Integrated WASH Response for Building Resilience in Drought-Affected Desert Areas of District Umerkot, Sindh

REPORT ON

CELEBRATION OF GLOBAL HANDWASHING DAY 15th OCTOBER 2019

15th October 2019
**SAFWCO Introduction:** SAFWCO launched its WASH interventions in remote areas of district Umerkot with support of UNOCHA. SAFWCO is implementing the project entitled as “Integrated WASH Response for Building Resilience in Drought-Affected Desert Areas of District Umerkot, Sindh.” The purpose of the project is to ensure the access of portable drinking water through installation of 35 deep hand pump; rehabilitation of 12 dug well (connected submersible pumps along with solar electrification) restoration of damaged 06 water sources, installation of 10 lead hand pump and rehabilitation of 40 hand pumps for 45,700 people (including women and children), furthermore 3,297 hygiene kits will be distributed to the ultra poor & poor families. Provide improved sanitation and water facilities in 13 schools for 900 primary students (boys and girls). To accomplish this; extensive series of activities will be undertaken to improve the water facilities for people of remote areas of Union Council Sekhro, Kaplore and Faqeer Abdullah.

**Event Preparation:** SAWCO management Umerkot decided to celebrate the Global Hand washing day in schools, therefore Government Girls Primary School of Haji Ghulam Rasool Panhwar and Government Boys Primary School of Janhero in Union Council Faqeer Abdullah was selected to celebrate the event, all arrangements had been done prior to the event and formulate the PHP teams to make the event successful.

**Participants:** Global hand washing day event was celebrated on 15th October 2019 and attended by the students (Boys & Girls), teachers and Village WASH Committee – VWC members.

**Rally:** To spread the awareness of hand washing among the students and in community, all participants organize the rally from GBPS Haji Ghulam Rasool Panhwar. Participants were holed the banner and walk towards the main community hall and revert to the school. During the walk campaign students were chanting the “Wash your hand and keep away from disease”.

**Speeches by - SAFWCO & Teacher:** After successful walk campaign, all participants return to the school and gather in the playground, to bring awareness among the students speeches were organized; hence the second session of the event was started with the recitation of Quran by Mr. Muhammad Ali after that Mr. Nabi Bux (PHP team Leader) briefly explained the purpose of Global Hand washing day (GHD) and said that the first Global Hand washing Day was held in 2008, when over 120 million children around the world washed their hands with soap in more than 70 countries. Since 2008, community and national leaders have used Global Hand washing Day to spread the word about hand washing, whereas Mr. Karmchand (Team Leader) said that today we are celebrating the globally hand washing day to prevent from diseases, he edited wash your hand with soap is important for every person as diseases with dirty hands go through our mouth which causes diarrhea, hepatitis and weak our immune system. Mr. Saddam (Team Leader) came on stage and explained the hand wash steps which are; wet your hands first, apply soap and lather up, rub hands together vigorously and by covering all surfaces (in between fingers, top of hand, around thump) for at least 15 seconds, clean under fingernails by rubbing on palm, wash hands with water and dry hand in air. Furthermore he explained the critical timings of hand wash which are, before having the food, after the latrine and after the play.
Lastly Mr. Ahmad (Head Master) shared the thoughts and said that these kind of activities are good for the students; before that we were not much aware about the personal hygiene and importance of hand wash but now we know the critical timings of hand wash and steps and try implement and replicate the message. I and my staff are thankful to SAFWCO management to arrange the event in our school, after the hygiene session and distribution of student hygiene kits we have more students are enrolled and improved personal hygiene of the students.

PHP female staff celebrated the global hand washing day in Government Girls Primary School of Haji Ghulam Rasool Panhwar and did the same activities as planned in GBPS Janhero.

**Hand Wash Demonstration:** To demonstrate the hand wash step, voluntarily students were called on stage and demonstrate the each step by using water and soap. Later students did the group hand wash activity and were extremely happy to learn the steps and ensured they will replicate the message not only with other students but in family and community as well.
A glimpse of participants while doing the awareness walk on Global Hand Washing Day in GBPS Main Janhero.
Mr. Muhammad Ali while reciting the Quran on Global hand washing day event in GBPS Main Janhero.
A glimpse of Mr. Saddam while orienting the steps of hand wash steps in GBPS Main Janhero.

Mr. Karmchand while orienting the participant the importance of hand wash with soap in GBPS Main Janhero.
Mr. Ahmed (Head Master) while thanking the SAFWCO management Umerkot in GBPS Main Janhero.
A glimpse of student while demonstrating the hand wash steps in GBPS Main Janhero.
Miss. Saira Younus while explaining the steps of hand wash in GGPS Haji Ghulam Rasool Panhwar.
Students while doing group hand washing demonstration in GGPS Haji Ghulam Rasool Panhwar.
Participants while posing for the group photo on Global Hand Washing Day in GGPS Haji Ghulam Rasool Panhwar.