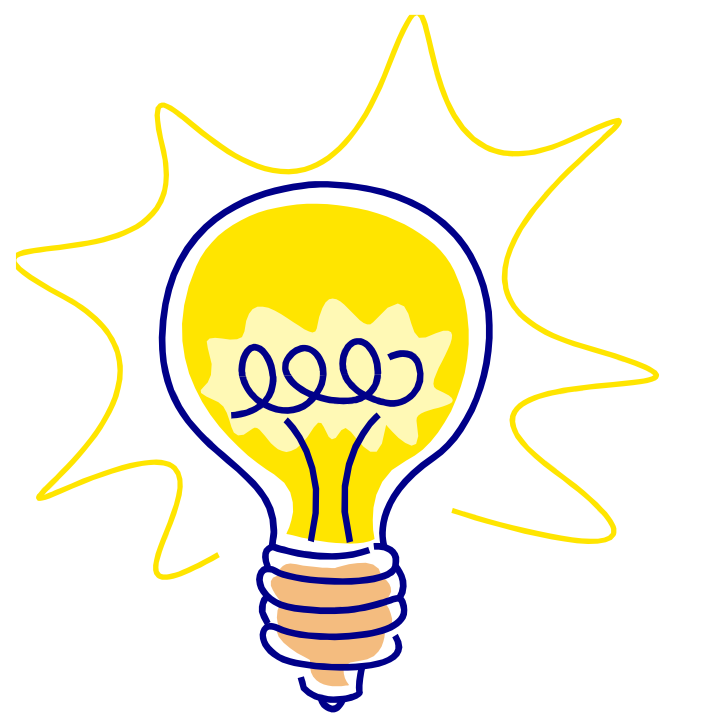


FROM THEM TO US, FOR LIFE WITH CHILDREN

CHILD MORTALITY IN KENYA



STUDENT NAME UNIV 1200*5

CONTEXT

Kenya

- Located in East Africa on the equator (Indian Ocean to the East)
- Population of 41 million people, growing at 2.5% per year
- Land is abundant with natural resources (e.g. limestone, salt, gemstones, wildlife, zinc etc.)

BUT...

- GDP: \$31.4 billion, due to corrupt government, poor structure and areas land-locked with no trade routes
- Over 60% of people in Kenya live in slum settlements

Background on Child Mortality

Date	# of deaths per 1000 children
1990	93
Today	43.61
MDG for 2015	31

- A child dies every 15 seconds due to water-borne diseases caused by poor sanitation such as cholera, typhoid and **diarrhea**

- **Lack of safe water and sanitation** leads to **half** of the child deaths

Sanitation in Kenya

- Access to piped water covers less than 40% of the urban population and reaches only 13.4% of rural residents
- Residents lack access to plumbing, toilets, and standard hygiene and defecate in publically inhabited areas

A 3 PART QUESTION

- ✓ What is the **key problem** associated with sanitation in Kenya?
- ✓ Has **external assistance** received to-date helped?
- ✓ Are there **better ways** to help Kenya improve sanitation? in order to reduce child mortality?



EVIDENCE

The BIG Problem

Key problem associated with poor sanitation is **diarrhea**
Government says ...

- Diarrhea causes dehydration leading to death
- Improved water supply and sanitation reduces diarrhea morbidity by 25%

International Agencies say..

- Diarrhea is most common in autumn, due to rainfall
- *WaterAid*: water and sanitation projects have decreased as a proportion of total aid from rich to poor countries in the last 20 years

Media says..

- Diarrhea is the third leading cause of death of children under 5 in Kenya
- Small group initiatives such as the Atlanta-based Global Soap Project promote sanitation for children and reduce spread of diarrheal disease



Retrieved from <http://www.scoop.co.nz/stories/PO0703/S00273.htm>

External Help

UNICEF says :

- Immunization is the best way to reduce child mortality
- 2.2 million people will be provided with access to safe water within 3 months (in the horn of Africa)
- Oral rehydration therapy and vaccines that will protect against rotavirus

However these are not long term solutions!
So instead...

World Health Organization says:

- Improve local water use patterns, including new methods of storing and transporting water and waste
- Beneficiaries end up selling waste removal technologies, rendering aid ineffective

CONCLUSIONS

- Biggest factor causing child mortality in Kenya is poor sanitation leading to **diarrheal infection** resulting in death
- External assistance both internationally and nationally do not have enough **initiative, funding or research** in order to be effective
- **Participation and cooperation** within these aid-needed communities must be improved for long-term solutions to be established
- The focus must be put on **prevention**, rather than 'post-aid' (i.e. new disposal systems rather than vaccinations for preventable infections)

RECOMMENDATIONS

International Agencies

- Increase research on ways to improve problems of waste disposal and hand washing
- Budget new technologies like composting toilets for slums
- Understand driving factors for the lack of community participation and educate Kenyans on good hygiene practices

Kenyan Communities

- Cooperation and participation to yield long-term results

Us

- Increase research and awareness
- Know that small initiatives make a difference

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