

# The Crisis in the Classroom

The State of the World's Toilets 2018



● Top right: teacher Robinah Nankanja, 45, in her classroom at Kabowa Church of Uganda Primary School in Kampala: "I'm proud seeing my pupils becoming good ambassadors for sanitation and personal hygiene. Education changes the perception that girls are less able or less bright as compared to boys."

● Top left: Judith, nine, washes her hands at her primary school in Kampala, Uganda: "The school provides us with soap. After using the toilet we wash our hands with soap. Everyone does it because it helps to keep away germs from our hands."

● Right: Sanju, 18, leads a village youth group in lessons on how to manage periods hygienically in Madhya Pradesh, India.



Wherever they are in the world – London or Lagos – children are entitled to the human rights of sanitation, good health and quality education.<sup>1,2</sup> Through the UN Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs) world leaders have promised to deliver these rights for everyone everywhere by 2030 – just over a decade from now.<sup>3</sup> But at current rates of progress these promises will be broken, with many countries way off-track.

One in three schools around the world don't currently have decent toilets.<sup>4</sup> And almost one in five primary schools and one in eight secondary schools don't have any toilets at all.<sup>5</sup>

**Today, 620 million of the world's schoolchildren – almost twice the population of the USA – do not have decent school toilets.<sup>6</sup>** For these young people, it's normal to have to run home at breaktime to relieve themselves, use bushes on the school grounds, or miss lessons entirely because they are sick or on their period.

**This is more than an inconvenience. Every year diarrhoea and intestinal infections together kill nearly 140,000 school-age children.<sup>7</sup> And another 289,000 children are killed by dirty water and poor sanitation before they are old enough to start school.<sup>8</sup> This is a crisis.**

It is not limited to schools. 2.3 billion people – one in three – don't have a basic household toilet<sup>9</sup> – a number that has barely changed in two decades. And 892 million people still defecate in the open.<sup>10</sup>

While everyone is affected, children are especially at risk. Growing up in communities without toilets exposes them to illnesses that could kill them. And repeated bouts of diarrhoea increase their chances of being malnourished at a crucial stage in their development. Sanitation-related illnesses result in missed school days and lost potential for the millions of children still waiting for a toilet.

The recent death of a five-year-old girl in South Africa, after falling through the rotten wooden floor of her school pit latrine into the sewage beneath, stirred the country's government to promise to put decent toilets in all state schools within two years.<sup>11</sup> But this is not an isolated incident. Around the world, poor toilets are killing children every day.

We must act now.

## What is 'basic' sanitation?

Everyone everywhere has the right to 'safely managed' sanitation. Achieving this ambitious goal means first ensuring no one lacks at least 'basic' sanitation. But what do these terms mean?

### In households:<sup>12</sup>

#### ● 'Safely managed' sanitation

A hygienic household toilet where human waste is treated and safely disposed of.

How many people have this?  
**39%\* / 2.9 billion**

#### ● 'Basic' sanitation

A hygienic household toilet, such as a pour-flush latrine, where human waste flows into rivers or is emptied untreated into the environment.

How many people have this?  
**29% / 2.2 billion**

#### ● 'Limited' sanitation

A toilet that is like a basic service but shared between several households.

How many people have this?  
**8% / 600 million**

#### ● 'Unimproved' sanitation

A toilet that does not hygienically separate human waste from contact with people, such as a latrine over an open pit or water.

How many people have this?  
**12% / 881 million**

#### ● 'Open defecation'

People relieving themselves in open fields, near railway tracks, or in secluded areas.

How many people do this?  
**12% / 892 million**

\*Percentages rounded to nearest whole number

### In schools:<sup>13</sup>

#### ● 'Basic' sanitation

School toilets, such as flush/pour-flush toilets, ventilated improved pit latrines, composting toilets, and pit latrines with a slab or platform, that are single-sex and usable (available, functional and private) at the time of the survey.

How many schools have this?  
**66%**

#### ● 'Limited' sanitation

School toilets that are like a basic service but either not single-sex or not usable at the time of the survey.

How many schools have this?  
**12%**

#### ● No sanitation

School toilets that don't hygienically separate human waste from contact with people, such as latrines over an open pit or water, or no school toilets at all.

How many schools have this?  
**23%**

## What are the Sustainable Development Goals?

The Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs) are 17 global goals that world leaders have promised to achieve by 2030.<sup>14</sup> Each SDG has associated targets and indicators so that progress can be measured, and governments held to account.

Among the SDGs is Goal 6 which aims for universal access to 'safely managed' water and sanitation for everyone everywhere.<sup>15</sup> This means safe drinking water at home, work and in public places, available whenever needed. And a private toilet, where faecal waste is safely disposed of, with soap and water for handwashing.

SDG4 to 'ensure inclusive and quality education for all and promote lifelong learning' includes a target for building and improving school facilities that are accessible to all, including decent toilets.<sup>16</sup>

## The impact on children and young people



Living without a basic toilet threatens the health, safety and education of millions of children and young people.

### Health

In 2017, the world's children (under fives) suffered 957 million episodes of diarrhoea.<sup>17</sup> When diarrhoea strikes, children quickly become dehydrated and more vulnerable to infection. This can be deadly.

Diarrhoea caused by dirty water and poor sanitation kills 289,000 children under five each year.<sup>18</sup> And, every year, diarrhoea and intestinal infections together kill nearly 140,000 children aged between five and 14.<sup>19</sup> Lives could be saved by something as basic as a toilet, with clean water and soap for handwashing.

If children do survive repeated bouts of diarrhoea, the prolonged undernutrition can cause them to be malnourished and stunted. This means they are short for their age, and likely to struggle with impaired emotional, social and cognitive development.<sup>20</sup> Stunting is linked to diarrhoeal diseases like cholera and polio, intestinal worms (soil-transmitted helminths) and environmental enteric dysfunction (when children's intestines don't work properly).<sup>21</sup> A quarter of all stunting is attributed to five or more episodes of diarrhoea during the first two years of life.<sup>22</sup>

### Safety

Inadequate school toilets are a risk to children's physical safety, whether it's from poorly built structures, missing slabs or overflowing sewage pits. Where lights,

doors or locks are missing, young people are vulnerable to bullying and violence by their classmates and adults. Girls are particularly at risk of sexual violence when using unsafe facilities at school. And answering the call of nature in the open can mean taking their chances with wild animals like crocodiles and snakes.

Where toilets are not accessible and appropriately designed, children with disabilities especially struggle to meet their needs safely and with dignity. Facilities without ramps, enough space to turn a wheelchair, or handrails make it impossible for many children to use the school toilets even where they do exist.

### Education

Children without decent toilets at home and school struggle to complete their education. Repeatedly suffering from diarrhoea, they regularly miss school, causing them to fall behind in class. Not having toilets in the school grounds can lead to anxiety and stress, discouraging young people from attending.

Menstruating girls require single-sex toilets that are available, functional and private, with water and soap, bins to dispose of sanitary materials, and a drying area for washed sanitary cloths. Young women who are unable to manage their periods hygienically at school are more likely to stay at home, leading to a higher risk of dropping out completely. Across South Asia, more than a third of girls miss school for between one and three days a month during their period.<sup>23</sup> And one in ten girls in sub-Saharan Africa miss school during their menstrual cycle, adding up to as much as 20% of the school year.<sup>24</sup>

# 1. Snapshot of struggle: Countries where schools are least likely to have decent toilets<sup>25</sup>

Country	% schools without sanitation (2016)*	% population without at least basic sanitation at home (2015)	Number of children (under 17) without a decent household toilet (2017)	Child deaths (under 5s) from dirty water and poor sanitation each year (2015)	% children who complete primary education <sup>26</sup> (most recent year available)
Guinea-Bissau	80	78	697,450	700	29
Niger	76	87	9,809,100	11,500	28
Comoros	68	66	241,854	50	77
Solomon Islands	64	69	185,262	10	no data
Mauritania	60	55	1,048,500	410	53
Somalia	60	84	4,836,400	5,300	no data
Ethiopia	60	93	45,183,600	8,500	47
Central African Republic	59	75	1,864,360	900	no data
Tajikistan	56	4	157,384	510	98

\*No sanitation - no facility or unimproved services

Of the 101 countries with data available on how many schools have decent toilets, Guinea-Bissau on the coast of West Africa comes last. Eight in ten schools lack adequate facilities and almost the same proportion of households don't have at least basic toilets. Only 29% of children complete primary school, which may be in part attributed to high rates of illness, poor facilities, and the inability to attract teachers.

Somalia, on the Horn of Africa and long struggling with violence and political instability, is joint fifth. Six in ten schools don't have even limited access to sanitation, and progress towards reaching everyone with decent toilets at home is decreasing. Meanwhile, 5,300 children are dying every year from the related diarrhoea.



## Niger



- 76% of schools without toilets\*
- 72% of children don't complete primary education
- Decent toilets at home for all not expected until 2203\*\*
- 11,500 children (under five) die each year because of poor sanitation



Niger, at the edge of the Sahara, is one of the world's least developed countries. Frequent droughts and political instability have kept many of its people locked in poverty.

It's the second worst country in the world for providing children with decent toilets. Just 24% of schools have basic toilets, and more than seven in ten people defecate in the open because they don't have household sanitation. Providing children with toilets at school and at home and teaching them about good hygiene would help save the lives of the 11,500 under-fives who die every year from diarrhoea, and keep more children in school, at least through primary years.

**Before the new toilets were built at her school in Norandé, Niger, Roukaya, 12, and her friends would have to defecate in the open, affecting their health, safety and wellbeing, "Before we had the school latrines, the students would often fall ill with stomach aches, vomiting and malaria. It was the same situation at home with our families. We went very far into the bushes, behind the trees, to do our business when we needed the toilet. And without the latrines we had no privacy or dignity. Now we don't have to go so far to take care of our needs. All of this has had a good effect on our school results. And it helps to keep the girls in school too."**

\*\*At current rates of progress

## Ethiopia

Ethiopia is Africa's second largest country in terms of population. Drought and famine, combined with a border war with Eritrea, have held back development. The new prime minister, Abiy Ahmed, has promised peace and order. Access to water and sanitation are among the major challenges ahead.<sup>27</sup>

60% of Ethiopia's schools don't have toilets and more than nine in ten people lack this human right at home. However, there is hope for the future. The country has made progress in delivering shared toilets in communities and there has been a spike in the number of children completing primary education.



WaterAid/Behailu Shiferaw

**Melakie, 15, goes to school in Alefa, Amhara. She explained the difference clean water and decent toilets were making to her and her friends, "We shared the old toilet with the boys, and when the door was not working properly you can imagine how it felt. I had a friend who missed school days every month because of her period. Now we have a girls' toilet very far away from the boys' toilet - so we can manage our periods privately. We do not miss classes now."**

- 60% of schools without toilets
- 53% of children don't complete primary education
- Decent toilets at home for all not expected until 2370
- 8,500 children (under five) die each year because of poor sanitation



WaterAid/Behailu Shiferaw

## 2. Ten countries with lowest access to decent household toilets



Rank	Country	% population without at least basic sanitation at home (2015)	% schools without sanitation (2016)	Number of children (under 17) without a decent household toilet (2015)	Child deaths (under 5s) from dirty water and poor sanitation each year (2015)	% children who complete primary education (most recent year available)
1	Ethiopia	93	60	45,183,600	8,500	47
2	Chad	90	no data	6,921,500	9,150	27
3	Madagascar	90	31	10,621,500	3,870	no data
4	South Sudan	90	45	5,416,800	4,240	no data
5	Eritrea	89	43	2,250,400	860	no data
6	Niger	87	76	9,809,100	11,500	28
=7	Benin	86	28	4,651,920	1,320	54
=7	Togo	86	43	3,044,360	900	61
=7	Ghana	86	31	10,622,000	980	66
10	Sierra Leone	85	45	2,732,400	1,270	67

The sanitation crisis doesn't end at school. An estimated 344 million children in sub-Saharan Africa don't have a decent toilet at home.<sup>28</sup> This is equivalent to the combined total populations of the UK, Ireland, France, Germany, Switzerland, Italy, Spain and Portugal.

After appearing in the list of worst countries for school toilets, Ethiopia tops the list of countries where access to decent household toilets is most difficult. 8,500 children die each year from diarrhoeal diseases caused by poor sanitation and dirty water.

Sierra Leone, now showing signs of progress following a brutal civil war and the recent Ebola crisis, is struggling on sanitation too. More than eight in ten people don't have a decent toilet at home. Unless progress is accelerated, they will have to wait until 2302 for everyone to have access to this human right.

Niger again makes the list with eight in ten people still without at least basic sanitation. While progress continues to stall, 11,500 children die every year from water and sanitation-related diarrhoea.

## Madagascar

- 31% of schools without toilets
- No data on completion of primary education
- Decent toilets at home for all not expected until 2281
- 3,870 children (under five) die each year because of poor sanitation

Madagascar is the fourth largest island in the world, off the southeast coast of Africa. Despite a wealth of natural resources and a tourist industry based on its unique wildlife, it remains one of the poorest countries in the world and relies heavily on aid.

Madagascar is the third worst country in the world for access to a decent toilet at home – just one person in ten has at least basic sanitation – and almost one in three schools don't have any functioning toilets at all. And, worse, 3,870 children continue to die each year from diarrhoea caused by dirty water and poor sanitation.



Cynthia, six, at the new toilet block at her primary school in Madagascar.

Lanja, nine, shown here with her school notebook, has little time left for school because she spends so much of her day fetching water for her family. She is often ill because of dirty water and the lack of decent toilets in her village, "I would love to do well in my studies, and when I grow up I would like to be a teacher. I would love to be a teacher because I love children. Having running water and nice toilets in our school and village would be amazing. I would be very happy."



## Ghana



- 31% of schools without toilets
- 44% of children don't complete primary education
- Decent toilets at home for all not expected until 2428
- 980 children (under five) die each year because of poor sanitation

Ghana, in West Africa, has proved one of the most stable countries in the region in recent years. Its economy has grown quickly thanks to gold, cocoa and now oil. President Nana Akufo-Addo has promised to improve quality of life for the Ghanaians still living in poverty.<sup>29</sup> The Government has set up a new Ministry of Sanitation and Water Resources, launched a national sanitation campaign, and put plans in place for a National Sanitation Authority backed by a dedicated sanitation fund.<sup>30</sup>

However, today, more than eight in ten people in Ghana lack a decent toilet at home and almost one in three schools are without toilets. An estimated 980 children die every year because they are being denied this human right. While 66% of Ghana's children do complete at least primary education, many have their ability to learn compromised by an unhealthy environment.



Giftey is 16 years old and a student in Kanedrah-Akamo in Ghana. There are no toilets or changing rooms in her school, only one urinal pit. Many students defecate in the open. During her period, Giftey often stays at home, missing up to four days a month of school. The lack of toilets also means Giftey must go home to relieve herself.

### 3. Ten countries where access to toilets is decreasing



Rank	Country	% population without at least basic sanitation at home (2015)	% population without at least basic sanitation at home (2000)	% point change	% schools without sanitation (2016)	Child deaths (under 5s) from dirty water and poor sanitation each year (2015)	Number of children (under 17) without a decent household toilet (2015)	% children who complete primary education (most recent year available)
1	Chad	90.5	90.1	0.4	no data	9,150	6,921,500	27
2	Somalia	83.8	77.6	6.2	60	5,300	4,836,400	no data
3	Papua New Guinea	81.4	81.3	0.1	39	220	2,666,000	no data
4	Democratic Republic of Congo	80.3	77.6	2.7	10	11,100	32,674,000	69
5	Kenya	70.2	69	1.2	0	5,170	15,536,300	84
6	Nigeria	67.4	63.5	3.9	52	59,600	62,115,000	77
7	Zimbabwe	61.4	58.3	3.1	4	3,030	4,598,400	88
8	Cameroon	61.2	60.2	1	51	3,630	7,078,500	74
9	Gambia	58.3	44.8	13.5	2	230	607,840	62
10	Myanmar	35.3	30.4	4.9	no data	750	6,365,000	83

In these countries, the proportion of people with decent toilets at home is **decreasing**. In Chad, Africa's fifth largest nation, nine in ten people are living without at least basic sanitation, a proportion that has not changed since the start of the millennium.

Cameroon also continues to struggle to make decent toilets normal for its people with nearly two thirds still waiting. Access in schools is only a bit better with slightly less than half not having sanitation.

### Nigeria

Nigeria is Africa's most populated country and the continent's largest economy.<sup>31</sup> Ethnic and religious diversity have made security and political stability a challenge. This lack of order has continued to hold back development.

In Nigeria, progress towards universal household sanitation is decreasing, due to population changes and rapid urbanisation. Six people in ten are still without at least a basic service. Half of schools fail to provide students with adequate toilets, contributing to a national water and sanitation crisis that kills 59,600 children every year. While 77% of children complete at least primary education, indicating a more promising future, their ability to study is compromised without a safe, private place to relieve themselves. The situation is so bad that the Government has declared a state of emergency in water and sanitation in the country and Nigeria's President, His Excellency Muhammadu Buhari, has launched a high-profile Action Plan to address it.<sup>32</sup>



- 52% of schools without toilets
- 23% of children don't complete primary education
- Progress towards decent toilets at home for all decreasing
- 59,600 children (under five) die each year because of poor sanitation

**Offia, ten, attends primary school in Nigeria: "We don't have any toilets in school. One day, I needed to use the toilet and I went to the bush. When I pulled off my knickers to go, I saw a snake in the bush and I shouted, 'Jesus!' and ran out. I would feel a lot better if my school had a clean toilet. When I needed to go, I could quietly go to the toilet."**



## Papua New Guinea

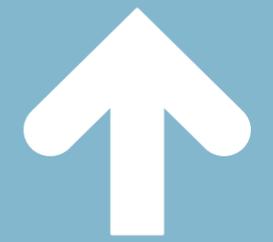
Papua New Guinea is the world's most linguistically diverse country, with more than 700 native languages spoken. This, combined with the fact that 80% of people live in often remote rural areas, makes progress on health and education particularly challenging.

More than eight in ten people in Papua New Guinea lack a decent toilet and progress towards universal household sanitation is decreasing. Some 220 children die each year from water and sanitation-related diarrhoea, and polio has recently returned to the island after being eradicated in 2000.<sup>33</sup>



- 39% of schools without toilets
- No data on completion of primary education
- Progress towards decent toilets at home for all decreasing
- 220 children (under five) die each year because of poor sanitation

## 4. Snapshot of success: Countries delivering decent school toilets



Country	% schools with basic sanitation (2016)	% children who complete primary education (most recent year available)	Child deaths (under 5s) from dirty water and poor sanitation each year (2015)
Uganda	79	44	4,580
India	73	92	60,700
Bhutan	76	no data	16
Burkina Faso	70	no data	4,560
Malawi	70	47	3,130
Zambia	66	75	1,960
Bangladesh	59	80	2,220



Rarua's family uses the nearby river, surrounded by mangrove swamps, as a toilet because the high water tables mean digging pit latrines is impossible. At night, he is afraid of ghosts and snakes.

"When I need to poo at night, I feel scared. If I think I can do it quickly I go by myself, but otherwise I call my brother or sister to go with me. Sometimes I get tummy aches and diarrhoea. When I get diarrhoea I can't get to the river so I have to rush to the back of the house and then cover it up with soil.

"When I get tummy aches and diarrhoea, I don't go to class. I wait until it's over before going back to school. I don't feel good about missing lessons. I love going to school every day. I want to get better quickly so I can return to school."



Ruth, 14, and Destiny, 13, wash their hands in the toilet and shower block at their school in Monze district, Zambia.

Happily, there are success stories where countries have made decent toilets in schools a priority, ensuring children are better able to attend lessons and achieve their potential. In India, the Government-led Swachh Bharat (Clean India) mission has promised a toilet in every home by 2019, with entire districts declaring themselves free of open defecation. Seven in ten schools have basic toilets, and more than 90% of children complete primary education. The challenge will be to ensure that even the poorest and most marginalised people are reached, and that improvements last.

In Burkina Faso, while more than seven in ten households lack at least basic sanitation, access in schools is significantly better at 70%. Protecting children's health, safety and education will mean ensuring toilets at home as well as at school. Yet at current rates of progress this won't happen until 2105.

## Zambia

- 66% of schools with basic toilets
- 75% of children complete primary education
- Decent toilets at home for all by 2231

Landlocked Zambia benefits from rich natural resources, a growing economy and relatively stable politics. But it is currently struggling with debt, accusations of corruption and persisting poverty rates, alongside a cholera outbreak that devastated neighbourhoods in the capital Lusaka earlier this year.

However, while household sanitation is behind, nearly seven in ten schools in Zambia now have basic toilets, and three quarters of children are able to complete their primary education.



Muhammad, six, plays with his sister Febby, eight, at home in Lusaka, where the family relies on a pit latrine shared among four households. His elder sister Jennifer died of cholera in February and he too fell ill. His mother, Mirriam, said, "Two days after Jennifer died, Mohammed got sick from cholera, and I told my husband to stop everything and rush him to the hospital. He stayed in the clinic with him for five days. He's now better and we are following what the doctor said and not giving him cold food and not letting him play in dirty areas. And we must all drink chlorinated water. Our clothes-selling business got messed up while we were coping with Jennifer's death and Mohammed's sickness. We haven't recovered financially, and my children haven't gone back to school because we don't have money for them. Things are not OK. And we have no relatives to help us."

## Bangladesh

Low-lying Bangladesh is prone to flooding and densely populated, making sustainable sanitation a challenge. While many people in Bangladesh remain very poor, health and education are improving.

Over half of schools in Bangladesh now have a decent toilet and more than four in ten people have at least basic sanitation at home. Shared toilets in slum areas are providing a stepping stone to better health. Universal access is currently estimated by 2052 – sooner than many countries, although still 22 years off target.



- 59% of schools with basic toilets
- 80% of children complete primary education
- Decent toilets at home for all by 2052



Keya, 13, is a student at a school in Dhaka, Bangladesh. She explains the difference menstrual hygiene education and facilities have made to girls like her, "When I had my first period, I didn't know what was happening. My friend told the teacher I couldn't get up from my desk because it was on my dress. So I stayed in the classroom until everyone left, and then my friend helped me get up to leave. I was nervous that I had been cut somewhere. It's now much more convenient for the younger girls because it's written in the toilet, why the disposal chute is there."

## The need for better monitoring of school toilets

Accurate and up to date data is essential to put decent toilets in all schools. But data on school sanitation is only available for 101 countries.<sup>34</sup> Without information on which countries are making progress and which need support, making the necessary plans and investments is impossible.

Currently, the data on school toilets is inadequate, with the quality and availability of information varying between countries. Many countries known to have poor sanitation don't have data on school toilets, particularly for primary and pre-primary schools. There is no standard for measuring access for children with disabilities and insufficient data on whether girls can manage their menstruation at school.<sup>35</sup>

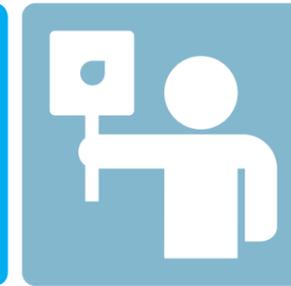
Robust national monitoring systems that feed into policy and planning are essential to achieve the SDG promise to protect the health, safety and education of children everywhere.



**Teacher Mweene Muhyanga, 29, in Njola East School, Monze, Zambia:** "Our students go to the bush for the toilet and this impacts on their education. To fully deliver a lesson in class, pupils must not leave the classroom for a long time in search of a toilet. Most girls stay at home during menstruation, and my work is affected due to their absenteeism."



## What is WaterAid calling for?



**Safe toilets are a human right** for everyone everywhere.<sup>36</sup> Lasting and meaningful progress towards any of the UN Sustainable Development Goals – health, education, women's rights, and equality – will not be achieved without clean water, decent toilets and good hygiene.

**Urgent action is needed now** to improve the services at the 34% of schools worldwide with no adequate toilets for pupils.<sup>37</sup> To bring decent household toilets to the 2.3 billion people still waiting.<sup>38</sup> To make these everyday things normal for those who today cannot take them for granted.

### Governments must prioritise delivering sanitation for all.

This should include:

- better **planning** and a more **integrated approach** between the WASH, education and health sectors, and with heads of government championing change;
- more **money** that is properly invested;
- improved **transparency** in monitoring and reporting.

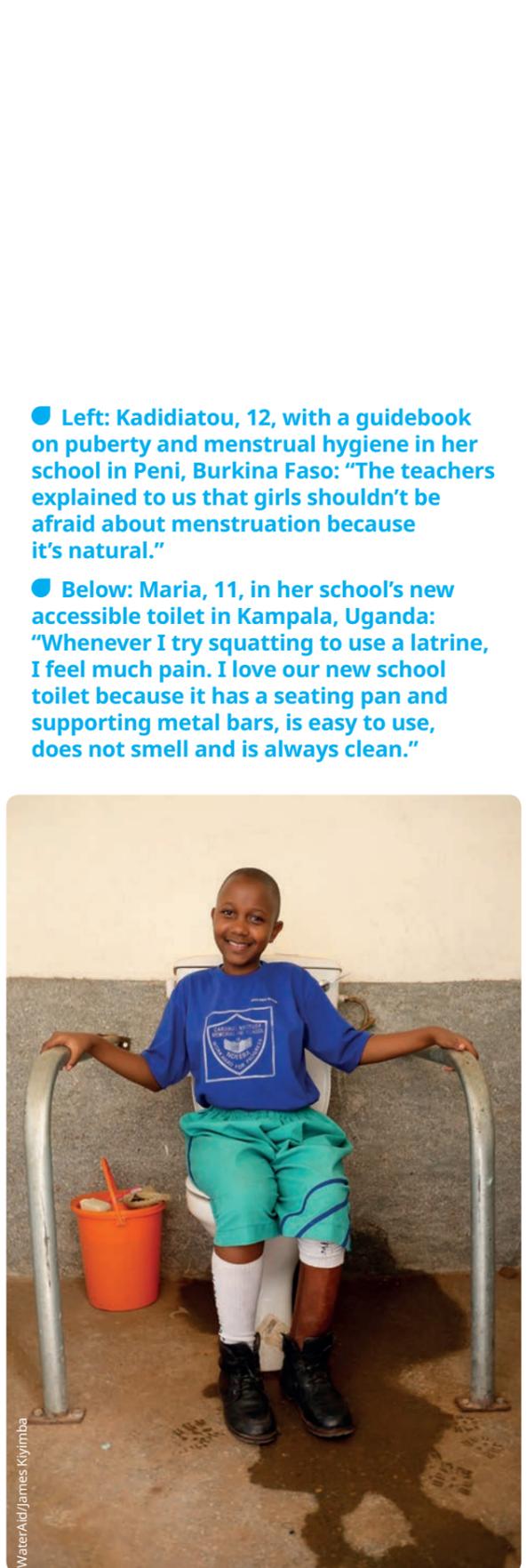
**A school without basic access to water, decent toilets and good hygiene shouldn't be called a school.** Education and finance ministers in every country, as well as donors, must recognise the fundamental importance of water, sanitation and hygiene in schools for improving education. And they need to invest in these essential services and establish credible plans for achieving universal access within an agreed timeframe.

**School sanitation must meet the specific needs of girls.** To ensure privacy, safety and dignity, toilets should be in appropriate locations with good lighting, solid doors and locks. Children should be taught about menstruation and girls given what they need to care for themselves properly during their periods, including clean water and soap.

**School sanitation must be inclusive,** enabling children with disabilities to use clean, safe, accessible toilets at school. This human right is essential for them to live healthy, dignified lives and fully achieve their potential.

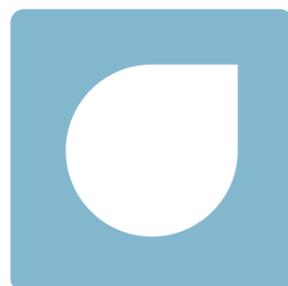


WaterAid/Bastie Ouedraogo



WaterAid/James Kyimba

- Left: Kadidiatou, 12, with a guidebook on puberty and menstrual hygiene in her school in Peni, Burkina Faso: "The teachers explained to us that girls shouldn't be afraid about menstruation because it's natural."
- Below: Maria, 11, in her school's new accessible toilet in Kampala, Uganda: "Whenever I try squatting to use a latrine, I feel much pain. I love our new school toilet because it has a seating pan and supporting metal bars, is easy to use, does not smell and is always clean."



## Appendix

Global access to basic sanitation in schools<sup>39</sup>

Country, area or territory	% schools with basic sanitation	% schools with limited sanitation	% schools with no sanitation
Afghanistan	-	-	-
Algeria	99	1	0
Andorra	100	0	0
Angola	-	58	42
Argentina	77	-	-
Australia	100	0	0
Azerbaijan	100	0	0
Bahrain	100	0	0
Bangladesh	59	35	6
Barbados	100	0	0
Belarus	100	0	0
Belgium	-	-	-
Belize	49	45	6
Benin	-	72	28
Bhutan	76	14	10
Bolivia (Plurinational State of)	-	-	-
Botswana	-	100	0
Brazil	84	11	5
Burkina Faso	70	6	23
Burundi	48	46	6
Cabo Verde	-	98	2
Cambodia	39	26	35
Cameroon	-	49	51
Central African Republic	-	41	59
Chad	-	-	-
Chile	96	1	4
China	-	58	42
China, Hong Kong Special Administrative Region	100	0	0
China, Macao Special Administrative Region	100	0	0
Colombia	61	16	22
Comoros	-	32	68
Congo	-	60	40

Country, area or territory	% schools with basic sanitation	% schools with limited sanitation	% schools with no sanitation
Cook Islands	100	0	0
Costa Rica	70	20	10
Côte d'Ivoire	-	51	49
Croatia	34	-	-
Cuba	-	-	-
Democratic Republic of the Congo	-	90	10
Denmark	100	0	0
Djibouti	-	100	0
Dominica	100	0	0
Dominican Republic	90	-	-
Ecuador	83	-	-
Egypt	100	0	0
El Salvador	-	87	13
Equatorial Guinea	-	99	1
Eritrea	-	57	43
Estonia	100	0	0
Eswatini	-	88	12
Ethiopia	-	40	60
Fiji	76	14	10
Finland	100	0	0
France	100	0	0
Gabon	-	61	39
Gambia	82	16	2
Georgia	60	14	26
Germany	100	0	0
Ghana	-	69	31
Gibraltar	100	0	0
Grenada	-	-	-
Guatemala	76	-	-
Guinea	-	77	23
Guinea-Bissau	-	20	80
Guyana	17	81	2
Haiti	-	55	45
Honduras	82	0	18
Hungary	92	8	0
India	73	3	24
Indonesia	34	54	12
Israel	100	0	0
Italy	100	0	0
Jamaica	83	-	-
Jordan	33	66	0

Country, area or territory	% schools with basic sanitation	% schools with limited sanitation	% schools with no sanitation
Kenya	-	100	0
Kiribati	-	-	-
Kuwait	100	0	0
Kyrgyzstan	-	-	-
Lao People's Democratic Republic	-	70	30
Latvia	100	0	0
Lebanon	93	7	1
Lesotho	-	96	4
Liberia	43	18	39
Libya	95	5	0
Madagascar	-	69	31
Malawi	70	5	25
Malaysia	100	-	-
Mali	20	43	37
Marshall Islands	27	-	-
Mauritania	27	13	60
Mauritius	100	0	0
Mexico	75	21	5
Monaco	100	0	0
Mongolia	63	21	16
Morocco	70	19	11
Mozambique	48	29	24
Myanmar	-	-	-
Namibia	46	31	23
Nauru	86	-	-
Nepal	-	82	18
Netherlands	100	0	0
Nicaragua	43	-	-
Niger	21	3	76
Nigeria	-	48	52
Niue	100	0	0
Norway	100	0	0
Oman	-	98	2
Pakistan	-	72	28
Panama	82	-	-
Papua New Guinea	45	16	39
Paraguay	77	-	-
Peru	68	28	4
Philippines	39	60	1
Portugal	100	0	0
Qatar	100	0	0

Country, area or territory	% schools with basic sanitation	% schools with limited sanitation	% schools with no sanitation
Republic of Korea	100	0	0
Republic of Moldova	94	6	0
Russian Federation	-	98	2
Rwanda	88	12	0
Saint Kitts and Nevis	-	-	-
Saint Lucia	99	-	-
Saint Vincent and the Grenadines	100	0	0
Samoa	-	-	-
Sao Tome and Principe	76	20	4
Senegal	-	74	26
Serbia	74	-	-
Seychelles	100	0	0
Sierra Leone	12	42	45
Singapore	100	0	0
Slovakia	100	0	0
Slovenia	100	0	0
Solomon Islands	27	9	64
Somalia	-	40	60
South Africa	-	83	17
South Sudan	-	55	45
Spain	100	0	0
Sri Lanka	100	0	0
Sudan	-	62	38
Switzerland	100	0	0
Tajikistan	44	0	56
Togo	23	34	43
Tunisia	99	0	1
Uganda	79	21	0
Ukraine	-	-	-
United Republic of Tanzania	47	28	25
United States of America	100	0	0
Uruguay	83	-	-
Uzbekistan	92	-	-
Venezuela (Bolivarian Republic of)	90	-	-
West Bank and Gaza Strip	81	19	1
Yemen	25	56	19
Zambia	66	-	-
Zimbabwe	-	96	4

## Endnotes

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**34% of the world's schools don't have adequate toilets, leaving children with the choice to use dirty, unsafe facilities, go in the open, or stay at home. Toilets are essential to keep children healthy, safe and in school. Without them, young people are being denied their human rights to sanitation, good health and a quality education.**

WaterAid's report, *The Crisis in the Classroom: The State of the World's Toilets 2018*, reveals the countries where children are struggling most to access a toilet at school and at home, and highlights those that have made good progress. It calls on governments to take urgent action to make decent toilets normal not just for children but for everyone everywhere by 2030.

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**#StateOfToilets #WorldToiletDay**

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Front cover images, clockwise from top:

- Children hold their hands up during class in Norandé, Tillabéri, Niger.
- Best friends Hanitrasoa, 11, and Hasina, 12, at their school's new toilet block in Tsiroanomandidy district, Madagascar.
- Mirriam, 29, with her oldest daughter Febby, eight, outside their home in Lusaka, Zambia. Her eldest daughter died of cholera spread by dirty water and poor sanitation.