

The Safe Water, Clean Hands for Ethiopian kids project (GG1414888), which so many have generously supported is proceeding well.

This project provides water filtration systems, and drinking and hand washing stations for 13 schools in Addis Ababa, Ethiopia, for an originally projected 5800 children. It also provides Hygiene training at 39 sites in Addis Ababa, developing hygiene skills for an originally projected 3750 children and almost 3000 teachers and caretakers.

The Global Grant was approved by The Rotary Foundation on 24 January, 2014, and funding was complete on 11 September, 2014, which officially started the project.

Working together with RC Addis Ababa West (RCAAW), Splash (our NGO cooperating partner), and the Addis Ababa Education Bureau (AAEB) we identified the thirteen schools to receive water filtration systems, and drinking and hand washing stations. These schools serve some of the poorest neighborhoods in Addis Ababa, with the worst water conditions. Because they are significantly larger than initial projections, this project will now provide almost 28,000 students and staff with safe water, and provide Hygiene training to approximately 42,000 students and staff - an almost 5 times increase over our initial projections.

The water filtration systems and spares have safely arrived in Addis Ababa, and the first installation began mid April, 2015, with all installations planned for completion by Sept., 2015.

The Hygiene education is also underway. Three Hygiene Promoters have been hired and trained. One of these trainers is a member of a local Rotoract club, and approximately 26 Rotoractors from several clubs will be participating in future training and event days.

Hygiene training has been conducted in 10 existing sites and was enthusiastically received. We have also conducted a Global Hand Washing day event at 5 existing sites, at which Rotoractors from 3 local clubs participated, handing out bars of soap and demonstrating proper hand washing steps. Hygiene training and Hygiene event days will continue through December, 2015.

We are hoping to visit some of the new sites, and participate in/observe Hygiene training activities in 3Q15. If any Rotarians or interested public wish to join us in Addis Ababa for those visits, you would be welcome.

It has taken a lot of time and effort to develop and finally start implementing this project, and we appreciate your continued support. Now we will start seeing the rewards of this effort and long wait - around 28,000 Ethiopian children will receive a dependable supply of safe water, and almost 42,000 learning good hygiene habits - leading to healthier and happier lives.

I've attached several pictures of recent activities in Addis Ababa, and if you have any questions please let us know. I've also attached a copy of our one page project description

Yours in Rotary,

Larry Logue

RC Lake Union

Water Filtration Systems in Splash warehouse ready for installations.



Splash Hygiene trainers show students proper hand washing technique



Student demonstrating good handwashing example



And here is what was on those hands before proper washing

