



# Integrating Water Sanitation and Hygiene into HIV Home-Based Care Programs in Ethiopia

Results from the Trials of Improved Practices Eleonore Seumo and Mesfin Tesfay USAID/Hygiene Improvement Program Academy for Educational Development October 2008

### Why Water, Sanitation, and Hygiene (WASH) Matter for PLWHA

- Most diarrhea is caused by unsafe water, inadequate sanitation and poor hygiene
- Diarrhea affects 90% of people living with HIV/AIDS (PLWHA), causing significant morbidity and mortality
- Morbidity and mortality from diarrhea is more severe in HIV+ children
- Diarrheal disease reduces absorption of antiretrovirals
- Burden on caregivers in clinics and homes
- PLWHA need more water to keep environment clean

### **The Evidence Base for WASH**

- Hygiene improvement can reduce risk of diarrhea disease (DD) in the general population
- Hand washing with soap can reduce DD by 43%
- Safe water treatment and storage at the point of use can reduce DD by 30%-50%
- Proper disposal of feces can reduce DD by 30% or more

# **USAID/HIP Program**

- 5-year program (2004-2009)
- At-scale hygiene activities in Ethiopia & Madagascar
- Integrate WASH into other health and non-health platforms
- Collaborate with NGOs
- Share knowledge of successful approaches

# **USAID/HIP in Ethiopia**

- Promote water, sanitation and hygiene actions at scale in Amhara with Water and Sanitation Program/World Bank/AF, Amhara Regional Health Bureau and wide coalition of partners using "Learning by Doing" model
- Integrate safe water, hygiene and feces management into HIV/AIDS home-based care programs with PSI/Abt's PEPFAR/safe water pilot work in Amhara
- Develop WASH guidance and tools for HIV care and support programs with Community of Practice

### Integrating WASH into HIV Care and Support

#### **USAID/HIP with PSI and Abt**

- Pilot to integrate WASH into home-based care for PLWHA in Amhara, Ethiopia, with HIP/PSI/Abt
- Training and capacity building for home-based care workers

#### **USAID/HIP with Community of Practice**

- Community of practice around HIV/AIDS and hygiene
- Trials of Improved Practices to: 1) identify good practices and 2) identify practices to be improved and negotiate options with PLWHA and/or caregivers
- Developing programming guidance and tools
- Designing Kit for integrating WASH into HIV programs

# **Community of Practice (COP)**

- COP members have homebased care (HBC) programs in Ethiopia
- Interested in integrating WASH activities into HBC

#### COP Members include:

#### Active members

- Catholic Relief Services
- Save the Children

#### Past and Future involvement

- Christian Children's Fund
- > CARE
- > FHI
- > PSI
- > Others



# **Small Doable Action (SDA)- Definition**

- A behavior that, when practiced consistently and correctly, will lead to household and public health improvement
- Developed from <u>household</u> (audience) point of view
- Considered feasible
  - considering current practice,
  - available resources, and
  - particular social context
- While the behavior often falls short of an "ideal practice",
  - more likely to be adopted by a broader number of households
  - Is measured for effectiveness... still makes a difference, and will be practiced by more people

### **Small Doable Actions**

- COP members identified WASH SDAs to integrate into home-based care programs
- Three areas still needing definition examined in the TIPs
  - \* Feces management
  - \* Water management
  - \* Hygiene practices during menstruation
- COP program members tested the feasibility of these actions through TIPS

# What Do Trials of Improved Practice Do?



 Fill gaps in understanding what people are doing and what they are willing to do

- Examine current WASH practices of people in different settings (rural/urban)
- Explore the feasibility of improving practices in promoting safe drinking water and feces management
- Ask questions about areas for which no information is currently available (e.g., management of menstruation)

# **TIPs Objectives**

- Identify current WASH practices
- Test the acceptability and feasibility of the small doable actions
- Identify perceived barriers/constraints and suggest changes
- Identify the perceived motivations/benefits

# **TIPs Sites/Oromo Region**

Sites	Settings	Participants
Adama	Urban	13
Addis	Urban	11
Alem Tena	Urban/Rural	20
Wonji	Peri-urban/Rural	18



#### **Urban Characteristics**

High pop density Home renters Shared latrine/fees Daily laborers



#### **Rural Characteristics**

Low pop. density Homeowners Space for latrine Farmers

## **TIPs Structure**

#### 1<sup>st</sup> week visits

#### 1<sup>st</sup> visit (Day 1)

- Identify participants and practices
- Choose improved practice to be tried

2<sup>nd</sup> visit (Day 3)

 Identify constraints and negotiate solutions

#### 3-week follow up visit

- Identify benefits/motivations
- Identify barriers
- Suggest/negotiate solutions

#### 6-week follow up visit:

- Identify practice adopted
- Suggest changes for feasibility and wider uptake



### **Data Collection**

- 11 data collectors attended a three-day TIPs training
- Team of one researcher and one HBC worker conducted TIPs with participants
- Data collectors were program officers and HBC supervisors from COP HBC programs
- Information collected June-August 2008



# **Characteristics of 62 Participants**

#### Age

- 50% under age 30
- 30% 30-40
- 20% over 40

#### Gender

- 82% women
- 17% men

#### **Marital Status**

- 30% married
- 30% divorced
- 40% widowed

#### Setting

- 50% peri-urban
- 40% urban
- 10% rural



#### **Home Ownership**

- 60% rented home
- 100% in rural areas owned home

### **Practices Tested**



- 50% tested water management practices
- 50% tested feces management practices
- Current practices regarding menstruation good; no improvement needed

### Water Management

#### **Practices to be Improved**

- Drinking water not treated
- Drinking water container uncovered most of the time
- Uncovered and unclean jug used to pour water from the jerry can
- Hands of the person collecting the water often in contact with water
- Drinking water container within reach of children and animals





## Water Management

#### **Small Doable Actions Tried**

- Treat drinking water with bleach/chlorine solution
- Store water in a covered 20-liter narrow neck covered jerry can
- Pour water from jerry can into clean cup or into clean pitcher
- Wash cup or pitcher every day
- Store cup upside down on clean shelf or tray
- Keep jerry can out of reach of children and animals





### Water Management

#### **Perceived Benefits**

- 20 liter jerry can convenient, safe, treatment easy, no access for children
- Treated water tastes good; is healthy
- Water is not wasted
- Glass protected from contamination
- Can see dirty glass better than dirty pitcher

# Water Management Barriers and Solutions

#### **Barriers**

- 20-liter narrow necked jerry can not affordable
- Loss of cover
- Access and availability of jug with cover
- Limited access to Wuha agar (Addis)
- Soap is not always affordable

#### **Solutions**

- Adapt Wuha agar measure to jerry can volume at home
- Involve in income generating activity to
  - enable 20-liter jerry can purchase
  - increase access to jug with cover
  - increase access to soap
- Teach to attach jerry can/jug cover with a string



### Recommended Small Doable Actions (From Oromia and Amhara TIPs)

- Reserve and use a 20 liter jerry can or clay pot (ensara) with a proper cover attached for drinking water.
- Treat drinking water contained in the 20 liter jerry can or clay pot (ensara) with Wuha agar
- Bend and pour water from jerry can or clay pot into a clean cup or glass or jug
- When pouring don't put hands in the water

# Recommended Small Doable Actions, cont'd (From Oromia and Amhara TIPs)

- Store cup/glass upside down on clean shelf or tray
- Keep the 20-liter jerry can or clay pot (ensara) and pitcher covered during day and night time
- Keep jerry can or clay pot (ensara) out of reach of children and animals.

### **Feces Management**

#### **Practices to be Improved**

- Defecation in open fields in rural areas
- Feces in potty and from plastic bag dumped into open fields in rural areas and in drainage ditch in urban areas
- Potty washed most of the time only with water after disposing of the feces
- Hand washing with water only after defecation or washing potty. For many, no hand washing at all.



### **Feces Management**

#### **Small Doable Actions Tried**

- Construct and use "Ecosan or Arboloo" latrine and/or construct a superstructure
- Put ash into latrine after defecation
- Wash potty with soap (or ash) after use
- Wash hands with water and soap or ash after disposing the feces from the potty or after using the latrine

# **Feces Management/Perceived Benefits**



- Proud to own latrine; not bother neighbors
- No flies; children will not step in feces
- Can use latrine with walls anytime
- Ash easy to find/cheap; cleans potty well; no smells
- Washing hands removes contamination; will not contaminate food

# **Feces Management/Barriers and Solutions**



#### **Solutions**

- Increase access to income generating activities
- Construct an 'Ecosan/Arboloo' latrine under a tree for the branches to provide shade

#### **Barriers**

- Limited access to latrine in urban settings
- No place to dispose of feces from potty and plastic bag
- Cannot afford to construct a superstructure

### Recommended Small Doable Actions (From Oromia and Amhara Regions TIPs)

- If latrine is not available, construct an 'Ecosan/Arboloo' latrine with walls
- All family members use latrine, potty and/or plastic bag
- Put ash/sand in potty before use
- Immediately dispose of the feces from the potty or plastic bag in the latrine or trashcan
- Put used paper in a tin





# Recommended Small Doable Actions (continued)



- Wash the potty with water and soap, ash or sand
- Place potty out of reach of children
- Wash hands with water and soap or ash after using latrine, disposing of feces from potty or cleaning a baby's bottom

### Diarrhea Management SDA for Bedbound Clients

- Spread a plastic sheet (or opened plastic bags) on bed under the buttocks. Completely cover plastic with a cloth.
- Use gloves when caring for PLWHA with diarrhea.
- Wash feces-soiled cloth/bedsheets/clothes with water and soap; dry in sun.
- Always wash hands with water and soap after caring for PLWHA suffering from diarrhea, even when using gloves.
- If PLWHA is alone and very weak, after defecating, roll over and reposition; lean on side while waiting for help.

### **Recommended Hand Washing Small Doable** Actions

- Make and use tippy tap.
  Place next to a bedbound client if possible.
- Wash hands properly with water and soap or ash. Rub the forgotten spots as well.
- Wash hands immediately after contact with patient's blood, feces, vomit, urine. Do not wait.





# **Key times for Washing Hands**

- Before meals and cooking
- After using the toilet
- After cleaning baby's bottom
- Before and after attending to the patient
- Whenever going near animal dung (cleaning floors, fuel, etc.)
- After cleaning the potty

### **Menstrual Management**

- Sensitize PLWHA and their families on the risk of HIV transmission associated with contact with menstrual blood.
- Caregivers always wear gloves when caring for PLWHA to avoid direct contact with body fluids such as blood.

#### **Recommended Menstrual Management—SDA**

- Use clean a piece of linen or cotton cloth or a clean pad.
- Store the used piece of cloth in a plastic bag during day time.
- Dispose of the used pad in the latrine or in the trashcan.
- Wash the used piece of cloth with soap and water at night. (Caregivers wear gloves.)
- Wash bedsheets and stained clothes with soap and water. Dry in sun.

# **Policy Implications**



- Improve WASH practices (including the poor).
- Strengthen WASH inputs within the overall HIV policy and national guidelines.
- Strengthen existing guidelines, and disseminate guidance for integrating WASH into HIV programs.
- Address WASH systems issues in both urban and rural settings Such as access to chlorine, availability of proper disposal of feces in plastic bag
- Highlight HIV implications for the water and sanitation sectors.

# **Program Implications**

- Target PLWHA and families by working with home-based care workers and home caregivers
- Promote three key WASH behaviors
  - Water management
  - Feces management
  - Hand washing
  - Menstrual management
- Build capacity of HBC workers to promote WASH SDA actions
- Mobilize communities to support WASH efforts

# **Training of Trainers Update**

- 27 trainers trained on integrating WASH into homebased care programs
- Training curriculum for HBC workers available to COP members
- List of trainers in Addis and Amhara

# **USAID/HIP Resources for Programs**

- Trainers trained available for hire/cooperative agreement to promote WASH in HIV HBC programs
- TOT for COP members in Addis to train HBC
- Training curriculum for training home-based care workers
- Integration workshop and limited technical support to programs to integrate WASH into HBC and HIV programs
- Integration kits that includes job aids and reminder materials



- Encourage integrating WASH into HIV programs
- Join the Community of Practice
- Participate in a review of national guidelines to see how/where to integrate WASH
- Develop and disseminate HIV considerations for water and sanitation sectors
- Identify and implement ways to integrate WASH into your HBC/OVC/PMTCT programs (with HIP support)
- Link with others to integrate WASH
- Share your WASH integration experiences

Technology alone is rarely sufficient to change behavior. HIP works at the nexus where technology and people meet.

Thank you!!