

Championing school WASH

KENYA

Sheila Mwita, a standard six student at Ngisiru Primary School, vividly remembers how bad the latrines at her school were, before they were renovated. “The previous latrines had a strong smell, absence of doors, and dirty walls, which made us comfortably prefer defecating in the bushes. Finally, we are able to use the latrines because they are clean and neat.”

Ngisiru Primary School, in Migori County, is one of the schools that has benefited from the GSF-supported programme in Kenya. The school was identified together with Chuodho Women Group, a local advocate for the GSF-supported programme.

“We didn’t think that washing our hands after visiting the latrine was a key element in keeping us healthy,” says Jane, a friend of Sheila’s. I must admit that, after the sensitization session by Chuodho Women Group, together with the Public Health Officers in our school, we have been able to learn a lot on the need to take sanitation and hygiene seriously both in school and at home.”

“We appreciate the intervention in terms of the formed and functional health clubs, and the improved sanitation facilities in our school,” adds Mr. Kerata, who chairs the school’s management board. “It’s been shameful seeing our children suffer due to resource constraints to provide better sanitation facilities. Today, we boast, as our school has become the talk of the village.”

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Sheila Mwita, student at Ngisiru Primary School



RENOVATED SANITATION FACILITIES AT NGISIRU PRIMARY SCHOOL. ©KSHIP

Moving up the sanitation ladder through microfinance

TANZANIA

In Zanka Village, Bahi District, the Wema microfinance group was triggered by a GSF-supported Implementing Partner to invest their funds in improving their sanitation and hygiene facilities.

After their community was triggered, some Wema members exemplified true behaviour change when they asked their Community Resource Person to link them up with an artisan who could help improve their latrines. An artisan was identified in a nearby village and brought to Zanka by the GSF Implementing Partner Community Development and Relief Trust. Wema supported the artisan’s stay in Zanka, during which he produced and sold latrine slabs to the members.

When other Wema members saw the improved latrines in their colleagues’ homes, they were mobilized to improve

their latrines – some with cement and others with slabs. Soon, other community members followed suit by forming new microfinance groups and improving their latrines.

Before the GSF-supported programme intervened, only about 30 percent of the

latrines in Zanka were improved, and 45 percent of households had no latrine at all. But in March 2016, the village achieved ODF status, which equates to all households having fly-proof latrines.



LATRINE BEFORE CLTS INTERVENTIONS. ©UMATA



IMPROVED LATRINE AFTER CLTS INTERVENTIONS. ©UMATA