



# WATER, SANITATION AND HYGIENE // SENSITIZATION AND AWARENESS EVENTS

## BACKGROUND

The GIZ Programme WatSSUP operates on the nexus of humanitarian and development work and focuses on both refugee and host communities. The programme is implemented under the special initiative on forced displacement of the German Federal Ministry for Economic Cooperation and Development (BMZ) and implemented by GIZ in line with Germany's commitment to international burden and responsibility sharing under the UN Global Compact on Refugees.

The transition from a mainly humanitarian approach to a development approach in Uganda is driven by sectoral action plans under the Comprehensive Refugee Response Framework (CRRF). Within the framework of the CRRF, the action plan for the water sector is called the Water and Environment Sector Refugee Response Plan (WESRRP). The sectoral plan promotes the improvement of sanitation and hygiene of vulnerable groups located in both the host and refugee communities in Uganda. Within this context the WatSSUP programme has organised various events in close cooperation with refugees and host communities aimed at improving sanitation and hygiene in the refugee hosting districts of Yumbe, Arua, Terego and Madi Okollo.

## APPROACH

Event activities focused on a plethora of thematic areas like menstrual health, hand hygiene etc. organised in different refugee hosting districts.

All events were organised in cooperation with the relevant stakeholders, as Civil Society Organisations (CSOs), District leaderships, and vulnerable groups (refugee leaders, women led groups), bringing all to the table to agree on a concept and a plan of implementation.

## IMPACT

So far, a total of 33 outreach events have been jointly organised and implemented with different partner institutions in the refugee settlements of Bidi Bidi, Imvepi and Rhino Camp. A total of 44 partner institutions have been directly engaged in different events since 2020. Of these 55% were CSOs, 20% were Government institutions, 16% were development partners and 9% were from the private sector. In addition, a total of 959,821 beneficiaries were reached through these events, 51% of this being women.

In the communities, increased participation and advocacy geared towards the improvement of hygiene and sanitation has been observed in places where these events have been implemented. For example, an improvement in safe hand hygiene was observed in the refugee settlement and host community areas in Northern Uganda where the WASH Quartet Game was implemented at the peak of the COVID-19 pandemic in 2021. The WASH Quartet is an educational card game for children and adults with the objective to raise awareness around safe hygiene practices.

20%  
GOVERNMENT  
INSTITUTIONS

16%  
DEVELOPMENT  
PARTNERS

44  
PARTNERS  
INVOLVED IN EVENTS  
SINCE 2020

55%  
CIVIL SOCIETY  
ORGANISATIONS  
(CSOS)

9%  
PRIVATE  
SECTOR

33  
OUTREACH EVENTS  
IN REFUGEE SETTLEMENTS:

School WASH Campaign

62% WOMEN | 38% MEN

Menstrual Health Campaign

58% | 42%

Hand Washing Campaign

51% | 49%

WASH Quartet Game

93% | 7%

100%

## LESSONS LEARNED

- Collaborative implementation of events especially with refugee-led Civil Society Organisations (CSOs) has fostered an environment of cooperation, and achievement by the involved communities.
- Leveraging on existing government institutional structures like the Village Health Teams (VHTs) has ensured efficient implementation and scaling up of WASH behavioural change approaches.
- Using a combination of education and entertainment approaches like the WASH Quartet Game have cultivated an environment of fun which quickened learning and the adoption of WASH behaviours and practices. This is evident in the Knowledge Attitude Practice (KAP) surveys carried out by Meta Meta Research BV.



READ THE ARTICLE  
"GAMES WITH A HEART  
AND A PURPOSE":  
<https://bit.ly/3Qo2B17>



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