

Participant information sheet



Information for participants: survey

Study title: Early implementation of WASH for Everyone: assessing adoption and implementation quality of a district-wide water, sanitation, and hygiene coverage programme in Chiradzulu, Malawi

Study contact:

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Email:

You are being invited to take part in a research study lead by the London School of Hygiene and Tropical Medicine (United Kingdom) and WASHTED Centre at the Malawi University of Business and Applied Sciences (Malawi).

Before you decide, we want to explain to you the purposes of this research and what it will involve. Please ask us if there is anything that is not clear or if you would like more information. You may take some time to decide whether you wish to take part.

The following is to explain details of the study:

1. What is the purpose of the study?

The Chiradzulu WASH For Everyone (W4E) Project is being delivered by World Vision International and Water for People. This project is designed to address water, sanitation, and hygiene service challenges in the district. The Malawi University of Business and Applied Sciences and the London School of Hygiene and Tropical Medicine are working with the W4E Programme to assess how the project has been implemented and identify any challenges.

2. Why have I been chosen?

You have been asked to participate in this study because we are interested in learning more about sanitation and hygiene in your area and experiences with the recent WASH for Everyone programme that is being implemented in your area. Additionally, we would like to know more about your direct experience with the programme and more about water, sanitation, and hygiene behaviours in this community.

3. Do I have to take part?

It is up to you to decide to join the study. We will describe the study and go through this information sheet. If you agree to take part, we will then ask you to sign a consent form. You are free to stop participating at any time, without giving a reason.

4. What will happen to me if I take part?

If you agree to take part in this study (select appropriate):

We will conduct an interview and discussion with you in a quiet space – it will take approximately 40 minutes to an hour. During the interview we will ask questions about water, sanitation, and hygiene promotion in your project area.

During the survey, we may take photos of the inside and outside of your sanitation facility. These photos will not capture either you or any of your family members and will be used to establish the quality of sanitation facilities available to you. If you decline consent to take these photographs, this will not preclude you from being included in the study.

5. How long does the study go for?

This study will be on-going through most of 2023. We will be in your community for several days. Your involvement, however, will be limited to a few hours.

6. Is there any cost for participating in the study?

There are no financial costs for participating in this study.

7. What are the possible disadvantages and risks of taking part?

There are limited risks of harm associated with being involved in this study. To mitigate these risks, names and identifying information will not appear anywhere in written documents. All data will be saved via a password-protected server (WASHTED and LSHTM).

8. What are the possible benefits of taking part?

If you decide to participate in this study, you may help us better understand if the Wash for Everyone Project is achieving its intended outcomes.

9. Will my taking part in the study be kept confidential?

Your name and identifiable information will be kept strictly confidential. Only people that are directly involved in this research will have access to that information. All information will be kept in a secure location. At the end of the project, information provided by everyone who participated in this project may be made available to other researchers or placed in a public repository. We will never share your name or other information about you. We will only share with your permission.

10. What will happen if I don't want to carry on with the study?

You can decide to stop participating in the study at any time, even after we have started interviewing you. If you withdraw from the study, you can decide whether you want us to destroy the information

we have already collected and the information you provided us, or whether you allow us to use these data.

11. What if something goes wrong?

If you have a concern about any aspect of this study, you should ask to speak to my supervisor who will try to answer your questions. If you wish to complain formally or have any concerns about any aspect of the way you have been treated during the course of this study, then you should immediately inform the person indicated at the contact information provided or the National commission for Science and Technology (NCST) using the following details:

Contact address:

Phone number:

12. What will happen to the results of the research study?

All the data from the interviews will be analysed by researchers working with the WASHTED Centre and London School of Hygiene and Tropical Medicine.

You will be given a copy of the information sheet and a signed consent form to keep.

Thank you for considering taking the time to read this sheet.