

Hand Hygiene Clubs (HHCs) as an Opportunity for Improving Water, Sanitation, and Hygiene (WASH) Among School Children in Ilaje Community, Lagos Nigeria.

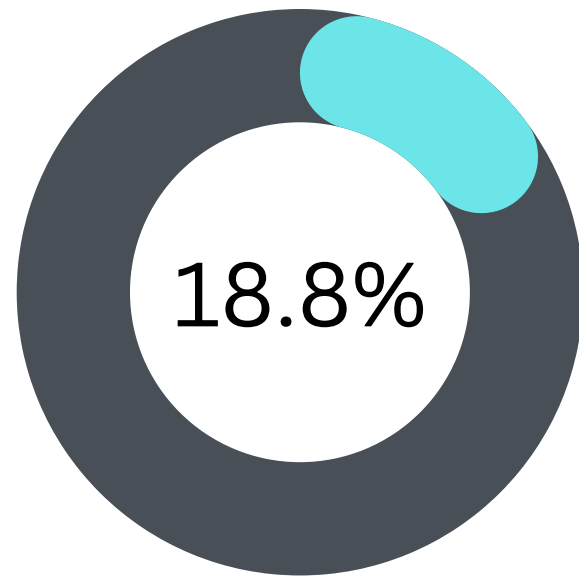
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OUTLINE

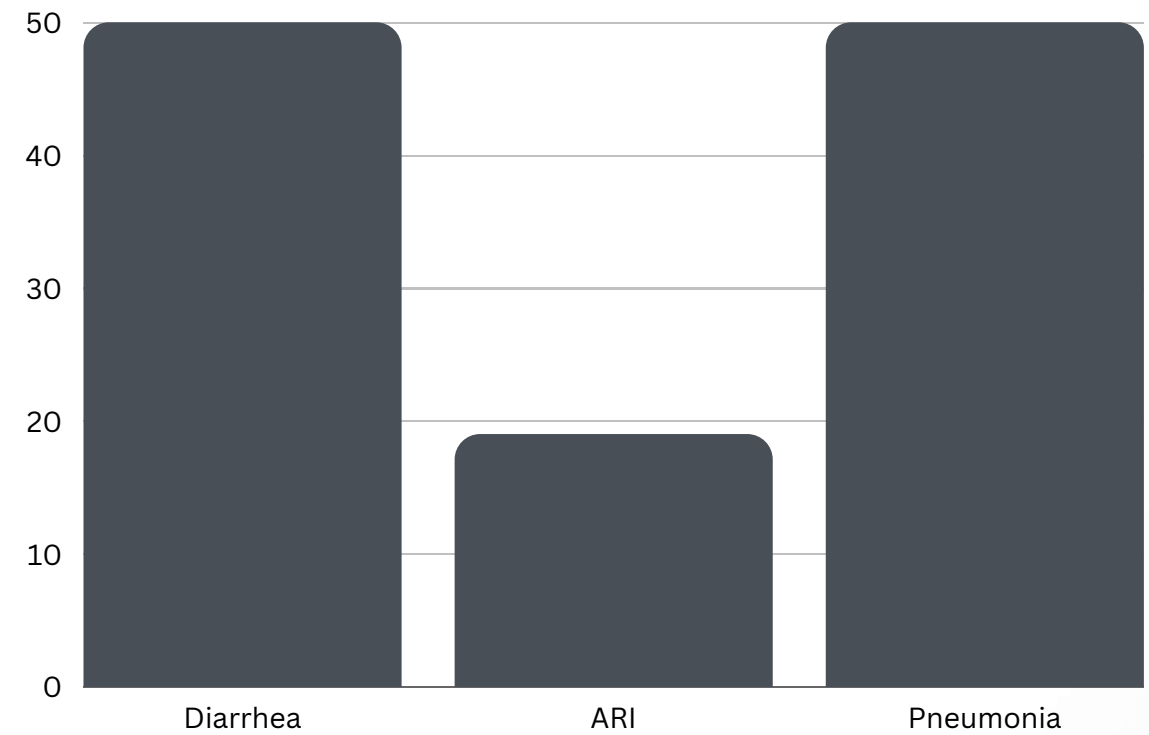
- Rationale
- Hypothesis
- Background
- Community Health Club (CHC) Model
- Behavior Change Theory
- Formative Research
- Hand Hygiene Clubs
- HHCs Activities
- Monitoring and Evaluation
- Limitations
- Conclusions

RATIONALE

- Poor WASH practices lead to the spread of endemic infectious diseases among schoolchildren.
- Children have immature immune systems and lack knowledge of hygiene practices.



Percentage of Diarrhea-related deaths among children in Lagos, Nigeria



Percentage of infectious diseases that can be reduced through hand washing

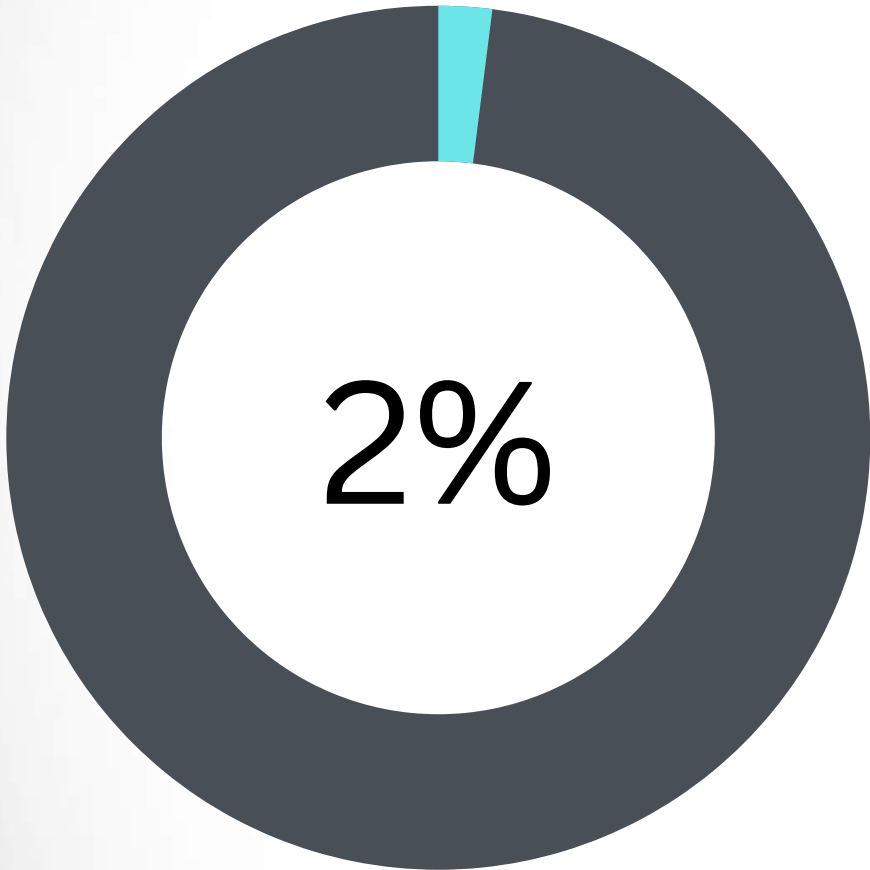
HYPOTHESIS

- Hand hygiene clubs (HHCs) can create awareness and promote good hygiene practices among school children, leading to a reduction in infectious diseases and lower mortality rates among schoolchildren in Lagos, Nigeria.



Fig 1: Raised hands of African school children by Claudiad from getty Images

BACKGROUND



Percentage of Ilaje people in Lagos, Nigeria

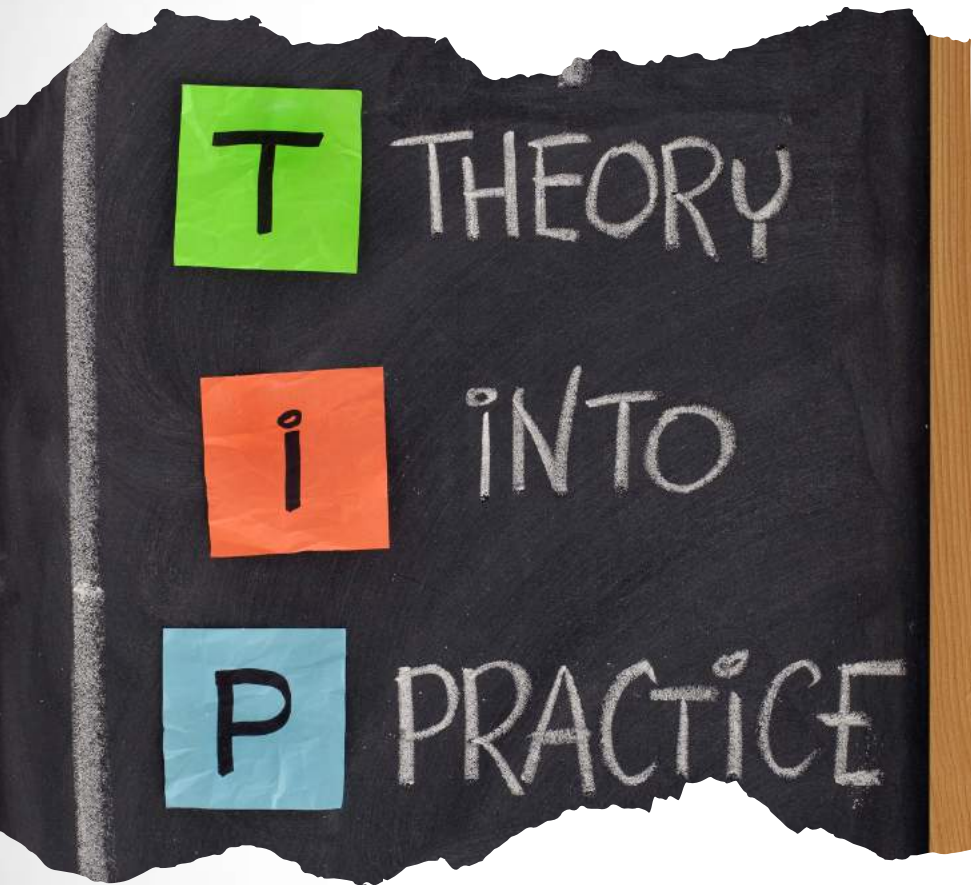
- Ilaje is a coastal community in Lagos, Nigeria with around 200,000 people.
- WASH in schools is critical for promoting health, preventing absenteeism, and improving academic performance.

COMMUNITY HEALTH CLUB MODEL

- A community-based approach to improving hygiene, sanitation, and health behaviors.
- Emphasizes;
 - Participatory methods
 - Peer support
 - Community ownership
- Successfully implemented in Malawi, Rwanda, and Zimbabwe,



Fig 2: School children in Nigeria making a web with yarn during a club activity. Personal image used with permission.



BEHAVIOR CHANGE THEORY

- Helps to understand the factors that influence individual behavior
 - Knowledge attitude and practices (KAP)
 - Social norms
 - Cultural barriers
- Develop effective strategies for behavior change

Fig 3: TIP - theory into practice concept, colorful reminder notes and white chalk handwriting on blackboard by Marekulasz from Getty Images

FORMATIVE RESEARCH

- Assess current KAP
- Identify perceived barriers
- Explore the role of social norms and peer influence
- Assess the availability and accessibility of WASH facilities
- Identify the potential role of community stakeholders



- Develop an evidence-based curriculum
- Incorporate interactive and engaging activities
- Address the perceived barriers
- Involve teachers, parents, and community stakeholders
- Monitor and evaluate the effectiveness of HHCs

HAND HYGIENE CLUBS (HHCs)

- Hand Hygiene Clubs (HHCs) are student-led clubs that teach and model good hygiene practices
 - Handwashing
 - Visual aids
 - Interactive activities.
- Reduce the incidence of infectious diseases
- Improve the health and well-being of students and staff
- Promote a culture of hand hygiene in schools



Fig 4: School children in Nigeria during a club activity. Personal image used with permission.



Fig 5: School children in Nigeria washing hands. Personal image used with permission.

HHCs ACTIVITIES

- Handwashing demonstrations
- Handwashing games
- Hand hygiene competitions
- Peer-to-peer education
- Cleanliness drives

MONITORING AND EVALUATION

- Systematic data collection (pre, during, and post-intervention)
- Track progress through data visualization
- Assess effectiveness
- Identify improvement areas

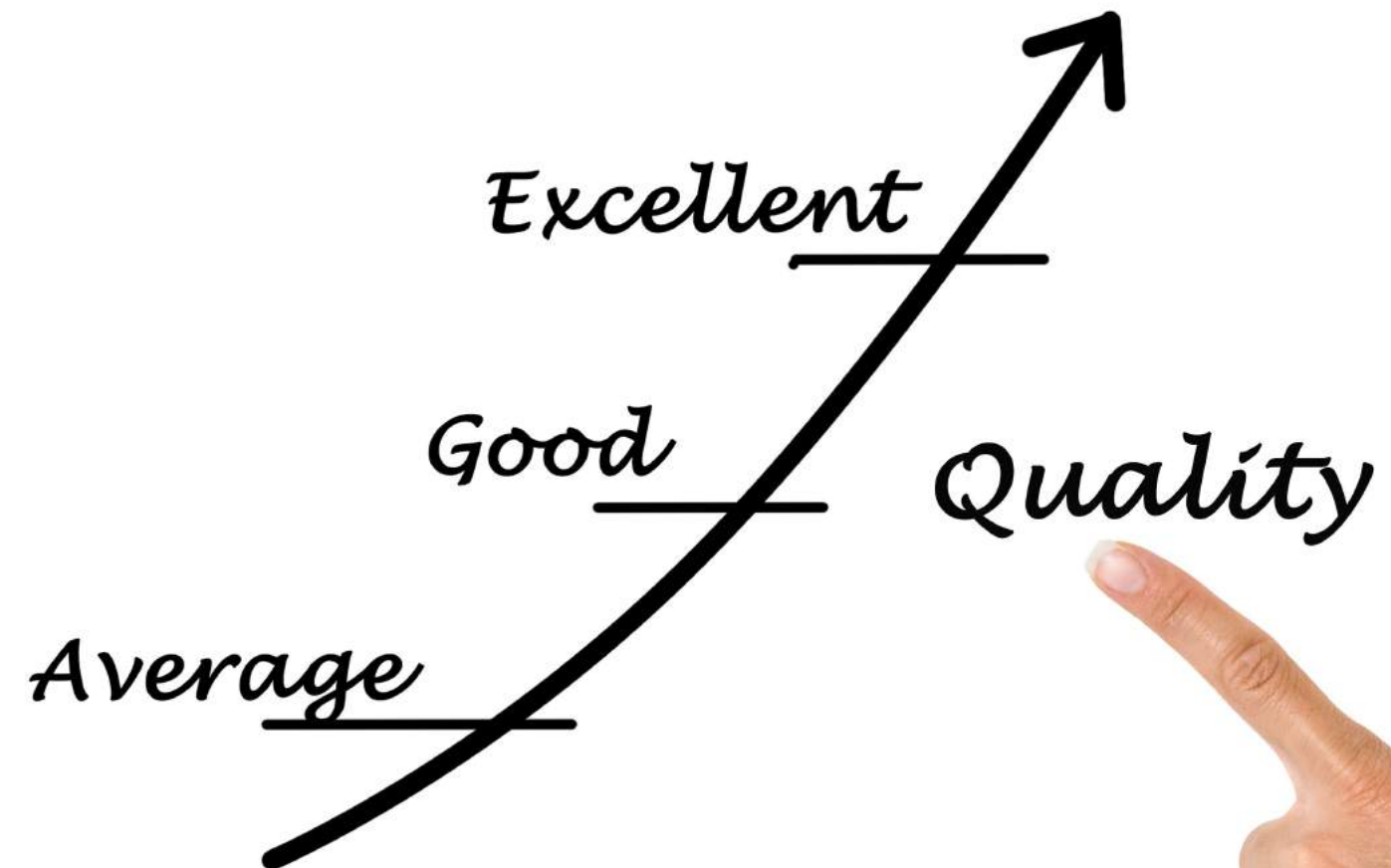


Fig 6: Evaluation by vaeenma from Getty Images

LIMITATIONS

- Inadequate resources
- Cultural barriers
- Lack of sustained behavior change
- Hawthorne effect
- Selection bias
- Data quality



Fig 7: Kid washing hands by Jackmac34 from pixabay

CONCLUSION

HHCs present a promising approach to improving WASH practices among school children in the Ilaje Community of Lagos, Nigeria, and other developing countries.

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