

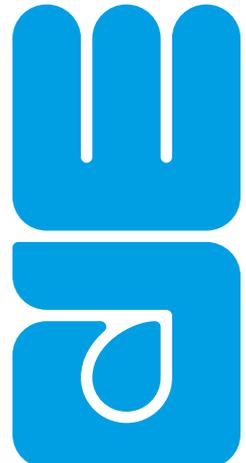


Speaker Network



Speaker Network Impact Report 2019/20

Inspiring talks bring our work to life



WaterAid

Clean water. Decent toilets. Good hygiene. Three things that change everything – but talking about them is the start



Across the UK, we rely on our Speaker volunteers to:

- Educate audiences about water, sanitation and hygiene.
- Break down stigmas and talk about taboo subjects like periods.
- Inspire people to take action and get involved supporting WaterAid.

Because of this, we want to highlight the amazing lengths our Speakers go to reaching communities with vital messages and including them in our transformative work.

A huge **thank you** to all our Speakers of 2019/20!



Since 1981, our Speakers have delivered over 10,000 talks and workshops across the UK



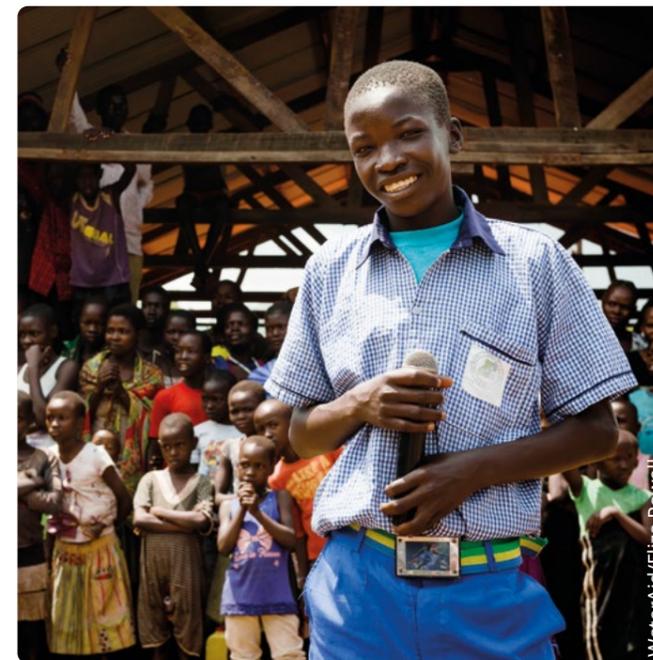
In the past year, 122 Speakers have delivered 473 talks and workshops, reaching over 28,000 people across the UK

The Speaker Network in numbers for 2019/20

- Speakers delivered **260** talks
- Speakers delivered **213** workshops
- **35** newly trained Speakers
- **10** new Speaker mentors
- Speakers volunteered **358** hours delivering talks and workshops to a diverse range of audiences including: Scouts, Rotaries, universities, women's groups, Brownies, Soroptimists, businesses, schools and many more.

We are aware that many Speakers deliver their own self-initiated talks and workshops, so these figures may even be higher!

Talking hygiene



▲ 14-year-old Dennis ready to rap during a performance for residents of Namalu town, Karamoja Region, Uganda.



“It is good for boys to know about periods too, so they can teach their sisters. In my songs I sing about menstruation and other things. Spreading my message about hygiene through songs is good. Here, many people defecate out in the open; if they hear my message, they may dig toilets at home.”

Dennis

Speaking is incredibly powerful.

We use it to show people the power of clean water, decent toilets and good hygiene, and why everyone, everywhere needs them. It makes change happen, whether we are speaking to groups in the UK, or people in the countries where we work.

For an inspiring group of students in rural Uganda, raising their voices has changed everything.

Children at St Mary's School in Karamoja used to go to the toilet in the bush. Girls often skipped lessons when on their period. Learning was hard. But this was all normal, because the school had no clean water or toilet facilities.

We improved school life by building a clean water source and a toilet block. And just as importantly, we taught students about good hygiene, like handwashing, safely managing periods, and how to make reusable sanitary pads.

By sharing this knowledge, the students learned new ways to protect their own health and education.

But they didn't stop there. Now the students are sharing this knowledge with adults through their water, sanitation and hygiene collective – or WASH Club, for short.

Using drama, music and games, they are changing their community for good. By speaking out, the students are smashing taboos and improving people's health while helping themselves stay in school. By speaking out, they've changed normal for everyone in Karamoja.

A message from Tim



WaterAid/Sam James



With coronavirus affecting all of our lives, I hope you and your loved ones have been keeping safe and well at home during this difficult time.

As Speakers you have so often been at the forefront of our hygiene messaging, reaching deep into the heart of communities across the UK.

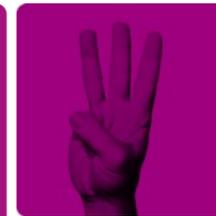
For the first time ever, we have temporarily closed the Speaker Network for face-to-face visits. But we are still working remotely, and we hope your voices will be amplified when we restart, sharing 39 years of vital experience and knowledge of water, toilets and hygiene.

While we are currently focused on responding to the crisis with increased hygiene work across our country programmes, do please remember that all your talks and workshops have helped make this work possible.

We continue to be incredibly grateful to have such committed and passionate volunteer Speakers.

Tim Wainwright,
WaterAid Chief Executive

2020 updates



WaterAid

"I was a little nervous about doing an online talk for the first time - but it worked really well! I kept it simple and split up the presentation with a little game, so that the children stayed interested. It was a great experience and I am really keen to do more at this crucial time."
Penelope



The COVID-19 pandemic has shown that making clean water and good hygiene normal for everyone, everywhere has never been more important. So we're not going to stop talking about it!

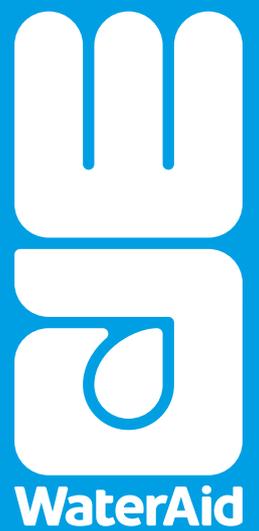
The Speaker Network has adapted to physical distancing by going digital. Speakers can now deliver online talks and workshops to audiences across the UK. And thanks to our online training course, we are still recruiting new Speakers every day.

If you are an existing Speaker, you can take part in our online refresher training course, and stay in touch via the new Speaker Network Facebook Group. We hope to have more volunteer Speakers than ever spreading our important messages, now and in the future – so get involved!

To find out more, simply email us at speakers@wateraid.org



WaterAid



Registered charity numbers: England and Wales 288701, Scotland SC039479.