

Sanitation for Millions in Uganda

Innovative WASH technologies: WASHaLOTs and Millions of Clean Hands Stations (MoCHs)

Background/rationale

Sanitation for Millions follows an integrated approach that combines the construction of sanitation and hygiene facilities with capacity building and strengthening of the institutional environment for sustainable management of the facilities. The programme has rolled out innovative group hand-washing WASHaLOT technologies and the dedicated Millions of Cleans Hands (MoCHs) stations at selected institutions in Kampala and the Apac Cluster of towns. These WASH innovations alongside awareness training have enhanced community/public hand-washing practices with soap that is central to basic personal hygiene. Moreover, handwashing with soap is key to prevention of hygiene related diseases including pandemic like COVID-19.

The WASHaLOT 3.0 Handwashing Technology

The WASHaLOT 3.0 is a simple, low-cost, water-saving technology that enables both group and individual handwashing. This appropriate and innovative technology is suitable for selected public institutions and emergency settings such as refugee settlements, where despite high populations, hand washing is well facilitated. This technology was introduced in Uganda by the Sanitation for Millions programme in 2018 and has been nationally scaled up beyond the programme's target scope and now is popular in 5 regions in Uganda (South-Western, Eastern, Karamoja, Northern and Central), and enjoys the collaborative support and drive of local governments, line Ministries and Civil Society Organizations within the sector.

As an alternative to WASHaLOTs, the project developed the "Dedicated Millions-of-Clean-Hands-Stations (MOCHs), another WASH innovation hand-washing technology, suitable to serve hospitals and markets amongst other public spaces characterised by high human traffic.

What makes WASHaLOTs technologies unique?

- The WASHaLOT technology is attractive and inviting to users and is easy to use for hand-washing.
- The WASHaLOT 3.0 is a simple, low-cost, water-saving hand-washing technology that enables both group and individual hand-washing at any time.
- The water-saving attribute of the hand-washing outlets makes them attractive both to public and private sector developers in locations with high numbers of people.





Top: a WASHaLOT 3.0 installed outside a school toilet block in Kampala; Bottom:Students washing their hands at a WASHaLOT 3.0 handwashing station.

Millions-of-Clean-Hands-Stations (MoCHS)

A MoCH station is a contactless push tap system connected to piped man waster or an elevated water tank in areas of low water reliability and allows multiple users at any one time. Its design promotes social distancing of people ranging from 200 daily hand-washing events to a larger scale-up of 1,000 events. It is suitable for settings like Health Centres, Markets, and Religious institutions among others. This facility was jointly designed by Sanitation for Millions and local partners like Kampala Capital City Authority in Uganda.

What makes MoCHs unique?

- Its appeal and standout attractiveness make it nudge users to hand-washing routines;
- The MoCH wall structure can be utilised as a talking wall to support awareness, especially on hand hygiene;
- MoCHs provide a high level of dedicated hand hygiene service in places of high human traffic.

Outcomes and Results

The installation of the WASHaLOT and MoCH technology has so far benefited over 1,806,755 persons. Through the national upscale of the WASHaLOT technology, over 300 public institutions including 190 schools, 23 Religious centres, 31 Health Care facilities, 7 markets and 26 other public offices including urban councils and have been reached. An additional 28 public institutions have been reached though MoCH installations including 15 Health Care Facilities, 9 Religious institutions and 04 markets reaching over 100,000 persons within and beyond the programme intervention areas of Kampala and the Apac Cluster of towns.

These effective 'group hand-washing technologies' have greatly contributed to sustained community WASH practices, while the stakeholders work with Sanitation for Millions to ensure that the technologies are not only replicated in other public spaces but also accompanied by operation and maintenance measures to ensure their sustained operations and effective service.



Above: A Millions of Clean Hands (MoCH) handwashing station

Background

The Sanitation for Millions programme of GIZ has been under implementation in Uganda since 2016 to promote access to safe and adequate sanitation and hygiene services. The programme considers the entire sanitation chain and its sustainability to ensure long-lasting results in line with the Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs 6, 4 and 3). It also focuses on the needs of disadvantaged and vulnerable groups (children, women and girls, indigenous communities, refugees and internally displaced people as well as persons with limited mobility). The programme's geographical scope is Kampala city and the northern Uganda towns of Apac, Aduku and Ibuje (Apac Cluster). Sanitation for Millions is commissioned by the Federal Ministry for Economic Cooperation and Development (BMZ) and is the lead donor. It is co-funded by Bill & Melinda Gates Foundation, Water Unite, Hungarian Ministry of Foreign Affairs and Trade and the Inter-American Development Bank.







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