

REPORT OF THE SCHOOL SANITATION PROJECT CARRIED OUT BY GRASSROOT ENVIRONMENTAL HEALTHCARE INITIATIVE (GEHI) IN COLLABORATION WITH ENVIRONMENTAL HEALTH OFFICERS REGISTRATION COUNCIL OF NIGERIA (EHORECON) AND OTHER PARTNERS

Introduction:

Grassroot Environmental Healthcare Initiative (GEHI) is a non-governmental, non-profit making organisation committed to promotion of environmental sanitation. GEHI is made up of professionals who have background and passion for sanitation and hygiene and who are willing and ready to contribute for the promotion of environmental sanitation.

GEHI obtained approval from FCT Secondary Education Board to pilot a school sanitation project with the secondary schools within Bwari Area Council of the FCT.

Project Title: School Sanitation; Models and Modelling

Project thematic areas:

1. Proper Waste Management for Health, Economic and Educational Development.
2. Dangers of Open Defecation
3. Menstrual Hygiene Management

Aim:

The aim of the school sanitation project is to create environmental health awareness and raise the consciousness of students on environmental sanitation for health, economic and educational development.

Objectives:

- i. To provide basic relevant information on proper waste management principles.
- ii. To sensitize students on the dangers of improper management of wastes.
- iii. To educate students on the economic potentials of proper waste management.
- iv. To trigger students quest for proper waste management for health, economic and educational development of the society.

- v. To create awareness on the public health implications and economic effects of defecating at open places.
- vi. To trigger students desires on appropriate excreta disposal methods.
- vii. To encourage proper hand washing before and after use of toilet and during other activities.
- viii. To educate students on the Menstrual Hygiene Management.
- ix. To advocate for improved sanitary conditions in schools.

Methodology:

- i. Advocacy
- ii. Pre-test questions to establish baseline knowledge level.
- iii. Presentation of Environmental Sanitation talk by professionals.
- iv. Questions and Answers session.
- v. Post -test questions to ascertain current knowledge level.

Activities:

1. Advocacy Visits to stakeholders:

As a build-up to the project, advocacy visits were paid to the following institutions:

- a. FCT Secondary Education Board. The Board granted approval for the project to be piloted in all the secondary schools within Bwari Area Council of the FCT.
- b. Environmental Health Officers Registration Council of Nigeria (EHORECON). The Council gave material supports which enabled GEHI to obtain the sanitation models. EHORECON equally, sent their staff to witness the execution of the project in the schools.
- c. Executive Chairman, Bwari Area Council, FCT. The Chairman gave goodwill support for the project and urged GEHI to update with the Council.
- d. Department of Pollution Control & Environmental Health, of the Federal Ministry of Environment, Abuja. The Department sent their staff; who participated actively in the execution of the project. Also, the department in collaboration with GEHI and other partners carried out a press conference to commemorate Global Menstrual Hygiene Day.
- e. Abuja Environmental Protection Board (AEPB).The Board sent some of their staff to assist in the project.

- f. Aso Radio. The Radio Station invited GEHI on a live broadcast to enlighten the public more on the project. This occurred mid-way the project implementation.
2. In-house training of team members:
Field Teams: A-E were trained in-house. Checklists were produced. Thematic areas were developed, etc.
3. Liaison with beneficiary schools:
Letters were sent to each of the participating schools proposing an itinerary plan. Schools approved/adjusted the plan. Schools detailed some staff who conducted GEHI and partners round the school premises.
4. Base line observation/Assessment of the schools:
On reaching each of the schools, GEHI and partners were conducted round the school premises where observations were made on the sanitation situation of the school. Twenty Foci areas on sanitation were considered and conditions were ranked as follows: Excellent (5), Very good (4), good (3), fair (2), poor (1) and very poor (0). Observed status were ranked using a checklist and summed up to determine the cleanest schools.
5. Pre-test to ascertain baseline knowledge:
On getting to the hall or approved venue for the health talk/awareness, a set of structured questions are administered to a sample of the available students to ascertain the baseline knowledge level of the students on sanitation and hygiene. Students' responses on the pre-test enhanced presentation strategies.
6. Presentation of Environmental Sanitation Talks:
Environmental Sanitation talks were presented by professionals on the following topics:
 - a. Proper Waste Management for Health, Economic and educational development.
 - b. Dangers of Open Defecation
 - c. Menstrual Hygiene Management
7. Post-test to ascertain current knowledge:
Post-test questions were administered to a sample of the students to find out the current level of knowledge after the presentations.
8. Presentation of Sanitation materials to the schools:

Sanitation materials such as: 240-litres waste bins for outside class room use, medium size waste bins for class room use, detergents, Izal, toilet tissues, Hand Sanitizers, etc., were presented to each of the schools.

9. Report compilation and dissemination:

Reports were compiled and copies sent to some partners.

Results/Findings

Number of Students and teachers contacted

S/N	NAME OF SCHOOL	DATE VISITED	TOTAL NO.OF STUDENTS CONTACTED	NO.OF MALES	NO.OF FEMALES	TOTAL NO.OF TEACHERS CONTACTED	NO.OF MALES	NO.OF FEMAL ES
01	GSS BWARI	24/5/2018	100	58	42	3	2	1
02	GDSS BWARI	25/5/2018	97	35	62	8	5	3
03	GDSS DUTSE	5/6/2018	61	30	31	12	6	6
04	GSS KUBWA	7/6/2018	98	44	54	6	2	4
05	GSS SHERE	12/6/2018	60	25	35	10	6	4
06	GSS JIBI	14/6/2018	500	240	260	70	20	50
07	GSS KAWU	21/6/2018	210	121	89	21	17	4
08	GSS MPAPE	26/6/2018	210	70	140	39	18	21
09	GSS BYAZHIN	27/6/2018	250	100	150	20	7	13
10	GGSS DUTSE	27/6/2018	200	0	200	20	6	14
11	GSS DEI-DEI	28/8/2018	498	238	260	61	27	34
SUB-TOTAL			2284	961	1323	270	116	154
TOTAL			2554					

NB: Press Conference on Menstrual Hygiene Management was equally done on 7/6/2018 at the Conference Room of the Department of Pollution Control and Environmental Health, Federal Ministry of Environment.

GSS: Government Secondary School

GDSS: Government Day Secondary School

GGSS: Government Girls Secondary School

Observations and status

S/ N	NAME OF SCHOOL	Availability of Perimeter fence	Availability of Functional water supply facility	Accessibility of the water facility to students	Availability of Refuse bins in each class room	Availability of Refuse bins outside class room	Method of refuse disposal	Frequency Of refuse disposal	Availability of toilet facilities (male/female)	Cleanliness of toilet facilities	Availability of functional Hand washing facilities	Case(s) of open defecation within the school premise	Any Health Talk in last 12 months	Teachers participation Health Talk in last 12 months	Any Self-help project to enhance the aesthetic	Is school premises littered with refuse	Cleanliness of the class rooms	Cleanliness of the students(nails, hair & uniforms)	Any Environmental Sanitation Club in the school	Are there Over grown weeds within the school	Is hygiene & Sanitation Education taught in school	Environmental Sanitation Status in Percentage (%)
1	GSS BWARI	5	3	3	4	4	3	3	3	1	1	5	3	3	3	4	4	3	3	4	3	65
2	GDSS BWARI	5	3	4	4	3	3	3	4	3	1	3	4	4	3	4	5	4	3	3	4	70
3	GDSS DUTSE	3	5	3	4	4	2	3	3	4	3	4	4	3	3	2	3	4	4	3	3	67
4	GSS KUBWA	3	4	4	3	1	2	1	1	1	2	3	3	3	1	1	3	3	3	2	2	46
5	GSS SHERE	3	2	3	3	1	3	3	3	4	1	3	2	2	1	3	3	3	1	3	3	50
6	GSS JIBI	3	3	3	4	2	3	3	4	4	1	3	1	1	1	2	4	4	1	3	4	54
7	GSS KAWU	0	1	0	1	0	0	2	0	0	0	0	1	1	1	3	3	3	1	2	2	21
8	GSS MPAPE	3	5	5	3	1	3	4	3	2	1	3	1	1	1	3	3	3	1	3	3	52
9	GSS BYAZHIN	3	4	4	3	3	3	4	3	3	1	3	3	3	3	3	3	3	3	3	3	61
10	GGSS DUTSE	3	3	3	4	4	2	3	3	4	3	3	3	3	4	3	3	3	4	3	3	64
11	GSS DEL-DEI	3	2	2	3	2	2	0	1	1	0	1	3	3	4	2	2	1	3	3	3	43
	Average	3	3	3	3	2	2	3	3	3	1	3	3	3	2	3	3	3	2	3	3	54

Ranking: Excellent (5), Very good (4), good (3), fair (2), poor (1) and very poor (0).

Challenges:

1. Some of the schools are located in hard-to-reach areas which required special vehicles such as Hilux van which GEHI did not have.
2. Some Sanitation Materials desired to be used as models were inadequate due to paucity of fund.
3. Training of field teams was limited to in-house due to lack of fund.

Recommendations:

1. There is need for extension of the project to all the 62 secondary schools and entire primary schools in the FCT.
2. There is need to reward the cleanest schools to serve as motivations for others.
3. There is need for intervention in schools which have no sanitary facilities such as toilet facilities, water supply facilities, etc such as in GSS, Kawu.

Conclusion:

The school sanitation project, 2018 piloted within Bwari Area Council of the FCT was successful and needs to be replicated in the entire FCT and Nigeria.

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Annexes:

This report is accompanied with a re-writeable CD containing pictures and video clips of the events.