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# One WASH:

## Integrated Public Health, Water, Sanitation and Hygiene for Cholera Elimination

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Saving lives, changing minds.

Supported by GTFCC partners,  
who signed Declaration to Ending Cholera



## One WASH

One WASH promotes a common yet adaptable approach for Red Cross and Red Crescent National Societies to establish large-scale, long-term and integrated public health and water, sanitation and hygiene (WASH) projects. This work aligns with the global strategy for cholera control 'Ending Cholera: A Global Roadmap to 2030,' developed by the Global Task Force for Cholera Control (GTFCC) and launched in 2017. The roadmap lays out a long-term strategic response to cholera and has been adopted by the international community of global health actors, including the International Federation of Red Cross and Red Crescent Societies (IFRC). The integrated approach of One WASH aims, between now and 2030, to reach a minimum of 5.5 million vulnerable people in high-risk cholera countries – in turn contributing to the goal of the GTFCC Global Roadmap of reducing cholera deaths by 90% initially, and eventually the eradication of cholera.



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## The Vision

3 GOOD HEALTH AND WELL-BEING



6 CLEAN WATER AND SANITATION



The Global Roadmap to end cholera is based on a multi-sectoral approach that links together GTFCC partners, including the IFRC. The vision is to, where possible, prevent or reduce predictable outbreaks and prevent cholera transmission in hotspots by 2030, which would directly contribute to reaching Sustainable Development Goals (SDG) 3 and 6 – relating to good health and clean water – and indirectly support other goals related to poverty (SDG 1), gender equality (SDG 5), climate change (SDG 13) and partnerships (SDG 17).

IFRC and its membership have a broad reach in providing public health and WASH programming worldwide, reaching more than 35 million people between 2005 and 2020 with WASH activities alone.

One WASH aims to:



Utilize IFRC's global position and wide-reaching local networks of National Red Cross and Red Crescent Societies as the primary delivery platform for One WASH services



Provide technical and programming support at the project level, together with robust monitoring and evaluation.



Support the GTFCC, cholera-affected communities and governments via partnership, collaboration and joint coordination of efforts.

## The Challenge: Cholera



**Every case and death from cholera is preventable with the tools we have today.** Effective cholera prevention and control interventions are well established. Therefore, in addition to current efforts on emergency response to outbreaks, the implementation of longer-term prevention strategies should be accelerated in countries, as per the GTFCC Roadmap.

Cholera continues to disproportionately affect the poorest and most vulnerable communities in high-risk countries. Cholera spread, incidence and severity are exacerbated by rapid and often unplanned urbanization and population growth, climate change, food insecurity, extreme weather events or trends, and complex settings, especially where conflict and unrest are present and health and WASH services are weak.

- Over 40 countries worldwide are considered at risk from, or are suffering from, on-going cholera outbreaks and epidemics.
- There are an estimated 2.9 million cholera cases and 95,000 deaths per year globally.
- Over 100 million people live in cholera “high-risk” areas worldwide.
- Many of the high-risk areas have a significant lack of public health and WASH services.

## Implementing One WASH: Eliminating Cholera

One WASH focuses on over 20 cholera-affected countries where Red Cross and Red Crescent National Societies are committed to the elimination of the disease. The strategy focuses on three main actions that are closely interlinked and operate in full alignment with the GTFCC Roadmap, the Global Water and Sanitation Initiative and the IFRC Cholera Strategy.



**Improve preparedness, early detection and response to contain cholera outbreaks**

The One WASH programme will support communities to be well prepared for early response when an outbreak happens. It will support existing health care systems with community-based surveillance for early detection and monitoring of diarrhoeal outbreaks at the community level. It will also improve access to care by providing community level treatment through provision of oral rehydration therapy, setting up oral rehydration points and referrals of severe cases. Prevention activities such as water treatment, hygiene and health promotion are included as key parts of the approach to managing outbreaks. In addition, the approach will focus upon supporting local governments and partners with oral vaccination campaigns, as appropriate.





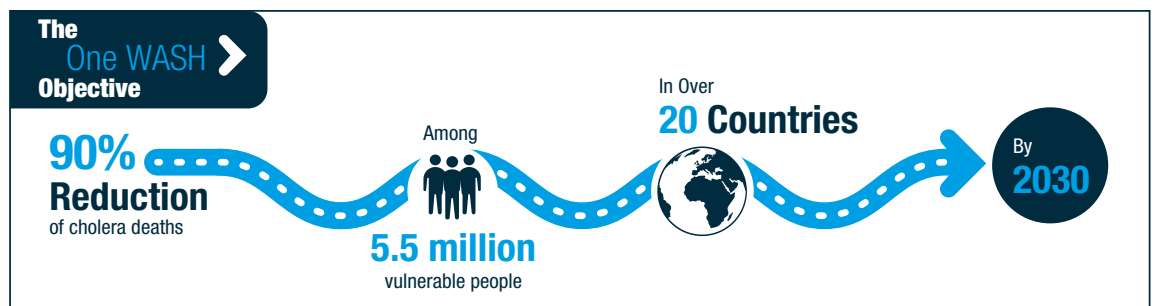
### A long-term integrated WASH approach to prevent cholera

One WASH will invest in sustainable long-term WASH programmes, increasing access to levels that will reduce and prevent cholera. Year-round health and hygiene behavior change communication and social marketing programmes will be implemented in communities, including advocacy and support to cholera vaccination campaigns. One WASH aims to improve access to safe water and adequate sanitation by constructing and rehabilitating facilities, as well as supporting the application of good hygiene practices and community water management. Hygiene behavior change interventions are delivered to ensure communities understand which hygiene practices may contribute to their increased risk of disease and which may play a preventative role.



### Internal and external advocacy, coordination and resource mobilization

One WASH will coordinate technical assistance in countries and regions together with GTFCC efforts, assist the establishment of country support platforms, as well as identify interest from organizations and donors to support technical and/or fundraising activities.



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