

Highlights and New Resources from the WASHplus Project and its Partners

washplus News

Supportive Environments for Healthy Communities

June 2012

WASHplus Program Updates



photo credit: J. Rosenbaum, WASHplus

An employee of a local NGO that produces and distributes improved cookstoves in Bangladesh is making a locally sold stove—the Bondhu Chula. WASHplus will explore consumer preferences around new and improved cookstoves in upcoming trials, working with entrepreneurs and NGOs such as this one.

Bangladesh—Cookstove Preference Trials

With funding from USAID's Economic Growth Office in Dhaka, WASHplus has initiated an improved cookstove consumer needs, preferences, and willingness-to-pay assessment in Bangladesh, which was launched in May with initial stakeholder consultations, household visits, and meetings with small-scale producers. In late summer, WASHplus will support improved stove trials where consumers in multiple villages will have the opportunity to try out various improved stove models in their homes for several weeks and report on likes, dislikes, difficulties, and suggested modifications in design or use. WASHplus will also develop multiple marketing and financing approaches for improved stove dissemination that will later be piloted under a separate funding mechanism. All results from the current activities will feed into the Catalyzing Clean Energy in Bangladesh program.

Madagascar—Field Review and WASH-Friendly Communes

In Madagascar, WASHplus has been conducting a field review of USAID WASH partner activities in several regions to document factors that contribute to program success and sustainability and key lessons learned in the areas of sanitation marketing, community-led total sanitation, public/community sanitary facilities, and microfinance to share with USAID, its partners, and others. Results will be shared in the near future. The team in Madagascar has also been developing a guide and



WASHplus is a five-year project funded through USAID's Bureau for Global Health that supports healthy households and communities by developing and implementing interventions that lead to improvements in water, sanitation, and hygiene (WASH) and indoor air pollution (IAP) activities.

Are you receiving the WASHplus weekly?

Each issue highlights new publications and resources on many different WASH and IAP topics. To subscribe, sign up at:

www.washplus.org,

or e-mail

dacampbell@fhi360.org.

Click [here](#) for past issues.

Email us:

contact@washplus.org

Have you visited the WASHplus website lately?

curriculum for sanitation marketing and SanPlat (washable latrine slabs) construction; providing technical support and facilitating information sharing among USAID WASH partners; and organizing and participating in a successful World Water Day celebration. In addition, Water and Sanitation for the Urban Poor (WSUP) will be partnering with WASHplus to increase access to safe drinking water and sanitation in two communes in the Analamanga region and promote the “WASH-Friendly” approach in private schools, health centers, and markets in these communes. Activity is already underway to identify existing structures to rehabilitate or improve by adding services such as water kiosks.

Zambia—June Launch of School WASH Program

In late June, USAID/Zambia and the Ministry of Education will officially launch SPLASH (a multi-year WASH in Schools program—Schools Promoting Learning Achievement through Sanitation and Health). SPLASH expects its activities to show measurable improvements in the number of days students miss school due to lack of water, illness from diarrheal diseases, or menstrual hygiene constraints, which in turn will increase student-teacher contact time, contributing to improved reading and other basic skills. With a strong focus on gender issues, the program also expects a decrease in girls’ drop-out rates and (female) teacher attrition.

The WASHplus team in Zambia has been working intensively to set up the SPLASH program, conduct outreach with key stakeholders, and establish a baseline measurement using smartphone technology. SPLASH will work in more than 600 primary schools in four districts of two provinces to: 1) improve water supply and sanitation facilities and provide a comprehensive hygiene improvement program; 2) train teachers, PTA members, and student leaders in school-led total sanitation; and 3) strengthen the capacity of the local institutions tasked with supplying, operating, and maintaining improved WASH facilities in schools.

Resource Partner Highlights

Designing Scalable Water and Hygiene Businesses

IDEO.org is working with Unilever, WSUP, and the Global Alliance for Improved Nutrition to design scalable businesses in Kenya to sell water alongside hygiene and nutrition products. [Download/view](#)

Medentech Introduces Aquafloq

Medentech has introduced a new water clarifying product called Aquafloq, which when used in tandem with their Aquatabs water purification tablets to disinfect water, offers a complete household water treatment solution that meets U.S. EPA standards. Aquafloq clarifies murky or turbid water and makes it clear without discoloration or aftertaste. [Download/view](#)

Nationwide Microbank Partners with Women’s World Banking

Nationwide Microbank (NMB) announced that it is collaborating with Women’s World Banking to undertake a research study that will assist

Our website has a new look and many new links and resources have been added. Visit us at:

www.washplus.org

Follow us on Twitter:

[@washplusinfo](https://twitter.com/washplusinfo)

Visit our resource sites and blog:

Innovation Exchange Blog:

[innovation](#)

Indoor Air Pollution Updates:

[iaupdates](#)

Household Drinking Water Quality Updates:

[drinkingwaterupdates](#)

Sanitation Updates:

[sanitationupdates](#)

Urban Health Updates:

[urbanhealthupdates](#)

NMB in designing banking products specifically targeted at women. This study is being funded under a grant from New Zealand Aid.

[Download/view](#)

WSUP Highlights Urban Voices

WSUP has launched a new feature called Urban Voices, highlighting the plight of the urban consumer. Read the stories of five low income urban consumers and how they have overcome barriers to accessing safe, affordable water. [Download/view](#)

[follow on Twitter](#) | [forward to a friend](#)



WASHplus is funded by the U.S. Agency for International Development (USAID) under cooperative agreement AID-OAA-A10-00040. The information in this newsletter does not necessarily represent the views or positions of USAID or the U.S. government.

[unsubscribe from this list](#) | [update subscription preferences](#)