

Our Objectives

This ongoing project aims to improve the sanitation and hygiene situation as well as the water supply in 36 communities. Although in recent years Ghana has made significant economic progress, the living conditions in many parts of the country are particularly bad. In rural areas, only 66 percent of the population have access to drinking water, and only 9 percent do have sanitary facilities. Water and sanitation services in schools are also inadequate. This often leads to school dropout, particularly for girls and especially during their menstrual periods, for there are no toilets and hygiene facilities in school.

The project aims to give access to clean, affordable water and sanitary facilities to some 32,000 community members. We are building 20 new wells and renovating water points in schools, communities and health stations. Moreover, we are carrying out community-based sensitization sessions in order to promote a better understanding of the relationship between hygiene, sanitation and disease prevention. 300 community members are taking part in our training sessions. We also promote the construction of locally adapted sanitary facilities. Some 12,000 children are now benefitting from new toilets and washrooms in 36 schools.

ACTIVITIES DURING THE REPORTING PERIOD

- Basic data collection / survey for more than 1,300 community members
- Construction of water points in the 36 communities
- Training on relationship between hygiene, water, sanitation and disease prevention as well as on sanitation management in schools
- Selection of latrine models and hand washing systems and information events



PROJECT REGIONS:

Eastern, Central and Volta

PROJECT DURATION:

August 2018 – October 2021

REPORTING PERIOD:

August 2018 – August 2019

OBJECTIVES

- Drinking water and improved sanitation facilities for some 32,000 people

MEASURES:

- Construction and renovation of 36 water points in communities, schools and health centres
- Construction of sanitary facilities for boys and girls in 36 schools
- Training on community-based sanitation and sustainable water management
- Creation of savings groups
- Sensitization sessions on menstruation

Our Achievements

Sustainable Water Supply

In all project communities, water points have been built with the support of local companies. Since in four cases we encountered dry ground, we are still looking for other water supply options, such as connections to already existing water systems. Before building any well or any water supply system, the water quality is tested in a laboratory.

Improved Sanitation

Following the community-based sanitation approach, we aim to promote a better understanding of the relationship between clean water, sanitation, hygiene and disease prevention.

98 women, members of local water committees, took part in a one-day training session in order to strengthen their knowledge about these issues. 289 community members - as well as twelve government representatives – took part in training sessions in order to learn how to help build latrines and improve health and hygienic conditions in their communities.

104 local sanitation companies took part in information sessions in order to learn more about modern and practical latrine models. Thanks to their know-how, the companies now have a good chance of providing suitable and affordable sanitary facilities for as many households as possible in the project communities. A latrine model has already been selected for particularly disadvantaged households. 324 facilities are now to be built.

Girl-Friendly Sanitary Facilities at Schools

All 36 project communities have committed themselves to building girl-friendly sanitary facilities in their schools. Eight people per community took part in training sessions on School Sanitary Facility Management.

It is not only the lack of toilets that makes menstrual hygiene difficult for girls, but also the lack of knowledge and the social taboo around menstruation. This is the reason why 178 school children, including 107 girls, took part in a five-day training session together with their teachers. During this training, they learnt a lot about the menstrual cycle, sanitary requirements and the hygienic disposal of sanitary towels. Moreover, they learnt how to pass on their knowledge to other pupils (girls and boys). In cooperation with a local company that produces sanitary pads, a cost-effective and convenient product has been selected, which is now being distributed to the 36 project schools.

In order to improve the hygiene situation in schools and in 9 health centres, the project team has selected the Teckytap hand washing system.



Pads and hygiene materials are important for schoolgirls so that they can attend classes regularly.

This handy and robust hand washing facility, made of light metal and operated by a foot pedal, is particularly suitable for children.

Review and Evaluation of Project Activities

In December 2018, the project team, together with around 970 people from community boards, school staff and health workers, reviewed the existing water points in the 36 project communities. It became obvious that there was a great need for further water points in the communities and that many existing water points needed to be improved and expanded. From March to April 2019, a basic data collection was also carried out, in which 1,318 persons, including 419 school children, from 19 communities were interviewed. It turned out that only 38 percent of the schools have improved sanitation facilities. Only 11% of all pupils (girls and boys) have gender-friendly latrines.

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