



World Vision

Office of Global Health

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DREXEL UNIVERSITY
School of
Public Health

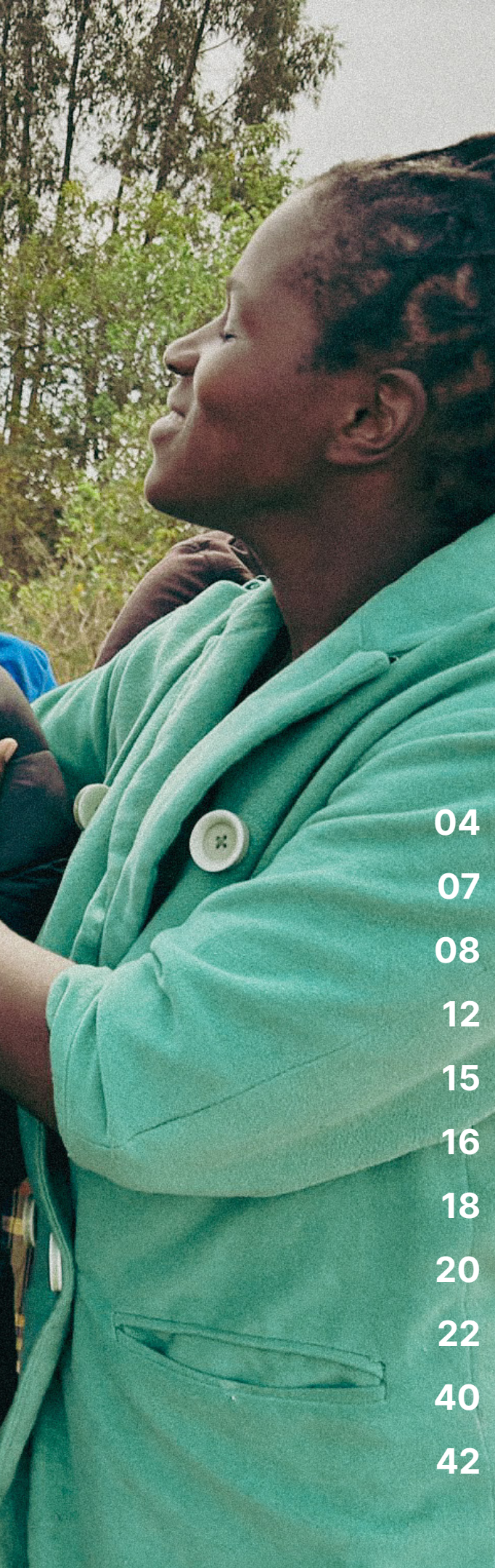
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EXECUTIVE OVERVIEW

Access to clean water, adequate sanitation, and hygiene (WASH) is a fundamental human right and a cornerstone for global health equity and socioeconomic development. Yet, millions of people around the world still face daily challenges in meeting these basic needs. In 2014, Drexel University and World Vision—the largest NGO provider of clean water in the developing world—came together through the visionary philanthropy of Dana and David Dornsife to tackle these challenges head-on. Their historic gift laid the foundation for a transformative partnership that prioritizes equity, capacity building, and meaningful change in communities worldwide.

Over the past decade, this partnership has cultivated a dual approach to addressing the global water crisis: training future leaders and empowering those on the front lines. Through innovative programs that combine academic rigor with real-world applications, Drexel students have gained hands-on experience tackling complex WASH challenges. Simultaneously, World Vision's field staff have engaged in professional development opportunities to amplify their ability to serve communities with sustainable, community-led solutions.

The impact of this collaboration extends across sub-Saharan Africa, Latin America and the Caribbean, Asia, and even Drexel's own neighborhood in Philadelphia. Together, we have reached countless lives by creating solutions that are not only technically sound but deeply rooted in the principles of equity and respect for human dignity. From advancing gender-inclusive WASH strategies to addressing systemic barriers faced by underserved communities, this partnership represents a shared commitment to building a fairer, healthier world. As a result, Drexel students have emerged as

global changemakers, and World Vision teams have deepened their expertise to meet the evolving needs of the communities they serve. More importantly, the partnership has improved the everyday lives of real people: families with safe water for drinking and cooking, schools equipped with proper sanitation, and entire communities empowered to sustain and grow these achievements.

Marking 10 years of this collaboration, this report highlights not just milestones and metrics but the personal stories and collective impact that define this journey. It is a testament to the power of partnership, the importance of equity in global health, and the potential of training to bridge academic excellence and community transformation.

As we look forward, our commitment remains unwavering. With renewed focus, expanded ambition, and the lessons of the past decade, we are poised to scale our efforts and continue creating meaningful, lasting change for generations to come.

As the social, political, and environmental climates evolve, so must we—expanding our reach, deepening our impact, and building communities that uphold dignity and create sustainable futures. Together, we will do more, do better, and ensure that every step forward shapes a healthier, more equitable world where no one is left behind.

Idris T. Robinson
Executive Director, Global Health
Drexel University







STRATEGIC APPROACH



OUR STRATEGY

Our strategic approach aims to optimize resources, enhance learning opportunities, and empower students to deliver sustainable, high-quality WASH interventions. This approach serves as a bridge, connecting scientific research, applied change theory, and development practice—all within the context of advancing community progress.

Our Threefold Commitment to Community Progress

01

Academic Training that equips Drexel students and WV field staff with the knowledge and skills to tackle complex challenges and drive sustainable impact.

02

Professional Development that bridges knowledge gaps by addressing growing challenges and supports effective implementation at all levels.

03

Field Work and Deployment that fosters knowledge exchange through hands-on experiences for students and trainees, while enhancing practical skills, and promoting WASH program effectiveness.



CAPACITY BUILDING

The Drexel University and World Vision commitment to WASH capacity building has served as a catalyst for fostering numerous programs across the university.



Dornsife Global Development Scholars Program

The Dornsife Global Development Scholar's Program is a nationally and internationally recognized capacity-building program that bridges gaps between research, practice, and problem-solving to improve global health. Through mentorship, students of all majors work with World Vision International, to advance U.N. Sustainable Development Goals related to water, sanitation, and hygiene (WASH).



Global Health WASH Certificate at Drexel University

A collaboration between Drexel University, World Vision International, and the Desert Research Institute, the Global Health WASH Certificate was launched in 2015 to build capacity among WASH field staff in low-income countries. The program combines online courses with hands-on training in Africa, equipping participants with critical skills. Complementing the Dornsife Scholars Program, it fosters professional growth and impactful global health outcomes.



The Dana and David Dornsife Office for Experiential Learning

The Dornsife Office for Experiential Learning connects LeBow students, faculty, and industry leaders to develop impactful, evidence-based business solutions through innovative curricula and real-world consulting projects. Opportunities include intensive international residencies such as an experience in Zambia, where students addressed critical WASH challenges. These projects offer students a chance to apply interdisciplinary research and drive meaningful change where portfolios like World Vision WASH can receive an immediate benefit.



The Ubuntu Center on Racism, Global Movements, and Population Health Equity

The Ubuntu Center is dedicated to addressing racism and advancing health equity by fostering collaboration among diverse partners, including activists, researchers, and community members, particularly those historically excluded from academia. Rooted in Drexel University's commitment to social justice and health as a human right, the center focuses on generating evidence, promoting antiracism solutions, and supporting collective scholarship, training, and action to transform community health locally, nationally, and globally.



Dornsife Center for Neighborhood Partnerships

The Dornsife Center is a neighborhood hub that connects the Mantua, Powelton Village, and Drexel communities through programs for all ages. By combining Drexel's academic resources with the expertise of community partners, the Center addresses local needs, fostering empowerment, education, and collaboration. Committed to economic and social justice, the Dornsife Center amplifies community voices while supporting diverse stakeholders. Dornsife Scholars have contributed by integrating their global WASH experiences into locally focused programs at the Dornsife Center, enriching community-facing initiatives with insights from their international work in Philadelphia.





DORNSIFE GLOBAL DEVELOPMENT SCHOLARS PROGRAM EXPANSION

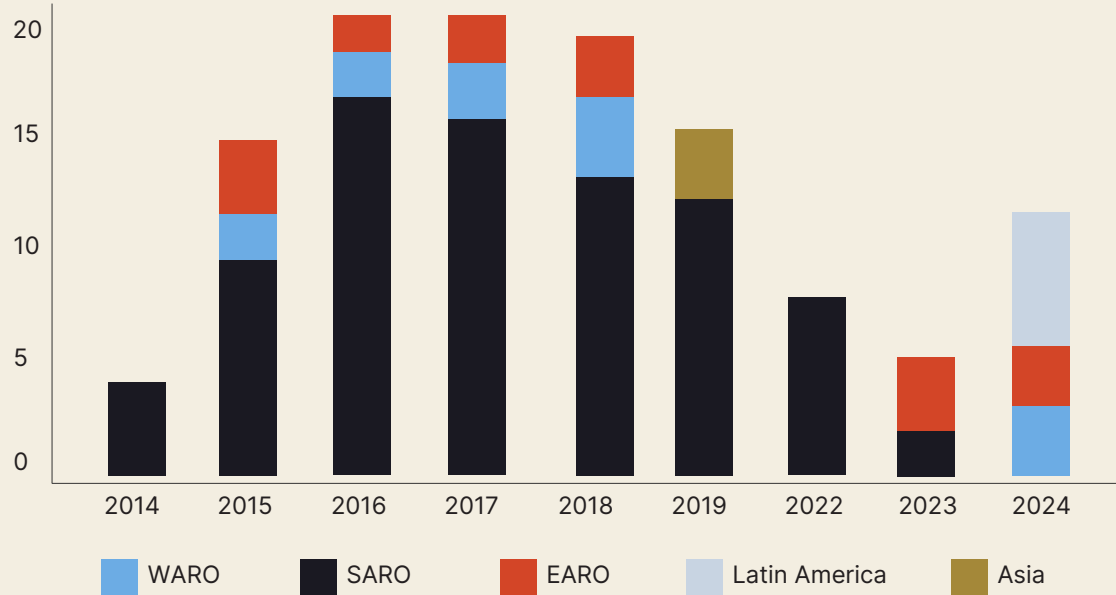
When the Dornsife Global Development Scholars program launched in 2014, its initial focus was providing scholars with transformative international experiences in rural sub-Saharan Africa. However, from the very beginning, there was an ambitious vision to extend this opportunity globally, leveraging World Vision International's presence across the developing world.

Over the past decade, that vision has become a reality. The program has expanded its reach to 16 countries spanning Southern, West, and East Africa, as well as Asia and Latin America, offering scholars a diverse range of experiences.

We are proud of the progress we've made and excited to continue expanding our reach in the years ahead.



DGDS Host Location Expansion Graph



BY THE NUMBERS

The Dornsife Global Development Scholars program has achieved extraordinary growth over the past decade, firmly rooted in our commitment to equity and inclusivity. By embracing students from diverse ethnicities, genders, academic disciplines, and backgrounds, we ensure this traineeship reflects a rich tapestry of perspectives and that opportunities remain equitable and accessible to all. We take immense pride in the impactful contributions of our 114 scholar alumni, whose work has touched and transformed countless communities worldwide.

International Scholars

15% of scholars from 2014–2024 were international students, reflecting the program’s commitment to global representation and inclusion.



Diverse Representation

In total, **76%** of Dornsife Scholars identified as members of racial, ethnic, or religious minority groups, demonstrating the program’s dedication to fostering diversity and inclusion in global health.



Co-op Integration

More than **26%** of scholars engaged in the program to fulfill co-op requirements, aligning their global impact work with academic and professional development.

First-Time Travelers

10% of scholars were international students, bridging the burden gap of gaining experience in contexts similar to that which many Drexel students call home.



Early Engagement

14 Scholars began their global health journey as Dornsife Scholars during their freshman year, emphasizing the program's ability to inspire global engagement early in academic careers.

Advancing Gender Equity

Over **77%** of women made up the Dornsife Scholars, highlighting the program's commitment to gender equity in global health leadership.



DANA AND DAVID DORNSIFE
SCHOOL OF PUBLIC HEALTH

NESBITT HALL
DREXEL UNIVERSITY





SCHOLAR HIGHLIGHTS

2016 Alumni Scholar Katrina Lewis named one of Drexel's Top 25 Distinguished People of Purpose by the College of Nursing and Health Professions.

2017 Alumni Scholar Jerry Nutor developed the Africa Interdisciplinary Health Conference (AFIHC), promoting health research across Africa.

2017 Alumni Scholar Marissa Olson was awarded a Fulbright Fellowship to Spain and will serve as a teaching assistant in Spanish K-12 or university classrooms.

2017 Alumni Scholar Mariah Menanno received the CEIA Peggy Javie International Work Experience Award, recognizing her excellence in international cooperative education.

2018 Alumni Scholar J'Anna-Mare Lue received the Alexander-Williamson Memorial Scholarship for her work addressing WASH infrastructure challenges in Sekameng, Lesotho.

2018 Alumni Scholars Leila Nzekele, J'Anna-Mare Lue, and Sharon Dei Tumi co-founded the Sanitation and Hygiene Aid Relief Program (SHARP). The student organization promotes interdisciplinary collaboration, education, and civic engagement. Later, 2023 Alumni Scholar Rodríguez Villarreal served as its president.

2018 Alumni Scholars Leila Nzekele and J'Anna-Mare Lue, raised \$1,700 for SHARP to sponsor VIP latrines in Lesotho villages, under the leadership of **2019** Alumni Scholar Jerusalem Tamire. Combined with a \$10,000 Davis UWC Project for Peace grant, these efforts supported the construction of 15 VIP latrines in southern Africa.

2019 Alumni Scholar Aditi Bawa's poster won first place at the Wisconsin Science Policy Conference. Her work evaluated the Citizens Voice in Action (CVA) initiative in Choma, Zambia.

2019 Alumni Scholar Christiana Obeng earned first-place honors at DUCOM Discovery Student Day for her research on WASH infrastructure in Lesotho.

2023 Alumni Scholar Anil Kumar delivered an electrifying commencement speech as the representative for the graduating class of 2024.

2023 Alumni Scholars TJ Gaither and Devneet Kainth presented their research at the 2024 Alliance of Minority Physicians Conference, earning first-place honors.

2023 Alumni Scholar Emily Lincoln received the competitive Boren Fellowship to Brazil for Portuguese language study.

AT A GLANCE

This section highlights where participants of the Global Health WASH Certificate Program come from, the projects they work on, their achievements, and the impactful job titles they hold.

Where Participants Are Coming From

In total, 248 World Vision employees have participated in the Global WASH Certificate Program.

West Africa

Chad, Niger, Ghana, Sierra Leone, Mali, Senegal

Women: 20 Men:44



East Africa

Burundi, Kenya, Ethiopia, Rwanda, Somalia, Tanzania, Uganda

Women: 31 Men:49



Southern Africa

Angola, DRC, eSwatini, Lesotho, Malawi, Mozambique, Namibia, Zambia, Zimbabwe

Women: 41 Men:44



Asia Pacific

Bangladesh, Cambodia, India, Indonesia, Laos, Myanmar, Vietnam

Women: 4 Men: 9



Middle East and Eastern Europe

Afghanistan

Men: 2



The Americas

USA, Nicaragua

Women: 2 Men:2



Project Categories



WASH Up



Waste Management



WASH in Schools



WASH & Climate Change



WASH Barriers



MCH



Inclusive WASH



M&E



Emergency WASH



WASH Communication

Celebrating Recent WASH Certificate Student Achievements

The 2024 cohort demonstrated remarkable professional growth, with many participants earning promotions and advancing their careers through the Global Health WASH Certificate Program. This program opened doors to new opportunities for professional development. Continuing a tradition of excellence, World Vision employees showcased their expertise at three prestigious conferences: the UNC Water Conference, WaterNet, and the WASH Forum. These events highlighted the cohort's contributions to global health and WASH initiatives, reflecting their dedication and impact in the field.



Shared Expertise at Professional Conferences



Advanced Career Growth and Promotions



Expanded Educational Opportunities



Implemented Evidence-Based Strategies

Field Staff Positions

The Global WASH Certificate program includes students holding various roles and titles within World Vision. Below are some common positions among field staff.



Hygiene & Sanitation Specialist



Design M&E Manager



Knowledge Management Coordinator



WASH Engineer



Health & Behaviour Change Specialist



Health & Nutrition Coordinator



Assoc Director of Quality Assurance



GEOGRAPHIC SCOPE

DGDS and the Global Health WASH Certificate Program are active in 34 host locations around the world.

- DGDS Host Locations
- WASHcap Host Locations
- Shared Host Locations



THE AMERICAS

- Guatemala
- Honduras
- Nicaragua
- United States

WEST AFRICA

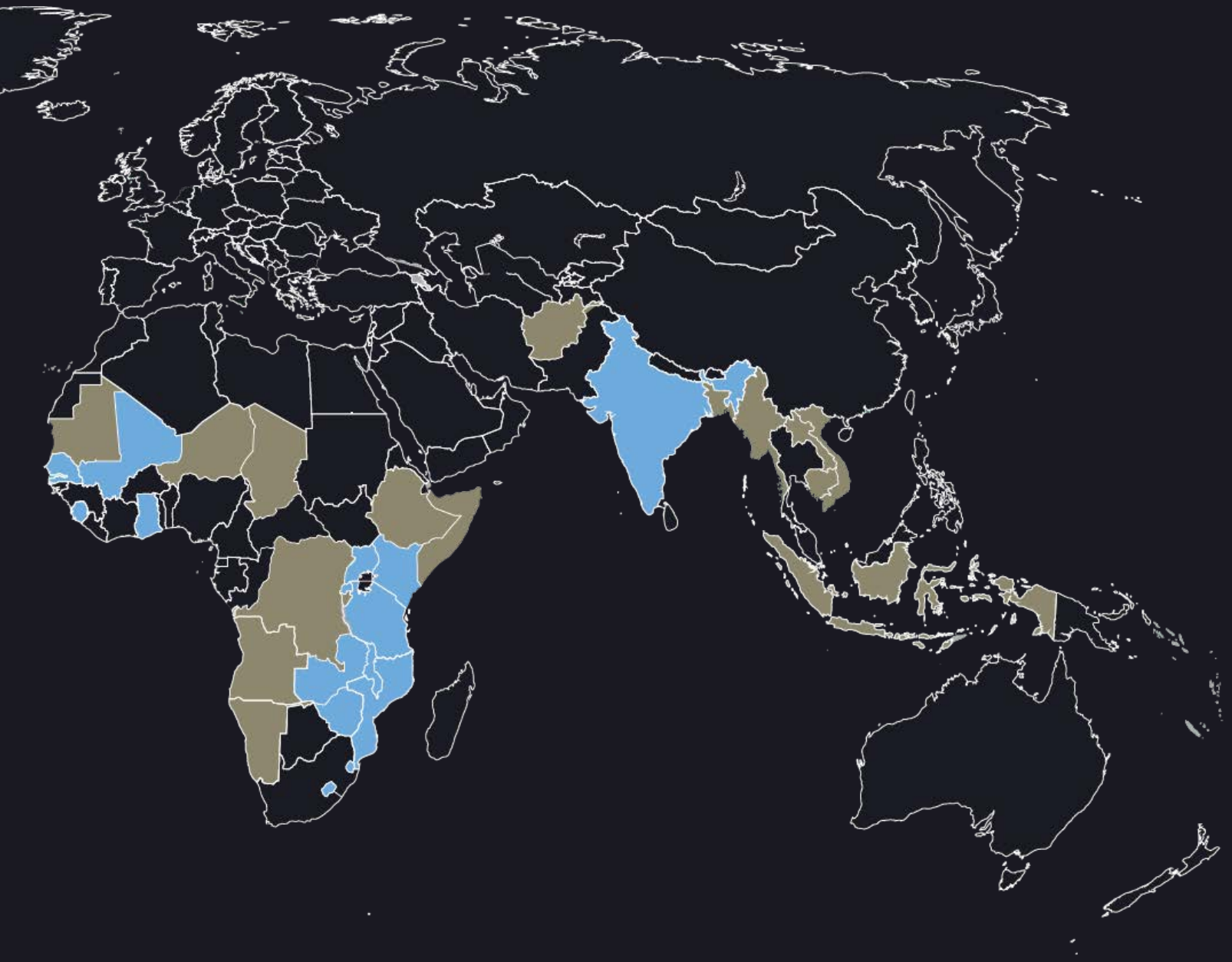
- Chad
- Ghana
- Malu
- Mauritania
- Niger
- Senegal
- Sierra Leone

SOUTHERN AFRICA

- Angola
- Democratic Republic of Congo
- Eswatini
- Lesotho
- Malawi
- Mozambique

- Zambia
- Zimbabwe

Namibia



EAST AFRICA

- Burundi
- Ethiopia
- Kenya
- Rwanda
- Somalia
- Tanzania

ASIA PACIFIC

- Bangladesh
- Cambodia
- India
- Indonesia
- Laos
- Myanmar
- Vietnam

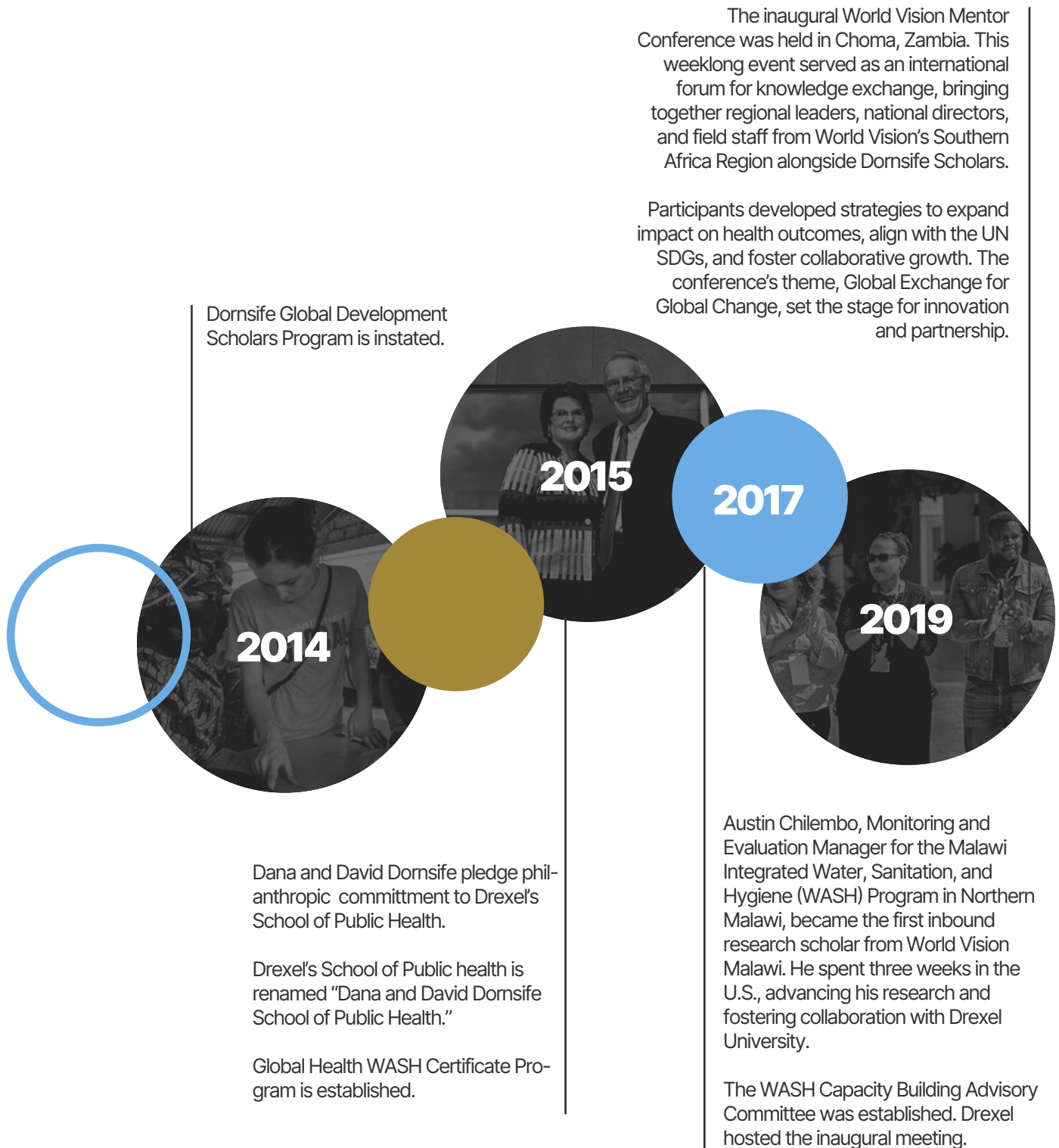
MIDDLE EAST

- Afghanistan



2014-2024 TIMELINE

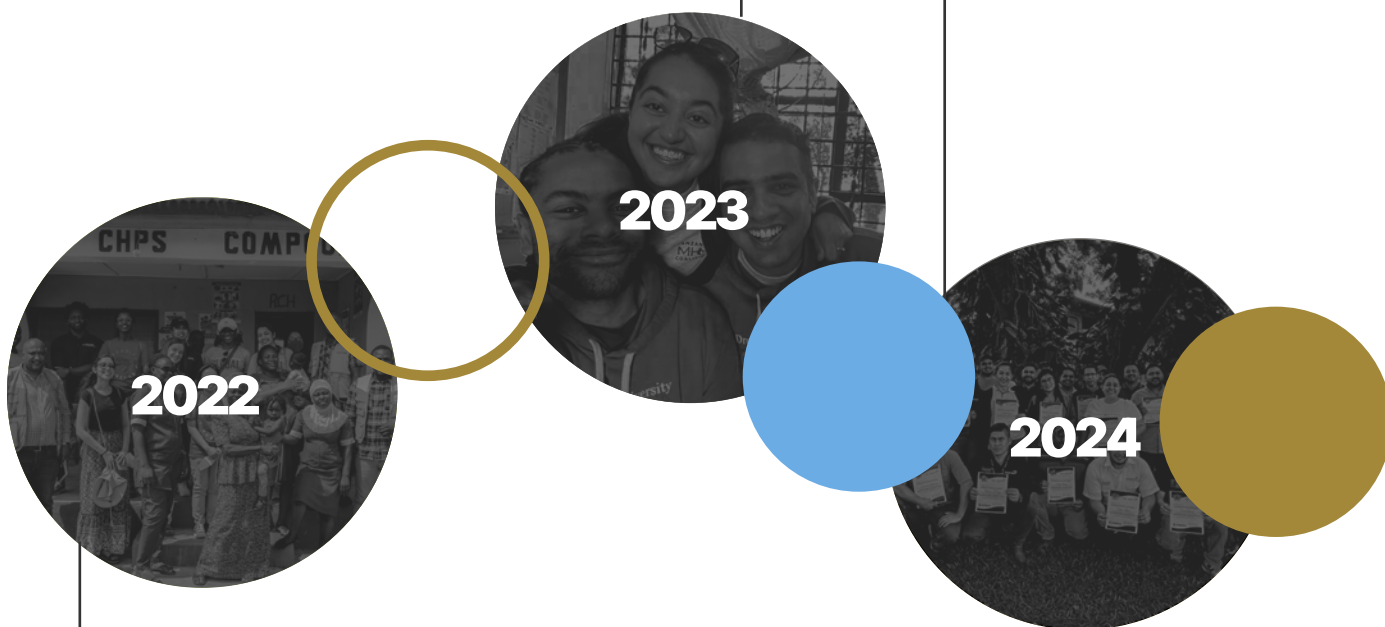
This timeline highlights key milestones achieved throughout the past decade, showcasing progress across various initiatives and programs. It reflects our commitment to driving impact through strategic planning, collaboration, and execution.



Four Dornsife Scholars collaborated with WV's WASH Research Equity Initiative to publish "Principles for Increasing Equity in WASH Research: Understanding Barriers Faced by LMIC WASH Researchers" in BMJ Global Health.

A historic cohort of Dornsife Scholars were hosted by LAC regional leadership, by Guatemala and Honduras national staff.

Global WASH Certificate alumni Mita Sirait and Peter Karanja delivered guest lectures at Drexel University, sharing insights from their impactful WASH efforts in Indonesia and Kenya.



As the program rebounded from COVID-19 disruptions, eight Dornsife Scholars participated in an intensive field experience in Ghana. This new model brought together Drexel University, World Vision, and the Mandela Washington Fellowship for Young African Leaders. Scholars engaged in a two-week immersion program covering topics aligned with global strategies to address health inequalities and environmental sustainability. Fieldwork spanned seven regions focusing on assessing and promoting WASH behaviors in community and healthcare settings.



REFLECTIONS

Itoro Inoyo
2015 Dornsife Global Development Scholar, Malawi



In the summer of 2015, I served as a DGDS Scholar in Balaka, Malawi, focusing on Maternal, Newborn, and Child Health (MNCH) under World Vision's Water, Sanitation, and Hygiene (WASH) program. My work addressed health issues like diarrhea, HIV/AIDS, acute respiratory diseases, and malaria. I conducted hygiene education in communities and schools to promote better practices and collaborated on a grant proposal at the University of Malawi for community-based hygiene interventions, which was later funded.

This experience was transformative. Initially planning to attend medical school, my time in Malawi inspired me to pursue a career in global health, teaching me the power of collaboration and com-

munity-driven solutions. It also highlighted the importance of listening deeply to those closest to the challenges, a skill that has shaped my professional approach.

The people I met were the most impactful part of the program. Whether it was the dedication of my World Vision colleagues or the creativity of WASH club students using art and music to share health messages, they taught me to be intentional and collaborative. Overcoming the language barrier by learning Chichewa phrases helped me build trust and connect more personally with the community.



Since then, I've applied these insights to roles at USAID and beyond, focusing on gender equality, reproductive health, and innovative healthcare solutions in countries like Kenya, Malawi, and Nigeria. As a birth doula, I advocate for holistic care, especially for Black women facing systemic disparities in maternal health. My journey, sparked by my time in Malawi, continues to drive my commitment to creating meaningful, sustainable change.



J'anna Lue
2018 & 2020 Dornsife Global Development Scholar, Lesotho



I had just completed my first year of university and was a part of the Students Tackling Advanced Research (STAR) Scholar program and opted to do international STAR with DGDS. This program led me to Lesotho in Southern Africa.

I knew the program was focused on water, sanitation but as an engineering student, I was more interested in the technical aspects of WASH. I originally intended to test the water quality of the sources that rural communities used as their primary water sources and compare it to water quality data during the 2015/16 drought if available. However, in the field that shifted due to a combination of data and resource availability and my developing research interests. My project ended up being an investigation of the impact of droughts on the lives of the people living in rural communities in the Sekameng Area specifically,

the ways in which drought impacted the health, food security, and livelihoods of these communities.

In this program, I began to think about actionable and community-engaged research. Being a Dornsife Scholar put me firmly on my current path as a PhD student at the University of California, Berkeley, where I study Civil and Environmental Engineering taking an interdisciplinary approach to climate change research and engineering education.

My current projects explore the impact of colonial worldbuilding through infrastructural development on contemporary Caribbean (specifically Jamaican) natural, social, and built infrastructures influencing the ability of Jamaicans to be resilient to climate shocks.



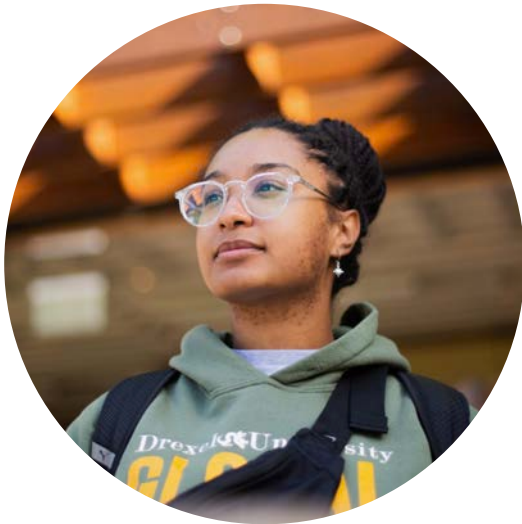
Another project I work on identifies avenues for incorporating community engagement as well as anti-racist education and praxis as well as consideration of environmental justice and community engagement in civil and environmental engineering education.

The research and relational skills I learned from my times being a Dornsife scholar still inform my scholarship and research ethics.

The experience reaffirmed my passion for water and climate justice and deepened my commitment to increasing access to life-affirming infrastructures for communities on the frontline of climate change.



Kaelah Grant
2020 & 2022 Dornsife Global Development Scholar, Ghana



I was honored to be a 2020 Dornsife Global Development Scholar, though the COVID-19 pandemic reshaped our journey.

While my cohort couldn't travel that year, I was given an incredible opportunity to contribute to research on decolonizing the WASH (Water, Sanitation, and Hygiene) sector in collaboration with World Vision WASH. This project, which I undertook alongside three other scholars, became a transformative three-year journey culminating in our research being published in the *British Medical Journal* in 2023.

In 2022, I finally had the chance to travel to Ghana with the 2020 cohort. There, I witnessed firsthand the impactful work of World Vision WASH across various regions.

This experience deepened my passion for public

and global health, particularly in participatory and ethnographic research methods. It was in Ghana that I fully realized my passion for public and global health, inspiring me to apply to Master of Public Health (MPH) programs.

Today, I am a second-year MPH student at Columbia University's Mailman School of Public Health in the Sociomedical Sciences Department with a certificate in Global Health. Currently, I am immersed in my six-month Applied Practicum Experience (APEX), which has taken me to two countries, Jordan and Uganda. I spent the first three months in Jordan, interning with the King Hussein Foundation's Institute for Family Health and the Royal Health Awareness Society (RHAS).

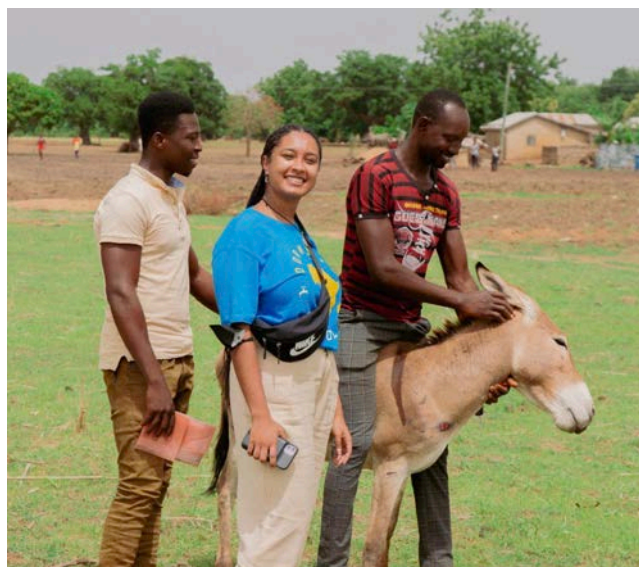
Now, I am in Uganda, working with the AfriChild Centre. Both internships are humanitarian focused and have allowed me to engage with



Centre. Both internships are humanitarian focused and have allowed me to engage with complex issues affecting refugees and vulnerable populations, including GBV, early childhood development, employment, primary care, and child exploitation.

My experiences during my Master's have introduced me to humanitarian action and its intersection with global health. For my Master's thesis, I am conducting a rapid review of the psychological impacts of the ongoing war in Sudan on internally displaced persons (IDPs) and refugees. This work reflects my commitment to addressing the mental health needs of those affected by conflict.

In May of 2025, I will graduate with my Master's degree and work abroad during my gap years



before pursuing medical school. I always knew that I wanted to be a physician working globally. The Dornsife Global Development Scholars program showed me the path of global health leading me to my Master's and ultimately making me a better physician.

Clara Nicole Pitman
2024 Dornsife Global Development Scholar, Kenya



In the summer of 2024, I had the privilege of serving as a Dornsife Scholar in Kenya. There, I worked closely with World Vision to evaluate the impact of their WASH (Water, Sanitation, and Hygiene) interventions on maternal and child health (MCH). This opportunity provided me with hands-on experience in global public health, allowing me to grow both personally and professionally while contributing to meaningful work in a real-world context.

My project focused on assessing the effectiveness of World Vision's WASH initiatives and their impact on maternal and child health outcomes in Kenyan communities. Over a seven-week period, I conducted interviews with a wide range of stakeholders, including World Vision program managers, community health workers, healthcare professionals, and community members. The goal was to collect data that could illuminate

the successes, challenges, and potential improvements for WASH interventions. I visited three communities in Isiolo and Wamba, where I facilitated field interviews, gathered data, and synthesized findings into a comprehensive report presented to the World Vision team in Kenya.

This experience transformed my understanding of public health work in diverse global settings. Being immersed in the community allowed me to witness firsthand the challenges faced by these populations and the resilience they displayed. I gained invaluable insights into how global health initiatives operate, particularly the importance of tailoring interventions to the unique needs and cultural contexts of the communities they serve.



This placement sharpened my adaptability, cross-cultural communication, and qualitative research skills, which are essential for my future work in global health.

The most impactful part of my time in Kenya was visiting hospitals and women's groups. These visits gave me the opportunity to hear directly from women about their health concerns and priorities, offering a deeper understanding of the cultural context and population-level health needs.

During my placement, I developed essential professional skills such as qualitative research, data analysis, and project evaluation. I also enhanced my cultural competency and adaptability, learning to navigate complex cultural dynamics to foster trust and meaningful dialogue.



Observing how WASH interventions are implemented and monitored in resource-limited settings provided me with a practical understanding of development work that has directly informed my academic and professional pursuits.

This experience has prepared me to pursue a meaningful path in global public health, particularly in the areas of maternal and child health and WASH interventions.

Nobuhle Mlotshwa
Cohort 6, Global Health WASH Certificate Student



I completed the WASHCap program in 2020, an experience that has profoundly influenced my professional journey and personal growth. Currently, I serve as a WASH Coordinator with the Zimbabwe Country Office, overseeing the implementation of water, sanitation, and hygiene interventions. My role ensures these projects meet established standards and are executed within scope and on time. This work has allowed me to apply the knowledge and skills I gained during WASHCap, ensuring the delivery of impactful and sustainable WASH solutions.

One of the most rewarding aspects of the WASHCap program was the opportunity to interact with individuals from various national offices. These interactions provided a rich exchange of knowledge and diverse perspectives, further enhanced by the expertise of experienced lecturers. Site visits to different countries offered invaluable insights,

providing a real-world context that helped deepen my understanding of WASH interventions.

The program provided me with critical skills in areas such as monitoring and evaluation (M&E), which was not previously my area of expertise. I also gained a deeper understanding of social behavior change, which I now recognize as a multifaceted process that requires a holistic approach to achieve lasting impact. These skills have been essential in my work, allowing me to monitor the effectiveness of interventions and ensure they deliver meaningful outcomes for the communities we serve.

The WASHCap program also gave me a global perspective on WASH, illuminating its complexity and the need for integrated efforts among humanitarian workers to



and the need for integrated efforts among humanitarian workers to address the challenges it presents. This comprehensive view has strengthened my ability to approach WASH projects strategically, integrating various elements to achieve more sustainable and impactful results.

My capstone project deepened my interest in MHM and led to opportunities to present on this topic at international platforms such as the UNC 2023 Conference in North Carolina, USA. This work has fueled my commitment to advocating for the needs of girls and women in WASH.

Since completing the program, I have prioritized the inclusion of women and girls in the design of WASH solutions, ensuring that sanitation facilities are accessible and inclusive and that menstrual hygiene resources are adequately addressed. Overall, the WASHCap experience has been

transformative, equipping me with the skills, knowledge, and confidence to make meaningful contributions to the WASH sector. It has reinforced my belief in the importance of addressing the unique needs of women and girls in WASH and has inspired me to continue championing these issues in my work.

Mabinty Conteh
Cohort 8, Global Health WASH Certificate Student



In my role as a Project Officer with World Vision Sierra Leone, I provide technical support to the Integrated Health for Child Survival project in Nimikoro, Kono District. This project focused on improving the well-being of children aged 0–5 by reducing their risk of infections and malnutrition. It took an integrated approach, combining interventions in Water, Sanitation, and Hygiene (WASH), Reproductive Maternal and Newborn Child Health (RMNCH), and Nutrition to strengthen the health care system and empower communities.

What I enjoyed most about the program was working alongside a diverse group of people from various backgrounds. The opportunity to learn from their experiences—whether in development or humanitarian contexts—broadened my perspective and strengthened my commitment to addressing WASH challenges. Conducting my capstone research was another highlight. The

process was demanding, from selecting a topic to analyzing data, but it greatly enhanced my skills in research, monitoring, evaluation, and strategic documentation.

I've led needs assessments in communities lacking basic amenities, using data to identify high-risk areas and prioritize interventions. I've facilitated the installation of solar-powered boreholes, improved sanitation facilities, and waste management systems in vulnerable communities and health facilities. I've also used tools like mWater to map water sources for better decision-making and worked closely with local advocacy groups to promote behavior change and secure resources for improved WASH infrastructure.

This experience has significantly boosted my confidence in the WASH sector. I approach decision-making with greater assurance, advocate



confidence in the WASH sector. I approach decision-making with greater assurance, advocate for effective WASH policies at local and national levels, and leverage the professional networks I've built to contribute impactful solutions. I feel well-prepared to collaborate across sectors and geographies, and I am committed to advancing sustainable WASH solutions that improve public health outcomes and transform lives.



Mohamed Ahmed
Cohort 10, Global Health WASH Certificate Student



In April 2024, I completed the WASHCap program as part of Cohort 10. This experience profoundly shaped my understanding of water, sanitation, and hygiene (WASH) challenges in underserved regions.

I gained valuable insight into factors influencing WASH systems and their critical role in public health, especially for vulnerable populations. I contributed to projects aimed at improving the lives of Somali children and families by identifying barriers to effective WASH interventions and developing culturally appropriate, sustainable solutions to enhance health outcomes. My work centered on fostering long-term impact through innovative approaches that addressed the unique needs of resource-limited settings.

This program emphasized the importance of creating solutions tailored to specific cultural and community contexts.

Working with Somali communities highlighted the need to balance immediate humanitarian needs with sustainable, community-led solutions. I learned that long-term success relies on empowering local populations, fostering partnerships, and creating strategies that reflect the lived experiences of those affected.

I was able to strengthen my project management skills through hands-on experience in planning, budgeting, and executing WASH initiatives. I also honed my abilities in community mobilization, stakeholder engagement, and hygiene promotion, all of which are essential for driving behavior change and improving public health. Exposure to innovative solutions such as solar-powered water systems expanded my perspective on the potential for scalable, sustainable technologies to address WASH needs in underserved areas. Working in



systems expanded my perspective on the potential for scalable, sustainable technologies to address WASH needs in underserved areas. Working in resource-constrained settings also improved my adaptability, problem-solving, and leadership skills, equipping me to navigate the challenges inherent in global health and development work.

Since completing the program, I have focused on fostering community ownership by forming and training local committees, which has improved project outcomes and long-term sustainability.

Ultimately, the WASHCap program has provided me with a solid foundation to take on more complex challenges and leadership roles, furthering my ability to make a meaningful impact in global health and development.



LEADERSHIP



Drexel Leadership

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Representative(s)*



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Global Studies Major
Undergraduate Sophomore

Afrah Howlader
Public Health Major
Undergraduate Freshman

Gabrielle Brizzi
Public Health Major
Undergraduate Freshman
Margot Debrabandere

Medicine
Graduate Student (DUCOM)

Rhea Mathew
Medicine
Graduate Student (DUCOM)

Alexandra Eastus
Public Health Major
Undergraduate Junior

Jerusalem Tamire
Economics Major

Undergraduate Sophomore

Emily Lincoln
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2.025 NCD
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2.005 PLA

What Has Changed As a Result of Having Access to Water in Rural Communities in Gaza, Mozambique?

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BACKGROUND

Investments gained in infrastructure from Portugal in 1975, at a time plagued by civil war for 18 years afterwards. (1) The country suffers from lack of government infrastructure and an inability to manage its local communities. These factors have contributed to 50.4% of the population living below the international poverty line (USD 1.25) in 2011. It was reported that 31.2% of rural communities have access to an improved water source, illustrating the rate of water usage. (2) World Vision Health (3) aims to reduce the impact of the environment on the health of the population. The organization's mission is to improve the health, nutrition, and overall well-being of the population and to ensure the sustainability of each effort.

OBJECTIVES

• To understand the health and community changes, if any, that have taken place after implementing WASH (Water, Sanitation, and Hygiene) activities in rural communities in Gaza, Mozambique.

• To explore a community's understanding of the relationship between water access, WASH activities and using them to avoid water-borne diseases.

METHODS

Study population: Five rural areas, stratified by age, sex, location, and time into six categories. This represented a total of 220 community members.

Study design: An exploratory research that consisted of qualitative and quantitative data collection in seven WASH activities and efforts in Gaza, 100 community members (50 improved access and utilization of sustainable practice water systems, 50 improved knowledge and practice of safe hygiene and sanitation).

Questionnaire: To compare the water-borne disease and other health issues during activities involving water before and after the implementation of water provision in a community in the region of Gaza, Mozambique. Additionally, we assessed each community's understanding of the relationship of water, sanitation, and health by evaluating their knowledge of water-borne diseases, symptoms, causes, and prevention measures (400 total).

RESULTS



Figure 1. Water usage trends over time. The graph shows a fluctuating line representing water usage, with a notable peak in the middle of the period.

Figure 2. Water usage trends over time. The graph shows a fluctuating line representing water usage, with a notable peak in the middle of the period.



Figure 3. Community health knowledge. The pie chart shows the distribution of knowledge levels among community members. The categories are: 'Good' (35%), 'Fair' (45%), and 'Poor' (20%).

Figure 4. Community health knowledge. The pie chart shows the distribution of knowledge levels among community members. The categories are: 'Good' (35%), 'Fair' (45%), and 'Poor' (20%).

CONCLUSION

The installation of water kiosks in the 4 communities in Gaza, Mozambique, improved sanitation and health outcomes. The largest impact was on child water use, but also on other community and individual health outcomes. There is also an indication that water usage is increasing in other communities in Gaza. The installation of water kiosks in Gaza has improved the health and well-being of the population. Additionally, there are gaps in understanding the relationship between water access and health outcomes. The installation of water kiosks in Gaza has improved the health and well-being of the population. Additionally, there are gaps in understanding the relationship between water access and health outcomes.



2.008 PLA

Evaluation of the Health Impact of a Water, Sanitation and Hygiene Intervention at Mugombwa Refugee Camp

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Background
The health of refugees is often overlooked in global health research. This study aimed to evaluate the health impact of a Water, Sanitation and Hygiene (WASH) intervention at the Mugombwa Refugee Camp in Uganda. The study was conducted in 2018 and 2019. The intervention included the construction of latrines, handwashing stations, and water points. The study found that the intervention had a positive impact on the health of the refugees, with a significant reduction in the prevalence of diarrheal illness and an increase in the use of improved latrines and handwashing stations.



CONCLUSION
The WASH intervention had a positive impact on the health of the refugees at the Mugombwa Refugee Camp. The intervention led to a significant reduction in the prevalence of diarrheal illness and an increase in the use of improved latrines and handwashing stations. These findings suggest that WASH interventions can be an effective way to improve the health of refugees and other vulnerable populations.



STAR SCHOLAR

Study on the Effects of Clean Water on Physical and Mental Health in Malawi

Gabriella Matos, Department of Biology
In Science Honors: Dornish School of Public Health

World Vision
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Introduction

Results

Conclusion

References

Acknowledgments



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Introduction

2.4 billion people (about one-third of the global population) lack access to basic sanitation services, and 90% of these, 1.9 billion, live in the open (Khan et al., 2016). Sanitation as a business (SAB) is a change in including the private sector in sanitation. It can be used to increase the coverage of sanitation services.

WV aligns with Sustainable Development Goal (SDG) 6, on water and sanitation (and hygiene), and the means of implementation and the global partnership for sustainable development. SAB aims at creating a synergistic relationship between household and entrepreneurs providing sanitation services. Every household has basic sanitation is seen as a potential customer. This encourages the private sector to explore ways to increase their profit margins.

World Vision Malawi sees the importance of SAB and is currently using Community-led total sanitation (CLTS) to promote environmental sanitation. The problem in Malawi is that it's not monitored properly, creating an ongoing relationship between household and entrepreneurs. This research looks at market opportunities in Malawi to modify a suggestion to World Vision on how to improve current sanitation services.

1. Understanding demand, Price, and priority of SAB

Demand: 70% of participants answered yes if there was a demand for sanitation. The demand increases especially in very warm when the traditional latrine usually collapses. The promotional activities have helped to increase the demand for sanitation. The barrier is the high price the entrepreneurs charge.

Price: The price charged is high compared to the income of most people.

Price is constantly increasing as their investment cost such as transportation increases.

Strategy: Most entrepreneurs are currently using the public health approach when they are trying to reach the community about the use of latrines.

The social marketing approach is focusing on priority of proper sanitation by associating a structured latrine with a modern and improved lifestyle.

Investment Cost	100,000 MK	200,000 MK	300,000 MK
Entrepreneurial Income	\$ 296.60 MK	\$ 138.69 MK	\$ 694.11 MK
Entrepreneurial Income	0.300 MK	0.801 MK	0.894 MK
Entrepreneurial Income	145,025 MK	30,000 MK	250,000 MK
Entrepreneurial Income	0.000 MK	\$ 202.26 MK	\$ 41.67 MK
Entrepreneurial Income	0.000 MK	2,500 MK	\$ 2.47 MK
Entrepreneurial Income	0.000 MK	0.000 MK	\$ 11.11 MK

Methods of prioritizing sanitation

- 2% Education
- 48% Promotion
- 50% Franchise
- Quality

These methods are used to create a view where the community sees proper sanitation as a necessity in their daily life.

3. Understanding the classification of SAB based on Regions

Majority of the entrepreneurs are currently working around preurban areas and unevenly spread-out in Malawi.

4. Identifying challenges faced by entrepreneurs

Challenges: Market size, Distribution Channels, Inventory Investment, Disposal area, Temperature.

Sanitation as a Business

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World Vision.
For children. For change. For good.

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Methods



This research uses a grounded theory methodology.

- Interviewing participants with open-ended questions: interviews with NGOs, entrepreneurs and a professor of management.
- Researcher's Observation on the field and 3 focus groups living in rural community and masons engaged in total sanitation (CLTS).

The sample groups were chosen based on locations where the business was practiced widely for the last 5 years. The groups were divided into 4 major questions discussed in the study.

Data/Results

Utilizing waste and innovative materials

Changing Waste: The concept of utilizing waste in Malawi. Most of the entrepreneurs know about composting. Around 20% of those who have started utilizing it. Around 20% of those who have started utilizing it are planning to incorporate it into their business. Waste is removed using a hand pump called gulper or a hand pump used to make either Briquettes or compost.

Compost
It can be used as a fertilizer if it undergoes the proper process. The entrepreneurs engaged in this business don't promote it to be used as food.

Briquettes
A small block of compressed charcoal or wood for barbecuing or cooking food.

Innovative materials
Entrepreneurs use different new innovative materials. An entrepreneur has developed his own gulper that goes 1.5 meters deeper than regular gulper. Some others use innovation while building a latrine in areas with loose soil by combining it with grass and sand for a stronger latrine. Other entrepreneurs are also other types of innovative material to make latrines work easy.





TANQUE

CAPANDA

WASH

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Identification badge





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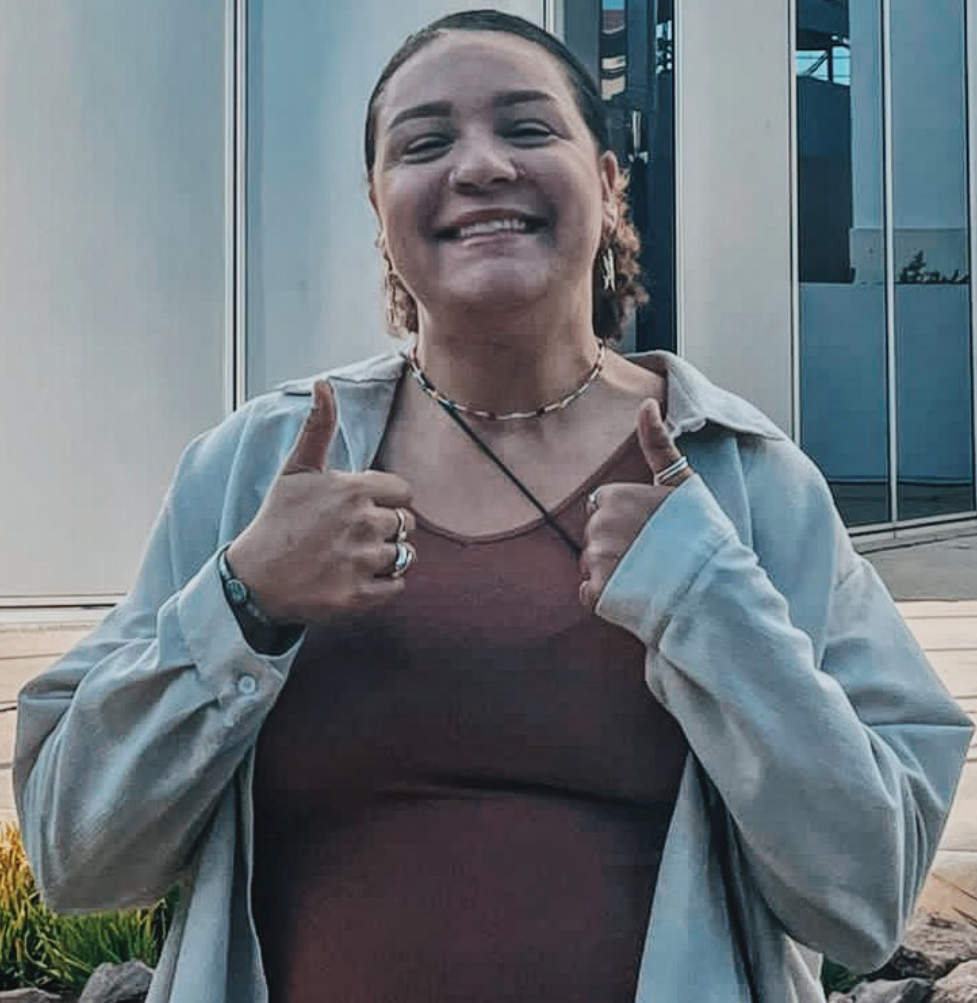
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