Improving the health and well-being of people

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About MCD Global Health

MCD Global Health (MCD), a public health nonprofit, is recognized as a leader, innovator, and trusted partner. We design, implement, and evaluate public and global health programs and projects. We innovate, strengthen systems and capacity to reach vulnerable, hard-to-reach, and rural communities throughout the world.

By working with diverse sets of partners and funders, we are able to elevate and strengthen local voices and systems while co-implementing evidence-based, sustainable solutions. Our work results in stronger health systems at all levels, as well as improving the overall health and well-being of community members.

MCD has worked in 50+ countries worldwide since 1966.
For 25 years, MCD has been implementing public health programs in Madagascar. With efforts spanning WASH, maternal and child health, malaria, and pandemic response and preparedness, MCD’s efforts have resulted in sustainable improvements to the health and wellness of people across Madagascar.
Beginning in 1996
While our presence in Madagascar began in 1996 with the USAID-funded Betioky Child Survival Project, it is our work in improving access to WASH that has endured for more than 18 years.

Expanding in 2005
MCD’s WASH efforts began in 2005 with a project funded by the African Development Bank and later the Fonds d’Appui pour l’Assainissement (FAA), funded by the Water Supply and Sanitation Collaborative Council (Global Sanitation Fund), from 2010 to 2020 where our team revolutionized community-led total sanitation (CLTS) approaches and tools to sustainably eliminate open defecation.

Today and Looking Ahead
MCD and Mavila, a local non-governmental organization, recently implemented a WASH project funded by UNICEF where we supported communities tackling WASH challenges in Madagascar’s Anlanjirofo, Atsimo Antsiranana, and Vatoavahy Vatoinany regions. Our aim is to continue in assisting Madagascar in meeting its goal of universal access to WASH by 2030.
We revolutionized CLTS to become a powerful system-wide tool that addresses the entire WASH intervention chain, from behavior change, demand creation, market-driven supply, to institutional reforms and strengthening. It catalyze scaling up and is adaptable for every settings. We call this new generation of tool: the Continuum CLTS.

We are so proud that other African countries have adapted and replicated many of approaches in our Continuum CLTS toolbox, such as Follow up Mandona, resulting in positive, at-scale impacts across the continent.

Joséa Ratsirarson, MD, PhD
Director, MCD International Programs

Far left: Low-cost, locally designed septic tank especially made for a sandy area. Local technicians become incubators of innovative affordable WASH products and services.

Near left: Massive production of septic tanks taking place. Sanitation becomes a profitable business through our market-driven approach.
"In close collaboration with the host country government, we adopt an approach to our projects centered around sustainability. We listen to communities and country actors and work with them to co-develop and co-implement practical, creative, and human-centered solutions."

Rija Lalanirina
FANOMEZA, MD, MPH
Country Director
MCD Madagasikara
MCD revolutionized the sanitation and hygiene approach in Madagascar and scaled up universal access at a district- and commune-wide level

8,600
Women and girls supported to use appropriate and affordable menstrual hygiene products during UNICEF WASH Project

2.8 Million
People in more than 23,900 villages declared open defecation free during the FAA

4,600+
Vulnerable households have access to improved sanitation products and services during UNICEF WASH Project

167
Communes developed plans and strategies for supporting improved sanitation and hygiene during the FAA

4.5 Million
People gained access to improved sanitation and hand-washing stations during the FAA

100,000+
Community leaders worked with local partners in eliminating open defecation and improving sanitation and hygiene