

Documentation of Hygiene and Sanitation Practices

In my own words:

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Key words: Hygiene and Sanitation, Latrine, Taboo,

“Dhukkub Aadaa Abbaa Isaa Hinbarbadu-Diseases attack irrespective of those who obey the tradition and customary laws. We can not be healthy community unless all of us have the latrine. I believe all of the Borana community in my compound will have latrine in the short time.

My name is **Kura Bora**. I am 20 years old. I do not have husband. I have one daughter of four years old. I live with my daughter and younger sister. My sister helps me and because of this I feel happy in my life.

The major source of my livelihood is petty trade. I have one goat. The environment is changing from time to time and becoming unreliable. Rain fall is unpredictable. The short rain of this year seems good but it started late. This year I have cultivated Teff and Haricot bean on small plot of land after I have asked for help for oxen from my relatives.

CARE GWI project has stayed some two years in our area. Two training were given to me. Both of the trainings were on hygiene and sanitation. The first time I took the training I feel I should construct my own latrine. Traditionally I and all of the Borana community in our compound used to go in the bush for open defecation. As time passes I felt this activity is not good for our health because of the bad smell of human feces. In addition I realized that human excreta can cause disease.



I am the first lady to construct the latrine in this village. I was considered as evil wisher in the very beginning because of the belief of our community towards latrine. No one used latrine in our compound before me. Burying of human excreta is considered as evil. It was said that some one who is alive must not bury his excreta. This was wrong belief in our community stayed for long time. Now, after the community seen the importance of latrine form me and some other people, they are

accepting.

I remember that some people discouraged me of digging the latrine. They cursed me as I am evil wisher. After some time people started to appreciate my endeavor. Even some have started digging through

competition with me. They day “how can we be inferior to this lady; she has no husband but constricted latrine. It is shame to us to have no latrine. Therefore, we should construct our own latrine” I feel honor because I have teach many people about use of latrine.

My four years small daughter has stopped open defecation. Even if I am not around she waits me since until I come back. She even cries than open defecation. Use of latrine means a lot for us. We have now freedom. I feel free while I defecate inside latrine because it increases privacy. Whenever I go to collect fuel wood I do not open defecate in the bush rather I will come back home and go to use the latrine.

Our livelihood is changed tremendously because of the use of latrine. In addition we have started to burry other plastic bags which are polluting our environment. We have sanitation campaign days to clean our environment. I am one of the members of the committee. These changes become after GWI program has trained us about environmental heath, hygiene and sanitation.



The house of Kura Bora

I have also constructed separate kitchen after the training on hygiene and sanitation. I started to wash my cloths and keep clean my staffs and home. As you can see my saloon is clean and well arranged. My glasses and trays are kept clean. As a result I and my daughter and my sister are healthier than ever before. We are now living in the cleaner environment than before.

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In my own words:

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My name is **Jarso Wario Galgalo**. I am 30 years old. I have completed grade eight but now I have dropped due to the lack of support from my parents. I have two wives. My children are three out of them two are sons and one daughter. I have also one adopted daughter. I live in Hidi Babo peasant association in Ellamu village. We live in the south most part of the country deep in the rural area.

My livelihood depends on cattle herding. Recently, I am engaged in crop farming. Crop farming is not reliable due to recurrent drought and unpredictable rainfall. Cultivation is opportunistic. Some time you can succeed or you can fail. In response to the deterioration in the livelihood, I have entered in to the petty trading as livelihood diversification.



I know GWI program for more than one year working in my area on hygiene and sanitation as well as digging ponds. I have some information about hygiene and sanitation while I was in school. But I did not practiced until GWI started the intervention on hygiene and sanitation. I had the chance to travel to the urban areas for many times when I was a Kebele chair man. But I did not change my mind towards hygiene and sanitation until I got adequate information form GWI. I have not received formal training from GWI. My neighbor who participated on Water Hygiene and Sanitation Training has initiated me to construct latrine. The other source of information to me is GWI community facilitator and government health extension workers.

I came to recognize that some of my neighbors are exercising basic hygiene practices. As time goes on I asked my self why am I not changed. I decided to follow the foot steps of Saro Konsole who has constructed both latrine and bath room side by side. You can see my latrine is a direct replica of Saro's construction. I am planning to complete my latrine and shower with in short period of time. My latrine is 3 meters deep and 1.20 meters wide. My plan is also to cement the floor of both the latrine and bath room.



I stopped going in the bushes for defecation. I use the toilet from my neighbor until I finish my own toilet. In that, I have saved my time of traveling some minutes to the bushes. The other benefit by using latrine and keeping personal hygiene the disease prevalence has been reduced. There is less diarrhea and other water borne diseases due to environmental sanitation and safe disposal of human excreta.

Even small kids do not practice open defecation rather they go to the toilet. No one use to open defecates like our fathers accustomed to. Some one practice open defecation is ashamed of people observing him. No one feels comfortable while practicing open defecation. We had tremendous change on the behavior over hygiene and sanitation.

I want to construct kitchen and change the roof of my house with corrugated iron sheet. I am also planning to fence my compound to better manage its cleanliness and secure my and families privacy.

We are boiling water to make it safe for drinking. We let the boiled water to settle for some time. We also let our water for some time to settle the dust particles. The other thing is that we have started to use the water guard for water purifying. We use pond water which is constructed by GWI before one year ago. Unless we purify it we will got sick. We have seen that diseases have been reducing due to this activity. I thank GWI for all of the treatment they have given to us. We are far behind information and technology. But thanks to GWI that have enabled us change our livelihoods.

We have environment campaign activities. We have collected all plastic bags and burned. Our compound was full of solid wastes and plastic bags. It was dirty and unsightly. There was a breeding ground for flies and other disease vectors. Now, look there is no such things in our village. It is cleaner than ever. There is also frequent sanitation campaign on our village mobilized by water sanitation and hygiene committees. I hope I will become role model for others in the near future. My plans are many. Our environment is also changing time by time. I am optimistic that all of us will become hygienic and neat.

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In my own words:

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“I would say there is an improving trend in the hygienic practices in my village and even beyond. The Borana community is not resistant to changes as was before. I believe every body practice such activities like I do”

My name is **Darmi Liben Sarite**. I am 35 years old. I live in Bokossa cluster of Boku Luboma Pastoral Association, in Miyo district, southern Ethiopia. I have five children out of whom four are daughter and one is son. The elder son is whose name is Galgalo Liben is 16 years old. My second daughter is Kabe Liben who is 13 years old. The names of the rest douthers are Kabe Liben, Dabo Liben and Dhaki Liben and they are 10, 7, and 4 years old respectively.

I am pastoralist living in the rural area of Miyo district. I know how to herd livestock previously. My husband has tried small cultivation of maize yet it has failed due to the unreliable and uneven rainfall. Our livelihood is deteriorating because of human and livestock pressure on the rangelands.

I have been involved in the GWI activity before one year. I got the awareness of hygiene and sanitation from CARE. CARE staff come and tech us about hygiene and sanitation because he had the chance to look what conditions of hygiene and sanitation in Nairobi and other cities. My husband has also awareness on the use of keeping personal hygiene and sanitation. He has asked us to construct latrine before the GWI has intervned in our village but we refused him. After our community members received training, they have started to pass what they have learned from the training. I and my husband agreed to construct the latrine. You can see now we have latrine



After we have constructed latrine, our compound become tidy. We drink surface water that can be contaminated as a result of human excreta in the bushes. This is not happened now. We use latrines. My small kid of 4 years knows the importance of use of toilets. She do not practice open defecation. All of my families uses latrine. I am afraid to go to the bushes for defecation. I feel ashamed when I sit for defecation in open area. This is a great change to me.

I also did not seen community in my village sitting for open defecation.

There is now little occurrence of water born diseases as a result of open defecation. In the near past before the practice of use of latrine, disease cases for water born and due to lack of personal hygiene were common. Now we began to keep ourselves and our environment tidy.



The other is on the environmental sanitation. After training us the impacts of solid wastes and unsafe disposal of plastic bags, we have started to clean our compound. I burn plastic bags often the times. As you can see my compound is clean now than before. There are no plastic bags and other solid wastes in my compound. You can also see my house is well made with mud wall and painted.



I use ash to avoid bad smell from the toilet. I have observed that whenever ash is added on the toilet flies do not visit the mouse of the toilet. This reduces environmental defecation keeps our children health. It prevents diseases. I have also bath lot in the toilet which is cemented inside. The bath room and the toilet are constructed together.

Our plan is to construct kitchen in the near future. My husband is a bit busy with other activities. Whenever he finishes other activities, he promised me to construct kitchen for us. I am eager to have that one in the near future.

Hygiene and sanitation is life for every body. Some one who has no good hygiene is not confidence to appear in front of other people. I would say there is an improving trend in the hygienic practices in my village and even beyond. The Borana community is not resistant to changes as was before. I believe every body practice such activities like I do.

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