

Abstract

The goal of this project was to provide health education and encourage communities' dialogue and problem solving around common issues that affect their health. Applied hygiene rules to improve their living condition or behavior and grow up by taking the right decision for their life. A cross-sectional household survey was conducted to measure perception, knowledge, attitudes and practice of WASH principles in some communities on the most vulnerable in Haiti promotion, WASH practices like water treatment and hand washing where generally good, but insufficient hygiene and sanitation may contribute to an increased risk of infectious disease transmission in this, already economically and socially disadvantage community. This deficits in WASH practices may partially be explained by the participants. Overall low knowledge of WASH principles. In particular, respondents lacked knowledge regarding parasitic worms prevention skin disease protected water and how to make a homemade oral rehydration a solution. Form our finding we conducted the a Participatory health and Health education (PHHE) program be beneficial to improving WASH practices and encouraging to take the right decision about teenagers having sex related the pregnancy/STDs and family planning in the community and disrupting the cycle of poverty and disease by increasing demand for safe water & Sanitation, identifying community based solutions to the problems of solid waste management, sanitation, encouraging community action around WASH, environmental management and the Big Decision.



Introduction

In general, all communities are at a lower risk for the transmission of cholera due to lack of basic service to some communities today really know what to do in such situation again by ignorance or negligence vis-à-vis the basic health practice that are critical to the health of the community, and some people use time as any type of drinking water, poor sanitation and the practice of defecation in the open etc., all these are due to a lack of health education. In response, Ecoclubs and the Organization of Water and International Haiti Youth collaborates with the University of Texas Health Science Center in San Antonio (UHSCSA) through PAHO to implement a project of Health Club CHC Community and School Health (CHS) in parts of the country specifically in Port-au-Prince, Cabaret, Dondon (Cap Haïtien in collaboration with Living Water International) in the central Plateau since March 2012 today more than 126 clubs level I and II are formed by facilitators in some areas high security risks to data presented here are the results of studies with members and non-members of clubs in their community on the issue of water, sanitation and hygiene (WASH) for Level I on the knowledge and practices in these communities where the implications of these studies on the relevance of HCC program / SHC to address the spread of cholera or any type of preventive disease. And for level II a rather interesting program focused on the choices we make on the issue of sexuality for teenage pregnancy, management of a healthy relationship and especially on the promotion of family planning because many times families have many children because people do not really know how to protect themselves and decide when is that they are ready to have children.

Ecoclubs and Water and Youth Organization

The Ecoclubs is an organization, initiative director independent youth-led and self within the community. Terminal in Argentina in 1992, and came into Haiti in 2005 about 8000 members in different parts of the country. It is to promote activities to improve the quality of life contributes to the welfare of society, the preservation of the environment and sustainable local development through social mobilization.

Its mission is to improve the quality of life of people living in the community through their active participation in solving environmental problems such as disease prevention, protection of water, individual advancement and the public health. Develop leaders who identify, intervene and solve problems through active participation and involving the whole community, family, authorities, local and national organizations.

The same as Ecoclubs, water and youth acting together by putting young people in public policy over and took their own decision on what issues.

Ecoclubs and water and Youth, is part of the international network of Ecoclubs (INE), composed of 450 groups with over 8500 members from 33 countries in South America, Central and Northern Europe, and Africa. (2013).

The INE is to integrate young people to exchange, develop relations and cooperation between countries to support each other on issues they address.

Ecoclubs and Water & Youth have a great partnership with the Pan American Health Organization / World Health Organization (PAHO-WHO) who always supported us since our existence.

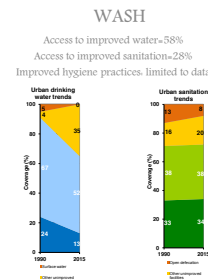


Urban people

- Originally shantytown settlements from rural people businessman
- Now establishment of people from everywhere in the country
- Hugh employment due by lack of services and manufactures, very poor education, and lack of human right.
- Predominantly shanty homes without latrine, running water or safe sanitation and very poor environment management/hygiene practices.

Community Health Clubs in Haiti

The Community Health Club has been implanted in Haiti in March 2012 with three members of Ecoclubs and Water & Youth who went to be trained at Barahona in Dominican Republic by an invitation from Dr. Alfonso Contreras. Responsible of SDE (Sanitation Development and Environment) in PAHO at Washington D.C. via Jason Rosenfeld, MPH from the School of Medicine UT Science Health Center of San Antonio Texas who made the training. Just went back to Haiti, two of the Ecoclubs and Water & Youth members who became facilitators started the health clubs in 7 different communities, so now we have in total 175 Facilitators with around 4 thousand members in both Level I and II.



- Increased Knowledge
Hand washing
Personal Hygiene
Prevention of Diarrhea
Prevention of Skin Diseases & Intestinal Worms
Prevention of Malaria/Dengue
- Improved WASH Practices
- Hand washing
 - Water Storage
 - Kitchen Hygiene
 - Defecation Practices
 - Solid Waste Management
- Social Cohesion (Social Capital)
- Big Decision.

Community Health Clubs

- Voluntary organization of 50-100 people
- Weekly meeting for 6-8 months to complete curriculum Of 23 topics.
- Membership card = key to success. Provides group identity and self monitoring (figure 2)
- Utilizes traditional participatory activities and culturally appropriate materials (Figure 4)
- Vehicle for social improvement and sustainable community development.
- Successful implemented in 7 countries in Africa and 1 country in South East Asia.



"Zafè Kabrit se zafè Mouton" CHCs' in Haiti"

In CHCs and SHCs we use an education approach, using picture of realities within the communities. Any body can join and participate. They meet every week at the same time and have one mission that is promote health for all by mobilizing all the community over one National Slogan: " **The Business of the goat is the Business of the Sheep** " and then each club has his own name, slogan and song that defines their identity where one of them is, " **My health counts, your health counts, his/her health counts all our health counts**". Our power is in the common-unity around health that we share all together because this is something that we are missing in the communities days by days, adding to the lack of hygiene, infrastructures, poor water, latrines, sanitation, teenagers pregnancies and more. So ECOHC/ECOSHC try to address those problem using the peer pressure of the members inside the community, leading to the members to resolve their own problem together than waiting for someone else outside to come and resolve it for them, to reinforce their dignity, and to create activities that can develop themselves and increase their economic by doing Sandals, arts, vegetable and creating a system of Micro credit together depending the needs and the capacity of each club. They create their own hand washing facility, act on what they have, organize clean up activities. That's make them so strong because they don't wait for that even when they are living in very difficult situation.



Some ECOHCs' name and Slogan in Haiti"

Community	Club Name	Club Slogan
Canaan	Jerusalem Club	Health is free.
Blanchard Lakou Leon	Ksk Lakou Leon	Health all the time
Rosenberg	KSK hands together	Health for one and Health for every one
Village des Rapatriés Haitiens	KSK For a better Development	Look in Front health before everything.
Barriere fer	KSK Barriere Fer	Each one helps others
Cite Soleil	KSK My shining sun	With prevention no disease
Carrefour Feuilles	KSK Fouchard	One community is a chain solidarity to manage health.
Carrefour Vincent	KSK Inst Exp de Sarth	We are all concern. Health is for every one
Cite Soleil	Friend of Health	Health for ever
Simon Pele	KSK for discovering the wealth of life	Health is the more wealth
Lizon	KSK Inst Anne- Marie javouhey	Health is the salt of life
Simon Pele/ Cite Dieuseul	KSK nan Site Dyeel	We want health and cleaning
Simon Pele	KSK pou lavi	ak la pwopete nap konbat maladi
Lizon	KSK Bring and join	My health is yours
Corail	KSK de Corail Cesse-lesse	Health for all
Aéroport Simon 5	KSK Lavni	Health all the way
Ilavois 5, house's member	KSK Revolution	Revolution of cleaning = health all the way.
Sarth school	KSK In-Baptiste du Sable	Health is victory
Simon Pele	KSK Lakou La Roche	Health is my Fashion

Conclusions

According to low level of WASH knowledge and inadequate sanitation and hygiene infrastructure and practices, in so many communities and more would benefit from a Wd education program. A PHHE intervention could serve as well creating health as demand for improved WASH infrastructure. This could lead to a significant reduction in diarrheal and others in Haiti including the STDs, family planning and birth control for both teens, younger and adults. Furthermore, some surveys had been made to be valuable in determining the utility of a WASH-based PHHE programs in similar rural or urban community settings throughout the Island After two similar surveys in the main communities, they are being conducted a big graduation of the number members who finished all the 23 sessions for WASH program and 10 sessions for The Big decision. Then others facilitators have to be trained for creating and leading new clubs in their own communities, and 20 of them lead actually 21 communities to spread out the mission and finally seeing the behavior change. Even thought most of the time we are facing with some Barriers to Improved Defecation Practices such as People don't have time or don't want to do cat sanitation.' 'They are living like sardines, and if you would like to build a community latrine for them, you cannot find any place, but it is so amazing to see how people can make miracle when they are grouping and decide to say this what we need, what action that we will make all together for our health by changing first of all their mentality and acting differently.

Acknowledgements

The authors would like to thanks Jason Rosenfeld, M.P.H., Dr. Alfonso Contreras, MD/MPH Regional Advisor, Health promotion, at PAHO in WDC, on this project, all the CHCs facilitators of Community Health Clubin Haiti for serving as our knowledgeable guides in the community; and all the residents of the communities in Haiti: Carrefour Feuilles, Sarthe Genain, Carrefour Vincent, Jerusalem/Canaan, Simon Pele, Lizon and Wharr/Jeremie, Lizon, Delmas etc.

References

1. Ministry of Public Health and Population of Haiti. Last report about Cholera. February 2013.
2. PAHO/WHO Division of disease prevention and control program. 2011.
3. PAHO. Health information and analysis. Technical information system. www.paho.org. Accessed October/December 2011.