

WORLD TOILET DAY

"No innovation in the past 200 years has done more to save lives and improve health than the sanitation revolution triggered by invention of the toilet. But it did not go far enough. It only reached one-third of the world."

- Sylvia Mathews Burwell -

Why do we mark this day?



World Toilet Day is celebrated on November 19 every year to raise awareness of sanitation and hygiene for everyone. According to UN, almost half of the global population or 3.6 billion people lack safe sanitation and over 700 children under age 5 die everyday from diarrhea due to unsafe water, sanitation and poor hygiene.

The day urges governments and communities to take actions on increasing access to sanitation among the poor, ending the practice of open-air defecation, and promoting hygiene and basic sanitation services to all. Investing in an adequate sanitation system has lots of advantages such as reducing medical costs, increased productivity and the protection of human dignity.

Questions for Discussion

✓ Why does toilet matter?

✓ If you are a toilet designer, how would you design it?

Meet Today's Global Citizen



Jack Sim

Jack Sim is the founder of the World Toilet Organization (WTO), which is a global network for toilet associations. The organization influences governments to promote sanitation and hygiene policies. He decided to work for the dignity, human rights and health for the vulnerable and poor people by making clean toilets available for them.