

Welcome to the August newsletter! We hope this email finds you well.

It's been a busy few months. In late May we were at AfricaSan 4 in Senegal and then at the WEDC Conference in the UK at the end of July. Now some of us are at a workshop in India, whilst others are working on the latest Frontiers publications and on a book on sustainability that will be published next year. So watch this space!

There are many exciting and useful new resources and materials on the website, ranging from research to blogs, new Frontiers issues to case studies, updated country pages to learning notes. Please take a look. We hope you find something that supports you in your work. And perhaps you will feel prompted to share your own experiences and news with us by [getting in touch](#).

We are always happy to receive your feedback and suggestions.

Thank you to all those among you who have already helped or are in the process of helping with the updating of the country overview pages. We really appreciate your support in making the website as up to date and informative as possible!

Wishing you a good month.

Petra, Naomi, Jamie and Robert at the CLTS Knowledge Hub

Breaking the next taboo: new Frontiers issue on Menstrual Hygiene and CLTS



The CLTS Knowledge Hub recently published Issue 6 in the Frontiers series. This issue focuses on menstrual hygiene management (MHM).

Menstruation is a natural and healthy part of the life of women and girls, but is often a taboo subject, not easily talked about, which can lead to feelings of embarrassment and shame. It can also lead to girls losing attention at school or missing days from school. Menstruation is a core element of sanitation and hygiene which affects half of the world's population for a large proportion of their lives. This issue of Frontiers of CLTS illustrates how Community-led Total Sanitation (CLTS) programmes can be expanded to address menstrual hygiene management (MHM) in schools and communities to alleviate these stresses on women and girls. It shares learning, recommendations, innovations and experiences from Plan International, WaterAid, WSSCC, UNICEF, WASH United, Grow and Know and USAID/WASHplus.

[Download Breaking the next taboo: Menstrual Hygiene within CLTS in English](#) *French and Portuguese versions coming soon*. French and Portuguese versions of Issue 4 and a French version of issue 5 are also available now. You can find them [here](#)

UNICEF Sanitation and Hygiene Learning Series



UNICEF's East and Southern Africa Regional Office has published a range of useful WASH Field Notes. The Sanitation and Hygiene Learning Series was designed to improve knowledge of best practice and lessons learnt in sanitation and hygiene programming across the Eastern and Southern Africa Region. The documents in this series cover the following topics so far:

- [CLTS in fragile contexts](#)
- [CLTS at scale](#)
- [Small towns sanitation](#)
- [Mobile-enabled sanitation and hygiene programming](#)

- [Regional supply chains for sanitation](#)
- [Sanitation marketing](#)
- [Handwashing with soap](#)
- [Handwashing with soap in schools](#)

For more information about the series, please visit the [UNICEF ESARO WASH Field Notes page](#)

Impact evaluation of CLTS in rural Mali



The results of the Gates-funded impact evaluation of CLTS in Mali, which was carried out by the Government of Mali, UNICEF and researchers, were recently published. This study provides evidence that a pure behavioral intervention with no monetary subsidies substantially increased access to sanitation facilities in rural Mali. Latrines were also cleaner and better stocked with handwashing supplies in treatment villages, indicating improved hygiene behavior. The findings suggest CLTS improved child growth and reduced the prevalence of stunting among children. However, the program did not have a significant impact on self-reported diarrheal illness, thus the program may have impacted child growth and mortality through pathways other than preventing diarrhea, such as reducing the subclinical condition of environmental enteropathy via decreased exposure to environmental fecal contamination.

[Download the study report](#)

New on the blog

AfricaSan "Making Sanitation for All a Reality in Africa"

I attended the AfricaSan (Africa Conference on Sanitation and Hygiene) convened by the Government of Senegal and AMCOW in Dakar in May. The conference brought together national government ministers and officials, as well as implementation partners, programme managers and teams, and sanitation and hygiene specialists, to discuss opportunities and challenges for Making Sanitation for All a Reality in Africa by 2030.

[Read more](#)

AfricaSan 4: scattered highlights, and one lowlight!



A huge conference like AfricaSan provides a wealth of information and learning for the enthusiastic sanitation groupie. But so much is packed into the three-day duration that it is impossible to take in everything – schedules are tight, and often overlap, which means that nobody manages to see all of their top picks, despite efforts to have thematic discussions running in parallel throughout the conference.

[Read more](#)

Following the red thread: menstrual hygiene in Uganda



The CLTS Knowledge Hub has just published the latest issue in the Frontiers series- [Breaking the next taboo: Menstrual Hygiene within CLTS](#). This issue of Frontiers of CLTS illustrates how Community-led Total Sanitation (CLTS) programmes can be expanded to address menstrual hygiene management (MHM) in schools and communities to alleviate these stresses on women and girls.

[Read more](#)

I pledge: I will break the silence on menstruation, even if it means I end up alone at parties!



I have to be honest: I have an interesting job. I travel around the world, meet loads of interesting people from all different kinds of cultures and the water, sanitation & hygiene business is not really boring either!

[Read more](#)

IDS in action: sharing and learning on CLTS and sustainability



Life on the beach – the stunning location of the AfricaSan 4 Dakar conference, in a grand hotel perched on the Senegalese coast, was not enough to distract the participants of the IDS CLTS sharing and learning workshop from their task. As usual, the workshop was held the day before the main AfricaSan conference to profit from the gathering together of so many experienced WASH professionals. The event proved almost too popular – something like 90 participants turned up – making it quite challenging and time-consuming to capture and discuss the diverse views of the large group.

[Read more](#)

Reflections on a field visit to GSF projects in Senegal



In the run up to AfricaSan I joined a Global Sanitation Fund (GSF) field trip and learning event in Matam region, Senegal. Along with Global Sanitation Fund programme managers and WSSCC National Coordinators we visited different villages where local NGOs had been triggering communities. Matam, in the north east of Senegal separated from Mauritania by the Senegal River, has a population of over 550,000 of which 98% are Muslim. In the region 47.2% practice open defecation.

[Read more](#)

News and resources by country

Bangladesh, India

The impact of inadequate access to water, sanitation and hygiene facilities on women and girls in India and Bangladesh



The SHARE Research Consortium and the Water Supply and Sanitation Collaborative Council (WSSCC) formed a research partnership in 2013 to investigate the specific impact of inadequate access to water, sanitation and hygiene (WASH) facilities on women and girls in India and Bangladesh. [Read more](#)

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Cambodia

Testing CLTS Approaches for Scalability Learning Series: Cambodia Learning Brief



Plan International supports CLTS implementation in a number of communities around Cambodia. This learning brief by the Water Institute at UNC presents the roles of local actors in Plan International's CLTS program activities in Cambodia and highlight considerations for scalability, planning, implementation, and evaluation. Plan International and other sanitation practitioners can support the national government and local actors in developing a systematic approach to community selection, strengthening CLTS facilitation training, and standardizing monitoring & evaluation processes.

[Read more](#)

Ethiopia

Linking CLTS with Multiple Use Water Services (MUS), VSLA and Nutrition: Plan Ethiopia's experience



Plan Ethiopia's project "Water, the key to a better future"- WASH-FNS is an integrated project on water, sanitation and food security which has been implemented since October 2013. The objective is to reduce morbidity, mortality and malnutrition of children, caused by waterborne diseases and malnutrition in two districts (Bahir Dar Zuria & Dara) in Ethiopia. [Read more](#)

Ghana

Taking Stock of CLTS implementation in Ghana



The third national CLTS Stocktaking Forum, organised by the Environmental Health and Sanitation Directorate (EHSD) Directorate of the Ministry of Local Government and Rural Development (MLGRD) was held from the 19th to 21st April 2015 at Fumesua near the Ashanti regional capital of Kumasi, Ghana. There were over 120 participants from the EHSD, CWSA, Water Directorate, Development partners, NGOs and Academia.

[Read more](#)

India

Community led Construction of Latrines- Formation of Procurement Committees

One pager on how community procurement committees can be used to help communities to take the next steps towards ODF. [Read more](#)

The 'Cat' Method for Ending Open Defecation Immediately

One pager on how to use the 'cat' method for an immediate first step towards ODF. [Read more](#)

Documentation of the change processes for achieving Open Defecation Free Villages through a CLTS Approach in Angul



This report documents the various change processes that are being used for achieving Open Defecation Free Villages through a Community led Total Sanitation (CLTS) Approach in Angul Block of Angul District in the state of Odisha.

[Read more](#)

Kenya

Evaluation of the SOPO School Handwashing Promotion Programme: Nyanza and Rift Valley Provinces, Kenya



Diarrhoea and acute respiratory infection are leading causes of death in Kenyan children (WHO, 2010). In order to move toward Millennium Development Goal 4 to reduce childhood mortality, it is critical to address behaviours that can reduce these infections, eg handwashing with soap. The Kenyan Strategic Plan recommended targeting handwashing programmes to school children because they may be more amenable to behaviour change than adults and because they can act as advocates for behaviour change in their families and communities. [Read more](#)

Micro-Planning for CLTS: Experience from Kenya



Micro-planning is a tool often used in the context of decentralisation to guide decisions and to monitor the achievement of objectives. The Ministry of Health adapted and tested the micro-planning tool in two counties, with technical assistance from UNICEF, and later scaled it up to the entire country covering all of 47 counties. This Field Note presents the steps in micro-planning and discusses the challenges and successes of the process. [Read more](#)

Malawi

Going Beyond ODF: Combining Sanitation Marketing with Participatory Approaches to Sustain ODF Communities in Malawi



The majority of households in rural Malawi construct traditional latrines with a lifespan of less than 12 months. The short lifespan of traditional latrines calls into question the sustainability of ODF status in rural villages. The typical range of sanitation products tends to be extremely limited and options are often prohibitively expensive for rural householders. High costs were commonly associated with cement prices in Malawi - USD12 per 50kg. This Field Note records the experiences to date of developing a national sanitation marketing

[Read more](#)

Triggering Handwashing with Soap in CLTS: Insights on What Works from Malawi



The CLTS approach was introduced to Malawi in 2008; since 2011 it has been a key component of a national strategy for making Malawi Open Defecation Free (ODF) by 2015. In 2012, all districts in the country were implementing CLTS with promising results on behaviour change for latrine use. Given the widespread adoption of CLTS and its ability to effect behaviour change, it was hypothesized that the approach can be leveraged to also trigger

[Read more](#)

Mali

Impact evaluation of CLTS in rural Mali



This report covers the main findings of the impact evaluation conducted of a CLTS campaign implemented by the government of Mali (Direction Nationale de l'Assainissement) with the support of UNICEF. [Read more](#)

Mozambique

Sanitation in Small Towns: Experience from Mozambique



WASH services in small towns are frequently neglected by all branches of government due to lack of capacity, unclear mandates, low budgets and lack of feasible options to provide services. Typical high-tech infrastructure solutions are neither feasible nor affordable for these contexts. Progress towards MDG- and sanitation-specific targets in sub-Saharan Africa is much higher in urban areas. However such achievements often mask a disparity between the rich and poor in urban contexts and between major urban cities and small towns or rural centres.

[Read more](#)

Uganda

A 'shitty' start in CLTS



A case study on Goal Uganda's experience of the adoption of CLTS in Agago District. [Read more](#)

Zambia

Real-Time Monitoring of Rural Sanitation at Scale in Zambia Using Mobile-to-Web Technologies



While there is great enthusiasm for using digitalized methods for monitoring rural sanitation interventions, the process is still in its pilot phase in many countries and there exists relatively little evidence to inform national scale-up. To address this gap in information, this note reports an efficient and effective sector-wide monitoring framework that is working at scale. [Read more](#)

Other news and resources

Ensuring Safe Sanitation for Children: Why It's Time to Pay More Attention to Child Feces Disposal



To improve the evidence base, the Global Water Practice's Water and Sanitation Program (WSP) and the United Nations Children's Fund (UNICEF) partnered to develop profiles outlining the current child feces disposal practices of caregivers and existing interventions to improve those practices. [Read more](#)

Report from the CLTS Sharing and Learning workshop at AfricaSan 4



On the 24th May 2015 The CLTS Knowledge Hub and the Water Supply and Sanitation Collaborative Council (WSSCC) convened a 'CLTS Learning and Sharing Workshop' in Dakar, Senegal, ahead of the 4th AfricanSan Conference. The event was attended by over 90 WASH practitioners and consultants from NGOs, international agencies, government and research institutions based in 21 different countries. This report summarises the proceedings and discussions.

[Read more](#)

Report from the CLTS Sharing and Learning workshop at WEDC 2015



On the 26th July the CLTS Knowledge Hub convened a ‘CLTS Sharing and Learning Workshop’ in Loughborough ahead of the 38th International WEDC Conference. [Read more](#)

Suggested Indicators for MHM programming



A list of key indicators that can be used for Menstrual Hygiene Management (MHM) programming. [Read more](#)

Trigger 2013: Annual Report for the Pan African CLTS project



Trigger is an Annual Report for the Pan African project Empowering self-help sanitation of rural and peri-urban communities and schools in Africa. It includes background information about the project, overviews of the 8 countries’ activities, case studies and progress as well as many interesting photos. [Read more](#)

Shit Stunts: Refocusing Priorities in Nutrition and WaSH

Integration of Nutrition and WaSH programmes was the key topic discussed at the multi sectorial panel seminar hosted by Irish Aid, the IFGH and the Development Studies Association of Ireland on the 19th May. [Read more](#)

The human right to water and sanitation



Water and sanitation are fundamental human rights, and providing access through CLTS is a way of empowering the most unconnected and disadvantaged [Read more](#)

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