



# Community-led Total Sanitation

**CLTS Newsletter January 2018**

**Happy new year! Wishing everyone a healthy, happy and fulfilling 2018!**

In this month's newsletter, we have gathered a few new and interesting items on two key topics: *sustainability* and *gender*...

We are also pleased to share with you the opportunity for some early career professionals to receive sponsorship to attend and present at the 41st International WEDC Conference in Nakuru in July- if this is of interest, see the first newsletter item below and apply quick- the deadline is not very far away!

And if you are a consultant or freelance researcher, you may find our call for applications to carry out a desk review on 'the other side of gender'- Men, boys and sanitation- of interest to you.

We hope there's something for everyone below... and we always enjoy hearing your suggestions and contributions to the website and newsletter!

Many good wishes from the

*CLTS Knowledge Hub Team*

## **Opportunity for early career researchers to attend the International WEDC Conference**



The CLTS Knowledge Hub is pleased to announce that it has funding available to support a small number of early career practitioners and/or researchers to attend and present at the [41st WEDC International Conference](#) 9-13 July 2018 at Egerton University, Nakuru, Kenya. The funding will cover all costs related to conference registration, travel, accommodation and food. The theme of this year's conference is Transformation towards sustainable and resilient WASH services. Those selected will be expected to write a paper and present it at the

conference, attend the CLTS Knowledge Hub's pre-conference Sharing and Learning Workshop on July 8th, help support the Hub's CLTS related stall throughout the week and write a blog about their experience and reflections from the conference.

[You can find more information, including eligibility criteria and the application process here.](#) Please note the deadline for applications is the **15th January 2018**.

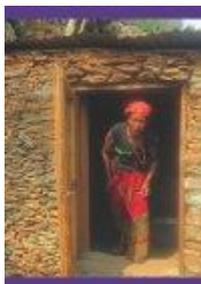
*Please do not apply if you do not meet the criteria and only apply by providing the information requested. Applications that do not meet the criteria or lack the requested information will not be reviewed.*

## **Boys, Men and Sanitation**



The CLTS Knowledge Hub at IDS is seeking a consultant to carry out a desk-based review on the topic of Sanitation, Men and Boys. The purpose of this review is to explore the other side of gender – men and boys, in sanitation and hygiene. Whilst discussions around gender in WASH (and elsewhere) often focus on the roles, positions or impacts on women and girls, we are curious to explore how men and boys are/are not engaged in efforts to improve sanitation and change social norms, and how they can or need to be targeted to make efforts more successful. Only when women and men are equally and meaningfully involved in sanitation and hygiene programs, can they result in positive lasting change. For more information and details of how to apply, [take a look here](#)

## **Sustainability**



As we know from experience and research of recent years, achieving improved sanitation sustainably is still the exception rather than the norm. Sustainability is clearly a subject most if not all of us in the WASH sector are grappling with and one about which we still don't know enough. Here are two recent contributions on the subject:

Late last year, WSSCC released a study that investigated the sustainability of its GSF programme in Nepal. [You can download the study here](#)

Similarly, the study [Enabling Factors for Sustaining Open Defecation-Free Communities in Rural Indonesia: A Cross-Sectional Study](#) assessed the sustainability of verified ODF villages in Indonesia and explored the association between slippage occurrence and the strength of social norms.

## Gender



A topic that is very much related to sustainability is the role of gender in WASH. Women and men, boys and girls have different needs when it comes to sanitation and hygiene and their access to, choice in and control over services and products is often dictated by gender roles and the power structures, norms and cultural expectations associated with them.

**Gender in WASH programmes:** [Listen to this IRC WASH Talk podcast on gender equality in rural sanitation](#), to hear Gabrielle Halcrow (SNV Asia) talk about delivering gender positive water, sanitation and hygiene (WASH) programmes in the SDG era. And then take a look at this new guide to effective gender-responsive programming in WASH published by UNICEF. It outlines essential elements for WASH practitioners to take into account at all points in the programme cycle. [You can find it here](#). And [a discussion paper by WaterAid](#) looks at the organisation's experiences in applying integrated gender and disability support to rights-based WASH programs in Timor-Leste and Papua New Guinea.

**Women as community leaders:** [This article in Business Insider India](#) features some inspiring stories of women taking the lead in campaigns to improve sanitation in their panchayats.

**Menstrual hygiene:** A [new study from Uganda](#) highlights once more the strong links between menstruation and school attendance or absenteeism, depending on how well girls's needs around their periods are addressed.

**Female entrepreneurship:** Female entrepreneurs across many sectors contribute significantly to their communities and economies, despite the fact that in order to do so, they

have to overcome barriers to finance, societal expectations around their roles in the home, and often have lower education levels in comparison to men. Levels of female entrepreneurship are also affected by the competing demands on women's time beyond formal work, their ability to travel, their limited access to technology, and unequal rights within legal frameworks. This working paper, [Learning from female entrepreneurship in Cambodia, Indonesia and Lao PDR](#), by the Institute for Sustainable Futures documents learning about female entrepreneurship in other sectors beyond water, sanitation and hygiene (WASH) in order to better understand recent efforts to increase women's involvement in WASH-related enterprises.

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