Globally, many women and girls face challenges when managing their menstruation. Failure to address the menstrual hygiene needs of women and girls can have far-reaching consequences for basic hygiene, sanitation and reproductive health, ultimately affecting progress towards the SDG goal of gender equality. 

Menstrual Hygiene Management (MHM) refers to the practice of using clean materials to absorb menstrual blood that can be changed privately, safely, hygienically, and as often as needed for the duration of the menstrual cycle. PMA2020 is the first survey platform to provide data on MHM indicators on a large scale. The data presented here are from a nationwide survey in Ethiopia of 4,877 females age 15 to 49, who reported menstruating in the past 3 months, conducted by PMA2020 Ethiopia.

28% OF WOMEN in Ethiopia report having everything they need to manage their menstruation. This does not vary by age, indicating that across their reproductive years, the majority of women are unable to adequately meet their MHM needs.

SAFETY, CLEANLINESS, AND PRIVACY OF MHM FACILITY

DISPOSAL OF ABSORBENT MATERIALS*

*Women are asked to select all types of disposal methods they use.

WASHING, REUSE AND DRYING OF MATERIALS

56% of women report that they wash and reuse their MHM materials. Of those who wash and reuse, 97% reported that their materials were completely dried before reuse.