The lack of safe WASH facilities at home, school, health care facilities, and other settings exposes women and adolescent girls to health issues and social discrimination disproportionately, especially during menstruation. At school, adolescent girls face additional burden because of the prevalent taboo around menstruation that prevents adolescent girls from receiving education. WASH Acts vol. 8 highlights UNICEF efforts in collaboration with the government and developing partners to empower adolescent girls and women to reach their full potential and achieve greater gender equality.

Summary support:

Improving Menstrual Health and Hygiene for Young Women and Girls
Together with the government, UNICEF supported a national webinar and a series of educational and promotional activities at the provincial level to leverage menstrual health and hygiene (MHH) in school.

Greater Engagement with Private Sector on Hand Hygiene Behavior
Collaborating with MoH, UNICEF organized a Training of Trainer (ToT) to strengthen the private sector’s capacity on hand hygiene behavior change program interventions.

Youth Digital Engagement on Menstrual Health and Hygiene
A U-Report poll and a social media event were conducted to foster wider and stronger engagement with youth on MHH.

AKKOPSI led City Sanitation Summit in Tangerang
UNICEF provided technical support to the AKKOPSI to organize City Sanitation Summit 2022 in Tangerang and participated in two key panel discussions.

High-level WASH Advocacy
UNICEF conducted high-level meetings with district and provincial leaders in South Sulawesi and NTB.

Standardizing Humanitarian Response in WASH Provision During Emergency
Discussions were facilitated by MoSA and UNICEF with stakeholders to establish the standards of humanitarian intervention in providing WASH services during an emergency event.

These achievements are made possible by the generous contributions from various donors. Your continued support will help advance realization of child rights in Indonesia. For more information contact: Kannan Nadar, Chief of WASH (knadar@unicef.org)
Improved Menstrual Health and Hygiene Management for Young Women and Girls

National Webinar to Commemorate Menstrual Hygiene Day 2022

In commemoration of Menstrual Hygiene Day, UNICEF supported the Directorate of Secondary Schools in holding a national webinar on menstrual health and hygiene (MHH) in school through Oky Apps, a period tracker and menstruation education application, via Zoom and YouTube streaming in June 2022 involving speakers from the Ministry of Health, influential girls with disabilities, and public figures. This webinar supported menstrual hygiene management implementation in schools using Oky Apps and benefitted 500 teachers and adolescent girls from 25 districts and cities in Indonesia.

Action to take Menstrual Health and Hygiene to Scale

Collaborating with the Ministry of Religious Affairs (MoRA), UNICEF supported an MHH education utilizing Oky Apps for Madrasah students, organized by the Ministry of Religious Affair. The event was held at a Madrasah in Jakarta and broadcasted through YouTube and Zoom platforms for all Madrasah across Indonesia reaching over 1,000 students. Following the event, Oky Apps was downloaded for use by about 6,800 users in a day.

Education and raising awareness activities on MHH in Aceh, Central Java, East Java, NTT, NTB, and South Sulawesi were also supported by UNICEF in collaboration with the local governments. In Aceh and South Sulawesi, UNICEF engaged educational institutions in a series of events on MHH by using Oky Apps. UNICEF also collaborated with a child forum in South Sulawesi for peer-to-peer learning and training. In NTT, NTB, and East Java, 3 universities played significant roles in educating students through the mandatory community service program and education and training activities were organized for facilitators from the local government to improve their capacity for menstrual hygiene management. These activities benefitted over 500 students from more than 80 schools and over 2,000 university students.

Youth Digital Engagement on Menstrual Health and Hygiene

A U-Report poll conducted to foster wider and stronger engagement with youth on menstrual hygiene issues received more than 7,000 responses. The poll highlighted the source of learning about menstruation where there were 2.7% of respondents did not know about menstruation and 46% learned through the internet or application. These results supported the formulation of strategies to approach youth and to produce effective and efficient activities to leverage menstrual hygiene education, one way is to use Oky Apps more widely. See results in Bahasa and English.

Alongside the U-Report poll, a social media event was conducted to invite the public, especially youth, to create creative content addressing menstrual hygiene issues. The youth took action to raise awareness and educate the public on the significance of MHH through creative content. Over 50 contents with various formats (i.e., photo, short video, and illustration) were submitted and nine contents were awarded U-Report’s merchandise.

Greater Engagement with Private Sector

Hand Washing with Soap Training for Private Sector

Collaborating with MoH, UNICEF organized a 2-days training in August 2022 to strengthen the private sector’s capacity in strengthening hand hygiene behavior intervention through their CSR initiatives. Approximately 30 participants including the members of the Public-Private Partnership for Handwashing with Soap (PPP-HWWS) attended the training and agreed to implement the training guide published by MoH in collaboration with UNICEF in their CSR program.

Technical Assistance - City Sanitation Summit 2022

AKKOPSI (Alliance of Districts/Cities for Sanitation) held a yearly City Sanitation Summit in September 2022 in Tangerang District to address issues in sanitation, build a partnership, and strengthen advocacy efforts for sanitation development in Indonesia where around 500 participants representing districts in Indonesia attended this event. In this event, UNICEF provided technical support to AKKOPSI and participated in two key panel discussions on WASH in Schools and climate resilience. Through UNICEF’s support, WASH in Institutions and climate-resilient WASH are becoming part of AKKOPSI’s agenda going forward.

High Level Advocacy and Program Evaluation

High-level advocacy meetings were conducted with Bupati Pirmang and Bupati Banru in South Sulawesi in August 2022 and with Vice Bupati of Sumbawa Barat and Vice Governor of Nusa Tenggara Barat in September 2022. During the meetings, the district and province leaders committed to accelerating safely managed sanitation provision, strengthening WASH sector coordination, and implementing several national-level initiatives.

WASH in Emergency

Standardizing Humanitarian Response in WASH Provision during Emergency

As WASH Sub-Cluster Coordinator, UNICEF with MoSA facilitated a workshop on the preparation of the WASH Sub-Cluster Intervention Standard in providing WASH services during an emergency event, attended by MoSA, MoPWH, MoH, Bappenas, BNPB, and 12 national NGOs in September 2022. During the workshop, an agreement was reached to apply SPHERE standards during the early emergency response and the national’s Minimum Service Standards during the rehabilitation and reconstruction phase. The implementation of the agreed standards will ensure that impacted people receive uniform and quality WASH services during emergencies.

New UNICEF WASH knowledge products

• WASH in School Factsheet 2022 in Papua

For more information contact: Kannan Nadar, Chief of WASH (knadar@unicef.org)