



**Photo of this issue**

JICA provided liquid soap, pedal assisted handwashing facilities and water purification units to 8 villages through “The project for Operation and Maintenance of Rural Water Supply & Improved Hygiene & Sanitation” in Uganda. The support is intended to ensure the functionality of water supply infrastructure in rural areas and promote handwashing which is a key to prevent the spread of COVID-19. The photo shows that the Permanent Secretary of the Ministry of Water and Environment, Mr. Alfred Okot Okidi, testing a pedal assisted handwashing facility at the handover ceremony. We are looking for your handwashing awareness photos!

(Photo by JICA Uganda Office)



**Contributed by national staff of JICA Mongolia Office**

## Protecting the health of waste disposal workers and preventing the spread of COVID-19 through handwashing

From July to September 2020, training on proper waste management in the COVID-19 pandemic was conducted for waste disposal workers (garbage collectors and landfill staff) in Ulaanbaatar City in Mongolia. The need for the training was identified as there is a risk of infection in the general waste from households and business activities as well as in infectious disease centers and isolation facilities.

The training included not only proper waste disposal, but also instruction on how to wash and disinfect hands after work in terms of hygiene management. The training and practice were integrated, and the participants responded positively to the training, saying it was easy to understand. Furthermore, as requested by the City, we created videos and posters to educate the public about infectious diseases, including the importance of handwashing, and posted them on buses in the City and on the City Hall website.

In Mongolia, lockdown measures are currently in place due to the confirmation of the citywide outbreak of COVID-19, but waste is still being generated daily and the participants continue to work in the field. We hope strongly that the knowledge gained from this training will be fully utilized to ensure safe disposal of waste, then infections are kept to minimum.



Posters for the public and businesses



Teaching people how to properly wash their hands and wear a mask



Teaching waste collection workers how to properly wear a mask and gloves



Seminar to garbage collectors

Note: In Ulaanbaatar City, as of August 19, 2020, when the training was conducted, the number of COVID-19 cases returning from abroad was 298, but there were no infected cases in the city.

(Ms. Munkhmanlai Chinbat, JICA Mongolia Office)



Since September 2020, JICA Global Environment Department has been offering lending handwashing checker which you can check whether you have washed your hands properly within JICA. JICA Hokuriku Center reports on the use of the kit in this article.



Staff of JICA Hokuriku and the handwashing checker



A visitor using the handwashing checker

We at the JICA Hokuriku Center tried out the handwashing checker when we found the information from “JICA handwashing for health and life campaign” secretariat, which was posted on the JICA internal website on September 7. The initial purpose of using the handwashing checker was to raise awareness of handwashing for our health management in the Hokuriku Center. However, having used it, we decided to make it available to visitors, so we set it up at the entrance of the Hokuriku Center and announced it on our Facebook ([click here for more information](#))!

Although the number of visitors is currently low due to the impact of COVID-19, this experiment provided an opportunity to talk about "JICA Handwashing for health and life campaign" with visitors who tried the handwashing checker. There were different kind of reactions from those who used the handwashing checker. Some people noticed unexpected leftover as a result of washing their hands as usual, and others found that they could wash their hands very cleanly after following the handwashing methods introduced in the posters. Using the washing checker gave us opportunities to realize necessity to improve the way of washing our hands or to notice being conducted proper hand washing.

Now that winter has arrived, we are worried about infectious diseases other than COVID-19 are also a concern. We would like to start our activities from close to us at the JICA Hokuriku Center in order for visitors to understand about JICA's works through thinking about their own health.

(Ms. Shoko Kai, JICA Hokuriku Center)

Note: The handwashing checker is available for lending within JICA, please contact the Handwashing campaign secretariat ([handwashing@jica.go.jp](mailto:handwashing@jica.go.jp)).

### Let's find out! / Let's post it!

The poster of “Correct Handwashing” by INOUE Kimidori is displayed in various places in the JICA Headquarters. Look around and pay attention to the posters. You may find it in places you usually pass by. Why don't you display the poster in your own surroundings and start handwashing awareness activities?

Download the “Correct Handwashing” by INOUE Kimidori [here](#) ↓↓

[https://www.jica.go.jp/english/our\\_work/thematic\\_issues/water/handwashing/handwashing\\_manga.html](https://www.jica.go.jp/english/our_work/thematic_issues/water/handwashing/handwashing_manga.html)

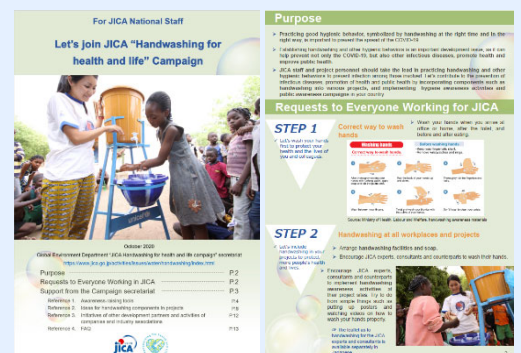
The “Correct Handwashing” has been translated into 24 languages as of December 1, 2020 (including in-progress translation). Please contact the secretariat ([handwashing@jica.go.jp](mailto:handwashing@jica.go.jp)) for a copy.

**Languages available:** English, French, Spanish, Cambodian, Tetum, Swahili, Sinhalese, Tamil, Madagascar, Pidgin, Thai, Amharic, Arabic, Russian, Kyrgyz, Hislama, Divehin, Hindi, Bengali, Nepali, Mongolian, Dari, Indonesian, Ukrainian



Hand-washing poster on the door of the office at JICA Headquarters (above)

### Leaflet for JICA national staff



Handwashing leaflet for JICA national staff is now available. The leaflet contains handwashing awareness tools and ideas for handwashing activities. Please make use of it for local activities.

Note: For more information, please see the announcement on December 2 from the handwashing campaign secretariat on JICA internal website.

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

[Handwashing@jica.go.jp](mailto:Handwashing@jica.go.jp)

