

COMPLETED EXAMPLE – WORKSHEET 3.1: ANALYZING THE PROBLEM

Problem being addressed by the emergency communication response: Cholera outbreak in South Eastern Region

What factors put community members at risk of the problem?	<i>Limited clean water sources; lack of proper water & sanitation system; low vaccination uptake; low use of health facilities; belief that cholera cannot be prevented</i>
What factors (behavioral and environmental) protect people from the problem?	<i>Using water purification tablets; using latrines properly and not practicing open defecation; washing hands with soap before at five critical times; improving conditions of water points and public toilets; making soap more easily available.</i>
What behaviors (if any) caused or exasperated the problem?	<i>No hand washing with soap; open defecation; inappropriate storage of water.</i>
What behaviors (or lack of behavior) caused or exasperated the problem (if any)?	<i>Unknown</i>
What behaviors (or lack of behavior) maintain the problem?	<i>Children who practice open defecation and do not wash hands with soap at critical times; mothers who do not wash hands with soap at critical times; care providers (especially mothers) who do not access health services promptly in case of symptoms.</i>
Who is most affected by the problem?	<i>Children under five years old; the elderly and sick; Province 2 of the affected area has been hit more severely by the outbreak.</i>
Where are those people?	<i>Spread across the South Eastern Region and in Province 2.</i>
What are the negative consequences of the problem for individuals affected by it?	<i>Sickness; death</i>
What are the negative consequences of the problem for the community?	<i>Children unable to attend school; families unable to engage in income generating activities; potentially creates conflict among different provinces as there is a belief that the outbreak was caused by Province 2.</i>
Who should share the responsibility for solving the problem?	<i>The whole community across the region, led by traditional and religious leaders.</i>
What key behaviors need to change to solve the problem?	<i>Community members need to store water correctly, wash hands with soap and stop practicing open defecation. Mothers especially need to engage in hand washing with soap at critical times as they are mostly responsible for feeding and caring for children.</i>
What conditions in the community need to change to solve the problem?	<i>Public toilets and water points need to be rehabilitated and improved; containers for storing water in the house need to be cleaned or changed; soap needs to become more accessible especially to rural communities where it is very expensive.</i>

Adapted from Designing Community Interventions, Community Tool Box: <http://ctb.ku.edu/en/table-of-contents/analyze/where-to-start/design-community-interventions/tools>