



A handkerchief printed with "Correct Handwashing" prepared by the JICA Philippines office (left) and the national staff of the office

Photo of this issue

JICA, in collaboration with a professional baseball team, the Yomiuri Giants, held an online baseball class for about 300 youths in Mindanao, the Philippines, on February 10, 2021, during which they raised awareness of infectious disease countermeasures, including hand washing.

It has been reported that both parents and children in the country are under stress as all school lessons are conducted online. In this event, exercises and baseball practices that are useful for physical and mental health were introduced, and the participating youths were encouraged through a Q&A session, and the national staff of JICA Philippines Office called for countermeasures against infectious diseases. They played a video showing their own performance to show how to wash hands, and will distribute handkerchiefs printed with the "Correct handwashing" by INOUE Kimidori.

(Photo by JICA Southeast Asia and Pacific Department)



Egypt

Spreading Japanese style handwashing and gargling to Egyptian children

43 new "Egypt-Japan Schools" have been opened across the country in Egypt. One of the main features of these schools is the introduction of Japanese-style class meetings, handwashing instruction, cleaning, etc., with the aim of developing children's independence, cooperation, social skills, and discipline.

The JICA Egypt Office launched the "COVID-19 prevention and awareness activities through Value in Life Activities" program in November 2020, entrusting the work to an NGO, in which Egyptians teach the above-mentioned concepts, which are common in Japan, to children in Egypt widely.

One hundred youths who gather at "Youth Centers", which are multipurpose centers that conduct programs for the cultural and physical development of young people in Egypt, will be the leaders of awareness-raising activities to spread the Japanese style handwashing and gargling to children in elementary schools and nursery schools in various regions to prevent COVID-19.

The program will last until August 2021. Approximately 1,500 children will be directly targeted, but the concept will be widely disseminated to the Egyptian public through TV commercials, posters, social media and other PR campaigns. We are also looking forward to seeing the growth of the 100 young people who are currently being recruited as leaders.



JOCV has also been contributing to the introduction of "Tokkatsu"



Handwashing is a common practice in Egyptian and Japanese schools.



Orientation sessions are being held at youth centers around the country.



Recruitment of youth leaders is also underway.

(Ms. Hiromi SATO, JICA Egypt Office)

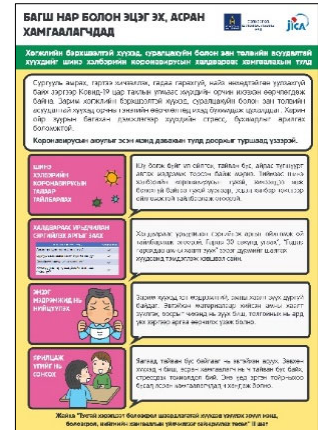


"The project for strengthening teachers' ability and reasonable treatments for children with disability phase 2" in Mongolia is working towards the realization of an education in which both children with and without disabilities can learn together.

Mongolian government has taken measures to prevent the spread of COVID-19 by closing schools even before the first cases were confirmed in the country. As of February 2021, the total number of infected people has been kept below 23,000. The children have been learning for a long time by watching TV lessons broadcasted by the Ministry of Education and Science through several TV stations, and face-to-face lessons are scheduled to resume in March 2021. In light of this situation, the project produced an animation video based on "Correct handwashing" by INOUE Kimidori and a poster summarizing the precautions for preventing infection with the COVID-19.



Poster outlining precautions for preventing infection at school and at home



Poster summarizing how to prevent infection in children with disabilities and learning and behavioral challenges



Animation video "Let's wash our hands together"

The animation includes a child in a wheelchair and a sign language interpreter. The content of the handwashing method is also adapted to the Mongolian situation.

We tried to make the video easy to understand for children with disabilities. For children who cannot see, we took care to make sure that they can understand the audio only, and for those who cannot hear, we showed the dialogues in letters and provided sign language interpreters. In addition, to make it easier for children who have difficulty in understanding to understand, the hand-washing scene has been visualized step by step. This video has been posted on the websites of the Ministry of Education and Science and other related organizations, and has also been broadcasted on local TV stations. Posters are distributed online through social media so that everyone can easily access them even during the lockdown.

YouTube "Let's wash our hands together"

- <https://youtu.be/Yzbcy4cncwM>
- <https://youtu.be/ZSRbEPdCa7Q> (with sign language)

In preparation for the restart of face-to-face classes in early March, JICA plans to provide disinfectant solution and sprayers to approximately 2,000 public kindergartens, schools, and dormitories nationwide in Mongolia to support their initiatives.

We will continue to work together with the people of Mongolia for the healthy learning of Mongolian children.

< Details are also made to Mongolian specifications. >



Food



Boy's clothing and animal (cow to horse)

Ms. Sayaka SUZUKI, The project for strengthening teachers' ability and reasonable treatments for children with disability phase 2, Ms. Eri FUJITA, JICA Mongolia Office

In this fourth part of the series, we introduce Earth and Human Corporation.

Earth and Human Corporation (EHC)

◎Company Information

We provide consulting services in the fields of water, environment, community development, education, and health, with emphasis on the "perspective of local residents" mainly in the French-speaking West African region. We aim to create a comfortable living environment where people are engaged in improving society in order to realize the future where children can live on the earth with fertile mind and ground.

The field of service: water and sanitation, environment and climate change, poverty reduction, education, health and medical care, agriculture and rural development

◎Handwashing activity

Hygiene Awareness Activities through JICA Projects

We are working on handwashing awareness through the activities of JICA projects. In Burkina Faso, we worked on hygiene awareness activities for communities, including handwashing awareness. Also, in the Project for strengthening capacity of community health insurance system in Senegal, we encouraged the prevention of COVID-19 infection, including handwashing, through community broadcasting in collaboration with health districts in the target regions. In Senegal, the Agriculture and Nutrition Information Collection Survey examined and compiled data from the Demographic and Health Survey (DHS) on handwashing conditions in households, including the availability of handwashing stations and soap.

JICA projects to promote hand washing by EHC :

Burkina Faso: Project for enhancement of water supply facilities management and hygiene and sanitation in rural areas (Phase 1&2), **Senegal :** Project for strengthening capacity of community health insurance system and free health care initiatives, **Ethiopia :** The project for strengthening capacity for training operation and management for Ethiopian Water Technology Institute



Encouraging Counterpart Institutions to Promote Handwashing

In Ethiopia, we are supporting JICA's counterpart organization (EWTI) to promote hand washing. In addition to the production of foot pedal hand washing stations for public places and the production and distribution of hand sanitizer for medical institutions, we are also working with LIXIL Corporation to distribute their handwashing solution (SATO Taps).

◎Website

<https://sites.google.com/a/ehcjp.com/ehcho-me-en/>

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◆ JICA Handwashing for health and life platform held a seminar! ◆

JICA's Handwashing for health and life campaign platform held the "Seminar on progress of handwashing campaign and introduction of member groups" on February 19, 2021. About 100 people participated in this first seminar.

Dr. Eri SUGITA, Associate Professor, Graduate School of Human Sciences, Osaka University, gave the keynote speech at the seminar, and the platform member groups gave presentations on their handwashing activities. We appreciate all the presentations. Further information on this seminar will be introduced in the next issue of the newsletter. We hope to hold seminars on this platform regularly in the future. If you have any topics that you would like to be discussed in the seminar, please feel free to contact us (Handwashin@jica.go.jp).



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

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