

# Centre for AFRICAN JUSTICE

**RIGHT TO QUALITY EDUCATION TEAM**

ISSUE 1      19.11.2019

*To poo or not to poo,  
that is the question?*

Understand how to prepare  
for WORLD TOILET DAY  
2019 and understand the  
work of the centre so far for  
this crisis



Centre for African Justice,  
Peace and Human Rights



# Centre for AFRICAN JUSTICE

ISSUE 1 19.11.2019

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EDUCATION TEAM

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# WHAT DOES THE CENTRE DO?

## WHO IS THE CENTRE FOR AFRICAN JUSTICE?

The Centre for African Justice, Peace and Human Rights (CAJPHR) is a non-governmental organisation (NGO) devoted to the following: ensuring the protection of human rights of our partner countries, engaging in sustainable peace whilst educating on international justice.

The overall focus of the organisation is to tackle the inequalities and human rights challenges in our world, the different sections of our organisation actively compliment each other to embrace this challenge holistically.

Our organisation firmly believes that education is a fundamental human right, that education itself, is a necessary value that must to be

accessible to all, and be provided at a certain standard. However, at present many children around the world are deprived of access to education or are able to access an education for a limited time, which reduces their ability to escape from the cycle of poverty or to economically develop their society as the next generation of working professional or business owner. Therefore, we established The “Right to Quality Education” (RQE) department as one branch of the organisation, to provide the adequate focus and attention to ensuring that all children have the ability to learn and give themselves a chance through education.



# WHAT DOES THE CENTRE DO?

## Our Guiding Principles

The CAJPHR incorporates and is guided by the goals of the United Nations (UN) into its activity. These goals are the following:

United Nations  
Sustainable Development Goal 4.

**“Ensure inclusive and equitable quality education and promote lifelong learning opportunities for all”**  
~ UN, 2019

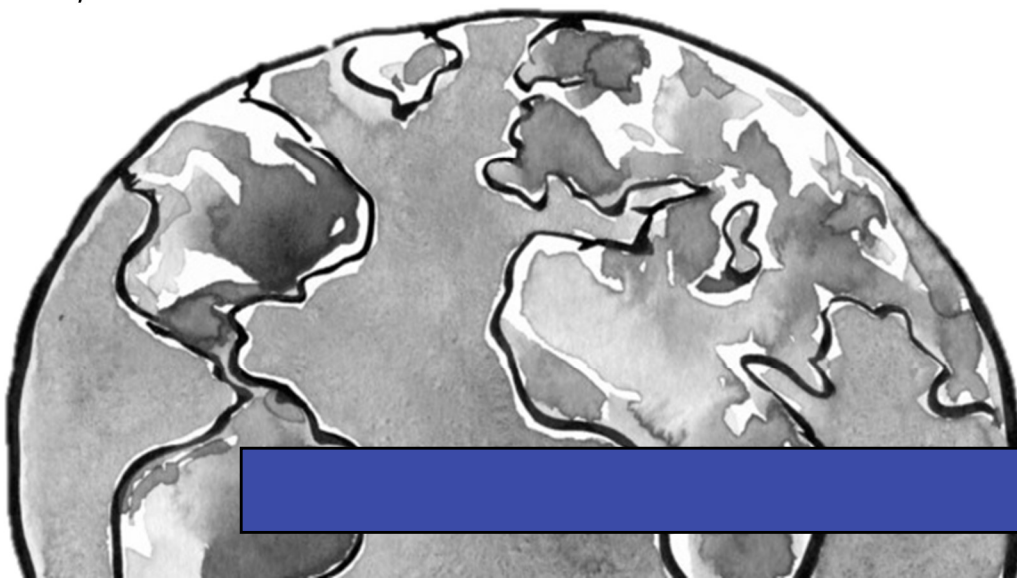
More specifically we are focused on the subsection dedicated to,  
promoting lifelong learning opportunities by

**“Building and upgrading education facilities that are child, disability, and gender-sensitive in order to provide a safe, non-violent, inclusive and effective learning environment”**

~ UN, 2019



Using these guidelines, The Right to Quality Education department, aims to **close the gap** between the quality and standard of education received in impoverished communities and **the rest of the world**. To **provide education that matches a decent quality**, which is essential for the sustainable development of people, institutions, and resources.





# WHAT IS WORLD TOILET DAY?



A picture of one of the toilets built in Enugu. This picture was taken in Block B, collectively, we provided 6 toilets in both blocks.

World Toilet Day (WTD) is an official United Nations international observance day to inspire action to tackle the [global sanitation crisis](#). Worldwide, [4.2 billion people](#) live without "safely managed sanitation" and around [673 million people](#) practise open defecation according to UN Water. Also, three billion people lack basic hand washing facilities. This sanitation crisis means untreated human waste is spreading diseases into water supplies and the food chain for billions of people. According to the UN, Inadequate sanitation is estimated to cause [432,000 diarrhoeal deaths](#) every year.



In a bid to help break taboos around toilets and make sanitation for all a global development priority, the United Nations General Assembly designated 19 November as **World Toilet Day**. The aim of the day is to create the awareness that by 2030, there should be **universal access to toilets** regardless of location or wealth.

[The resolution](#) declaring the Day urged UN Member States and relevant stakeholders to encourage behavioural change and the implementation of policies to increase access to sanitation

among the poor, along with a call to end the practice of open-air defecation, which it deemed extremely harmful to public health.

Sanitation is also a question of basic dignity and women safety, who should not risk being victims of rape and abuse because of lack of access to a toilet that offers privacy.

The resolution also recognizes the role that civil society and [non-governmental organizations](#) play in raising awareness of this issue and that is where we come in.



Picture showing the completed toilet (Block B) in Enugu, Nigeria with the water tank used to store and provide the clean water



The children of Independence Layout Primary School II celebrating the inauguration of the new toilet facilities. With head teacher Mrs. Veronica Ugwu and Margret Ayogu (Director of Schools, Ministry of Education)



# THE GOALS OF THE CAJPHR

Access to a safe and secure learning environment is essential if we want to improve the standard of living for the most vulnerable people in society. Any country that has a poor education system is more likely to have unacceptable social inequalities.

Considering the **MAIN MISSION** of the RQE department is:

Through building infrastructure to schools to encourage a safe learning environment for all is students, we hope it will make a strong positive impact on both the economy of that area as well as providing opportunities for learning.

Therefore, having both positive short term consequences (increasing students in and the quality of education) and long term consequences (economic growth of the area).





# WHY GET INVOLVED WITH WORLD TOILET DAY?



## THE WHATS WHAT IN TOILETS

### WHAT IS BASIC SANITATION?

School toilets, such as flush/pour-flush toilets, ventilated improved pit latrines, composting toilets, and pit latrines with a slab or platform, that are single-sex and usable (available, functional and private).

### WHAT IS LIMITED SANITATION?

School toilets that are like a basic service but either not single-sex or not usable

### WHAT IS NO SANITATION?

School toilets that don't hygienically separate human waste from contact with people, or no school toilets at all.

## THE STATS

2.1 billion people globally do not have access to basic sanitation afforded by modern standards according to the World Health Organization. This has forced 892 million people or 12% of the global population practicing open defecation in 2016 alone. Where the number of people forced to defecate outside is starting, the number of schools and children who do not have access to a toilet is even more disconcerting.

Of the 101 countries with data available on how many schools have decent toilets, places in Africa score the worst. For example, Guinea-Bissau in West Africa, eight in ten schools lack adequate facilities, or Niger, where only 24% of schools have even basic sanitation and more than seven in ten people defecate in the open because they lack a household toilet.

## What is the global standard in school?

The UN suggests that as a standard, one toilet should be available per 20 students. According to 2018 statistics provided by WaterAid, over 620 million school children worldwide do not have access to proper functioning school toilets, therefore, falling short of what is truly considered the bare minimum standard for safe sanitation

“REFUSE TO LET  
CHILDREN'S  
EDUCATION BE  
FLUSHED DOWN  
THE TOILET”



# WHY GET INVOLVED WITH WORLD TOILET DAY?

Toilet facilities impact the lives of children greatly. When that right is removed, as already mentioned there is knock on effects in terms of drive to come to school, to maintain ones own health and in having a place that is safe for learning. Therefore when access to toilets becomes possible, the impact on the lives of the children is phenomenal, but don't just take our word on the subject, below you can read some testimonials from the children who needed support and their prayers were answered, these children are talking about the positive benefits as a result of the project, and should remind you of the importance to get involved in any way that you can.



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HELP MAKE A DIFFERENCE THIS WORLD TOILET DAY

**"IT HELPS US CHANGE DURING MENSTRUATION"**

- Independence layout primary school child

Reasons to support World Toilet Day



WE NO LONGER NEED TO DEFECATE IN THE BUSHES

- Independence layout primary school child

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HELP MAKE A DIFFERENCE THIS WORLD TOILET DAY

*It makes our surrounding clean and we longer find faeces all around the environment. , it prevents diseases. It prevents offensive odors and it prevents infection.*

- Blessing,  
(Independence Layout Primary School II)

REASONS TO SUPPORT WORLD TOILET DAY



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IT BRINGS MORE PEOPLE TO OUR SCHOOL. MOST PARENTS WHEN THEY FIND OUT ABOUT OUR TOILET MAKES THEM BRING MORE OF THEIR CHILDREN TO OUR SCHOOL

- Miracle  
(Independence Layout Primary School II)

HELP MAKE A DIFFERENCE THIS WORLD TOILET DAY

REASONS TO SUPPORT WORLD TOILET DAY



# WHY WE GET INVOLVED WITH WTD

Where the health risks of open defecation are troublesome and action is certainly needed, the direct impact this has on reducing the accessibility of school to children or increasing the likelihood of drop-out, then this crisis is tied heavily with the goals and mission of the RQE department of the CAJPHR.

To gain a **quality education** students need a **safe learning environment**. Having sanitary toilet facilities on school grounds is a necessary part of ensuring the sense of safety. Children are the most vulnerable segments of any given society; they are more susceptible to diseases and life-threatening infections that hinder not only their educational growth but also their physical and mental development. There are many dangers attached to open defecation, which include exposure to germs, possibility of animal attack or kidnapping from gangs when leaving the school grounds.

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*Remember,  
Access to  
education is a  
right, not a  
privilege.*

STATES HAVE THE OBLIGATION TO PROTECT, RESPECT, AND FULFIL THE RIGHT TO QUALITY EDUCATION FOR ALL OF ALL CHILDREN IN THEIR COUNTRIES.

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# HOW THE CENTRE SUPPORTS WTD?



The CAJPHR joins hands with other international organisations and communities to celebrate WTD 2019.

This Year's WTD Theme:  
*Leaving no one Behind*

The CAJPHR actively participated this year in the fight against **no access to toilets** through the field project in Enugu which renovated dilapidated toilets and built brand new facilities to actively meet the needs of the staff and students.

Having basic supplies of water like the one pictured to the right should be a given not a luxury.



**This year's theme** draws attention to those people being left behind without sanitation and the social, economic and environmental consequences of inaction.

This year's theme, “**Leaving No One Behind**” will not only be seen as a means in fighting open defecation across the globe but also deliberate on how having access to a toilet can be factored into all school building plans.

For the RQE this year's theme highlights the need for us to continue to identify schools of where toilets are not easily accessible and ensure that no one is left behind or forgotten when it comes to sanitation.



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The pictures above are from the completed project including the inauguration. Both toilet Block A and Block B are pictured here. The photo far right shows a female student collecting safe and clean water for the first time during the toilet's opening ceremony.



In 2019, we targeted west Africa for the implementation of our toilet building project. As West Africa is a populous region and of a significant geo-political influence, with poverty-stricken areas and challenges (World Economic Forum), we decided to implement our first project in Nigeria, specifically Enugu. Independence Layout primary school 2 in Enugu. With a total of 750 students and 25 Teachers. The school was in desperate need of infrastructural upgrade, in respect to its washroom facilities and access to clean water. As a result, our project constructed two completely

new toilet and washroom units and renovated four existing toilet units that were practically unusable. We also built an overhead tank stand with two water reservoirs popularly known as GEE PEE tanks of water reservoir mounted. Last but not least, we constructed of deep water well and installed a provisional electric water pumping machine at the school premises.

We have entered a maintenance agreement with the school which makes the project sustainable and more beneficial to the community.

## FACILITY CONDITIONS

## Before



## After





# BUILDING COMMUNITIES & TOILETS

The work to develop the toilet facilities was not an easy task, however, has been very rewarding. The community and parents of the children got involved to aid the building work as well as reduce the labour costs.

Overall, whilst providing their children with a better future, through removing a possible obstacle to education, it also bound the community together through the shared goal of making a difference for their children. Therefore, adding both to the economy and the toilet crisis. To the right is pictures of the construction of the facilities at different stages.



## STRATEGIES & TARGETS 2020

Alike to the Enugu project the future goals of the organisation involve expanding, so that we can support other schools in other parts of Africa to be considered as having acceptable sanitation levels and eradicate open defecation. In fact, we aim to specialise in the provision of washroom facilities and providing clean water to students throughout Africa with the support of our partners who help us identify and work towards the completion of the projects.

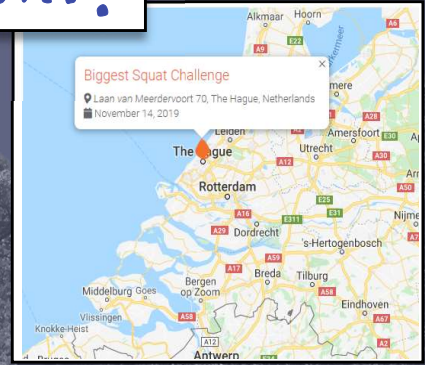
Therefore the overall goal of the RQE department is to support the UN with their goal, of providing global access to toilet facilities by 2030. But our focus will be on school facilities rather than households.



# HOW YOU CAN SUPPORT WORLD TOILET DAY?

## Take action

Get involved in some of the events organised by organisations. Visit [www.worldtoiletday.info/events](http://www.worldtoiletday.info/events) to see what events are happening in your area!



## Talk Utter Crap

Awareness of the problem is the key to eradicating it. Tell others about the toilet crisis and the goals of both RQE and the UN. **Break the toilet taboo** and get talking toilets with friends and family, break the silence around open defecation.

## Sharing is Caring

Social media is a powerful tool in raising awareness and making change. Join the global movement for toilets and sanitation for all, and raise awareness by posting on Facebook, Instagram, or Tweeting this World Toilet Day. Use the hashtags.

#WORLDTOILETDAY

#SANITATION

#IGIVEASHIT

#OPENDEFECATION

#WECANTWAIT

## The Big Squat

#BIGSQUAT

#SQUATGOALS

Flushing toilets are a luxury, where a number of countries prefer to squat, a number of people aren't given the choice when open defecation is the only option. To raise awareness of the additional pressure of holding a squat to relief oneself do the squat challenge and share the results on social media. We held a longest squat challenge to raise awareness, Matteo was our victor (see right) who held a squat for 3 minutes and 25 seconds.



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## Donate

Support organisations who are dedicated to fighting the toilet crisis. Every little helps.



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