**Sanitary Inspection Form: Rainwater Harvesting Tank**

**Part 1. General information:**

a. Tank location: .....................................................................................................

b. Village/Town: .........................................................................................................

c. People served: ......................................................................................................

d. Water sample taken? ……………………. Sample ID …………………………….

e. Date of visit: ........................................................................................................

**Part 2. Risk assessment:** Circle the most appropriate answer. A ‘Yes’ answer means that there is a potential risk and a ‘No’ answer that there is no or very low risk. See explanation on reverse.

**Observation**

1. Are there visible signs of contamination on the roof (e.g., feces, dirt, leaves)? Y/N

2. Is the gutter system that collects rainwater dirty or blocked? Y/N

3. Are there any problems with the filter box or first flush system at the tank inlet? Y/N

4. Is there any other point of entry to the tank that is not properly covered? Y/N

5. Is the top or wall of the tank cracked or damaged? Y/N

6. Is the tap leaking or broken? Y/N

7. Is the concrete floor under the tap missing, broken or dirty? Y/N

8. Is the water collection area inadequately drained? Y/N

9. Is there any source of contamination around the tank or water collection area? Y/N

10. Is a bucket in use and left in a place where it may become contaminated? Y/N

Risk of contamination (add the number of 'Yes' answers: ……/10

**Part 3. Results and comments:**

a. Risk of contamination (check appropriate box):

|  |  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- | --- |
| 9-10 = Very high | 6-8 = High | 3-5 = Medium | 0-2 = Low |
|  |  |  |  |

b. The following risks were observed:

**Part 4. Name and signature of inspectors:**

**Explanatory Notes: Rainwater Harvesting Tank**

*1. Are there visible signs of contamination on the roof (e.g. feces, dirt, leaves)?* Water quality is at risk if the roof is dirty or contaminated.

*2. Is the gutter system that collects rainwater dirty or blocked?* Dirty gutters can contaminate the rainwater or introduce dirt into the tank in the same way the roof can.

*3. Are there any problems with the filter box or first flush system at the tank inlet?* Rainwater harvesting tanks should have a way to divert the first water collected during a rainstorm.

The first flow (especially at the end of the dry season) may contain vegetation, dirt, and animal feces washed from the roof, which are a risk to water quality.

*4. Is there any other point of entry to the tank that is not properly covered?* Open rainwater collection tanks collect dust and dirt from the air, which is a possible risk to water quality. They can also be mosquito breeding sites, and the mosquitoes may spread dengue fever and malaria, which is a health risk (though not a water quality risk).

*5. Is the top or wall of the tank cracked or damaged?* Deep cracks can allow contaminants to reach the rainwater stored in the tank.

*6. Is the tap leaking or broken?* A broken tap can become a pathway for contaminants. You will need to check that any water around the tap is from a leak rather than from being spilled.

*7. Is the concrete floor under the tap missing, broken or dirty?* Missing or broken drainage under the tap can lead to pools of water collecting which pose a risk.

*8. Is the water collection area inadequately drained?* If water does not drain away from the collection area, then water (possibly contaminated) could backflow into the water source or the soil can erode away and cause damage to the tank.

*9. Is there any source of contamination around the tank or water collection area?* Feces, garbage and other waste are a risk to the water quality.

*10. Is a bucket in use and left in a place where it may become contaminated?* Buckets, cups or other devices used to collect water need to be properly stored and kept clean so that safe drinking water does become contaminated.

Sanitary Inspection Form adapted from:

World Health Organization (2012). Rapid Assessment of Drinking-Water Quality: A Handbook for Implementation. WHO, Geneva, Switzerland. Available at: [www.who.int/water\_sanitation\_health/publications/2012/rapid\_assessment/en/index.html](http://www.who.int/water_sanitation_health/publications/2012/rapid_assessment/en/index.html)

World Health Organization (2005). Water Safety Plans: Managing Drinking-Water Quality from Catchment to Consumer. WHO, Geneva Switzerland. Available at: <www.who.int/water_sanitation_health/dwq/wsp0506/en/index.html>

World Health Organization (1997). Guidelines for Drinking Water Quality, Second Edition, Volume 3, Surveillance and Control of Community Supplies. WHO, Geneva, Switzerland. Available at: [www.who.int/water\_sanitation\_health/dwq/gdwq2v1/en/index2.html](file:///C:\Users\Schuelert\AppData\Roaming\Microsoft\Word\www.who.int\water_sanitation_health\dwq\gdwq2v1\en\index2.html)

**Illustration of a Rainwater Harvesting Tank**

