



## HerWASH: Good hygiene for better health outcomes

### HerWASH: Project Summary

HerWASH is a 4-year project being implemented in Burkina Faso, Liberia, Sierra Leone, and Pakistan. The project integrates the construction and rehabilitation of water, sanitation, and hygiene infrastructure with quality, gender-responsive, and age-appropriate menstrual hygiene education.

### HerWASH in Healthcare Centres

Badolo Moussa is the Head Nurse and Hygiene Educator at the Healthcare Centre in Douna, Burkina Faso. Nurse Moussa's role serves to educate patients, notably prenatal patients and parents with young children, on the importance of handwashing in stopping the spread of diseases.

As COVID-19 started to impact Douna and the surrounding communities, the increasing number of patients at the Centre caused the old handwashing station to fall into disrepair. For the nurses to practice basic hand hygiene, they had to leave the Centre to get clean water before seeing each patient. This lowered the number of patients that could be seen, limited patient's ability to wash their hands, and placed both staff and patients at risk.

As part of HerWASH's response to COVID-19 in Burkina Faso, WaterAid worked with the Centre to install two foot-operated handwashing units – in the maternity ward, and the consultation room. The water storage capacity of the handwashing stations last all day, ensuring that Nurse Moussa can continue teaching patients the importance of handwashing, and patients and staff can wash their hands and feel safe at the Centre.



*"My colleagues and I now feel more at ease while at work as we are able to wash our hands before seeing every patient... We can keep doing our job saving lives, and not worry about us or our families getting sick."*

- Nurse Moussa, after the foot-operated handwashing stations were installed.



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