

Community-Led Total Sanitation

Hosted by the



CLTS Newsletter May 2015

Welcome to the **May edition of the CLTS newsletter**. We hope this finds you well. It's been a busy few months here, with trips to Pakistan, India, Uganda and Kenya amongst others, and much sharing and learning at various events, including the [Pan African annual review meeting in Uganda](#) and the [Sustainability writeshop in Kenya](#). We hope to meet some of you at other forthcoming events such as AfricaSan, the WEDC Conference, World Water Week in Stockholm and the UNC Conference later in the year.

In the meantime, there are many new resources on the website to help you tap into the wealth of experience and learning from the global CLTS community, including some fantastic blogs and another new Frontiers issue (see below). Please take a look!

We look forward to hearing from you with your CLTS news, experiences, resources and documentations that can be added to the CLTS website and of course also your feedback, questions and ideas- please [get in touch](#).

Many good wishes from

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

Highlights

AfricaSan

[AfricaSan 4](#) is just around the corner. The conference will take place in Dakar, Senegal from the 25th to the 27th May. The CLTS Knowledge Hub will be in attendance and is looking forward to offering a [One Day CLTS Sharing and Learning workshop](#) on Sunday 24th May (9.30-17.30) at the King Fahd Palace Hotel. Please register for the event by [emailing us](#) as soon as possible as there are only a few spaces remaining. We are also happy to share that we are hosting a side session on CLTS and Sustainability in the main programme. This will be on Tuesday 26th between 14.00 and 15.30- please check the programme for room details. Finally, there will also be an exhibition stall with CLTS publications in hardcopy and on CD-Rom, so come and visit us there, chat to other CLTS practitioners and pick up some publications, including copies of all the [Frontiers of CLTS](#) issues in English, French and Portuguese.

We look forward to meeting some of you in Dakar and hope this will be a great event that helps to improve sanitation in Africa for all, especially the poorest.

New Frontiers: Making Sanitation and Hygiene Safer- Reducing Vulnerabilities to Violence

We recently published our 5th issue in the [Frontiers of CLTS series](#). Sarah House and Sue Cavill co-authored [Making Sanitation and Hygiene Safer- Reducing Vulnerabilities to Violence](#) which is based on the [practitioners toolkit on Violence, Gender and WASH](#) published by the SHARE Research Consortium last year

If you want to get a sense of what this Frontiers is about check out [Sue Cavill's short blog](#) and/or the summary below:

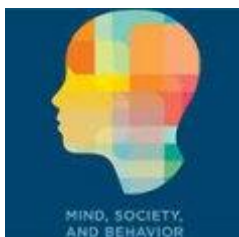
CLTS aims for total sanitation where no-one practices open defecation, which in itself has potential to reduce vulnerabilities to violence. Concerns over safety, privacy or dignity when using sanitary facilities can however lead to the facilities not being used or only being used during hours of darkness. Whilst poor design or siting of latrines or hygiene related facilities are not the root cause of violence, these issues can contribute to increased vulnerabilities to violence, as well as fear of violence, which can affect the usage of the facilities and also the ability of communities to become and remain ODF.

This issue of Frontiers of CLTS focuses on the issue of safety and vulnerabilities to violence that women, girls and sometimes boys and men can face which are related to sanitation and hygiene. It points out areas in which CLTS methodologies, if not used skilfully with awareness and care, can run the potential risk of creating additional vulnerabilities, for example as a by-product of community pressure to reach ODF. It also looks at good practices within organisations to ensure that those working in the sector know how to programme to reduce vulnerabilities to violence and to ensure that sector actors also do not become the perpetrators of, or face violence.

Download Making Sanitation and Hygiene Safer in [English](#) or [French](#) (Portuguese version to follow shortly) **Hardcopies are available on request and at conferences and workshops.**

New on the blog

An Open Letter in response to the World Development Report 2015



It is with disappointment and bewilderment that we, the undersigned, write this letter in response to the publication of the latest [World Development Report Mind, Society and Behavior](#).

[Read more](#)

Another Pan African CLTS Annual Review Meeting, hurrah!!



Uganda is the place to be this year and it's good to see a lot of familiar faces and also some new ones. This is the 6th time we come together and we have colleagues from 8 different Plan Country Offices, 4 different National Offices and colleagues from IDS and IRC.

[Read more](#)

Can smartphones solve India's sanitation monitoring conundrum?



Andrés Hueso, WaterAid's Senior Policy Analyst – Sanitation, looks at the potential of mobile monitoring to reduce over reporting in the Swachh Bharat Mission. [Read more](#)

Empowerment is key to sustaining clean environment around schools



Empowerment of primary school learners is an area that is needed to be considered seriously if total sanitation is to be realized. I was part of the team that visited Achilet Primary Schools in Uganda's Tororo District alongside colleagues from Plan International's Australia, Kenya, and Uganda Offices as well as colleagues from research institutions like Institute for Development Studies (IDS) – UK and the International Water Center (IRC) Netherlands. The clean environment was witness to the activeness of both learners and teachers at the school.

[Read more](#)

First annual review meeting, first day, first blog!



Today was my first Pan-African CLTS review meeting and I enjoyed every part of it and also learnt a lot. It is my first time in Uganda after hearing so much of this beautiful country. Talking about firsts, this is my first blog ever. I am always enthused when I meet people who ask me to read their blogs and decided to volunteer myself alongside Sharon when one of the facilitators, Petra asked for volunteers to blog the day's proceedings.

[Read more](#)

First day at the Pan Africa annual review meeting: learning and reflections



This was my first, but unfortunately, probably the last annual review meeting of the CLTS Pan Africa Programme. We started the day with introductions and ice-breakers followed by updates from the different countries that a part of the project. It was great to hear how the different country officers have been implementing CLTS as well as changes they have made following the Plan ODF Sustainability Study. From the different presentations two things really stood out:

[Read more](#)

Gender, Violence and Sanitation: practices and tools to make WASH safer



Although the root cause of violence is the differences in power between people, poor access to sanitation – together with poorly triggered CLTS processes - can increase vulnerabilities to violence.

[Read more](#)

Humanure, tippy taps and elephants: second day of the Pan Africa annual review meeting



Today began with another superb sunrise over a glassy Lake Victoria. Fisherman elegantly ushered fish into nets with a vigorous thwack of paddles on the surface, a sporadic rhythm for the chorus of unidentified birds welcoming the morning with song.

[Read more](#)

Minds set in Washington DC



In *The Open Society and Its Enemies* Karl Popper wrote something like ‘You may be right, and I may be wrong, and by an effort together we may get closer to the truth’. Can we struggle together to get closer to the truth? Can we always be critical of evidence? Can we seek a new inclusive rigour? Can we always reflect critically on our own mindsets and their determinants? Is there a way forward through methodological pluralism, multiple triangulations and reflexivity? [Read more](#)

What do giraffes have to do with CLTS sustainability?



According to one African folk tale, the giraffe had a short neck until she got her head stuck in a honey tree. Many years passed and as the tree grew it stretched the neck of the giraffe. Eventually, the other animals decided to work together to free the giraffe; they grabbed all four of its legs pulled the giraffe out of the tree – stretching its neck and legs in the process.

[Read more](#)

News and resources by country

Ethiopia

CLTS in Ethiopia: Findings from a Situational Assessment



A situational assessment can inform program planning and evaluation. The [Testing CLTS Approaches for Scalability](#) project team (Plan USA and UNC) assessed national policy, institutional arrangements, and monitoring systems for CLTS in Ethiopia prior to evaluations of Plan International CLTS projects with health extension workers.

[Read more](#)

Ghana

CLTS in Ghana: Findings from a Situational Assessment



A situational assessment can inform program planning and evaluation. The [Testing CLTS Approaches for Scalability](#) project team ((Plan USA and UNC) assessed national policy, institutional arrangements, and monitoring systems for CLTS in Ghana prior to evaluating how natural leader training influences CLTS outcomes. It was found that the national government shows strong support for CLTS, non-government actors play key roles in implementation, and improved monitoring is needed to assess program efficiency and effectiveness.

[Read more](#)

India

The Toilet Tripod: Understanding successful sanitation in rural India



Building toilets and getting people to use them is critical for public health. This research by Kathleen O'Reilly and Elizabeth Louis deployed a political ecology approach specifically to identify the multi-scalar political, economic, and environmental factors influencing toilet adoption in rural India. [Read more](#)

Involvement of transgender people in sanitation campaigns: an initiative in Madhya Pradesh

A sanitation campaign in Madhya Pradesh recognises the special status of transgender people in their communities and employs them in sensitisation and mobilisation activities. [Read more](#)

Learning from public pledging in the Indian sundarbans delta



Public pledging was used in these GOAL project areas in Namkhana and Malda to get people to solve the issue of who declares and who certifies the attainment of ODF status. It is also expected that by getting people to pledge publicly, ownership for maintaining the ODF status could be ensured at least in the short term. [Read more](#)

Long way to go for a clean India

Indians attained political freedom under the leadership of Mahatma Gandhi, but his dream of a clean India remains unfulfilled. [Read more](#)

Kenya

Lessons in Urban Community-led Total Sanitation from Nakuru, Kenya



Despite huge amounts of experience of using CLTS in rural context, urban experiences are rare. This new report from Practical Action documents the processes they used and how they adapted CLTS methodologies to the context of low-income settlements in Nakuru, Kenya. The report is based on three years of innovative work funded by Comic Relief and in partnership with Kenyan NGO Umande Trust.

[Read more](#)

CLTS in Kenya: Findings from a situational assessment



A situational assessment can inform program planning and evaluation. The [Testing CLTS Approaches for Scalability](#) project team (Plan USA and UNC) assessed national policy, institutional arrangements, and monitoring systems for CLTS in Kenya prior to evaluating Plan International CLTS projects involving local government.

[Read more](#)

Liberia

Ebola response: CLTS running strong in rural Liberia

This week in Bong County, the National Technical Coordinating Unit (NTCU) – responsible for setting Liberia’s national WASH guidelines – verified 29 new communities as Open Defecation Free (ODF). “What was originally just a short-term basic hygiene promotion has become another successful Community Led Total Sanitation (CLTS) project,” said Global Communities former Country Director Piet deVries to his country staff. [Read more](#)

ODF communities in Margibi didn't experience Ebola virus



Communities declared Open Defecation Free (ODF) through Community Led Total Sanitation (CLTS) did not experience any case of the Ebola outbreak, despite other surrounding communities in Margibi county that experienced the worst cases. [Read more](#)

Liberian ODF communities did not experience transmission of the Ebola virus

Mr. deVries, Chief of Party of Global COmmunities described the fight against the virus and the Community Led Total Sanitation program as an incredible and challenging experience. He said with all of these challenges faced by his entity during his tenure, tremendous progress was made in the fight against the Ebola virus, especially in safe burial and the Community Led Total Sanitation (CLTS) program. He also disclosed that communities declared Open Defecation Free (ODF) did not experience the transmission of the Ebola virus. [Read more](#)

Malawi

School-Led Total Sanitation: School Facilitator Training Guide



SLTS Handbook produced by UNICEF Malawi together with the Ministry of Education, the Ministry of Health, the Department of Water Development, the Ministry of Gender, Children, Disability and Social Welfare, the District Councils and District Coordination Teams and the ODF Task Force and its various Governmental and NGO partners. [Read more](#)

Zambia

State steps up sanitation drive

Over 50 female leaders from around the world recently published a declaration calling for the end of poor sanitation and hygiene in the developing world. Among those leaders are the first ladies of Madagascar and Malawi, both of whom announced the declaration in Washington, D.C. [Read more](#)

Chiengwe districts celebrates ODF success

Chieng'e's achievement as Zambia's first Open Defecation Free (ODF) district should inspire other regions in the country for similar success, Deputy Minister of Local Government and Housing Danny Chingimbu said at the district's celebration of attainment of ODF status. [Read more](#)

Other news and resources

CLTS Research Brief: Implementation Context in Kenya, Ghana, and Ethiopia



The influence of local actors on sanitation outcomes may be linked to contextual factors. In 2012, prior to working with local actors in Kenya, Ghana, and Ethiopia, the [Testing CLTS Approaches for Scalability](#) project team characterized the CLTS implementation context in each country. This piece synthesizes these findings, which align with those of the UN-Water GLAAS 2014 report and observations of CLTS practice from the grey literature.

[Read more](#)

Frontiers of CLTS Issue 5: Making Sanitation and Hygiene Safer- Reducing Vulnerabilities to Violence



This issue of Frontiers of CLTS focuses on the issue of safety and vulnerabilities to violence that women, girls and sometimes boys and men can face which are related to sanitation and hygiene. It points out areas in which CLTS methodologies, if not used skilfully with awareness and care, can run the potential risk of creating additional vulnerabilities, for example as a by-product of community pressure to reach ODF. It also looks at good practices within organisations to ensure that those working in the sector know how to programme to reduce vulnerabilities to violence and to ensure that sector actors also do not become the perpetrators of, or face violence. [Read more](#)

Gender and WASH Monitoring Tool (GWMT)



The Gender and WASH Monitoring Tool (GWMT) developed by Plan Australia enables practitioners to explore and monitor gender relations in WASH projects. [Read more](#)

Managing CLTS: Facilitator' Resource Pack



This resource pack was developed for the Testing CLTS Approaches for Scalability project and is intended for those who direct and manage CLTS programmes – particularly for officers at county or national levels in ministries concerned with public health and sanitation – and also NGOs active in the same sectors. [Read more](#)

Sanitation Monitoring Toolkit



UNICEF has released a new online resource for sanitation monitoring. The sanitation monitoring toolkit website provides sanitation and hygiene sector professionals with access to current approaches to sanitation monitoring, including guidance on how to use various monitoring instruments and links to the latest tools and resources. The focus is on rural sanitation. [Read more](#)

Webinar on Participatory Design Development for Sanitation- Recording and Follow up



The CLTS Knowledge Hub hosted a webinar on Participatory Design Development for Sanitation on Thursday 26th March 2015. Ben Cole, the author of [Frontiers issue 1](#) discussed his experiences in applying participatory design to accompany and extend Malawi's national CLTS programme.

[Read more](#)

Women Leaders target need for sanitation and hygiene



Over 50 female leaders from around the world recently published a declaration calling for the end of poor sanitation and hygiene in the developing world. Among those leaders are the first ladies of Madagascar and Malawi, both of whom announced the declaration in Washington, D.C. [Read more](#)

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or region or visit the pages of the country you are interested in.

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