Handwashing with soap is recognized as one of the most cost-effective interventions to reduce morbidity and mortality associated with enteric and respiratory infections. However, in Indonesia, 50% of people above 10 years old do not wash their hands with soap at critical times. The Government of Indonesia (GOI) is promoting handwashing with soap as part of the national sanitation program. WASH Acts vol. 9 highlights UNICEF’s efforts in partnerships with the government and developing partners in advancing the hand hygiene and sanitation agenda.

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)
GLOBAL HANDWASHING DAY 2022 COMMEMORATION

Strengthening the Government’s Commitment to Eliminate Open Defecation and Make Hand Hygiene Accessible to All

As part of the Global Handwashing Day commemoration, the Minister of Health simultaneously launched the “Hand Hygiene for All” and “Open Defecation Free” roadmaps demonstrating their relevance to the Government’s health and developmental agenda. With the MoH, UNICEF coordinated the development of the aforesaid roadmaps involving wide-ranging consultations with stakeholders at both national and subnational levels.

Hand Hygiene Market Assessment

On the occasion of GHD, the “Hand Hygiene Market Assessment” Report was disseminated and involved private sectors, relevant ministries, and local government. The report provides a deeper understanding of the hand hygiene market comprising hand hygiene products and services in Indonesia. It elaborated on the existing value chain, market gaps and opportunities, customer preferences and behaviors, and offers recommendations to address the last mile challenged and supportive enabling ecosystem needs to enable hand hygiene access for all.

Women Leading HWWS Scaling-up Efforts

A training and discussion session brought together over 300 participants including the Vice Governor of NTB and women organizations in Indonesia, such as Dharma Wanita, Dharma Pertiw, Persit KCK, PIA Ardhya Garini, Jalasenastri, PKK, Muslimat NU, Aisyiyah Muhammadiyah. The interactive session involved sharing best practices in strengthening handwashing with soap and ODF behavior change interventions in communities. UNICEF also supported MoH to formalize the Public-Private Partnerships (PPP) HWWS into a decree and renamed as PPP-STBM to broaden the scope of collaboration to include sanitation.

SCALE-UP ELIMINATION OF OPEN DEFECATION

Advocacy and Horizontal Learning of ODF in Aceh

As a response to the Polio outbreak in Aceh Province, MoH and UNICEF held an advocacy session with representatives from 23 districts in Aceh Province, connected online and offline. The participants committed to following up with the respective Head of District, advocating relevant stakeholders, problem mapping, and formulating recommendations for policymakers to prioritize the provision of WASH, especially the elimination of open defecation and hand hygiene to prevent infectious diseases, including Polio.

Joint Movement to Eliminate Open Defecation in East Java

Through joint advocacy with LPPM UNDIP and Pokja PKP, UNICEF supported the local government of Wonosobo District in developing a game plan that consists of targets and strategies of the District Health Office to eliminate open defecation in 2024. A series of events were carried out, leading to 10 subdistricts committing to develop ODF plans and strategies to eliminate open defecation. Additionally, a participatory-based monitoring system is developed with UNICEF’s support and is presented through a dashboard where the public could participate in the reporting and monitoring of the progress in achieving ODF.

ODF Declaration in NTT, NTB, and Papua

Working together with Pokja PPAS, Pokja AMPL, and Pokja PKP, UNICEF advocated for the local government to accelerate 5 districts in NTT and NTB to become ODF, making NTB the second province in Indonesia to achieve 100% ODF. In addition, 106 villages in Biak Numfor District, Papua Province, were declared ODF emphasizing the district’s commitment to achieving 100% ODF in 2023.

New UNICEF WASH Knowledge Products:

Hand Hygiene Market Assessment Report (Bahasa and English)
ACCELERATION OF SAFELY MANAGED SANITATION PROVISION

Domestic Resource Mobilization for Safely Managed Sanitation

In October 2022, Bappenas and UNICEF conducted an event to socialize domestic resource mobilization and introduce a financial subscription mechanism for accelerating safely managed sanitation in Bekasi City attended by representatives from 12 subdistricts and 56 villages. Through UNICEF’s advocacy, a Mayor’s Instruction on Domestic Wastewater Tariffs is being finalized and will become the legal basis that binds all residents of Bekasi City to pay for tariffs for sustainable desludging service. Moving forward, UNICEF will continue to support the scale-up in other cities and districts to accelerate safely managed sanitation in Indonesia.

Comprehensive Approach to Accelerate Safely Managed Sanitation at the Subnational Level

With Yayasan Aceh Hijau and the Government, UNICEF supported the launch of a public awareness program on safely managed sanitation in Banda Aceh City with great enthusiasm and also involved subsidy for desludging service in January 2023. Sanitation inspection in household settings was also carried out, highlighting only 9 out of 100 households have access to safely managed sanitation, including standardized septic tanks. UNICEF also provided technical assistance, facilitated discussion, and developed standard operating procedures to improve the fecal sludge treatment plant system and management in Sidrap and Pinrang Districts.

EXPANDING PARTNERSHIPS WITH UNIVERSITIES

To achieve SDG 6, collective and collaborative action with academic institutions is required. University students, mainly from Public Health and Environmental Health Faculties were sensitized to the huge opportunities that SDG 6 presents to contribute to and benefit from SDG 6 acceleration which means more investments, jobs, and entrepreneurial opportunities. The workshop was facilitated by Hasanuddin University Makassar and agreed with 13 universities to form a coalition of learning institutions to accelerate sanitation. Furthermore, hand hygiene intervention involving university students from the Faculty of Public Health of Airlangga University Surabaya was implemented with UNICEF’s support, bolstering the behavior change of over 2,500 students and teachers in Surabaya City.

WASH4WORK LANDSCAPE SURVEY LAUNCH

Supporting the Ministry of Manpower, UNICEF disseminated the WASH4Work landscape analysis covering 243 companies in 5 provinces with key line ministries, business associations, and development partners. This analysis provides evidence of the current WASH situation in key industrial and service sectors that helps design WASH interventions to improve WASH conditions in workplaces. Guidance to enable workplace compliance with appropriate WASH facilities to meet minimum safety and sustainability standards is drafted.

LEVERAGING YOUTH ENGAGEMENT TO ADVANCE THE WASH AGENDA

Towards fostering greater youth engagement in addressing WASH challenges, a U-Report poll was carried out on handwashing access and behavior around transportation hubs. 43.1% of the U-Reporters suggested placing more visual signs on hand washing and 30.9% suggested assigning enforcers to remind visitors to do HWWS before the entrance. These findings will be used to inform youth engagement strategies in WASH programs going forward. Results are available in Bahasa and English. Together with the U-Report poll, two social media events were conducted to create creative content to raise awareness and educate the public on the significance of safely managed sanitation and HWWS. Forty submissions in various formats were received and eight content creators were awarded U-Report’s merchandise.

UPCOMING EVENTS:

- **UN 2023 Water Conference in New York:** 22 – 24 March 2023
  UNICEF, along with other UN agencies is organizing this event to develop action agenda for achieving SDG 6 goals. Visit [UN website](https://www.unwater.org) for more information

- **World Water Day:** 22 March 2023
  Visit [UN Water](https://www.unwater.org) for more information