



Water, Sanitation & Hygiene in Schools

Access to clean water, sanitation, and hygiene (WASH) is essential for children in schools, particularly for girls as well as children with disabilities. Contaminated water, poor sanitation or unhealthy hygiene behaviours increases the risk of contracting diarrhoeal and other WASH-related diseases, making it more difficult for children to stay in school and become empowered through education. This is an even greater challenge for girls – especially girls who are menstruating – as they often face more barriers to enroll, stay in school, learn and perform. When proper sanitation is available, 11% more girls attend school¹.

World Vision is a global Christian relief, development and advocacy organisation dedicated to working with children, families and communities to overcome poverty and injustice. World Vision serves all people, regardless of religion, race, ethnicity, or gender.

FAST FACTS



WASH-related diseases caused by contaminated water can negatively affect a child's education and ability to stay in school. Improving water, sanitation and hygiene in schools can result in a nearly 50% reduction in diarrhoeal illness².



Girls face additional barriers in accessing equitable education due to the lack of usable & appropriate WASH facilities, gender-based violence, menstruation, assigned gender roles, and the lesser value often placed on girls' education.

Going Beyond

World Vision’s WASH in Schools programming supports Sustainable Development Goal (SDG) 4 for quality education and 6 for clean water and sanitation. World Vision is prioritising WASH service levels beyond basic access. This includes improved water that is piped on-premises, equitable access to toilets, and facilities for menstrual hygiene, which are critical to the health and education of children.



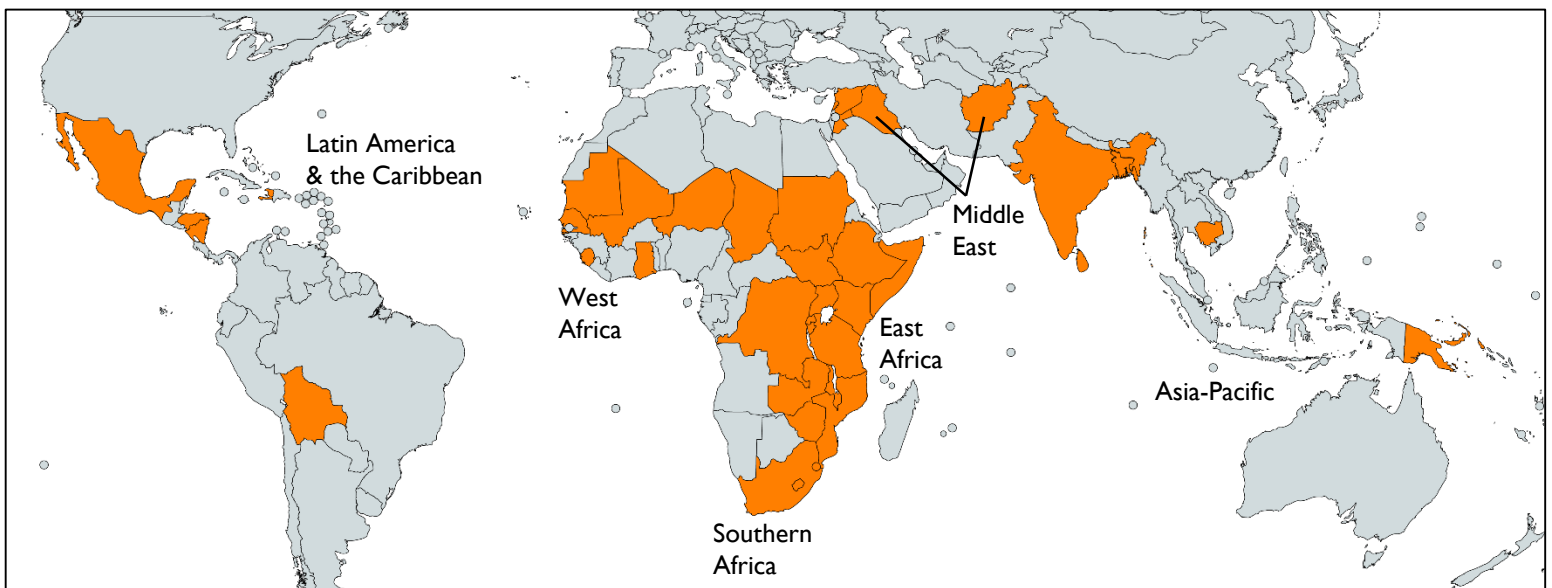
Standards	Water	Sanitation	Hygiene
SDG Basic Service Level	Drinking water from an improved source is available at the school	Improved sanitation facilities are single-sex and usable at the school	
Additional World Vision Priorities	...and water is pip ed onto premises.with the adequate ratio of students to toilets and at least one toilet with menstrual hygiene facilities	Handwashing facilities are available and have water and soap.



Global Reach

World Vision seeks to reach the most vulnerable children around the world, implementing WASH in schools programming in 40 countries in regions throughout the Middle East, Africa, Latin America, and Asia.

World Vision also has expanded efforts in fragile states and emergency situations to ensure safe water, adequate sanitation, and dignified hygiene are available even in the most difficult places.



Spotlight: Sesame Workshop's WASH UP! Program

World Vision has partnered with Sesame Workshop to roll-out a school-based program called WASH UP! The program uses fun and engaging learning materials, featuring the puppet Raya to teach children to learn, practice, and share healthy WASH habits. Raya also serves as a role model for school-aged girls. World Vision and Sesame Workshop first piloted the WASH UP! program in rural and hard-to-reach communities in Zambia. Educators and WASH leaders received training to conduct afterschool WASH club sessions, ultimately reaching a total 827 educators and over 50,000 students. World Vision and Sesame Workshop are now expanding the WASH UP! program to reach at least 15 countries around the world by 2020.





Sources

World Vision 

¹World Health Organization (WHO). The World Health Report 2002, Reducing Risks, Promoting Healthy Life. Available online: http://www.who.int/whr/2002/en/whr02_en.pdf

²Joint Call to Action, *Raising Even More Clean Hands: Advancing Health, Learning and Equity through WASH in Schools* (2012). Available online: http://www.unicef.org/wash/schools/files/Raising_Even_More_Clean_Hands_Web_17_October_2012%281%29.pdf.