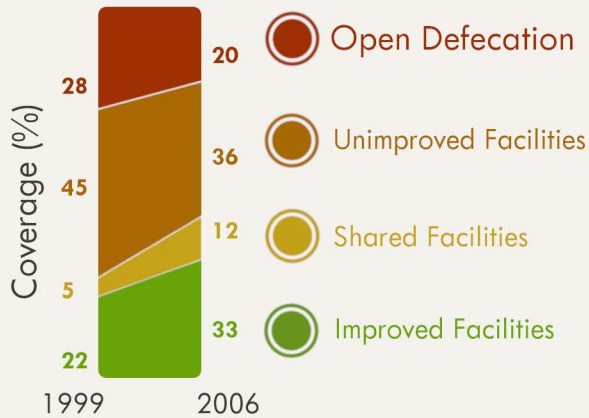


McGovern-Dole International Food for Education and Child Nutrition Program 2015-2018

2 out of 7 people in Central Africa practice open defecation. Close to 8.9 million people in Cameroon lacked access to improved sanitation such as a *pit latrine with a slab* in 2006. Lack of access to sanitary toilets, basic hygiene and sanitation education and clean water facilities contribute to the more than 315,000 yearly child deaths from diseases caused by unsafe water and poor sanitation in Africa. School absenteeism from these causes is high.



School toilet model constructed by Nascent for MGD 2015-18



Trends in the proportion of population using either an improved, shared, unimproved sanitation facility, or practising open defecation in **Central Africa**, 1990 –2006 . WHO



...The children now are not tempted to defecate in the bush because the MGD toilets are so clean... They quickly line up to wash their hands after picking rubbish in the schoolyard or going to the toilet.

-Mrs Sheila Mbuyeh, class 4 teacher
CS Melim, MGD Program school



Typical handwashing station constructed by Nascent for MGD 2015-18

SHEILA'S STORY: SANITATION



Sheila participated in a Nascent led MGD workshop on the promotion of health and hygiene behaviour change strategies in schools with fellow teachers of CS Melim (health and hygiene champions in schools). Beyond toilet etiquette and handwashing, simple do-able ideas to engage pupils in positive hygiene practices were discussed. It was proposed that schools convert used empty USDA 20L oil containers into trash bins and that pupils be taught good disposal practices in a bid to curtail littering and promote a culture of cleanliness.



In addition to the schoolyard looking clean, the children find fun using the dustbins and always find an opportunity to drop something in them because it is nearer to them. So much classroom time is saved because we no longer stop teaching to direct children to pick rubbish from the schoolyard – almost an entire lesson period!!

In every MGD project school, it is currently mandatory for the schools to re-use of the oil containers as trashbins, among other promotional activities. This in-school culture of cleanliness, good hygiene and sanitation shows promise of spreading into the greater communities.

