

**REPORT
FOR
THE
HANDWASHING DAY OUTREACH
TO
GOVERNMENT DAY SECONDARY SCHOOL, BWARI.**

THEME: CLEAN HANDS ARE WITHIN REACH.

**IN COMMEMORATION OF THE
GLOBAL HANDWASHING DAY 2023**



17th OCTOBER, 2023

ABSTRACT

Global Handwashing Day was founded by the Global Handwashing Partnership and the UN Water, and is an opportunity to design, test, and replicate creative ways to encourage people to wash their hands with soap at critical times. October 15 is Global Handwashing Day, a global advocacy day dedicated to increasing awareness and understanding about the importance of handwashing with soap as an effective and affordable way to prevent diseases and save lives.

On Global Handwashing Day 2021, the United Nations Children's Fund (UNICEF) and World Health Organization (WHO) launched 'State of the World's Hand Hygiene: A Global Call to Action to Make Hand Hygiene a Priority in Policy and Practice'. The report argues that accelerating progress towards "adequate and equitable hygiene for all" as called for in SDG target 6.2 is a no-regrets investment that leaves the world better prepared to manage future disease outbreaks and pandemics (UNICEF, 2023). Nigeria is a country with a population estimated at over 218 million people (UN,2022). The data which also provides evidence for advocacy, showed that access to basic water supply services is 67% of which 13% are safely managed; access to basic sanitation services is 46% of which 18% are safely managed and 23% practice open defecation, while access to basic hygiene services is still very low at 17% (WASHNORM, 2021). The main objectives of the event were to is to promote and encourage good hand hygiene practices within the school and Bwari Local Government Area, FCT.

AYGF emphasizes the importance of sanitation and hygiene in tackling issues around dysentery, diarrhea, and deworming. In line with this, AYGf in partnership with USAVE Foundation commemorated the 2023, Global Handwashing Day in Bwari Local Government, Federal Capital Territory, Abuja.

BACKGROUND

Since 2008, the Global Handwashing Partnership has been commemorating the Global Handwashing Day in over 70 countries reaching over 120 million children around the world. The UN Water ensures that Global Handwashing Partnership, United Nations Children's Fund (UNICEF) and World Health Organization (WHO) respond to water-related challenges and also promote good hygiene practices. Hygiene has long-established links with public health; of the range of hygiene behaviors considered important for health, hand washing with soap is a top priority in all settings. The simple act of cleaning hands can save lives and reduce illness by helping prevent the spread of infectious diseases. These diseases can be caused by pathogens (germs) transmitted through the air or via surfaces, food, or human feces. Because people frequently touch their faces, food, and surfaces, hands play a significant role in spreading disease. It is estimated that 1.4 million people including nearly 400,000 children under five die each year from preventable diseases attributable to inadequate WASH including diarrhoea, Acute Respiratory Infections (ARIs), soil-transmitted helminths, and undernutrition. Unsafe hand hygiene alone is responsible for 394,000 deaths from diarrhea and 356,000 deaths from ARIs (WHO 2023).

In 2022, 3 out of 4 people had access to basic hygiene services; monitoring handwashing behaviour is difficult, but the presence of soap and water at a designated place has been shown to be a robust proxy indicator. Household surveys increasingly include a handwashing module that involves direct observation of handwashing facilities. Since 2015 the population with access to basic hygiene services has increased by over 1 billion, from 5.0 billion (67%) to 6 billion (75%). However, 2 billion people still lacked basic services in 2022, including 653 million people with no hand washing facilities at all. If current rates of progress continue the world will reach 85 percent coverage by 2030, leaving around 1.4 billion people without basic hygiene services. Achieving universal coverage by 2030 will require a threefold increase in current rates of progress globally.

Nigeria is a country with a population estimated at over 218 million people (UN,2022). The data which also provides evidence for advocacy, showed that access to basic water supply services is 67% of which 13% are safely managed; access to basic sanitation services is 46% of which 18% are safely managed and 23% practice open defecation, while access to basic hygiene services is still deficient at 17% (WASHNORM, 2021). 31% of the population in Nigeria has access to handwashing facilities with soap and water available at home (SDG, 6.2.1b, 2022). In Nigeria, less than two out of 10 schools had basic hygiene services as of 2021. This means that not even half of the schools in Nigeria had handwashing facilities with water and soap available. Moreover, about 25% of the schools had only limited drinking water services, while improved sanitation facilities (single-sex and usable) were found in around 38% of Nigerian schools.

Africa Youth Growth Foundation (AYGF) partnered with USAVE Foundation, with approval from the Ministry of Education – Secondary Education Board; to implement the Global Handwashing Day 2023 at the Government Day Secondary School, Bwari, Federal Capital Territory.

THE OBJECTIVES

The following objectives were achieved:

1. To raise awareness about the critical role handwashing with soap plays in preventing the spread of diseases, particularly diarrhea and respiratory infections.
2. To promote handwashing as a habit among people, especially children, and their caregivers, to make handwashing with soap a regular and lifelong habit.
3. To advocate for hygiene education in the school and communities.

THE ACTIVITIES

The event started with the recitation of the National Anthem, National Prayer and The Pledge. Representatives from both organizations gave welcome addresses and introductory messages. Mr. Nelson read the AYGf's Executive director's remarks and Miss Chioma also gave the open address for the USAVE Foundation.

Information, Education and Communication (IEC) materials were curated and designed to educate the students on the essence of hygiene, handwashing and how to properly wash hands. Mrs. Rosemary Amana of AYGf, educated the students on hygiene and handwashing as well as demonstrated the steps to wash hands emphasizing the WHO standard of twenty (20) seconds with an example of singing 'the happy birthday song' by hearts while washing hands; she also demonstrated the importance of washing the wrists, fingers and the back of hands as well as ensuring to use clean towels to dry hands or air-dry after washing. Ten (10) students also demonstrated how they understand handwashing.

AYGF in partnership with USAVE Foundation donated 10 (50 litres) tap-buckets; 20 handwashing liquid and 50 hand towels to the Government Day Secondary School, Bwari, FCT. The principal and teachers sincerely appreciated the gifts as they also requested that the organizations assist in restoring the school's dilapidated borehole facility.

AYGF representative, Mrs. Imaga Oji gave a closing remark, as she encouraged the students and teachers to continue the hand hygiene as a habit as it will lead to healthy lifestyles. USAVE Foundation representative, Mr. Stephen also recommended healthy hygiene practice as he also, appreciated the school authority for the privilege and the opportunity given to the organization to implement the project.

To ensure sustainability, there will be monthly monitoring and evaluation visit to measure the use and impact of the Global Handwashing Day 2023 project.

The event ended with excitement and appreciation messages and a lot of photo sessions.

CHALLENGES

1. Resource Constraints: ensuring the sustainability of the Global Handwashing Day activities lots of resources are required.

Commented [H1]:

2. **Cultural Practices:** cultural beliefs and practices affects the willingness of individuals and communities to adopt new hygiene behaviors. Overcoming deeply rooted customs is a great challenge.
3. **Access to Clean Water and Soap:** access to clean water and soap is limited in Bwari community. Without these basic resources, effective handwashing is difficult.
4. **Infrastructure and Facilities:** lack of handwashing stations in schools and public places, can hinder handwashing efforts. Also, the school lacks borehole facility making handwashing more difficult to practice.
5. **Sustainability:** ensuring that the handwashing practices encouraged during the event continues beyond the designated day is a common challenge. Consistency is key to long-term health benefits.

RESULTS

1. Over 500 students were reached and were enlightened during the Global Handwashing Day 2023.
2. 10 (50 litres) tap-buckets were donated.
3. 20 handwashing liquids were donated.
4. 24 hand towels were donated.

APPENDIX

IEC Materials PNG:

GLOBAL HANDWASHING DAY

Global Handwashing Day 2023 is themed "Clean hands are within reach". "Through strong leadership and collective efforts, we can close gaps in access and practice to achieve hand hygiene for all (WHO,2023). Everyone has a role to play to ensure clean hands are within reach."

WHAT IS HYGIENE?

Hygiene refers to a set of practices and behaviors that are aimed at maintaining and promoting health and well-being by preventing the spread of illness and disease.

Good hygiene practices are essential for personal health, public health, and the prevention of transmission of infectious diseases.

Hygiene covers various aspects of cleanliness and sanitation, and it can be categorized into different areas, including:

1. Personal hygiene
2. Food hygiene
3. Environmental hygiene
4. Personal Protective hygiene
5. Hand hygiene
6. Respiratory hygiene

Hand Hygiene, which includes frequent and proper handwashing, is one of the most effective ways in preventing the spread of infection. It involves using soap and water to thoroughly clean the hands, especially after using the restroom, before eating, and after coughing or sneezing.

HOW TO WASH YOUR HANDS PROPERLY

1. WET YOUR HANDS WITH WATER
2. RINSE THOROUGHLY TO COVER ALL HAND
3. RUB HANDS PALM TO PALM
4. RUB THE BACK OF YOUR HANDS
5. SCRUB BETWEEN YOUR FINGERS
6. RUB THE BACK OF FINGERS ON THE OPPOSITE PALM
7. CLEAN THUMBS
8. WASH YOUR FINGER-TIPS AND FINGER-TIPS
9. RINSE HAND

HOW TO MAINTAIN GOOD HAND HYGIENE

- Wash your hands after using the restroom.
- Wash your hands before eating or handling food.
- Wash your hands after coughing, sneezing, or blowing your nose.
- Wash your hands after touching animals or animal waste.
- Wash your hands after handling garbage or cleaning.



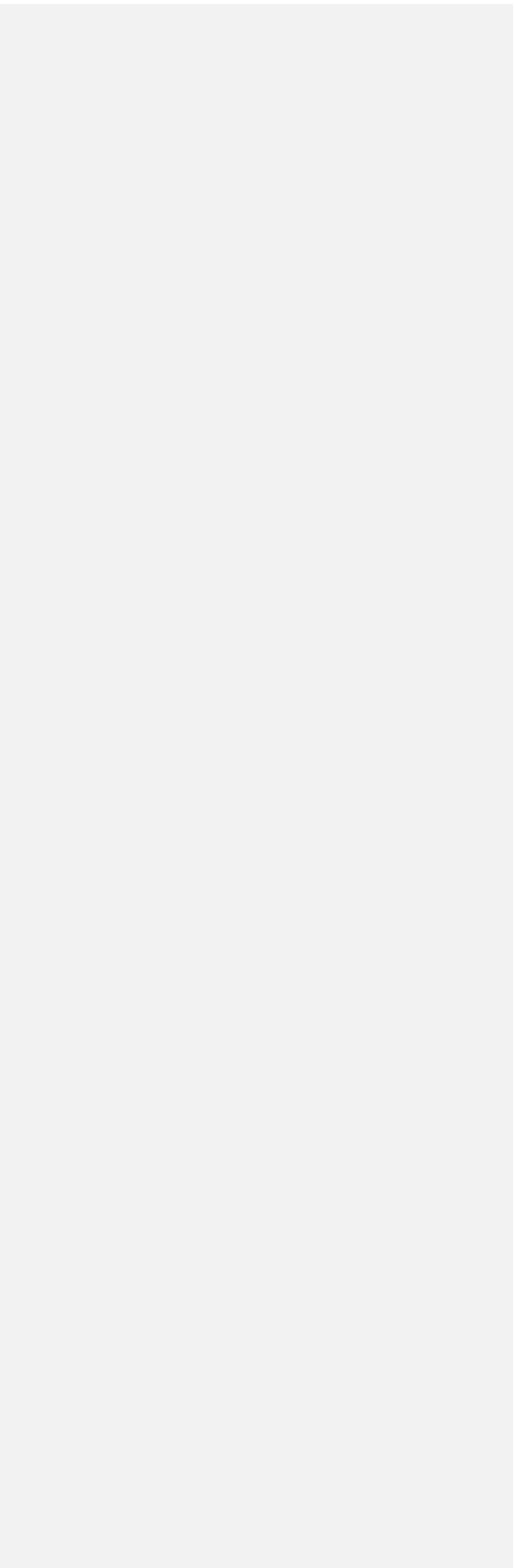

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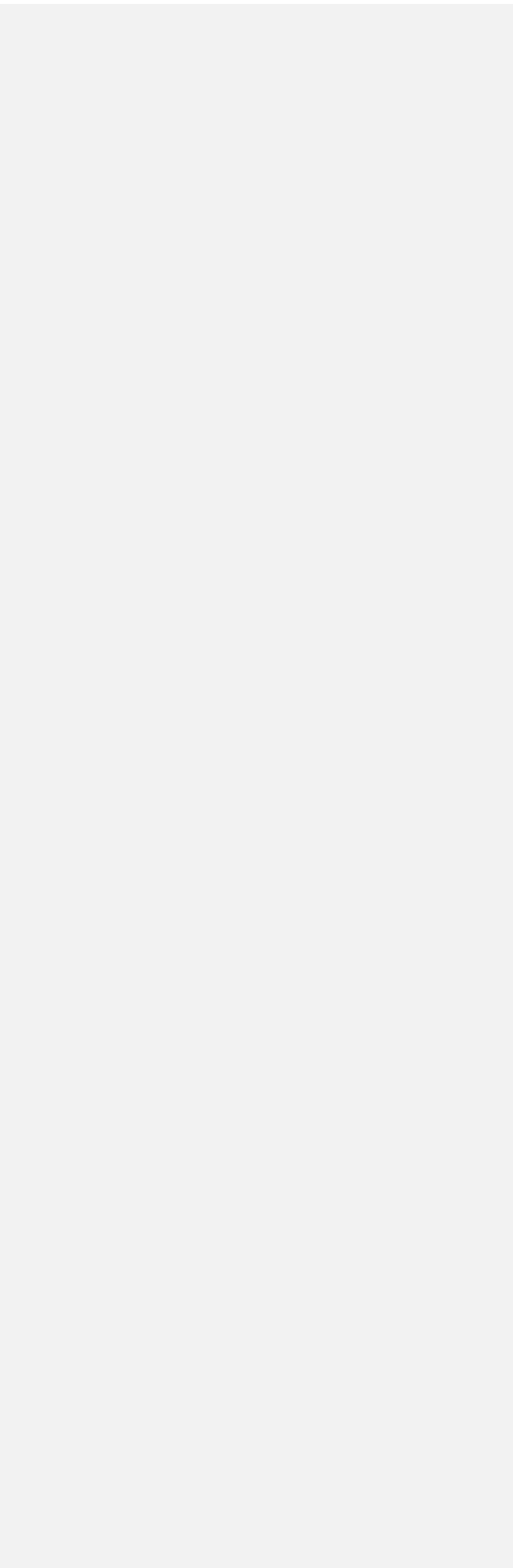
CLEAN HANDS ARE WITHIN REACH



PHOTO GALLERY











LIST OF ATTENDEES

1. Imaga Oji	AYGF
2. Nelson Egbunu	“
3. Rosemary Amana	“
4. Timothy Ategebe	“
5. Jeremiah Ifeanyichukwu	“
6. Miracle Joshua	“
7. Stephen Silas	USAVE Foundation
8. Panasung Urbanus	“
9. Chioma Odogwu	“
10. Jennifer Eziuloh	“
11. Zubair Nasiru Temidire	Volunteer
12. Princess Nzubechi Nnochirionye	“
13. Onyedikachi .N. Uzodinma	“
14. Mustapha Anuhi	“
15. Chinenye Ike	“
16. Fanny Ibiang	“
17. Emmanuella Simi Peter	“
18. Michael Attah	“
19. Oghenetega Oduaran	“
20. Blessing Nerat Isaac	“
21. Abdulmalik .M. Bayero	“
22. Idris Kolo Danjuma	“
23. Edimeh Dennis Danladi	“
24. Oluwamuyiwa Olufemi Ajaja	“
25. Owonibi Oluwatoyin Korede	“
26. Chioma Ikechukwu	“
27. Victor Madubuike Okereke	“

Total number of students: 362