

WHO Representative Dr Hassan El Bushra with the winners of the drawing contest

Al Sarafand, south Lebanon, 22 May 2014 – A workshop organized jointly by the Embassy of Japan and the union of the municipalities in Sahel al Zahrani was held to mark the inauguration of a project to provide water filtration systems to 14 public schools in Sahel al Zahrani funded by the Government of Japan. The project aims to provide safe drinking water to the children through the provision of the necessary water purification equipment. Moreover, the new taps outside each school's premise allow nearby residents to access safe drinking water.

The workshop was held in collaboration with the United Nations Children's Fund (UNICEF) and the Lebanese Center for Water Management and Conservation. WHO Lebanon organized a puppet show, with the theme of water and hygiene, with its partner organization, the World Theater (Al Masrah Al Aalamy). UNICEF facilitated the discussion and a quiz concerning water conservation. Groups of students also made water filter crafts in order to understand how filters work.

Dr Hassan El Bushra, WHO Representative, said "Children's health is very important. School children could be an effective catalyst to increase awareness of water conservation and hygiene in local communities by sharing what they have learnt in classrooms with their families."

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