it applies (e.g. all new arrivals or just certain sectors in a camp or urban setting).

9.2.4 What the Information Manager should provide the sector specialist

The Information Manager will need to provide the sector specialist with the latest population statistics, broken down at least by total population and disaggregated according to standard UNHCR age demographics. In addition, the Information Manager will need to provide any relevant cross-sectoral analysis

with regards to non-health sectors, which may feed into larger-scale funding requests made by programme colleagues after the first six weeks of an emergency.

Cross-sectoral analysis should be cleared with the sector lead, senior managers and the Representative.

9.2.5 What to do if there is no sector specialist

In all major health, nutrition, food security or WASH emergencies, a sectoral expert will be deployed as part of the initial emergency response. In the event that no one is available in this position, consult internally within the operation to gather available information or contact the Public Health Section at HQ in Geneva (HQPHN@unhcr.org), which is the technical umbrella for public health, food security and nutrition, HIV and WASH. The technical experts can assist remotely or possibly be deployed.

9.3 A REFERENCE DOCUMENTS AND LINKS

- Annex 4: WASH Monitoring System, Monthly Indicators Reporting Guidance Notes
- Annex 5: Health Information System Guidance Notes (requires sign-in):
<http://twine.unhcr.org/app/app.php#app=Tools&loc=000XX00000000000&wid=his>
- Annex 6: Maternal Death Review Guidance Notes (requires sign-in):
<http://twine.unhcr.org/app/app.php#app=Tools&loc=000XX00000000000&wid=matdeath>
- Annex 7: Nutrition Survey Database Guidance Notes (requires sign-in):
<http://twine.unhcr.org/app/app.php#app=Tools&loc=000XX00000000000&wid=nut>
- Annex 8: Disease Outbreak Report Guidance Notes (requires sign-in):
<http://twine.unhcr.org/app/app.php#app=Tools&loc=000XX00000000000&wid=out>
- Annex 9: Food Aid Report Guidance Notes (requires sign-in):
<http://twine.unhcr.org/app/app.php#app=Tools&loc=000XX00000000000&wid=food>
- “The Sphere Project is a voluntary initiative that brings a wide range of humanitarian agencies together around a common aim – to improve the quality of humanitarian assistance and the accountability of humanitarian actors to their constituents, donors and affected populations. The Sphere Handbook, Humanitarian Charter and Minimum Standards in Humanitarian Response, is one of the most widely known and internationally recognized sets of common principles and universal minimum standards in life-saving areas of humanitarian response.” From the SPHERE Project, accessed online at:
<http://www.sphereproject.org/about/> (accessed 14 April 2014).
- Twine Project, UNHCR Geneva, online at: <http://twine.unhcr.org/app/> (accessed 19 April 2014).