WSSCC 2017 HIGHLIGHTS
2017 HIGHLIGHTS

2017-2020 STRATEGY

In the first year of the WSSCC 2017-2020 Strategic Plan period, WSSCC continued to deliver results through its Global Sanitation Fund and policy advocacy related work with special focus on Menstrual Hygiene Management (MHM) and equality and non-discrimination.

GLOBAL SANITATION FUND

By the end of 2017, 14,600 new communities across the GSF targeted programme areas in 12 countries became nationally certified as Open Defecation Free (ODF). This represents 5 million people living in newly certified ODF environments.

Ensuring quality-built latrines and access to handwashing facilities remained a priority for WSSCC. In 2017, over 3 million people had gained access to improved toilets as per the WHO/UNICEF Joint Monitoring Programme for Water Supply (JMP) definition of basic and limited sanitation facilities within the GSF targeted areas.

GSF-supported programmes continued to collaborate and partner with education-related stakeholders in the programmed areas, guaranteeing the presence of single-sex sanitation and hygiene facilities in approximately 574 schools.

PARTNERS & MEMBERS

WSSCC continued to ensure meaningful engagement at a number of sector conferences such as Stockholm World Water Week and the WEDC International Conference on water sanitation and hygiene, maintaining successful partnership initiatives with Essity and Global Citizen while also reinforcing its vibrant membership base of 3600 individuals living and working across more than 140 countries.

KEY RESULTS

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<th><strong>PEOPLE LIVING IN ODF ENVIRONMENTS</strong></th>
<th><strong>20.08 MILLION</strong></th>
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<td><strong>PEOPLE WITH IMPROVED TOILETS</strong></td>
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<td><strong>3.01 MILLION</strong></td>
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<td><strong>PEOPLE WITH HANDWASHING FACILITIES</strong></td>
<td><strong>20.74 MILLION</strong></td>
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<td><strong>3.75 MILLION</strong></td>
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MHM ADVOCACY & POLICY

Throughout 2017, WSSCC continued to meet the growing demands from national governments for policy and training support for MHM with over 500 government officials and partners from ten countries in Africa and Asia participating in WSSCC-facilitated MHM trainings. Through such trainings, in Kenya, it is estimated that more than 5000 women, men, boys and girls were reached by the efforts of County First Ladies who have become strong MHM champions.

The WSSCC/UN Women Joint Programme on Gender Hygiene and Sanitation in West and Central Africa made considerable gains towards the integration of MHM into policies and sectoral documents in Senegal, Niger and Cameroon. For example, for the first time, the new sectoral policy letter of the Ministry of Water and Sanitation in Senegal for 2016-2025 now includes MHM.
Obanliku, Nigeria

Obanliku Local Government Area (LGA) in Cross River State, Nigeria, made national headlines as the first of the 774 LGAs in the country to achieve open defecation free (ODF) status. It is the first of the six LGAs covered by the GSF-supported Rural Sanitation and Hygiene Promotion in Nigeria (RUSHPIN) programme, and became a model nationwide for other LGAs to achieve similar results.

WSSCC/UN Women Partnership

The WSSCC and UN Women’s Joint Programme on Gender, Hygiene and Sanitation supports governments in the formulation of evidence-based and inclusive policies that address women and girl’s rights to water and sanitation. After three years of implementation in Senegal, Cameroon and Niger, the Programme has contributed to filling knowledge gaps on sanitation and hygiene for women and girls.

GSF WASH Champions

The GSF-commissioned scoping and diagnosis study of its approach to Equality and Non-discrimination provides testimonials from people championing WASH despite challenging conditions like Loya from Nkhotakota district in Malawi who had polio as a child and now walks with a stick. Despite his difficulties, he has been very active in motivating his neighbours to stop defecating in the open.

Essity

WSSCC and Essity have been working together since 2014, when the company was known as SCA, to break the silence on MHM and on hygiene across the life course. The partnership encourages a global conversation around hygiene issues and opening the dialogue on what is often an unspoken topic: personal hygiene.

Félix Adégnika, NC in Benin

WSSCC National Coordinator in Benin is leading a campaign to include the human rights to water and sanitation in the national constitution. He has built an advocacy coalition that includes members of civil society, the youth parliament for WASH in Benin, and a network of parliamentarians in WASH. The campaign is also receiving technical support from the Embassy of the Netherlands.

Patricia Mulongo, MHM Trainer

Patricia is a Menstrual Hygiene Management (MHM) trainer who has a hearing impairment and advocates for people with disabilities. After joining WSSCC’s MHM training of trainers, she has committed to breaking the silence on menstruation by reaching out to women and girls who live with disabilities. “MHM has stolen my heart and I make sure every time I meet people to mention MHM as my aim is to reach as many hearing-impaired people as I can.”

Freddy the Fly

Meet Freddy the Fly, a grumpy, shit-eating fly, the star of WSSCC’s most viewed video of the year, illustrating the journey to Open Defecation Free. Freddy was also the face of WSSCC’s 2017 campaign to raise awareness on ending open defecation.
PERCEPTIONS

How has WSSCC impacted and transformed lives? Read testimonials from some of our advocates and partners below.

“Global Citizen is proud to partner with WSSCC, and looks forward to continuing our support of its important mission. Having witnessed the behaviour change work of its Global Sanitation Fund in both Bihar, India, and Madagascar, I remain utterly convinced of the vital role WSSCC can play in ensuring sanitation for all, and eliminating poverty.”
— Mr. Mick Sheldrick, Vice President of Global Policy and Government Affairs, Global Citizen

“WSSCC has played an invaluable role at the SWA Steering Committee, supporting the partnership’s continuous move towards more focus on country-level engagement, bringing the voices of civil society to the table, promoting the elimination of inequalities in access to sanitation, as well as drawing our attention to taboo issues such as menstrual hygiene management.”
— Ms. Catarina de Albuquerque, SWA Executive Chair

“Our partnership with WSSCC has taken a step forward in mainstreaming MHM into development policies with a multi-sectoral approach between the ministries of health, education and the environment, women and hydraulics. This collaboration also made possible the transfer of skills and expertise on the issue of MHM and its integration into the programmatic work of UN Women.”
— Ms. Dienaba Wane Ndiaye, Senegal Programme Coordinator, UN Women

“Thanks to WSSCC’s efforts Kenya has adopted the organization’s integrated and holistic approach on MHM. MHM trainings that have included persons with disabilities have ensured that there is a cohort of trainers who are able to meet the training needs of people with various disabilities and this has made MHM in Kenya move with exponential speed.”
— Mr. Neville Kowaro, MHM Trainer in Kenya

“The CLTS approach is one of the most effective strategies I have seen in my 30 years of experience. It is all the more crucial because it concerns not only the change in behaviour of individuals, but also the change of social norms at the community level in which significant and lasting changes are difficult. Thanks to CLTS, tens of thousands of Togolese households today enjoy favourable conditions for their health and dignity. We hope that by 2030, Togo SANDAL will be a reality for the survival of all girls and boys in this country.”
— Dr. Isselmou Boukhary, UNICEF Togo Office Representative

“WSSCC’s role in the WASH sector is commendable, I think its strength is its members who come from various backgrounds and represent different countries. Their networks, innovations, varied knowledge, and field experience put WSSCC in a unique position to play a big role in the WASH sector. In WASH, one size does not fit all, and field realities shared by the members are important to make a bigger impact and make this world a better place to live for one and for all.”
— Dr. Megha Phansalka, WSSCC Member, India

“As a Partner with Special Status in UN-Water, WSSCC’s contribution is key. Their strong track record in mobilizing local communities and stakeholders brings great value to the work of the UN-Water family. Their results show how access to sanitation and hygiene has wider socio-economic impacts beyond the immediate and obvious advantages of safety and dignity.”
— Mr. Gilbert F. Hourngbo, Chair of UN-Water, President of the International Fund for Agricultural Development

“WSSCC has an irreplaceable role in the WASH sector. It is one of the most effective strategies I have seen in my 30 years of experience. It is all the more crucial because it concerns not only the change in behaviour of individuals, but also the change of social norms at the community level in which significant and lasting changes are difficult. Thanks to CLTS, tens of thousands of Togolese households today enjoy favourable conditions for their health and dignity. We hope that by 2030, Togo SANDAL will be a reality for the survival of all girls and boys in this country.”
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