

# MEDIA INTERNATIONAL DEVELOPMENT SPRING Project, Burkina P2 Hygiene

## BEHAVIOR: WASH HANDS WITH WATER AND SOAP

### behaviors promoting

**Everyone should wash their hands with water and soap after defecation or after cleaning a child who has defecated, before eating and before handle food. Wash the hands of small children with water and soap before they eat and after defecation.**

Strengthen the usability of water containing soap and kettles in each concession and / or near the latrines. Make sure that the water in kettles clean.

### Background

UNICEF estimates that if people wash their hands with soap, infant morbidity related to diarrheal diseases could be reduced by almost 50%. According to the DHS 2010, 72% of rural households have a place to wash their hands, but in only 8% of these households was observed that water and soap were available. 40% of these households had only water. In the North, Sahel, West Central and South Central, only half (44 á 52%) of households has such a place.

### Barriers to behavior change

When washing hands with plain water is a common practice, **the use of soap is not a widespread practice**. Wash hands **with soap** is not yet an established habit. It is believed that the soap is not necessary that water alone is enough, or not using soap simply negligent.

In half of the rural households (UNICEF 2010), it is reported that there is a failure income to buy soap regularly. At the same time, most households have a type of soap but it is commonly used for laundry or clothes.

Sometimes parents hide the soap, for fear that the neighbors steal or squander the children.

### Elements promoting change Behavior

Most women (UNICEF 2010) say it takes to wash hands **to remove dirt and remove dirt they associate with to avoid diseases**. They also justified by the need **to be clean** (but not explicitly to kill germs). Other important reasons are: the habit of washing hands before eating; to kill germs; for removing a bad smell; the habit of washing hands after using the toilet.

In what situations do you wash your hands? The most frequent (88%): **Before and after meals common**. Less Before preparing or serving food; when one considers that the hands are dirty; after using latrines; after touches an object or a dirty product; . after cleaning a child

Moments meals, cooking for women and hours of prayer for Muslims are the main times when people wash their hands with plain water Faso.

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