



Sudan: Blue Schools

Project Duration

01.07.2020 – 30.06.2023

Budget

CHF 3'000'000

Intervention Country and Zone(s)

Sudan, North Kordofan and West Kordofan


Main Topics

Health, with focus on Water, Sanitation and Hygiene (WASH); Blue Schools

Key Partners and Stakeholders

Sudanese Red Crescent Society (SRCS; North and West Kordofan branches), Ministry of Education, Ministry of Health, Water Environment Sanitation (WES) and Water Corporation in Abuzabad, Bara, El Nehud and Sheikan localities

Co-Funded by

 Schweizerische Eidgenossenschaft
Confédération suisse
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Swiss Agency for Development
and Cooperation SDC

Context and Problem Analysis

Sudan is ranked on the lower end of the Human Development Index, namely on place 168 (from a total of 189 countries); Human Development Index Report 2019). Only 60% of the population in Sudan has access to drinking water. The latest outlook of the country's humanitarian needs does not presage improved water conditions which has an impact on the socio-economic growth. Limited access to health as well as the lack of safe drinking water and education systems remain a challenge.

The Covid-19 pandemic has had a further negative impact on the country's economy and educational sector. The limited health services are overwhelmed due to a lack of proper infrastructure, supplies and qualified personnel. This situation is yet compounded by a political transitional situation that remains fragile leading to long periods of school closings.

The present Blue Schools Project is looking at improving sustainable and safe drinking water and sanitation provision in 30 schools in North and West Kordofan. Through the Blue Schools concept, school children acquire knowledge about climate-smart gardening, prevention of waterborne diseases, malaria and other vectors of disease through hygiene promotion. School children thus have the ability of becoming agents of change in their communities. The project also promotes appropriate sanitation services that are gender sensitive and which address the different needs, including Menstruation Health and Hygiene Management

Blue Schools

Project Objectives and Intervention Strategy

Through this project, access to basic and essential WASH services is increased by improving access to safe water supply and sanitation and by changing the WASH behaviour of students while at the same time improving their knowledge and practices on hygiene. The project is based on the Blue Schools approach to enhance knowledge and practices for school-aged children. Schools stand at the heart of the project and students act as agents of change to improve water, sanitation and hygiene knowledge, attitudes, and practices of rural communities.

Likewise, within a collaboration framework with stakeholders such as the Ministry of Health, Ministry of Education and that of Environment and Water Resources, as well as the local authorities, the project is increasing the knowledge and disseminating good practices that are translated into improved policies. The project is essentially focussing on the community health and geared towards prevention. Therefore, it helps to play the interface between the vulnerable population that are at the centre of our action and the public authority. Thus, giving them the opportunity to have access to quality public services and at the same time contribute to the behaviour change for a healthy life. The project encourages innovation that comes with the creativity from school children especially within the school clubs which spearhead the project in schools. These school clubs enable students to demonstrate their hidden talents through drama, painting, art and the like to promote good hygiene practices, climate- smart gardening and environmental protection.



Image 1: SRCS, SRC and the Teacher Parent Association (TPA) visiting AlBirka Madina Boys School waterpoint (Photo by Jerry Niati-SRC)

Swiss Red Cross in Sudan

The Swiss Red Cross supports communities in Sudan in increasing sustainable access to essential services that are key for healthy living. The Swiss Red Cross is focussing its activities in the areas of health and disaster risk management while at the same time contributing to the restructuring efforts of its main

Target Groups: Beneficiaries & Institutions

30 
Schools

✓ 
Activities in
Communities

- Increase the sustainable access to safe drinking water, improved sanitation and hygiene for over **8'000 students** (55% girls) in **30 schools** in North and West Kordofan.
- Raise the awareness through hygiene promotion of over **46'000 persons** in the communities around the schools.
- Increase knowledge and expertise of the Consortium partners and the water sector in general; and facilitate the replication of good practices and shaping of appropriate sectoral policy frameworks in Sudan.

partner, the Sudanese Red Crescent Society. Main objectives in health include improving access to quality WASH infrastructure and to change WASH behaviour and to improve access to quality health services



Contact Swiss Red Cross

Jerry Niati, Sudan, jerry.niati@redcross.ch, www.redcross.ch

Swiss Water and Sanitation Consortium (SWSC)

The SWSC is a consortium of eight Swiss NGOs who pool their resources and know-how to increase access to safe drinking water, adequate sanitation and improved hygiene. In its third phase (2020-2023), the SWSC features 16 projects in 12 countries in East and West Africa as well as in Asia.

Contact Swiss Water & Sanitation Consortium (SWSC):

Thijs van der Velden, info.consortium@waterconsortium.ch, www.waterconsortium.ch



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