Title: WASH Campaign in schools - a holistic approach for school sanitation and hygiene education in Kerala (India)

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Global & Indian Scenario on safe drinking water, health and sanitation.

- Globally, 2403 million are without adequate sanitation or defecate in the open. In India, 700 million people lack access to sanitation facilities & resort to defecate in the open.
- Globally, 1099 million people lack access to safe water. In India, 125 million people lack access to safe drinking water.
- Diarrhoea claims the lives of 2 million children around the world every year. In India, 1 million lose their lives to diarrhoea every year.
Local (Kerala) scenario on safe drinking water, health and sanitary status

- Studies indicated that Kerala State is still having a situation of low mortality-high morbidity syndrome.

- The co-existence of the diseases of poverty with diseases of affluence is the picture characterising the morbidity profile of the State. The dominant disease group comprises diarrhoeal diseases, gastroenteritis, dysentery, dengue fever, weils disease, malaria, cholera, infectious hepatitis, worm diseases, typhoid, polio, E-coli infections, japanese encephalitis, dengue fever, conjunctivitis, and skin ulcers.
Water borne diseases of Kollam municipal Corporation

- Cholera: 2%
- Enterobiasis: 7%
- Typhoid: 8%
- Ascariasis: 16%
- Polio: 2%
- Dysentery: 1%
- Hepatitis: 1%
- Diarrhoea: 33%
- Gastroenteritis: 30%
Water related diseases of Kollam municipal Corporation

- Skin ulcers: 15%
- Conjunctivitis: 36%
- Malaria: 24%
- Allergy: 25%
Bimonthly mean total coliforms in drinking water of different water sources of Kollam municipality (India)

June 2000 - May 2001

- Domestic dug wells
- Public dug wells
- Tube wells
- Municipal water supply
- Small water supplies
Bimonthly mean Fecal coliforms in drinking water of different water sources of Kollam municipality (India)

June 2000 - May 2001
In this context, we have launched a programme in Kerala called “WASH in schools” as part of the global programme on “WASH Campaign”

**Objectives**

- To provide better hygiene behavior and healthy environment in schools in order to improve the quality of life of the future generation.
- Through education and awareness on the practice of hygiene behaviours to children and through them, to the community. By making children active partners in all water and sanitation programmes at schools.
- To provide intensive awareness in schools on various aspects of safe and clean drinking water, water contamination, disease transmission, waste disposal, sanitary latrine, impact of open defecation and water-borne diseases, mosquito menace, hand washing, sanitary wells, hand pumps, ORS/SSS, Household Centred Environmental Sanitation (HCES), food hygiene and other components of the programme.
Conception and production of Information, Education and Communication (IEC) tools.

The objective is to raise consciousness about sanitation and hygiene, gain the commitment of political, social and opinion leaders around the world and, ultimately, bring about the structural and behavioural changes that will provide a permanent solution to this preventable international crisis.

By providing access to water and sanitation facilities in all schools and enabling children to learn and practice their proper use and management.

Dissemination of knowledge at grass-root level is important for a change in the attitude of the people. So schools are the best place for a start.
Programme Strategy:

* The programme is multi-sectoral and participatory in order to provide better hygiene behavior and healthy environment in schools in order to improve the quality of life of the future generation.

* WSSCC-India Chapter and WaterAid-India have jointly designed and produced 9 posters in English for the WASH Campaign in India.
Sanitation – ways within our means:

This illustrates various aspects of a “clean village” and a “unclean village”. The clean village is depicted as the “heaven on the earth” whereas the unclean village as the “hell on the earth”. In an unclean village, there is illustration of open defecation, water stagnation, waste accumulation, various sources of drinking water contamination in wells, ponds and other drinking water sources. While in a clean village, there is Water and Sanitation Committee (WASAN)/ Village Development Committee (VDC) for making decisions and for empowering the local communities.
Simple practices for a healthy life

This poster illustrates various means of hygiene promotion for a health life. Depiction of key hygiene behaviours include water handling, personal hygiene, safe disposal of human faeces, food hygiene, safe disposal of animal and solid waste, safe disposal of liquid waste and village sanitation.
The Facts and the Solutions

In this section, there is a comparison of Global and Indian scenario on safe drinking water, sanitation, hygiene and health.
Timely Action Saves Lives – Treat Dehydration With ORS/SSS

Various pictures of this poster to explain how to prepare ORS and Sugar Salt Solution (SSS). Some of the very important points mentioned during the preparation ORS/SSS that before preparing
Hand Washing – Washing away germs, preventing diseases

Hands are the body’s feeders and cleaners and helping to eat and keep the bodies clean, including defecation. If hands do not wash at critical times, particularly after handling human faeces, fecal germs can be transmitted, leading to diarrhoeal diseases. There are pictures to depict what are the “Critical times” when hand washing should be practices.
Faecal – oral Transmission Route

Depictions on faecal-oral transmission route are faeces, flies/pet animals, fields, fluids (water), fingers and food. Illustrations are given to block the faecal-oral transmission route include using of toilet, proper hand washing, using safe water source and good handling practices, and adopting good food hygiene practices.
Kitchen Gardens

This session demonstrates uses of waste water from households and other sources for generating nutritious food. Pools of stagnant wastewater are the breeding grounds for mosquitoes that are the carries of many lives threatening diseases. Wastewater can be channeled to raise a kitchen garden where abundant nutritious vegetables and greens can be grown.
Our Children are the future. Can we afford to exclude them?

This is a message to the society and all stakeholders of the sector that children are the future and it is the responsibility to all to prevent the death of 2 million children every year due to water-borne diseases.
Who is responsible? - “We”

Finally, the depiction on who is responsible for the pitiful situation on water, sanitation and health illustrates that nobody other than “we” are responsible to manage, maintain and operate the system. Capacity building by providing proper training will create an ideal situation for the problems.
Programme outcome

- Environmental health interventions are regulatroy in nature and benefits acquired through indirect way on the improvement in the quality of the community as a whole.
Thank you