



Supportive Environments for Healthy Communities

Issue 23 September 2, 2011 | Focus on WASH for the Disabled

In response to an information request, WASHplus compiled the resources in this issue of the *Weekly* and added additional information on water, sanitation and hygiene (WASH) for the disabled. Please contact WASHplus if you have information or contacts on this topic to share. The resources below include case studies from Madagascar, Nepal, Ethiopia and Bangladesh. The needs of disabled people are consistently overlooked when it comes to providing WASH services. This has severe consequences for the health, dignity, education and employment of disabled people and their caregivers.

REPORTS

- **Accessibility Diagnostic: Reviewing the Accessibility of WASH Facilities in Madagascar**, 2010. WaterAid. ([English](#)) ([French](#))

This briefing note is based on the guidelines provided by Handicap International, engineers and technicians from WaterAid and partners who carried out modifications to incorporate accessibility standards to the hardware plans used by WaterAid in Madagascar. Each partner then used these new plans to construct accessible public infrastructures.

- **Creating User-friendly Water and Sanitation Services for the Disabled: The Experience of WaterAid Nepal and Its Partners**, n.d. A. Pradhan, WaterAid. ([Full-text](#))

Traditional attempts to increase coverage of basic services such as water and sanitation have marginalized or excluded the needs of disabled people. This is despite the fact that some 10% of the Nepali population, including one in six poor people, can be considered to have some kind of impairment. This paper reviews the social, technical, financial and policy barriers to meeting the needs of disabled people.

- **Inclusive Design of School Latrines: How Much Does It Cost and Who Benefits?** 2011. WEDC. ([Full-text](#))

Children with disabilities are recognized as one of the groups least likely to be enrolled in school. Many of these children could participate in education if the school

environment was accessible and proper sanitation facilities were provided.

- **Including Disabled People in Sanitation and Hygiene Services**, 2011.G.

Collender, SHARE. ([Full-text](#))

In March 2011, the SHARE consortium, WaterAid and the Leonard Cheshire Disability and Inclusive Development Centre (LCD) brought together 22 researchers and policy-makers with expertise in water, sanitation and hygiene, equity, inclusion, and disability to share knowledge and experiences, and develop a research program for disabled access to sanitation and hygiene services. This briefing note explores these issues and suggests how more and better research could influence policy and improve programs.

- **Making Sustainable Sanitation Inclusive for Persons with Disabilities:**

Factsheet, 2011. GTZ. ([Full-text](#))

This factsheet describes the challenges, scale of the problem, background, and barriers that stop people with disabilities from accessing sanitation facilities, as well as an approach to sanitation system planning, technical adjustments for accessible toilets and additional costs. It also gives one example for an innovative accessible dry toilet, the bench urine diversion dehydration toilet.

- **Principles and Practices for Inclusive Sanitation: A Case Study from Ethiopia**,

2010. WaterAid. ([Full-text](#))

This briefing note gives an overview of an evaluation of WaterAid's pilot project to construct toilets and showers for disabled people in Ethiopia. It also draws out key principles and practices for organizations aiming to empower disabled people.

WEBSITES

- **Disabled Access to Water and Sanitation Facilities**, WaterSanitationHygiene.org

Forum. ([Link to website](#))

This annotated listing has links to USAID accessibility guidelines as well as other resources.

- **Disabilities and WASH**, Water Supply and Sanitation Collaborative Council (WSSCC).

([Link to website](#))

Links to reports by WSSCC and other organizations.

- **Resources on WASH and Disabled People**, WaterAid. ([Link to website](#))

This page has links to WaterAid country reports and Briefing Notes on WASH and accessibility issues.

- **Who Cares?** WaterAid. ([Link to video](#))

This video gives an insight into how water, sanitation and hygiene facilities are adapted for differently-abled people in Bangladesh.

Each *WASHplus Weekly* will highlight topics such as Urban WASH, Indoor Air Quality, Innovation, Household Water Treatment and Storage, Handwashing, Integration and more. If you would like to feature your organization's materials in upcoming issues, please send them to Dan Campbell, WASHplus knowledge resources specialist, at dacampbell@fhi360.org.



About WASHplus - WASHplus, a five-year project funded through USAID's Bureau for Global Health, creates supportive environments for healthy households and communities by delivering high-impact interventions in water, sanitation, hygiene (WASH) and indoor air quality (IAQ). WASHplus uses proven, at-scale interventions to reduce diarrheal diseases and acute respiratory infections, the two top killers of children under five years of age globally. For information, visit www.washplus.org or contact: washplus@aed.org.

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