



2026 HLPF; VIRTUAL SIDE EVENT

08 JULY 2026; 10 AM – 11:15 AM (EDT)

CLEAN DRINKING WATER, SANITATION, MENTAL HEALTH, AND SOCIAL WELLBEING: OUR INITIATIVES

Dr. Rita Luthra
President

Women's Health and Education Center (WHEC)

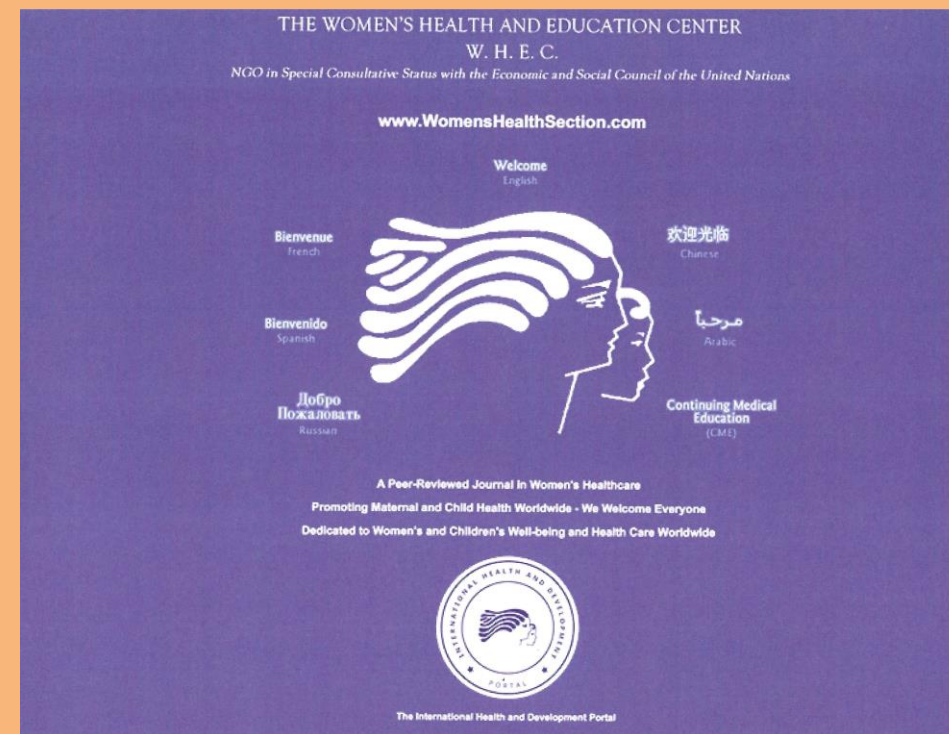
NGO in Special Consultative Status with ECOSOC of the UN

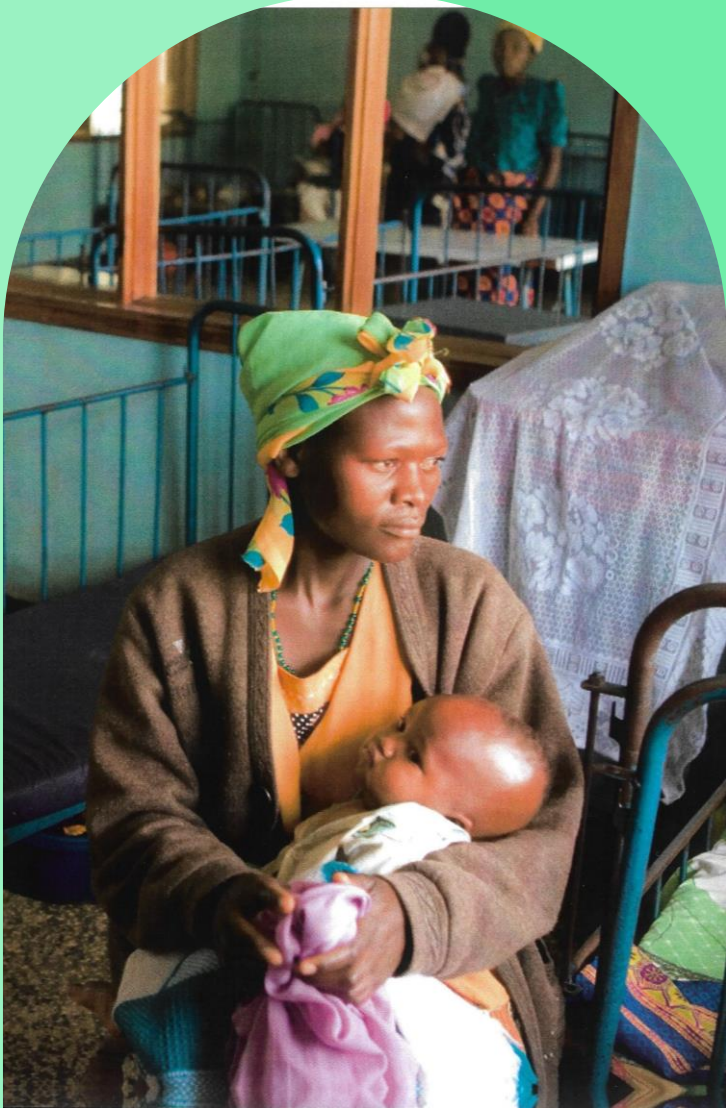


AGENDA

- Introduction;
- Need for Clean Drinking Water and Sanitation in Schools and Healthcare facilities;
- Our Initiatives in India;
- Necessity to reduce maternal and child mortality and morbidity;
- Effects on Mental Health and social wellbeing.

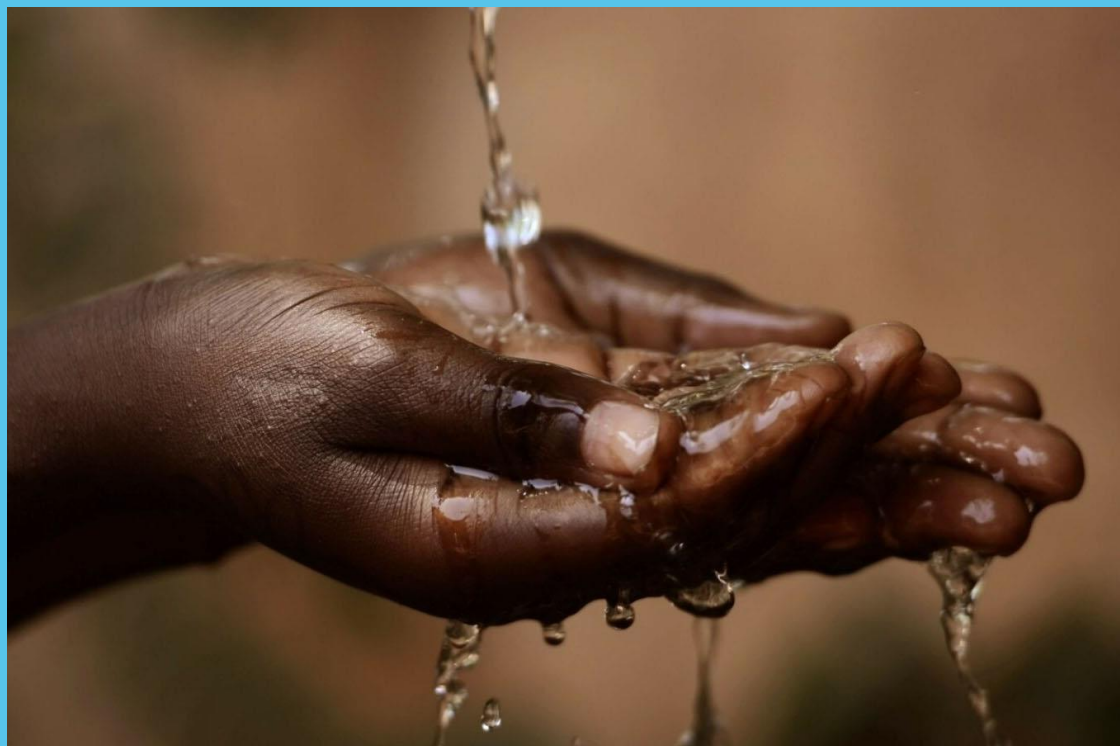
<http://www.WomensHealthSection.com>
**E-LEARNING, E-HEALTH AND E-GOVERNMENT
INITIATIVE IS PROUDLY SERVING IN 227
COUNTRIES AND TERRITORIES**





**SOCIAL JUSTICE REQUIRES
HEALTHCARE, EDUCATION,
FOOD, CLEAN DRINKING
WATER, SANITATION,
HOUSING, EMPLOYMENT,
SOCIAL PROTECTION, AND
DIGITAL TECHNOLOGIES
THAT NO ONE IS LEFT
BEHIND.**

IMPACTS ON WELLBEING: DIGNITY, PERSONAL SAFETY
(FEAR, ANXIETY, STRESS), SCHOOL ATTENDANCE,
LIVELIHOODS (ECONOMIC PRODUCTIVITY, POVERTY).



Water-Related Challenges

- 1.8 billion people still do not have drinking water on-premises.
- 3.4 billion people – nearly half the world's population – still lacked safely managed sanitation, including 354 million who practiced open defecation. (WHO/UNICEF 2025).
- Improving access to water, sanitation and hygiene can save 1.4 million lives per year (WHO, 2025).
- Better water, sanitation, and hygiene could prevent the deaths of around 1,000 children under per day.
- Approximately 10% of the global population lives in countries with high or critical water stress.
- Water-related disasters have dominated the list of disasters over the past 50 years and account for 70% of all deaths related to natural disaster (World Bank 2025).
- 44% of household wastewater is not treated properly, damaging ecosystems and human health (WHO).





SDG ACTION # 49770 WATER & SANITATION: ESSENTIAL TO IMPROVE MATERNAL AND CHILD HEALTH

[HTTPS://SDGS.UN.ORG/PARTNERSHIPS/WATER-SANITATION-
ESSENTIAL-IMPROVE-MATERNAL-AND-CHILD-HEALTH](https://sdgs.un.org/partnerships/water-sanitation-essential-improve-maternal-and-child-health)

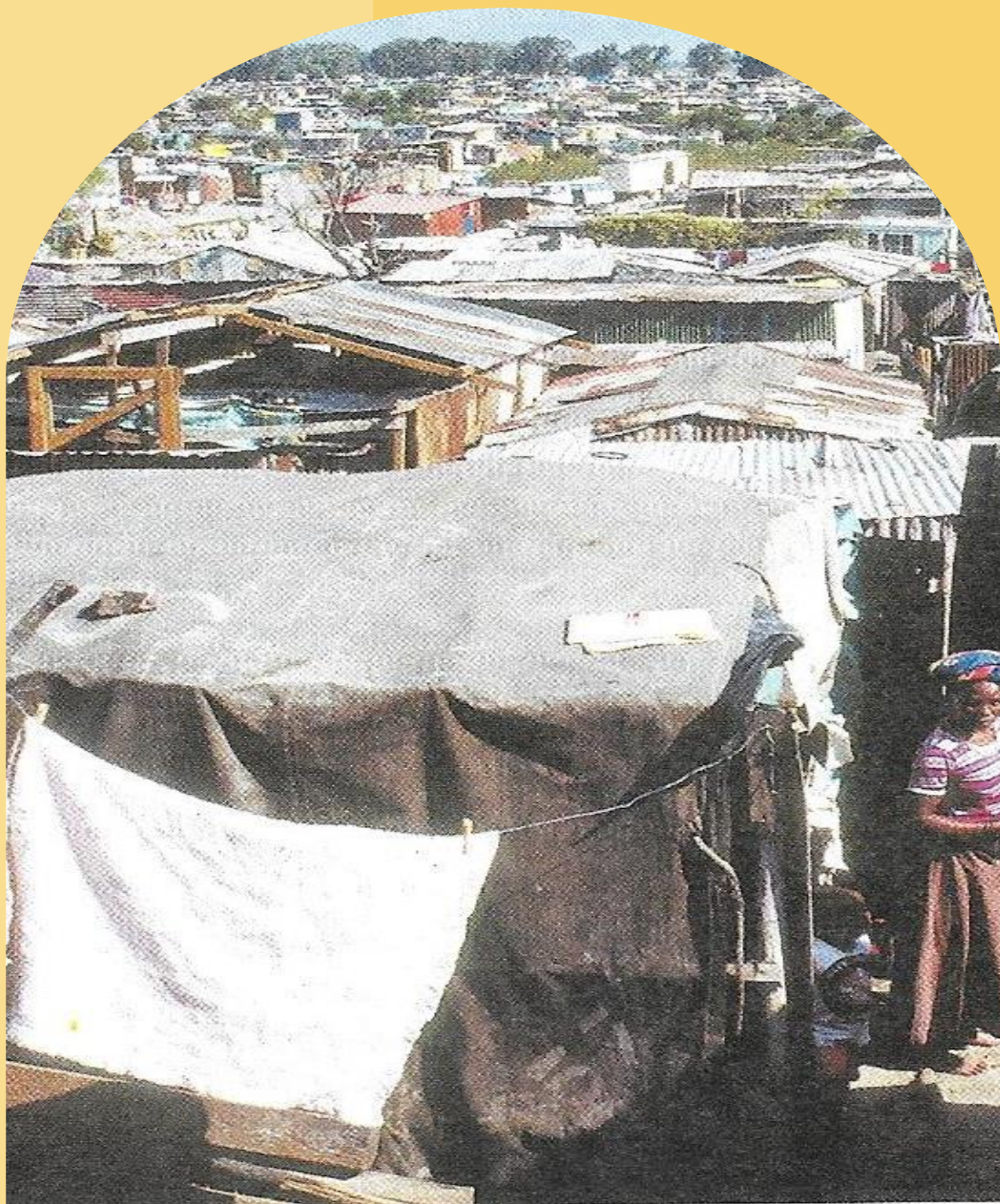


SDG ACTION # 50616

Water, Sanitation and Hygiene (WASH):
Implementation for Schools and Healthcare
Facilities;

<https://sdgs.un.org/partnerships/water-sanitation-and-hygiene-wash-implementation-schools-and-healthcare-facilities>





**SAFE, FRESH WATER
AND SANITATION IS A
BASIC HUMAN RIGHT,
YET ACROSS THE
WORLD WOMEN DO
NOT HAVE AN EQUAL
SAY IN HOW IT IS
COLLECTED AND
MANAGED.**

WHEC 's aim is to make water and sanitation a force for a more prosperous, safer and equitable future, with special focus on schools and healthcare facilities.

Water promotes peace.

SUMMARY & TAKEAWAYS



- Privacy and safety require thorough examination when developing sanitation interventions and policy to ensure a positive influence on the user's mental and social wellbeing.
- WHEC's publications are aimed at a broad range of audience, and it is hoped that everyone who reads our *Practice Bulletins* comes away with a realization of the complexity of the issues at stake and an appreciation of the work that lay in front of us.
- **Water, Sanitation, Hygiene and Health *Practice Bulletin*:**

<http://www.womenshealthsection.com/content/heal/heal029.php3>



THANK YOU

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<http://www.WomensHealthSection.com>