Menstrual Hygiene Management in Humanitarian Emergencies

A Supply Chain Challenge

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Where we are

UNICEF is operating in 158 countries & territories
What we do

Supply Division (Copenhagen):

• Emergency response
  Prepositioning of supplies
  Rapid response for emergencies
• Procurement for Programme support
• Procurement Services for Partners
• Innovation

Country Office Supply sections:
• Procurement for Programme support
• Procurement for Emergency response
Supply Division Emergency Response performance targets

72 hours
- Health Kits
- Water & sanitation (purification tablets, water distribution, bladders, testing)
- Hygiene kits
- Staff support equipment

2 weeks
- 72hr supplies plus:
  - Education kits + Tents
  - Recreation kits
  - Nutrition
  - Immunization if required

6 weeks+
- 72hr & 2 wk supplies plus:
  - Community based water & sanitation
  - Rehabilitation
  - Reconstruction / furniture (schools)
Major commodity groups 2011

Vaccines
1,030

Pharmaceuticals
192

Nutrition
166

Bed nets
111

International freight
104

Medical supplies and equipment
97

Construction
95

Water and sanitation
70

Printing
54

Education
52

Total Procurement 2010: $1.955 billion
Total Local Procurement 2010: $353.6 million
SD Standard Hygiene Kit

**CONTENTS:**

1. Toothbrush (x2)
2. Toothpaste tube 75 ml (x2)
3. Unperfumed soap 100 gr (x2)
4. Soap-box
5. Shampoo 500 ml
6. Comb in PVC case (x2)
7. Detergent 2.5 Kg
8. Towel (x2)
9. Safety pin (x12)
10. Washing line
11. Sanitary towel (x40)
12. Toilet paper (x4)
Local Procurement of Hygiene Items in 2010, 2011

2010 Total Local Procurement $18,094,637

2011 Total Local Procurement $12,106,369
MHM Component

Sanitary towels: 6 strips of cloth 30 cm x 120 cm
Lady’s underwear: 4 cotton panties

Sized for Congolese women, Good quality, particularly in terms of the elastic.

Sizes:
Medium: 56 to 58 cm (2 pieces per kit)
Wide: from 59 to 62 cm (1 piece per kit)
Small: 54 to 56 cm (1 piece per kit)

Small plastic bucket with lid and handle, capacity: 3 liters.
Challenges

• Effective emergency response: *How to preposition culturally specific MHM items*
• Maintaining supply chain
• Sustainability and long term affordability
• Availability of water/soap for cleaning, space for drying
• Disposal and environmental impact
• Coordination within UNICEF and with other humanitarian actors including WASH, Protection, Education and Health clusters’ members
Desk Review: Available Products

Commercially produced sanitary napkins

- Cloth
- Afripads
- MakaPads
- Padback
- SHE

Low cost sanitary napkins
- Menstrual cup
New Catalog Item:
Reusable Menstrual Hygiene Pack

Menstrual Hygiene pack:
1 Pad holder - cotton, flannel
3 Maxi Liners
2 Normal Liners
1 pouch for storage

Use and Care Instructions in English and other UN languages
Initiatives

• Review of local MHM products by country offices
• Review of other humanitarian agencies and private sector initiatives
• MHM in emergencies field surveys and FGDs
• Innovation website “challenge”

Way Forward

• Compilation of information from Country offices, surveys, FGDs, desk review, Innovation website
• Recommendations for improvement of kits
• Development of regional kits if required
• Continues Monitoring and Evaluation