

Plastic folder



Jerry can



The reverse side introduces the hand-washing campaign

Photo of this issue

JICA Tohoku center made plastic folders and mask cases for promoting our handwashing campaign. In the plastic file folder, the logo of JICA Handwashing for health and life campaign is put, as well as illustrations of various handwashing methods such as yellow containers for transporting water in Africa (so-called jerry cans), kettles, and handwashing kits that are prevalent in Africa. Also, on the back of it, the purpose of the hand-washing campaign is stated! In addition, the clear file is made of LIMEX, a new environmentally friendly material, which is also designed to contribute to the SDGs. Currently, due to the spread of COVID-19, distribution opportunities are limited, but we are planning to promote and distribute them to visitors and participants through the JICA desk in each prefecture in Tohoku. We are looking for your handwashing awareness photos!

(Photo by Ms. Tomoko MATSUNAGA, Water Resources Group, Global Environment Department, JICA)



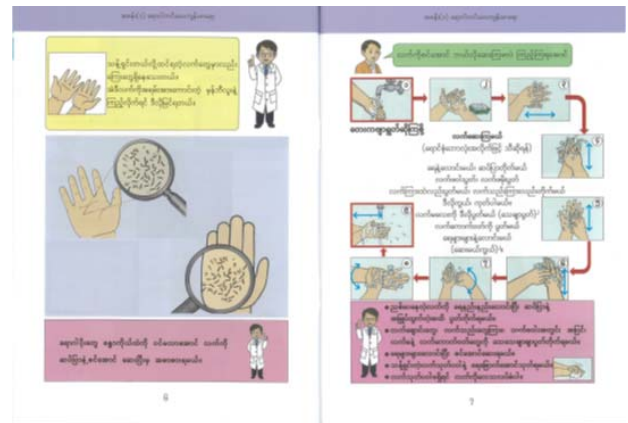
Elementary education in Myanmar

Hand washing is incorporated into the text book!

"The project for curriculum reform at primary level of basic education" in Myanmar supports the development of curriculum, textbooks and teachers' guides in 10 all subjects for all grades (one to five) at the primary level.

Since before the COVID-19 pandemic, the "life skills" textbook for first graders has included a unit on "seiketsu", which includes course content on the importance of handwashing and correct handwashing methods. After the introduction of the new textbook in 2017, 1.3 million first-grade children across the country have learned about handwashing based on this new curriculum and textbook.

Since March 2020, elementary schools have been closed due to the spread of COVID-19 infection, so handwashing activities have been stopped at schools now. On the other hand, as part of the project activities, we are making an [educational video for teachers and parents](#) on how to prevent COVID-19 infection among children, including the promotion of handwashing, which will be aired on TV after school reopens. The video is currently available on the project's Facebook page.



Students in the first grade learn to wash their hands in the "life skills" textbook



< Awareness message for teachers >

"Make sure children wash their hands every time they enter the classroom."



< Awareness message for parents >

"If your child is healthy, send him/her to school. At school, they can learn about handwashing and how to prevent infectious diseases."

(Ms. Yumi Tokuda, Basic Education group, Human Development Department)



Thoughts of former JICA volunteer from Ethiopia's early child education activities

Message from Ms. SAGA



We received feedback from Ms. Chihiro Saga (2nd dispatch in 2017), who was engaged in activities as a member of the [Water Security Action Team](#) in Ethiopia, about the poster making activities of the JOCVs in Ethiopia, which we reported in Handwashing News No.7.

Ms. Saga, who was in charge of maintaining water supply facilities and supporting the improvement of water supply and sanitation in rural areas, started handwashing activities with other JOCVs assigned to kindergartens and elementary schools. They created a picture-story show, teaching materials that allow children to check where bacteria are attached by placing stickers on mock-up paper with hands drawn on it, and a handwashing song. The activities were highly appreciated by local government agencies and aid organizations.

★ You can see more about Ms. Saga's activities through [JICA website](#) and [YouTube](#).

When I was a member of the Japan Overseas Cooperation Volunteers (JOCV), I was involved in handwashing awareness activities, but during the COVID-19 outbreak, I returned to Japan and felt frustrated that I could not do anything to help. At that time, I saw an awareness-raising poster by JOCV, an early childhood teacher, and thought it was a great idea, so I shared it with my former activity partner in Ethiopia. The poster was well received as it was easy to understand with its local language and cute pictures. I also think that it conveys the strong desire of the temporary returnees to do something for the children in Ethiopia from Japan. When I was in Ethiopia, I was worried that even if we did hand-washing activities, they would soon be forgotten. However, when a local NGO contacted me and said, "We are using the hand-washing song to fight against COVID-19!" I was happy to know that my thoughts had been conveyed and

that my activities had been useful, even if only a little.

Although my assignment has finished, I would like to learn from the Early Childhood Education Corps members and continue my efforts to help Ethiopian people from Japan.



Handwashing awareness activity at a kindergarten



Handwashing awareness activity at a NGO



Volunteers re-dispatched to Vietnam made a video to raise awareness of infectious disease prevention

In 2020, from February to April, all JICA Overseas Cooperation Volunteers who had been dispatched around the world had to temporarily return to Japan. About half a year later, in November 2020, we were finally able to re-dispatch volunteers to some countries, and Vietnam became the first country to do so.

The re-dispatched members immediately decided to do what they could and with the cooperation of the JICA Vietnam Office, they made a [video to raise awareness about the prevention of infectious diseases](#), and the video is now available on the JICA Vietnam Office Facebook.

The video includes a hand-washing dance to the song "Ghen Co Vy" by the Ministry of Health of Vietnam, as well as the "5K" for infection prevention in Vietnamese.

We would like to take this opportunity to introduce you to some of the volunteers who have produced and released awareness raising videos while in Japan. If there is a video from a country that you are connected to through your work, please watch it and help us spread the word about our activities through various opportunities.



Frames from the video produced by volunteers in Vietnam



Cameroon

[「Laver les mains」 \(French\)](#)



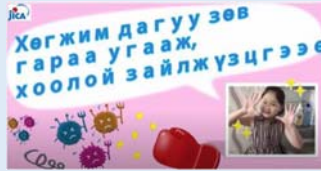
Cambodia

[「លាងដៃ \(Handwashing\)」 \(Khmer\)](#)

• [JICA website topics \(Japanese\)](#)



Egypt
[「How do we wash our hands?」](#)
(Arabic)



Mongolia
[「Хөгжим дагуу зөв гараа угааж, хоолой зайлжүзгээе」](#) (Mongolian)



Central and South America (several countries)
[「WASH YOUR HANDS TOGETHER」](#)

In addition to the videos, other deliverables are also introduced on the [JICA Platform for the introduction of hygiene awareness tools](#). Please take a look and make use of them.

(Ms. Chie Yoshizu, Secretariat of Japan Overseas Cooperation Volunteer)



Introduction of organizations and companies registered on the platform

In this second part of the series, we introduce KOKEN BORING MACHINE Co., LTD

KOKEN BORING MACHINE CO., LTD.



◎Company Information

We are a leading manufacturer of drilling machinery, offering also drilling services for underground development. We have been engaged in ODA water supply projects for years, and in Africa alone we have experience in drilling more than 3,300 wells.



◎Handwashing activity

Even if wells are dug with Japanese aid, unless the hand pumps are properly maintained and managed, they will eventually break down and be abandoned. Therefore, our company aims to create a sustainable water supply facility by establishing a water supply system using electronic money, which will enable assured fee collection. In the future, we also plan to distribute information on hygiene to the users of this service message and SNS. With the support of JICA's Program for Supporting SDGs Business and Japanese SMEs, we will proceed with the project and do our best to eliminate the situation of "no water to wash hands".

◎Website

Company website
<https://www.koken-boring.co.jp/en/>

◎Contact

Moriyama (Mr.), Engineering Department,
KOKEN BORING MACHINE CO.,LTD.
TEL:03-6907-7513
Mail:moriyama-k@koken-boring.co.jp

We will hold an **online seminar on JICA Handwashing for health and life campaign on February 19, 2021**. All are welcome to attend!!

For participation and inquiries, please contact the Handwashing campaign secretariat below.



by INOUE Kimidori

We are always looking for articles, photos, information, etc. that you would like to post or share in this newsletter. Please contact the secretariat below for (1) requests to subscribe/unsubscribe, (2) requests to publish articles, (3) problems with the display of this newsletter, or (4) any questions, requests, or feedback.

Global Environment Department JICA Handwashing for health and life campaign secretariat

Website https://www.jica.go.jp/english/our_work/thematic_issues/water/handwashing/index.html

Handwashing@jica.go.jp

