BUILDING A HANDWASHING DEVICE CAN HELP TO WASH HANDS AT THE CRITICAL TIMES EVEN WHEN WATER IS SCARCE

follow the easy steps below

TO MAKE A HANDWASHING DEVICE, FIND AN AVAILABLE VESSEL

.... AND A HOLLOW TUBE to make the spout.... …you can use a pen casing, a madewuria, a pawpaw stem …anything that is hollow.

You will also need a sharp knife, a nail, or a screw driver to make a hole in the vessel for the tube.

1. Decide on the design of your handwashing station before you begin working. Will your tippy tap sit, hang, hang and tip?

2. Wash the container and tube so they are free from visible dirt.
3. Heat the knife, nail or screwdriver to make piercing a hole for the tube easier.

4. Make a small hole for inserting the tube. Make it as low on the container as you can, about 2 cm. (two finger widths) from the bottom. Be careful to make it smaller than the tube.

5. Slowly and carefully push the tube into the hole. Be very careful not to push the hole so big that it leaks.

6. Test the water flow

   When using a Highland bottle: Water is delivered when the cap is unscrewed and stops flowing when the cap is tightly shut.

   When using a Jerry can or gourd: Water comes out when the cap on the pen or plug in the tub is removed. If you don’t have the original cap, just find an old stick to ‘plug’ the flow.

Set up the handwashing station:

- Set up the station right by the latrine. Make another near where you cook and eat, if possible!

   After you have tested your handwashing bottle to make sure it functions, “set it up” by hanging it from a string around the neck, or setting it on a stable platform.

- Hang or place an old, shallow can or plastic bowl for soap or ash for washing.

**HOW TO WASH**

1. To wash, wet hands with running water.

2. Rub your hands with the soap or ash for about 30 seconds, about the time it would take to sing the Happy Birthday song.

3. Clean between the fingers, under your fingernails, and up to your wrists to help control germs.

4. It is the soap or ash combined with the scrubbing action that helps dislodge and remove germs.

5. Rinse your hands well with running water (pour from a jog or tap)

6. Dry them in the air to avoid recontamination on a dirty towel.

**IMPORTANT INFORMATION:** You can wash your hands with ‘dirty’ water, and still get clean hands, as long as you POUR it over your hands (no dipping in a bowl!) The soap or ash “lifts” the dirt, and the water then washes off the visible and invisible germs, much like shaking your dried teff to clean off the husk.