



Valerie Do /OXFAM

How do you ensure that children wash their hands properly? In some schools in DRC they have been using a plastic container with holes in the bottom. The time it takes for the water to drain is the time you should spend washing your hands.



Tearfund /WEDC research

In August 2011, Tearfund and the Water, Engineering and Development Centre (WEDC), began work on a research project entitled: Sustainable WASH Interventions as Populations Transition from Relief to Early Recovery in Natural Disaster or Conflict. The research is funded by OFDA.

The early stages of emergency response require immediate water, sanitation and hygiene (WASH) interventions that normally use fully subsidised, 'supply-driven' methods, such as water distribution, latrine construction and hygiene kit distribution. However, when these methods are applied for a protracted period, they can result in dependency on the implementing agency, a lack of community ownership, and poor sustainability of interventions.

During the recovery phase of an emergency response, and when working with returnee populations, Tearfund has found success using non-subsidised,

'demand-led' methods for WASH interventions, which also promote economic revitalization through development of sustainable livelihoods.

Demand-led WASH interventions focus on facilitation, demonstration, and marketing techniques to create demand, and then on training artisans to produce products to meet the new demand. Community led total sanitation (CLTS) is one such demand-led sanitation approach.

The research will draw on Tearfund's experiences in Afghanistan in particular, and the way in which demand-led, livelihood-based approaches have aided transition to sustainable access to water and sanitation.

Based on the findings of the research, a framework for strategic analysis and planning of demand-led WASH interventions in the early stages of an emergency response will be developed.

The research is due to be completed by September 2012¹.

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HYGIENE PROMOTION

Menstrual Hygiene Management

Wateraid in conjunction with the research consortium SHARE (sanitation and hygiene applied research for equity) have recently compiled a draft manual on menstrual hygiene management that should be available for publication early this year.

The purpose of the manual is to bring together examples of good practice and to provide a resource for WASH sector professionals and others who are working to improve the lives of girls and women in lower and middle income countries.

Menstruation is a natural part of the reproductive cycle in which blood is lost through the vagina. In most parts of the world however, the subject of menstruation is taboo and rarely talked about. But women and girls face numerous practical as well as socio-cultural challenges related to menstrual hygiene. A lack of access to information, products and facilities can lead to social exclusion, undermine girl's education and create a significant problem with solid waste disposal.

The manual provides a wealth of information on this previously neglected

subject and reveals that there are numerous initiatives that have been started in countries around the world. Extracts from the Sierra Leone booklet for girls is shown. Contact Therese or Sue at Wateraid for more information: theresemahon@wateraid.org or suecavill@wateraid.org.



Please send contributions for the next newsletter to:
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Motivational Interviewing

Motivational interviewing is an approach to improving communication for behaviour change. It has been used successfully by counsellors in many different settings. A study by Thevos et al (2000) in Zambia showed that MI could be used to enhance the adoption of water disinfection practices. Below are some of the key principles of MI.

- ⊗ Resist the 'righting reflex' – the natural tendency to try and 'fix' people
- ⊗ Understand the client's dilemma and help them understand it. This can only be done by skillful listening, not telling
- ⊗ Express empathy. Try your utmost to understand things from the client's perspective and show that you are trying to understand. Empathy is not the same as sympathy
- ⊗ Deploy discrepancy. The client will change when they, not you, become sufficiently uncomfortable about their current situation, and confident that certain behaviour changes can result in improvement
- ⊗ Avoid argument. Resistance is a sign that you're not working in harmony with the client's concerns or readiness to change, and that you need to change tactics.
- ⊗ Support self-efficacy. Increase people's confidence about the chances of success, and their motivation to change may also increase

Cholera Guides

A set of leaflets to support AWD/Cholera preparedness and response has been developed by UNICEF and the WASH Cluster for Somalia. They are available in English and can be downloaded from here. A WASH partner is trialling a Somali version.

The following guides are available:

- ★ Cholera Guide for Feeding Centres
- ★ Cholera Guide for Kitchens in Schools
- ★ Cholera Guide for Schools
- ★ Burial Guide for Cholera
- ★ WASH in Cholera Treatment Centres

Menstrual Hygiene

