

From Open Defecation to Hygienic Public Toilets in Northern Region, Ghana

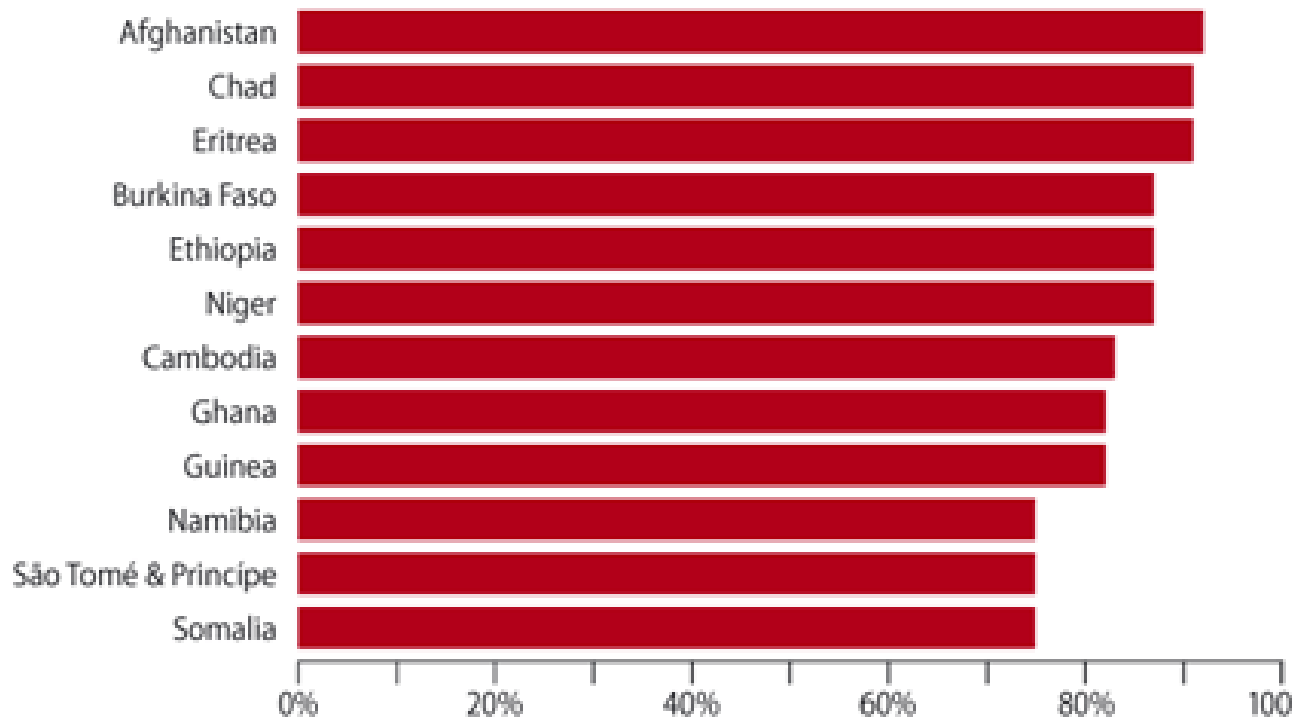


Susan Murcott
Mass. Institute of Technology
Civil and Environmental Engineering
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5 million Ghanaians (19%) defecate in the open.

Ghana has one of the worst records of access to sanitation in the world.

Countries with most open defecation and worst access to sanitation³



This is the site of the Pure Home Water factory
in Taha, Northern Region, Ghana



This is the
village school.

It has no toilet
facility, and
children
practice open
defecation in
the area
around the
school.

Taha Primary School, Ghana – 280 kids neighboring to Pure Home Water factory all practice open defecation



Try to find girls in these pictures... it seems that few girls in Taha are going to school at all

In January 2012, we held a workshop with the school children of Taha. We asked their help in planning a toilet block for the school.



In this picture, we are discussing the siting of the future sanitation block

Susan talking to the Gbalahi pottery women about their lives and daily practices.
Tranlation is through Abraham, a respected Pure Home Water staff person



Taha low flow, pour flush, squat toilet



Near-Completed Septic Tank (background)



Awal, John Michael, Shani & other men of Taha



Septic Tank



Shani (mason) and John



The plan for the Taha Public Toilet: 6 seater toilet block– 3 female, 3 male. Of 3 female, 2 are free for school kids, 1 is pay-per-use by adult female. Same for male – 2 for male school kids for free, 1 is pay-per-use by adult male



Pour Flush Squat Plate Inside 1 Stall



Wooden doors with dividing wall between female and male sides



Taha Toilet Block – Front View



Taha Toilet Block – back view showing septic tank



Peter & Jhanel paint the dedication plaque



Everyone from the Taha gathers



Opening Ceremony Festivities



Speeches by Baba Issa, Metro Assemblyman, Alfa Yahaya, Taha Iman, and Michael Anyekase, Mgr. Pure Home Water



Jhanel and the Elders at Opening Ceremony



Dori demonstrates how to use a pour-flush toilet



Toilet Use Demonstration & Hand-washing



Pour Flush Toilet Instructions for Males

PROPER USE OF POUR FLUSH TOILET



SQUAT & AIM AT HOLE



**WASH BOTTOM OVER SQUAT HOLE
OR DEPOSIT PAPER IN WASTE BIN**



**POUR WATER TO
FLUSH TOILET**



**WASH HANDS WITH
SOAP AND WATER**

Pour Flush Toilet Instructions for Females

PROPER USE OF POUR FLUSH TOILET



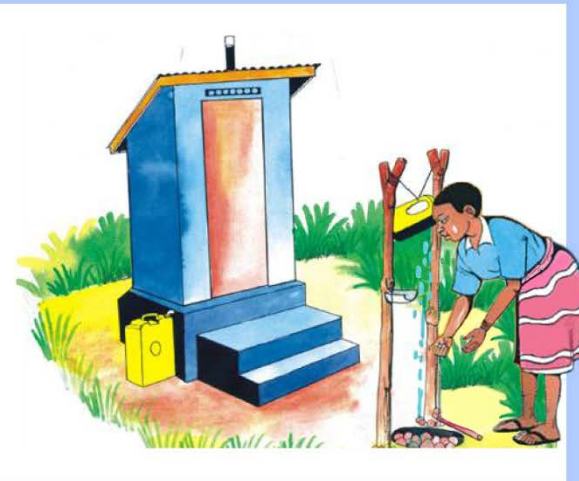
SQUAT & AIM AT HOLE



**WASH BOTTOM OVER HOLE.
DEPOSIT ALL PAPER OR CLOTH
IN WASTE BIN.**



**POUR WATER TO
FLUSH TOILET**



**WASH HANDS WITH
SOAP AND WATER**

Awal demos hand-washing using Tippy Tap



Taha's New Public Water Supply & Elevated PolyTank (left) is conveniently located about 100 paces from the new Public Toilet



School (left) and water point under construction (center)



Susan Murcott Speech, read by her student, Jhanel Chew, at the Opening Ceremony

Dear People of Taha,

Ladies and Gentlemen, Friends and Community Members. Pure Home Water is proud to greet you today and know you not only as excellent workers in the Pure Home Water factory, where we make filters to help bring safe drinking water to every home in Ghana. But we are also honored to have you as friends and neighbors. Because of this friendship, we wanted to extend our support to help the children of Taha, the boys and girls, but especially the girls, many of whom have not been able to attend school. Naturally, if Mary Kay and I and my woman students had not been given the opportunity to attend pre-school and primary school, we would not have learned the language, writing and math skills that have prepared us for the leadership roles that we perform today. My own leadership role has involved helping to conceive of and build the Pure Home Water factory in order to provide clean water to all and to provide good jobs that are guaranteed to our workers. Now, with the help of my student, John Maher and the men of Taha, we have built a hygienic and beautiful toilet block!

By this gift of the Taha Toilet Block, we hope that we can help to encourage everyone to go to school. In so doing, we look forward to knowing the future generations of Taha students who will be leaders in their community bringing peace and prosperity to Taha and to the wider world.

I pray for the success of this Grand Opening Ceremony. Please treat this toilet block as a gift.

Susan Murcott, on behalf of the Board of Directors of Pure Home Water



Taha Chief Inspecting the New Toilet Block





GIFT FROM PURE HOME
WATER TO TAHA
LY DESIGNED AND
BY COMMUNITY AND
JOHN EDWARD MAHER
ED BY PUBLIC SERVICE
ER OF MASSACHUSETTS
TUTE OF TECHNOLOGY
MISSIONED SEPTEMBER 2013

