Decreasing the number of elderly people (aged 50+ years) practicing open defecation and poor handwashing behaviors in a way that is practical and accessible for them and engages the community.

### By: CHILD HUG UGANDA (CHU)



### Introduction

- The experimentation is being conducted in Ayamo village, Okwerodot sub-county in Kole district, Uganda.
- Handwashing was at 4% and latrine coverage at 63% (Sub-county Sanitation Database, FY 2020/2021).
- The aim is to end incidences of diarrheal diseases resulting from poor sanitation practices amongst the elderly people in Kole district.
- Beneficiaries include; 75 out of 75 elders, 40 out of 45 care group mothers, 3 out of 3 Village Health Teams (VHTs), and 2 out of 2 youths living with the elders.
- Research phase was completed (April to May 2022), Tools used included; lifestyle diary, visual mind mapping, personas and photo collection tools.















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# Introduction Cont'd

Ideation phase was successfully completed (From mid-May 2022 to August 2022)

- Tool used was "bright star
- Activities conducted were; sub-county entry meeting, 3 community dialogue meetings with elders and 3 focused group discussions with care groups of mothers of children 0-23 months.





# Introduction Cont'd

CreateandTestLoopphasesuccessfullyongoing(Frommid-September 2022 up todate)

 Tool in use is "use journey and prototyping"

### Activities conducted so far include;

- Sensitizing elders on key areas of WASH by sub-county stakeholders other than community health workers.
- Joint purchase of cement for improving latrines
- Demonstrating the steps involved in setting up a functional handwashing facility through working with community health workers (VHTs)









## Results









Latrine coverage has increased from **64%** to • 78.4% and Hand washing coverage has increased from 4% to 20.3% (Sub-county Sanitation Database FY 2021/2022)

construction.

pit

in use

Particular Successes; CHU successfully completed research phase, ideation phase, and is in the process of create and test loop phase.







## **Results Cont'd**

### Challenges

- High expectation for monetary benefits.
- Most elders spent their time in their gardens
- Heavy rainfall
- Theft of HWFs
- Inflation
- Disability issues
- Swampy nature of the environment





### **General Lessons Learned**

•A clear understanding of the research objectives by the research assistants acts as a guide throughout the research process, narrowing their focus to the research key variables.

•Engaging the research respondents to individually fill the lifestyle diary allow them to own the entire process.

•A lifestyle diary designed attractively create interest in elders to fill these diaries daily.

•Prior knowledge of the objectives of an activity enables the participants to adequately prepare and actively engage in that particular activity. **fingo** 

## **Results Cont'd (Organizational Learning)**

#### **Special needs**

- 1. Neglected elders
- 2. Elders with disability
- 3. Elderly Widows and Widowers
- 4. Elders with fertility issues

Open defecation and poor sanitation practices

#### Impacts

- 1. Faeco-oral diseases
- 2. High malaria burden
- 3. UTIs majorly among women
- 4. Lowered immunity

#### Measures

1. Sensitization while engaging subcounty stakeholders

2. Joint purchase of cement by the elders for improving latrines

3. Demonstrating the steps involved in setting up a functional HWF

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### Socio-economic factors

- 1. Too much farming activities
- 2. Theft of established HWFs
- 3. Inflation
- 4. Disability
- 5. High expectation for monetary benefits
- 6. Inadequate knowledge on WASH
- 7. Inadequate water sources

# **Expectations**

By the end of this experimentation, CHU expects to achieve;

- **75** out of **75** elders establish all the necessary sanitary facilities required at household level to include; improved latrine, functional hand washing facility, bathing shelter, drying rack, drying line, animal house and rubbish pit.
- Improved latrine coverage to 100 % and hand washing coverage to 75% in Okwerodot subcounty.
- None of the 75 elderly people practicing open defecation and poor hand washing behaviors.
- Reduced incidences of diarrheal diseases among elders resulting from poor sanitation practices amongst the elderly people in Kole district.

### **Collaborations/partnerships**

- CHU partnered with kole Local Government and USAID's Local Partner Health Services Kigezi & Lango Activity and integrated WASH messages in their HIV/TB community dialogues and during review meetings.
- There is possibility of extending this collaboration as their project will be implemented up to August 2025.





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# **Next Steps & Feasibility for scaling**

### **Next Steps**

- Concluding create and Test Loop phase
- Conducting handover phase of the experimentation

### Feasibility for scaling

- Due to inadequate funds, we plan to continue with this experiment in other villages in Okwerodot subcounty while integrating it in other community activities supported by USAID's Local Partner Health Services, Kigezi and Lango project.
- However, no modifications at scale yet.

# **Photos**























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# **THE END**....

# **THANK YOU!**

