



PROJECT: HANDWASH WITH A SMILE

CREATED: 2014

This product is fundamentally a DIY kit where people can create their own water taps from re-used materials.

The goal of the design is to popularize hand-washing and educate children to Why they should wash their hands. As we were dealing with schools in poor slum regions we wanted our design to be as cheap as possible but still be fun and water efficient.

We worked together with local children to get their perspective on things. With their input we could develop a design that they felt comfortable with.

Children were chosen as a target group because their playfulness and open mind makes them the potential changers of society.



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Designer: Mihkel Güsson

Team members: Alisha Kuanar (India), Henrik Louring (Denmark), Manju B.K (Nepal), Sunita Bhandari (Nepal) and Mihkel Güsson (Estonia)

Website: designlab.ee/solution-6-handwash-with-a-smile/ (LINK)

Test Video: <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=EXYgzZk7FmQ> (LINK)



A regular water bottle is used as a central part of the design because it is easily available everywhere and has a standardized cork. To the water bottle a water-lock is added. It is made by the user or in some cases bought as a ready-made product. By hanging it upside down an efficient water tap is made. It is hygienic because the contact area is small and washed during use.

Water comes out only when the water lock is lifted so it is very water efficient. With 1 liter of water 5 - 8 people can wash their hands.

The DIY kit is still in development.

Kids are loving it!

Program took place in the slums of Bhubaneswar, India. It was an educational program with real-life problem scenarios.

This project was organized by Estonian NGO Continuous Action. Its goal was to bring together professionals of different fields to practice Design To Improve Life[®] program developed by Index.



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