



**HEALTH AND HYGIENE**

**EDUCATION STRATEGY**

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WSP	Water Services Provider
CBO	Community Based Organization
CHW	Community Health Worker
CWSS	Community Water and Sanitation Services
DOH	Department of Health
DPLG	Department of Provincial and Local Government
DWAF	Department of Water Affairs & Forestry
DHC	District Health Council
DHIS	District Health Information System
DHS	District Health System
EHP	Environmental Health Practitioner
EHS	Environmental Health Services
HHFW	Health and Hygiene Field Worker
H&H	Health and Hygiene
HHE	Health and Hygiene Education
HP	Health Promoter
HR	Human Resources
IDP	Integrated Development Plan
LG	Local Government
MHS	Municipal Health Services
MDG	Millennium Development Goals
MIG	Municipal Infrastructure Grant
NHA	National Health Act No. 61 of 2003
NQF	National Qualifications Framework
NSTT	National Sanitation Task Team
NGO	Non Governmental Organization
NPO	Non Profit Organization
PHAST	Participative Hygiene and Sanitation Transformation
PRA	Participative Rural Appraisal
PHC	Primary Health Care
PSC	Project Steering Committee
PSTT	Provincial Sanitation Task Team
PPP	Public Private Partnership
SIT	Sanitation Improvement Toolkit
SALGA	South African Local Government Association
SAQA	South African Qualification Association
NGB	Standards Generating Body
WASH	Water, Sanitation and Hygiene
WHO	World Health Organization
WSA	Water Services Authority

### 1. PURPOSE

The purpose of this strategy is to guide the Municipality in conducting Health and Hygiene Education to the community and institutions.

### 2. BACKGROUND

Most communities suffer from communicable diseases due to ignorance. The delivery of safe water and sanitation services alone cannot lead to sustainable positive impacts on community health, therefore health and hygiene education must form an integral component of water and sanitation projects. To achieve the lasting improvements on individual and community health, health and hygiene education must result in positive changes in attitudes, behaviour and practices. To achieve real changes in attitudes, behaviour and practices, health and hygiene education must be conducted on an ongoing basis and as part of water and sanitation services delivery.

National Health and Hygiene Education Strategy was developed by the National Department of Health in collaboration with the Department of Water and Sanitation in April 2005.

Uthukela District Health and Hygiene Education Strategy has been developed in line with the National Health and Hygiene Education Strategy

### 3. AIMS OF THE STRATEGY

- To ensure effective, efficient and sustainable delivery of health and hygiene education in all communities through partnerships and collective efforts amongst various stakeholders with priority given to those at greatest risk such as children, women, the elderly and those affected by various communicable diseases.
- To provide health and hygiene framework for sector stakeholders regarding their responsibilities in relation to planning, implementing and managing sustainable health and hygiene programmes.

### 4. APPROACHES TO HEALTH AND HYGIENE EDUCATION

- Health and Hygiene education linked to water and sanitation provision (pre-project implantation phase, during project implementation phase and post-project implementation phase)
- Health and Hygiene education in schools and other institutions
- Health and Hygiene education in communities on an ongoing basis.

### 5. **ROLES AND RESPONSIBILITIES OF STAKEHOLDERS ON HEALTH AND HYGIENE EDUCATION**

The strategy specifies the roles and responsibilities of role-players at various levels at :

- National,
- Provincial and
- District / Local levels.

The custodian of National Health and Hygiene Education is the Department of Health. Municipal Health Services forms part of District health, Provincial Health and National Health systems.

Municipal Health is therefore identified as the custodian for health and hygiene education at district level.

Municipal Health's roles and responsibilities for health and hygiene education are defined as:

Municipal Health will, in co-operation with KZN province, take primary responsibility for: -

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- Co-ordinating the planning and interventions aimed at positively influencing the health and hygiene behavior of communities
- Co-ordinating information relating to health and hygiene education (this includes media liaison and communication).
- Standardizing existing and prepare new norms and standards relating to health aspects of sanitation and water supply
- Preparing educational curricula relating to health, water and sanitation
- Ensuring that the District Municipality employs sufficient and appropriately skilled environmental health practitioners (EHP)
- Organizing development orientated training and other capacity building interventions to EHP's
- Monitoring compliance with health legislation, regulations and norms and standards
- Co-ordinating interventions when a crisis poses a district health risk (such as a cholera epidemic)
- Ensuring a systematic approach to the provision of water and sanitation to communities.
- In addition it is important for the custodian (Municipal Health Services) to ensure the implementation of sustainable health and hygiene education through the promotion of this strategy amongst sector stakeholders.

### Roles and Responsibilities for Various Stakeholders

The institutional roles and responsibilities for ensuring effective policies and delivery of health and hygiene education are primarily within the three tiers of government.

#### National and Provincial Government

##### National Departments

The table below highlights specific key national departmental responsibilities in relation to health and hygiene education.

Department	Activities / Responsibilities	Key responsibilities in relation to H&H education
Dept of Health	<b>1. Policy &amp; strategy development</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Establishment of a regulatory framework</li> <li>• Creating awareness of the policy, strategy and regulations</li> <li>• Development of health promotion guidelines and providing support to the provincial health promotion programs</li> <li>• Liaison with other key departments</li> <li>• Monitoring health trends and impacts</li> <li>• Identification of weaknesses and constraints in the implementation of H&amp;H education</li> <li>• Support program development</li> <li>• Support provincial departments</li> <li>• Development of training and capacity building programs</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Support to the Municipal Health Services <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- Understanding their responsibilities</li> <li>- Interpreting policy and strategy and formulating practical implementation plans</li> <li>- Identifying constraints and finding solutions</li> <li>- Monitoring health indicators</li> </ul> </li> <li>• Ensure Traditional Health Practitioners are involved with health and hygiene education</li> <li>• Support health and hygiene education programs through: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- Materials development and distribution</li> <li>- Integration health and hygiene education into health promotion training</li> <li>- Sharing of lessons and knowledge</li> <li>- Interpretation and feedback on monitoring indicators</li> </ul> </li> </ul>
Dept of Water Affairs & Forestry	<b>2. Water Services Sector Leader, therefore involved with:</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Policy development and regulation</li> <li>• Ongoing liaison and collaboration with other key department (e.g. NSTT members)</li> <li>• Monitoring and reporting on the progress of the national water services program against set targets</li> <li>• Ensuring health and hygiene education is integrated into programs for the delivery of water services</li> <li>• Identification of weaknesses and constraints to H&amp;H education implementation</li> <li>• Support program development particularly by the WSA's and provincial forums</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Support to the Water Services Authorities: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- Understanding their role and responsibilities with respect to H&amp;H education</li> <li>- Monitor norms and health and hygiene education program performance</li> <li>- Build the capacity of WSA's</li> </ul> </li> <li>• Promote and advocate for sustainable health and hygiene education delivery in all water services programs</li> <li>• Ensure that health and hygiene education is an integral component of all water services projects</li> <li>• Interpretation and feedback on monitoring indicators</li> </ul>

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Dept of Provincial & Local Government	<b>3. Liaison with other national departments</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Liaison with district municipalities</li> <li>• Capacity building support at local government level</li> <li>• Managing the MIG program</li> <li>• Monitoring of MIG performance indicators</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Promotion of health and hygiene education as part of service delivery projects – water, sanitation, waste disposal</li> </ul>
Dept of Education	<b>4. Liaison with other national department through the NSTT</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Development of H&amp;H education material for the curriculum</li> <li>• Development of guidelines and materials for health and hygiene projects at schools</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Enduring health and hygiene curricula is appropriately taught at all schools</li> <li>• Providing guidelines and promoting additional health and hygiene activities at schools</li> </ul>
Dept of Housing	<b>5. Regulation of housing policy</b> <b>6. Providing support to provincial departments</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Ensure the inclusion of a health and hygiene education as part of their customer relations in the provision of housing</li> </ul>
SALGA	<b>7. Liaison with other national departments through the NSTT</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Capacity building support to the DM's</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Capacity building focusing on developing skills within the district and local municipalities to effectively plan and implement health and hygiene education</li> </ul>

### Provincial Departments

The table below highlights specific provincial departmental responsibilities in relation to health and hygiene education

Department	Activities / Responsibilities	Key responsibilities in relation to H&H education at municipal and project level
Dept of Health	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Ensure the implementation of health and hygiene education programs in accordance with the policy and strategies</li> <li>• Ensure compliance with regulatory framework</li> <li>• Monitoring health trends and implementation of health and hygiene education programs, their impacts and indicators</li> <li>• Support and capacity building within PHC services</li> <li>• Liaison with other provincial departments</li> <li>• Ensure THP are involved in local health service promotion and provision</li> <li>• Planning and implementation of health promotion programs in the province</li> <li>• Support the development and dissemination of promotional and education materials</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Support the DHC in identifying how health and hygiene education can be integrated into the PHC programs</li> <li>• Ensure good liaison between the PHC and MHS</li> <li>• Ensure co-ordination with and support to NGO's</li> <li>• Support health and hygiene education programs through: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- Materials development and distribution</li> <li>- Promoting the integration of health and hygiene education as part of health promotion programs</li> <li>- Sharing of lessons and knowledge</li> <li>- Interpretation and feedback on monitoring indicators</li> </ul> </li> </ul>
Dept of Water Affairs and Forestry	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Ensure the application and regulation of national policy and strategies</li> <li>• Monitoring and reporting on the progress of the provincial water services program against set targets</li> <li>• Support and capacity building to the WSAs and municipalities</li> <li>• Liaison with other provincial departments</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Provide a sanitation and health and hygiene education advocacy function within the WSAs <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- Highlighting the importance of sanitation</li> <li>- Highlighting the links between poor sanitation and poor health</li> <li>- Promoting sanitation prioritization in the planning process in the WSAs</li> </ul> </li> <li>• Interpretation and feedback on monitoring indicators</li> </ul>
Dept of Provincial & Local Government	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Liaison with other provincial departments</li> <li>• Liaison with DMs</li> <li>• Co-ordination of capacity building initiatives</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Oversee the MIG process</li> <li>• Advocate for the prioritization of health and hygiene education inclusion in all water services and waste management projects</li> </ul>
Dept of Education	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Implementation of health and hygiene education in schools</li> <li>• Ensure schools have access to resources to implement H&amp;H education</li> <li>• Plan school sanitation projects to address the school sanitation backlogs</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Identify health and hygiene education resources for inclusion in the curriculum</li> <li>• Support the introduction of these resources into the school system</li> <li>• Providing guidelines and promoting additional health and hygiene activities at schools</li> </ul>

# Local Level Roleplayers

Roleplayer	Activities / Responsibilities	Key responsibilities in relation to H&H education
District Municipality	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Planning and provision of EHS at district municipality level and servicing all the local municipalities within its area of jurisdiction</li> <li>• Liaison, networking and co-ordination with other roleplayers: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- PHC services</li> <li>- Provincial Department of health</li> <li>- Health related NGOs</li> <li>- Community health structures</li> <li>- Ward Committees <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• The identification and prioritization of high risk areas in terms of water and sanitation related diseases</li> </ul> </li> </ul> </li> <li>• Respond to any apparent outbreak and disease outbreaks</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Assumes the primary responsibility for health and hygiene education</li> <li>• Liaison with WSA technical and social facilitation services in planning sanitation projects</li> <li>• Management of the project based health and hygiene education</li> <li>• Planning and identification of options for implementing ongoing health and hygiene education programs as part of MHS and primary health care programs</li> <li>• Monitoring and support of Implementing Agent.</li> </ul>
District Health Council	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Ensure the planning implementation and supply personal PHC and non personal MHS services up to District hospitals</li> <li>• Implementation of national health policy</li> <li>• Monitoring of health trends and health and hygiene education programme.</li> <li>• Identify and support capacity building within the health district area</li> <li>• Identify and support health related NGOs</li> <li>• Planning and implementation of PHC programs in communities</li> <li>• Support to and capacity building of primary health care personnel</li> <li>• Liaison and co-ordination with provincial health, MHS, health related NGOs and CBOs and community health structures</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Liaison and co-ordination with Provincial Health, MHS and WSA in relation to water services and health and hygiene education program planning</li> <li>• Identification of how health and hygiene education can be included in PHC programs</li> <li>• Resource assessment in terms of health and hygiene education program implementation</li> <li>• Providing WSA and MHS with access to health statistics and trends useful for planning health and hygiene education</li> <li>• Identification of implementation options for ongoing health and hygiene education as an integrated part of primary health care initiatives at a local level</li> <li>• Capacity building support in the use of health and hygiene education program materials and methodologies</li> <li>• Facilitating the training of community health workers and health promoters to be involved in the water supply and sanitation projects, and to provide ongoing related health promotion within the communities</li> </ul>
Personal PHC services (Provincial health)	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• School health services</li> <li>• Immunization</li> <li>• Make a full package of personal PHC services available to all residents of the district through a network of clinics, community health centres and a range of appropriate outreach services</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Provide health and hygiene education to schools and clinics</li> <li>• Collect data at clinic level through the DHIS</li> <li>• Outbreak response in collaboration with MHS</li> </ul>

### Community Role Players

The preceding sections have focused on the government departments in health and hygiene education delivery. This section identifies the key roleplayers at a community level.

Role Player	Activity/responsibility in relation to health and hygiene education
Ward Councilors, Ward and Clinic Committees	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• Participate in water and sanitation services planning and PSC meetings</li><li>• Promote the projects and health and hygiene education programs</li><li>• Prioritize water and sanitation and health and hygiene education needs at LM and DM levels</li><li>• Facilitate the implementation of ongoing health and hygiene education programs as required</li></ul>
Traditional Authorities	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• Participate in water and sanitation services planning and PSC meetings</li><li>• Promote the projects and health and hygiene education programs</li><li>• Prioritize water and sanitation and health and hygiene education needs at LM and DM levels</li></ul>
Traditional Health Practitioners	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• Promote health and hygiene education messages</li><li>• Link with other PHC initiatives</li></ul>
HIV/AIDS and other health support groups, Health Clubs	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• Promote health and hygiene education as part of their activities</li></ul>
Community Health Workers and volunteer health workers	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• Promote health and hygiene education at household and community group level as an integrated part of their activities</li></ul>
Health related FBOs/CBOs and civil society	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• Promote health and hygiene education</li><li>• Liaise with local health services structures</li><li>• Implement health and hygiene education programs</li></ul>

## 5. Resources

### 5.1 Human Resources

#### 5.1.1 Environmental Health Practitioners

Ensuring that Municipal Health Services are adequately resourced with Environmental Health Practitioners is a priority in order to ensure effective health and hygiene education.

The target ratio of EHPs to population in South Africa is 1:15,000 (WHO recommends a ratio of 1:10,000)

#### 5.1.2 Community Level Health Field Workers

The other key human resource requirement is a community level resource that will practically implement health and hygiene education activities in the community, these include:

1. Community Health Workers (CHWs)
2. Water Services Field Workers (WSFWs)
3. Health Promoters
4. Environmental Health Assistants
5. Community Development Workers, and
6. Health Volunteers

### 5.2 Materials and Equipment

In order for health and hygiene education to be implemented effectively, the human resources responsible for implementation require access to sufficient material and equipment such as:

- Health and hygiene education resource packs e.g. sanitation improvement toolkit (SIT) or similar



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- Health and hygiene education manuals e.g. PHAST or similar
- Health and hygiene education posters and pamphlets
- Administrative materials e.g. monitoring and survey sheets, stationery etc
- Transport

### **6. Review**

The strategy shall be reviewed on annual intervals.