

BLUE SCHOOLS – SUMMARY NOTE

Linking WASH in schools... with environmental education and practice

Supported by: The Swiss Agency for Development and Cooperation (SDC); Swiss Water and Sanitation Consortium (SWSC); Terre des hommes; Caritas Switzerland; HELVETAS; Eawag; IRHA.



What is a Blue School?

A Blue School is a **healthy and environmentally friendly school**.

It offers a healthy learning environment and exposes students to environmentally friendly technologies and practices that can be replicated in their communities.

Becoming a Blue School is a **step by step** process. The starting point is to ensure that children drink safe water, use well-maintained latrines and maintain good hygiene practices.

Once this is achieved, Blue Schools **goes beyond WASH** and focuses on menstrual hygiene and health, school garden activities, safe management of solid waste, and environmentally friendly practices.

In a Blue School, children learn around the Blue Schools topics through **practice and experiments**.



What is the Blue Schools Kit?

The Blue Schools Kit is composed of:

- **A Catalogue of Technologies:** compiling examples of low-costs and easy to replicate technologies to choose from;
- **A Catalogue of Practical Exercises:** with hands-on and low-costs participative activities that teachers can use to complement the theoretical lessons;
- **A facilitator's Guide,** that provides a nice visual summary of the practical exercises that a teacher can use for each Blue Schools topic.

These materials are meant to **inspire** schools' stakeholders in their pathway towards becoming a Blue School. They are organised in different topics:

- **WASH-related topics:** drinking safe water, sanitation and hygiene, menstrual hygiene and health; and
- **Environment-related topics:** sustainable land and water management techniques to apply in the school garden, safe solid waste management, watershed, water cycle, etc



My Drinking Water



Sanitation and Hygiene



Growth and Change



From Soil to Food



From Waste to Resources



My Surrounding Environment

Blue Schools in Cambodia

In 2019, **Caritas Switzerland**, in partnership with the provincial authorities, SEADO and RCEDO, implemented *Blue Schools* in eight pilot schools in Banteay Meanchey Province. The approach led to real improvements in school learning environment. The approach is currently being scaled up in 45 schools, in collaboration with the Provincial Department of Education, Youth and Sport, SEADO and the Rural Water Supply and Sanitation Team (RWST).

The Blue Schools Kit is accessible online:
<https://waterconsortium.ch/blueschool/>

For more information, please contact:
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Video link:
<https://m.facebook.com/100003165870748/posts/2368530629929110?sfns=mo>

