



Water, Sanitation, and Hygiene in Education Efforts: A Resource Guide



While substantial progress has been made throughout the WASH sector, a myriad of challenges still exist in the global campaign to achieve universal water and sanitation access. Several compounding factors impede underserved populations' access to WASH. A community's political, geographic, and social climate directly affects WASH accessibility; education also plays a pivotal role in promoting healthy WASH practices. The scarcity of sustainable WASH services poses an impediment to children's educational access and learning outcomes. Children miss over 270 million school days as a result of diarrhea alone.¹ Improvements in educational outcomes cannot manifest entirely without expanding WASH services in schools.

The WASH and education sectors have the opportunity to work together to pursue an integrated approach to improve health outcomes and maximize educational potential in the world's poorest communities. Enhanced collaboration between the two sectors will expedite efforts to bring WASH to students whose learning capacity is hindered by WASH inaccessibility. WASH in Schools advocates promote healthy kids, bolstering attendance rates and preventing disease proliferation that could curb intellectual development. WASH integration in schools is a proven mechanism for improving educational outcomes and fostering bright, healthy schoolchildren.

Although not exhaustive, this resource guide serves as a tool for implementers and advocates in the WASH and education nexus to pursue and promote integrated programming. This document contains summaries of manuals and reports, mapping resources, and a list of organizations working on WASH in Schools.

Acknowledgements: This resource guide was compiled by Case Keltner, with guidance from Jordan Teague and Elynn Walter.

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¹ Hutton, Guy, and Laurance Haller. Evaluation of the Costs and Benefits of Water and Sanitation Improvements at the Global Level, Water, Sanitation and Health Protection of the Human Environment, World Health Organization, Geneva. 2004.

WASH and Education Integration: Manuals

Advancing WASH in Schools Monitoring (UNICEF, 2015)

This publication responds to the Call to Action in *Raising Even More Clean Hands* by presenting the best data available for WinS coverage and examining WinS indicators currently used in national education monitoring information systems (EMIS).

Putting Clean Hands Together (Faith in Water, 2015)

This document provides guidance on how to work effectively with faith communities on WASH in Schools. It offers helpful tips to both secular and faith groups on working more collaboratively and looks at the role of water and cleanliness in five major faiths.

Maintaining the Momentum: Advancing Health, Learning and Equity through WASH in Schools (UNICEF, 2014)

This publication is a companion to *Raising Even More Clean Hands* and lays out guiding principles around the four priority areas of the WinS Network, coordinated by UNICEF: daily group handwashing, menstrual hygiene management, WASH in Schools in the post-2015 development agenda, and strengthening the evidence base.

Safe Water School Training Manual (SODIS, 2014)

This manual offers interactive WASH lesson plans that teach students vital WASH techniques they can practice at home and in the classroom.

Field Guide: Three Star Approach for WASH in Schools (UNICEF, 2013)

The Three Star Approach for WASH in Schools is designed to improve the effectiveness of hygiene behavior change programs and helps schools meet the criteria for a healthy and productive learning environment for children as part of the broader child-friendly schools initiative.

WASH in Schools Empowers Women's Education (UNICEF & Emory University, 2013)

This guide details proper menstrual hygiene practices for girls in school and offers tools such as WASH protocol guides for teachers and school administrators, as well as questionnaires that help assess ongoing educational programs for effective menstrual hygiene in schools.

Water, Sanitation and Hygiene (WASH) Manual for Schools with Rooftop Rainwater Harvesting Systems (IRD, 2013)

In collaboration with USAID, International Relief and Development published this guide that outlines best practices for rooftop rainwater harvesting in schools with limited WASH accessibility.

Field Manual: Water and Sanitation Education (Water Ecuador, 2013)

This guide helps inform Ecuadorian schoolchildren ages 5-10 about good hygiene practices, an essential foundation to good health, and raises awareness of issues related to water and sanitation.

Raising Even More Clean Hands (UNICEF, 2012)

This call to action, an update to the 2010 *Raising Clean Hands* guide, is an advocacy tool that provides documentation and resources to support the diverse components of WASH in Schools. It includes an overview of key WASH in Schools partners and offers a six-pronged plan of action.

WASH Technology Options for School Facilities (*Aqua for All, 2012*)

Aqua for All created this technology manual for the Alliance of Religions and Conservation's Waterschools Programme to identify efficient and effective WASH technologies being used in schools.

Design and Construction Manual for Water Supply and Sanitary Facilities in Primary Schools (*Ministry of Health, Education and Water and Energy Ethiopia & UNICEF, 2012*)

This resource, created by the Ethiopian Government with support from UNICEF, serves as a guide to ensure appropriate, child-friendly WASH services in primary schools. The manual provides detailed construction criteria and instructions.

WASH in Schools Monitoring Package (*UNICEF, 2011*)

This manual offers targeted, specialized guides to various stakeholders in the WASH/education sector. Questionnaires, checklists, and monitoring tools are provided to integrate WASH into national education monitoring (Education Management Information Systems – EMIS) and improve WASH programs in schools.

Raising Clean Hands: Call to Action for WASH in Schools Communications Strategy 2010 (*UNICEF, 2010*)

This communications strategy is a companion to *Raising Clean Hands* and offers guidance on strategic considerations in communications, target audiences, and key messages.

Raising Clean Hands: Call to Action for WASH in Schools Advocacy Pack 2010 (*UNICEF, 2010*)

This advocacy pack was developed as a companion to *Raising Clean Hands* to support advocates for WASH in schools in planning and conducting advocacy activities for raising the profile of WASH in schools in parallel with global advocacy efforts.

Strengthening Water, Sanitation, and Hygiene in Schools (*IRC, 2010*)

This manual details specific mechanisms for bolstering WASH access in schools through innovative policy approaches, training techniques, and educational methods.

A Manual for WASH Activities in Elementary School Clubs (*State of Eritrea Ministry of Education and UNICEF, 2010*)

This manual provides a myriad of resources for fun, interactive activities that encourage students to adopt healthy WASH practices.

Water, Sanitation and Hygiene Standards for Schools in Low-cost Settings (*UNICEF, 2009*)

UNICEF and WHO outline fundamental WASH needs for schools in developing countries including standards for student/latrine ratios and other key components of WASH in Schools.

Manual on the Right to Water and Sanitation (*World Water Council, 2007*)

While not focused solely on the WASH/education nexus, this guide helps accentuate the many linkages between WASH and education access.

WASH and Education Integration: Reports and Studies

Monitoring and evaluation of WASH in schools programs: lessons from implementing organizations (*Journal of Water Sanitation and Hygiene for Development, 2015*)

This study evaluates the monitoring and evaluation policies and practices of WASH in Schools implementing organizations. The findings highlight the need for more effective integration in to government monitoring systems.

The Impact of School Water, Sanitation, and Hygiene Interventions on the Health of Younger Siblings of Pupils: a Cluster-Randomized Trial in Kenya (*American Journal of Public Health, 2013*)

This study evaluates the impact of WASH education interventions on health outcomes of younger siblings of schoolchildren.

Water, Sanitation and Hygiene Conditions in Kenyan Rural Schools: Are Schools Meeting the Needs of Menstruating Girls? (*Water, 2013*)

The authors look at the nexus between equitable girls' education and adequate WASH access.

Soap Stories and Toilet Tales from Schools (*UNICEF, 2012*)

This report offers a snapshot of WASH in schools experiences from UNICEF's country and global offices related to the six action points in *Raising Clean Hands*.

Assessing the impact of a school-based water treatment, hygiene and sanitation programme on pupil absence in Nyanza Province, Kenya: a cluster-randomized trial (*Tropical Medicine and International Health, 2012*)

In this study, the authors evaluate the effect of WASH on school attendance in Kenya and suggest that gender-specific programming could maximize the effectiveness of WASH and education initiatives.

Water and Sanitation in Schools: A Systematic Review of the Health and Educational Outcomes (*International Journal of Environmental Research and Public Health, 2012*)

This piece is a cumulative review summarizing the impact of WASH education in schools, revealing the staggering impact WASH initiatives have on educational outcomes, child health, and wellbeing.

School Health and Nutrition: Program Update (*Save the Children, 2012*)

The program update encompasses key WASH initiatives spearheaded by Save the Children tailored specifically for schools.

District-wise (girl) students' access to sanitation in community schools (*WaterAid, 2011*)

This database provides a thorough analysis of sanitation access that highlights major gaps and neglected WASH areas.

Safer Water, Better Health: Costs, benefits and sustainability of interventions to protect and promote health (*WHO, 2008*)

This report stresses the impact WASH access has on child health, reductions in diarrheal disease, and school attendance rates.

WASH and Education: Websites and Other Resources

WASH in Schools Mapping: This website is an open-access resource that highlights WASH in Schools programming, policies, and organizations throughout the world

UNICEF WASH in Schools: This website provides background information, resources, reports, and interviews with WASH in Schools professionals.

Design and Construction Manual for Water Supply and Sanitary Facilities in Primary Schools: A design manual written by the Ministries of Health, Education, and Water and Energy in Ethiopia with support from UNICEF.

Project WET Publications: This website provides publications and resources in multiple languages for teachers and students on WASH in Schools. Most of the resources can be downloaded for free.

WASH in Schools: This website documents publications and resources from SWASH+ work conducted in Kenya as well as general resources.

WASH and Education: Organizations

AMREF: This organization seeks to increase access to sustainable, safe and adequate water, appropriate sanitation and hygiene practices. The WASH and School Health Programme helps foster positive WASH practices in school settings.

Aqua for All: By building WASH facilities and providing WASH training in schools, Aqua for All helps bolster WASH access in educational settings.

Bill & Melinda Gates Foundation: This multi-billion dollar foundation funds organizations that both provide and conduct research on WASH in Schools as well as provide school based WASH services and education.

CARE: This organization is a leading NGO that focuses on access to safe water and sanitation, as well as sanitation promotion to keep young girls in school globally.

FHI 360/WASHplus: This organization works extensively on the WASH in Schools issue including through advocacy and partnership with Ministries of Education, direct implementation, education materials, knowledge management, and communications. Their largest activities are through the [Schools Promoting Learning Achievement through Sanitation and Hygiene \(SPLASH\)](#) program. The SPLASH program is a USAID/Zambia funded WASHplus activity, which supports the Ministry of Education to bring clean WASH to primary schools in Zambia's Eastern Province.

Fit for School: Originally funded by German Federal Enterprise for International Cooperation (GIZ), now this independent organization implements programs in South-East Asia for WASH in Schools including institutionalizing handwashing. The Ministry of Education in the Philippines has started to scale up this work across the country.

H2O for Life: This organization provides service learning educational materials for teachers and students in the United States to learn about the global WASH challenge. In addition, H2O for Life matches US schools with schools in the developing world in need of WASH services. They collaborate with leading NGOs to help provide WASH infrastructure and education.

Plan International: Plan's objective is to help eliminate child poverty. WASH and education comprise two of Plan's eight primary strategic components.

Project WET: This organization publishes water resource education materials that are appropriate for many different age groups and cultures and offers comprehensive coverage of the broad topic of water.

Sesame Workshop: Implements the WASH Up! initiative with the goal of bolstering WASH access to reduce school absences, morbidity rates, and preventable deaths amongst children under 5.

Sustainable Sanitation Alliance (SuSanA): This organization provides multiple educational resources on the WASH/education nexus.

United Nations Girls' Education Initiative (UNGEI): The United Nations' paramount tool for addressing girls' education, UNGEI supports WASH in Schools as a means to further empower women.

USAID: This federal agency provides resources, implements programs, and funds projects focused on bolstering WASH and education access.

WASH in Schools: This website, created by UNICEF and IRC, provides further resources on WASH-education linkages.

WaterAid: This organization works with local partners and schools to help communities access safe water and sanitation and develop appropriate WASH behaviors, in order to create an enabling environment for their education.

Water For People: In order to alleviate WASH aid dependency in underdeveloped countries, Water For People implements various programs to ensure all people, and all schools, to have access to WASH services. Additionally, the organization offers several mapping tools to enhance WASH awareness.

World Bank Group: The World Bank supports sanitation and hygiene promotion programs in schools and provides resources to inform all WASH and education stakeholders.

World Organization for Early Childhood Education (OMEP): OMEP aims to bring WASH to young children, so they enter school healthy and ready to learn.

World Vision: This faith-based organization focuses on providing safe water, sanitation, and educational services, and invests about \$70 million per year in more than 50 countries to reach a new person with clean water every 30 seconds.