

CARE Water News – November 2013 Bulletin

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Dear Colleagues,

We are excited to share the latest edition of the CARE Water News Bulletin with you, which includes an interview with Marceline Peine of CARE Cameroon; featured WASH technologies; and new WASH research. We hope this monthly email will help keep you up-to-date on happenings in the sector. If you have contributions for inclusion in subsequent bulletins, we would love to receive them; please send any interesting documents, videos, photos, articles, opinion pieces, or other news highlighting your work in water to sgloor@care.org.

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Around the CARE World

Engage with your fellow CARE WASH colleagues in our December E-Debate!

The CARE Water Team will be hosting an online e-debate December 9 – 13. Our topic will be: ***Is it time to move beyond community management of water schemes?*** Participants can “reply all” to the prompt distributed via email on December 9. This is a great forum to share ideas and learn from your peers about current hot topics in water, sanitation, and hygiene!

NEW! GWI East Africa Website and Video

The Global Water Initiative East Africa (GWI EA) *Secure Water for Smallholder Agriculture* is a 5-year program of action research, advocacy, and policy influencing funded by the Howard G Buffett Foundation and implemented by CARE. Check out the new GWI EA website, which offers publications, information about the GWI research approach, media, and more. Visit <http://www.gwieastafrica.org/>

Also, don't forget to watch the new GWI EA video, *Harvesting our Futures*, which looks at how farmers in Northern Uganda are coping with uncertainty and change in their agricultural livelihoods.

[Check out](#) the full video.





SOCIAL MEDIA READER SURVEY – Only one question!

We want to learn about our readers to help us make our monthly Water News Bulletins even better! Please participate by taking our one-question survey [here](#) or copy and paste the following link into your browser:

<http://www.surveymonkey.com/s/8S7V3DZ>

Happy World Toilet Day!



[World Toilet Day](#) was honored on November 19 to call attention to the work being done to reach the MDG for sanitation. While 240,000 people per day have gained access to basic sanitation since 1990, 2.5 billion still lack access to improved sanitation facilities.

How did you mark the occasion? Email sgloor@care.org with photos, articles, or any other information about how you observed World Toilet Day. Let's work together to raise awareness of the importance of the toilet.

GET TO KNOW: Marceline Peine, Project Manager for the “Councils, Water and Health Project” with CARE Cameroon

How did you become interested in water issues?

Several infectious diseases are linked to poor quality of water including malaria and infant diarrhea. In the northern regions of Cameroon, the realities are even worse because less than 30% of the population has access to drinkable water. In 2011, the cholera epidemic that hit the region leaving families helpless touched me greatly. In fact, I was scandalized and decided to take water problems in my professional and personal life seriously.

What is the most interesting part of your job? Why?

In the “Councils, Water and Health Project,” a diagnosis of water points in communities showed that more than 45% of existing water points in the project zone were no longer functional and that the population was living off water from rivers or non-protected wells – further exposing the population to various diseases caused by dirty water conditions. Due to the capacity building process that the water management committees put in place, the population has started their contributions to repair non-functioning water sources. I found the latter very interesting because it shows ownership and awareness of the effects of consuming dirty water.

Have you worked with CARE in the past? In what capacity?

I previously worked as assistant project manager for the HIV/AIDS Prevention Program, which seeks to reduce new HIV infections amongst key populations in Cameroon.

What do you feel are the largest challenges confronting the WASH sector in West Africa in the next 5 years?

With climate change, humidity is becoming less, reducing agricultural production which in turn will reduce the economic viability of the country. The recurrence of floods causes a lot of problems with the destruction of materials and also transmission of various diseases and other epidemics. We cannot ignore that many countries in Central and West Africa do not have



water and sanitation as a national priority.

What is your favorite regional dish/meal?

I like “Bongo Tchobi” from the Littoral region of Cameroon.

What is your favorite jet lag remedy?

Sleep and enough rest.

If you could have a significant impact on one WASH-related behavior, which would you choose? Why?

- Open defecation
- Handwashing—because the power is in our hands to prevent diseases due to WASH related behaviour.
- Safe water storage
- Water treatment
- Water conservation

Which is your favorite toilet or sanitation technology?

- PeePoo
- ArborLoo
- Ventilated Pit Latrine
- Biogas toilet
- Urine diverting toilet

I prefer covered latrines with decking – which is more appreciated and known in rural communities of Cameroon.



Mbongo (“bongo”) Tchobi is a spicy black tomato-based stew made with fish. Credit: www.africanbites.com

Featured WASH Technologies*



Pit Latrine Innovation

The BRAC WASH programme in Bangladesh is working on improving the pit latrine by discovering ways to convert fecal matter into commercially viable fertilizer, biogas, and electricity. Currently, filled pit latrines are often emptied into or near bodies of water, risking water contamination. BRAC hopes to incorporate composting, biogas creation, and other technologies into the new innovation. “The aim is to complete the sanitation chain by making material from millions of pit latrines safe and economically productive.”

[Read](#) more.

***CARE does not endorse or promote any particular technologies. This section is for informational purposes only.**

Other Updates

We Can’t Wait: A Report on Sanitation and Hygiene for Women and Girls

In recognition of the first official World Toilet Day, a report on sanitation and hygiene for women and girls was recently released to draw new attention to the Millennium Development Goal’s sanitation target. The report, entitled “We Can’t

Wait,” was published jointly by the Water Supply and Sanitation Collaborative Council, WaterAid, and Unilever’s leading toilet brand Domestos. It highlights the disparities in toilet access and use of hygienic practices for women and girls around the world, and serves as a reminder that over 2.5 billion people globally still lack access to an adequate toilet. [Read](#) the full report.

A Review of WASH Interventions and Their Effect on Children’s Nutrition

The Cochrane Review on WASH and Childhood Undernutrition, published recently, provides a synthesis of the current evidence relating WASH improvements to childhood undernutrition. The purpose of the study was to evaluate the effectiveness of WASH interventions on improving the nutrition status of children under the age of 18 years, as well as to identify any current research gaps. The report reviewed 14 studies of WASH interventions from ten low- and middle-income countries, and found that WASH initiatives can benefit the growth of children less than five years of age. [Access](#) the full version or an abbreviated version of the study.

10 Things You Need to Know About Sanitation

[Read](#) UN-Water’s take on the facts about sanitation.

Mapping Sustainability Assessment Tools to Support Sustainable Water and Sanitation Service Delivery

Aguaconsult, with the aid of IRC International Water and Sanitation Centre, has published a report reviewing five different sustainability assessment tools that are currently used to monitor WASH interventions. The report found that all five tools considered financial, institutional, environmental, technical, and social factors of sustainability. In general, the tools focus largely at the provision level with less attention given to broader policy and governance issues. The tools differ in their stage of application, their complexity, and their adaptability. [Read](#) the full report.

Sustainable Service Delivery in an Increasingly Urbanized World: USAID Policy Paper

USAID has published a new policy paper on *Sustainable Service Delivery in an Increasingly Urbanized World* with guidelines to help countries and communities improve the delivery of essential services, like water+, in urban areas. The development principles it outlines include (1) ensuring political and financial sustainability; (2) advancing accountable, pro-poor service delivery models; (3) fostering market orientation and public-private collaboration; and (4) supporting municipal resilience. [Read](#) the full paper.

For More Information

[CARE Water Wiki](#) | www.care.org/water | [Pinterest](#) | [YouTube](#)

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