

Taking Community Led Total Sanitation to Scale with Quality

An Executive Summary of the Lukenya Meeting convened by IDS, July 2011

This document is a summary of the key recommendations from the IDS meeting of CLTS practitioners held in Lukenya Nairobi in July 2011, immediately after the AfricaSan3 meeting. The aim of the workshop was to focus on the key challenges we all face in taking CLTS to scale. In this context, seven focus areas were collectively chosen to concentrate our debate. This document provides an overview of the recommendations made in each section – the examples, discussion and more details can be found in the full report

(<http://www.communityledtotalsanitation.org/resource/lukenya-notes-taking-clts-scale-quality>).

1. Institutional Support for Scaling up CLTS

- Creation and 'enforcement' of a national policy for sanitation and hygiene with clear guidelines for implementers and donors.
- Agree upon outcomes and goals for the country in terms of CLTS, sanitation and hygiene: disseminate to all stakeholders to increase coordination
- Establish a national coordination unit to oversee all sanitation and hygiene activities
- Strike a balance between the need to aim high in order to achieve the MDG targets, and realism about what is feasible.
- Recognise and reward honest reporting of shortfalls and achievements.
- Include CLTS activities in job descriptions and performance contracts of relevant government staff at all levels.
- Make political leaders accountable for effective support for CLTS.
- Provide management capacity building/coaching for CLTS managers at all levels.
- Advocacy needs to be strengthened for government officials to convince the relevant and decisive officials to be champions of CLTS.
- District level staff including extension workers, NGOs and decentralized structures to work together to make sanitation and hygiene part of their daily activities.
- Increase government allocation of resources for sanitation and hygiene in order to aim to meet the MDG targets.

2. CLTS Training, Triggering and Follow-up

- Hold a sanitation stakeholders' workshop to review the capacity of each stakeholder to implement CLTS, fill in any gaps and map out areas of work for each to facilitate scaling up.
- Encouraging governments to embrace CLTS and adopting it as national sanitation strategy gives the approach the necessary legitimacy that is conducive for scaling up triggering.
- Only train CLTS facilitators if there is an immediate plan to enable them to carry out the work for which they have been trained.
- Ensure that all training includes hands-on practice in real time in communities.
- Natural leaders and other CLTS facilitators should be passionate and committed about their work. They should be able to demonstrate that they practice what they advocate.
- Key trainers need to have track records of triggered communities becoming ODF.

3. Strategies for ODF Verification at Scale

- Plan ahead anticipating the need to go to scale with verification, including financial and human resources.
- Prefer third party verifiers, train and monitor, and reward for impartial thoroughness.
- Encourage community involvement as part of the learning process. Whether failing or passing, make verifications

positive experiences, looking to pride, self-respect and sustainability.

- Do not treat verification as a one-off but part of a continuing process.
- Probe very high overall rates of communities passing or failing in the country (over 70 per cent).
- Use celebrations after verification to build community pride and confidence, and to encourage others. Masons and others may use the occasion to promote improvements.
- Recognise that in going to scale, communities may increasingly have to organise their own celebrations with less outside involvement - provide encouragement and support.

4. Governments, Funding agencies and CLTS

- Governments and funding agencies should be alert to new subsidy-driven projects and decisive in intervening to prevent or reverse any such commitments to household hardware subsidy, and to be proactive in developing proposals to take to funding agencies.
- Investment plans to be clear about commitment to CLTS, and the dialogue could further consider how to convert former budgets for hardware to staff-intensive software support.
- Governments can arm themselves with policies, evidence and champions to defend their strategies to banks and donors and help them in turn to change their policies and practices.
- Enable key policy-makers to experience CLTS for themselves in the field, visiting and listening to ODF communities, and being present at triggerings.
- Recognise problems of contrasting approaches between ministries. An interagency coordination involving all major stakeholders can provide a forum for national policy to be discussed and joint agreements be worked out.
- Recognition that CLTS requires substantial funding, estimating multi-year requirements and working out how best these can be met.

- Sensitive awareness on both Government and funding agency sides of the need for government ownership.
- Banks, donors and governments to be sensitive to field realities and the need to assure and seek feedback on the timely arrival of funds at the local level.
- Urgent discussions about cost-effective ways of peer sharing and learning between governments. Promote exchange learning visits where promising practices are identified.
- One or more workshops at appropriate levels for mutual learning, brainstorming, documenting, and identifying priorities for moving forward.

5. Pro-poor Sanitation Marketing and Sustainability beyond ODF

- With CLTS, behaviour change has taken place – trust communities to maintain ODF and to upgrade their latrines as required
- Support this social norm change through communication campaigns and the availability of low-cost sanitation improvement options in the local market
- Undertake formative research and supply chain assessment to identify financially viable pro-poor sanitation marketing strategies – ideally participative with natural leaders/masons to have a full understanding of the various technology options already being promoted.
- Market research should be begun before demand creation through CLTS, to allow time for the market capacity to be developed.
- Sequence so that promotion and selling are not combined with CLTS triggering and post-triggering follow up, but begin only after the achievement of ODF status
- Put in place a continuous follow-up mechanism to support sustained behaviour change and sanitation and hygiene improvements beyond ODF
- Recognise that scaling up with marketing is likely to require financing mechanisms for both providers and consumers.

6. Monitoring, Evaluation, Learning and Information Management Systems

- Monitor input and outcome indicators for CLTS. Institute regular reporting at all levels – sub-district, district and national.
- Monitor the duration between triggering and ODF. Where the gap between triggered and verified becomes wide, investigate the reasons and take remedial action.
- Further health and livelihood impact studies are needed for the evidence base, and the development of specific health and livelihood monitoring indicators.
- Invest in innovative research methodologies and participatory approaches to gather evidence at lower cost, while scaling up learning by stakeholders about what works
- For monitoring hand washing with soap: try surveys with soap vendors reviewing sales before and after triggering.
- An international workshop is proposed in Africa to share and compare M&E systems for CLTS, innovations and experiences.

7. Emerging issues and scaling up CLTS into different contexts

a) Equity

- Issues of equity and access to be considered in every context and activity – in all stages of the CLTS approach.
- Accessible and convenient toilet designs for those who are disabled could emerge from participatory processes which can also heighten awareness.
- Special initiatives to offset or eliminate vulnerabilities and meet the needs of those at risk, especially women and girls.

b) Urban CLTS

- Use a Rights Based Framework and Government and municipal bye-laws strategically to support claims for services such as connections to sewers. Build on already existing public health instruments and human settlement laws.

- Create an enabling environment with all the many different stakeholders involved, and convene meetings and facilitate exchanges and negotiations.
- Create a sense of awareness to ensure that citizens know their rights so they can claim them.
- Cluster or subdivide specific urban/peri-urban areas to reach ODF, as far as possible where there is a degree of community coherence.
- Mobilise and encourage youth groups to become involved (e.g. Muthare)
- Urban CLTS is a tough nut to crack: we need to share experiences to improve our approaches.

c) Emergencies

- Be bold in seeking to introduce CLTS in a range of conditions - document and compare the experiences.
- Learn from current practices and experiences with participation and self-help by affected populations.
- Strive for rapid and accurate learning about types of conditions and key parameters and develop a typology of situations which can be used prescriptively.
- Assess the requirements for going to scale in displacement conditions.

d) Nomadic populations

- Gain experience with CLTS where nomads and transhumants have settled communities where some live all or most of the time, and others return seasonally.
- Use media, especially radio, to communicate with nomadic populations.
- In CLTS follow up and triggering in places where passers-by, transhumants or migrants practice OD, encourage the practice of maintaining roadside or other latrines.
- Make it clear that shallow trenches and the cat method, may often be the best feasible solution, and can be acceptable and hygienic where other options are not realistic.

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<http://www.communityledtotalsanitation.org/>